

in the stable is usually a matter of taste. If the stable is comfortable warm and the grooming good, covers can be dispensed with, and we know horses that make a very creditable appearance in the hunting field that are never clothed. If the nature of their work keeps them standing much exposed, they will be less liable to colds if unclothed in the stable. Where however, clipping and singeing are practised a woollen rug had better be used. The prevailing fashion of turning the horse out denuded of his winter coat will probably now become still more common if the new clipping machine comes in use. The practice, although certainly unnatural, has many recommendations. It prevents undue and reducing perspiration so inevitable where work is performed in a long coat; it enables the horse to do his work more easily and comfortably, whilst it expedites and facilitates cleaning and grooming, and diminishes the chances of cold from the animal standing as he is now apt to do, shivering for an hour or two in a tardily drying long coat. This is very prejudicial to every horse, and is a most fruitful source of colds, influenzas, and various other ailments.

Even good grooms differ as to the manner of performing the several details of their duties, but all agree in promptly attending to the horse that has returned from work, wet, dirty, and heated. It is dirty and uncomfortable alike for man and beast, to do the grooming in the stall or box; but except in the heat of the day and in fine weather, when the outer air will do no harm, the horse must be brought under cover of a convenient shed or unused stable. The stable besom applied to the legs and belly will remove the "rough of the dirt." Stripped in his shirt sleeves, with a bucketful of tepid water and a soft brush, the groom then carefully washes the legs, feet, and belly. This done, the saddle is taken off, and the head and back rapidly sponged so as to remove every mark and speck of dirt. When the horse is bare clipped, the body is generally sponged all over with tepid water, and the practice is good where the groom is careful at once to thoroughly dry the animal. The horse may now be taken to his stable or box and have a few oats, a lock of good hay or if his exertions have been great, a couple of quarts of well boiled oatmeal gruel. And whilst the horse thus regales himself, the diligent groom will carefully rub him dry, first with the hay wisp and then with a dry cloth. The well shaken rug is then put on, the bucketful of water and supper given, and the bed comfortably made up. The bits and stirrup leathers or harness then come in for their rubbing up, the saddle will be sponged, and the girths and reins well washed and thoroughly dried.

To do up a hack nicely and comfortably takes nearly an hour, and a fatigued hunter will demand still longer and more careful attention. The horse that labours for us so cheerfully and well, surely deserves to be properly tended, and his good looks and satisfactory performances are a very reasonable measure of the grooms anxious and pains-taking care. When he is chary of his time and labour

and leaves the stable half an hour after his horse is brought home, you may be sure that your work is slurred over and neglected, that your horse cannot be thoroughly cleaned, or that if washed, he is not half dried. His coat next morning will be rough and dusty, and will require an extra hour's work before it looks sleek and comfortable.

TO CURE KICKING HORSES.

—"J. R.," in the Rural New Yorker, recommends the following plan. "Let the horse stand between two partitions. Bore a two inch-hole in each, on a horizontal line, about 1½ inches above the horse's hips, take a round stick long enough to reach across the stall, and place it in the holes, and put a pin in each end of the stick so that it cannot fall out. The horse may try to kick, but will not be able, as the stick will prevent the necessary elevation of his hind quarters, and after a few attempts he will give it up."

HINTS ON BUTTER-MAKING.

Depth of Milk.

Col. PRATT, of Prattsville, Greene county, formerly the celebrated tanner, now equally successful with the Dairy, finds that the largest quantity of cream rises, and consequently the greatest quantity of butter is made, when the milk is one and a quarter inches in depth in hot weather—and an inch and a half deep in cool weather—seven or eight quart pans thus containing but two and a half quarts for the first named depth, and three quarts for the latter. The temperature is kept as nearly as possible to 62°, although in warm weather it may run up to 65°, and in extreme cases to 70°.

New way of Making Butter.

J. Zoller, of Oswegatchie, N. Y., saves the labor of setting his milk in pans, skimming, and taking care of the cream, by simply straining the milk of one day into six churns, and churning next morning, by horse power, the milk being then sour, but not loppered. He thinks he also makes more butter in this way, from the same quantity of milk. The milk being sour, produces butter more readily than if fresh. An experiment, carefully made, with cream from pans, and by the above method, resulted in giving 10 per cent more butter from the churned milk.

Washing butter.

A correspondent of the Boston Cultivator says he has not had rancid butter in the spring for thirty years. He washes it. Not with water, which he, with most good butter-makers, regards as injurious, but with sweet skim-milk, salting it afterwards. Have any of our readers tried this way, and with what results? There are some good butter-makers that wash their butter with water, and make a better article than some bad manufacturers who do not wash it. But equal skill, cleanliness, and careful management, would doubtless with these good manufacturers make better butter without washing.