of 1vy, which gave it a truly romantic appearance; about twenty years past a wretch wantonly cut the roots, the ivy died, and tearing it off for fuel many of the stones were loosened; these were beat out by mischievous boys, still loosening others till the breach almost met round; yet a few straggling stones seemed struggling to support the mighty mass, until the latter end of October, 1828, a thoughtless youth heat out these supports; a short time after, this venerable monument of antiquity, that for generations arrested the eye of the traveller, became, what it now appears, a heap of ruins.

JOHN ROGGAN.

Ladies' Bridge, near Moira.

FOSSIL DEER.

Sir-In the seventh number of our Journal a short account of the Fossil Deer, in the Dublin Society, is given. A more enlarged account of it having fallen into my nands, I thought many of our readers would be pleased rith it, particularly as we feel a degree of national pride that our native institutions, for the encouragement of the arts and sciences, should have been the first public body in Europe to obtain a perfect skeleton of one of the most

remarkable animals that ever existed.

"A subject of infinite importance to the science of comparative anatomy has been recently made in the discovery of a complete skeleton of this stupendous animal, by the Rev. Mr. Wray Maunsell, Archdeacon of Limerick. The valley in which the remains were found contains about twenty plantation acres, and the soil consists of a stratum of peat, about a foot thick; immediately under this a stratum of shell marl, varying from one and a half to two and a half feet in thickness. In this many of the shells retain their original colour and figure, and are not marine. Under the marl there is a bed of light blue clay; through this one of the workmen, employed in digging out the remains, drove an iron rod, in several places twelve feet deep, without meeting any opposition. Other bones were found with marl, eight in all; in one place two heads were found, with the antlers entwined in each other, and immediately under them a large bone; in another a large head was discovered, and, although a most diligent search was made, no part of the skeleton found within some hundred yards; in another the jaw bones were found, and not the

"The archdeacon, in a letter on this subject he lately addressed to the Right Hon. C. Knox, Vice-President of the Royal Dublin Society, in whose museum the skeleton is placed, says - A question naturally arises how it happens that the fossil remains of no other animals were found. When the same fate (the deluge) overwhelmed every living creature, could deer have been the only living beings at that period? Was Ireland part of a continent when this catastrophe occurred? and were these unfortunates the first emigrants to our isle, from that great centre from whence the globe was supplied with occupants? and did they perish before other animals, less influenced by enterprize, and less endowed with ohysical strength, could have followed their example."

W. T. W. Yours, &c.

HUNTING IN THE HIGHLANDS OF SCOTLAND.

dance of Game of all kinds—hares, partriages, amount of Game of all kinds—hares, partriages, amount fowl, &c. Foxes are also numerous, and commit great devastation among the immense flocks of sheep, with which that part of Scotland is covered. The highlanders are still famous for their great dexterity in highlanders, are still famous for their great dexterity in highlanders, are still famous for their great dexterity in highlanders, are still famous for their great dexterity in highlanders, are still famous for their great dexterity in highlanders, and their dexterity in bringing them down with the strength of the chiefs shewed their skill by distinguishing the fatter deer, and their dexterity in bringing them down with their guns.

But now the main body of the deer appeared at the head of the glen, compelled into a very narrow compass, and as the strangler to shew themselves; and as the strangler came bounding down the pass by two or three at a time, the chiefs shewed their skill by distinguishing the fatter deer, and their dexterity in bringing them down with their guns.

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reader must not imagine that the deer spoken of are the same as those termed in England "the fallow deer;" the deer I speak of are not confined to any particular spot by water, or the works of art, but roam at large on the mountains as every other kind of wild game. Some-times there are large herds of them seen together; and it has often been remarked that there are generally a few on the watch to give the alarm to the rest, if they perceive any object capable of injuring them. Now the great art rests in approaching the deer without being discovered. To effect this, the Highland sportsman, when he is unluckily seen, remains immovable in the very same position as when first spied by the animal; not stirring in the smallest degree any part of his body. Perhaps he must be obliged to rest in this situation for a consider. able space of time, and always until the deer, being deceived, draws his eyes from him; because not perceiving any motion of the hunter, he considers him to be some common inanimate body, from which he needs not apprehend any danger. Sometimes the sportsman is per-ceived by the deer, when crossing a stream, perhaps up to the waist in water; and if he wants to gain his point, he must remain there till the animal does not distinguish the deception. In this manner he is obliged to conduct the deception. In this manner he is object to conduct himself with the utmost precaution and circumspection, till he arrives within shot of his object, when he seldom fails doing execution—the Highlanders being naturally excellent marksmen. The most frequent places to find the deer are in the vallies and narrow passes of the mountains: they hunt them sometimes with a kind of very large dog, of the greyhound species, remarkable for its strength and swiftness. I have often heard that when the former is pursued so close as to be in danger of being overtaken by the latter, he courageously turns about and fights his enemy, till he is either shot by some of the hunters, or killed by the dog alone; and that despair has been known to arm him with sufficient resolution to at tack the sportsman himself. It is observable, that the deer constantly adhere to the tract of the wind, and the Highlanders know how to take advantage of this cir-

cumstance.

The chieftains hunted formerly in the following manner:-Several distinguished chiefs met at a proper spot, Their vassals and clansmen, a part of whose feudal duty it was to attend upon such parties, appeared in such numbers as amounted to a small army. These active assistants spread through the country far and near, forming a circle, technically called tinchel, which, gradually closing, drove the deer in herds together towards the glen where the chiefs and principal sportsmen lay in wait for them. In the meanwhile these distinguished personages rested among the flowery heath, wrapped up in their plaids-a mode of passing a summer's night on such occasions by no means unpleasant. For many hours the mountain ridges and passes retained their ordinary appearance of silence and solitude, and the chiefs, with their followers, amused themselves with various pastimes, in which the joys of the shell, as Ossian has it, were not forgotten.-"Others apart sat on a hill retired," probably as deeply engaged in the discussion of politics and news, as Milton's spirits in metaphysical disquisition. At length signal of the approach of game were descried and heard,-Distant shouts resounded from valley to valley as the various parties of Highlanders, climbing rocks, struggling through copses, wading brooks, and traversing thickets, approached more near and near to each other, and compared to the contract of pelled the astonished deer, with the other wild animals

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 fusees 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 dunghill 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 dunghill little better than a caput mortium—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 SHOEING HORSES

Professor Coleman has demonstrated, upon principles elear 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. 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 usied 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 uncivil, contemptuous, disobliging: and, far more than all this, may make us to be considered as the very opposite.