

mustard seeds, in which they remain through the autumn and winter, and till ready to change into flies the following June. A portion of the worms, however, are still remaining in the wheat heads at the time of harvest. These are carried into the barn, where, as no moisture gets to them to quicken them into activity, they lie dormant until the grain is thrashed and cleaned, when they drop with other foul matters into the box which gathers the screenings of the fanning mill.

With respect to the remedies for this insect, every farmer knows that by late sowing he can prevent his wheat from being headed and in bloom till the season for the midge to deposit its eggs therein has nearly or quite passed by; yet, in thus attempting to raise wheat in any other except the best period of the year for its growth, he is liable to obtain only an inferior crop. It is in our power to do much towards diminishing the numbers of this insect. Whenever the screenings of the fanning mill abound with the yellow larvæ of the midge, they should be burned, or fed under cover to the poultry or swine: they should never be emptied out doors to mature, as they there will, into a swarm of flies, to live at the expense of the wheat the following summer. And those larvæ which leave the wheat heads before harvest, and remain in the fields, tightly wound up and fettered in their cocoons, slightly under the ground, may be destroyed, it is altogether probable, by turning the wheat stubble under with the plough, thus burying them to such a depth that in their efforts to work their way up to the surface, when they break out from their cocoons the following June, they will become exhausted and perish. Thus every man may destroy all these insects which are generated in his own wheat, and hereby materially lessen their ravages on his lands. But unfortunately they breed also in grass, or at least in some situation other than in the wheat, from whence their ranks will always be liable to be replenished.

In America we have now had thirty years' experience with this insect. We have become well acquainted with its history, its transformations and habits. The best remedies for it which we are able to advise and practice, are but partly efficacious. It continues to be as numerous and destructive now as it has been at any previous period. By diminishing the yield of wheat crops, it is occasioning a loss, to the State of New York alone, of some millions of dollars annually. And this loss will continue until by the hand of man, the parasite destroyers of this insect become introduced into this country, when it will disappear, in the same manner that its predecessor and compeer in destructiveness, the Hessian fly, has disappeared, and almost ceased to be felt as an evil.

Cattle require liberal feeding and good shelter this month.

NATIVE CATTLE.

[We take the following interesting article from the *New York Argus*, a weekly leading paper in the Democratic interest, ably edited and very extensively circulated. Its agricultural department has often original articles of great interest. The present one is from the pen of the Hon. WINSLOW C. WATSON, of the State of New York.—Ebs.]

A persistent and often somewhat animated discussion has long prevailed in reference to the comparative merits of the various breeds of imported Blood Cattle. These controversies, while they seem only to result in concessions, that each class possesses peculiar and distinctive excellencies, which in that particular renders it superior to all others, tend to divert attention from another family of animals worthy of more consideration than they receive. It is not our present purpose to trace the characteristics of the Thorough-breeds, but to suggest some views in connection with the history and qualities of the class we have referred to, which is designated by the general description of "Native Stock."

Our remarks will be stimulated by no feeling of hostility towards the imported breeds, for our farmer's eye always delights in viewing the beautiful Devon, the symmetrical Short-horn, or the stately Hereford. We rejoice to see them introduced and impressing their beauties or fine proportions upon our common stock. We have no desire to depreciate, but will accord to these magnificent animals all the pre-eminence their advocates may justly claim for them.

The observation of years has confirmed an early impression, that our common American cattle possess properties not excelled by any foreign stock for all practical dairy purposes. These qualities, in real utility, are more important and desirable than mere comeliness of figure and appearance or majestic proportions. A glance at the origin of the Neat Cattle which predominate in this country, and constitute our "Native Stock," will, we think, disclose ample reasons for their possessing this superiority, and from the opinion that they form a basis, by judicious breeding, for immense progress in the improvement of their excellent qualities.

In judging of the merits of these cattle, and comparing them with imported stock, we should regard the facts that they have for generations been subjected to the hard usage and scanty fare which has too generally marked the management of the American farmer, while their foreign rivals of every name have been pampered by the highest care, and very essentially formed by appliances.

The term "Native Cattle," in the popular language of this country, is exceedingly indefinite and very broad. They necessarily have had their origin from animals imported since the first settlement of the continent, from nearly every European stock. In the commo