

## FARMERS' COLUMN.



From the American Agriculturalist for Jan. 1.

### Suggestions as to what to do for the Season.

Farmers, Gardeners, Stock-raisers, Fruit-growers and others, are no less "farmers" than are the makers of cloth, and of a thousand other products resulting from the application of labor and skill to raw materials. By mechanically preparing the soil, sowing seed, cultivating and gathering, we obtain grain, hay, cotton, grass, roots, vegetables, fruits and flowers, from the raw material in the soil and the elements supplied by air and water—added by the sun's heat and light. From the grass, hay, grain and roots we manufacture meats and dairy products, using animals as the machines. After obtaining the perfected results, the products become merchandise or traders when exchanging the surplus, not needed in home consumption, for money or other articles. Dealers, shippers, transporters, exporters and importers, increase the value of raw or manufactured materials by taking them from the places where they are least wanted to those where they are more wanted.

In brief, all the above classes are occupied in producing articles of value from things of no intrinsic value, as grain from mold of the soil, or in increasing the value of articles of value from things of no value. And all are equally pursuing a law-abiding occupation, and they and their work are all honorable. If they are equally honest and industrious, all the tasks, or equally honorable, about the occupation of a merchant, or manufacturer, or importer, being higher or more honorable or even more desirable than that of a farmer, are fallacious and misleading. The glare and glamour arising from the fact that now and then a merchant, not one in a thousand, secures a large wealth by a favorable combination of circumstances and by extensive operations, should not blind us to the fact that, in proportion to the numbers engaged, a hundred times more farmers than merchants advance to independence if not to great wealth. Ninety-five out of every hundred who enter upon a mercantile life fail, or do not rise above the conditions of drudging employees, with bare subsistence not one whit better than is enjoyed by the lowest farm laborer. While on the contrary few who earnestly follow agricultural pursuits fail to secure, at least comfortable food and clothing and lodging for themselves and families.

The false notions, above indicated, are a great bar to the success in farming and kindred pursuits. We expect the man, farmer and merchant to put into practice business habits and ideas, to study into the uses made and appliances, to be wide awake to what others are doing in the same line. But somehow, not always properly admitted or allowed, the farmer and his family harbor the idea, and unfortunately act upon it, that their occupation is of a lower grade, a sort of inferior manual labor employment, endured as a necessity rather than from choice—a machine life, affording little opportunity for exercising thought, skill, enterprise, study, improvement, or for the eminent success that comes to other pursuits. As a rule, they are severely prejudiced. If a son has an opening in a merchant's establishment, or a daughter is affianced to the son of a family in mercantile pursuits, this false feeling is a drag upon the energies, the self confidence, the cheerfulness, the ambition, the study, the progress, that should be manifested in the life and work of every cultivator of the soil, whether of a few tillers unpaid for acres, or of the larger farm.

At the beginning of this new year, let us start with a just appreciation of our occupation, determining to make the best of it, to deserve the highest success, which is the next best thing to actually achieving it, even if we fail to do so.

In our position of farm manufacturers and merchants, it is well to take account of what to figure up and put down on paper, in some form however simple, a catalogue of everything we have, small and large, with its present value, indeed every implement, every animal, produce and cash on hand and due to us, the farm itself, each field and the value involved in growing winter crops upon it, etc. On the other hand, set down every liability, and strike a balance. One great effort of the coming twelve months will be to increase the stock on hand, and decrease the liabilities. If not done hitherto, begin with January 1 to note down, each day, every transaction, the work of the day, what is sold or bought, or to whom, and its price, whether paid for or not, etc. The writer of this kept such a journal, on a farm of 238 acres, from the age of 14 years onward. At first it was only written on foolscap sheets. A rough plot of the fields was made and each one numbered, and the amount of plowing and sowing, seed, manure, etc., expended on each and every field were written down at night. All the larger animals were named. The sheep, swine, and poultry, too numerous to name, were classified for reference. In brief, everything on the farm was noted down on paper, and everything done or transpiring was daily entered with the pen. It furnished entertainment, and the sheets became valuable for reference in many cases. A simple study of farm book-keeping grew out of it, which was of decided utility, but we leave that for the present. We would be exceedingly pleased to know that every farm reader of this, or some one in his family, would start such a complete memorandum, beginning January 1, 1881. We know its usefulness by experience, and what good it leads to.

Let one of the first plans for the year be to secure more knowledge about our occupation. Certainly we know some things that others do not, and every other man knows some things that we do not. Writing and talking with others, the talks at farmers' club meetings and conventions, what other think and say, as given in books and papers, are all sources of new ideas. Let the head be helped by the hands by better thinking and better plans. One can talk with an intelligent neighbor, or read a farm book, or farm paper, without getting some new idea, or suggestion, that will help his own thinking and planning.

William Nagle, a Connecticut, farmer, was accidentally discovered on the 15th instant living in an old cabin, where he said he had been three weeks without food, except bread and one cracker. He is about forty years old, and had suffered much from cold as well as hunger.

The sun never sets upon the Second Battalion of the Queen's Scots' Guards. One of its officers is a military surgeon in India, another is an aid to Lord Lorne in Canada, another is an aid to Cape Town, and a fourth is a military attaché at Berlin.

## CENTRAL DRUG STORE,

In Lehigh's Block,

Bank St., Lehigh, Pa.,

Dr. Charles T. Horn

PROPRIETOR.

Respectfully announces to the people that he has replenished his stock, and offers

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Strictly fresh and Pure,

Also Horse and Cattle powders, Patent Medicines, Brushes, Soap, Gumbo, Perfumery, Sponges, Chamber Salts, Wines and

Liquors for Medical Purposes, Oils, Lamps and Fixtures, Dyeing, Choice

Essences, Trusses, Nursing Bottles, Violin Strings, and a full line of

Wall Paper and Border at the Lowest Prices.

Prescriptions carefully compounded and

sent to the patients in every branch of the

business.

A continuation of the patronage heretofore

extended to this establishment is respectfully

solicited, and satisfaction guaranteed.

Sept. 13, 1880-81. Dr. C. T. HORN.

For Catarrh,

May Fever, Cold

in the Head, Dis-

charge of the

nasal passages, and

all other affections

of the nose, the

use of this medicine

will be found to be

of great benefit.

It is a powerful

and safe remedy,

and its use is

recommended by

all the leading

physicians.

It is sold by all

druggists and

chemists.

Price 50 cents.

Perfume, Soap, Gumbo, Perfumery,

Sponges, Chamber Salts, Wines and

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## Drugs and Medicines,

WHITTE STREET, WEISFORTH, PA.

Removal and Change of Firm!

Messrs. Rapscher & Zern

Now have to announce to the citizens of Weis-

forth and surrounding neighborhood, that they

have just received a large and complete stock

of all kinds of Drugs and Medicines, and

are prepared to supply the same at the

lowest prices. They also have a full line of

Chemicals, Perfumery, Soap, Gumbo, Per-

fumery, Sponges, Chamber Salts, Wines and

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