

"THE ALBANY CULTIVATOR."

This old and valuable journal has commenced a new series of volumes with the January number of the present year, and is, unquestionably, a well conducted work. As we have much reduced the price of our own magazine, and as the postage on which is only about one-fifth as great as on the American papers, the British American farmers will no doubt find it tend to their own welfare to support a journal published in their own country, devoted exclusively to the promotion of the great interests of the British North American Colonies. In anticipation of receiving a full, undivided and liberal support, from the highest to the lowest of the class to which we have the honour to belong, being residents of British America; we shall review, monthly, a few of the leading American papers, not with a view of criticism, but for the object of gleanings from the well stored columns of our contemporaries useful and practical information for our numerous readers. The following is gleaned from *The Albany Cultivator*.

Rearing Colts.—A correspondent states that in rearing horses for the Santa Fe trade, that whenever great power of enduring hardships is required, that they feed to a colt, the first winter, thirty bushels of oats; the second, twenty, the third, ten; the fourth, less still, or none at all. We would beg to add an opinion in confirmation of the above statement, viz., that the practice alluded to is highly commendable, and has been successfully acted upon in numerous instances that have come under our notice. The oats would be better if cut with the straw, especially for the first year.

Buckwheat as Green Manure.—The ploughing in of buckwheat is recommended by the editor as a means of enriching a poor and comparatively barren soil, as a summer fallowing preparation for a crop of autumn wheat, by sowing two crops as recommended, in most cases the soil would not have the necessary consistence to ensure a good return of fall wheat, but if laid up in ridges in autumn, might give a good average crop of spring wheat, if the seed be of a good variety, properly prepared, and sown as early as possible.

Clover Hulling Machine.—To those who are extensively engaged in the cultivation of clover, an efficient mill for dressing the seed is a desideratum. We would, therefore, recommend those who can make the investment, or a suitable number to club together, and purchase one from H. Baldwin, of Washington, Connecticut, manufacturer, whose clover mills are highly recommended by those who have used them, and which have taken a number of premiums from agricultural societies, in various portions of the Union. It is said to execute the work without any loss of seed, and is so constructed, that those who manage it will suffer no inconvenience from dust. Thomas De Burroll, of Geneva, N. Y., also manufactures clover machines, which are highly recommended. He builds three sizes, costing sixty, seventy, and eighty dollars each, and requiring from three to six hands to attend them.

Remedy for Hard Milking.—A Correspondent states that he has tried the plan of opening the teats of cows that milk hard, with a hairness awl, as recommended in a former number, and has by this means made a very good milking cow, from one which could scarcely be milked before.

Clover in Orchards.—The cultivation of clover in orchards is recommended by the editor in reply to some enquiries made by a

Correspondent. We are convinced that the practice is a bad one. Clover having a broad porous leaf retains the dews which fall from the atmosphere, and the gases which rise from the decomposition of vegetable matter in the soil. This is especially the case when any stimulant manure, which attracts the food to the plant, that would otherwise benefit the tree, is applied to the surface of the soil. An old friend of our's, some years since, seeded his orchard with clover, and was so convinced with the correctness of the views which we entertain on the subject, that he only allowed it to remain in clover one summer. He remarked to us, some time afterwards, that he would have lost one-third of his trees, if he had allowed his orchard to remain in clover three summers. This is our candid opinion, if others think differently, and have practical grounds for their conclusions, we would be happy to hear from them on the subject.

Cutting Straw, Hay, Cornstalks, &c for Fodder.—An able article appears under this head, which, if space would admit, we would insert in full. The advantages of cutting the above descriptions of fodder are enumerated in the following manner by the writer:—In the first place, there is little or no waste of food. Every farmer is aware that hay—clover hay in particular—when fed without cutting, a very large portion is rejected by the animal and wasted. Secondly, it is presented to the stomach in a condition the most proper for the action of the digestive organs, an essential point in ascertaining the necessary amount of food required to keep an animal in condition to travel or to labour. Thirdly, an animal consumes much less time in making its meal, or filling its stomach with cut food than when uncut, a most important matter to the poor animal that requires rest after labour, and not to be compelled to spend half the night in eating to satisfy hunger, when it ought to be quietly sleeping; and, lastly, there is a great saving in the quantity of food consumed, to keep an animal in equally good condition, or fit to perform a given quantity of labour. The writer further adds, that a few years since a failure in his hay crop compelled him to keep his working horses on cut straw and corn meal, with a few carrots daily to each horse, and it appears that his horses were never in finer condition, or better fitted for the labour of the farm than in that year. He also states, that he makes it a rule to salt his horses once per week, and to mix with the salt for each animal a handful of ashes, as a preventive of disease, such as bots, colic, &c.

The great principles of economy, which is so rigidly and thoroughly studied in Flanders, is recommended in feeding stock. English experiments are cited, in which, by the means recommended, about one-fifth of the expense would be saved; and warm and comfortable stables, sheds, and other suitable out-offices for the comfort and health of every description of live stock, are recommended as being among the first principles of animal economy. The great advantages of having a straw cutter attached to a common horse power, is so clearly shown, that a farmer, with a reasonable share of common sense, and even with a very moderate purse, might, with much certainty of profit, venture to purchase a straw cutter, constructed on the improved principles. We perfectly coincide with all the writer has said on the subject, and would earnestly recommend the farmers who favour us with their support, to purchase an improved straw cutter. They would find the greatest possible advantages from this description of food for their horses during the summer months.

Agricultural Implements.—The proprietor of one establishment, at Easton, near Boston,

has invested a capital of upwards of one hundred thousand dollars, and has brought the manufacture of shovels, spades, &c to a great perfection. In Boston there are several establishments for the exclusive sale of agricultural implements. The sales of one firm amounted the past season to upwards of 40,000 dollars. The subsoil ploughs manufactured by Ruggles, Nourse and Mason, are highly noted, and may be had for from \$8 to \$15, according to size. The wood work of the ploughs is all got out and fitted for the plough by machinery, even to the making of every mortice and tenon, and boring every hole.

Wintering Farm Stock.—A Correspondent treats on this seasonable subject in such an able manner, that we copy verbatim the following paragraph from his communication:

"Many seem to say by their management, that young stock will not grow and thrive in winter, and some are compelled to skin more or less before spring, for want of attention. Let no more stock be kept on a farm than can be at all times in a thriving condition, with shelters to protect them from the chilling blasts of winter, especially for the young; give them the best of hay, morning, noon and night; and if they do not thrive, a little grain may not be amiss. Many of our best colts are injured by neglect the first autumn, and are not worth as much in the spring as when weaned in the fall. Thus a loss of fodder and growth follows, and very frequently midsummer is past before they begin to thrive. The growth of the stock is the profit of the farm, therefore daily care should be taken to see that they are constantly improving. Let every foddering show that your stock is gaining, and in the spring you will feel rewarded for your winter's toil."

Making Butter in Winter.—The plan which we copied on a former occasion from the Journal from which we are now making such wholesale use, is again recommended, both by a correspondent and the editor, which is as follows:—When the milk is strained, it is put upon the stove and heated to near scalding heat, and then set away for the cream to rise. After sufficient cream is gathered for a churning, it is placed where it will be kept warm a sufficient time for it to sour (usually about 24 hours), where it is subjected to the process of churning, which rarely occupies more than 30 minutes.

Black Leg in Calves.—A writer states that he has sustained heavy losses from this formidable enemy to the rearing of calves, and, as a preventive, has resorted to the plan of giving his calves more chance for exercise, and when any of them shows symptoms of disease, he administers a strong dose of lobelia, which, with an extra amount of exercise, have had the effect of curing them immediately.

Blind Teeth in Horses.—A private correspondent says that a horse of his but lately lost his sight, which he attributed to over-work. The horse was sent to the blacksmith-shop to be shod. The smith told the groom what ailed the horse, and took a hammer and a piece of bar-iron, and knocked out the blind tooth, which dropped with the first stroke of the hammer. The horse very shortly afterwards recovered his sight.

Experiments with Green Manures.—A correspondent points out a number of cases where ploughing under Indian corn, sown broad-cast, and a moderate crop of clover, which have given a return fully 100 per cent. over the common methods of making summer fallows. The great advantages of the plan consist in a saving of labour, a simple and ready method of freeing the land from noxious weeds, and a cheap and efficient plan for obtaining any