## Dairy Business.

Our northern friends must look sharp y to their cows, their pastures, meadows, and corn and forage-crops, for Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee are already in the field as competitors in the dairy business. There is not a state in the Union in which both cheese and butter can not be made. Like all other arts, that of rearing good milkers, keeping them well and cheaply, and at the same time manufacturing choice butter and cheese for market, demands experience, care and study. The operations mainly pertaining to the seasons of the year, when all animal substances, like milk, whey, butter milk, and curd, are extremely liable to chemical changes which injure the products of the dairymen. Only a small portion of the butter and cheese made in the U. States is really first rate. And why not? The milk is good when drawn from the udder, but is badly handled ever after. Less attention is paid to keeping milk pails, pans, churns, cheese tubs or vats, perfectly sweet and clean than is required to secure the best results. Butter when taken from the churn is not properly worked over; nor is it daily pressed nor protected from the foul or good atmospheric air, as it should be. The grain or that peculiar change, known by the common name of tainting, is soon planted in a mass of butter, although it may not for weeks or months.

Butter and cheese which are prepared or if kept any time, will not come to perfection. The changes which take place in the subject for close attention and study. Avoiding meat, good salt, pure air and the entire exclusion of all foreign matter in kegs, and cheese in a well kept dry air, rind, are the leading matters to be attended to. In cheese-making, the heating of the milk, the condition of the rennet, the quantity used, and the quantity of salt, the degree of pressure on the curd, the time it is to be in press, the turning of the cheese, rounding with cloth, &c., are all details of great importance. To insure the best cheese all the cows in good condition, the milk untainted, and pure in the morning, and delicious sweet and fresh, are the objects to be attained. To spoil milk too long, bad odors, noisy, too much rennet, too much scalding, too much or excessive pressing, neglect in turning and airing, and any offensive atmosphere in the dairy room, are among the causes which injure cheese.

Butter is damaged by not skimming cream or milk to stand too long before skimming; by the dairy not being well cleansed; by the atmosphere being impure; by dirty crocks and tubs. Keep the dairy room butter as much as possible.

Plant carrots and feed them to your cows; and see that the cows are regularly and clean. A little feed will produce a good and profitable result. The point is to raise a full supply of feed, and take care to husband it, for manure as well as other profit.—*G.*

## Culture of Indian Corn.—A Prize Essay.

BY JOHN HOLDEN

Messrs. Editors:—The following account of two acres of corn, which was presented to the Living Co. Agricultural Society. The society gave it the first and second premiums, as being the best and second best crops of corn raised in the county the year mentioned.

The two acres were situated separate from each other, from a field of about 5½ acres. The soil allowed, to be Genesee River—heavily manured for 7 years previous to this crop, but none since. Co. has been grown on the same field for years in succession, previous to 1846. In 1846 about 5½ bushels to the acre. Commenced plowing it on October 1st, and plowed from 6 to 10 inches deep. Harrowed and marked it ready for planting on 14th—finished planting on the 16th—rows 3 feet apart each way—from 4 to 6 kernels in a hill, and covered about 1½ inch deep. The seed was soaked about 12 hours in saltpetre, (immediately before planting) and rolled in tar and plaster, taking care to let the sun dry the seed. On the 22d and 8th days of June, I hoed the corn the first time—first passing over it twice with a cultivator. On the 25th and 27th of June, passed through each way with a shovel plow, and hoed it a second time. Hilled the corn considerable, and thinned it to four stalks in a hill. At harvesting time agreeable to my request of A. Hurd, one of the Executive Committee, viewed the corn standing in the field and measured the ground.

Now for the result. The crop I measured from the first acre 220½ baskets or bushels of ears—and from the second acre, 200 baskets. Two bushels of ears, measured in the above manner, make one bushel and 3 pints of shelled corn—and as nearly that every two bushels of ears will yield the same quantity, the produce of two acres in shelled corn, was as follows: From the first acre 115½ bushels, and from the second 104 bushels and 22 quarts. The corn was all measured with care by myself, in a basket which held a trifle over a bushel when full, at which height I measured, thinking I could be more accurate than by heaping it. It was measured in a scribed half bushel, by which the basket was also measured.

The variety of corn grown was the Southern white flint. The expense of cultivating the first acre was as follows: Plowing, harrowing and marking, $2—planting and hoeing twice, $1—cultivating and plowing, $1—seed 25 cents—husking (115½ bushels at every 10th, 11½ bushels at 50 cents per bushel) $5.75—making in all $15.—Deduct this from crop (115½ bushels, at 50 cents,) $57.75 and stalks $6, and it leaves net profit $51.75. Second acre, corn $52.33—stalks $5 50; expense of cultivation as above, except husking, $11.48—leaving a net profit of $46.35.

This crop received the most thorough cultivation in every respect. I was particularly careful at each hoeing to stir up every part of the surface thoroughly, and to do the plowing so as to turn it topsy turvey and pulverize the soil completely in the process. In short I aimed to have every part of it done in a farmer like manner, as it ought to be, and I was well rewarded therefor—which I believe to be the almost invariable result from *thorough Cultivation.*—*Genesee Farmer.*

Washing Sheep.—A correspondent of the Prairie Farmer says she washed his sheep last spring in the following manner—as recommended by an experienced wool dealer:—

I took a trough that would hold about a barrel, and filled it with soap suds. I laid a board on one edge of the trough, slanting towards the trough, so that when a sheep was dipped and taken on to the board the water would drain into the trough. A boy took the hind legs of the sheep, and I took the fore legs, and turned their back into the trough; then raised them out on the board and squeezed the wool thoroughly with our hands. When the soap suds grew low we would add more—having a quantity of dissolved spirit ready in cans. The suds should be made very strong.

When we had thus soaked them all, we commenced washing. I found the wool whiter and cleaner than I ever got it before with at soap though I have helped to wash sheep more than twenty years. And when we came to shear the sheep, we found the ticks all dead. Not more than four live ticks were found on one sheep.

Fence Posts.—A practical farmer in Farms the Hartford Times, that in taking up a fence that had been set fourteen years, he noticed that some of the posts remained sound, while others were rotted off at the ground. On looking for the cause, he found that the posts that were set butt down, or inverted from the way they grew, were sound. The posts that were set as they were rotted off. This fact is worth the attention of the farmers.

Sweet Clover.—We have for several years used sheets of tin, tied to slanting posts, four or two feet in length. Six or eight sheets are sufficient for an acre, and they have proved to be the cheapest and best scare crows we have used. The motion given to the sheets by the wind, causes a brilliant reflection of light at every turn. Also the sun shines, and never has even a solitary crow visited our fields while the tins remained suspended upon the poles.—*Boston Cultivator.*


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