Miscellaneous.

Sugar-Curing Hams.

About a million sugar-cured hams are put up in Chicago alone. The art of curing them, and their successful packing for preservation, require so much care and shill that an expet manager readily commands \$250 per month for his services. The hams chosen are of an average weight of fourteen pounds each, and they lose in the curing two or three pounds each of this weight. The brine is carefully preserved from one season to another, and is supposed to increase in strength as it increases in age. One packer used brine that was seven years old, and another, who removed to a distant city, had his brine barrelled and shipped to his new place of business with his other stock in trade. The waste of salt, sugar, and other substances absorbed by the meat is of course replaced by constant additions. The brine is formed of water, sugar-house syrup, saltpetre, salt, and certain other ingredients, in proportion as the experience and tastes of the packers differ. Casks are filled with this brine, in which green hams, assorted by weight, are scaled from thirty-five to fifty days, according to the different weight of the hams. When the hams are removed from the pickle, they are immersed, for a short time, in clear water, and hung up in the smoking house for drying, which is an important part in the process of preserving as well as flavoring. In this process, the use of hickory timber is considered indispensable. Next they have to be prepared for market in such a manner that they will be preserved indefinitely. Each ham is immersed in a thick paste wash, largely composed of chrome yellow, which fills up every interstice of the subsequent under and outer garments carefully wrapped and sewed upon it. Then comes the wrapping in thick brown paper and the stitching upon it of the closely-fitting case of stout cotton cloth. Next the brand is placed upon it, and the ham is ready for market. These hams are shipped to Europe, Canada, Merico, the West Indies, and South America. The largest market in the United States is Philadelphia; New Yor

Bureaus Without Knobs.

The Bost in Con mer al Bulletin says if there is ever

The Boat in Con mer. All Bulletin says in there is ever a man that is anothernatized by the travelling public, it is that stupid, thoughtless ass who makes bureaus without knobs to the drawers. The greater one is, perhaps, the landlord who buys such useless things. If the one key that pulls open the whole set of three or four drawers chances not to be lost, of course it sticks or gets stuck by some hasty traveller in the top or middle or under drawer, and the next one who converse with his wife perhaps to stay a half a it sticks or geta stuck by some hasty traveller in the top or middle or under drawer, and the next one who comes—with his wife, perhaps—to stay a half a dozen days, and wants the use of it, first breaks his finger-nails trying to open the remaining drawers, or else gets one of his own trunk keys so inextricably tangled up in one of the keyholes, that a hasty jerk snapsthekey, and acts as a spark which causes the explosion of sulphurous expletives, so that Madame turns round with a shudder, and "my dear, it's no matter. If you can't get the—things, as you call them, open, it's no use of your using such dreadful language." When Madame, however, passes hastily by, and the one protruding key, steking out like a Cossack's lance, catches her new muslin dress and slits an ugly rent, then comes her turn, and the lord of creation leans back in one of the broken-springed easy chairs, and laughs.

Seriously the hotel-keeper and manufacturer and furniture dealer who sell bureaus without knobs to all the drawers, firmly attached, are accountable for more profamity than a balky horse or decline in copper stocks. Remember this, furniture dealers and landlords.

per stocks.

Fitting Collars to Horses' Shoulders.

It is very important to have a collar fit nicely and snugly to the shoulders of a horse. It enables him to work with a great deal more case, and to apply to work with a great deal more case, and to apply a great deal more strength. It prevents galling and wounding, as the friction is avoided. Collars are so made, or should be so made, as to throw the chief force on the lower part of the shoulder. The horse can apply but little strength on the upper part, and, for this reason, breast collars are coming into vogue, as the strength is exerted on the lower part of the shoulder. But we started out to bell our readers how to make a new collar fit the shoulder of a horse. The collar should be purchased of the proper size. The collar should be purchased of the proper size. Just before putting it on the first time, immerse it is water, letting it remain about a minute, and immediately put it on the horse, being careful to have the

hames so adjusted at the top and bottom as to fit the shoulder, and then put the horse to work. The collar, being aret, will adapt itself to the shoulders, and should do not the horse. When taken off it should be left in the same shape it occupied on the horse and over after you will have a snug-fitting collar an no wounds.— Valley Furmer.

A Poetical Harvest Report.

A Brenham (Texas) correspondent of the Galvesto News says:—"Obsarvin' that your corryspondence i these parts confine thurselves mostly to sober prese and bein' a little of a poick myself, I thought I woo send you a few lines as a specimint. If you conclew to print me, don't let your devil spile my spellin'. I ther's anything I do hate to see, its bad spellin' ":—

You want to know about the crops Up hero what the subscriber stops? Wall, now! If anybody knows, He wears about my stile of clothes.

We've had a lectio too much wet, But mobbe we may ketch up yet; Old Sel has lately made it tell, And things is looking purty well.

I think on cotton we are sound.
If the worm don't come cavartin' round;
If insces off the plant will stop,
We'll hev, I recken, an average crop.

Corn, you say? Yes, corn. Well's Old hoss! I'm ready now to swar We've got a lett'e the biggest cont You ever seed since you was born. Well thar,

I tell you, and you bet your pile, . That corn grows helty on our sile; It's done its level best this year, And the biggest corn on earth is here.

It's airly yet to profesy— Next month may give my words the lie; But this I'll say, from what I see, That want and famino can't skeer me.

Yours trewly,

DICK SURSOIL.

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