

warm, has now been ascertained, from extensive practice, to be the most effectual and economical mode of preparing food. Animals thus treated and properly housed, will be less subject to disease; *will thrive and fatten on 25 per cent. less food*, than under the ordinary mode of management. We state this as the result of extended observation and personal experience in England; and what we have seen and learnt on this continent, only tends to confirm us in the belief of its general beneficial application. The reader must not infer that we advocate cooked food alone, for horses and cattle; but for the latter, especially, a large portion of the food, properly mixed and given warm, is highly economical and nutritious, both for increasing muscle and laying on fat, admits not of a single doubt. We saw the other day, at Mr. Spencer's foundry, in this city, a boiler fitted to a portable furnace, that seemed well adapted to the wants of farmers; and the price is moderate.

5. In the construction of buildings for the accommodation of animals, due regard must always be had to *ventilation*. This may appear to some as almost an unnecessary caution, since the prevailing defects that now abound, consist in numerous apertures frequently in the roof, as well as in the walls, through which snow and rain find an ingress, with chilling draughts of air. In the construction of stone or brick buildings, however, there is seldom sufficient attention paid to such an admission of pure air, and the escape of that which has been vitiated by breathing and exhalations, as effectually to secure the comfort and well-being of the animal. Close stables are particularly objectionable, and sheep when housed in winter, frequently suffer for want of room and fresh air.

In a word, the same great object must be kept in view with regard to domesticated animals, which our friend, Mr. Sheriff Rattan, is so laudably endeavoring to promote in reference to man and his abode. No animal that breathes, can exist in a state of health, *without a constant supply of pure air*. If a farmer adds to this, pure water; a warm shelter; nutritious food,

properly prepared and regularly given; with scrupulous attention to *cleanliness*; he will be amply rewarded by the health, comfort, and improvement of his stock; and what is also worth a great deal,—the approval of his moral and rational convictions. It may be said, that to do all we have recommended, is a difficult, and to many, an almost impracticable task. We answer, that in doing your utmost to reach the standard, you will be sure to find your reward;—and remember the old adage: that what is worth doing at all, should be worth doing well.

AGRICULTURE AN ART.

We take the following article from that excellent paper, *The Rural New Yorker*, with the remarks thereon of the Editor. The writer evidently belongs to the more intelligent and thinking class of practical farmers. We agree with much that he says; but if more candour had been shown, in pointing out the true connection between so important an art as agriculture and the scientific principles upon which it is built, a healthier and juster impression would have been made on the mind of the reader. No man in his senses ever asserted, that farming could be learnt either in the laboratory or from books. But the knowledge of practice acquired from work and observation in the field, may, and has been materially improved, and rendered more intelligible and certain in its results, by the aid and light afforded it, by means of science. What is science, but *Truth?—the truth of nature*; and all successful art or practice, must be in accordance with it. If chemistry, for instance, has not as yet realised all the expectations which sanguine minds indulged in reference to agriculture; it has unquestionably been most beneficially suggestive; it has thrown light on many of the obscurest points of practice;—and it has furnished the practical farmer, with an intelligible theory of his art. All honor then to such men as Liebig, Johnston and others, who are devoting the highest attainments in science, to increasing the earth's fruitfulness;—