

to see even a middling pig in the  
 ock, though he bred from 250 to 300 each  
 ear. His plan of keeping was as follows:—  
 as soon as the sows littered they were kept  
 on kibbled oats, scalded, with raw swedes or  
 blage; and when the pigs got to the age  
 of three weeks or a month, he turned the sows  
 out from them for a short time every day, and  
 re the pigs a few peas or a little Indian  
 corn while the sow was away. When the  
 weather was fine and warm the pigs went out  
 with the mother into a grassy field for a short  
 time. He found that young pigs, from the  
 age of three weeks, required dirt or grit, and  
 therefore, if the weather was bad, and they  
 could not be turned out, it was necessary to  
 put some grit into the sty. This was very  
 important, as he believed it was quite  
 necessary for the proper digestion of their  
 food. He had had young pigs looking very  
 well and drooping, but when turned out, that  
 they might get dirt, they soon became all  
 right again. In fact, it was absolutely neces-  
 sary, during the whole life of a pig, to allow  
 an opportunity of getting grit or dirt, or it  
 could not thrive well. At seven or eight  
 weeks old all the pigs he did not require for  
 feeding he had cut, and began to wean them  
 fortnight afterwards. He then turned them  
 out into a grass field, with a hovel for them  
 to run into, and allowed each pig a quart per  
 day of peas, Egyptian beans, or Indian corn.  
 English beans did not answer for young pigs,  
 being too heating. He gave them one pint  
 of corn in the morning, and the other in the  
 evening, with regularity as to time and quan-  
 tity, and found it better to give to them on  
 a grass, in a clean place each time, than in  
 a trough, as it prevented quarrelling, and  
 the pig got his share. With this quart of  
 corn per day, and what grass they got during  
 the seven months of the year, with nothing  
 but water to drink, the pigs would, on an  
 average, make 5 lbs. of pork each per week.  
 After eight months, he allowed an extra half-  
 pint of corn per day. At the present price of  
 corn the allowance would cost about 1s. per  
 week for each pig; grass, 2d.; attention of  
 man, 1d.; total cost, 1s. 3., leaving a profit of  
 1s. per week on each pig when pork was at  
 7s. per lb.; it was now 7d. One man attended  
 to from 200 to 250 pigs; he was an Irish-  
 man, for few Englishmen liked the job suffi-  
 ciently well to take an interest in the pigs,  
 a carelessness on the part of the man ma-  
 terially decreased the profit. He kept the  
 sows when in pig the same as the other  
 ones. They ran about in a field till a fort-  
 night before pigging, when he placed them  
 in a covered shed, so constructed as to admit  
 much sun as possible. Young pigs kept  
 in the manner described were always nearly  
 enough for porkers, and did not require

more than two or three weeks feeding on meal.  
 It was time enough to begin to feed pigs for  
 bacon at 8 or 10 months old. Good breeding  
 sows he allowed to have two farrows, and some-  
 times three, but never more, and then feed them  
 for bacon, supplying their places with young  
 sows. In selling store pigs he charged a cer-  
 tain price per lb., allowed the purchaser to pick  
 the pigs from the field, which plan always gave  
 satisfaction, and secured a return of custom.  
 It was desirable in breeding animals to have as  
 little bone as possible in proportion to flesh.  
 He had tested a cut sow of his breed, about 30  
 months old, which weighed 32 score, and the  
 whole of the bones, after the flesh had been  
 boiled from them, only weighed 21 lbs.; so that  
 for every pound of bone there were 32 lbs. of  
 meat, which he believed to be a fair average of  
 his breed. His pigs made 2 lbs. of flesh for  
 every 4 lbs. of good Indian corn, barley, or  
 peameal; as a rule, he preferred the Indian  
 corn. He considered it always to be more pro-  
 fitable to feed upon good food than upon in-  
 ferior. As a rule, pigs would thrive better for  
 being turned out once a day, except in wet wea-  
 ther, and they would also be healthier, more  
 active, have a cleaner appearance, would pos-  
 sess a great advantage in the show-yard over  
 heavy, ungainly pigs, which could not move  
 about to show themselves. One of the greatest  
 pleasures which his breeding afforded him was  
 to see the number of labouring men who came  
 to buy from him, and he hoped to see the time  
 when every labouring man would have a good  
 pig in his sty.

### III Effects of Bad Corn.

A very curious and important paper appeared  
 in the *Veterinarian* for February, 1862, which  
 is highly worthy the attention of our readers,  
 not only as a record of some very interesting  
 facts, but as holding out a serious warning  
 against the false economy of using bad corn as  
 food. Mr. Mitchell, of Leeds, the gentleman  
 who first called attention to the matter, has  
 kindly promised to supply us with specimens of  
 the corn in question, but in consequence of se-  
 vere illness he has not at present been able to  
 fulfil his promise. As the subject of such im-  
 mediate interest, however, we have determined  
 to reserve for future remark anything that may  
 be presented by the specimens on their arrival,  
 and to present the facts as they are presented to  
 us in Professor Varnell's paper.

In a letter dated August 27, 1861, Mr. Mit-  
 chell states that a gentleman in his neighbour-  
 hood had lost six horses in a very sudden man-  
 ner. A *post mortem* examination convinced  
 some of the most eminent veterinary surgeons  
 in the surrounding district that their death was  
 due to poison; but an analysis of the intestines  
 or their contents, as well as of the food which  
 they had eaten, failed to show the presence of