Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., August 29, 1890.

Farm Notes.

Pen up your wethers and make them fat before selling them, by feeding them grain liberally.

Experiment stations ought to show the world before long what are the best modes for wintering apples, says an exchange.

The New York *Tribune* says; "Planting young trees to grow into living fence-posts is making the posts dig their own holes and set themselves."

Sprinkle currant bushes well with water, says the New York *Tribune*, and then dust thoroughly with fine coal ashes. This drives off the currant worm.

The hens that are shedding their feathers (molting) need very nourishing food, as the process is debilitating, and often results fatally.

The farmer who grows grass has the most valuable aid to be desired. With grass as a foundationthere should be no limit to the capacity of a farm to produce crops.

Pine tar is harmless and costs but little. Apply it to the troughs from which sheep drink. A small quantity of it on the noses of sheep will defend them against the gad fly.

Leave a patch of turnips in the ground for a supply of spring greens. If covered with straw and cornstalks the turnips will keep in the ground all winter and begin growth early in the spring.

Parchment paper is the right thing for wrapping butter in. It will not stick, is air-proof, water-proof, tasteless and oderless, besides being cheaper and cleaner than cloth.

Use up all the old straw before beginning on the new. Cut it up fine with the fodder-cutter and make bedding of it, and when it is added to the manure heap it will decompose easily and also assist in absorbing liquids.

Stagnant water kills a great many fruit trees, and still they need a great deal of water, says an exchange. A well-drained soil, through which an excess of water readily passes, is the best undoubtedly' if well cultivated.

Fruits that propagate from suckers should always be planted where the grower can get all around them—never against a fence or in a garden corner. Neglect of this precaution will soon insure a thicket, says a writer.

To prevent insects from depositing their eggs upon plants when in flower, spray the latter with a solution of one part of vinegar to ten parts of water. This treatment has given excellent results at the School of Arboriculture at Lyons.

Ripening cream does not mean rotting it. Cream that stands until the whey begins to separate is simply rotten cream, and butter made from it is spoiled beforehand, and of course has neither quality nor life. A word to the wise is sufficient.

The enterprising fruit-grower will visit other orchards than his own as opportunity offers, says a writer. When he finds things better than at home it inspires him to greater effort; when his own orchard appears the best it makes him feel satisfied and contented.

Mr. Samuel B. Green, in *Farm and Fireside*, says this upon the subject of mulching orchards; "The best mulch is a loose top soil. Any material spread over the surface induces the small roots to come to the top, stimulates to a late fall growth, and damages the next crop."

Both the stallion and the bull will be more serviceable for breeding purposes if made to take exercise in the shape of useful work of some kind. If the bull will not work in the shafts, or by the side of an ox, put him on the tread machine to furnish power for the cutter or feed-mill.

Remove all surplus honey at the close of the honey season if intended for market. Comb honey will become solid if left in the hives during the summer. The upper stories or surplus chambers should be left in the hives throughout the hot weather and until feeding is done in the fall.

Look out for late swarms! The bees may be lacking in stores and are liable to swarm out and leave. They must be supplied with honey or united with other colonies. Also look out for queenless colonies at this time of the season. If colonies are left queenless any length of time robbers will destroy them.

It is not always the best and most elaborate poultry-houses that shelter the choicest stock. Success, however, mainly depends on warm, dry coops, with proper care and management and freedom from overcrowding. This latter trouble is often the cause of ill-success. If you wish a healthy flock keep few in a pen.

The guinea is a very useful fowl, notwithstanding their peculiarities. In their wanderings over the farm they destroy numerous insect enemies and weed-seeds, and do little damage to crops by scratching and eating. They lay a large number of eggs, which, though small, are of good quality and nutritious.

Manure is simply food that has undergone a change in the body of the animal. If food be thrown on the ground it will become manure to the soil and give beneficial effects; but the advantage in feeding the food to animals is that the food is sooner decomposed within the body of the animal, and therefore more immediately assumes that form by which it is taken up by plants. It also undergoes a further process of decomposition in the soil after it has passed through the animal. The more thoroughly decomposed the manure the more readily it is assimilated by plants.

While corn is, perhaps, the cheapest grain that can be fed to hogs, yet it is not the best. Wheat middlings and bran make better pork than will corn.

The practice of allowing grass and weeds to grow in the corn rows after the ears are formed is unwise. The corn land should be kept clean until the crop is harvested. Every weed that grows robs the corn of just that proportion of plant food and prevents larger ears and heavier grain, as well as distributing the seeds for a crop of weeds next season.

THE PONDEROUS CENTENNIAL OX.—The Centennial ox, bred by Samuel Barkley, of Somerset County, Penna., was the largest specimen of the bovine the world has ever seen. He weighed 4-900 pounds the day he arrived in Philadelphia. This mountain of beef was of mixed stock, being Shorthorn, Native "Scrub" and Ayreshire, the Shorthorh predominating. After the exhibition was ended the giant ox was butchered and exhibited as "show beef"—*New York Dispatch.*

CREAM TOAST--Cut slices of stale light bread—baker's if you have it—into rounds with a cake cutter, leaving not a bit of crust. Toast to a fine yellow brown. A scorched or blackened crumb is fatal to the excellence of the dish. Butter while hot, sprinkle lavishly with salt, lay in a bowl, silver or stout ware that will stand fire and pour scalding milk in until the toast is covered two inches deep. Set covered in an open fire for five minutes. By this time the milk should all be absorbed. Lift each slice carefully with a broad knife far enough to pour over it a tablespoonful of cream. Taste a crumb to be sure the seasoning is right. Most people make milk toast too fresh. Salt again, if necessary, cover closely and return to a moderate oven for ten minutes. Serve in the bowl, if it is presentable; if not, transfer carefully to a heated china bowl or saucer. The toast will be tender, puffy, relishful and exceedingly digestible.

Country Newspaper Publishers.

Many people think country newspaper men are persistent dunners. But by way of comparison, let us suppose that a farmer raises 1,000 bushels of wheat a year, and sells this out to 1,000 persons in all parts of the country, a great portion of them saying: "I will hand you a dollar in a short time." The farmer don't wan't to be small and will say all right. Soon the 1,000 bushels are gone, but he has nothing to show for it, and then he realizes that he has frittered away his whole crop and that its value to him is due him in a thousand little driblets, consequently he is seriously inconvenienced, because his debtors, each owing only $1, treat it as a small matter, and think it would not help much. Continue this kind of business year in and year out as the publisher does, how long would the farmer stand it?

Old Hickory's Pronunciation.

President Andrew Jackson's education had been so much neglected that he did not even believe that the world is round; and his ignorance of pronunciation often led him to direct the direst vengeance on the English language. Among the words that he was accustomed to stretch upon the rack was the word "developement." On a certain occasion, when he was conversing, during his Presidency, with a foreign minister, the latter noticing his erroneous pronunciation of the word, embraced the opportunity to use it himself, giving it correctly. Old Hickory's quick senses were instantly on the alert, and his intense patriotism and unrivaled pluck were both in arms against what he considered this unwarrantable foreign interference with American pronunciation. So he at once used the word again—"devil-ope-ment"—with an "ope" which could not be mistaken even by ambassadorial ears. But the foreign functionary, determined to play the schoolmaster to the end, once more took occasion to speak of the developement of something or other. That was a little too much for Old Hickory. "See here, Mr. Ambassador," he exclaimed, "you may say 'de-vel-opment' as often as you please, but I shall always say devil-ope-ment as long as the memory of my old teacher (and here he he gave his teacher's name) remains green!"

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