

GOOD FOR A GOOSE.—The Rev. Cæsar Otway, in his paper on "The Intellectuality of Domestic Animals," gives the following anecdote, which is by far too good not to receive the benefit of a wider circulation:—At the flour mills of Tubberkeena, near Clonmel, while in the possession of the late Mr. Newbold, there was a goose which, by some accident, was left solitary, without mate or off-spring, gander or goslings. Now it happened, as is common, that the miller's wife had set a number of duck-eggs under a hen, which in due time were incubated, and of course the ducklings, as soon as they came forth, ran with natural instinct to the water, and the hen was in a sad pucker—her maternity urging her to follow the brood, and her selfishness disposing her to keep on dry land. In the meantime up sailed the goose, and with a noisy gabble, which certainly (being interpreted) meant, Leave them to my care; she swam up and down with the ducklings, and when they were tired with their aquatic excursion, she consigned them to the care of the hen. The next morning down came again the ducklings to the pond, and there was the goose waiting for them, and there stood the hen in her great frustration. On this occasion we are not at all sure that the goose invited the hen—observing the maternal trouble—but it is a fact that she being near the shore, the hen jumped on her back, and there sat, the ducklings swimming, and the goose and hen after them, up and down the pond. And this was not a solitary event; day after day the hen was seen on board the goose, attending the ducklings up and down, in perfect contentedness and good humour, numbers of people coming to witness the circumstance; which continued until the ducklings, coming to days of discretion, required no longer the joint of guardianship of the goose and hen.

NORTHUMBERLAND "PLOUGHING DAY."—At Roseden, near Wooler, on the 29th ult., Messrs. Atkinson, of Embleton, to whom that farm has been just let, received a hearty welcome from their neighbours and friends in the shape of a "ploughing day." The day was favourable, and there turned out no fewer than 176 pairs of horses, all of which were a credit to the district. Similar welcomes have lately been given, at Horton and Silburn Grange, to the new tenants, Mr. Brown, of Sandy House, and Mr. Ramsay of Tweedmouth. On the former occasion, 176, and at the latter, upwards of 100 ploughs were in the field.—*Gateshead Observer.*

EVERY MAN'S HOME.—To make it healthful and joyful; to insure, economically, impunity from fire; such a supply of fresh air, light (God's first great gift), and warmth, when needed, as the constitution of man demands, and to lead Art-capable of producing "an endless fountain of immortal drink"—delightfully to adorn it, is matter of world-wide interest. When it is remem-

bered that homes are the manufactories of men, and influence a growing nation, the importance of improving these homes is at once seen. Perfect men come not forth from ill-arranged, ill-ordered dwellings: and how few homes are there which might not be improved!—*The Builder.*

PROTECTION OF MANURE.

THE importance of protecting manure from the sun, wind and rain, may be estimated by the following calculation, for which I am indebted to the works of the French writer—*Girardin (des fumier's considérés comme Engrais, Puis)*, who, in chapter 5, quotes some experiments made by Koerte, which shew that in this exposure a hundred cart loads of fresh dung are reduced, at the end of

	Loads	Loads.
81 days to...	73.3	that is there is a loss of..... 26.7
254.....to ..	64.4 35.6
384.....to ..	62.5 37.5
493.....to ..	47.2 62.8

TOBACCO.—The greater part of the species of *Nicotiana* (the systematic name of the Tobacco plant) 'are natives of South America, and possess more or less of the narcotic qualities of that article of commerce which is so well known amongst us. Different countries adopt the cultivation of different species, which, in some degree, accounts for the various qualities known in commerce. The Americans cultivate the *Nicotiana tabacum*; the Persians, *Nicotiana Persica*; the Syrians, *Nicotiana rustica*; and the species *rapanda* is said to be that from which the finest Havannah cigars are manufactured. Several others are known to be grown for use amongst various tribes of Indians, some of whom, by the bye, have arrived at a refinement in the use of this luxury, which must put to the blush the admirers of mere leaf-smoke. These Indians—inhabitants of the banks of the Missouri,—as related by Pursh, prepare, 'for their own smoking,' a delicate species of Tobacco, not from leaves, but from the flowers of the species they cultivate. Thus we see that the time has to arrive, when smoking Englishmen shall possess the refined taste of their 'Tall Indian' brethren.'—*Mound's Botanic Garden and Fruitist, for July.*

SMOKERS.—It has been surmised, from the following extract, that the author of the Botanic Garden is no smoker; be this as it may, we give it for the benefit of our readers. 'From the smoker of Tobacco it should not be concealed, that the essential oil of Tobacco, like that from its kindred plants, Henbane and Deadly Nightshade, is a virulent poison; and which, in smoking, is inhaled and swallowed, and is frequently productive of paralysis. Its frequent use, like that of Opium, renders the system less susceptible of its active qualities; this, however, is but the evidence of disordered functions,—of natural sensitiveness destroyed; an effect which, like the effects of other poisons, can only be advantageous where rendered necessary by disease.'