

and watches the shrike out of a small window which commands the mound where it is perched. Feeling secure that the shrike will not suffer a hawk to come within sight without giving notice, the fowler takes out his netting or other sedentary work. Hundreds of birds may pass over the net without the shrike giving the least alarm, but as soon as it can see a falcon, it flutters about, gets uneasy, and at last begins to kick and squall with terror. Roused by the sounds, the fowler jerks some strings communicating with perches on which living pigeons are perched, and the flutter thus occasioned attracts the falcon's attention, and induces him to stoop for a prey that appears so easy. As the foe approaches nearer, the shrike's terror increases, and as the falcon swoops at the pigeons, the shrike screams for fear and runs for shelter under the tiny hut. The movement is a signal for the fowler, who draws the strings of his net and then closes the falcon as he makes his dart on the pigeons.—*Routledge's Illustrated Natural History.*

TAKE CARE OF YOUR HARNESS.—More damage is done to a harness during the rainy weather of early and late winter, than during all the rest of the year. Saturated with water covered with mud, and often frozen stiff, so as to almost break when bent, in necessary handling. Unusual care should be taken to keep it well oiled and hung up in proper shape when not in use. Thus treated, it will not only last many times longer, but look infinitely better than when neglected in the usual manner. As to the kind of oil we know nothing better than neat's foot or the daubing used by tanners. To give the black color characteristic of new leather, a little lamp black may be added, without detriment, though it is better not to use this second going over. Before putting on the oil, however, there are two important considerations which must be observed—cleanliness and dampness. The necessity of the first is obvious, and the last is not less important, since the oil cannot penetrate the leather and make it soft and pliable if put on when it is dry and hard. One of the best ways to give the leather the required degree of moisture is to wrap up the several parts of the harness in wet cloths previous to oiling. But this trouble is unnecessary where washing has been resorted to for cleaning, as the oil may be applied before the leather is entirely dry. The oil should be rubbed in briskly with a brush or cloth, so as to ensure its absorption. Varnish should never be used as it closes the pores and renders the penetration of the oil more difficult. Vegetable oils are hardening in their effects and should never be used for that reason. Finally let the application of oil be as frequent as needed, not once a year as is the rule with some, or almost never, as is the practice of many.

EVIL NOT A NECESSITY.—As surely as God is good, so surely there is no such thing as neces-

ary evil. For by the religious mind, sickness and pain, and death are not to be accounted evils. Moral evils are of your own making and undoubtedly, the greater part of them may be prevented. Deformities of mind, as of body, will sometimes occur. Some voluntary ways there will always be, whom no foster kindness and no parental care can preserve from self-destruction; but, if any are lost for want of care and culture, there is a sin of omission on the society to which they belong.—*Robt Southey.*

Editorial Notices, &c.

Death of the Hon. Adam Fergusson.

It is our painful duty to record the death of this estimable gentleman and distinguished agriculturist, which took place suddenly, September 24th, at his residence, Woodhill, near Hamilton. For the last two years Mr. Fergusson was unable to take any active part in public life in consequence of an attack of paralysis, but he was not incapacitated from inspecting the operations of his farm, and what he always took a particular liking to, the progress of his live stock, and the quiet enjoyment of the company of a friend.

Mr. Fergusson was a native of Scotland and descended from a family of great respectability and influence. He studied for a time in the University of Edinburgh, and became a writer to the signet. Having however a strong propensity for country life, and coming into possession of landed property, he soon distinguished himself as an earnest student and promoter of agriculture. We have often heard him relate the pleasure at advantage he derived from the lectures of L. Coventry, the first professor of agriculture at that distinguished seat of learning, also from those of Professor Dick, the founder of the world-renowned veterinary school of Edinburgh. Mr. Fergusson also spent some time with two or three extensive farmers and breeders in the counties of Northumberland and Durham, where he formed an acquaintance which ripened into an intimate friendship with that celebrated agriculturist John Greaves Esq., of Dilston, extending over a lengthened period of more than half a century. It was