Agricultural.

From the Cultivator

Premium Farm.

(Concluded.)

DRAINING.—A small piece of land has been reclaimed, which was formerly so wet and boggy as to be useless. The following manner was pursued. First enclosed it with a ditch, then from different parts of this, dug several, partly across the field. This so dried the ground as to enable me to draw the stone, and stone up all the ditches. They were stoned in the usual way, by [illegible] stone from 4 to 8 inches square, and then covering with loose flat stones, after which it was covered with earth. This so drained the land, that the next season I removed all shrubs and bushes, plowed and planted it to potatoes and corn; raised a middling crop considering the ground. The succeeding crops were oats, flax, barley, and seeded down to timothy, half bushel seed per acre. These all were good [illegible]. Took county premium.

[illegible] 1838 was mowed, and after well hayed, was raised up for the purpose of making an estimate, per acre, one half was given to the village and [illegible]. The result was 3½ tons per acre, as near as could be calculated. This field was again mowed in October, well hayed, and a lead taken as before, and weighed, from which an estimate was made; the result 2½ tons per acre for the second crop, making 5½ tons in one year. I have also practiced underdraining on my farm, which has served two purposes: First, benefitting the land, making all wet spots dry, and suitable for planting; second, a portion of these drains are [illegible] which the water [illegible] about 60 rods to my farm buildings, and thence distributed by leaden pipes wherever desired, always having an abundant supply of water. The amount of underdrain is rising 600 rods.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS.—Oxen put working oxen, 4 cows, 2 young cattle, H[illegible] fed bull, 1 span work horses, 1 of 3 of mares, and 4 young horses. These breeds of cattle are not pure blood, but [illegible] of Devonshire [illegible] and native.

My cattle are all wint[illegible] in warm stables, and abundantly with corn fodder, chaff and roots as [illegible] to them have hay, cob and corn meal the remainder of the winter. In preparing with [illegible] are allowed to run in the yards during the day, which [illegible] have access to straw stacks and water. In this manner my cattle are kept in a thriving condition through the winter.

About [illegible] and 200 chickens are usually made per annum from four cows and [illegible] They are from [illegible] averaging about 3 lbs. [illegible] 300 lbs of this is manufactured at home; the balance then goes sold for only 25 cents per lb in [illegible] ewes produce lambs; from 9[illegible] to 100 lambs reared. Sheep are very low here now; the butchers will pay only from $1 to $1 50, and for lambs from 62½ cts. to 31.

[illegible] in yards, provided with racks and troughs under them, where I feed with [illegible] and [illegible] commence fattening by breeding [illegible] meal, or brown corned, about the first of February. Usual loss, 3 per cent. per annum.

My swine consists of 1 Leicester boar, 10 Leicester sows, so far known now fattening, and [illegible] pigs, all the [illegible] of the farm and kitchen [illegible] the fields of the farm and kitchen during the summer, and have access to the pasture and falling fruits of the orchard. Those intended for fattening, are put up in October and fed with steamed potatoes and apples for about 6 weeks, then fed with cooked corn or barley for about four weeks, on which they fatten rapidly. My spring pigs are butchered at 8 months old, weighing about 250 lbs; last year, by extra pains, they went over three hundred, when dressed, some at eighteen months, weighing from three to four hundred.

I have made no experiments with root crops, as I do not place value when compared with corn; but usually feed two or [illegible] bushels per day. Potatoes and carrots to my milch cows, working horses and oxen, and find them in nearly equal to oats.

FEED.—My fence is mostly made of good substantial element rails, after the usual form of worm fence, with three rows well locked. I have worm fence, with three rows well locked. I have 138 rods of board fence on cold posts, 1½ feet high; also 25 rods pale fence. The best and pale fence cost 75 cents per rod. There is 1,746 rods of the rail fence, and 31,424 rails, which were split from timber growing upon the farm. [illegible] thousand fence rails on splitting; the same for drawing and laying up, which will be 18 cents per rod. The total length of these fences is [illegible] miles and 309 rods. So much fencing on the farm is in consequence of a road running on two sides of it, and another across the south end. I also have a line 3 rods wide extending from my barns [illegible] centre of the farm to the road south, [illegible] under the road, that my [illegible] to and from the pasture on the opposite side. The fields are principally arranged [illegible] from this lane. The condition of my fences good, and all of durable timber—made 7 rails high, equating 5½ feet.

FARM ACCOUNTS.—All my crops are accurately weighed or measured, excepting the hay and corn fodder. Correct accounts are kept of the loads of hay and bundles of corn fodder, and occasionally a load of each are weighed, that I may ascertain nearly the amount of each raised. It is all set down in my farm book, and enables me to ascertain the amount of stock that can be wintered, besides other benefits accruing from this accuracy. I keep tackle and [illegible] on the purpose of weighing hay or other food for different animals, for my own convenience and satisfaction, to ascertain the expense of keeping, &c. My accounts are all daily registered with such minuteness as enables me to know the expense or income of all my transactions. Debt and credit is kept with each field, with the same precision as with individuals.

I keep accurate and regular farm accounts, and the annual expense of improving, and the income from it, is kept with such exactness and precision as enables me to strike an accurate balance of the debt and credit at the close of each year. A memorandum is kept through the day, of the kind, cost and amount of labor in each field, and at night all is minutely registered in my farm book. I have a diagram of the farm, on which all the fields are numbered, and regular debt and credit is kept with each field. Also an inventory is taken of all my stock, goods, debts, dues, &c. [illegible] of each year, which enables me to know my exact valuation; also to have my progress from year to year. The practice of keeping our farm accounts accurately would most certainly conduce to close observation, make us more careful in a four fanner operations, and in the end make us more thorough, systematic and profitable farmers. The expense of labor on my farm the present year, up to the first of December, amounts to $517 21, but about $300 of this has been expended in cutting wood and burning coal, from such of my timber as was valuable for other uses. I found ready market for it in our village, and always returned with a load of manure, when it was to be obtained. This coal and wood to the present time amounts to $951, a sum sufficient to pay all the expenses of the farm, including the cutting of wood and burning coal, and leaves an overplus of $136 79. I will here state the cost per bushel of raising some of my crops: wheat 38 cents per bushel; barley, 25 cents; oats, 12½ cents; beans, 36½ cents; timothy seed, 9½ cents; potatoes, 8½ cents; hay, about 6 per acre. My work is principally performed by persons hired by the month; pay from $8 to $12 per month. Have three small dwelling houses that I usually rent for about $90 a year to some of my help.

Eastern States.

Pennsylvania.

Bank of Commerce, North America, Northern Liberties, Penn'ylvania, Penn Township, Commercial, Farmers' & Mechanics', Mechanics' & Mechanics' Exchange, Southwark & Kensington, Mount Pleasant, Mechanics' & Mechanics' Exchange, Bank of Germantown, Bank of Chester County, Bank of Pittsburgh, Bank of Pittsburgh, Bank of Pittsburgh