

quently, top-dressing the meadows and grass lands with it, or absorb it with rich earth, ashes, peat charcoal, &c.; return that which oozes from the manure-heaps on them again.

—:o:—

**RECIPE FOR CURING HAMS.**—As soon as the hog is cold enough to be cut up, take the two hams, and cut out the round bone, so as to have the ham not too thick, rub them well with common salt, and leave them in a large pan for three days. When the salt has drawn out all the blood, throw the brine away, and proceed as follows:

Have two hams, of about eighteen pounds each, take one pound of moist sugar, one pound of common salt, two ounces of salt-petre, then put them into a vessel large enough to contain them in the liquor, remembering always to keep the salt over them; after they have been in this state three days, throw over them a bottle of the best vinegar. One month is requisite for the cure of them; during that period, they must be turned often in the brine; when you take them out, drain them well; powder them with some coarse flour, and hang them in a dry place. The same brine can serve again, observing that you must not put so much salt on the next hams that you pickle. This method has been tried and pronounced far better than the Westphalia. [Homestead.]

**PAPER FROM HOPS.**—The use of the hop plant in the manufacture of paper is now proposed. Immediately after being cut, the stock or vine is tied up in bundles, if possible the whole length of the plant, and these bundles are immersed in water pits, similar to those employed in operating on flax and hemp, or in a running stream, and are kept there until a slight fermentation ensues, sufficiently to partially detach the fibre, the pithy and woody portions of the stalk. The separation may be affected by hand, or by passing the stalk between rollers with or without teeth, the woody or pithy matter being picked out or washed out afterwards. After separation, the fibre may be again steamed, and rolled, if required to be very fine, but care is necessary to keep the fibre wet until it is cleaned from gummy and resinous matters, by repeated steaming and washing. The fibre will now be in the condition of half stuff, and fit, after further bleaching for the manufacture of paper, pasteboard, etc.

—:o:—

**VETERINARY.**—A knowledge of the signs of health is an almost indispensable requisite to the horse-owner; for the proverb "a stitch in time save nine," though a very old one, is nevertheless worth remembering, since the life of many a valuable animal has been saved by the administration of some simple remedy in the commencement of disease.

The outward signs of health may be described in a few words. When the horse eats a moderate allowance of hay and corn with good but not ravenous appetite; when he drinks a moderate allowance of water; when his coat lies smooth, and feels soft and smooth to the hand; and when his exercise does not procure faintness, but rather stimulates his appetite—then we may fairly consider him to be in good health. But there are exceptions to all rules, as I have known both gross and bad feeders do their work well; but still there is a difference in the appearance of the animal.

Horses in a state of domestication are necessarily more liable to disease than those in

a state of nature; and this may be ascribed to their change of air, exercise, and grooming. Look merely at the change of air. The horse stands in his stall, exposed to draughts, the air of varied temperatures, and, in addition, is incessantly exposed to the ammoniacal vapors arising from the drains, besides his being in a confined space, most frequently a stall.

Horses in a state of nature, though perhaps not liable to many of the diseases of artificial existence, are in a much less vigorous condition at some seasons of the year than at others, and more especially during the changing of the coat.

It is therefore necessary in the management of horses, to produce a state as conformable to their habits when in a natural state as possible. Thus, for example, always to keep water before them; and, though it may appear curious, you will find the horse drinks less than when it is supplied to him at stated intervals. The ventilation of a stable, however, is the most important point (at the present time I shall not go into a particular description of the mode of ventilating stables.)

But a few years ago, the horse was shut up, and hardly a breath of air allowed to come into the stables; and that was considered conducive to health; now, fortunately (perhaps unfortunately for the veterinary surgeon), this is altered in the majority of stables, the place being kept cool; and, consequently, horses suffer much less than they did formerly.

Thus, for instance, if you are one of a number of persons in a small room, inhaling the same atmosphere, you feel after a time faint, suffer from headache, &c.; and this is precisely what occurs to the horse when shut up with others. The blood cannot be supplied with oxygen, the strength fails, the brain becomes overloaded, and the natural functions of the body become deranged.

Feeding is a matter on which various opinions have been expressed; but three or four feeds of corn a day, with a few beans, and a moderate allowance of hay, is quite sufficient for a horse doing moderate London work.

The usual allowance for a horse is—

Corn, 1 peck per day, which makes three or four feeds;

Hay, 1 1-2 trusses a week;

Straw, 2 trusses a week;

And a warm bran mash twice a week, in place of a feed of corn.

Grooming is of the greatest consequence; for, by removing the dirt from the skin, you allow the animal to perspire freely, thus saving the kidneys from unnecessary labor. Indeed, my own horses are washed all over immediately they come from work, and then rubbed dry. This I have found to refresh them much, and we know how pleasant and refreshing to ourselves a good wash or bath is, after much exercise or excitement.

Indeed, good food, pure air, and cleanliness, are the great secrets of health, not only to the horse, but to the inhabitants of the universe.—*London (Eng.) Field.*

—:o:—

**RISE IN VALUE OF PERUVIAN GUANO.**—Last week Messrs Gibbs and Sons intimated to their correspondents an advance in the price of guano to the extent of £1 per ton,—the terms, being now £13 per ton for 30 tons and upwards, £14, 5s for 1 up to 30 tons—all the other conditions of sale remaining unaltered. This announcement has taken the trade by

surprise, and many merchants will be mulcted of considerable sums, as extensive contracts had been entered into with farmers to deliver Peruvian guano at little over £12 a-ton. The discount of 2½ per cent., allowed by the importers, mitigates the loss; but considerable dissatisfaction exists as to the unusual proceedings of the importers in virtually making two separate advances in the same season—the first putting merchants off their guard as to the probability of a second change in value. On the 17th instant, we stated that "while Peruvian guano was obtainable in London at £12, direct cargoes into Leith, and, we presume, other Scottish ports, had not been arranged. Some merchants are anticipating a further rise, while others suppose that there is an intention of confining the arrivals, into London, and perhaps Liverpool." Those purchases made not subject to rise, will probably lead to several misunderstandings. Besides, farmers will in many instances have recourse to other manures, and the consumptive demand of guano this spring will receive a check. A demand for guano from the continent is assigned as a reason for the advance; but taking the present value of wheat, there is less likelihood of this demand progressing in amount in the corn countries of Europe, while in America, the demand has never been very active, and the quantity imported into the States has generally been beyond the consumptive demand. Indeed, a portion of the surplus supply was in one season reshipped to England.

This proceeding on the part of the importers of Peruvian guano, in making an advance in the price of guano about £2 in one season, renders it an imperative duty on the part of the Government to institute more energetic measures to search for guano islands, and especially to make immediately available the guano deposits near Aden, not overlooking the deposits of nitrate in Pernambuco; otherwise a further advance in the importers' price of Peruvian guano may be anticipated, as at present there is no check upon the monopoly, and nitrog nous manures are essential to carry out our present custom of cultivation.

—:o:—

### Cabbage, Turnips and other Root Crops.

The quantity per acre of cabbages, turnips, and roots that under favorable circumstances can be grown upon an acre of land, is truly astonishing. The amount and value of green food for farm stock, that can be raised on an acre of ground, we think is not well understood by a large majority of our farmers. It is generally thought that our climate, from its liability to drought (in summer and autumn,) is not so favorable to the production of turnips, root crops, &c., as the more humid climate of England, Scotland and Ireland. This, to some extent may be true; but still we have hundreds of well authenticated statements, showing most clearly that the several kinds of vegetables usually grown for autumn and winter feeding of cows and other farm stock, can generally, by good culture, be profitably grown in most sections of our country. But in order to do this, the due preparation of the ground, the proper season of sowing the seed, and the after-culture, should all be well understood and attended to in due season.

Farmers, it is said, have strong prejudices, and are slow to adopt new systems of culture,