

Let the second hole on the inside be opposite to the second hole on the outside.

"6th. Let the nail holes be punched coarse, i.e., nearly in the centre of the web, brought out straight through to the other side. This may be done with safety were a good crust has been preserved.

"7th. Fit the shoe accurately to the foot. It must be as large as the full unrasped crust, but no part must project beyond. The shoe must be continued completely round towards the heels, as far as the crust extends.

"8th. The web must be narrowed at the heels, so that its inside edge must cover the line of the bars, and no more.

"Slope off the heels of the shoe in the same direction as the heels of the crust, so as to prevent the possibility of their catching in the hind shoe.

"Select nails that will fit exactly into, and completely fill the nail holes.

"11th. Twist off the clenches as short and stubby and possible, and lay them down flat with the hammer, and let the pincers during this time be firmly pressed against the heads of the nails. The clenches are not to be filed either before or after turning down, nor is a ledge to be made in the crust to receive the clenches. For ordinary hind feet the pattern of shoe in common use is recommended, but with a clip on each side, immediately anterior the first nail, instead of one only at the toe. This double clip keeps the shoe steadier in its place than the single. The web should be made somewhat wider at the toe than at other parts, in order to allow space for the thorough sloping of its inner edge, as recommended under the head of Over-Reach.

"For reasons which have been already explained, the hind foot does not require to be shortened at the toe like the fore foot; but the other directions given above—namely, as regards lowering the crust, rounding its lower edge, accurate fitting without rasping, punching the nail holes coarse, nailing, and clenching, with the total absence of rasping, paring, opening the heels, cutting away the frogs or bars, &c.—apply equally to hind as to fore feet. Six nails—viz., three on each side—are needed for the hind shoe. Without the third nail on the inside, shoes are apt to 'twist' on the feet. The horse is now shod. Nothing more must be done for the sake of what is sometimes called appearance. The best iron only should be used for shoes. Good iron makes a light shoe wear as long as a heavier one of inferior metal."

## Editorial Notices, &c.

THE RURAL ANNUAL AND HORTICULTURAL DIRECTORY FOR 1864: Rochester, New York, Joseph Harris.

This is the ninth volume of this very cheap

and valuable annual, brought out by Mr. Harris, editor and proprietor of the *Genesee Farmer*. Its contents, like its predecessors, are varied, interesting, and highly instructive, embracing almost every subject of importance connected with the routine of the farm, garden, and domestic economy. Several original articles written especially for the Annual, by distinguished contributors will be found of great practical utility. Among them may be mentioned: The Culture of Hops; Flax; Pears; Strawberries; The best means of enriching the soil; The Connection between the roots and leaves of Plants; Picking and Marketing Fruit, Planting Trees, &c., &c.

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REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE, FOR THE YEAR 1862. Washington: 1863.

Some of our readers may not know that a new Agricultural Department has recently been established in connection with the Federal Government at Washington; or, in other words, that the Patent Office, as far as Agriculture is concerned, has been superseded by a separate and independent department; the first fruits of which, in the above report, are now before us.

The present report is undoubtedly very superior as a whole to any of its predecessors that emanated from the Patent Office, and reflects great credit on the industry and skill of Mr. Commissioner Newton and his coadjutors, who evidently possess the requisite qualifications of conducting this most valuable department of government with ability and success. The volume is handsomely got up, and contains upwards of forty articles on rural pursuits, from writers distinguished for experience and ability. Our readers will form an idea of the contents of the volume from the subjoined summary of the principal articles: