

AGRICULTURAL.

ON STEAMING FOOD FOR HORSES.

"It has been ascertained, though perhaps not generally known, that grain of any kind cannot be dressed or cooked by dry steam applied to the dry grain. If the steam is at a low pressure, or a little above that of atmospheric, a species of parching is produced on the grain so treated; and if steam of a very light pressure is applied, the grain may be entirely carbonised. An intermediate and very simple process, has however been found, whereby grain of any sort can be completely boiled, which is done by soaking the grain in water for a period of from six to twelve hours, according to its state of dryness; and then placing it in the receiver described for steaming roots, and applying steam for an hour, the grain will come out completely boiled. From this it may be inferred, that each grain becomes a little cauldron, containing as much absorbed water as serves to boil it by the application of steam, but whatever be the rationale of it, we are thus provided with a simple and efficient steaming and boiling apparatus, applicable alike to the cooking of juicy roots or tubers, and dry grains.

That horses on a farm may be kept more economically on prepared food than in the state and manner in which food is usually administered to them, we have no doubt. The fact, however, will soon be ascertained in consequence of the premium which the Highland Society has just now announced on the subject. The results of the experiments which some farmers will make, will, we fondly anticipate, prove the facility of preparing food, and economy in the use of it. We have the authority of the owners of some of the coaching and posting establishments in Edinburgh, for stating that the saving which will arise from the use of prepared food, in the keep of forty horses, will amount to £140 a year. We have also the high authority of Mr. Dick, the Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Edinburgh, for saying that the general health of horses under work, is much better on prepared than unprepared food.

'It will appear obvious,' says Mr. Dick, 'that the grand desideratum is to give food containing as much nutriment, and in as small a bulk, as it is consistent with the economy of the animal. If this problem is solved, it will follow, as a corollary, that it will be important to give that food which is found best suited to its proportions, in such a state as is best suited for digestion. This is a point, however, worthy of consideration; and naturally suggests the question, How is the body to be supplied with nourishment by taking in food into the stomach? The common notion is, that much depends, as I have indeed before mentioned, on the hardness of the food; and it is a common saying, in order to show off a horse which is in a good condition 'that he has plenty of hard meat in him.' Now this is a very silly and erroneous idea, if we inquire into it; for, whatever may be the consistency of the food which is taken into the stomach, it must, before the body can possibly derive any substantial support or benefit from it, be converted into chyme—a pulsatious mass; and this as it passes onwards from the stomach into the intestinal canal, is rendered still more fluid by the admixture of the secretions from the stomach, the liver and the pancreas, when it becomes of a milky appearance, and is called chyle. It is then taken into the system by the lacteals; and in this fluid, this soft state, and in this state only, mixes with the blood, and passes through the circulating vessels for the nourishment of the system.

'Now if the hardest of the food must in this manner be broken down and dissolved be-

fore it can really enter into the system, it must appear evident that something approaching to this solution, if done artificially, would greatly aid the organs of digestion in this process, and that thereby much exertion might be saved to the system, and at the same time nourishment would be rapidly conveyed into it. It is with this view that I would recommend the general adoption of cooking food for horses."

MIXED FOOD.

Having been in early life much accustomed to, and a close observer of, Pennsylvania farming, I was much pleased with the German economy of increasing forage for their cattle, by the aid of art in miring food—they being assured that the process adds to the capacity of each ingredient, for furnishing nutritive properties.

This theory they put in practice throughout many parts of the state, in their mode of putting up green clover, as a forage for milch cows during winter; not only preserving, as they believe, in a superior manner, the fine qualities of the clover, but augmenting equally the quantity of forage. As fast as the clover is cut they stack it, mixing equal quantities of well preserved straw, and a small portion of salt sprinkled regularly over the clover as the layers are completed. The gratification with which the cattle appeared to feed on this preparation throughout the winter, I early noticed, especially when it was cut up in the box, and served out to them in troughs—one tin pint full of rye or Indian meal, seasoning the food of a day, when confined to their stalls.

I once had the pleasure of witnessing an experiment made by an intelligent German farmer, to ascertain the advantage of steaming this preparation, before feeding, and was much pleased with the result. The milk evidently was increased 25 per cent, and the capacity of food for giving out its nutritive qualities almost the same.—*Farmer's Register.*

CLOVER FOR MANURE.

The plan of enriching land by turning under a sod or lay of clover, is, perhaps, one of the greatest discoveries that has ever been made in the art of ameliorating soils. Lorain states that he purchased an exhausted farm in Pennsylvania, and by pursuing this mode of renovating, he so improved it, that in a very few years, he more than quadrupled his crops. A writer in the Hagerstown Torch states that he so enriched his land in this manner, that it was too fertile for wheat, and he was under the necessity of reducing it by a crop of Indian corn. The practice of many others confirms the fact that clover may be so managed as not only to yield a fair profit as a fodder, but by ploughing the sod after the second crop is taken off, it yields another profit in the shape of manure, and is an excellent one, too, for many of our most valuable crops.

It is best to plough after the second crop is taken off, for the following reasons:—

Clover, though considered a perennial, partakes much of the nature of a biennial plant, and does not flower much during the first year. The second year it arrives to maturity, flowers profusely, and, if not cut, ripens its seeds. Its strength for bearing another crop of seed is much exhausted—the most of it, except some young, straggling roots or offsets, dies. The time, therefore, to plough it under, is as soon as it has been cropped for the second year; for then the roots are as loose as they probably ever will be, and will afford the greatest quantity of nutritive matter.

By adopting the rotation of crops in such a manner as to bring clover into the succession, and by so dividing your farm that those parts which are most needy shall receive the necessary attention, it may in a few years become

renovated, if now exhausted; or, if in good condition, may be kept so very easily, & at the same time, while undergoing the process, be yielding a profit.

THE FARMER.—It does one's heart good to see a merry-faced farmer. So independent, and yet so free from vanity and pride.—So rich, and yet so industrious—so patient and persevering in his calling, and yet so kind, social and obliging. There are a thousand noble traits about him, which light up his character. He is generally hospitable—eat and drink with him, and he won't set a mark on you, and sweat it out of you with a double compound interest, as some I have known well—you are welcome.—He will do you a kindness, without expecting a return by way of compensation—it is not so with every body. He is generally more honest and sincere—less disposed to deal in a low and underhand cunning, than many I could name. He gives to society its best support—is the firmest pillar that supports the edifice of Government—he is the lord of Nature.—Look at him in his homespun and grey black—gentleman, laugh if you will—but, believe me—he can laugh back if he pleases.

THE SUBSCRIBER

Has received per Barge from Liverpool, and
Carron from Hull,

200 TONS fishery SALT
20 Bags fine do
Lines, Twines, Mackarel and Herring Nets
40 tons well assorted IRON
Boxes Window Glass, assorted
Kegs Nails and Spikes
Boxes Soap
Do. Candles
Do. Starch
Fig Blue, Roll Brimstone
Crates well assorted CROCKERYWARE
Oakum, Cordage, and Canvas
60 M Bricks
200 qtrs. Wheat
150 Kegs Paint
Lined oil, solo Leather

Blacksmiths' Bellows & Anvils, sup'r quality
CLOTHS, bleached and unbleached Cottons,
Prints, Shirtings, Aberdeen stripes, Flannels
Slop Clothing, Hats & Straw Bonnets,
with a General Assortment of

DRY GOODS,

Suitable to the Season.

ALSO: ON HAND—

Anchors & Chain Cables, assorted
Indian corn Meal, Rye Flour
Palm Leaf Hats
Tar, Pitch, Rosin and Turpentine
Pots & Ovens and spare Covers,

All of which he will dispose of on reasonable terms.

July 1.

GEORGE SMITH.

LAW and other BLANKS of all descriptions, for sale by the subscriber. JAS. DAWSON.
July 1835.

THE SUBSCRIBER

HAS now commenced selling his VALUABLE STOCK of
DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, &c.

at prices unprecedented in Pictou, and will continue to do so until the 20th of October. Traders and others will find it to their advantage to take an early opportunity of examining the articles and prices; as no opportunity can offer, that persons wanting articles in his line can be supplied on as favourable terms.

R. ROBERTSON.

Pictou, 29th Sept., 1835.

ALMANACS FOR

1836,

For sale by the Subscriber. JAMES DAWSON.

ON CONSIGNMENT.

6 CASKS Herbert's Liquid and Paste SHOE BLACKING—cheap for Cash. Apply to the Subscriber. JAS. DAWSON.
Pictou, 16th September, 1835