

have spoiled had it not been put in a loft, or open shed; and have walked over that same hay in winter, and it would crump under my feet, only having the wind blowing over it. This shows that the closer a barn can be, or, in other words, the less wind and air on a haymow the better, after the sweating is over. I have a neighbor that cuts down his haymow every year, for no other purpose only to expose less surface to the wind and air at a time.

I consider hay put in a tight barn worth \$2 a ton more than the same in a stack. My practice is to cut the grass green, and half cure it, and then put it in a tight barn; and this will be my practice until experience and observation teaches me otherwise.

I had a neighbor that always cut his hay late, and his cattle were always poor. I told him I thought early cut made more fat than late cut hay. He said that it

might, but it did not make so much bone. So you see we did not disagree then. I chose the fat and he the bone. But one year he had help to get hay that he could not have but a short time; so he concluded to cut his hay early, and then work for his neighbor. The next winter he had a pair of steers that had bunches rise up on their shoulders and backs, and he did not know what ailed them, and thought something was wrong sure, and offered to sell them; he asked a cattle man what those bunches were? The trader laughed, and said, "I guess you have fed them plenty of early cut hay." Well, he said he had, but he did not know as it would hurt them.

So, brother farmers, here you have an example—late hay, open sheds, and bone; or early hay, tight barns, and fat. Take your choice. Now is the time for observation on the hay-mow.

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

THE PROPER WAY TO DEAL WITH BULBS.



AS soon as any bulb shows signs of growth, the sap has begun its seasonal movements, and it needs the support of nutriment obtained by the roots. Therefore the first act of the sap, when its autumnal movement commences, should be the formation of roots; therefore, also, it should be in contact with moist earth, before the movement of the sap commences, in order that when the roots begin to protrude from the base of the bulb, they may be in contact with the soil, which is the only natural medium for their growth and usefulness. What should we say of a propagator of roses who should put in cuttings, and at once drive them into growth by atmospheric heat and moisture, without waiting till they had callused and began to form root fibres? We should say he had adopted a killing process, and had better buy roses ready rooted than attempt to obtain them in such a ridiculous fashion. But this is the way the greater part of autumn-planted bulbs are dealt with. They arrive in this country in fine condition of ripeness, and begin to sprout in the warehouses and seedsmen's windows long before the public think of making purchases. They form incipient roots at the base, and plump green shoots at the crown, and these succulent growths are elaborated at the expense of the sap in the bulb, and, by the

process of transpiration, the atmosphere sucks the life out of them, through the tissues of incipient roots and plump green shoots. When planted, they have to make roots at the expense of the already exhausted bulb, and then have to recover from those roots sap to sustain the growth above the bulb, which is already in advance of the roots in its stage of development, and thus the balance between supply below and exhaustion above is never restored, and the second season after purchase the bulbs are fit only for the muck-heap.

The laws of vegetable physiology plainly point out that all the hardy bulbs which sprout in autumn should be in the ground before that effort is begun. The equable temperature of the soil, and its moist condition at 6 inches below the surface, provide the very best conditions possible for promoting immediate root action, and retarding the growth of the foliage—two desirable results both for the bloom in the spring following, and for the preservation and increase of the stock.—*Hibberd's Gardener's Magazine.*

THE GARDEN.



FEW farmers seem to realize the importance of having a good garden, yet a good one will produce more profit, according to the labor bestowed, than any other part of the farm. A good garden is not only profitable, as