

corner of an open yard during the greater part of the day, or, perhaps, of the night!—It is no use getting improved animals, if they are not *properly cared for*. Protection against cold and wet; clean and dry bedding, with regular feeding and watering, are the indispensable conditions of success. The chaff or straw cutter is a most invaluable and economical machine, and ought to be in the possession of every farmer, who keeps a cow or a horse. A judicious *mixture* of food is found to be more relished by the stock, as well as more nutritious. With a laudable desire to make animals warm and comfortable, care should be taken not to over crowd them,—particularly sheep, which require for growth and health, considerable space and ventilation. The giving of roots to stock in a raw and half frozen state, is bad economy;—such food should be either *cooked*, or left to be given in *milder* weather.

#### THE BRITISH GRAIN HARVEST OF 1855.

We learn from various private as well as public sources of information, that the yield of wheat in the southern and central parts of England, does not upon threshing, come up to expectation. The crop was generally thought at harvest-time to be considerably above an average, it is now considered doubtful whether it will even reach that point, in some of the wheat growing districts. In other parts of the kingdom the yield seems to be more satisfactory. Very similar accounts have reached us from Ireland.

In Scotland agricultural statistics are beginning to be collected with the necessary care, and from the returns just published, we learn that sixteen out of eighty-five districts return the produce of wheat as equal if not inferior to the crop of 1854, and the remaining thirty-five districts are stated at ten per cent or more below that crop. Taking into account the character of 1854, as compared with the average of years, we should imagine the Scottish yield of wheat for 1855, to be not much below the crop in ordinary years.

From these facts, and the general state of Europe, it appears pretty evident that there can be no great giving way of the present range of prices before another harvest. Very much will depend on the yield of next harvest and the prospect of peace. Throughout the British islands every effort has been made to put the greatest possible breadth of wheat under cultivation, during the late fall. And we learn from private letters that in some of the southern counties, wheat-sowing was only stopped by the rather severe frost which occurred just before Christmas.

We think, therefore, our farmers will do well to thrash out their wheat and bring it freely to market as the spring approaches. The loss by vermin of keeping it long in the barn in an unthrashed state, is often serious, and prices have some time past reached a point that renders the raising of wheat—as well, in leed, of most other agricultural products,—highly remunerating. A more abundant harvest, especially if accompanied by peace, will no doubt materially reduce the existing range of prices,—but we anticipate no state of things for the future, that can possibly bring down the value of