

being preferable to hard, on account of their capacity to absorb and retain a large amount of water. Pains were taken to have the floor exactly level in the one direction, and also very tight, so that all the waste water from the ice shall be conducted to and distributed regularly upon the bricks. This keeps them so constantly cold as to preserve milk, during the hottest season for from thirty-three to thirty-six hours, perfectly sweet, and butter very hard. One valuable feature belonging to this mode of preserving milk and butter is, that during the warmest weather of summer season, when cold sweet milk and butter of a degree of solidity equal to that of the winter season is appreciated as one of our greatest luxuries, we can have it so, from the simple fact that at that particular time the supply of the cold ice water is greatest.

Butter made and kept in this way does not become as soon soft after being brought to the table as that which has been kept in a spring of water, nor do thunderstorms appear to hasten the development of lactic acid. We have noticed no perceptible difference in the length of time which the milk has remained sweet in regard to clear or stormy weather. I have observed at different times, by placing the thermometer within one foot of the bricks in the preserving chamber, that the temperature was about 54 degrees, while it was 95 in the shade outside. The sand underneath the bricks subserves an important purpose, by retaining the water, and supplying it to the bricks by capillary attraction at such time, as there is not a great supply coming from the ice.

The space above the preserving chamber should be opened and unobstructed to the roof, and over the ice there should be good ventilation to the roof, to carry off all the vapour which may arise from the milk.

An ice-house constructed in this manner is one of the best investments for a farmer, for besides securing the luxury of preserving milk and butter cool, vegetables of different kinds may be preserved fresh until a succeeding crop grows. I kept one year's beets good during the following summer; also cabbages. These latter I laid upon the ice, which imparted to them a crispy sweetness, perfectly delightful in the very warm weather of June. Vegetables may also be preserved in this manner by farmers, so as to bring them fresh to the market in early summer.

Destruction of the Wireworm, &c.

To the Editor of the Agriculturist.

Sir—As you and your correspondent, AGRICOLA, invite the readers of the *Agriculturist* to give an opinion as to the best mode of destroying the wire-worm, I take the liberty of submitting a few observations, the result of some ex-

perience and long observation on that and some other matters connected with Agriculture. I confess being startled at the communication of your correspondent, as I was not aware of the existence of those destructive pests to the extent Agricola complains of, in any locality of this township. I believe there is at least one infallible remedy for this evil, but unfortunately it is unattainable in most parts of Canada. On the Yorkshire wolds and in Lincolnshire, when old pastures and extensive sheep walks were brought into cultivation, the first, second and perhaps third crops did pretty well, afterwards, the turnips and grain crops were often destroyed, especially on deepish soil, to a considerable extent by the wire-worm and grubs. However the farmers discovered that by giving the land a thorough covering with calcareous marl or limestone, dug out of pits made in the fields where the evil existed, they effectually got rid of the mischief, and abundant crops of both roots and grain were afterwards a certain result. Some farmers preferred giving the land affected a good dose of quick lime, as the labour was much less than marling or chalking. They also imagined that a profit was sooner realized, in consequence of the quicker fertilizing effects of the lime. But there are but few sections in Canada that will allow of such a practice, and I know of no such a situation in this township that will admit of it. I therefore respectfully suggest to your correspondent a mode of management which, if he thinks worth his while to adopt the principle, will, I sincerely believe, materially lessen, if not rid him altogether of, the grievous evil. I would recommend him to commence by having at least one fifth of his tillage land a naked fallow, and have that thoroughly plowed deep in the preceding fall; as soon as possible after the spring seeding is over and when the land is dry enough, to have the fallow well harrowed, and immediately after thoroughly cultivated as deep as the best implement will allow of, then by a diligent use of harrows and perhaps an iron toothed horse-rake, carefully collect all the weeds, roots of weeds, &c., into heaps and burn them; by so doing an immense number of worms, larvæ and ova will be effectually destroyed. When that is accomplished, if from thirty to fifty bushels of quick-lime is carefully distributed over the fallow, and then cross-plowed, harrowed and gone over with a heavy roller to compress and consolidate the ground, thereby retaining the causticity of the lime longer in the land, the lime will be of immense benefit not only by destroying the worms, &c., by virtue of its causticity, but as a fertilizer and by its chemical action on the organic materials of the soil, rendering them more soluble as food for vegetation. It will be well now, to let the land remain three or four weeks undisturbed, then if it should be weedy, the use of the plow or cultivator, or it may be both, will be needed again. After