

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TERMS, \$3.00 PER YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

(SINGLE NO. TEN CENTS.)

VOL. XVI NO 24.

ROCHESTER N. Y.—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1865.

{WHOLE NO. 804.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,

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Editor of the Department of Sheep Husbandry.

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The Rural New-Yorker is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the Rural an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it seasonally advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently instructive and entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate Engravings, than any other Journal,—rendering it far the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

AGRICULTURAL.

N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The late meeting of the Executive Board of the New York State Ag'l Society, at Utica, was of more than usual interest. The appointment of the judges for the next Fair, and the final arrangements for the details of the exhibition, are always important, but in addition to these was other business of more than usual interest. The Legislature having at its last session placed the sum of \$5,000 at the disposal of the Society for the purpose of aiding in making a thorough trial of the various implements now used in the prosecution of the labors of the farm, involved the question of the propriety of holding or postponing the trial to another year. As it was too late for a complete trial this year, the subject was postponed until the next meeting, and the money ordered invested in U. S. stocks.

The sentiment among the leading manufacturers is in favor of the trial whenever it can be thoroughly and faithfully done. From this opinion those who are making defective or only second quality machines, dissent, and repudiate the whole thing as a sham. When the trial does take place, it is intended that it shall be so thorough that no man will go away dissatisfied, for we are confident that every exhibitor will have an opportunity to test his implement till perfectly satisfied as to the impartiality and reliability of the judges. No other test would be satisfactory to the public.

A very large and influential body of the cheese makers were present in the person of the officers of the Cheese Makers Association, and proposed to hold a show of cheese under the patronage of the State Society. They proposed to exhibit at least 1,000 cheese from factory and individual dairies, and to make a large cheese, daily, while the Fair continued—no premium to be asked, but the Society should withdraw its published premium list on cheese. A sub-committee of the Executive Board was appointed to confer with the committee of the Association. There was little difficulty in harmonizing all points except one, but upon that they split, and the whole scheme for one of the most magnificent exhibitions of dairy products ever seen, was finally abandoned. The point which became the *sine qua non* was the abandoning the premiums which had been offered and published in the Society's premium list on cheese. Upon that subject the Executive Board fully sustained their sub-committee. They felt that the good faith of the Society was pledged to the performance of the promises which were made in its premium list,—that from that there could legally or morally be no departure under any circumstances:—that if permitted in one case, however desirable the result might be, it would at once open the door for a want of confidence in the faith of the Society, which must ultimately prove disastrous to its prosperity. It was offered to place a proper building at the disposal of the Association, which might be so placarded as to show to the public that they placed their cheese on exhibition only, and not as competitors for any premium. But they would do nothing unless the premium list was withdrawn. So important

was that point deemed by the members of the Association, that one of them said they would not exhibit for \$5,000 unless it could be done. A rather strong compliment to the value of a premium from the State Society.

We regret exceedingly that the exhibition could not have been made, and we think the Association over-estimated the injurious effect of premiums upon single dairies. The magnitude of their show would have entirely eclipsed the show of any and all single dairies, while it would have been so grand and unique as to have given it a world wide reputation. But we are very glad the Executive Board stood fast upon the pledged faith of the Society. Their duty upon that point admits of no question.

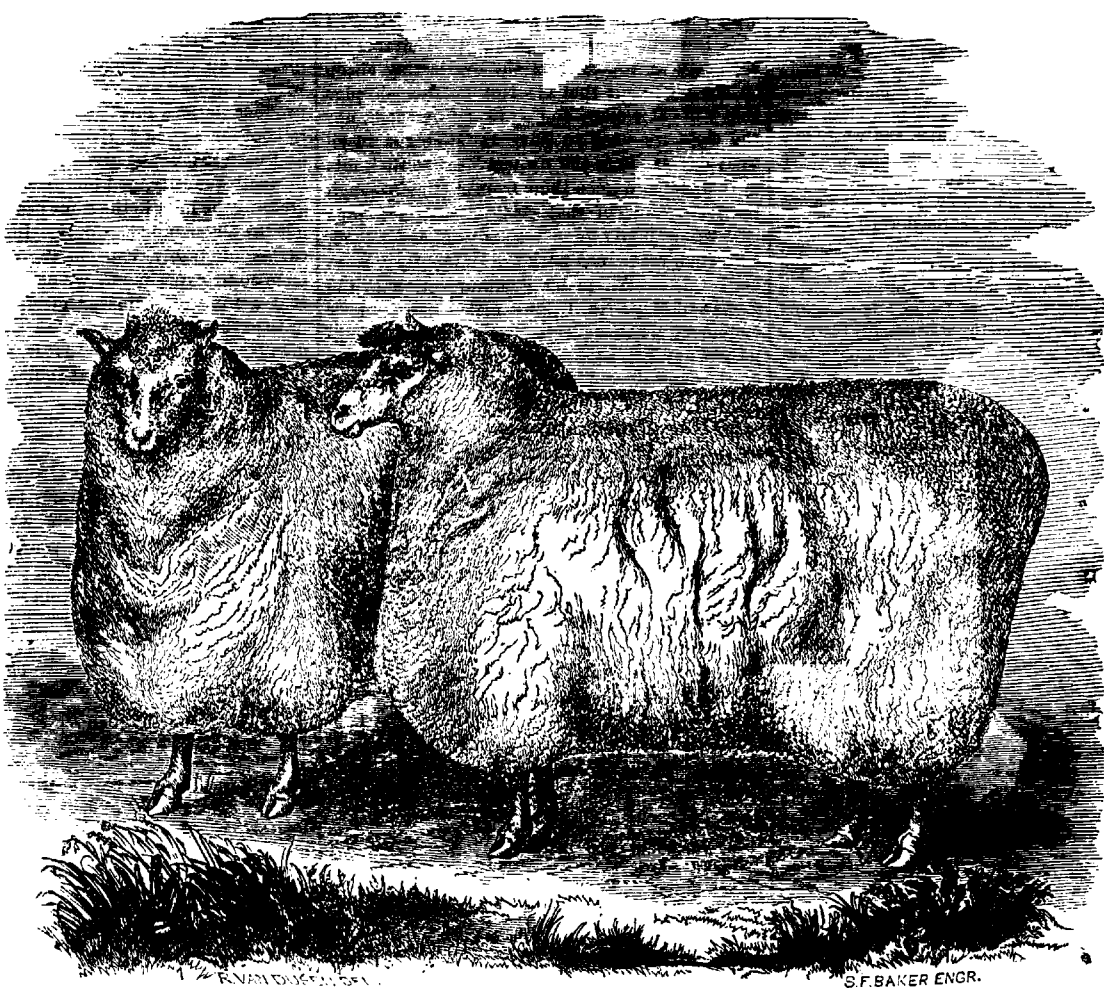
A visit to the Exhibition grounds showed that Mayor BUTTERFIELD will even surpass himself in the completeness of the arrangements for the coming Fair. The public will be much better accommodated than when the Fair was held in Utica two years ago.

CLEAN CULTURE.

MUCH has been said and written upon this subject, yet its importance is unappreciated by farmers generally. The residents of cities and villages, having but a small area of ground for cultivation, see the necessity of keeping it clean and in proper condition. But the great majority of farmers act as if they thought it was a matter of small moment whether they grew grain and roots or weeds. They think (to use a favorite expression,) that "it don't pay" to spend too much time and labor to exterminate the weeds. This is a great mistake. Take the corn crop, for instance. Let one field be kept free from weeds and grass through the entire season, and another be half cultivated—estimate the quantity and quality of the crop—and you will soon see that the clean culture "does pay," and largely too. If the proper course is taken with a field of corn or potatoes, it costs little more to keep it clean than to have it grow up to weeds and grass.

In the first place, many men make a great mistake in plowing the ground too early. Others do not more than half fit for the crop. If it is sod, great care should be taken that it be well plowed—that every particle of grass is turned under. The plowing should not be commenced until near the season of planting; it should then be pushed forward rapidly as possible until completed. Premising that the soil is in proper condition, the roller should immediately follow the plow; then the harrow *lengthwise* of the furrows and next *diagonally*, so as not to disturb the sod. If the weather is favorable and the soil reasonably loose, dry and in good tilth, three thorough harrowings will generally be sufficient. But do not be in haste to introduce the marker. Remember that a good farmer always *hoes* his crop once before it is planted. If he does, very likely that will be the only hoeing it will need. The cultivator and plow will do the rest. As soon as the corn makes its appearance above the ground (or before,) fertilizers should be applied—plaster or wood ashes, or, what is better, both these combined; and as soon as the rows can be distinguished, the cultivator should be started. The old rule used to be to cultivate twice and then hoe, and after the lapse of some weeks, perhaps, this process was repeated. Now, the true way is to have no arbitrary rule about it. *Keep it clean* and the soil mellow, if you have to keep the cultivator going until the corn is tasseled out—and hoe it if necessary. For several years I have not used a hoe after planting, and my rule is, not to have a weed go to seed among my potatoes. In a dry season this result is easily attained. *Hoeing*, in the *skimming* and superficial manner in which it is usually done, does very little good. It is the *deep and frequent* stirring of the soil, with the cultivator, plow, or horse-hoe, that does the business. The importance of it in a dry season cannot be over-estimated. It is folly to sit down and mourn over the *drouth*. Pray for rain if you please,—but by all means keep the cultivator going.

Of course this article is intended to apply to the soil and climate of Western New York, and a part of it is too late to do much good; but it is not too late to improve these hints upon cultivation. The prospect of another dry season makes it the more important. These ideas are not put forth as *new*; their utility has been abundantly proved by many good farmers who, like the writer, have always *preached*, but not always *practiced*, "clean culture."
Batavia, June 1, 1865. P. P. B.



COTSWOLD EWE—ONE YEAR OLD,
Bred by JOHN LANE, Cirencester, England.
Owned by J. J. DODGE, New Lyme, Ashtabula Co., Ohio.

COTSWOLD EWE—ONE YEAR OLD,
Bred by GEORGE MILLER, Markham, Canada West.

Sheep Husbandry.

EDITED BY HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Mr. RANDALL'S address is Cortland Village, Cortland Co., N. Y. All communications intended for this Department, and all inquiries relating to sheep, should be addressed to him as above.

TREATING HOOF-ROT WITH CREOSOTE.

CHARLES A. NASH, No. 11 Waverly Place, New York, a dental surgeon, and a gentleman whose knowledge and accuracy in any statements he makes, can be fully relied on, has sent us an interesting paper on the singularly uniform and valuable effects of creosote on ulcers in all their different stages. After mentioning the mode of application and the results in the case of the humane subject, he says:—"Now, what I propose is to take a sheep affected with hoof-rot, cut a hole in the hoof large enough to remove the maggots and pus, rinse out the cavity, and with a pair of tweezers to introduce a lock of cotton slightly moistened with creosote, then with a sharp pointed stick to apply a little creosote around those parts where cotton cannot be retained, and let the sheep run on dry grass or in a stable. I imagine that no sheep so treated will suffer from hoof-rot or any other putrid disease of the feet. Wherever such sheep tread all innocuous matter would be instantly neutralized and could infect no other animals. While the creosote remained upon the grass, its odor would prevent sheep from eating it, but it would soon pass away without injury to the grass. The operator should handle the cotton and creosote with a small pair of tweezers to prevent the creosote from exerting its escharotic effect upon his hands. Having no sheep of my own to experiment on, of course I do not know positively as to the success of this treatment; but this I do know, that no putridity or ulceration can exist in the tissues when they are treated with creosote. It might be injurious to use cotton completely saturated with it, for it is a strong escharotic agent; but where it is only moistened with it, no harm can result to the foot of the sheep."

We are much obliged to Mr. NASH for these suggestions. The term creosote is derived from two Greek words signifying *flesh* and *I save*. It has the property of preserving meat from putrefaction. Its great value as an escharotic, or caustic, on ulcers on human subjects, has, as al-

ready said, been fully recognized, but we are not aware that it has been much resorted to in similar cases on sheep. We recommend a thorough trial of it in hoof-rot. It cannot produce any bad effects, unless by a too free use of it the tissues of the foot are too much eaten away—and herein the same effects are produced in a still greater degree by nitric, muriatic and other acids, which are constantly applied to sheeps' feet, and, by some, we must say, applied to a most injurious extent. It is both barbarous and hurtful to apply any of these agents to the foot as freely as is often done—so freely, for example, that a number of drops are squeezed out of the swab with which it is applied and which run down into the tissues of the foot and even into the cleft between the toes, destroying sound as well as unhealthy tissues, producing intolerable pain, inflammation, etc. Creosote is a milder caustic than either of the last named acids, but we entirely approve of the care which Mr. NASH recommends in its application. Most farmers are not provided with tweezers, and for external application a small swab on the end of a stick would answer the purpose. This external application is, we are inclined to think, the only one which is very available. There may be instances where it would be advisable merely to puncture the horny covering of the foot and introduce creosote on cotton, as mentioned by Mr. N., but it has always been held that the sheet-anchor of the curing process, in hoof-rot, is completely to denude the diseased parts by cutting away all the horn growing over them; and this, we are inclined to believe, is sound practice. We shall be glad to receive the results of experiments in applying creosote for hoof-rot.

BLEEDING PLACE ON SHEEP.

A FRIEND at Canandaigua writes us:—"You will remember that at the State Sheep Fair you pointed out to myself and others what you termed the German place for bleeding sheep, and you remarked that it was well worth knowing, especially to persons unable or unwilling to bleed from the jugular vein. I mentioned this in a letter to a friend in the West, and he asks me for more particular information. Will you give it to him, both because you can do so better than I, and because if you will do so publicly it will be of great advantage to other persons?" If any one who picks up a sheep's skull, after it is free from its covering, will look at in front, it he will observe two holes, each not far from the size of a goose-quill, between the orbits of the

eyes, and probably from half to three-quarters of an inch from the edges of these orbits. These holes are termed the supra-orbital foramina, and out of them pass the nerves and blood-vessels which supply the forehead. They are found also in the skull of horses, cattle, &c. On the skull of the living sheep, these holes are readily felt by pressing down over them with the point of the finger. They must be felt far from the eye, and a little lower relatively to its apparent orbit, than they appear in the naked skull. A little examination and experience will enable any one to find them readily, and there need be no mistake about it as there are no other such small round depressions to be found on the forehead of a sheep. A slight incision with the point of a sharp knife directly down into one of these cavities, will produce a sufficient discharge of blood for ordinary purposes. It will flow far more freely and rapidly than from bleeding in the ear. As these foramina extend upwards, the knife point encounters their lower bony walls after penetrating but a small distance, and there is not therefore any danger of its going too deep unless a very unnecessary amount of force is applied.

THE BIG-FLEECED TWO-YEAR-OLD.

"OLD ABE," the two-year-old ram belonging to J. P. & W. W. RAY, Honeoye, N. Y., which, at the recent State Sheep Fair, yielded the extraordinary fleece weighing twenty-nine pounds two and a half ounces of wool, (age of fleece eleven months twenty-six days,) was dropped June 1st, 1863. He was got by D. L. HAMILTON's ram of Honeoye, out of a ewe bred by his present owners. His dam was got by a ram bred by CALVIN WARD, from Infanted stock bought by him of WM. R. SANFORD, Vt. She has yielded eleven pounds of wool of eleven months growth. His grand dam was bred by ADNA GIBBS of Livonia, who kept no recorded pedigree, but claimed her to be pure blood Merino, and no doubt is entertained that she is of the Paular family. She used to yield eight or nine pounds of washed wool and raise a lamb. The HAMILTON ram was bred by Mr. STICKNEY of Vermont, and was got by the old ROBINSON ram, out of one of the old ROBINSON ewes. He took the first prize as a yearling at the Penn Yan Sheep Shearing, eight or nine years ago, and has since yielded 24½ pounds of wool of one year's growth. Old Abe yielded twelve pounds for his first fleece. The last year he was housed from all storms; and after October first was fed 1½



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From Rev. S. D. Phelps, D. D., New Haven, Conn. I am greatly pleased with the exquisite and beautiful engraving of the 'Child's Prayer'...

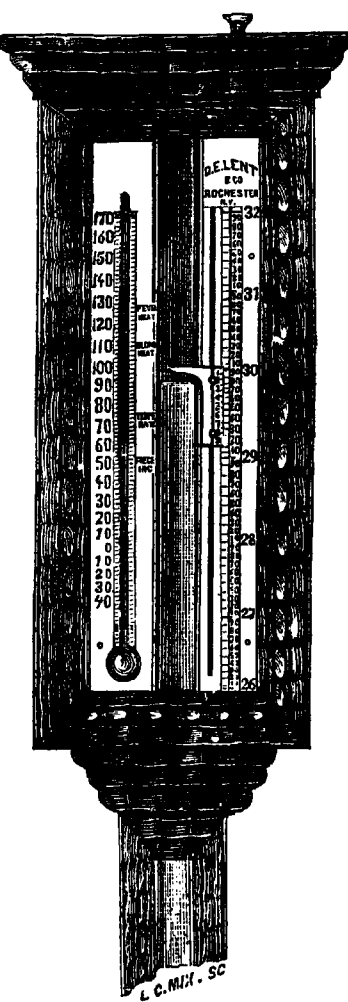
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