BELLEFONTE, PA.

AGRICULTURAL.

NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

THE TEST OF THE NATIONAL WELFARE IS THE INTELLIGENCE AND PROSPERITY OF THE PARMER.

Every farmer in his annual experience discovers something of value. Write it and send it to the "Agricultural Editor of the DEMOCRAT, Bellefonte, Penn'a," that other farmers may have the benefit of it. Let communications be timely, and be sure that they are brief and well pointed.

WE understand that a petition asking for some new fence law is being circulated for signatures through the county. As yet, we have not seen a copy of either petition or bill.

W. W. HALE, agent for the "Messenger" . Stock Farm, Philipsburg, Centre county Pa., has just returned from Kentucky bringing with him from A. J. Alexander's farm, Woodburn, Ky., (with a view to the improvement of stock), a four-year-old dark bay stallion, sire Harold, sire of Maud S., record 2.17 Dam Lady Bell by Ethan Allen. Lady Bell has a record of 2.32, private trial 2.26.

INVESTIGATIONS and experiments made by the Department of Agriculture during the past year demonstrate that sugar and syrup can be obtained from cornstalks at the rate of one hundred pounds to every ton of green stalks. Professor Silliman, in a letter to the World, reviving those sugar researches, and alluding to the tea experiments, significantly concludes by saying, "We shall probably have more sugar from maize and sorghum than will be required for a good while to sweeten our own domestic green

Obituary.

We are called upon this week to chronicle the death of two men who have occupied prominent positions in American agriculture :

Mr. MICHAEL SULLIVANT, the largest cultivator of land ever known, died in his chair on the steamer, while on his way to Louisville, Ky. The extent of Mr. SULLIVANT's farming operations was enormous, he having at one time owned as much as 80,000 acres of land in Illinois, and his corn crop has reached 18,000 acres in a single year with wheat, oats and bay in proportion.

Mr. JOSEPH N. STURTEVANT, one of the "Sturtevant Bros.," who have made Waushakum Farm, in Massachusetts, famous, died at his residence January 19. Although but thirtyfive years of age, Mr. STURTEVANT had won reputation as an agricultural writer, and as one of the widely known "Sturtevant Bros." His early demise will be mourned by the many who have learned much, and hope to learn more, of progressive, practical farming through Waushakum Farm and the Scientific Farmer.

What Breed of Fowls Shall we Keep?

This is a question which would, perhaps, be answered by a dozen different persons by naming a dozen different breeds, as their fancy, prejudices or reversioned might distribute the spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with SECHLER and a hundred fine spirit of progress, will vie with section fine spirit of progress, will vie with sectled fine and a fine fine spirit of progress, will vie with sectles fine spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress, will vie with sectles from the spirit of progress and a hundred from the spirit of progress and the spirit of progress and the spirit of progr Our own answer, after an experience of half a short life time, and embracing a large number of the most them is well worth a dollar, even in statement. When we learn that the popular and fast ionable breeds, these hard times, to any lover of yield was from forty to sixty bushels would be unhesitatingly in favor of the American Rose-comb Dominique. Those who breed thorough-bred fowls for pleasure and for sale at high prices, and who have time to care for them with the same assiduity that they would care for thorough-bred cattle or horses, may, of course, let their fancy dictate largely in making choice; but the farmer, who finds all his time and that of his family and the people about him, fully taken up, demands a fowl that, with the minimum of care and attention will give him after having bred them exclusively They have proven themselves with us to be extremely hardy and free from disease, fully large enough for table use, prolific layers, both winter and summer, the best of molters, and ers. with that happy medium of activity which makes them much better foragers than the clumsy, dependent

setters. With a little pains-taking in selecting the best to breed from, and in introducing fresh blood every two or three years, they breed with great uniformity in style and color, and thus furnish a beautiful, sightly flock, instead of the multi-colored and multi-formed dung-hill, with all its good qualifications added. One of their most admirable characteristics is their extreme hardiness and freedom from disease. "Long John Wentworth," of Chicago, who keeps no other sort on his celebrated stock farm, says that the true test of a Dominique is its ability to roost on an apple tree all winter and yet produce at least one egg every other day. We do not advocate the application of this test, but hold that with reasonable care, such as can be given by any farmer, they will give better mate I choose this, and will take the returns than any other brood we

Profits of Thorough Culture.

The following paragraph holds as true in regard to any and all farm crops, as it does with tobacco, and we give it as another answer to our query, How can we make farming pay?

Thorough culture is the great secret of the Connecticut Valley tobeaco-growers' success in producing heavy crops of extra tobacco which have hitherto well paid the producer. add \$10, the cost of cultivating crop, and it makes a capital of \$100. Then Time was when their tobacco was a and it makes a capital of \$100. Then drug in the market at two or three if we allow the cost of fertilization, cents per pound, and no more than 800 to 1,000 pounds per acre were grown; later years I have known and the crop from one acre to be sold in market for \$1,000 to \$1,200. This follows: resulted from a combination of causes, but would not have been had the old methods of careless culture been con-Much experience has taught us that the only road to success is in doing all the work, &c., connected with the producing of the crop in a eleven to sixteen or seventeen bushels most thorough and careful manner, and he who uses the most care and cultivates the most thoroughly re- yield, which is above the average for ceives the greater reward in the shape of price for his tobacco.

Agricultural Editor's Table.

thirty-eighth volume, is one of the "old reliables" among agricultural weeklies. Like good wine, it im, the interest on capital and the wear proves with age, and is now equal to of machinery is for the manufacthe best. A feature peculiar to it is turer. We then see that there is a the free seed distribution. It put State of from 25 to 33 cents on every lishes a list of nineteen varieties of bushel of wheat he sells at this seaseeds, a small package of any ten of son's prices. This, if continued, which will be sent free to every sub- will make hard times still harder. scriber to the paper who sends in his subscription before May 1st.

In these days of cheap and beautiful picture-making, it is not unusual for capital and American skill have for proprietors of trashy papers, and enabled us to excel all Europe in the indeed of some good ones too, to excellence of agricultural tools and labor-saving machinery, and why can offer presents of chromos to each we not excel also in the cultivation subscriber. While many of these of the soil? We have equal advangifts have been comparatively worth. tages of soil and climate, and there less, some have been really meritorious as works of art, and desirable as ornaments to the house; but it has European agriculture has more than been left to the Poultry World to achieve the greatest success in this direction, by publishing with each direction, by publishing with each and it will not be many years before monthly number a really beautiful our American farmers, having caught SECHLER over six cents each, and every one of them is well worth a dellar over is poultry. They are not small, cheap per acre we see it might be attainable, daubs, but portraits of the finest specimens of prominent breeds of fowls, drawn and colored from life- look at the cost of growing wheat in subjects, by an artist employed exclusively for the purpose. The larger size of them, nine by eleven inches, gives opportunity for the correct delineation of the splendid feathering of the largest birds, and the study of quire less labor, for a fertile soil is a set of them will do more to give a We will estimate as at the present novice a knowledge of the appearance timo: of the different broods of fowls than he can learn from books in a week. the maximum of eggs and meat, for We have great faith in the possibilisale or for home consumption. This, ties of poultry raising for the wives for three years we think we have be glad if we can say anything to found in the American Dominique. induce him to take an increased interest in the matter. We wish we could see the Poultry World and its beautiful chromos in the houses of very many of Centre county's farm-

STOCK need close attention this cold weather. Warm shelter will Asiatics, and much more decile and bins of corn or a little meal daily is allow the latter to be worth the form-necessary to keep them in heart.

How Can We Make Farming Pay?

A letter from F. P. Root to the agricultural editor of the World, under the title of "Count Costs and Plan for Profits," is so apropos to our query that we quote from it at length in continuation of the subject:

We have not learned to bring our production up to pay profits on ex penses. The cost of cultivating lands cannot be profitably reduced below present rates, but returns may be largely increased at trifling ex-pense which will make a large difference in the margin of profit. To illustrate this principle, let us look at what it now costs to grow grain in the State of New York and what it ought to cost under a wise and better system of cultivation. Grain growing, we know, is not the chief interest of our State, but as my acquaintance with this branch of husbandry assures me of the truth of my esti cost of wheat-growing as in the past and compare with what it may must be in the future to return any degree of profit to the grower. have made repeated estimates and accurate accounts of the cost of an acre of winter wheat in labor, seed, &c., and found it to average about \$10 per acre, and on the average of farms and present cost of labor it will exceed rather than fall below that figure. Then to this add the interest on capital, which cannot be less than \$7; for the average farm worth \$75 per acre, after deducting woodland, rock, fences, &c., would bring the tillage land at least at \$90; which must be supplied now or at a future time to keep the soil good, it cannot be less than \$3 to keep good 2,900 pounds grown on a single acre, the capital in motion. We then find the cost of an acre of wheat to be as

Aggregate cost of an acre of wheat

The statistical reports of the yield 3 per acre in different seasons. Now, if we allow sixteen bushels as the any term of years past, we find the cost of every bushel to the grower to be \$1.25; or if we allow fifteen bushels to be the average yield, which is nearer the truth, it will cost \$1.331 THE Rural New Yorker, now in its per bushel. Farmers are not accus tomed to reckon interest on capital and loss of fertility of every crop, but it is as legitimate a charge as But it is not so to continue. There is a spirit of improvement now stirring the minds of our farmers and they will not long continue to farm their lands with no profits or gain, is now a necessity resting upon us for improvement in the art of cultivation, for the old ways have failed. "chromo edition" -- seventy-five cents | wheat and considerable amounts of -makes them cost but a fraction other crops are produced in one seaand we know that such yields are possible, for they have been produced in our own country. Now let ns look at the cost of growing wheat in look at the cost of growing wheat in our State, under a better system of husbandry. We will assume that it steps of the cost no more labor to cultivate and one copy free for one year to a club of fifty.

And one copy free for one year to a club of fifty.

And one copy free for one year to a club of fifty. stuff than it does now under our less thorough system-it would really reeasier cultivated than a sterile soil.

od or in-

We will estimate the return per and daughters of farmers, and shall acre no more than many thorough farmers have harvested in years past, and occasional crops have far exceed-ed—that is, thirty bushels per acre which will make the grain cost 8 cents per bushel. Thus difference in the cost of growing a bushel of wheat under the new sys Wheat can be grown for 80 cents which now costs \$1.25 or \$133. In the above estimate I save one-third the food. A few nub-

will say that a yield of thirty bushels HARDWARE. per acre cannot be realized for a term of years. We do not aver that it be on all lands, for all are not well adapted to winter wheat, but may be equally profitable for other branches of farming; but we do know that good wheat lands can be made to yield that amount and more under best cultivation. My own crop has averaged about that yield for several years past and others have exceeded it, and what has been attained by a few may be gained by all under like circumstances and under like means.

Fundamental Principles.

[From the Farm Journal.]

A good deal is said about the "Fundamental Principles of Agriculture," in the agricultural press. if there are any fundamental principles of agriculture they consist in thorough tillage and plenty of rich barn-yard manure. Whoever gives practical endorsement to these principles will succeed at farming.

Harry K. Hicks, Hardware.

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