

**CURES FOR DISEASES IN HORSES.**

Wishing to make your valuable paper of as much importance as I possibly can for the welfare and prosperity of the farmers and stock raisers, I will give you several cures for diseases of horses, with the name of disease and cure.

**BOTS.**

This troublesome disease can be cured with mullein tea, or red precipitate: Take mullein and make two quarts of strong tea, give one quart, and in thirty minutes give the other quart, this kills the grub; take one teaspoonful of red precipitate, to which add flour of sufficient quantity to make the same into a stiff dough, using water or milk; make into a round ball, take hold of the tongue, pull as far out as you can, placing the ball far back on the tongue, then let go the tongue and they will be certain to swallow the dose; then move the animal around, not letting it lie down until the medicine has done its work.

**CURE FOR COLIC.**

Take one pint of whiskey, one-half pint of water, one quarter of a pound of fine rifle powder, to be shaken up well and drench with it, and in a few minutes the horse will be well.

**CURE FOR SWEENEY AND BIG SHOULDER.**

First take a small reed, and after cutting through the skin, blow up the part affected well; then take the small blade of a pocket knife and probe the shoulder or hip, whichever may be diseased, several times; then insert a piece of May apple root, or poplar root into the place where you cut through the skin; let it remain about thirty six hours; at the end of that time be certain to remove the root, then keep the shoulders well greased with an old bacon rind for several weeks, or as long as the shoulder continues to run, when you will have a cure.

**CURE FOR FOUNDER FROM OVER FEEDING.**

Take a common gourd that has never been cut, break it into pieces, take seed and all and boil them until you make a strong tea; after straining the tea add one teaspoon of sal soda, one tablespoonful of the spirits of turpentine. Shake well before using. Make about three pints of gourd tea, drench with one half, and in twenty minutes with the other half, and your horse or mule will be ready for use, and in twenty four hours you will not know that he was ever foundered.

**BORAX WATER.**—Borax water will instantly remove all soils and stains from the hands, and heal all scratches and chafes. To make it, put some crude borax into a large bottle and fill with water. When the borax is dissolved, add more to the water, until at last the water can absorb no more and a residuum remains at the bottom of the bottle. To the water in which the hands are to be washed after gardening, pour from this bottle enough to make it very soft. It is very cleansing and very healthy. By its use the hands will be kept in excellent condition—smooth, soft and white.

**A MEAT EXPORTING COMPANY.**—A company has been organized at Amherst, under the Joint Stock Co's Act for the purpose of exporting meat, dead and alive, and other agricultural products, to Great Britain. The Company has a capital of \$5,000, with power to increase. The whole of the stock was subscribed at the first meeting held by Messrs D Corbett, Arthur B Pipes, S Corbett, Howard Smith, Blair Bent, J A Dickey, G W Forrest, W Buckley, (Amherst) Charles Oulton (Snohogue) and Chas Dobson (Jolietre). Arrangements have been made for the purchase of cattle, etc. and a first shipment of 400 quarters of beef will be made early in January—*Amherst Gazette.*

**HOW BUTTER IS SOMETIMES TAINTED.**

Winter and spring butter is often very much injured in flavor by allowing cows to eat the litter from horse stables. Cows are not infrequently very fond of this litter, though it is impregnated with liquid manure from the horses, and if allowed, they eat it greedily; and the effect is that their milk and butter will be tainted with the taste of this kind of food, in the same way that the flavor is injured by eating turnips, but to a more disagreeable degree. If litter is allowed to be eaten, it should be given to cattle not in milk, and on no account should milch cows be allowed to consume other than the sweetest and purest food. Very nice butter makers are sometimes at a loss to account for stable taints in butter, especially when extraordinary precautions have been taken to have the milking done in the most perfect manner, and so on in all the processes of handling the milk until the butter is packed for market. Still the butter has a disagreeable taint, and the cause often comes from allowing the cows, when turned out to water and exercise, to feed about the horse stable, where they consume all the litter which, on account of its being soaked with liquid manure, is cast out of the stable.—*Rural New Yorker.*

**WOOD ASHES.**

The value of ashes as a fertilizer, depends principally upon the Potash and Phosphoric Acid they contain. The percentage of these varies largely, in ashes from different woods, varying from 10 per cent to 24 per cent for the former, and 4 per cent to 12 per cent for the latter. This would not give far from four to five pounds of potash to a bushel of ordinary mixed unleached ashes, which, reckoned at 4 cents per pound—the present market value of potash in the commercial fertilizers—would give the value of a bushel as from 18, to 22 cents. With due allowance for the Phosphoric Acid and the Lime—the latter making up the largest part of the ashes—it may be seen that a bushel of unleached ashes, is worth from 25 to 30 cents at the present time. Ashes, to secure the best results, should be thoroughly mingled with the soil. In this way, the best physical, as well as chemical effects are obtained. It is self evident that crops requiring large amounts of Potash, will be the most benefited by the application of ashes, as the root crops, cabbage, tobacco, etc. Forty to fifty bushels per acre, is a good application.—*Am. Agriculturist.*

**HOW TO DEAL WITH RATS.**—We clean our premises of these detestable vermin by making a white wash yellow with copperas and covering the stones and rafters of the cellar with a thick coat of it. In every crevice where a rat might tread we put crystals of the copperas and scattered the same in the corners of the floor. The result was a perfect scampede of rats and mice. Since that time not a foot fall of either rats or mice has been heard about the house. Every spring a coat of the yellow wash is given to the cellar, as a rat exterminator, and no typhoid, dysentery, or fever attacks the family. Many persons deliberately attract all the rats in the neighborhood by leaving fruits and vegetables uncovered in the cellar; and sometimes even the soap-scraps are left open for their regalement. Cover up everything eatable in the cellar and pantry, and you will soon starve them out.

A terrible famine prevails in the districts of Baskelah and Bayazid, in Armenia. The authorities are helpless to aid the people, and it is feared that a famine will become general on the Eastern frontier of Turkey.

**HOW THE FARM WAS BOUGHT.**

A young man was very anxious to secure a piece of property which was just then for sale on very advantageous terms. He went to confer with a friend of his, who was a banker, about the matter, and to inquire whether it would be prudent to borrow the requisite sum and pay it in regular instalments. He thought he should be able to manage all but the first instalment. He was advised to borrow from the bank a sum enough larger than he wished to raise to cover the first payment, lay it strictly aside and then go ahead. 'But,' said his friend, 'you must spend literally nothing. You must live off your place. You must make a box and drop in it all the money you receive.' The young man and his wife went bravely to work to follow his advice. If it was necessary to dine off a head of boiled cabbage and salt, they did so and never grumbled. Every payment was promptly met. The egg money, and the butter money, and the corn and wheat money—all went into the payment-box, and at the specified time the place was theirs. There was an invisible wealth about such hard earned possessions that common observers knew nothing of. On the day of the last payment the young man presented himself before his friend with a smiling face and with the money in his hand. There were no rags to be seen, but his clothing was well covered with darning from head to foot. 'You see I have followed your advice,' he said, casting a glance over himself, and my wife looks worse than I do. But I have earned the farm and now I know how to earn another.—*Cincinnati Times.*

**VARIETY OF FOOD.**—It is a well established fact, that a single kind of food is not enough for the best growth, health, and comfort of animals. Like ourselves, the stock which we keep, does not relish a change of diet—thrive better with a change of pasture so to speak—and gives faller returns for the trouble of providing the variety of foods. Coarse fodder should be mixed with that which is of a finer nature; and the highly nitrogenous, fed with substances weak in nitrogen. Some farmers will feed their sheep corn one morning, and barley or oats the next, and thus keep up a continual surprise, heightened by a lick of salt now and then. It is the same love of change, which makes the colt, cow, and even the oldest horse feel glad when turned into a new field.—*American Agriculturist, Jan 1.*

The winter is the time to buy tools. Every farmer should at this season of the year, determine what implements he will need for the next year, and make arrangements for procuring them. If a mowing machine is to be bought, let him take time by the forelock, and look into the merits of each kind of these machines, and buy intelligently; do not wait until the grass is ready to cut, and rush and buy the one nearest at hand. By sending to the various manufacturers, circulars with full directions, and illustrations, can be obtained, together with prices, etc. If a plough is needed, do all the work of selecting it, before the busy season is at hand, that it may not be 'on the way,' just when the best week for plowing is passing. In the peace of winter, prepare for summer war.

**RECIPTS.**

**POTATO PIE.**—Take mashed potatoes seasoned with salt, butter and milk, and line a baking dish. Lay upon it slices of cold meat of any kind; add salad pepper, catsup and butter, or a cold gravy; put in a layer of potatoes and another layer of meat in the same way till the dish is full; have a yeast of potatoes on top. Bake not thoroughly heated through.

**CLEANING ICE.**—The mica in stoves can be cleaned by taking equal parts of vinegar and water. Wash when a little awed. Wipe with a dry cloth. It will look nearly as good as when new.

**ONION SAUC.**—Boil five small white onions to tender, then chop fine. Boil a cupful of milk, add a piece of butter with pepper and salt to taste. Stir in the minced onion with a small spoonful of flour moistened with milk.

**ICE.**—Get in supply of ice as early as possible. A stock in the house is worth two in the pond. A supply is often been missed by waiting one day too long. When ice is 6 or 8 inches thick, it should be cut and stored without delay.

**OATS WITH WHEAT.**—The experiment has been tried in Iowa of sowing in the fall, upon one acre of land, two bushels of wheat mixed with one bushel of oats. The oats shot up rapidly, and were of course killed down by the frost. But they furnished a warm covering for the earth, and when the snow fell among the thick stalks and leaves they kept it from blowing away. This covering prevented the winter killing of wheat, and the rotting of leaves and stalks afforded smooth top dressing for the crop the following spring. The result was an abundant yield of wheat, while land precisely similar alongside of it, and treated in the same manner, with the exception of omitting the oats, was utterly worthless.

**SHRINKAGE OF FARM PRODUCE.**—Corn loses one-fifth by drying, and wheat one-fourteenth. From this the estimate is made that it is more profitable for farmers to sell unshelled corn in the fall at seventy-five cents than at \$1 a bushel in the following summer, and that wheat at \$1 25 in December is equal to \$1 50 in the succeeding June. In the case of potatoes—taking those that rot and are otherwise lost, together with the shrinkage there is but little doubt that between October and June the loss to the owner who holds them is not less than 35 per cent.

**FATTENING CATTLE.**—In fattening cattle, we have preferred to divide the grain into three parts, and give it with twice or three its bulk of cut hay or other fodder. This mixes the concentrated with the bulky, and insures it being all raised and reconstituted. But too feeds of grain and hay, with one of hay alone, are thought by many to produce as good a result.

Young and growing cattle are the better for some exercise, and should have the opportunity, daily, of stretching their limbs in the open air, except during storms. But fattening cattle need very little exercise, and may be profitably kept in stall during the three or four months of the closing period of fattening. In fact, it is expensive exercise to allow a free daily run to fattening cattle. It will take a considerable percentage of muscular force. Considerable quiet must accompany the rapid deposit of fat.