

BOSTON CULTIVATOR.

This Journal is devoted to Agriculture, Literature, News,—and has a variety of useful and interesting articles on Domestic Economy. It is published weekly—has three talented editors, two of whom are practical farmers—and has a list of 8,000 subscribers, at 12s 6d each. In gleaning from this talented and respectable Journal, we feel confident that our readers will recur to that part of our paper,—headed *Boston Cultivator*—with as great delight and profit, as we enjoy in transcribing the essence of the various articles—original and select—to our own columns.

Winter Butter—The scalding of milk has been frequently recommended through the columns of the *Cultivator*. The difference between scalding in shallow pans, and in a deep iron pot could be easily ascertained by an experiment. The difficulty of obtaining winter butter of a good quality is so great that we trust the plan recommended will be tested.

When a sufficient quantity of cream is obtained for a churning, place it in an iron kettle over a clear fire, and scald it, but not let it boil. Stir it often, and skim off the froth as long as it continues to rise. The process of scalding, stirring and skimming, cleanses the cream of its impurities, and saves about three-fourths of the labor of churning, and produces good flavored butter, entirely free from that bitterish taste, uniformly found in winter-made butter in the "old way." When the skimming process has been completed take the kettle from the fire, and when the cream is cooled down a shade below the temperature of milk new from the cow, it is fit to put into the churn.

Best time for cutting Timber.—In an article copied from the *Farmers Cabinet*, four experiments are reported, which go to prove that the best time to cut timber for fencing and building, or for any purpose that durability is requisite, is the spring.

Salt as a Manure.—A correspondent states that he has for many years used salt as a manure, and had found the result highly beneficial. In mixing it with barn-yard manures he applied one bushel to a cord, and in applying it broad-cast upon the meadow and pasture grounds, he sowed it at the rate of 4 bushels per acre. We would recommend our Agricultural readers to make a few experiments with salt as a manure, on their pasture and meadow grounds, and a trial might be made with this stimulant upon their wheat, potato and other crops.

Fifth Agricultural Meeting in the State House, Hon. Josiah Quincy in the Chair. To their praise be it spoken, the members of the Legislative Assembly and the Senate of Massachusetts, by common consent, have set apart a portion of each week for the discussion of Agricultural topics, and in fact have formed themselves into a Social Club for exerting their influence in advancing the great cause of Agriculture. A subject for discussion for the following meeting is agreed upon a week previous to the period at which the discussion takes place, so that each individual who intends to take a part in the proceedings of the meeting, has an opportunity to prepare himself for the occasion. Not only the members of the two branches of the Legislature take part in the discussion but the most influential farmers in the neighborhood surrounding the Capital of the "Old Bay State," and no less than three editors of Agricultural papers, engage heartily in these discussions. The speeches are reported in an able manner, and published in the *Boston Cultivator*, and *New England Farmer*, and other Agricultural papers. We invariably

read those speeches with a great degree of interest and would gladly insert them in our own paper if the limits of our sheet would admit of such an arrangement.

If the statesmen of Massachusetts—a country of acknowledged celebrity for the extent which manufacturing interests are encouraged, and where the great proportion of the population are either directly engaged in manufacture, or dependent upon it as a source of livelihood—take so much interest in Agricultural matters, what course should the statesmen of Canada pursue in elevating the standing of the Agriculture of their country? We answer, that the least they should do, would be to cease wrangling about party strife, at least a few short hours in each week, while in session, and engage themselves cordially and energetically in endeavoring to excite a stimulus among the Agricultural classes, in effecting a radical change in the present defective system of Agriculture pursued in very many of the townships of this country. As these remarks may be considered rather unseasonable, we would merely add that, in the want of such a practical and laudable demonstration being made by the members of the two branches of the Provincial Legislature, as hinted at in the foregoing remarks, a course might be pursued which would act as a powerful incentive to induce not only the Legislative bodies to adopt the plan recommended, but the Agriculturists of the townships would feel a praiseworthy pride in following so noble an example—we mean that the District Councillors might devote one or two evenings in each session in discussing Agricultural topics, reports of which might be published in the local papers, and from which we could glean a vast amount of useful information for the readers of the *Cultivator*. We merely throw out this hint, and trust that it will be acted upon, by each District Council in the Province.

Without farther expatiating on what our fellow-countrymen might do, and we would vainly hope that they shortly will do, in this important matter, we shall, for the present, content ourselves with the reflection that we have done our part, by directing the attention of our readers to the necessity of high-minded measures being adopted by the talent, wealth, and influence of the country in promoting the welfare of all classes of the land we live in.

To return to the State House, the subject for discussion was, *The Management of Stock*.—Colonel Jacques opened the discussion by stating, that in feeding calves they should be well fed the first year. He allowed them to draw the milk from the cow for three or four months. Then heifers would come in at two and a half years old, which was not the case when fed on porridge. He preferred them coming in at that age, as then their milking properties would be better developed.

As to cutting feed: when any bran or meal is to be fed to stock, he has found an advantage in cutting the fodder, but when no meal or bran is used, he prefers giving them long hay. In feeding 30 cows, 25 of which were in milk, he cut equal parts of salt hay, fresh hay, and straw, making in all 30 bushels. This fodder was moistened, and then he added 30 quarts of bran or shorts, and 10 quarts of oat and indian corn meal, and in addition to this one peck of mangel wurzel was given daily to each milch cow. He fed a bushel of the above cut feed and chop to each cow morning noon and night, and they gave as much milk as though fed on grass,—some of them gave two pails a day.—Wheat bran is excellent for cows; it is good for the dyspepsia. When calves are young treat them kindly, in this way they become docile in a short time. In the management of stock cleanliness should be strictly attended to.

It is best for horses to stand on pavements of brick set on the edges, but stones will do. A horse should not stand and lie on his filth.—Great improvements have been made in our horses, and probably the most apparent and important of these have been brought about by a cross of the Normandy or French horses with our native mares. This cross gives us the various desirable properties in a horse for the different purposes for which a farmer has occasion. Kind treatment is important; in this way animals may be easily managed, our language to them should be uniform, always using the same word for the same purpose.—Colts should be accustomed to the halter the first season.

Mr. Chéven Newhall, remarked that soiling cattle was not much practiced. He had made some experiments in soiling with very good success. Last year he kept 17 cows 30 days on one acre of rye, allowing them, besides, 12 lbs. of hay and one quart of meal each; and the after crops of rye was sufficient to keep them 5 days. He recommended sowing rye for soiling the first of August, and not less than two bushels and a half per acre. They were next fed on clover, and then on corn fodder to the middle of September. They were then turned into a meadow field, in which a good crop of after-math was upon the ground, and were also fed with the tops of ruta baga, and beets, which tops were not laid in a heap so as to heat, but scattered. He feeds roots to his cows without imparting any unpleasant taste to the milk. He keeps his roots in a cool cellar, that they may not heat. Enough is put into the barn floor to last till the middle of December, and if the weather be very cold they are covered up. He sowed some corn the first of May for early use, and the seventh of June for his main crop—he sowed in drills at the rate of three bushels per acre. What was not consumed by the cows, was cut up at the bottom, the 17th of September, and after laying two days it was tied up and shocked. The yield was equal to 160 lbs. of dry fodder per rod. The cows ate almost the whole, leaving not more than from three to five per cent.

The Hon. Mr. Dodge said that he soiled with corn fodder. He used the Northern corn, and his cattle ate it up clean. Most all of the farmers in Essex County raise corn, sown broad-cast for their cattle. He raised nearly forty tons of green fodder to the acre.

Mr. French spoke highly of green fodder for cattle—he sows thick to prevent a rank growth. Turnips are easily raised, and they afford excellent food for stock. Some think that they impart an unpleasant taste to the milk; but if the cows be milked, and then fed with roots, which is his practice, the milk will not be affected. He feeds half a bushel to each cow in the morning, after which his cows are fed with salt hay—then they have a good supply of water, which is of great importance, as a cow will drink about one hundred pounds of water daily. At noon they have a pailful of bran or shorts, and good hay. The urine of cattle produces a large amount of valuable manure. When the advantages of soiling become known it will be generally adopted.—Cattle should be well tended and kindly treated—best for one person to have the entire management. In a free, porous soil, lucern is good for soiling, and will in our northern climate produce five crops in a year. It starts early, and bears the drought well; its roots extend deep and wide; some planted in May had roots 30 inches in extent in the following month of October.

Hon. Mr. Quincy, President of the Meeting remarked, that though he was not practically acquainted with Agriculture, yet he felt a great interest in the cause. His father's farm contained 200 acres, and by soiling he kept a