

The Susquehanna County Farmer's Club.

The Club met at their usual place of meeting in Montrose on Saturday afternoon June 3d and discussed the following subject: "Raising and securing crops for fall and winter feed for dairy stock."

Mr. Wm. Barron said: "I believe for dairy stock, for the purpose of obtaining milk and making butter and cheese, there is no better feed than our clean grass pasture. We always find that cows do the best on fresh green grass; that is, on grass when it first gets up large enough for feed; when it gets old and partially dried up it is not so good."

In order to make the cows give a uniform quantity and quality of milk through the season it is necessary that they should be supplied with a plenty of fresh green feed. In order to accomplish this I believe there is nothing better than sowed corn for fall feed. It should be sown at different times, cut up and fed when the grass begins to fail or is frost bitten.

Mr. John Trumbull said: "Living in a section where the winters are long it becomes a matter of importance to us, what have we to feed our cows to keep them up through the winter. They should be kept in thriving condition while they are giving milk."

Mr. Trumbull coincides with Mr. Barron as to the hay crop, but he further adds: "Hay should be thoroughly dried before it is put into the barn. I think one of the errors is, we fail to dry our hay sufficiently to keep it from heating. When it is well cured a very pleasant odor rises from it after it is put into the barn, and it retains its sweetness."

Mr. Cole said: "My experience, during the last 20 years, in dairy keeping has given me some interest in regard to keeping cows in the best way to get the best and most milk. Any kind of food that we procure for the cattle should be of the best quality. I contend that clover hay is better if it is cut when it first begins to blossom, and is cured mostly in the cock. I put my early cut hay by itself where I can get it for the cows and use it for nothing else."

Mr. Cole's method of raising corn fodder is similar to that of Mr. Jessup's, excepting, he does not dress it twice, and

weeks after it is cut up. If I have not room enough on the hay-mow I put it on the barn-floor; if there is not room enough there I lay boards on the ground and stand it on end there. Those stocks keep green all winter and the cows relish them better than hay, though the hay is perfectly bright."

Mr. Wm. H. Jessup said: "As this is, as I consider it, a very important question, I will state for the benefit of the Club, what I have been accustomed to practice in regard to feed. I agree with the last speaker, Mr. Trumbull, that the great thing is the hay crop for the fall and winter feed (I suppose we are confined to the fall and winter feed in this discussion). For winter I consider hay the thing. Other things may be added. It is of the first importance that the hay be of the best quality, so as to replace the grass at the time when it is given to the cow. The nearer it comes to grass the better. I have perhaps two tons cut the 15th of July—the day of the mowing match. On that day we finished mowing about 11 o'clock. The grass was very heavy and I followed the machine with the tedder and turned the grass over as fast as fallen, not once only, but perhaps three times. After the match was over I commenced drawing it in the same day. I had five conveniently large loads on that acre and 110 perches. It being the first hay in, it was the bottom of the mow, and it is as bright and sweet to-day, as it was the day it was put in there; and my horses and cows were just as eager for it as when first put in the barn. It was perfectly cured, and did not heat or sweat that I could perceive. It was timothy; I have not experimented much with mixed hay—clover and timothy. The meadow from which this was taken had been seeded three years perhaps; you could scarcely see a spot of clover in it."

As man requires a change occasionally in food, and as it is pleasant, and agreeable to the system; I consider that cows should have a change to keep their organs in good condition. It is beneficial, therefore it has been my custom for some years, and it was my father's custom also, to raise beets, carrots, &c. Having always been accustomed to use them I cannot tell what would be the effect of doing without them."

I think very much of corn fodder for fall feed; I believe sweet corn is the best. I prepare the ground, make the furrows about three feet apart; some put in about twelve kernels to the foot; I sow thicker than that, and turn a furrow over it. As soon as the corn is up, I give it a dressing of compost, or superphosphate of lime. When the corn did not get the dressing I found quite a difference in the growth. As soon as it is large enough I dress it out and keep the weeds all down till it gets up so as to shade the ground. Along in August or the first of September, varying according to its maturity, when it begins to tassle out I then have it cut up. Last year was the first time I tried sweet corn, and I think I never had such good corn fodder before, and that was so entirely eaten up as that was. I attribute it to the additional sweetness of the stocks. It was cut up and cured when we had five or six days of bright weather, and was bound up in small stouts."

I feed roots, carrots beets and turnips. I last year fed meal. I had previously been accustomed to feed my cows roots after the first of January. I concluded to have my cows come in about the first of March; Farmers will generally do better by their cows if they are coming in early, the cows pay better, the butter commands a better price. I desire my cows to keep in milk till after the first of Jan., the young cows especially. My younger cows are of a different stock. They rest about six or eight weeks before coming in. I commence feeding roots after they stop giving milk. It keeps them regular, gives them an appetite and I never have any difficulty with them. They seem to eat even when the hay is poor. Last year, in consequence of a short hay crop, I fed roots and meal; and my cows came out better than they did at any previous season. I attribute it to feeding meal with the roots. It is better to feed roots and meal than to feed either alone. I would recommend very highly the use of roots and meal for cows."

Mr. Samuel Smythe said: "I have a friend who proposes to sow millet, and if any one here has had any experience in regard to the use of millet, I would be glad to hear it, and would communicate it."

Mr. F. H. Holister said: "I have never raised any millet, but my father used to raise it on new ground, and it was very fine feed to grind, and fine chicken feed. The straw grew up tall and the cattle seemed to relish it better than corn fodder. We used to think a good deal of it."

Mr. L. B. Cole said: "My experience, during the last 20 years, in dairy keeping has given me some interest in regard to keeping cows in the best way to get the best and most milk. Any kind of food that we procure for the cattle should be of the best quality. I contend that clover hay is better if it is cut when it first begins to blossom, and is cured mostly in the cock. I put my early cut hay by itself where I can get it for the cows and use it for nothing else. They gain in the quantity and quality of the milk. In regard to sowed corn, I failed in not raising enough of it. I used to sow broad cast, but have given that up, thinking it a very poor plan."

Mr. Cole's method of raising corn fodder is similar to that of Mr. Jessup's, excepting, he does not dress it twice, and

the fertilizers that he puts on when it comes up, is hen manure, lime, compost, and sometimes ashes mixed with it, which seems to change the color of the corn very quickly. He is very much in favor of corn fodder, but has not experimented with roots."

Mr. J. E. Butterfield said: "In the year of the grasshoppers I raised 4 acres of corn fodder, I commenced in the fall to prepare the ground, crossplowed it in the spring and top-dressed it liberally with barnyard manure and harrowed it in, marked it about three feet apart, in drills, and sowed about 12 kernels to the foot and covered it with a harrow, going lengthwise of the drills. About the time it was 5 or 6 inches high I cultivated it once. After it was nearly large enough to shade the ground we had a hail storm that pretty much stripped the leaves off, but it came right on and improved. In harvesting it I took the reaper, where I could, and went through it, cutting two rows at a time; we laid it in gables, and after it was wilted, bound it up and stacked it. It was an extra season to dry corn fodder. While reaping we left one square rod where it seemed to be about an average of the piece and we cut that and weighed it to see whether it paid. When thoroughly cured it made at the rate of 5 tons 400 pounds to the acre. After it was cured in the field I put it in the barn where I weighed it, keeping it dry so there should be no mistake about it. That has been my method of raising sowed corn for a number of years. I think this was sown about the 10th of June. We don't want to cut it till after harvesting."

Mr. Jessup said: "I have been accustomed to sowing my fodder corn in, from the first to the tenth of June. I would like to know the comparative value of a ton of well cured corn fodder and a ton of well cured hay."

Mr. Barron agrees with Mr. Jessup about feeding roots and meal. He says: "The year the grasshoppers were so numerous in this country there came a hail storm that pretty much finished up what the grasshoppers left, and the consequence was that fodder was very scarce. I concluded to feed half the usual quantity of hay that following winter and make up the rest with roots and meal, and I believe I never wintered my cows as cheaply nor as well before. I attribute it to the roots and meal. Since that time I have made up my mind that it is better to feed considerable meal and roots, and not feed so much hay. We cut up roots so as to give a paillful appeat at a time, and mix it with the meal; probably fed about two quarts of meal with each mow."

Mr. Jessup feeds about two quarts of meal along with the roots."

Mr. H. Brewster desires an answer to Mr. Jessup's inquiry as to the relative value of corn fodder and hay. He says: "I have no statistics, so I cannot give any definite information. I do not express an opinion as to whether it is better than hay, but taking into the account the extra cost of producing and harvesting the corn fodder I think I can do better with hay. I would prefer sowed corn to buck-wheat, where another crop fails and it is necessary to put in a later crop. An average yield of our meadows, I should think, is about one ton to the acre."

Mr. Jessup said: "If you devote one quarter from the corn fodder to bring it down to the value of hay you will have as good as 4 tons to the acre; or even divide it by two and you will have as good as two tons of hay to the acre."

Mr. Brewster said: "Then I should want his figures in the cost of raising corn fodder."

Mr. Jessup: "It was put in drills, cultivated and cut with a reaper, afterwards cured and put into the barn. I suppose the curing is not much more expensive, ton for ton than the ordinary hay crop."

Mr. Butterfield: "We put it on the hay-mow, locked the tops together, letting the butts stick out each way and put it in tiers about a foot apart."

Mr. Brewster: "I think I have cut hay that yielded three tons to the acre."

Mr. Butterfield: "I don't want any western corn for me to cure, I tried it, and it fell every way and more when it was cut. We fed out what we could of it to the cattle and they ate the leaves off and we ploughed the stocks under. I cut my corn when there was some silks and some kernels on it. I don't like to have it too thick, because it falls down; and if the ground is too rich it grows too large and falls down."

Mr. Jessup: "My practice of keeping roots is keeping them in the cellar. I have an outside cellar over which is my tool-house. It is protected by a double floor filled in with saw dust. I put the roots in bins there on the ground."

"In raising the roots I measure the ground pretty thoroughly, ridge it up, rake it down; then put the seed into the seed sower and run it along over these ridges and the seed is sown. The difficulty that I have had with roots heretofore is, that the seeds are so long coming that the weeds have been there ten to one before the roots. This year I saw a suggestion to sow radish seeds with the carrots and they will come up very soon so you can see just where the carrots are, and then you can go along and cultivate the roots. I need sometimes to put on a top-dressing of superphosphate of lime after sowing the carrots so I could see where the roots were when the ground became so weedy as to need cultivating; still there would be a strip of three or four inches thick with weeds to be pulled out. This year I want the radishes, and they will keep the weeds down; and if there should be a

good crop of radishes we can pull them out and eat them; they will not be as hard to pull as the weeds. My roots are far enough apart to go between with the cultivator—not far from three feet. My rutabagas I put in the same way."

Mr. Brewster: "My practice is to put the roots about as far apart as I do corn."

Mr. Barron: "The carrots are so long coming that any ground suitable to raise them on gets so full of weeds before the carrots come up that it makes it expensive raising them."

Mr. Jessup: "I would recommend soaking the seed 48 hours before sowing; then you can roll them in plaster, they will nearly sprout, ready to come up. If you use the seed sower you will be obliged to dry the seed in pans so they will not stick together."

Mr. Catlin: "I soaked my seeds one season and they were sprouted. Last season and season before I soaked the seeds 48 hours, then rolled them in plaster, put them into a sieve and sifted them, so I sowed them with the drill without any trouble. I have raised about 150 bushels a year for several years. I have raised them 6, 7 or 8 years on the same piece of ground. I am careful to select well rotted manure, and keep the weeds all out. By soaking them 48 hours they will come up before the weeds."

Mr. Barron: "If roots are buried it is difficult getting at them; to feed in the winter. I have a cellar under a little barn adjoining the main building where

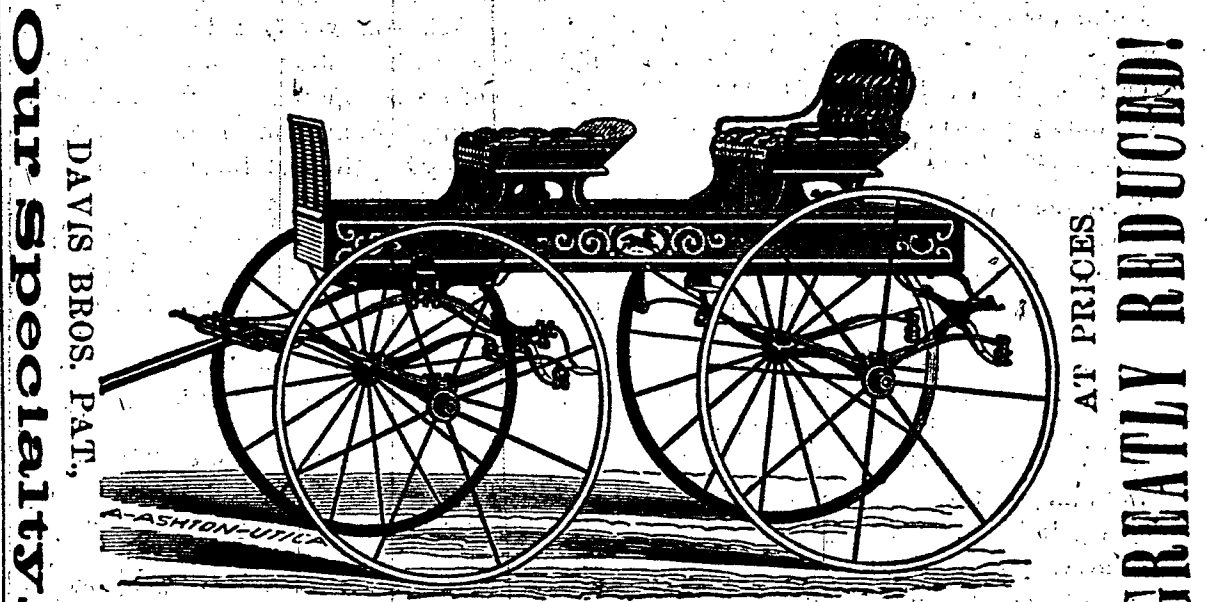
it is convenient to get at them. I have meal, and everything necessary to make it convenient, right there."

Thus closed this very interesting discussion. The farming community of this county, is becoming awakened, and the experience of our most talented and able farmers are being brought out and published for the benefit of the thousands who may read these reports."

I cannot close this report without commending the zeal and energy of our worthy friend—Mr. Latham Gardner who, during the past month, has solicited and obtained the names and membership of 26 gentlemen who feel interested in this work, and whose names are now enrolled on the secretary's book. Let others do likewise, or let individuals living at a distance send their names, accompanied with 25 cents each, to the secretary and the same will be duly acknowledged and their names will be enrolled as members of the Club. By so doing they will help to keep up this very important work and receive a hundred-fold of valuable information in return. Those who send thus will please give their names and P. O. address that they may be properly acknowledged."

The question for the next meeting is: "Is it more profitable, from the products of the dairy, to raise calves than swine?" Statistics will be quite important in this question. The Club adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock p. m. the first Saturday of July.

D. D. LATHROP, Sten. Sec.



1,000 MEN WANTED, ARMED!

with Greenbacks, to buy the best made, easiest-running, and most durable Wagon ever made for the money. THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT OF PLATFORMS, OPEN AND TOP BUGGIES AND PHLETONS, EVER OFFERED TO THE CITIZENS OF NORTHERN PENNSYLVANIA.

Particular attention is called to our Standard Platforms. We claim to make the best Family and Farm Wagon combined, ever offered for the money. Each Wagon Warranted as represented. We employ none but experienced mechanics. Selecting best of stock for cash and pay cash for labor, and we have reduced the prices, as follows: No. 1, Platform, 1 1/2 Spoke, 1 1/2 Axle, 1 1/2 Springs, 2 Seats, Add for Trimming, \$5 to \$8; Break \$7. No. 2, Platform 1 1/2 Spoke, 1 1/2 Axle, 1 1/2 Springs, 4 1/2 Leaves, Drop-tail board, 2 Seats, Add for Trimming, \$5 to \$8; Break \$7. We claim this the most convenient and durable and cheapest wagon in the market. Open Buggies, prices range from \$100 to \$160.00 according to trimming and painting, &c.

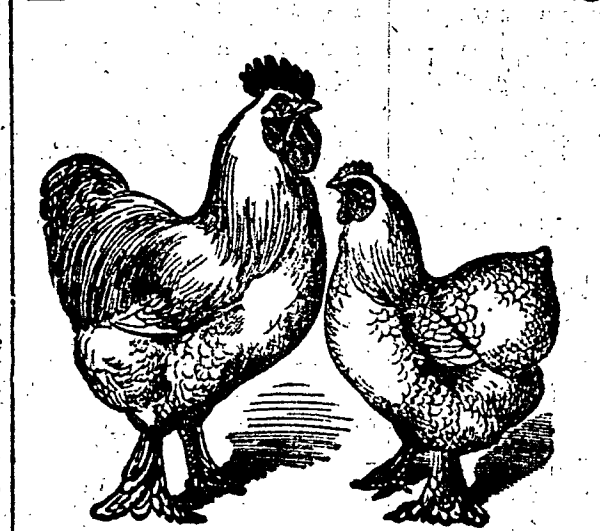
D. D. SEARLE, Proprietor. Montrose, May, 3d, 1876.

SPRING 1876. SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

ABEL BENNETT & CO., BINGHAMTON, Jobbers of Fine Woollens, ALSO A MERCHANT TAILORING DEPARTMENT, REplete WITH ALL THE LATEST STYLES AND QUALITIES.

All our goods have been bought within the last few weeks, for CASH, at a very low price, thereby enabling us to sell cheaper than the other establishments in the city, who are carrying stock bought at higher rates. April 19, '76.—3m HAGEMAN BLOCK.

EGGS



WHITE COCHENS, BUFF COCHENS, PARTRIDGE COCHENS, PLYMOUTH ROCKS, AND HOUDANS.

Eggs for Hatching, - - - \$3 per 13.

Young Fowls for sale after August 1st, 1876, at reasonable prices. No inferior specimens shipped from my yards.

White Cochens, 1st premium at Jersey Fair (Berry & Williams stock). Buff Cochens, Berry & Williams. No circulars. Write for what is wanted and prompt replies will be given. Address: C. C. GILBERT, Great Bend, Pa.

March 29, 1876.—6m.

A NEW ENTERPRISE. A practical workman, at SHOEMAKING.

has opened a shop under E. L. Weeks & Co's store, on Public Avenue, where he is ready to do all kinds of work in his line. Can erect in new work, and repair with neatness and dispatch. JAMES BIRNEY, Montrose, October 13th, 1875.—3m.

JOB WORK AT THIS OFFICE, CHEAP

H. BURRITT, Would call attention to his New Stock of FALL AND WINTER GOODS!

Now on sale, in new DRY GOODS, LADIES' DRESS GOODS, BLACK AND COLORED ALPACAS, NEW STYLE OF PRINTS, SHAWLS, WATER-PROOFS, FLANNELS, BALMORAL, AND HOOP SKIRTS, VELVETS, HOSIERY, HEAVY WOOL GOODS, CARPETS, OIL CLOTHS, PAPER HANGINGS, BUFFALO AND LAP ROBES, FURS, HATS AND CAPS, BOOTS AND SHOES, HARDWARE, IRON, NAILS, STEEL, STOVES AND GROCERIES, ETC.

In great variety, and will be sold on the most favorable terms, and lowest prices. H. BURRITT, New Milford, May 1st, 1875.

CORRECTION!

Rumor has it that having been elected County Treasurer for the ensuing three years, I am to discontinue my insurance business. Said RUMOR is UNTRUE, and without foundation, and while thanking you for kindness, and appreciation of good insurance in the past, I ask a continuance of your patronage, promising that all business entrusted to me shall be promptly attended to. My Companies are all sound and reliable, as all can testify who have met with losses during the past ten years at my Agency. Read the List!

North British and Mercantile, Capital, \$10,000,000 Queens of London, 2,000,000 Old Franklin, Buffalo, Assata, 2,500,000 Old Continental, N. Y., nearly 2,000,000 Old Phoenix of Hartford, " " 2,000,000 Old Hanover, N. Y., 1,000,000 Old Farmers, York, " " 1,000,000

I also represent the new York Mutual Life Ins. Co. of over 30 years standing, and assets over \$20,000,000.—Also, the Masonic Mutual Benefit Association of Pennsylvania. Get an Accidental Policy covering all accidents, in the Hartford Accident Ins. Co. Policies written from one day to one year. Only 25 cents for a \$5,000 Policy. Please call or send word, when you take a trip. Very respectfully, HENRY C. TYLER, Montrose, Pa., Jan. 10, 1876.—47

FARM FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers his farm for sale, situated in Forest Lake, containing 65 acres 50 improved. Will keep twelve cows, and a team. Well wooded, & also a good grain farm. Has a nice young orchard. Terms will be made easy. For further particulars enquire at address, AARON BETHUNDE, of S. B. ROGERS, Montrose, Pa. Feb. 14, '76.—47