

from getting their horses shod as often as they should be, and thus the shoes are allowed to get sunken in the heels and produce bruising, or the heels curl in and produce the same result.

We intend taking another opportunity of treating on the subject of shoeing, so will say nothing more about it at present, except to strongly urge the necessity for re-shoeing at intervals of not longer than five weeks. Many breeders get disgusted with the lighter class of horses, if they show much spirit, and are apt to allow them to acquire bad habits when they really do not possess bad tempers. Unskilful and injudicious handling will often aggravate any natural waywardness; but there is no doubt the most prolific causes of bad manners amongst the more spirited and well-bred horses is from not keeping them steady at work during the time they are being broken in, and until they have become perfectly handy and tractable. It is not wise to break a horse's heart by over-work and under-feeding; but it is still more foolish to allow a young and spirited animal to become fractious from irregular work and too stimulating food, and thus susceptible to every form of irritation. It is sometimes the case that under-sized horses are bred, or those that are too light to take part in the regular work of the farm, and it would necessitate a loss of time in exercising them. This is another argument against the want of wisdom in breeding small horses, which, under the most favorable circumstances, seldom bring a paying price, having to be sold for a hundred dollars, when, if they were a fair size, say from ten hundred and fifty to twelve hundred, they could do almost any work on an ordinary farm and sell for from one hundred and fifty to two hundred dollars, especially if they are well bred, and show quality.

Every day a young horse is worked it makes him a more valuable animal; that is, of course, providing he is judiciously used; for it not only hardens him up and gives him thorough control of his limbs, but it gets him in the habit of doing ordinary work in a convenient and handy manner. Horses are very largely creatures of habit, and even the most high-spirited, nervous animals will usually become reliable and handy if constantly used at the kind of work for which they are required.

Many people stupidly condemn a high-spirited animal as a vicious one, and in nine cases out of ten such animals are spoiled from inconstant or insufficient use. Coupled with judicious handling, steady work would make vice and awkwardness amongst horses almost unknown.

Many young horses are allowed to get thick and gummy about the fetlock by the time they have arrived at five years of age. This often materially reduces their value in the market. Brushing or interfering in colts often causes chronic thickening of the skin to occur on the inside of the fetlocks. Bad shoeing and not shoeing often enough are sometimes the cause, but many colts strike from awkwardness, leg-weariness, or before they become able to co-ordinate their limbs properly. This is more especially the case in connection with the hind legs, and it is often wise to allow them to go without hind shoes until they threaten to become tender in the feet. But they will sometimes strike and bruise without shoes, and in that case it is better to rest them until all soreness disappears, and not work them again sufficiently to cause leg-weariness.

Until a young horse reaches maturity his circulation is not so strong as it afterwards becomes, consequently he is more subject to the ill effects of jarring from fast work, and tension from heavy drawing, which shows itself in connection with the fetlock joints by swelling

of various kinds. A majority of the light horses presented for sale in this country show anything but cleanness about the fetlocks, which often interferes with a sale, or depreciates the value of the animal. There is some difficulty in regulating a young horse's work so as to prevent filling in the region alluded to, but there is a means of prevention that is most reliable, and that is the use of suitable bandages properly applied after work, and allowed to remain on all night. This may be thought a troublesome plan, but in reality it gives little extra work, and in a horse at all valuable it well repays the trouble. The bandages must be elastic to some extent, otherwise they will not fit evenly and smoothly to the parts, and exert regular and firm pressure, thus having the desired effect of supporting the blood-vessels, stimulating the circulation and encouraging absorption. What are called Derby bandages are the best, and they can be procured from most saddlers for one dollar a set.

Veterinary surgeons are often called upon to treat swollen fetlocks after the enlarged tissue has become organized, and when it has become an impossibility to restore them to their normal condition; the owners having found out the drawback of such a condition when trying to sell. The old saying of "Prevention is better than cure," is particularly appreciable here, Rational management has more influence in keeping a young horse well mannered and free from blemish, than laborious interference.

The Farm.

THE *Breeders Gazette*, of Chicago, is responsible for this sentence, and it is certainly a good one. "The best way to lighten labor is to learn to love it." We never yet could see how workmen in any craft may content themselves in performing labor as a machine does it. Why should not every man in the world try to excel in doing everything that he does in a creditable manner. In this way the mind becomes occupied with the work. Becoming weary of work in such a case is out of the question. The doer loves to look upon it when it is done, and he is pleased to have others inspect it. It is much in his mind, and the contemplation of it affords him pleasure. While thus interested in work he never thinks of watching the sun, and has no longing for nightfall, and every day that he spends thus is adding to his self-improvement.

Handling Manure.

Of all the operations of the farm there is none, perhaps, performed so carelessly as spreading manure. It is very often just pitched about in heaps, with bare spots between, and in this condition it is ploughed under, with the result that some portions of the land get too little and the other portions too much. The evil usually commences in the laying down of the piles. These should not be more than fifteen feet each way, in which case the individual spreading has only to throw half this distance, which is not oppressive. When the piles are far apart the labor of spreading is severe, and the temptation to spread unevenly is irresistible when the workman gets a little tired.

If the piles are not evenly laid down it is impossible to spread evenly. The drawer of this fertilizer should keep constantly on the alert, for if one pile is smaller than another, the land cannot be evenly manured. If the quality of one load is better than another the same difficulty arises, unless the unloader has sufficient judgment to gauge this by the size of the piles. When manure is fresh, very great care requires to be exercised in this particular. Then again, when the

field is diversified, in soils varying in fertility, careful judgment comes into service again. On clay lands the high parts require much more feeding than the hollows. We have observed a tendency in workmen to lay down the largest heaps in the valleys. It may be caused in part by the greater difficulty of getting the team to stand quietly in going down an incline.

In spreading manure on meadows or pasture, the greatest care should be exercised in spreading it evenly. Every bunch should be shaken apart, which will require much care and patience when the manure is dry. It always spreads easier when wet, hence the day after a rainstorm, when all the teams are idle, is a gala day for manure spreading with the wise farmer who has this work on hand.

A good deal of manure drawing is done in the winter now, and we commend the practice. On level soils it does not waste much through leeching, even though spread when drawn, but on hills, quite a portion will run into the water courses when the ground is frozen hard under. When manure is drawn in the winter to be ploughed under in the spring, we favor on the whole the practice of putting it in piles, and we adopt the same plan when we use it for topdressing pastures. When thus drawn it should be spread at the earliest possible moment in the spring.

There is one grave objection, however, to the plan. The frost remains so long in the piles some seasons that ploughing is hindered. This can be partially obviated. The different piles can be partly spread, which gives what is under a chance to thaw quickly, when the work can be completed.

One principal advantage of top-dressing pastures with green manure is this, that it acts as a mulch to the grass roots as well as a manure, which in a dry season especially, very greatly increases the yield of grass. The stock will not like it early in the season, but later, when it is wanted more, it serves a good purpose.

The proper care of manure and a wise application of it is the great fundamental of successful farming. Every particle of it that is wasted is just a waste of a reserve-fund of capital. Whatever else about the farm receives an under-share of attention, it should not be the manure heap. With this well managed it would be strange indeed if the accompanying farming were a failure, but with it imperfectly cared for, the failure to attain the full measure of success must be proportionate to the inattention given to this very important item of raw material.

Tillage in the Brockville Region.

Through Mr. D. Derbyshire, Brockville, ex-president of the Eastern Dairyman's Association, we are enabled to give the method of tillage adopted by many of the farmers of that region who are largely engaged in dairying. In corn-growing sections it might profitably be adopted wholly or in part.

A field that wants cleaning is singled out, and manure is heavily applied in the spring, which is ploughed under, and the ground finely pulverized. Corn is then planted in hills, three feet apart each way. As soon as it will admit of it the cultivator is started, and kept going frequently, until the corn gets too high, which conduces both to the perfect cleansing of the land and an enormous growth of corn.

As soon as it is sufficiently grown, a portion of it is fed to the cows, and this is continued until when the corn is in full mill; when the balance is cut, and slid off to an adjacent meadow and stacked for winter use.

Winter wheat is then sown, which is seeded with grasses in the fall, and clovers in the spring, several