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April Meeting of Cecil Farmer's Club.

Club met on Wednesday 23rd inst at the residence of Thos. C. Bond, President H. H. Duyckinck in the chair, E. E. Ewing was elected temporary chairman. Members present, H. H. Duyckinck, E. Noyes, S. R. Carson, W. W. Moore, Enoch McCullough, A. R. Magraw, S. C. Magraw, Jacob Tome. Honorary members, Dr. R. E. Bromwell. Visitors J. W. Reynolds, E. E. Ewing.

Minutes of last meeting read by the Secretary and approved.

Unfinished business called for; none reported. Experiments called for; none had been made. Mr. H. H. Duyckinck was called on to make a report as a delegate from the Club to the Farmers Association of Maryland which met in Baltimore in February last. Mr. Duyckinck made a verbal statement to the Club, remarking that the members were all familiar with the proceedings of that convention through the reports given at the time by the papers. Their delegate had a very enjoyable experience at the convention, where the Agricultural College, and proposed Experimental Station had occupied a prominent part in the proceedings. This led to a desultory conversation among the members of the Club. The expense incurred in attending the convention amounted to \$5.02 which, on motion of Mr. T. C. Bond, the Treasurer, W. W. Moore, was ordered to pay.

Members had no experiments to report, and the President suggested that the present would be a proper time to select subjects on which to make future experiments.

A. R. Magraw proposed to make some experiments with broom corn the present season. E. McCullough asked for information, or the best plan for raising a crop of potatoes. S. R. Carson recommended spreading stable manure on the ground and plowing in; E. Noyes described the Connecticut system, as pursued when he was a boy, which was to plow and prepare the ground, mark out rows, and plant in hills, first putting a shovel full of well rotted manure in each hill, the hills being 2 feet apart in the rows, plant 2 pieces of potatoes to each hill and place a shovel full of manure on each hill. He had seen the finest crops of potatoes raised by this system of culture. Mr. Bond had followed manuring in the row formerly and made about 75 bushels to the acre, but latterly had practiced broad casting the manure on the ground and plowing it in, which method produced much the finer crops. Mr. McCullough related the practice of R. C. Bell who planted the potatoes and spread the manure on top which produced very satisfactory results. Mr. Noyes had applied ashes to his potatoes last season with good results. He thought light sandy loam the best soil for potatoes.

Mr. Tome's method of raising this esculent when he was a farmer boy was, after having the ground well prepared by plowing and harrowing, to furrow out the rows, fill them with manure, drop the potatoes on the manure and cover. Dr. Bromwell's experience, he believed was not valuable; he had succeeded in raising

but 50 to 100 bushels per acre. Mr. Duyckinck thought that more depended upon the ground receiving the benefit of a thorough, good rain exactly at the proper time after the seed was planted, than on the texture of the soil, to insure a paying crop. The host Mr. Bond was called on for an essay, and stated he had followed the prevalent, but questionable practice of presenting an excuse, in lieu of the essay, but that he had selected an article published in the *Farm Journal* which he read for the edification of the Club. This recounted the experience of a "gentleman farmer," entitled "High farmer at Elmwood" who farmed more for pleasure than profit, which practice did not strike the members as the most desirable to imitate.

Mr. Tome has several farms which he manages through croppers, but could not make them pay more than 3 per cent on the investment. Mr. Bond has his farm worked on the same system and could make more from it than by working it himself. Mr. Moore thought that Messrs. Tome and Bond were very painstaking men and kept accurate accounts, and could tell more about the profits of the business than men who are supposed to have received a practical training to the business of farming, with no other branch of industry to occupy their thoughts. Mr. McCullough hadn't made much money by farming. Mr. A. R. Magraw, discussed and pointed out the difference between practical and fancy farming. Mr. Tome thought that now adays, 2 per cent was as much as farming would pay. His contracts with croppers were half the produce of the farm—except poultry—he finding $\frac{2}{3}$ of the fertilizers and $\frac{1}{2}$ the seed. The tenant performing all the labor and delivering his share of produce at depot, or shipping station. He finds all the money to furnish stock cattle, if the tenant has not his part of the capital in hand, charging interest on the loaned half, principal and interest to be paid back by tenant out of sales of the stock.

A. R. Magraw thought the cropper should pay half the tax on the farm. S. C. Magraw believed he was out of pocket when he undertook to do his own farming, and that having the land cropped was most profitable for him. He pays for all fertilizers put on the land. Mr. Noyes found the tenant system very unsatisfactory—gave his experience in Dakota and here. Thought farmers better paid by doing their own farming. Mr. Noyes pays considerable attention to dairy and truck farming and makes more money from these branches of his business than from what is termed general farming. Mr. Duyckinck did not believe that grain farming would pay a cent, but that hay, dairying and poultry, brought all the profit. He receives 30 cents a pound for his butter.

A recess was here taken, and stock and farm buildings examined. Mr. Bond does not carry much farm stock but his cows were in fine condition. His barn is arranged in the most convenient manner, the mangers being all of the box order, and not racks. A pair of Chester White hogs, fat enough for the butcher, elicited encomiums from the visitors. He has a field of excellent wheat, which, how-

ever, is the rule this spring, but the part dressed with stable manure showed its superiority in dark green blades and rank growth over that part of the field that had been treated with S. Rock.

After partaking of a sumptuous dinner, the President rapped the club to order, when criticisms on the farm etc. was pronounced in order. Mr. A. R. Magraw moved that the customary criticisms be dispensed with, which was objected to by Mr. Bond who wished to hear and profit by any suggestions that members might feel called upon to make. Members who had known the place for many years all agreed in the opinion that it had undergone very marked improvement under Mr. Bond's methodical management. Mr. Tome had been acquainted with the farm for 53 years, and the present proprietor since his boyhood, and that both the farm and its proprietor had steadily improved as the years rolled by. W. W. Moore whose acquaintance extended over many of those early days, endorsed all that Mr. Tome said. Dr. Bromwell remarked facetiously that he objected to Mr. Bond's mode of disposing of trees that were to be got out of the way, which was cutting them off and leaving high stumps, but Mr. Bond said that the stumps referred to had been left by his predecessors and he had lifted a number of them out with dynamite, which cost 10 to 20 cents a stump.

M. Bond inquired "what is the best way to fertilize for corn?" Mr. Duyckinck, advised to put the manure on the surface and turn under with a shallow furrow—about 4 inches. The practice is general at present among advanced farmers to plow under all chemical manures for the corn crop. The filling out of the crop is promoted by this practice, the manures applied and the decomposing sod being in the best position and condition to feed the roots of the corn at the period of its maturing.—He preferred Lister Bone. If the corn ground has been plowed before applying the fertilizer, drill it in. By Mr. Tome, "Does lime benefit land?" Mr. Duyckinck had found that where land had been previously limed that South Carolina Rock produced a very beneficial effect. Lime on wheat stubble had always given him good results; about 33 bushels to the acre is as much as it was profitable to apply at one time. He experimented by liming one acre, and watching the result. If it acted well he limed the field, if no benefit was observed he did not apply. Bainbridge lime was preferred, it showing less core and giving a larger bulk of slacked lime than any other.

Mr. Bond said Marion Rawlings had latterly practiced putting his barn yard manure out on sod in the fall, and Mr. Rowland had also adopted this practice with results remarkably favorable. Mr. Moore uses his stable manure on his wheat—spreads it on the oats stubble and plows it under in the old time honored way. It is then out of the way of the drill. Dr. Bromwell related an experiment he had made by putting half of a stock field in oats and allowed the balance to remain uncultivated, and after the oats were taken off the whole field was put in wheat and seeded down to grass. Where the oats had been the grass took much

better than on the stock ground.

The next meeting was appointed to be held at Mr. Adam R. Magraw's on Wednesday, May 19th, and members urged to endeavor to attend. Club adjourned.

Money Raised by a High License.

Will help support the poorhouses, where there are widows and orphans sent there by the dissipations of husbands and fathers. Don't you see? This high tax will help support the prisons in which men are incarcerated for committing crimes while drunk. Don't you see? This high tax will help support the court of oyer and terminer, whose judges and attorneys, and constables, and juries, and police stations, and court rooms find their chief employment in the arraignment, trial and condemnation of those who offend the law while in a state of insobriety. Don't you see? How any man or woman in favor of the great temperance reform can be so hoodwinked as not to understand that this high license movement is a surrender of all the temperance reformation for which good men and woman have been struggling for the last sixty years, is to me an amazement that eclipses everything.

My subject is, "High License, the Monopoly of Abomination." Do you realize, as by mathematical demonstration, that the

ONE RESULT

of this high license movement, and the one result of the closing of small establishments—if that were the result—and the opening of a few large establishments, will be to make rum-selling and rum-drinking highly respectable? These drinkeries in Brooklyn and New York are so disgusting that a man will not risk his reputation by going in them, and if a young man should be found coming out from one of those low establishments he would lose his place in the store. Now, suppose all these small establishments are closed up and that then you open the places of inebriation down on the avenues. It is not the rookeries of alcoholism that do the worst work; they are only the last stopping-places on the road to death. Where did that bloated, ulcerous, wheezing wretch that staggers out of a rum hole get his habits started? At glittering restaurant or bar-room or first-class hotel, where it was fashionable to go. Ah! my friends, it seems to me the disposition is to stop these small establishments, which are only the rash on the skin of the body politic, and then gather all the poison and the pus and the matteration into a few great carbuncles which mean death. I say, give us the rash rather than the carbuncles.

Here you will have

A SPLENDID LIQUOR ESTABLISHMENT.

Masterpiece of painting on the wall. Cut glass on silver platter. Upholstery like a Turkish harem. Uniformed servants to open the door, uniformed servants to take your hat and cane. Adjoining room with luxuriant divan on which you can recline when taken mysteriously ill after too much champagne, cognac, or old Otard. All the phantasmagoria and bewitchment of art thrown around this Herod of massacre, this Moloch of consumed worshippers, this Juggernaut of crushed millions.

Do you not see that this high license movement strikes at the heart of the best homes in America? that it proposes the fattest lambs for its sacrifice? that it is at war with the most beautiful domestic circles in America? Tell it to all the philanthropists who are trying to make the world better, and let journalists tell it by pen and type that this day in the presence of my Maker and my Judge I stamp on this high-license movement as the monopoly of abomination. It preposes to pave with honor, to pillar with splendor, and guard with monopolists advantage a business which has made the ground hollow under England, Scotland and America with catacombs of slaughtered drunkards.—*Talmage.*

John P. Vennamen and Wm. Heald of Post Deposit are about to open a commission house in Baltimore.

With the flowers of spring the Sunday Schools in country places are again opening, while the Lyceums are closing. The latter seem to be a cold weather institution.

Value of a Mellow Soil.

One of the members of the Elmira Farmers' Club stated, at a recent meeting of the Club, that the best crop of potatoes he ever had was on land which he cultivated and plowed eight times. Thorough and deep pulverization is especially valuable as a preparation for planting potatoes. We have found that a single subsoil with a light two-horse subsoil plow, in addition to the ordinary plowing, increased the crop of tubers from 25 to 30 per cent. If the season happened to be dry, it prevented the effects of drouth; if it was wet, it received and held the surplus water till wanted. An old farmer, in past years, was asked the secret of his uniformly luxuriant crops. He replied: "I tell my men to harrow the ground till they think it is harrowed twice as much as it ought to be, and I then tell them it is not harrowed half enough." Everything else was of course preformed in the same thorough manner.

Paying for a Dead Horse.

Complaint was laid before Squire Abrahams Saturday evening by Mrs. Sallie Boyd, an aged widow lady living near Battle Swamp, that her horse had been wantonly shot and killed by a young man of the neighborhood named Eden Jackson. Jackson and a friend named Smith were passing along the road in a convivial condition, shouting and firing pistols. The horse, which was frightened by the noise, broke from its fastenings, and as it passed down the road Jackson put a bullet from his revolver through its body killing it almost instantly. A warrant was placed in the hands of Constable J. D. White, and he, accompanied by Officer J. M. Creswell, went to Craigtown, where Jackson lives, and attempted to arrest him but failed. On Monday morning Jackson voluntarily appeared before Squire Abrahams, where he was met by Mrs. Boyd, and the case was compromised by the payment of \$80, the value of the horse, by Jackson to Mrs. Boyd.

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