

ure is full of living organisms, and fermentation is the effect of these organisms on the manure.

"Rotting manure is of benefit in killing bad weeds?" asked Mr. Rogers. (We should like to see some "good" weeds! Ed.). "Yes," replied Mr. Shutt; "that is one of the advantages; but, unless the rotting is thorough, some of the weed-seeds will escape destruction.

Straw should be cut for litter. It makes it much more absorbent. The only time we ever saw straw cut for litter was at a farm, rented by a Yorkshireman, near London, (Eng.). The dung was taken from the loose-boxes, in a two wheeled cart fitted with a "spreader," something like the modern machine now in use here, and transferred at once to the drills for turnips. The little double-seeder was fixed behind the cart so the whole operation of dunging the drills, covering the dung, and sowing the turnips was completed at once.

## Live-Stock.

### COMMON DISEASES OF FARM-STOCK.

Indigestion is an infection which is often said to be specially limited to the human subject as a natural consequence of the very artificial character of the food which is consumed, and the extraordinary combination of condiments with which the human stomach is stimulated. To the observant farmer this popular view is by no means the true one. He knows from experience that the lower animals are victims to various forms of indigestion which are often disguised under other names. Horses, cattle, sheep, and dogs are constant sufferers from dyspepsia, although they are not spoken of as dyspeptic subjects.

Those who accept the popular idea that the lower animals are not subject to indigestion, explain the alleged immunity by referring to the natural food on which the animals subsist. It does not however require much argument to prove that this is only true of animals in a natural state, and does not apply to those which live in a condition of domestication, whose food is arranged to suit the views of their owners.

Perhaps the nearest approach to a natural state

in domestication is that which the young animal occupies for the first few weeks or months of its existence, living on its mother's milk. But even at this early period disturbing conditions may be introduced.

Milk is a secretion which is affected in a remarkable degree by the health of the mother. Food and water exercise a material influence on the quality of the fluid, often acting in a way which is not understood, causing changes which neither the chemist nor the microscopist can define.

Some experiments which were carried on some years ago in France led to the conclusion that brewers' grains given to cows produced milk which was unfit for the food of infants and the final result of the enquiry was to show that the child was not merely the most sensitive test for milk derived from cows fed on brewers' grains, but was in fact the only test. The most careful analysis did not reveal any ingredient which could be referred to as the cause of the indigestible character of the fluid.

Foals of a few days old are sometimes sufferers from constipation and likewise from diarrhœa, and later on, while still living on their mothers, they are attacked with colic associated either with constipation or diarrhœa. The veterinary surgeon is sometimes puzzled to account for the attack. The mare seems to be in good health, and no one is aware of the foal having taken anything of an indigestible character. In some cases the nature of the dejections will give a clue. A green tinge for instance suggests that the grass is to blame, while light colored fœces are the most probable result of deranged liver or bad quality of milk.

There is some difficulty in treating cases of indigestion in very young animals, which readily succumb to pain. Sedative enemata are safe and effective in case of colic, as they relieve pain, and afford time for the others remedies to act.

A dose of castor oil (2 oz. to 6 oz. according to age) may be given at once to be followed by an enema of hot water, containing 2 drams to  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of laudanum, or, if no means of giving an enema is at hand, 1 oz. to 2 oz. of ordinary chalk mixture may be given. If the pain continues, flannels wrung out of hot water may be applied to the abdomen until the pain is relieved.

Calves and lambs suffer from indigestion, and it is not unlikely that the disease will be attributed to any cause but the right one.

How often it is we hear of serious losses among