

them ten years since, A constant waste is taking place. Chemistry shows us what plants can supply that waste.

Mr. Vick did not design to attack chemistry or chemists; but he did think theories founded on chemical science, unsupported by experiments, should be received with caution, until proved or disproved by experience. Liebig tells us that all we need do to grow a certain crop is to find its mineral elements, and furnish the soil with these, and success, under ordinary circumstances is certain. This theory, so confidently advocated for many years, I suppose it will be admitted, has been proved false by experience, and generally abandoned.

Mr. Gold, of Connecticut, stated that in the north there is no difficulty in raising good Timothy hay, if it is cut early, as it gives a good aftermath, and is better the next spring for being so cut.

Mr. Capron, of Illinois, thought if we would follow the teachings of agricultural chemists we could raise larger crops, and cheaper than we now do.

Mr. Vick thought that as there was a good deal of difference in the theories of agricultural chemists, it would be well for them, or us, to agree as to which is right, before undertaking to follow either.

Mr. Worthington, of Ohio, had a different experience to relate than that expressed by some others. The seed, it is true, does not digest; but it is so small, in proportion to the whole plant, that but little of the nutriment of the plant can be used up in perfecting it; and the most of this, he thought, came from the soil, and not from the leaves and stem of the plant. If the seed should be ground, it would be of but little account.—Grass, when cut in flower, is harder to cure than if cut later; and sometimes is troublesome, if the weather is unfavorable. My experience, and that of my neighbors is, that the best time to cut Timothy grass is when the seed has so far matured as to germinate. We have all tried cutting in the flower, and abandoned it. Cutting in flower injures the roots, and if continued, destroys our meadows. Prof. Kirtland has made this question a matter of careful and diligent study, and he has found that the best time to cut is when the stalk becomes dry at a point above the first or second joint of the stem. If cut earlier than this, the roots send up new stalks, and thereby become weakened, and die out during the winter.

Mr. Howard relied for his statements on the experience of his neighbors, as well as on the opinions of chemists. The question raised by the gentleman from Rochester, whether the experience of farmers agrees with the theories of chemists, is certainly a very important one. John Johnston, of Geneva, in discussing this matter with one of his neighbors, agreed to leave the question with a flock of lambs, and they soon decided it, by eating up clean that which was cut in flower, but of the later cut, a great part was left and wasted.

Mr. Haines, of Illinois, had found that the best time to cut grass was when the blossom on the earliest heads was falling. Experienced the same difficulty as Mr. Worthington with the Timothy dying out; and the only way he could preserve his meadows was to drag them in the spring, which seemed to invigorate the roots and give them a new start.

CUCUMBER BUGS.—Dr. Heckerman, of Tiffin, writes:—Most gardeners are very much annoyed by these bugs, which prey alike upon the cucumber, melon, pumpkin, and squash—the latter being its favourite. Various plans have been devised for their protection, such as soot, &c. A method which I have practised with nearly entire success, is to form a mixture of equal parts finely ground black pepper and wheat flour, and dust the plants, while the dew is upon them, with this mixture, using an ordinary flour or pepper box. It is a fact generally known, that black pepper is so obnoxious to most insects, that few will approach or stay in its presence. The object of the flour is to combine with the pepper, and with the water or dew to form a paste, which will adhere to the leaves for many days unless washed off by heavy rains; and in which case the application should be renewed.

FARMERS, DON'T EAT IN THE KITCHEN.—It is the custom with some farmers, to make a constant practice of taking all meals in the kitchen; but this habit *marks a low state of civilization*. The occupation of farming is the natural employment of a human being, and it ought to be made a refined and noble pursuit, not a mere way of earning a rude subsistence. It is among the sons and daughters of the farmers, that the pith and marrow of a country are to be found, and every grace that belongs to rural life should find its highest examples in the home and family of the intelligent American farmers.—*Func.*