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Reports, Discussions, &c.

EAST ZORRA FARMERS' CLUB.

REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE EAST ZORRA FARMERS' CLUB, HELD AT LAPPIN'S HOTEL, 12TH LINE, DECEMBER 8TH.

Present—Messrs. Joseph Turner, *Chairman*, Joseph Swaites, Isaac Cook, J. Smith, A. H. Farmer, *Secretary*. *Committee*—Messrs. John B. Wilkison, Griffiths, Dale, G. Smith, H. Shadwicke, Trapett, H. Stewart, Fox, Robinson, Kennedy, and about twenty others.

After some excellent prefatory remarks the chairman pointed out the difference between good and bad farming, and the management of some men, as contrasted with that of others, careless and slovenly. He enumerated the advantages of shelter for cattle, and the strong necessity for providing sheds for them, even if they were only log sheds. How often, said he, do we see cattle starving out in the fields, utterly destitute of shelter, and the very hogs cringing round the door of the house, as if searching for the warmth and shelter so cruelly denied them; any wight might provide something, but somehow or other we always say, "oh, I must get something ready next summer," and so it goes on from year to year. I recollect a story of a farmer's son who was sent to the mill in cold weather, and being observed by a passer by, bitterly crying from the cold, was advised to walk; no, said he, my father always rides, and I will ride, if I should die for it. We are all strongly attached to early

associations, and as our fathers did, so we like to do, and unfortunately are too fond of extending our prejudices to our farming. All, however, can afford to house and shelter in some way or other, and it is our duty to do so, for animals were given for us to use, not to abuse. In the beginning of winter many men waste their fodder, and hay and straw stacks are exposed to the weather, with their tops taken off for feeding, allowing rain and snow to penetrate to their very heart, and all for the saving of a dollar for a hay knife, which would cut snugly and well, leaving the top undisturbed. And then we ought to take care of our implements, a thing generally overlooked, a little arranging and putting away, a little cleaning and painting, and they will be ready for another summer's use; even the harness should not be overlooked, but looked over and oiled at intervals, for "a stitch in time saves nine," and never more so than in such cases. I shall now conclude my remarks, but I trust all who are here will aid in the discussion.

A. HAMILTON FARMER, Esq., *Secretary*, then read the following Paper on the Housing and Feeding of Stock:

Having been requested to open the proceedings of this meeting with a paper on the Housing and Feeding of Stock, I agreed to do so to the best of my ability, though I naturally feel great reluctance in placing my views on the subject before so many men, well qualified from length of existence and practical skill, to undertake the