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ECONOMY OF FODDER.

The hay crop throughout most parts of Canada, and a great portion of the Western States, has proved this year very much below an average. Every farmer should therefore be careful of his fodder, and economise its use. Much cattle food is annually wasted either for want of knowing how to mix and use it, or, as is too commonly the case, from sheer inattention and carelessness. How frequently is straw seen rotting in unsightly heaps, instead of being daily employed in comfortably bedding cattle, and either chopped or boiled with other substances for food. Our farmers this winter, must pay strict attention to the economical mixing and preparing their turnips, mangels, carrots, flax, &c., as substitutes in a great measure for hay, or their flocks and herds will cut a sorry figure indeed before the advent of spring.

It is fortunate that the straw of most of the cereals has been abundant, and in consequence of the favorable weather in harvest, it was secured generally in good condition. It will hereafter be wanted not only for bedding, but in a more than usual degree for provender. Farm horses may be fed with straw cut fine and immersed in boiling linseed meal, and water till all is absorbed, when it should be well mixed up. The straw thus becomes a good medium for conveying the linseed meal, the most fattening of all substances, into the stomach of the animal, and the effect produced is of the greatest advantage. Straw may also be advantageously mixed with other ingredients, such as bran, turnips, carrots, &c., and either boiled or steamed. The compound will prove particularly adapted as food for cattle. The boiling of these productions of the farm with linseed meal, so as to make a kind of pudding or thick jelly, has for many years been advantageously used in Britain in the fattening of animals. It is found by experience that cattle relish and do better upon a cooked mixture of food, than the same quantities of the various materials given singly.

But in order thus to prepare and economise straw as food for stock, the farmer must be provided with an efficient chaff cutter; an implement of essential importance in the present day and under existing circumstances. These machines may now be readily obtained of most of our implement makers in all the older settled districts of the Province; and they are usually exhibited at most of the