The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PA.

AGRICULTURAL.

NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

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

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.*

"CROP NOTES" from the western papers indicate a full crop of wheat in the Northwestern States.

TRY SOWING a small patch of corn for green fodder. Scatter the seed corn thickly in the bottom of the furrows far enough apart to cultivate between, cultivate as thoroughly as you do your corn crops, and when the August drouth dries all the sap out of the pastures, and the cream and butter begin to fail, you'll thank us for the advice. See Prof. Arnold's views of this matter in another column.

WE LEARN that the authorities have decided that the annual fair of the State Agricultural Society is this fall to be held in and around "The Main Building" of the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. This is just as it should be. It fixes the location at the focal point of one of the finest agricultural regions in the world, and adds to this the many advantages of close proximity to a large and wealthy city. We bespeak for the society the finest and most successful exhibition it has ever held.

PROF. C. V. RILEY, late entomologist of the agricultural department at Washington, has resigned the position because of his dissatisfaction with the way in which matters connected with the department were conducted, and Gen. Le Duc has named Prof. J. H. Comstock, of Cornell University, as his successor. We regret to have the department lose the eminent services of Prof. Riley, who is known as one of the most skilled entomologists of the age, but are assured by good authority that Prof. Comstock will prove a capable successor.

AT THE last regular meeting of the American Institute Farmer's Club in New York, Mr. Robert J. Dodge said that "nothing can be gained by planting corn until the soil is warm enough to start the seed at once and give a vigorous growth which will the sooner put it out of reach of the cut-worm, the crows and other pests which are its destructive foes in its early existence. It is generally stated that 100 days without frost are sufficient to mature a corn crop, and it is well known that in the neighborhood of New York we usually have many more than this number, hence the corn crop here ripens as a rule long before there is any danger of frost, This being the case there is no need of undue haste in the spring. Further North, on the border ground of the corn belt, planting should not be delayed longer than is necessary. The old Indian plan of planting when the oak leaves are as large as a mouse's ear has, Mr. Dodge thought, never been superceded by any better plan.',

DURING one of the damp, foggy mornings of last week, one of our choicest cows was attacked with "hoven" or "bloat," having been turned into a field of rank young clover during our absence from home. A young man whom we afterward learned to be Mr. Nevin Auman, of Penn township, chanced to pass by, and noticing the distress of the animal, took her out of the field, marched her to the barn, and by the administration of proper remedies, with the assistance of a neighbor and one of the men who happened to be near the barn, soon had her relieved, and succeeded in saving her life. For this prompt and intelligent exercise of humanity toward the suffering animal, Mr. Auman is deserving of all commendation; and for the courtesy towards the owner of the property, an entire stranger, we desire to tender him our thanks. In a subsequent conversation with Mr. Auman, he evinced considerable veterinary knowledge, and it occurs to us to suggest that a thorough course in veteranary medicine and the opening of an office for practice in Bellefonte, would in all probabiltiy make him greatly useful to the community and prove profitable to himself.

THE MANURE pile has been called the farmer's bank and with much truth. If you want to increase your bank deposits, lay a good drain from some point near the back kitchen door to a cement-lined reservoir (an old hogshead sunk in the ground will answer, if you can't do any better) filled with sods gathered from old fence rows, half rotted straw, fine brush, weeds and vegetable tops from the garden, and so on, and send all the kitchen and chamber slops through it into the reservoir. You will make better manure and more of it than you have any idea, and lessen the chances for a spell of typhoid fever in the house by about fifty per cent.

THE GRASS is now, or soon will be, long enough to cut a nice bite for the horses, and it will prove much better to cut and take it to them in the stable, than to turn them out to hunt it after a hard day's work; and we advise cutting it with the mowing machine. Not because the small amount needed daily could not be cut quite as economically with the scythe, but because it will insure having the machine in order when hay-cutting time, now fast approaching, comes. The needed repairs about the machine will be *forced* upon your attention, and you will make them in time. And writing of mowers and haying reminds us of certain improvements not only in mowers, but in minor inventions to which this great one has given birth, such as hay elevators and carriers, knife grinders, and others, to which our attention has been directed, and of which we may speak further before the haying season sets in.

SENATOR PADDOCK, of Nebraska, recently introduced in the Senate of the United States a resolution providing for the appointment of a commission of three senators and three members of the House, authorized to sit during recess to devise a plan for reorganizing and enlarging the Agricultural Department. The Senator also presented a bill which had already been offered in the House, providing for the establishment of a National Board of Agriculture, of which the Commissioner of Agriculture shall be *ex-officio* president. We know nothing of the "true inwardness" of these movements, but are inclined to look upon them with some suspicion. We have an idea that there's a rat's nest somewhere in that corn-crib. The *Times* indulges its vein of grim humor on the subject as follows:

The resolution before the House of Representatives, at Washington, concerning an investigation of the system and working of the Agricultural Bureau seems to contemplate an enlargement of the operations of the department. Perhaps this is essential. It is very certain that if that department is to be made useful either it must have its scope enlarged or, better still, must get a chief who is big enough for the place. The department was organized some years ago with excellent intentions, but its purposes and real usefulness have generally been defeated by the inefficiency of those who have unfortunately been put in charge of it. The present Commissioner is one of the worst of the lot, and it seems as if Congress might sometime conclude that the country can get along with less nonsense in this way than it has been compelled to put up with. As long as Congressman were allowed seeds to distribute to their constituents, however, they were solid with the Agricultural Bureau; if they go on a little way with their investigation they will bring the Commissioner to terms again.

Value of Fences.

From the Husbandmen.

The Kansas State Board of Agriculture estimates the total value of fencing in that State at the enormous amount of $22,058,544. The fence question promises to revolutionize the old system of farming, and the result will be a permanent division of pasturage and tillage lands. Large fields are to be the order of the day. Let every farmer make a map of his farm and study carefully its topography with a view of economizing his labor. Figure for himself the amount he could save in labor and gain in land if unnecessary fences were removed. Try a few figures yourself, brother farmer.

CULTIVATE thorougly if you wish to reap abundantly. Do not waste your means, and fritter away your time by raising a crop of noxious weeds with your corn and potatoes.

Good Horses—Poor Roads.

From the Rural New Yorker.

Now that we have got the country so well railroaded, is it not time to put some work, money and "gumption" into the building of our highways upon improved principles, so that we may have permanent, smooth level tracks upon which to draw our loads and drive our nice horses and carriages? We are decidedly of the opinion that our farming towns will find smooth, dry roads, with moderate grades, worth as much to them in money, to say nothing of pleasure and comfort, as the railroad connections for which they have been so anxious, and for which many of them have been so profusely taxed. No country in the world has such good driving horses as ours, but, save in our village streets, no country in Christendom has so few places where they can be driven at a good pace with comfort and safety. And a village street is the "wrongest" place of all for rapid driving.

But, in order to have good roads, we must employ men to plan and superintend them, who understand the business. This ought not to be extremely costly at this time. Our scientific schools and colleges have of late turned out a good many gradates in their civil engineering courses—far more than have been able to find employment. They ought to be able and willing, and doubtless are, to show about home their skill in their business at a moderate compensation. Give them a chance to do this, and it will encourage others to take up the study. There ought to be, and would be if they could find business, a competent road builder upon scientific principles in every town in the country. And they ought to be, and would be, content to serve their fellow-citizens at a price equivalent to what is paid a minister or a teacher in the same community. The work now expended to a poor advantage for want of skillful direction upon our highways, would, when properly "bossed," make them as good again. The saving in the wear and tear of vehicles and teams, the larger loads that could be carried and the quicker trips that could be made, would very much more than pay the cost of skilled direction. Let the farmers think of this. It is worth while. It will lead to the most needed and most profitable improvement that can be made for the pleasure, comfort and profit of country living.

Value of Fodder Corn.

From the Minutes of the Elmira Farmer's Club.

Referring to opinions expressed at various times in the Club about the value of fodder corn, Clerk read an extract from published remarks of Professor Arnold, handed him by a gentleman who is himself an authority in various branches of farming, and an experimenter whose conclusions are reached with intelligent understanding of circumstances and conditions. The item reads:

"Prof. L. B. Arnold recently stated that he had taken the milk of three patrons of a cheese factory, in October, who were feeding nothing but grass, and the milk of three others who fed nothing but corn sown broadcast. He took an equal quantity of the milk of each, and curdling it with the same amount of rennet, at the same temperature, found, after drying the curd, that the milk of the cornfed cows gave eight and one-half per centum of curd, while that from cows fed on grass alone gave only six and one-half per centum of curd; showing a gain of nearly thirty-three per centum in favor of corn fodder over grass.

Counting Chickens.

From Home and Farm.

I'm raising chickens for to sell,
And reckon I'm doing fine;
Old Speck and biddies are doing well—
She has just come off with nine.

Old Dominic has "set" again
On twenty eggs or more;
She did so well I can't complain—
She hatched them all but four.

And there is the little hen
That hid her eggs away;
She has just come off with ten—
I counted them to-day.

I thought a 'possum or a mink
Had caught the old shanghai;
But she had not begun to think
It was her time to die,

For she had hid her nest away
Where no one could see
And brought her biddies out to-day—
She has just twenty-three.

And there are several more
Have hatched out six or seven—
One old hen has twenty-four,
Another has eleven. TOM D. MOORE.

To raise good tomatoes, says an excellent authority, take away a wheelbarrow of earth from where each vine is to stand, fill with half soil and half coal ashes and therein set out the plant. Plants thus treated will bring out nearly double the fruit of others, and much smoother and larger, in this soil, though in case of drought the plants require water sooner, and more of it, than those growing in common soil.

TO GROW nice, long straight horse radish you must set out bits of roots that are sound and straight; put them in the ground pretty deep, and if watered occasionally and the soil be rich and mellow, they will grow into fine long roots. We have always set out the refuse tops after cutting off the roots, and I observe that the main root of such plants is faulty, and not much of it fit for the table.

Garden Truck.

Take weeds while they are small, and they are got rid of with little trouble.

After a shower—the day following—go all over the bed; hoe lightly; move the top of the soil. The shower beats the earth down; just scratch it over, and let it open to the air, so that the sun shall not bake it over and form a crust.

Professor Lazenby, "after numerous experiments and very careful trials," commends the following as "safe, cheap and effective applications" for the cabbage worm—using either, two or three times during the season: 1. A pound of whale-oil soap in about six gallons of water; 2. A few quarts of tar in a barrel of water.

Messrs. J. M. Thorburn & Co., give the inexperienced a practical hint: "After manuring well such crops as grow above ground (cabbage, peas, etc., also potatoes and like), follow the next year with root crops (carrots, parsnips, etc.), which will not require so much manure.

Raising Calves.

The first five months of a calf's life is all there is of it. The calf is made the first five months. The general practice through the country, after the calf becomes one or two months old, is to turn it out, and there let it fight the flies the whole season. The farmer is very busy. He may come in late at night. We work out as long as the sun will let us, and when we get through, the men are tired, and the calf is forgotten and stunted; and after it is stunted, what does it ever amount to? Never turn your calf out the first year. Keep it in the stable. Then you will have to take care of it, and then you will find the animal growing satisfactorily; and instead of a little yearling, you will have a big, fine two-year old.

Feed the Little Chickens Separately.

As soon as chicks leave the hen, they should have a place to feed unmolested. When they have to take their chance with a flock of fowls, they stand a very poor prospect of getting what they need. This is the time when some chickens will be left to look out for themselves. A very simple and satisfactory feeding place for chickens may be made by taking four pieces of joist, each three feet long, and placing them in a square at the distance of a lath apart; cover the top and ground enclosed for economy with boards, and the chickens can feed in safety.

The Farmer as a Pillow of the Government.

From Correspondent of Husbandman.

It is not enough that the young farmer be content to plow, to sow and to reap. In this land each man, rich or poor, bright or dull, learned or unlearned is a pillar of the government. The stronger the pillar the stronger the government. The more intelligent, liberal minded and public spirited the man, the stronger the pillar.

THOUGHT and action, not action and then thought; nor again thought without action, or action without thought. It is the thinking and acting farmer who makes the most money during the hard times, and not the toiling farmer. Toil degrades; work, combined with tho't, ennobles.

LIME acts as a manuring substance *directly*, by supplying one of the larger constituents of plants, and *indirectly* as an agent to assist in evolving from the organic and vegetable matter contained in the soil the various salts and acids requisite to a vigorous and healthy growth.

THE farmer rises at early morn,
And chirrups his team as he drives afield,
Preparing the land for his crop of corn,
Which summer gives with a plenteous yield.

MANURE you orchards heavily and cultivate annually. Corn, potatoes, buckwheat and all root crops may occupy the well-manured orchard, but on no consideration allow the growing of oats. Oats are almost a sure death to fruit trees of any kind.

THE average dog is a foe to the farmer, and leaning upon 110,000 of him for the support of the Massachusetts Agricultural College seems to Mr. Olcott like taxing rumsellers for the benefit of orphan asylums.

THE practice of feeding several calves in one stall ought never to be tolerated, as the best feeders will be likely to get too much, while those that are more slow scarcely get any.

THE experiment of sending farmers to the British Parliament has been tried with such success that more are wanted.

WHEN the agriculture of a nation declines, you may expect to see the "hand writing on the wall," for her doom is sealed.

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Leaves Snow Shoe 7.30 A. M., arrives in Bellefonte 9.20 A. M.

Leaves Bellefonte 10.20 A. M., arrives at Snow Shoe 11.57 A. M.

Leaves Snow Shoe 2.42 P. M., arrives in Bellefonte 4.12 P. M.

Leaves Bellefonte 4.55 P. M., arrives at Snow Shoe 6.27 P. M.

DANIEL RHOADS,
General Superintendent.

BALD EAGLE VALLEY RAILROAD.—Time-Table, December 31, 1877:

Exp. Mail. A. M.	Mail. P. M.	WESTWARD.		EASTWARD.	Exp. Mail. P. M.	Mail. A. M.
8 05	6 10	.....Arrive at Tyrone Leave.....			7 05	8 50
7 58	6 03	.....Leave East Tyrone Leave...			7 15	8 37
7 53	5 58	.....	"	Vail "	... 7 19	8 42
7 48	5 55	.....	"	Bald Eagle "	... 7 23	8 47
7 34	5 40	.....	"	Hannah "	... 7 36	9 02
7 26	5 31	.....	"	Port Matilda "	... 7 44	9 11
7 18	5 21	.....	"	Martha "	... 7 52	9 20
7 09	5 10	.....	"	Julian "	... 8 01	9 30
6 58	4 58	.....	"	Unionville "	... 8 11	9 42
6 48	4 48	.....	"	Snow Shoe In "	... 8 21	9 51
6 43	4 40	.....	"	Milesburg "	... 8 24	9 55
6 33	4 35	.....	"	Bellefonte "	... 8 32	10 03
6 23	4 25	.....	"	Milesburg "	... 8 45	10 15
6 13	4 16	.....	"	Curtin "	... 8 55	10 25
6 08	4 10	.....	"	Mount Eagle "	... 9 00	10 30
6 00	4 02	.....	"	Howard "	... 9 08	10 40
5 50	3 51	.....	"	Eagleville "	... 9 18	10 52
5 46	3 47	.....	"	Beech Creek "	... 9 22	10 57
5 33	3 33	.....	"	Mill Hall "	... 9 34	11 10
5 29	3 30	.....	"	Flemington "	... 9 37	11 14
5 25	3 25	.....	"	Lock Haven "	... 9 42	11 18

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.—(Philadelphia and Erie Division.)—On and after December 12, 1877:

WESTWARD.

ERIE MAIL leaves Philadelphia		11 55 p m
" "	Harrisburg	4 25 a m
" "	Williamsport	8 35 a m
" "	Lock Haven	9 40 a m
" "	Renovo	10 55 a m
" arrives at Erie		7 35 p m
NIAGARA EXPRESS leaves Philadelphia		7 20 a m
" "	Harrisburg	10 50 a m
" "	Williamsport	2 20 p m
" arrives at Renovo		4 40 p m
Passengers by this train arrive in Bellefonte at		4 35 p m
FAST LINE leaves Philadelphia		11 45 a m
" "	Harrisburg	3 35 p m
" "	Williamsport	7 30 p m
" arrives at Lock Haven		8 40 p m

EASTWARD.

PACIFIC EXPRESS leaves Lock Haven		6 40 a m
" "	Williamsport	7 55 a m
" arrives at Harrisburg		11 55 a m
" "	Philadelphia	3 45 p m
DAY EXPRESS leaves Renovo		10 10 a m
" "	Lock Haven	11 20 a m
" "	Williamsport	12 40 a m
" arrives at Harrisburg		4 10 p m
" "	Philadelphia	7 20 p m
ERIE MAIL leaves Renovo		8 35 p m
" "	Lock Haven	9 45 p m
" "	Williamsport	11 05 p m
" arrives at Harrisburg		2 45 a m
" "	Philadelphia	7 00 a m
FAST LINE leaves Williamsport		12 35 a m
" arrives at Harrisburg		3 55 a m
" "	Philadelphia	7 35 a m

Erie Mail West, Niagara Express West, Lock Haven Accommodation West, and Day Express East, make close connections at Northumberland with L. & B. R. trains for Wilkesbarre and Scranton.

Erie Mail West, Niagara Express West, and Erie Express West, and Lock Haven Accommodation West, make close connection at Williamsport with N. C. R. W. trains north.

Erie Mail West, Niagara Express West, and Day Express East, make close connection at Lock Haven With B. E. V. R. R. trains.

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