AGRICULTURAL.

NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS. THE TEST OF THE NATIONAL WELFARE IS THE INTELLI-GENUE 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.

FALL planting is desirable for blackberries and raspberries. Of the former the Wilson, Kittatinny, Lawton and Dorchester are all good; of the latter Brandywine, Philadelphia ter the Royal Agricultural Society of and Reliance are the most desirable for this section.

WHEN all the new mills now in course of erection at St. Paul, Minn., are finished and running on full time, the daily flour production of that place will be over 12,000 barrels. which, with the mill-stuff made, will load seven trains of twenty-one cars each. At this rate the yearly production will be over 3,000,000 barrels, requiring 15,000,000 bushels of grain.

Do Not forget that two bushels of corn fed to the fattening hogs during this mild weather will make more pork and lard than three bushels fed after "hard weather" comes. Economy demands that we should "push things" in this direction now, and to do this great regularity is essential. Feed by the clock, and while taking care to give them all they can eat, be of New York, may be taken as repreequally careful not to overfeed, even once. This delays matters more than many think.

So FAR October has been a month of unusually warm and fine weather, and has afforded splendid opportuni. ties for getting the fall work done up out of the way. All this will change suddenly one of these fine days, and the wise and prudent farmer will closing up his work as rapidly as possible. When winter's cold and storms do come they will be all the more keenly felt because of this exceptionally fine weather, and the quarters for our stock should all be made snug and tight in time.

Again we say, do not be in a hurry to dispose of the potatoes. Select prices. Close observers say that the rot is worst in lots to which fresh manure was applied in the spring. Stick a pin here, and if the ground you intend to plant to potatoes next year is not already good enoughand we have no idea that it is-put on the manure and plow it now. A second plowing and thorough working in the spring will put it in prime condition.

on "Metallic Fences," our valued them through until the rains which contemporary, the Scientific American, after describing the modes of manu- much longer delayed, come, and enfacturing the barbed wire now so extensively used, says:

At present wooden posts are usually used as supports for the wire in putting up this fence. But it is believed that iron posts will sooner or later supplant

The Scientific is usually well up in all that pertains to inventions, but it evidently has not yet heard of the new iron post of which we made mention in our issue of the 2d instant. We are convinced that this is the post of the future, and that the Scientific's prophecy is already fulfilled. We understand that arrangements for the manufacture of this long working models of it will be on exhibition. It is possible that we will give an illustration of it in these columns in the course of a few weeks.

Our views as to the proper way to secure seed corn, namely, to grow it specially for this purpose, in a lot by itself, are too well known to need repetition at this time. But very few,

to do it before or while cribbing the corn. It is much easier and better than to leave it until in the winter, or, as some do, until planting time. Make the selections with all care, and be very sure that it is thoroughly dry before putting away. Freezing will not hurt it if perfectly dry. This is the best that you can do now, but in making your plans for next year's work, arrange for a half acre or so, for a special crop of seed corn.

An important meeting was held at Cooper Institute, New York, on Wednesday, the 22d inst., looking to the organization of a National Agricultural Society, modeled somewhat af-England. The proposition is to organize a National association for the protection and advancement of agriculture in the United States by practical methods-such as periodical exbitions of the products of the soil in one of the principal cities; the encouragement of immigration meetings for discussion, and the collection and dissemination of the best agricultural thought and feeling. The attendance was composed mainly of representative agricultural men from all parts of the country, and great interest was taken in the meeting and its objects, and committees were appointed looking to a thorough National organization. Letters were received from leading men in every section of the country, of which Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks, of Indiana, and ex-Governor Horatio Seymour, sentatives, expressing cordial commendation of the idea and promising earnest individual effort to promote its success. .

Plant Trees.

We published in this department of the DEMOCRAT last spring, the full text of an act passed by our last legislature for the encouragement of tree planting throughout the State. exhibit his wisdom and prudence by The act provides that for every fruit or shade tree properly planted by the roadside, and carefully protected from injury by cattle, the owner of the property shall be entitled to a deduction of twenty-five cents from his road tax, thus virtually paying owners for beautifying and increasing the value of their own property. We recur to this now because for and put away with great care, and many reasons this is the best time in better prices will be had toward the year for transplanting. We have spring. In some localities they are more leisure now than it is possible rotting badly, and all that can be to find in our short, hurried springs, saved over will be wanted at fair when everything is pressing and every hour taken from the regular work of the farm is begrudged. The ground is usually in better condition for planting at this time in the spring, when it is as tull of water as a sponge, and cold and clamy from the winter's cold and wet. The great drouth of this fall need not suse any one to fear transplanting trees now. The dryness of the ground will make it work all the better, and a plentiful watering of the roots at In an unusually interesting article the time they are set out will carry -in the nature of things-cannot be able them to become well established, with which to go to work in the spring. Successful tree-planting requires that it should be done at a season when the wood. For study, with a view to new and useful improvements, the subject of metallic fences is a promising one for inventors. amount of roots should be selected. This point should not be overlooked. It is here that is found the cause of many of the failings in transplanting trees, particularly in the cases of those purchased at nurseries. The buyer is apt to think that the larger the tree he gets, the more he is getting for his money. This is all a mistake. A small tree with a full suppost are in progress, and that before ply of roots when set, will be larger and healthier in five years than one of ordinary size at transplanting

mutilated condition of its roots. Saving Manure.

Professor Boussingault, in a pamphlet entitled "The Manure Pit," writes: "Farmers, even the most intelligent, pre-occupy themselves much however, have done this, and ninety-nine of every hundred farmers will hove explain the preservation of manure. Is it and for all time. Does "S." advo-cate that every farmer should become a chemist? that always a chemist? the preservation of the fertilizing a chemist?

many have it yet to do. Do not fail other words, it is to obtain more manure from the same quantity of fod-

This applies to the saving of all liquid manure, and farmers will soon find out all its good qualities if they save it, and use it carefully on their meadows. However it requires judgment in its employment. Pure liquid manure is too strong to be spread by the usual methods, and should be greatly diluted. It should be spread only on cloudy days, as the hot rays of the sun will burn grass moistened with this rich fertilizer. With these precautions, the beneficial effects of liquid manure cannot be too highly estimated, and it should be more generally employed.

Practical Farming Not Scientific Farm-

A correspondent of the Rural New Yorker is pursuaded that the time has come when the term "Scientific Farmer," as synonymous with "Book Farmer," and used as a term of reproach, should be done away with, and that "it should be given a meaning at least parallel with the term 'practical.' * * A 'scientific farmer' is eminently a 'practical farmer,' and can be nothing else; for if he is not 'practical,' he is a quack and a humbug, and no 'scientific' man at all." Thereupon the Rural, which is nothing if not "practical," proceeds to read him a lecture, and puts this question of "Scientific vs. Practical" in its proper light:

It strikes us that there is a good deal of fallacy in the above article, which comes to us from one of our most popular agricultural writers. What makes a scientific man? he scientific who is engaged in the pursuit of pure knowledge? the knowledge must be gained. Science is true knowledge. Of what? Of one thing, or of all things? It is well to understand the difference be tween science and art, and to keen the plain distinction in mind. Our farmers can never be scientific farmers in the right sense of the word. It would be impracticable for them to become so. The pursuit of any single branch of science, with a view to original results, requires an amount time and labor which the average farmer cannot give, even though his investigations ended in important in-

ventions or discoveries. A good farmer is not necessarily "scientifie" farmer, though good farming is necessarily based scientific principles. A good farmer has the intelligence to apply the teachings of science; to understand and to accept the conclusions which scientific investigations have revealed. The average farmer-by which term we mean him who depends upon his farm for support-has no time to inquire and to experiment for the sake of knowledge, but for the sake of production. He can be scientist only the extent that he is quick to apply the system of rules which science establishes. Science must be a profession in itself. Scientific truths of great importance are rarely ascertained by chance, and only those who devote their lives to scientific research have been eminently successful in adding materially to our knowledge. The good, practical farmer is he who knows how to adapt scientific teachings to his own surroundings and circumstances. He has the practice, the skill, the education, the art to do this. He may follow rules, but he has little time for

original inquiry.
We assert that the agricultural scientist would starve if he were dependent upon the products of his own farm for support. Can "S" tell us and probably throw out new fibres how much it cost to prove that artificial fertilizers could be profitably used in agriculture? How much did the corn planter, the wheat drill, the mower cost those who invented them and caused their usefulness to be made known? Such men are scientists. There is no science in being early to make use of the discoveries or inventions of others. "All these innovations have been closely watched by your practical farmers, who have been ready enough to adopt those which have turned out to be successful," says "S." That is precisely what we want our farmers in general to do. We want them to hasten to avail themselves of the benefits of scientific research. But we want specialists to make those researches. No other journal has been more earnest than this in advocating that farmers educate themselves as of ordinary size at transplanting far as may be, and that, especially, with the usual limited quantity and they educate their sons—not, however, with the view of making them scientific farmers, but in order to enable them to take advantage of agri-

cultural science as it develops. Dr. J. B. Lawes is a scientific farmer, and he has spent fortunes in chemical researches which have brought to light valuable facts which

scientific agriculture and scientific scientific farming merely means good farming. It means something else, or it means nothing. Educated mers will hasten to avail themselves of all methods which will increase their crops with the same or less labor. But a farmer's life is inimical to scientific investigation to the extent which makes that word applicable to his pursuit.

The Plow in the Garden.

CONDENSED FROM A CORRESPONDENT OF A LEADING ENGLISH JOURNAL.

Probably the day is not far distant when all large vegetable gardens in this country will be cultivated by the plow to a great extent, and spade labor, except for few special subjects, will become a thing of the past. The use of the plow within the garden walls has been suggested pretty often within late years, but the suggestion has not been as yet received with much favor. One chief reason of this is that our kitchen gardens are at present so planned and arranged that the plow could not be used to good advantage. The system of dividing the ground enclosed into small plots or quarters devoted to both vegetables and fruit trees renders the use of the plow all but impracticable. Be fore it can be introduced successfully we must remodel our vegetable gardens, and there is no valid reason why that should not be done, when new Notario ones are formed or old ones have to be altered. Plow culture would also entail larger gardens, for the close-cropping system could not so well be followed; but that would matter but little, for the extra ground required would be cheaper than the extra labor incurred in spade culture. First of all, it would be necessary to get rid of the idea that the kitchen garden must be an ornamental as well as a vegetable ground. The proprietor must come to regard it in the same light as one of his wheat or turnip

fields, and nothing more.

The present system of cropping kitchen gardens is the cause of much

waste of time and labor. The more

plots the greater the extent of useless margins, walks, alleys, and walk edgings, that have to be looked after. The fault lies in the plan of our kitchen gardens, which entail a certain degree of good order and dressiness. irrespective of the necessities of vegetable culture. A garden laid out with trim walks, and fruit trees and flower borders, looks simply disgraceful, if not kept tolerably well up to the mark at all points; but do away with the necessity for such keeping and no one expects it, and nothing appears to be wrong. One portion of the ground might be set apart for the culture of small bush fruit (all fruit trees like apples and pears being confined to an orchard). and the bushes should be planted in straight lines right across the quarter. The remainder of the ground would, of course, be reserved for vegetables, and here all the Brassica tribe (including turnips), spinach, peas, beans, carrots, beets, parsnips, onions, poto-toes, &c., could be sown or planted by the plow or seed-drill in sections without a break or alley anywhere. The small French farmers, some of whom have only a little piece of ground, not so large as some English kitchen gardens, follow this plan The usual \$70 Machines reduced to only \$25. successfully, as may be seen by one traveling on the railways in France. Of course, early crops could be grown on warm borders as at present, but these form but a fractional portion of the crops of a kitchen garden. Such a garden as we have described would, we submit, look much better and be much more easily managed than one laid out on the usual complicated plan. We shall probably be met with the assertion, ground worked by the plow would not be deep enough for many kitchen garden crops; but the objection will barely hold good. No doubt a deep soil is beneficial, and there need be no difficulty about trenching the ground deeply in forming a kitchen garden, but the farmer has proved conclusively that as good root crops almost can be produced in the fields as in the garden by intelligent cul-ture, and that, too, where the soil is not very deep. One has only to point to the monstrous mangolds, beets, grand potato, turnip, carrot and cabbage crops that are constantly raised as field crops in proof of this. It should be borne in mind, bowever, that very large vegetables are not always the best for kitchen use, nor preferred. On the contrary, moderatesized samples are always by cooks; and, so far as this applies, the produce of the farm just suits his wants as well as that of the garden.

Ex-Gov. SEYMOUR says: "Agriculture has always been known as the basis of civilization with all people. But it has rarely if ever happened in the world's history that it has wrought out such marked and rapid changes in the credit and prosperity of a government as those we now witness in our land."

It costs little more to keep good animals than poor ones, while one produces a liberal income the other is worse than none. It becomes thus save their seed from the ground crop.

Some have already made the selections while the crop was standing, but lightly agents produced in the stable were gauges, etc., etc., should be established and constructed on every farm? grow and keep the best animals, and the world that we might hear less of to be able to produce them at will. of the utmost importance to all, to grow and keep the best animals, and Wilson, McFarlane & Co., Hardware Dealers.

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