

### PREPARATION OF FOOD FOR CATTLE.

It is a good plan to cut up clover hay to mix with oats for horses, as it causes the horses to masticate and break the oats better before they swallow it. We do not think it necessary generally to chop hay for horses, unless where they are fed with boiled roots, given to them in mashes. In that case, either hay or straw cut into chaff might be mixed with the boiled roots. Oats unthreshed, might be cut into chaff and fed to horses, straw and grain as it comes from the chaff-cutter. Where neat cattle are kept as well as horses, by farmers, any hay wasted by the latter, will be greedily eaten by neat cattle if fed to them. It is only to prevent waste, that would justify the expense of chopping hay generally for horses, and therefore it is seldom necessary for the farmer to incur this expense. For sheep, it might be very well to cut strong clover hay into chaff, to be fed to them in the yard in troughs, mixed with grain, cut potatoes or other roots, as they might not otherwise eat the clover so well. For stall-feeding cattle or milch cows that are fed on boiled roots or grain, it will be useful to have hay or straw chopped to mix with their mashes, but we certainly should not chaff either hay or straw for them, except to mix with their mashes. The chaffing of hay or straw cannot improve its quality, and if they are good, cattle will eat them as well without being cut into chaff. Strong clover will certainly be eaten better by cattle when cut into chaff, and mixed with boiled or steamed roots—linseed, or barley, oats, or bean meal. As regards straw, whatever may be said on the subject, we should think it would seldom pay for the expense of cutting into chaff for cattle food in Canada. Indeed we think that farmers should only make use of it for feeding in the yards to cattle, and for litter and manure. Every farm should have as much hay and roots upon it as would feed the necessary stock, without forcing them to exist upon straw, and then the straw would be nearly all for manure. We do

not wish to recommend farmers to incur any expense that might be of doubtful advantage to them. Parties who may have proved the advantage of the general use of the chaff-cutter, should by all means continue its use; but we do not think the chaff-cutter a necessary implement in every farmer's establishment, unless to be made use of under the circumstances we have stated. It would, however, be very desirable if parties who have made use of the chaff-cutter, would, for the advantage of Agriculture, report the results of their experience. This would show how, and under what circumstances the implement might be made use of profitably.

### FARM YARD AND BUILDINGS.

It is of great advantage to a farmer to have his farm buildings so placed as to afford shelter to his animals in winter. In very many instances the arrangement of the buildings is defective, and does not afford shelter. The buildings should, if possible be so constructed as to form three sides of a square, and to have the fourth side open to the south. There is scarcely a farmer in the country who has not sufficient farm buildings to form a sheltered yard if placed judiciously, and if a building was wanted to complete the yard, it would not be difficult to erect a shed on one side. The grand requisite is that farmers should be aware of the advantage of a well sheltered yard, and have a desire to have their buildings so placed as to afford this advantage. Where this desire exists, there will be means found to have suitable buildings and yards. It is very injurious for stock to stand perishing with cold of a Canadian winter's day, without proper shelter from the wind and drift, striving to collect straw from amongst the dung. It is well, however, that this defect is in most cases in the farmers' power to remedy. If the buildings may not be properly placed, it would not cost much to remove them to their proper place, without taking them