

Farmer's Dictionary," is exceedingly well got up, with a great number of illustrations of plants, animals, and implements. It is edited by Dr. D. P. Gardner, and is entitled to every recommendation we could give the book. The third, "The Complete Gardener and Florist," should be in the possession of every one who has a garden or is an admirer of flowers. The prices of these books are very reasonable, as all American works are, and publications of the present year. Mr. Lay, very generously, invited us to the use of his books, should we at any time require to refer to them on any subject connected with Agriculture. This is as it should be—every man interested and offering his aid to advance the science and practice of an art upon which the very existence of the human family depends. We heartily wish Mr. Lay every success in his agency.

According to "Thaer's Principles of Agriculture" the proportion of grain to straw varies as follows:—

Rye, from 38 to 42 in 100; wheat, from 48 to 52 in 100; barley, from 62 to 64 in 100; oats, from 60 to 62 in 100; peas, from 32 to 36 in 100.

Thaer says again:—

That for feeding cattle, the following proportions will be found to be equally nutritious and beneficial:—100 lbs of hay, 200 lbs. of potatoes, 460 lbs. beet-root, 350 lbs. ruta-baga, 266 lbs. carrots, 600 lbs. white cabbages, and 50 lbs. onts.

In order to discover the quantity of dung produced by pasturing animals, that evacuated by a cow fed on excellent pasture land has been weighed, and it was found that, on an average, she produced 37 lbs. in a day and night: that is, 5,661 lbs. in five months, or one hundred and fifty-three days. The dung evacuated during the day was also weighed separately from that which was produced during the night, and it was found that the former amounted to from 21 to 23 lbs., and the latter to from 15 to 15½ lbs.

Sheep, if fed on the same quantity of provender will produce dung which goes further, but the action of which is not so durable. These animals, however, appeared to be decidedly the most advantageous for the manuring of pasture land, the dung which they evacuate over the meadows is not only more equally diffused, but also amalgamates more freely with the soil, and acts more promptly on the vegetation. If the sheep are brought up from the pastures at night, and con-

finied in a paddock or sheep fold, they will produce a proportionally larger quantity of manure than cattle, supposing that each species has been allowed the same extent of pasturing. This reason causes the meadow and pasture lands in England, where it is customary to leave the sheep out night and day, gradually to become ameliorated and improved, and to be capable of feeding an increased number of these animals every year; when these lands are broken or ploughed up they are found to have acquired a much greater proportion of nutritive matter than those on which cows have been fed: indeed these latter usually decrease in fertility about the third or fourth year, particularly when the soil is of a dry hot nature.

We know that pasturing sheep constantly on land will greatly augment its fertility, and very much more than any other animals would do. A few sheep, however, kept with other stock, cannot be expected to produce this benefit.

The following extract, from a speech of Mr. Baker at a late meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, is worthy the attention of farmers:—

He had nothing novel in farming to communicate; indeed, he was one of "the old jockies," as Mr. Meechi called them; but he would mention that he had happened for the last ten days to have been riding over two parishes, for the purposes of tithing commutation, and he was forcibly reminded of the want of capital; and was not of Mr. Meechi's opinion, that folks could go to the corner of the field and dig up capital. It was certain it must be found before it could be applied. It behoved us to look back and see if capital had not been applied to the land. If they looked back to this and the adjoining counties, and the kingdom at large, for 15 or 20 years, they would find it had been applied to the soil to bring it into that productive state in which it now was.

HOEING.—When you use the hoe, strive to do the work well; do not try to draw it over much ground at one stroke, but always strive to make good work, so as to cut up all the weeds as you go along. The best plan is to hoe to the depth that will kill the most of the weeds, which is best done on most soils by drawing the hoe as near to the top of the soil as you can. When you leave your day's work, wipe your tool until it is dry, and then put it in a dry place: by this plan your hoe will keep free from rust. A bright clear tool is always the best to work with.—*Rural Spelling Book.*