

BENCRAFF'S PATENT HAMES.—During a visit we lately made to the Royal Polytechnic Institution, we observed among the numerous models Mr. Bencraft's patent hames; and for the sake of humanity, we hope it will be adopted everywhere, the object being to prevent galled shoulders. It possesses the power of materially facilitating the horse's draught, and of effectually preventing galled shoulders; and even horses that were at the time in an extremely bad state were put to work, when the wounds rapidly healed, without the aid of medical treatment, or the animal being subjected to one day's rest. A slight acquaintance with the formation of the horse's shoulder will show that the trace, as attached to the harness hitherto in use, has been made to bear upon the most objectionable part—viz., in front of the joint which connects the leg with the shoulder blade, thereby imposing upon it continuous pressure and friction, and at the same time, greatly impeding the action of the fore limbs. It is evident that, in the horse, the shoulder, and that portion of the front of the spine which forms the withers, should be the point of draught; but it is equally clear both with reference to the economy of draught, and the ease and freedom of the progression of the animal, that in the application of the draught, the motions of the shoulder joint should be as little interfered with as possible.—*Mining Journal*.

LIQUID MANURE.—The greatest care should be taken to make the most of this valuable article. The channel which is behind the cows in every well made cow house, may be filled daily, or morning and evening, with hog earth, or earth of some kind, which will absorb the fluid and then be converted into excellent manure; or a tank, either a hogstead or a cistern built of brick and cemented, may be placed where the steepage from cattle and horses, can be conducted by drains; the tank should be covered, and have a pump in it by means of which the fluid can be raised. Pouring it over the compost heaps is perhaps as good a way as any of disposing of it. To this tank, the urine and suds from the house, water in which vegetables are boiled, &c., should be conveyed. This is a branch of economy seldom attended to by farmers, and the consequence is, as much valuable manure is wasted about most houses as would increase the product of the farm to a great amount. According to Liebig, 100 parts of human urine are equal to 300 parts of the fresh dung of horses; and we learn from the same high authority, that the liquid and solid excrements of an individual annually, contain nitrogen, necessary for 800 lbs of wheat, rye or oats, or 900 lbs. of barley. We are hereby enabled to appreciate the industry and sagacity of the Chinese in preventing the loss of this valuable article as manure.—*New Far Jour.*

IMPROVING COARSE HAY.—It often happens that farmers have certain wet portions of their meadows occupied with coarse grass and weeds, which are cut after the rest of their hay is made and secured. It is of course only second or third rate in quality, and intended for the hardiest class of cattle. It can be rendered very palatable, however, by a fresh application of salt in frequent and successive layers as it is deposited in the stack or mow; the amount of which may vary from a peck to a half bushel of salt to a ton of hay. Coarse hay, thus prepared, is frequently preferred by cattle to fine hay not so prepared. All hay should receive an application of salt, when stacked or stored away, as the salt not only preserves it from injury in keeping, but domestic animals, which are frequently much neglected in salting in winter, thus obtain a constant and regular supply, administered to them in the best possible form.—*Alb. Cult.*

GROWING CROPS.—A sale of growing crops took place at Craiginty Farm in July; wheat sold on an average at 16l., oats from 10l., to 11l., barley about 13l. 13s., and beans 13l. per acre.—*Dumfries Herald*.

STROOD FAIR.—Six thousand sheep penned, upwards of four thousand sold. Prices as follows:—Kent Lambs, 18s. to 25s.; Down Lambs, 20s. to 28s.; two-tooth sheep, 28s. to 35s.; stock ewes, 31s. to 36s. A good supply of horses and cattle. Trade good for all.

BALLINASLOR FAIR.—*Ballinasloe, Nov. 6.*—This was the second day of the sheep fair. There is an improvement in prices, and the average may be fairly taken from 1s 6d to 2s beyond the rates of Saturday. Some high prices were obtained. One lot of maiden ewes sold for £3 5s. There were a good number of rams, which sold from £10 to £30. Mr. James Dillon and Dean French, so celebrated for purity of breed, got highest prices. The horses were numerous—much more so than I remember on show-day; to-morrow sales will take place. There was a greater number of the foal class than I remember to have seen here on previous occasions; some sales did take place, and for large figures:—

Captain Bolton, a chestnut horse.....	£140
Mr. Huddersfield, a bay mare.....	150
Captain Barry, a bay horse.....	105
Mr. Nugent, chestnut mare.....	80
Mr. Dudley Persec.....	105

The prices on all classes of sheep varied from 4s to 5s above those of 1814; and on Monday (second day) were so high as from 6s to 7s above the sales at that fair.

Horned cattle were above the prices of last October, from 25s to 20s on store stock, and from 20s to 30s on fat stock, which I find, upon reference to the prices in the official returns from which I have made the foregoing extracts, are fully as high as those obtained for similar stock within the period which I have limited myself to, and the number of unsold was small. The official return is in the possession of Admiral Trench, the baron of the fair, and goes back for more than the last half century, showing the prices and numbers of cattle, &c., sold and unsold in each class within that period.

The town fair takes place to-morrow, and I am inclined to think it will be confined to rather inferior stock, owing to the sales already made. A few horses will be on the green. To-day there were not many horses in town, and those were even very inferior, and few sales were made. There were no sheep whatever for sale, or to be seen in the fair.

SALTPETRE FOR THE CURE OF BACON.—The use of this salt is very strongly condemned by Professor Rofensque. His theory is, that the nitric acid of the salt is a deadly poison, and that the diseases common to mariners are owing to the use of this salt in the brine. He advises its entire disuse, and recommends sugar, which renders the meat more wholesome, sweeter, and equally as durable.

GOVERNMENT OF THE THOUGHTS.—Dismiss, as soon as may be, all angry and wrathful thoughts: they canker the mind, and dispose it to the worst temper in the world, that of fixed malice and revenge. Never recall the ideas or ruminate upon past injuries or provocations. This is the amusement of many in their solitary hours. They work themselves up to distraction—to hate every thing and every body. Anger may steal into the heart of a wise man, but it rests only in the bosom of fools.—*Dr. Horne*.

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