The Dairyman's Ten Commandments.

The following, by Mr. T. D Curtis, was read before the Central New York Farmers' Club:—

I have been repeatedly urged to draw up a set of rules for the observation of the patrons of cheese-factories. I have preferred, like Moses, to give my inspiration in the form of a decalogue, without the observance of which no patron need hope to make the land flow with milk and money.

1. Thou shalt not abuse or worry thy cow—thou, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy man-servant, nor thy dog, nor the boy whose business it is to "drive up" the cows,—but thou shalt at all times treat thy cow gently and kindly, securing her confidence, and allowing no one to molest her or make her afraid.

2. Thou shalt not starve or stint thy cow for food, nor give her poor, innutritious or unwholesome food of any kind whatsoever, but an abundance of that which is palatable and good for her system, that she may keep in good flesh, have a smooth coat, and a clear eye; and thou shalt give her salt to lick whenever she liketh.

3. Thou shalt in no way deprive, nor allow thy cow to be deprived of plenty of clean water to drink, not compel her to wallow in mud, nor to go a long distance to get water, nor to drink out of mud-holes, stagnant ponds or pools, nor to sip water from holes in the earth made by her own feet, or the feet of other animals; but thou shalt give her an abundance of spring, brook or well water, kept clean enough for thine own use.

4. Thou shalt give thy cow ample shade in summer, and a warm shelter in winter; and the latter shall be kept clean and sweet, and be withal well ventilated; and thy cow shall have room for freedom of motion, a clean bed to lie on, and an opportunity for such out-door exercise as she may desire, to the end that her blood shall freely circulate, that her muscles shall not deteriorate and become weak or stiffened, and that her digestion and appetite shall remain good.

5. Thou shalt milk thy cow in a cool place in summer, and when she is not heated or fretted, but standeth quiet and cheweth her cud, and in a clean place at all times; thou shalt clean thy cow's bag, milk her gently, and avoid getting filth into thy milk-pail; and thou shalt not save for thine own or thy neighbor's use, or carry to the factory, any milk drawn from a cow with a calf less than four days old, nor milk drawn from a cow suffering from horn and hoof disease, or horn distemper, or fever, or garget, or any other disease, nor from any cow which thou hast good reason to believe is suffering from ill-health.

6. Thou shalt keep everything about thy stable and dairy-house scrupulously clean; thou shalt thoroughly cleanse and scald—not merely rinse in hot water—all the pails, cans, strainers, pans and other utensils used in milking, carrying milk, setting milk, or manufacturing it into any of the products of the dairy; and thou shalt carefully keep thy milk from exposure to a foul, tainted or diseased atmosphere; so shalt thou prevent the oily particles in thy milk from absorbing bad odors, and fever malaria, and the virus of contagious disease; and thou shalt spare thyself the sin and shame of delivering milk that "tasteth of the barn-yard," and of introducing disease into the families of those who eat of the products of the dairy.

7. Thou shalt cool and air thy milk as soon as drawn from the cow, by using the best appliances at thy command—not by putting cold water or ice in it, for that would be a violation of both the law and the commandments—but by bringing thy milk in contact with a cool surface above the freezing point, and exposing thy milk in thin sheets to a clean atmosphere, that it may become charged with oxygen, which hath a wonderful virtue to prevent scouring or tainting. It is shrewdly suspected by some of the prophets that airing milk is of more value than cooling it, and experience showeth that stirring with a dipper hath a preservative effect that should commend it to every patron of a cheese-factory. Thou shalt confine thy milk in a covered can as short a time as possible, and protect it from the rays of the sun and the hot atmosphere. A woolen blanket thrown over the can, and a canvas stretched over the milk-wagon, would be found quite efficacious—the blanket not to be used unless the milk is cooled.

8. Thou shalt not water thy milk by mixing with it the contents of the spring, the well, the cistern, the brook, the watering-trough or other source of water supply; nor by feeding thy cow villainous slops, whey, or extremely succulent food, whereby the contents of thy milk-can shall be increased in quantity at the expense of quality, with a view of cheating thine own soul and stand in constant danger of the penalty of the law.

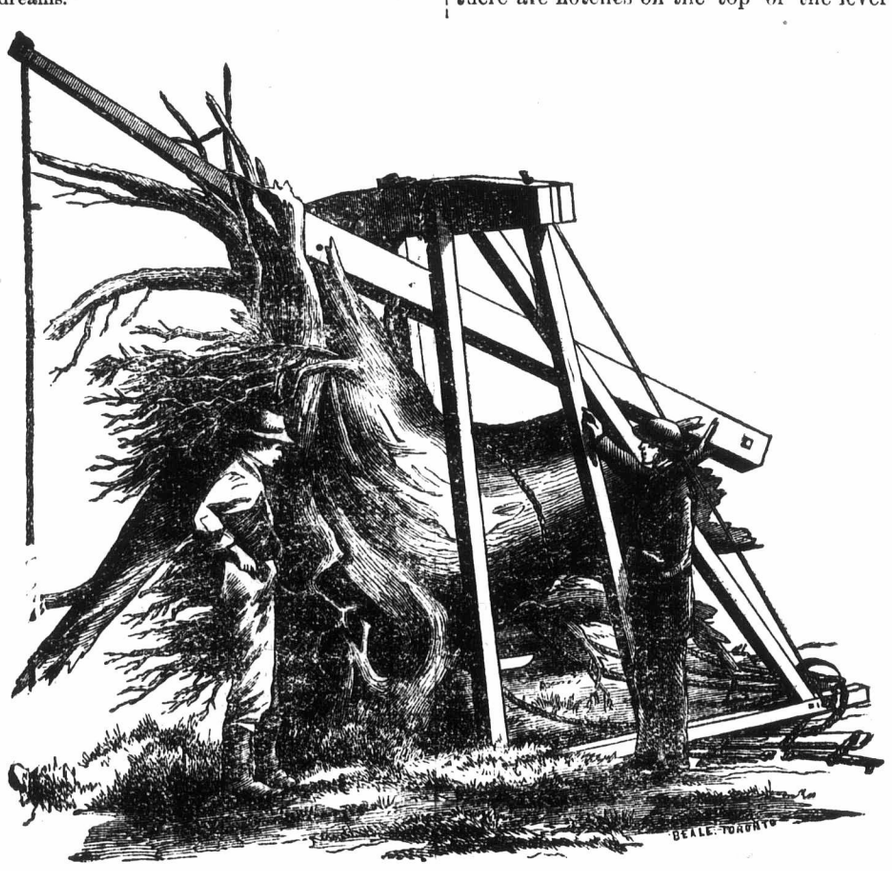
9. Thou shalt not skim thy milk by taking off the cream that riseth in the can over night, that thou mayst have a little cream for coffee; nor by setting it in pans or other utensils over night; nor by saving strippings, nor by any other process—for if thine own sense of honesty doth not restrain thee, thou shouldst constantly have the fear of the law and of the watchful eyes of thy neighbors before thee. It is better to save out a small mess of milk for thine own use.

10. Thou shalt not commit adultery by adulterating thy milk with burnt sugar, chalk, soda, salt or any ingredient or compound whatsoever; nor by giving vile stuffs to thy cow; nor by any means, trick, device or process known or unknown to the naturally depraved. The laws of the State, the health of the community, and the lives of the people, especially of the hosts of little ones who are likened unto the kingdom of heaven, cry out against this unpardonable sin.

Under the new dispensation, I add the 11th commandment:

11. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, and keep the Sunday's milk at home for the purpose of making sweet butter for the use of thy family, and that the cheese-maker and all those who labor with him in the factory may rest, and worship according to the dictates of conscience on every Sunday. Thereby shalt thou meet the requirements of the Scriptures and of the Constitution of the United States, and prolong the lives and improve the morals of a large and increasing class of useful citizens.

By faithfully observing these commandments, the dairyman shall keep a clear conscience, avoid annoying and expensive prosecutions, retain the respect of his neighbors, secure a competency of this world's goods, live a peaceful life, and in his old age "approach the bed of death like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."



The Dominion Stump Extractor.

The above illustration was engraved from a photograph taken on a farm two miles from this city. Numerous spectators witnessed the extraction of this old leviathan of the forest. It was a pine stump, and most probably, would have occupied the land for fifty years to come, if not removed. We have oak and walnut stumps on our farm with but little symptoms of decay, and we cut the trees down twenty years ago. Land has increased in value at such a rapid rate that many enterprising farmers find that it pays to extract the stumps; but we do not consider it pays in localities where land is cheap and of poor quality. On land that will sell for $50 per acre, as soon as the timber is taken off it, the stumps should be removed, and it well pays the expense where the land is to be cultivated, sold as building lots or for railroads or county roads. The old screw machine was the implement used for extracting stumps until skill and ingenuity invented the Dominion Extractor, which is a combination of lever and multiplied lever. The old screw machine was too slow. The Dominion machine does two or three times as much work in the same time, and only one span of horses is required to work it. The machine is carried on a good Democrat waggon, and it can be unloaded and set up in fifteen minutes. The horses are hitched to it and it is hauled over to any stump required to be pulled. A large chain is then hitched round one of the main roots and a small one round the stump to which is attached a stretch block. The rope is passed twice through the blocks in the end of the large lever. The horses are attached to the rope and draw down the lever, which loosens the stump; the lever is then pulled down again by a rope fastened to a small lever which is attached to the large lever, the chain is shortened, the horses take another pull and up comes the stump. A large stump may require several hitches, as there are notches on the top of the lever which regulate the distance to raise the stump each time. A small stump can be suspended in the air by one pull of the horses. Any man with common ingenuity can use the machine at once, and all that have used it or seen it used, are highly satisfied with its work, and no one having once seen it working would ever purchase any other yet invented. There has been some difficulty in regard to the patent right, as the agent of it was remiss in his business and machines could only be used in certain localities. But now the enterprising firm of Plummer & Pacey of this city are prepared to supply the machines and to send them to nearly all the counties in Canada, together with any information required. There are three kinds made: one at $50, for stumps 1½ feet and less; another at $70, for stumps 2½ feet; and a third at $120 for any stump that can be found in Canada. The largest size require a double lever and are worked with two span of horses. We do not consider it greatly superior to the screw machine for stumps over 2½ feet in diameter but for smaller sized stumps it will take out three to every one taken out by the screw machine in the same time. The smaller ones are worked by one horse.

Proper Position for Preserving or Packing Eggs for Hatching.

The famous discussion as to which end of the egg was the right one to open at the breakfast table, was not by half so interesting to connoisseurs as the knowledge to poultry-breeders would be which end of a hatching egg should be placed uppermost, when stored away for hatching purposes. Mr. Geyelin, in his well-known pamphlet, advocated the placing of all eggs intended for hatching with their large end downwards. But Mr. Geyelin was ahead of his time—few people paid much attention to his recommendation; and, like many others of his suggestions which were opposed to all practical knowledge of the subject, they went unheeded—breeders still stored and packed their eggs in the old way, with the small end downward.

We have recently obtained more information on this subject, however—whether through the instrumentality of Mr. Geyelin's pamphlet or not we cannot say—but it seems a lady at Wickham Market (England), whose name has not reached us, nearly three years ago, wrote a letter to Mr. Wright, the well-known poultry writer, on the subject, which he recently gave to the public, after keeping it secret for two years, for the purpose of experimenting on the information conveyed by it. We don't know that breeders will thank this gentleman for withholding such valuable information so long; it is, however, satisfactory to know, that the experiments made by Mr. Wright during that period all go to confirm this lady's recommendation. She said: "Keeping eggs on the small end appears to me to cause the air-bubble to spread, detatching it from the shell, or rather from its membranous lining; and after being so kept for a fortnight, the air-bubble will be found to be much spread, and the egg to have lost much of its vitality, though still very good for eating." She then described her success by keeping the eggs in the contrary position, saying: "Owing to this method of storing, such a thing as a stale egg has never been known in my house; and, as regards success in hatching, for several seasons, when I was able to attend to my poultry myself, of many broods set every egg produced a chicken." Such is the testimony of this lady. Let us now hear the result of Mr. Wright's experience. He says: "After considerable and patient testing of both methods throughout two seasons, I can say, without hesitation, that there really is a marked difference between the vitality of eggs kept more than a few days, according to the position in which they are placed. It will be found, as this intelligent lady states, that the air-bubble in one case is much more spread than in the other. This can be tested at once, but of course of itself proves nothing. The great point is—and it is in this way the matter is especially interesting to all fanciers—that eggs are perfectly good for hatching at a month old when stored with the large end downward; and thus the eggs of valuable birds may be kept till the hen is ready for them, or eggs may be sent from distances which, under the old plan, would give little hopes of success." This information is interesting to breeders, and ought to be acted upon. The importance of preserving the vitality of hatching eggs is too well known by fanciers, and requires no comment from us.—*Canadian Poultry Chronicle.*

MARKETING GRAIN.—We have occasionally inquiries as to the propriety of disposing of grain as soon as ready for market, or of holding for a rise later in the season. We can not with propriety advise in a matter on which so many men have widely different ideas, yet there are some circumstances in which the farmer may find himself in doubt as to which course should be followed, and make a man's interest apparent. First. A farmer should go to market without loss of time when other parties have an interest in his crop. If the merchant has been promised a part of the proceeds, it is only strict honesty to fulfil the promise at the earliest day. Second. It is never wise for a farmer to borrow money rather than sell his crop. He will afterwards keenly regret this course. The anxiety of the speculator will consume him, and even should he succeed in gaining an advance, the cost of interest will doubtless eat it up. If a farmer has money at hand and grain in his barn, he is independent of contingencies and can do as he pleases; but for all others, we think that the sooner they go to market, the better.

Although oak timber in England is not of the value that it was prior to the invention of iron ship-building, it continues to fetch a considerable price. Lately a few of the magnificent oak trees in Burghley Park, having shown symptoms of decay, were cut down and sold at auction. The size of the trees and the value of the timber may be inferred from the prices realized One tree brought £72, a second £61, a third £64, and the whole 30 in number realized £900.