



from a desperate stand which they made, with the tallest of the red deer stags arranged in front, in a sort of battle array, gazing on the group which barred their passage down the glen, the more experienced sportsmen began to augur danger. The work of destruction, however, now commenced on all sides. Dogs and hunters were at work, and muskets and fuses resounded from every quarter. The deer, driven to desperation, made at length a fearful charge right upon the spot where the more distinguished sportsmen had taken their stand. The word was given in Gaelic to fling themselves upon their faces; when the whole herd fairly run over them, dashing down upon them in an irresistible tide; the Highlanders, however, accustomed to such incidents, and prepared for them, suffered no harm.

#### HINTS TO FARMERS.

In Ireland there are few traces of skill or contrivance in farm-houses—no regard to a central situation, nor to a dry spot, nor to ventilation. The farm offices are set down straggling and confused, as if by accident; here a barn, there a stable, cow-houses so awkwardly formed, as that in order to clean them the cattle must be turned to the door, and so confined, that they must dung on one another. To a stock yard, dryness of situation and free ventilation, are essential; yet so little are these circumstances attended to, that it is generally adjacent to the dwelling house, whether the spot be wet or dry; it is often also surrounded with trees, as if to prevent ventilation, and as if water, dropping from the branches on the corn-stacks were salutary to them. A kitchen-garden is of importance to a farmer, but this is very little attended to, so as to render it really productive. The chief attention is to surround it with trees, and yet the necessary effect of excluding free air is to dwarf the plants, and to give them a bad taste.

It seems to be the opinion of our farmers that a dung-hill cannot be too moist, for it is commonly put in a hole, and consequently surrounded with water: the richest parts are imbibed by the water, and both evaporate together, leaving the dung-hill little better than a *caput mortuum*—water, at the same time, in any quantity, is far from contributing to putrefaction. I have seen a sheaf after lying a long time in water, so tough as to be fit for making ropes.

The race of our labourers are becoming daily objects of the most important and increasing care; and when it is considered how materially their *health* and *strength* depend upon the *comfort* and *cleanliness* of their habitations, those who have the means and opportunity, will assuredly spare no effort in promoting the well being of their workmen, by an attention to these essential particulars. If the poor man's dwelling was made convenient and cheerful, he would have a strong inducement to remain *at home* with his family, instead of flying to the shebeen-house, as a refuge from the cold, filth, and melancholy of his own miserable hovel.

The residence of the wealthy is as essential to the prosperity of a country, as the distribution of the blood by the heart to the health and strength of the body. No Agent can effect these salutary purposes—the countenance of the master, and the sweet conciliating benevolence of his wife and children, that anticipates with considerate kindness the wants of the tenantry, can alone render Ireland what it might and it ought to be, and superadd to the natural advantages of its fertility, the blessing of civilization, and all the minor comforts and decencies which flow from its diffusion.

#### ON SHOERING HORSE<sup>s</sup>

Professor Coleman has demonstrated, upon principles clear as noon day, that a shoe cannot remain on a horse's foot above twenty-eight days, without doing injury; and yet the object of farmers generally appears to be to shoe as *seldom* as possible, and with this view it is the practice to weld into the point and heels of the shoes, pieces of cast iron, and to place nails all round; so that a shoe in some instances, is

known to have remained on the foot six months, producing a variety of evils, which farmers little think of. The foot of a horse has a constant tendency to *increase in circumference*. When it is bound round with iron the tendency is obstructed; and the solid part of the foot must, of consequence, press upon the inner tender and sensible part, viz. the internal frog, which readily yields to the external force; the moment that such pressure takes place there, is seen by the heels closing, and the clefts of the outer frog filling up; and hence obviously arise lameness, trushes, and a variety of other evils.

The high heels given to draught horses are also productive of great mischief; they are given to form a stop for the horse; but the frog is his natural stop; and if his foot is managed in the modern manner, by the frog being brought down to the surface of the shoe, it will in all cases, for the fore feet at least, prove a stop sufficiently powerful) these high heels throw the knee of the horse forward, and, of course, prevent the great back tendons from ever performing their office in a perfect manner; they are never upon the full stretch, as nature intended, but always loose, and hence without strength. When horses, having these high heels, are suddenly stopped upon a pavement, it may be seen how much their fore limbs are distorted, by the shock they receive; the knee is seen tremulous for a minute or two, and pain is evidently diffused throughout their whole body. A horse, pulling a draught up an inclined plane, can never exert his full strength, unless his heels, (and frog of course) come full to the ground; the simple observation of a careless spectator will satisfy him of this. But the greatest benefit arising from the modern plan of shoeing is, that a horse, whose foot has been treated with skill, will suffer no inconvenience from the loss of a shoe, even if he has some miles to travel.

#### ADVICE SUITED TO THE AGED AND TO THE YOUNG.

Wait not till your children are grown up, before you think of their education. The younger they are, the more their minds are (as it were) new, tender, soft, and susceptible of impressions: consequently, if you neglect their education, their minds will be influenced by all the examples which may present themselves before them; and as there are more bad examples than good ones—and as the former bear a greater conformity to the perversity of the nature with which we are born, than the latter—the soul imbibes corruption, in proportion as it enters into life. Begin, therefore, to think of bestowing a good education upon them, so soon as they come into the world, if you are desirous that they should reap, with greater ease and certainty, the benefit of the instructions which may be afterwards given them.

That mind which will not be contented with its condition, is its own tormentor. Persons are miserable, only because they are not in the place where they want to be; are not employed in the things they would gladly be busied in; or do not enjoy what they desire. But do you continue with pleasure wherever you are obliged to be. Perform, without repining, all that it may be requisite for you to do; be satisfied with whatever you possess, and you will then be as happy, (not to say happier,) than those who command over, and exceed you in wealth and in power.

With virtue, with capacity, and good conduct, a man may yet be unbearable. Certain ways of behaviour, which may be neglected because thought too trifling, will frequently make the world judge well or ill of us. A slight endeavour at civility and politeness may prevent their thinking unfavourably of us. An insignificant matter, an almost nothing, will cause us to be thought haughty, uncivil, contemptuous, disobliging; and, far more than all this, may make us to be considered as the very opposite.