

The Farmers' Column.

FARMERS' CLUBS.

A correspondent whose farm is across the Ohio river, opposite Paducah, Kentucky, writes:—"My neighbors are desirous of forming a Farmers' Club. They have called on me to assist them. Can you furnish some rules and regulations, a constitution, &c., to govern and give us a start?"

We gladly comply with this request, believing that every organization of the kind cannot fail to be interesting and profitable, and hoping that the suggestions we make may be adopted in other places. No farmer can have been in the business many years without making some valuable observations or experiments, which may be useful to others, and when he and several more impart what they have thus learned, all are benefited to a large extent. The object of a Club is to draw out this information, and stimulate to new efforts. This intercourse of neighbors is attended with additional advantages; they become better acquainted with each other, feel more interest in each other's success, and become more accustomed to telling directly to the point what they know, and the secretaries and reporters improve in ready writing in taking notes. In winter, when the meetings are held once a week in the evening, they become interesting social gatherings if small, and instructive meetings if large. While imparting knowledge, they stimulate a desire for more. Five or six active and punctual farmers may start a Club of this kind and carry it on successfully. When a larger number meet, their gatherings assume more of the character of public meetings. In either case, there should be a full organization and a regular order of proceeding. If there is not a regular order adopted, a few of the most talkative will be apt to engross most of the time, and the rest, more bashful and listening at first, will soon begin to whisper and afterward talk louder to their next neighbors, and theassembly will finally become a confused assembly, and hence the importance of a good chairman, and order in discussion.

The first thing to do in organizing a Club is to discuss the matter with neighbors and agree to meet at a place provided and agreed on. Those who are the most active, energetic and successful in managing their farms, and who keep every thing in the best order, will be there nearest the appointed hour, but they will have to wait a few minutes for the more feeble and lagging. Appoint a courteous but prompt chairman, and a ready secretary. Then move the adoption of a constitution, which may be like the following, with any variation which local circumstances may seem to require:

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be called the ——— Farmers' Club, and its object shall be to increase knowledge and impart success in farming, fruit raising, and gardening.

ART. 2. Its officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer—who together, shall constitute a Board of Directors, to attend to all business not otherwise provided for. They shall be chosen annually, on the —— day of ——, by ballot.

ART. 3. The Club shall hold regular weekly meetings during the long evenings of autumn and winter, and monthly meetings in spring and summer.

ART. 4. Any citizen of —— may become a member by signing the constitution, and paying one dollar annually into the treasury.

ART. 5. The constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any meeting, of which notice shall be given at the next previous meeting.

The form we have here given may be varied by omitting the vice-president and treasurer, if the club is small and has no admission fee; or there may be two or more vice-presidents, and a regular Reporter added, if the association is large, and a summary of the discussion is to be published in a local or agricultural paper. Such a report would give character, importance and usefulness to the club, and and should be adopted where there is sufficient material for it, and a ready reporter, who is skillful in sifting out good matter, can be found. If there is enough strength in it to hold a Fair once a year, its reputation and usefulness would be still further increased.

Each meeting should be specially devoted to one or more subjects for discussion; and in order to prevent any balk or failure, one of the members, who may be well informed on the subject, should be appointed beforehand or at a previous meeting to open the discussion. He may do this verbally, or by reading a practical essay on the subject, which should not exceed fifteen minutes in length. Or, selections may be read from the *Country Gentleman*, appropriate to the occasion. This opening will suggest many questions, remarks, and details of experiments from other members, and these will serve to bring out much valuable information. There will be no difficulty in finding subjects enough, after the organization is well under way; but it may be well to name a few by way of example.

Draining—how best performed, the results of experience, and advantages.

Rotation of crops—examples, &c.

What animals bring the most money for the food they consume?

Farm implements.

Application of manure.

Arrangement of farm buildings.

Dairy management.

Management of pastures.

Best way to raise corn, wheat, &c.

Apples, management of orchards, marketing, &c.

Ground and unground feed for animals.

During the summer season, interesting and instructive FIELD MEETINGS may be held once a month. One or more farms of the members are visited, the modes of cultivation and management examined and commented on, and suggestions made for improvement. No doubt some will feel reluctant to have neighbors see their weedy crops and broken gates, but a prospect of such a visit will stimulate them to improve, and besides this, they will get help and assistance by way of many valuable suggestions. This practice would, in the course of a few years, effect a great improvement in the appearance of the farming. It will be at the option of the visited whether they give a collation, which, if the weather is pleasant, may be under the shade of trees, and may consist of strawberries in early summer, or peaches, pears or watermelons at later periods. Altogether, these occasions may become interesting and beneficial, and have a greatly improving effect on the neighborhood.—*Country Gentleman.*

BACKBONE.

When you see a fellow mortal
Without fixed and fearless views,
Hanging on the skirts of others,
Walking in their cast-off shoes,
Bowing low to wealth or favor,
With abject, uncovered head,
Ready to retract or waver,
Willing to be drove or led;
Walk yourself with firmly bearing,
Throw your moral shoulders back,
Show your spine has nerve and marrow—
Just the thing which his must lack.
A stronger word
Was never heard
In sense and tone
Than this, *backbone.*

When you see a theologian
Hugging close some ugly creed,
Fearing to reject or question
Dogmas which his priest may read,
Holding back all noble feeling,
Choking down each manly view,
Caring more for forms and symbols
Than to know the Good and True;
Walk yourself with firmer bearing,
Throw your moral shoulders back,
Show your spine has nerve and marrow—
Just the things which his must lack.
A stronger word
Was never heard
In sense and tone,
Than this, *backbone.*

When you see a politician
Crawling through contracted holes,
Begging for some fat position,
In the ring, or at the polls,
With no sterling manhood in him,
Nothing staple, broad or sound,
Destitute of pluck or ballast,
Double-sided all around;
Walk yourself with firmer bearing,
Throw your moral shoulders back,
Show your spine has nerve and marrow—
Just the thing which his must lack.
A stronger word
Was never heard
In sense and tone,
Than this, *backbone.*

A modest song and plainly told—
The text is worth a mine of gold;
For many men most sadly lack
A noble stiffness in the back.

The Private Life of Washigton.

[From the Cincinnati Commercial.]

It was John Adams who wrote, as late as the year 1813, "the impious idolatry to Washington destroyed all character." The allusion was to the period of his own administration, when he took the Presidency, encumbered, as he taught, with the hyperbolical veneration which had been felt for his predecessor. On the other hand deliberately formed of Washington in these words:

"His mind was great and powerful, without being of the first order, and, as far as he saw, no judgment was ever sounder. It was slow in operation, but sure in conclusion. He was incapable of fear. Perhaps the strongest feature in his character was prudence. His integrity was most pure, his justice the most inflexible I have ever known, no motives of interest or consanguinity, of friendship or hatred, being able to bias his decision. He was, indeed, in every sense of the word, a wise, a good, and a great man. His temper was naturally irritable and high-toned, but reflection and resolution had obtained a firm and habitual ascendency over it. If ever, however, it broke its bonds, he was most tremendous in his wrath. His heart was not warm in its affections. His colloquial talents were not above mediocrity, possessing neither copiousness of ideas nor fluency of words. In public, when called on for a sudden opinion, he was unready, short, and embarrassed. Yet he wrote readily, rather diffusely, in an easy and correct style."

This masterly analysis of Washington's character, by the most subtle and penetrating intellect of his times, and one who had known him intimately for thirty years, may be accepted with the more confidence as it comes from the head of an opposite school of politics. No difference of opinion, however wide and irreconcilable, could prevent Jefferson from doing impartial justice to the great qualities of Washington.

Some characteristic traits in the daily habits of this first of Presidents may be here noted, as derived from a variety of scattered sources. Washington was always particular and remarkably neat in his personal apparel. During his Presidency he usually wore a full black velvet suit, with silk stockings, and shoes with buckles of shining silver. His hair was powdered and died in an elegant black queue behind. He kept extraordinarily early hours, making it his habit, as well in the Presidency as in the army and at Mount Vernon, to rise at four o'clock in the morning and to retire to bed at nine. He had a healthy man's enjoyment of the pleasures of the table. Though at no time of his life of convivial habits, he liked the cheerful converse of the social board, and at dinner (which he always had punctually served at three o'clock), he drank to the health of every person present, giving as his one invariable toast: "All our friends." He ate heartily, but as not particular in his diet, except as to fish, of which he was very fond, and he always ate codfish for his Saturday's dinner, having, formed an attachment to that article of diet from the deliciously cooked fish he found in Boston during the New England campaign. He drank homemade beer, with four or five glasses of Madeira wine, every day at dinner. He indulged in no games of chance, except when required to make up a party at whist, in playing for a trifle. In his earlier life he was fond of dancing, and the last time he danced a minuet was a grand ball at Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1781, in honor of the French and American officers returning from the triumphant siege of Yorktown. Tobacco, in all its forms, Washington abhorred. He was not fond of music, nor did he either play or sing.

The finest horseman of his day, Washington always spent much of his time in the saddle. He had a love for a fine horse, and his care to secure animals of the most spirited breed, and to have them always scrupulously well groomed, was a marked trait in his character. The vicious propensities of any horse he might mount were of no moment to this daring and skilful rider. He always said that he required but one good quality in a horse—to go along—and ridiculed the idea that he could ever be unhorsed, provided the animal kept on his legs.—While President his stables were on Minor street, below Sixth, and he kept ten fine bays and two white chargers. The latter always had their hoofs blacked and polished before the General would mount for a ride. After the horses were groomed he would test the thoroughness of the stable boys by applying a muslin handkerchief to their glossy coats; if the slightest stain was visible upon the white handkerchief, woe to the unlucky wight who had slighted his proper duty.—When he took out Mrs Washington for a drive they rode in a beautiful cream colored coach, English build, with six spanking bay horses before it.

Nothing so aggravated Washington's naturally quick temper as neglect of duty or want of punctuality. Col. Pickering relates that on occasion of a Cabinet meeting the General was likely to be obtained by the shoeblack beyond the exact time. The Secretaries, in proceeding to the appointed room for the meeting, had to pass a small chamber where the President's boots were to have been placed by a certain moment. As Pickering entered he observed Washington in a stooping posture, holding the servant and belaboring him stoutly with his boots. He would always be up by daylight, and his first care was to visit his stable to see how the horses were cared for. On one such occasion he found that the coach horses, which had come home late, had not had their legs rubbed down the mud being still on them. The General was seen, by one who informed Mrs Robert Morris, to seize his Germen coachman, and to fisticuff him in the yard with a good drubbing.

The English officers after the war were all loud in their praise of Washington's admirable and commanding grace on horseback, and it was a common remark that he said his horse moved but as one.

Washington never indulged in anecdote, and talked but little unless drawn out. He seldom laughed, and it was remarked by Sullivan that, at Mrs. Washington's levees, when surrounded by a bevy of sparkling and beautiful girls, the President never unbent or dressed his face in smiles. The countenance of Washington never softened nor changed its habitual gravity. At these levees he stood always in front of the fireplace, with his face toward the door or entrance. The visitor was conducted to him, and he required always to have the name so distinctly pronounced that he could hear it. He received every visitor with a dignified bow, while his hands were so disposed as to indicate that the salution was not to be accompanied with shaking hands. As the visitors came in they formed a circle around the room. At a quarter past three the door was always closed, and the circle was formed for that day. He then began on the right, and spoke to each visitor, calling him by name, and exchanging a few words with him.—When he had completed his circuit of the room he resumed his first position, and the visitors approached him in succession, bowed and retired. By four o'clock in the evening the levee was over.

In the *Ana* of Mr. Jefferson we find the following curious account of Washington's first Presidential reception at New York in 1789:

"E. Randolph tells J. Madison and myself a curious fact which he had from Lear (Washington's Private Secretary.) When the President went to New York he resisted for three weeks the efforts to introduce levees. At length he yielded, and left it to Humphreys and some others to settle the form. Accordingly an antechamber and presence-room were provided, and when those who were to pay their court were assembled the President set out, preceded by Humphreys. After passing through the inner chamber the door of the inner room was thrown open, and Humphreys entering first, calling out with a loud voice, 'The President of the United States.' The President was so much disconcerted with it that he did not recover from it the whole time of the levee, and when the company was gone said to Humphreys, 'Well, you have taken me in once, but, by God, you never shall take me in a second time.'"

Daily Life of Lee.

General Lee, like most great men, was an early riser, always, winter and summer, leaving the bed before sun-rise.—His toilet was soon completed, for although a man remarkable for the neatness of his attire, he was also equally remarkable for its simplicity. After the completion of his toilet, a Christian duty—and one which he never neglected—was performed, that of praying to Heaven for guidance and assistance during the day. Descending to the sitting-room, the bell was rung which summoned the members of his household to family prayers, which the General always conducted himself.—Breakfast then followed—a light and frugal meal, for the General was never a large eater. Breakfast over, he repaired to the college chapel—which he insisted upon having built as soon as he was elected President—where all the students assembled for prayers, which was conducted by the college chaplain. He then went to his office, and devoted the remainder of the morning to college business—conducting the correspondence of, and exercising a general supervision over the affairs of the college. When the hour for dinner arrived, he returned to his home. This meal was seldom eaten alone by Lee and his family, for he was the most hospitable of gentlemeu and the most genial of hosts, and any acquaintance who came to Lexington, or stranger who arrived with letters of introduction, was always invited to a seat at his board. After dinner, his old and highly prized battle charger, and a gentle steed bearing a lady's saddle, were brought to the door, and the General accompanied by one or the other of his daughters, would start out for their evening ride. The General was fond of horse-back riding, and those acquainted with his habits while the army, will readily imagine that but short time elapsed after his arrival in Lexington before he became perfectly familiar with every road and bridle path in the vicinity of the town. Nor was he more familiar with the roads and bye-paths than he was with the people who lived upon them. The farmers, laborers in the field, and the little children on their way to school, soon knew and loved the fond General and were his acquaintances and his friends.—After tea the scene in Gen. Lee's sitting-room was well worth witnessing. Around the table were gathered the General and his family. The General, always fond of reading was engaged with his books and papers. Mrs. Lee, whom General Pendleton describes as the noblest of women and a fit wife for such a husband, was reading or painting. (Mrs. Lee has been a cripple from rheumatism for eight years and had to be wheeled about in a chair.)—Seated near were his daughters—the Misses Lee—generally engaged in needle work. When reading and work grew tiresome, they were put aside and the conversation ensued until bed-time. When the hour arrived evening prayers were held and the General then retired to rest.



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The Sun.

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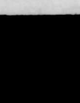
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Feb. 25, 1871—y.



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CHEAP GOODS!

Great reduction in Mattings, Carpets, Oil Cloths, French, English and American Dry Goods. All Wool Cassimeres, 65 cents to $1.50 per yard; Granadines, 31 cents, reduced to 16⅔ cents per yard. Beautiful lot of Dress Goods, 40 cents, marked down to 25 cents per yard: they are the Cheapest Goods in Town. We will sell the cheapest Dress Goods, Hosiery, Gloves, Fancy and White Goods ever offered in this market.

Cheapest Calicoes, Muslins and Sheeting are now offered by *Wm. A. Vickers.*

Hats & Caps.

The Largest Stock in Kent county, and we have marked them down

At Very Low Prices!

BOOTS & SHOES.

Home made! Nice Goods for Ladies and Children. Men's cheap Heavy Balmorals, high cut, only $2.25; as cheap as any $300. Shoe we have seen this season. offered by *Wm. A. Vickers.*

ESPECIAL NOTICE.

The great reduction in prices of all kinds of Goods, we announce in to-day's paper, is for the want of money. We have heavy demands to meet, and will thank our friends for as early settlements as they can, to enable us to meet our immediate wants. Cash buyers, and punctual paying customers, will find it to their interest to examine the greatest bargains ever offered in Chestertown.

Respectfully,

WM. A. VICKERS.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS!!

Call and examine my stock of Tinware, Stoves, Hardware, Woodware, Japanned Ware, Stone Ware, &c., &c., received direct from Importers and Manufacturers, and for sale at SMALL PROFITS.

HARDWARE.

Two, three, and four prong forks, shovels, spades, hoes, rakes, post spades, grain scoops, bramble scythes, briar hooks, trace chains, breast, back and halter chains, brass and iron chain by the yard, carriage, plow and tire bolts by the hundred or dozen, from 15 to 100 cts. per dozen; barrelbolts; tower nicked, flush and shutter bolts, rip and cross cut saws, pruning, meat, back, [illegible] keyhole, web and wood saws of Disten, [illegible] and Brown's manufacture; large nails, cut, wrought, finishing, clout, fence, and galvanized nails, by the pound or keg; horse shoe nails, tacks, galvanized tacks, carriage tacks, pump & carpet tacks, curry combs, sad irons, augurs, post augurs, Coops, Pugh and Bright lip augur bits, wood and iron braces, iron and steel squares, try squares, rules, guages, framing and firmer chisels, gouges, levels, compasses, compass dividers, hooks and staples, staples, brass screw rings, hand-rail screws, screws from ¼ inch to 8 inches; screw drivers, smoothing, jack and fore planes, plane bits, one and two foot rules; tin, iron and plated tea and table spoons; a large assortment of knives and forks, carvers, ivory handle tea and table knives; strap and T hinges, hooks and hinges, Mayer's, Tull & Porter, and Seymor window blind butts, table, parliament and brass hinges, acorn butts, knob locks, plate, pad, rim, dead, trunk, till, wardrobe, chest, drawer, and jail pad locks, hat and coat hooks, thumb latches, door latches, barn door latches, brass and lead spickets, molasses gates, coal oil spickets, tap borers, mill saw, bastard, round, half-round, taper and saw files, horse rasps, monkey wrenches, carpenters' and shoe pincers, round and flat nippers, bed and plate castors, door bells, farm bells, frame and axle pulleys, drawer pulls, shutter and blind fasteners, turn buckles, gimlets, window springs, hooks and eyes, closet latches, sash fasteners, wad cutters, gun worms, heads, tubes and caps, brass and iron buttons, pad, cabinet and door locks, keys, taper files, chest handles, door stops, harness awls and needles, cow bells, coffee mills, axle clips, tea scales, brick, plaster and garden trowels, hatchets, hammers, post axes, hand and broad axes; a large assortment of scissors, razors, brushes, strap with hone, harness hooks, porcelain-head picture nails, copper rivets and burs, punches, porcelain shutter knobs, glue kettles, stew pans, tobacco cutters, pruning knives and shears, saw sets, wagon and cart boxes, &c., &c., &c.

WOOD WARE.

Tubs, buckets, churns, wood bowls, wash boards, well buckets, sugar and coffee boxes, brooms, baskets, potato mashers, rolling pins, butter prints and paddles, lemon squeezers, safes, dust, scrub, horse, wall, paint & white wash brushes, fork, spade, broom, shovel, awl, saw, chisel, plane, augur, hatchet and ax handles, &c., &c.

J. K. ALDRIDGE.

Chestertown, April 1, 1871.

BENJAMIN STRAUSS'
CLOTHING HOUSE,
Cor. of High and Cross sts.,
Chestertown, Md.

CONSTANTLY ON HAND A FULL SUPPLY OF
Fashionable and seasonable
CLOTHING.
SUITS MADE TO ORDER
OF THE BEST MATERIALS, AND IN CITY STYLE.

Jan. 7, 1871—y.

NEW GOODS.
June 10th, 1871.
T. W. ELIASON, JR.,
DRY GOODS, NOTIONS,
HOSIERY, HARDWARE,

LADIES, MISSES, CHILDRENS', INFANTS', GENTS AND BOYS'
PLAIN and FANCY BOOTS & SHOES,
FLOOR AND TABLE OIL CLOTHS, WINDOW OIL CLOTH CURTAINS, MATTINGS, &c.

T. W. ELIASON, JR.,

HAS just received from Philadelphia and Baltimore markets a large assortment of the above Goods, purchased at the lowest net cash prices, and offered for sale at a moderate advance upon cost.

He respectfully invites the attention of his customers and the public generally to his stock of Goods. [June 10, 1871.

NOTICE.
Cut this out and keep it for Reference.

WHEN YOU VISIT THE CITY GO TO
W. H. RINGGOLD'S,
95 N. Charles Street,
AND BUY ALL YOUR
UNDER SHIRTS AND DRAWERS,
HOSIERY AND GLOVES,
NOTIONS AND FANCY GOODS.
He can sell them
Cheaper than any one!
And you can
Pay your expenses in your purchases!

☞ DON'T FAIL TO GO: HE HAS THE VERY ARTICLE YOU WANT.

Do not forget the Number!

W. H. RINGGOLD,

95 N. Charles st., 3 doors South of Mulberry.

Baltimore, Sept. 24, 1870.

BUY THE FIRST NATIONAL WHITE LEAD. It is the cheapest, most durable and brilliant of any Lead in the market. For sale by
C. F. STAM & BRO.,
May 6, 1871—y. Chestertown, Md.

TWIN BROTHERS YEAST CAKES,
THE BEST RISING NOW IN USE. it never sours.
June 17. *C. F. STAM & BRO.*

A LARGE assortment of Tin Ware, Japanned Ware, Toilet Sets, Stamped Ware, &c. J. K. ALDRIDGE.

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