the horses stepping over the traces in turning, fasten a weight of about three-fourths of a pound on the outside of each single-tree—that is, on the right end when you turn to the left, and *vice versa*. Every observing farmer knows that horses are susceptible to kindness, and equally so to unkindness. I have seen horses that were working steadily made reckless with sweat in a short time by a sharp word or a jerk on the bit. Let your horses do their work as you do your's, as easily as possible, and be as willing to overlook their mistakes as you would the mistakes of human beings.

Horses and cattle are liable to sprains in cold weather from slipping on the ice, and horses often get "calked." The following is an excellent embrocation for such injuries. It should be well rubbed in when applied to sprains. It is good for rheumatism if well rubbed in while exposed to a hot fire:

Oil origanum, aniseed and spike, each 1 oz.; spirits of turpentine, 1 oz.; aqua ammonia, 1 oz., and alcohol, 3 oz. Shake well before using. The bottle should be kept securely corked.—*Country Gentleman.*

The Horse.

Profits of Horse-Breeding.

There can be no question as to the fact that under ordinary favourable circumstances the breeding and raising of horses is a profitable business. Good horses are always in demand, that abundantly pay for the raising No matter whether the breeder's efforts be in the direction of producing horses adapted for the road, the turf, carriage, or draft, it pays to breed only the best of the kind. If the farm be properly arranged for the busines, the cost of raising a colt until he is four years old is but little if any greater than that of raising a steer to the same age, and the cost of raising a good horse is no greater than that of raising a poor one.

The main difference, however, is found in the fact that the scrub will not sell, while the really good horse of each of the leading types is always in demand at a remunerative price. The difference in value between good and poor horses is very much greater than that which exists in any other kind of live stock. Hogs and cattle are raised mainly for the value of the carcase, and are bought and sold by weight, with only a slight variation as to the price in regard to quality; but not so with the horse. His form, style, and color; the sparkle of the eye, the cut of the head, the quality of the bone, the carriage of the tail, the shape of each individual part that goes to make up the whole—his gait as well as his size and mental characteristics—are all carefully considered and taken into the account in estimating the value of the animal.

I should be borne in mind that nearly all of the qualities which determine the value of the horses are inherited ones—are bred in the bone—and if they be not possessed by the foal when first dropped from the dam no amount of subsequent care, attention, or outlay can remedy the defect. To make the business of raising horses a profitable one saleable horses must be produced, and to do this with certainty the breeder must produce good brood-mares, and then breed to good stallions only. The quality and blood of the horse, and not the price at which he is held as service, are the important matters for consideration. Have constantly in mind the points which give value, and seek diligently for a sire that from his own form and blood is likely to transmit those points: What is bred in the bone will be transmitted, and no mongrel can be relied upon to transmit anything but his own defects.

Experience was long since demonstrated to be the best of all schools, and if you find a cross that "nicks" well, or a sire that has demonstrated his excellence, prefer that cross, or that sire to all others. It is not to be taken for granted that you have found the best stallion when you have found the one that commands the highest fee for service, the best rule is to pay no attention to the price until you have examined the horse and the pedigree carefully, and then, when you have found him all right in form and action, purely bred descending from an ancestry uniformly possessing the same good qualities, or if you find that the horse himself has demonstrated his excellence as a sire of such horses as you wish to breed, you may vensure to consider the price of service. Having thus carefully chosen the sire and dam, success is reasonably certain, and the business is a profitable one. The ordinary farmer can scarcely invest in any business that will give such sure and large returns as the purchase of one or two really good brood-mares provided always that he breed them with judgment. While raising their foals each year, the mares will with proper care, do nearly as much ordinary farm-work as geldings; and from their produce he may in a few years gain himself a competence—*Spirit of the Times.*

Watering Horses.

The *Working Farmer* has the following suggestions, which are worthy of remembrance:

"Horses should be watered from a brook pond or river, and not from wells or springs, as the well water is hard and colder, while the running stream is soft and rather warm. The preference of horses is for the soft, even though it be muddy water, to that which is hard. Horses should be allowed in summer time at least, four waterings a day, and half a bucket at a time, and in winter a pail may be allowed morning and evening which is sufficient to assuage their thirst without causing them to bloat or puff up. Care, however, should be taken that the horse is not put to work immediately after drinking a full bucket of water, especially if required to go fast, because digestion and severe exertion can never go on together, and moreover purging is apt to ensue. In some cases, broken wind or heaves is thus produced. Avoid giving warm or tepid water to horses that are often driven from home, because cold or warm water will then perhaps be given them, which will be liable to produce a congestive chill follow by lung fever, and in some cases colic."

Care of Brood Mares.

As a rule, except among those who make it a specialty, enough attention is not given to feeding brood mares. The best food is chopped barley, mixed with equal portions of bran, which enables the dam to make all necessary preparation to supply the coming foal with nourishment at the time most needed, and enables her to feed the growing foal on the very best kind of feed to make the most bone and muscle. On the care and treatment of the mare depend the size and condition of the colt at birth. We often see farmers working their brood mares in a heavy team and treating and feeding them in the same manner as they do the other horses, up to within a few days of their foaling. This is a very unprofitable course to pursue, to say the least. The dam should have moderate exercise, but it should be regular. If she is used in a team she should not be driven faster than a walk, or loaded heavy, for in either case there is danger of injuring the mare and ruining the colt.—*Ex.*

Fattening Horses.

The *New England Homestead* says that if the usual food has been unground grain and hay, nothing but a change will effect any desirable alteration in the appearance of the animal. In case oil meal cannot be obtained readily, mingle a bushel of flax seed with a bushel of barley, one of oats, and another Indian corn, and let it be ground into a fine meal. Or meal of the barley, oats, and corn in equal quantities may first be produced, and one-fourth part of oil cake mingled with it when the meal is sprinkled on cut feed. Feed two or three quarts of the mixture two or three times daily, mingled with a peck of cut hay or straw. If the horse will eat that greedily, let the quantity be gradually increased until he will eat four or six quarts at every feeding, three times a day. But avoid the practice of letting the horse stand at the rack well filled with hay. In order to fatten a horse that has run down in flesh, the groom should be very partieular to feed the animal no more than he will eat up clean, and then lick his manger for more.

Inflammation of the Kidneys.

In the horse inflammation of the kidneys is more common than is generally supposed, and produces great mischief, local as well as constitutional, when allowed to run its course unchecked. Fever is the invariable attendant, as upon most inflammatory diseases of vital organs, but here is a more marked degree than usual. Next may be observed a stiffness, and pain in the back, increased by turning in the stall, or by pressure on the back. The last symptom is, however, also common in strains and in rheumatism; but then there is no disorder of the urinary apparatus, and the water is natural, and in good quantity; inflammation of the kidneys the water is scanty and high colored, occasioning pain in the passage, with great strength, caused by the irritation of the urine, which is loaded with salts; pulse is quick and hard, and generally small and wavy. The symptoms are all present in inflammation of the bladder also; but the two may be distinguished by passing the hand into the rectum, and examining the bladder itself, when, if it is the seat of the disease, its pressure will give great pain, and it will be found thickened, and the parts adjacent hot and throbbing; whilst, if these are healthy, the kidneys may be considered as the real seat of mischief. Among the causes of kidney inflammation is generally mowburnt hay or musty oats. Exposure to cold and wet is another cause, constantly occurring. By way of local treatment, a rowel may be inserted over the loins, and each side of, and along the spine, each rowel being distant four inches from the middle of the spinal column, or about eight inches between the two rowels. A gentle purge consisting of a quart of linseed oil, may be given, followed by calomel, opium and tartar emetic, of each, a half to one drachm (according to age and size) made into a pile, and one such dose given every six hours. No diuretics or salts of any kind should be given but plenty of luke warm water, bran mashes, with boiled whole linseed in them. Warm clothing and flannel bandages are to be added to the other remedies; cold draughts of air should be carefully excluded from the stable, and the horse left quiet and undisturbed in his stall.—*Prairie Farmer.*

The Way to Blanket Horses.

But few people comparatively understand how to blanket a horse to protect him from contracting cold. We frequently see the blanket folded double and laid across the rump, and a part of the animals back, leaving those parts of the body that need protection exposed to the cold storms and cutting winds. Those parts of the body of a horse which surround the lungs require the benefit of a blanket in preference to the flank or rump. When we are exposed to a currant of cold air, to guard against any injury from contracting cold we shield ourselves neck, chest, and back. If these parts are protected the lower part of the body will endure a degree of cold far more intense without any injury to the body than if the lungs were not kept warm with suitable clothing. The same thing holds good in the protection of horses. The blanket should cover the neck, withers and shoulders, and be brought round the breast and buttoned or buckled together as closely as a man buttons his overcoat when shielding his bosom. Let the lungs of a horse be protected with a heavy blanket and he will seldom contract cold, even if the hindermost parts of his body are left uncovered. We refer more particularly to blanketing horses that have been unusually warm by violent exertion or hard driving, and exposing then to a current of cold air while standing still. Many of our best teamsters protect the breast of their horses by a piece of heavy cloth about two feet sqare, hanging from the lower end of the collar. This is an excellent practice in cold weather, as the most important part of the animal is shielded from the cold wind, especially when travelling toward a strong current. The forward end of the horse blanket should be made to fit as closely round the breast of a horse as our garments fit our bodies. Most horses will contract a violent cold almost as soon as a man, if not blanketed while they stand still after having been exercised so violently as to produce profuse perspiration. So long as a horse is kept in motion there is little danger of his suffering any inconveniences from cold winds; but allow him to stand still for a few moments while loading or unloading, without a heavy blanket to protect his shoulderes and longs, and he will take cold sooner than a man.

Bruise or Gravel.

Is quickly cured by cutting away the hoof a little where the gravel went in. Then take a crooked awl and get out the dirt as much as possible, work gunpowder into the cavity with the back of the awl and touch it with a hot iron; by putting the powder in two or threw times in this way it will clean all the gravel and dirt out. Then melt one part tallow and three parts rosin and pour the cavity, and the horse is fit for business.—A., *Rural New Yorker.*

A few iron nails placed in a vase with flowers will keep the water sweet, and the flowers fresh. This arises from the sulphur climinated from the plants, combining with the iron.