

pile of stuff near by with which to bed sheep and cattle. The labour is but little. Lay a good plank, and with a wheelbarrow the work is soon done. I use green brakes a part of the time, and part old poor hay, so as to make a dry bed for the sheep. In the fall the manure is carted into the field and piled up to lie until spring, when it is forked over to make it fine. In this way I obtain a big pile of good manure, made in the summer, when too often but little is saved, for in the ordinary way the hot sun, rain and winds, work destruction to it. I keep all the weeds pulled on the sides of the barnyard, to mix in with this before they go to seed.—*Maine Farmer.*

SHEEP ON WHEAT.—During the past two months I have had an opportunity of noticing the wheat crop in many counties in this State, and some in Pennsylvania. The growth of the young wheat is greater than usual at this season, and if persons will, during this month of March, turn their sheep upon their wheat fields, it will be good for the sheep and the wheat. The sheep bite short off, and they will not pull up by the roots as some other animals would do. They should only be turned on the wheat, however, when the ground is frozen, or when it is well settled in April. The sheep bite off the blades that have been partly frozen during the winter, and thus make way for a new and vigorous growth. Although the frost does not damage wheat as it does corn, yet the blades affected by it are still somewhat deadened, and it is better to remove them. I have known this plan to be adopted by farmers many years ago, with great advantage.—*Cor. Zanesville Times.*

Sowing Clover.—“*Cultivator*” writes to us, asking if it was not a typographical error in our article on “Sowing Grain and Grass,” to sow so large an amount of clover seed per acre as was therein mentioned, and says he never heard of such a thing before as a bushel to ten acres is the usual quantity sown. There is no mistake about the statement. We do not suppose, at present prices of clover seed, any one could be induced to leave the old ruts they have so long travelled in, and try the experiment of sowing it at the rate of even one bushel per acre. Nevertheless, it has been done and the result was such as to lead us, as well as those who tried it, to believe that one of the chief causes of the failure to get a good stand of clover at the present time, is the fact that it is far too thinly sown. The plants, in general, do not half cover the ground, and consequently the stalks grow coarse, and the roots not being closely matted together, are more easily affected by drought and frosts. As we said, in sowing clover so thickly, it is desirable to give the land entirely to the crop, or at least sow it on some crop, as barley for instance, that does not hold possession of the soil long enough to make the young plants get spindly by overshadowing.

The Dairy.

Carrying and Cooling Milk.

Now that cheese factories have been established in many sections of the country, and are likely to prove of such great advantage to the farmer, in enabling him to dispose of the product of his cows during the summer season, without the trouble of making his own butter and cheese, which would be so great an addition to the labour of the women folks as to deter him from keeping as many cows as his farm could profitably sustain, it becomes a matter of importance to ascertain the best method of carrying the milk to the dairy in such a way as to keep it perfectly sweet and clean, and yet in vessels that can be easily handled. The best size for the purpose would probably be cans holding ten gallons each, made of tin. They can, when of that size, be easily lifted in and out of the waggon by two persons. As the wear on the cans from constant handling is very great, they need to be strongly made, with handles for grappling, that will bear the constant strain on them caused by the crane, where one is used at the factory for lifting from the waggon to the second story, or to the weighing machine, and the tops should fit on easily, and yet so tightly that when tipped over no milk will run out, nor any dust get in during the time they are being carried to the factory. The cans should be strongly bound on the outside with iron hoops, and have double bottoms braced with iron outside. Metal is always preferable to wood, as it can be much more easily cleaned, and does not imbibe or retain any of the milk. We presume the factories furnish the cans, as they could provide them all of uniform quality and capacity, at a less expense than if each individual patron had his own made. But a very small amount of carelessness in keeping the cans perfectly clean and sweet, or in failing to deliver the milk at the proper time, may cause a serious loss to the farmer, for let it be remembered that the least taint in the milk will necessarily cause its rejection at the factory, as it would spoil the whole process of cheese-making if one can of tainted milk were to get into the vats, and the manager must, for the credit of the factory, be the sole judge of the fitness of the milk in each can, and cannot be justly accused of partiality, if he often rejects the milk of a patron who once shows an inclination to be careless about its perfect purity. It is the manager's business to discipline them all into taking the best care of their milk, and bringing it to the factory just at the proper time set down in the rules. Those who cannot submit to his orders had better keep their milk at home.

Let our friends in the country who are so fortunate as to have a cheese factory near enough to enable them to dispose of their milk to advantage, have patience, and endeavour to do their best to please the mana-

ger by furnishing an article that is always clean and pure from taint. Wash the cans thoroughly with boiling water as soon as they return from delivering the milk, afterwards rinsing them with pure spring water, and set them upside down to drain. To the manager we would say, be firm yet gentle in all your dealings with your patrons; let no disputes arise, if you would have the factory prove a success; yet at the same time be particular that every can of milk comes up to the full requirements of the rules necessary to be carried out to ensure a first-rate article of cheese being made, for much of the success of the factory will depend on being able always to make an article of cheese that will command a good price and ready sale.

When the farmer has to cool the milk before taking it to the factory, it is usually done by setting the can containing the milk in a tub of cold spring water containing three times the quantity of water that there is of milk in the can. The water must not be higher than 52°, and if a stream of running water can be had, so much the better; and the time taken to cool the milk should not exceed fifty minutes. The top of the can is left open, to allow of the escape of the animal odour from the milk, while cooling. The milk is to be stirred several times during the process. If ice can be had to put round the can in the water, the milk can be cooled more rapidly, and it is believed that the faster the cooling process is accomplished, the better. When the night and morning's milk are to be delivered together, each should be separately cooled as soon as drawn from the cow, before mixing the one with the other.

How to Milk Cows.

The following excellent directions for the proper performance of the operation of milking cows are given by Lewis E. Allen, in his *American Cattle*, and are applicable in the principles inculcated, to all seasons and all dairies:—

All persons reared to farm-labour should know how to milk a cow. So they do, generally, as far as drawing the milk from the udder is concerned. But that is only a part of the process. We have often seen this important labour so dirtily, bunglingly, carelessly, and cruelly done, that we have wished that a milking school could be established to show people how to treat their cows, and get the most milk, and to the best advantage, out of them. As every dairyman ought to know how a cow should be milked, either by ones, twos, or fifties, we have some suggestions to make on the proper and best modes of doing it, both in the treatment of the cows, and the conduct of their milkers.

It has been much too common a way, where several cows are kept, in the grazing season, to drive them into yards, more or less filthy from their droppings, half the time muddy under foot, the cows hunching each other, frequently without sheds or shelter in bad weather, and doing up their work in a