

mould where road scrapings cannot be obtained, per acre, mixed together a few days before it is used, applied very early in the morning, or late at night; in the same manner as directed in No. 1. using the horse hoe immediately after.

J. B. M.

Dairy Management, and the Cultivation of Mangel Wurzel.

We take the following abridgment of the proceedings of two important Societies connected with Agriculture in London, from the *Irish Farmers' Gazette* of April 19th, and which will be found to contain much useful information of general interest and application.—

Those circles of the agricultural world which have their centre in London had last week a more than usual amount of pleasurable excitement, arising from the discussion of subjects connected with their profession. The ordinary monthly meeting of the Central Farmers' Club took place under the presidency of Mr. Charles Howard, on Monday, the 7th, inst., at which Mr. Dumbrell, of Ditchling, Sussex, introduced the subject of "Dairy Management;" and at the weekly meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, Mr. Freere, Editor of the Society's *Journal*, opened the way for some tolerably useful remarks on the cultivation of mangel wurzel; both very reasonable subjects, and, in the case of the Central Club, possessing furthermore the merit of novelty, nothing immediately relating to it having been previously brought before the club. Professor Voelcker, indeed, as our readers are aware, had recently, at a meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, expressed his views as a scientific man on the subject, but it remained for the central to pronounce upon its practical bearings.

In doing so, however, it was chiefly the milking properties of certain breeds, and the best manner of feeding milch cows, which were discarded upon; whilst the actual manufacture of dairy products—butter and cheese—was very slightly attended to. Now, in a discussion on dairy management, this was almost like acting the play of Hamlet without the part of Hamlet; for, surely, the manufacture of butter and cheese form a most important part of the circle of subjects which may be comprised under the general head of dairy management. We confess therefore, feeling somewhat disappointed; because, when we found the subject named as one which would be brought forward at a meeting of the Central Club, we hoped to have the pleasure of reading the experience of some practical speakers from the best dairy districts. And, assuredly, the extraordinary difference which exists in the qualities of each of these products of the dairy would have afforded ample room for in-

quiry, some qualities of butter being positive luxuries, whilst others are not good enough to grease a cart wheel; and then there are the rich, mellow English cheeses, which actually melt in the mouth, and, on the other hand, those hard, horny kinds which might serve as wheels for wheel-barrows, but as an article of food are like the celebrated skim milk cheese of Suffolk, of which it has been said that it "was so hard, that the pigs grunt at it; dogs bark at it; but neither of them dare bite it."

With reference to the milking properties of the different breeds, Mr. Dumbrell was in favour of the Channel Islands or so called Alderney cow as the best for butter making, ranking the Ayrshire next, and recommending a cross between these two breeds as producing a very valuable animal. Mr. Little of Wilts, coming from a cheese-making district, advocated the short-horn, believing that "nothing looked better or more promising than a fine herd of short-horns feeding in the open pasture. Mr. Ellis, of Grandford, another short-horn advocate, would venture to say," in opposition to Mr. Dumbrell's opinion of the Alderneys, "that there were other breeds which, taken as a whole, would be found equal, if not superior, to the Channel Island breed for the purpose under consideration," having "know some cows of the Ayrshire breed which were, in his opinion, more profitable on the whole than the Channel Islands cow. He considered that the first cross between the short-horn and the Channel Islands cow produced a very useful animal for dairy purposes, although, perhaps, it might not "give so much butter as a pure Alderney it was very profitable, arriving early at maturity, and having many good points belonging to the short-horn breed." Mr. Coleman had found that a herd of sixty or seventy Hereford cows did not produce enough of butter and cream to supply the large demand for these articles at Woburn, the Duke of Bedford's seat, where Mr. Coleman is farm manager, and he now keeps a herd of Herefords for breeding or suckling purposes, and another herd, polled Suffolks, on account of their yielding an immense quantity of milk. He had found that crosses between the Hereford and Ayrshire and Hereford and Alderney "improved the feeding qualities of both the Alderney and Ayrshire, while it did not much affect their milking qualities." With respect to the short-horn, he allowed that no breed had a greater tendency to fatten, but in their case "it often happened that the better the pasture the smaller the quantity of milk." Mr. Middleton, Cotteslowe, Oxford, who had kept the best kind of common cows in the midland counties at one time gave his experience of pure short-horn as dairy, cows in the following terms:—

"About sixteen or seventeen years ago he considered whether he could not do better by purchasing some pure-bred animals, and these