

Christmas Turkeys.

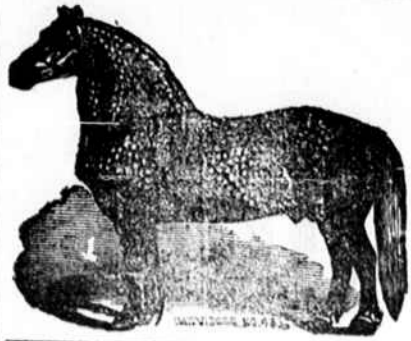
The well fattened plump turkeys always command top price and as prices are so high this year it will pay well to feed liberally to get all the size and development possible. Turkeys that have the range of the farm and woods have a better flavor and firmer flesh than the corn fed fowls kept up in a pen, but liberal feed in the greatest variety of wheat, oats, buck wheat, barley and corn will give size and plenty of fat and lean.

On most farms turkeys have the run of the fields and may be seen industriously picking their living through the stubble fields as soon as the crows are off. This is the treatment in which turkeys delight. The fresh air and exercise are good for them, and in their perambulations they manage to pick up all the grit and green food they require, while insects afford them a change of diet in the meat line. During this time, then, until chilly weather comes, the birds require but little attention, save to see that they have a regular supply of water, and a feed of meal and milk once a day.

If they must be housed they should be given, as far as possible, these outdoor conditions. The house should be clean, light and well ventilated, and supplied with perches not more than three feet above the floor. Instead of the insects with which they have been regaling themselves, the birds must now receive regular supplies of fresh-boiled meat or liver finely chopped, and instead of the green things in the fields, they must be given finely chopped cabbage, or some similar vegetable. The standard food, meanwhile, should consist of mixtures of meals and boiled vegetables or roots, each morning, with a feed of hard corn at night. Pure water and plenty of coarse grit should, of course, be before the birds constantly.

For the last five weeks before the turkeys are killed they should be confined to the house. For their treatment during this period, we quote from Journal No. 2, issued by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland: "For finishing purposes, the most suitable foods are finely ground oats, wheat meal or barley meal, with an addition of a little corn meal and cooked potatoes. This mixture should, if possible, be prepared with skim or separated milk, or buttermilk, instead of water, and must be given while warm. The birds should be allowed to eat as much as they will take in the morning, and the food left over should then be removed. Wheat, oats, barley or corn may be given for the afternoon feed. With such feeding the birds will increase rapidly in weight, and the quality of the flesh will be good."—Live Stock Journal.

As a rule, the better bred a horse is, the more valuable he is, providing he is a good animal, while the nearer thoroughbred he is, the less he is worth, supposing he is a bad animal.



HORSE NOTES.

(By Shepherd.)

Aid the teams by keeping the wagon well oiled.

A stupid horse will never likely be well trained.

A knowing horse is easily trained and is therefore the most valuable animal.

The best time to clean the mud off the horses' legs is before it gets dry.

Put the colt you are breaking by the side of a fast walking horse. It will give it a good start towards becoming a fast walker.

If starting for a ride or drive on the road, if the horse is pretty full in his stomach, commence at a moderate gait.

Kind treatment of the horses develops their best traits and makes them more companionable as well as more useful.

A handful of linseed meal fed to horses two or three times a week will aid to regulate the system and promote health.

One advantage with the draft horse is that a slight blemish or a bit of undesirable color does not so seriously injure him in market.

Don't imagine that horse that has a good pedigree is a good horse to use. Insist on having a good individual first, and a good pedigree afterward.

The stallion used for breeding should be free from vices of temper and disposition, as he will surely transmit these traits to his offspring.

A good depth in the girth is a good thing, but if a horse is wide in the chest, he is generally not so deep in his girth as he would be if he were narrower.

It is better for a horse to turn both toes out than to turn one toe out, while on the other hand, it is worse for a horse to turn both toes in than to turn one toe in.

If a horse of a distinct breed is put to a mare of the same breed, there is a reasonable degree of certainty that the produce will be of the same sort and resemble its parents.

The growing colt will not thrive unless it is given a liberal supply of food containing the animal matter so necessary to its rapid development which cannot be produced from grain alone.

Do not be in too much of a hurry to have the young horses shod. A foot that has never been shod will stand a great deal more of wear and tear, especially if the horse is used mainly in the fields.

Young horses should not be allowed to remain in the pastures so late as to be injured by cold weather. If exposed to cold storms or left out frosty nights, they may suffer serious damage, and certainly will lose flesh, and thus begin the winter at a disadvantage.—Live Stock Journal.

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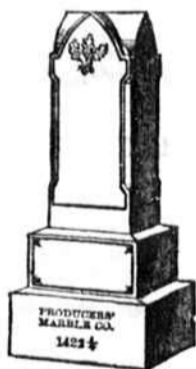
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