

commencing with the fodder of the new crop, and until the system of steaming becomes more general,—if the new straw were mixed with some sweet dry straw of the previous season, or sprinkled with a few handfuls of salts, as it comes from the thrashing-floor, it would greatly promote the health of the horses, as well as of the other stock; and provident farmers always reserve one or two stacks of corn or pulse, for the purpose of being so mixed or used alone, till the straw of the new crop becomes seasoned by a few weeks in the stack,—as pease or beans, beans especially, are very flatulent, if taken new or in a soft state, but excellent fodder thereafter, and are much relished by horses accustomed to it. And when the leaves, pods, and chopped stems, or chaff of beans, and the *tails*, or small corn from the winnowing machine, are mixed and boiled, or steamed, together with some turnips or potatoes seasoned with salt, and given lukewarm in lieu of oats to the jaded horses, as they return in the evening, the benefits are apparent in their plumper form and glossy coats. It is by means of such mashes, or by combining the corn with the chaffed hay, that old and weary horses are enabled to masticate so easily, and lie down more readily to repose; while others must stand several hours gnawing their ill-suited ration, or hastily swallow it in a crude state to stifle the cravings of hunger, and then lie down to die of colic.

Carrots and Swedish turnips, well cleaned and dry, may safely be given in an unprepared state, when the horse is cool, and not attenuated with warm food; and the second crop of clover, if early made into hay, and slightly salted, with or without a mixture of old hay or straw, might be made greatly more available for all kinds of stock, instead of remaining uncut till late in the season, bleaching under every change of weather, and then given to the horses in a half rotted green state.

These remarks many suffice to shew that the causes here assigned, as inductive of the maladies referred to, are not gratuitously assumed, and that the subject really claims the immediate attention of all interested in preserving the health of the horse. The means of preventing such diseases are, therefore, the more obvious, inasmuch as the cause and effect are placed thus in juxtaposition; *pari ratione*, the remedy must be apparent, and prevention more meritorious than cure. In place, then, of presenting a pail of cold water to a warm horse, a little tepid water should be substituted—the mouth being previously washed, and freed of coagulated saliva, with cold water, and the horse stripped of every encumbrance, carefully rubbed down, and allowed to stand picking at dry hay or straw till cooled, before any cold water or corn is given him, or he be turned out to pasture. For not more grateful is a change of raiment to the dripping teamster himself, on escaping from the drenching rain, than is a thorough cleaning from mud and sweat

to his smoking steeds, just relieved of their heavy draught. Yet in nothing are farm-servants in general more negligent; nor are those men otherwise to be taught but by the watchful superintendence and strict discipline of the master, seasonably enforced,—not merely in the uniform treatment of the horse, in and out of yoke, but to the stable, which can hardly be too clean, or over ventilated—a point almost wholly overlooked on many farms. How many districts may be traversed without seeing a single roof-ventilator, or even a hole in the wall of the stable or cow-house. It is well to have separate houses for the provender, as contiguous as possible to the stable, but not connected with it by any party-door or hatch, which never fails to act as a conductor of the heated atmosphere of the stable into the connected apartment, in the same way as it passes through the racks and crevices into the stable loft, which is often hotter than the stable itself, especially under a tile roof. Such a plan would supersede the use of high racks, so awkward and unnatural to the horse, and so wasteful of his food; while he, with much greater convenience, could feed either standing or lying from a manger or spatted crib in one angle of the stall, with a corn-box in the other.

Of the best mode of curing inflammatory complaints, it were superfluous here to treat at length, as it manifestly must tend to a still greater aggravation of an evil, already far too extensive, were every farmer in each intricate case to become his own farrier, without any tuition, and but in possession of a few recipes, or certain patent medicines, the properties of which he neither understand, nor can properly administer. And grievously, indeed, would the patronage and funds of the Highland and Agricultural Society be wasted, in the establishment of a Veterinary College, under an able Professor, should any one, farmer or not farmer, decline the inestimable boon of obtaining the assistance of a competent veterinarian provided for them, and now in progress of being placed within the reach of the remotest cottage in Scotland. No, the farmer has suffered enough from his own apathy, and the quackery of common blacksmiths who must needs pretend to the veterinary art, and whose pharmacopœia almost exclusively consist of stimulating drugs. Every disorder was termed "*bots*;" and *worms*, *bots*, and *colic*, were confounded together, and treated alike.

Science, however, has now happily expunged "*bots*" from the vocabulary as perfectly innocuous, and found other and safer vermifuges than those formerly resorted to.

Let the farmer, then, simply attend to the first symptom of disease, and minutely investigate every particular relative to the animal's situation, work, food, and drink, during the preceding day or night. A knowledge of all these is indispensable to a discrimination of the complaint; and if servants tell will the truth, or whether they will