

Legal **Wholesale Groceries** **Clothing** **Drugs and Medicines** **Manufacturers, Etc.**

Agricultural

Wintering Farm Stock
As winter approaches, the farmer is reminded that his live stock can no longer wander over the fields and collect their food from day to day. The grass has ceased to grow, the frost has bound up the surface of the fields in the cold embrace, and the cattle are attracted toward the stable with hunger, lowing as they go, to draw the attention of the herdsmen to their dependent position, pleading something to eat.

The barns are well stored with hay and grain; stacks and racks of hay and fodder surround the barns and stables as a corps de reserve, showing the thriftiness and foresight of the herdsmen in providing for the coming winter; but what of winter? We readily perceive when it begins, but who can predict when it will end? Some winters are short and pleasant, but who can discover or when we will see the other end. Some are very long and very severe; these are the ones we should make our calculations by, and enter into them as a cautious general enters into a campaign. Gradually the quantity of safe hay the amount in food in store; if you have too much stock, dispose of part; if too little, too much; always bearing in mind that it pays better to keep stock well than to keep it poor.

When we come to a point where many farmers greatly err. They look over the large accumulation of food they have provided for wintering their stock (and I stop here to give them credit for the amount of the work done in gathering so much and curing it well). Some people think that when butter is plenty it should be spread thick on the bread, without thinking that it may thus become scarce, and then some bread will be eaten with so good a relish with a thinner spread, or without any at all. So with the winter fodder—they begin to feed very lavishly at the commencement of winter; not only, actually, but wastefully; they eat the same quantity of amount of food can hardly be eaten by their stock during the winter, for getting that the winter may be a very long one.

There is a deeper view of the matter, and one that is worth looking into. All that a farmer grows of his farm is worth money—worth dollars; that is the word—talk of dollars, and every one can appreciate it. Now, all this hay, and straw, and corn, and oats, can be sold for dollars. A farmer will not scatter his dollars about carelessly, but will sometimes waste, or let go to waste, that which, if properly applied, can be converted into dollars.

The important question presents itself here—how all this great accumulation of stock food can be converted into the most money? Not by throwing it in large quantities before the stock, but by tramplering their feet. This, you say, will make manure. So it will; but at what cost? Did the farmer toil and sweat and hire help during the whole summer to collect all this great amount of fodder merely to make manure? Better to have left it where it was on the ground, by which the additional advantage of mulching would have been secured. Valuable as is manure, it may be purchased too dear. Do you suppose that stock will thrive on manure? You will find large quantities of food continually at their disposal to either eat or waste? No, they will not thrive so. The appetite becomes cloyed and vitiated by the very abundance presented them through the winter, they select the most palatable parts and reject the remainder; they thus cultivate a fastidious appetite that becomes more and more critical every day.

Stock will thrive better with just as much food given them as they will eat up clean. This should be at stated periods and regularly attended to. If by feeding economically a large surplus is found to be on hand at the end of the season, it is better than to have wasted it; but it would have been better and more profitable to have added more stock, which would have yielded more profit. Don't waste the food; convert it into cash, or feed it to your stock; and if you find the next season, and your hay being well secured will lose none of its virtues by being kept over.

American Stock Journal.

Wholesale Groceries
The undersigned has a large assortment of Groceries, Provision and Meats, and is prepared to furnish the public with the lowest prices, and the best quality of goods.

W. A. ROCKWELL,
TOWANDA, PA.

Clothing
The undersigned has a large assortment of Clothing, and is prepared to furnish the public with the lowest prices, and the best quality of goods.

BEDELL & VAN VELSOR,
TOWANDA, PA.

Drugs and Medicines
The undersigned has a large assortment of Drugs and Medicines, and is prepared to furnish the public with the lowest prices, and the best quality of goods.

H. C. PORTER, M.D.,
TOWANDA, PA.

Manufacturers, Etc.
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W. H. H. GORE,
TOWANDA, PA.

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W. A. ROCKWELL,
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