

**SALT FOR HORSES' FEET.**—Common salt absorbs moisture from the atmosphere, hence it has been in some instances applied with great success for keeping the hard-bound hoofs of horses moist. The hoofs of some horses become dry and oftentimes crack, thereby rendering them lame, if the horses are driven on hard roads. By bathing the hoof and fetlock joint with a salt brine three times a day, lameness from the above cause will be avoided. It is a common practice with some blacksmiths to rasp cracked hoofs in order to render them more tough, but brine is far superior to rasping for effecting this object.—*Scientific American*.

**SWILL MILK.**—Some interesting facts are brought out by the Report of Doctors Reid, Doremus, and Percy, of New York, in regard to the nature of swill milk. These facts indicate that it is decidedly unwholesome. Chemical examination shows that the butter and sugar are largely decreased, while the casein (curd) and saline matters are largely increased: that the butter is deficient in the peculiar phosphoric compound which is appropriate to the brain and nervous system: that the swill milk "is different in its component parts from country milk, and that the globules which should be contained in it are diseased, dead, and broken down, even before it leaves the udder of the cow, and that the majority of the butter globules are coated with a viscid substance, a product of their decomposition, which renders them cohesive and different from those in healthy milk. The report admits that—"Chemical analysis can at present do but little towards detecting the peculiar changes that take place in the milk of woman when she is angry or frightened, or why that change should make the child sick, nor does it tell why thunder should turn milk sour," but it is contended, and no doubt with propriety, that analysis does point out with certainty, that "milk or blood in the natural state contains certain well-defined elements, and any deviation from that state renders those fluids unhealthy, and unfit for sustaining life."

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## Editorial Notices, &c.

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**THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.**—The publishers of this widely circulated and popular illustrated weekly journal of mechanics and science, announce that it will be enlarged on the 1st of July, and otherwise greatly improved, containing sixteen pages instead of eight, the present size, which will make it the largest and cheapest scientific journal in the world; it is the only journal of its class that has ever succeeded on this continent, and maintains a character for authority in all matters of mechanics, science and arts, which is not excelled by any other journal published in America or in Europe. Although the publishers will incur an increased expense of \$3,000 a year by this enlargement, they have determined not to raise the price of subscription, relying upon their friends to indemnify them in this increased expenditure, by a corresponding increase of subscribers. Terms \$2 a year, or 10 copies for \$15. Canadian subscribers have to remit twenty-six cents extra on each year's subscription, to prepay postage. Canadian money will be taken at par for subscriptions.

The *Scientific American* contains a bi-weekly list of all Patents granted from the Patent Office, and the most reliable information in regard to new inventions, machinery, all branches of manufacturing processes, agricultural implements, engineering, mill-wrighting, iron manufacture, chemistry; in fact almost every industrial pursuit receives more or less attention in its columns. Each number contains several illustrations of patented machines, &c., comprising about *Six hundred original Engravings* in the annual volume! As a family paper, it has no superior for *real practical utility*, since in its columns will be found *useful practical recipes*; reports of the markets, and much valuable information on domestic subjects generally. In our present number will be found an article on Steam Ploughing, taken from a recent number of this excellent periodical, which our agricultural as well as mechanical readers, will perceive embraces the improvements that are every day making in this most important art.

Specimen copies of the paper with a pamphlet of information to inventors, furnished gratis, by mail, on application to the publishers, Munn & Co., No. 37, Park Row, New York.

**MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES.**—We are requested to ask attention to Mr. H. A. Massey's advertisement, on the cover. Mr. Massey has frequently been a successful competitor at the Provincial Exhibitions, and we believe his machines have given satisfaction to those who have tried them.