BELLEFONTE, PA.

AGRICULTURAL. NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

THE TEST OF THE NATIONAL WELFARE IS THE INTELLI GENCE AND PROSPERITY OF THE FARMER.

Every farmer in his annual experience 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.

THE York (Pa.) Daily says that the coming year promises to be a remarkably dry season, and that farmers should be prepared for the emergency and build cisterns, in which the rain and snow water may be retained. Does the Daily base its prediction upon the unusual wetness of the year just now closing?

An English "gentleman engaged in mercantile pursuits in London," aud who is also "favorably known" in the "poetry business," has "devoted much attention to the hay-saving nished by a steam engine, at an ex-That may be good farming in England, but sunshine is too cheap and

BE sure to keep some nice pullets over for breeders next year. When such management as has been advocated in these columns has been practiced the pullets should be laying now, giving a supply of eggs for the holiday market, when they always bring a good price. Encourage them to keep on at this until the holidays. Then, if any want to set, give them a chance. If you have facilities for raising early chicks, let the campaign begin as early in the year as your hens will set.

Lancaster county agricultural socireferred for answer to Henry M. Enat the end of the year in better condition than at the beginning, consti-Mr. Engle advocated the soiling system of feeding cattle as being cheap- subject at an early day. er than pasturing them.

DR. STURTEVANT's fourth paper on "How to grow 100 bushels of corn per acre," in the current number of Land and Home, treats of manuring. The Dr. insists that experience and reasoning unite in demanding that the manure should be kept near the surface, and for this reason recommends that it be spread on the plowed ground and harrowed in. No one sentence in the article contains more wisdom than this: "Taking into con- from the cow, is cooled to seventy-five sideration the fact that the farmer and the grain, the potato field, the fertilizers for the corn."

THE agricultural editor of the DEMOCRAT acknowledges the receipt, stand six hours after being taken off, from the publishers of Land and to ripen and turn slightly sour. It Home, of a beautifully engraved copy is then churned in either a revolving of Sir Edward Landseer's celebrated painting, "Wild cattle of Chillingham." The study is an exceedingly interesting one to those whose tastes lead them to admire beautiful animals. It represents a magnificent the grains are pressed into a lump white bull, with cow and calf, of what and placed upon a butter worker. is supposed to be the native breed of What buttermilk is left in it is workcattle of the British Islands. The bull standing on high ground, facing the observer, with bold front and head erect, and the beautiful cow and calf in the foreground, as if under his protection; altogether, forming an interesting picture of these useful animals in their wild state. No description can do justice to the striking effect, nicety of execution, and natural beauty of this picture. A copy of this superb engraving is given being taken to form a society to enfree to every subscriber.

OVER one hundred and thirty acres, in one season, with two plows, without a breakage of any kind, large or small, and with the use of but four shares, is a pretty good record for the plows. Well, that's what we have done this season with two South Bend chilled plows, furnished by H. K. Hicks, last spring, and at this writing, December 10, they have been furnished with new shares, and are running in an eight-year-old sod, doing work that is the very perfection of plowing. The jointer attachment enables them to completely hide the grass and roots, and we expect, by its use, to avoid a deal of hard work for our teams in the way of harrow-

Ir you have a horse power and cutting box, it costs very little to cut all the fodder usually grown and fed on a farm, and it pays to do it for the better quality of the bedding for which the refuse is used, and greater ease and rapidity with which the manure can be prepared for use. This has been our own practice for years, and we believe it pays. If problem," and dries the hay under a enough is cut at one time to last a shed by means of a hot-air blast, fur- week or two, and it is firmly tramped in a bin, with a liberal supply of salt pense of about three dollars per ton. sprinkled over it, it will become moist, and a slight degree of fermentation will set in, which will soften it, and plentiful here to warrant us in adopt- cause the cattle to eat a much larger ing this English mercantile poet's proportion of the stalks than they would if left whole. Whatever ration of grain the cattle get should be ground and mixed with the cut stalks. and moistened with water. This will cause grain and fodder to be swallowed together, when the grain will be raised with the fodder in the form of cud, and re-masticated, enabling farmers be able to take life easier the animal to appropriate a much larger portion of the nourishment it contains than when it is swallowed by itself, and passed into the stomach from which it cannot be regained as cud. Reasoning and experiment agree that all grain should be ground before it is fed to stock of any kind. At the December meeting of the The distance of many farmers from "the mill," and the consequent inconety, the question "What constitutes venience and loss of time incurred in 'high farming,' and will it pay?" was taking grain to and from the mill, the plow, and hay is made of such often prove quite as much an objecgle, who is the member of the State tion to having the grain ground, as Board of Agriculture for that coun- the tenth or more which the miller ty. He answered by saying that "the exacts as "toll." A better state of raising of the largest possible crops, things than this now exists on many keeping the land clean and leaving it farms where the farmers have supplied themselves with some one of the small and efficient mills which can tute high farming." This is a most now be had, and do their own grindexcellent definition, but it leads us to ing. Those who use them say that it observe that we know of very few requires but little if any more time men who are addicted to that kind of to do their own chopping at home, farming. During the same meeting than to take the grain to the mill and back, and the toll saved is clear gain.

Good Butter Making.

L. S. Hardin, of Kentucky, one of the leading thinkers of the day upon all subjects connected farmer has a fine tract of land, the dairy, read a paper before the chiefly pasture and meadow, his exlate meeting of the Rockland county, penditure in labor is comparatively a N. Y., agricultural society, upon the subject of butter making, in which the greater portion in old grass is he described what he called the "new sought after and rented readily. Let process." It reads like a very good every farm with soil suitable for perprocess, and we copy it below The milk, as soon as it be taken

degrees by being set in well water. It is then strained into vats or cans should each year cultivate more land twenty inches deep, and set either in than his manure will cover, it is good cold air or cold ice water, and the policy to keep the dung for the grass forty degrees. It is left to stand at this temperature twelve to twentyorchard and the garden, and to buy four hours. The cream is then dipped off, it remaining sweet and limped. The skimmed milk also remains sweet. The cream is allowed to or oscillating box, until it comes in butter grains about the size of grains of wheat. The buttermilk is then drawn off, and water thrown in, at about the temperature of sixty degrees. After the butter is washed until the water runs clear from it, ed out, and salt is added to the taste of the purchaser. This butter is generally reworked a little, after standing four or five hours, to take the mottled appearance out of it. After this it is packed in fresh, new wooden tubs, and shipped immediately to market in refrigerator cars, so that it actually reaches the consumer before it is three days old from the cow's udder.

> THE usefulness of the goat as an adjunct to the milk-supply is being discussed in England, and steps are courage the breeding of milch-goats watery.

Wheat planted from a fourth to a balf an inch deep comes up sooner than at any other depth.—Exchange.

party who makes the statement so ed at twice or three times the depth?

The mistaken notion prevails with some sportsmen that the sign boards forbidding hunting, fishing or trespassing on private lands are of no account, and that they can be disregarded with impunity.—Exchange.

Invite the sportsmen to the Squire's office, and convince them of the costliness of their mistaken notion. They will avoid making the same mistake on the same premises in the future.

Land which without an application of manure will give a yield of fifteen bushels of wheat per acre will, by the addition of eighty pounds of nitrogen in a favorable season, give from thirty five to forty bushels of wheat, with a proportional increase of straw. - E

That's perfectly simple, isn't it? Just sprinkle on a little "nitrogen," and the question of "How to make farming pay?" is answered at once. Let us all do it.

Owing to the thic ness of the corn husks this year some people are pre-dicting a long winter.—Exchange.

Winter will have to begin pretty soon or that prediction will fail.

In Adams county, Pa., fully one-half the cornstalk ground has been sown to wheat—an unusually large proportion and it looks well. - Excha

Well, if it does, it's all "good luck" -not good farming.

Thorough Culture.

nt of the Country Gentleman For many years I have argued that the whole of the United States would be more prosperous, and the and make more money, if they would not cultivate so much land. I have continually written about the permanent grass lands in England, which pay a great deal better for lying per-petually in sod composed of all the ed. This is no new thing, or any experiment on a small scale, but a glorious fact on such a magnificent scale, as to astonish every American who goes to England. He finds that iously set apart and held sacred from fine quality as to surprise men who have been accustomed to think the old grass land in England was all pastured. When it is considered that in addition to half the country being in permanent grass, there are clover and other grass crops which ome in rotation on the arable land, and also that one-sixth to one-fourth of all the plowed land is in roots every year, all which are eaten by cattle and sheep, it is not wonderful there is so much wheat and barley

The best land in England is in grass, such as farmers here could not resist the temptation to take wheat from. If such land could be kept from being polluted by cultivation here, sheep could be kept as they are in England. The less money obtained for hav and grain the better it would pay the stock-raiser to graze

and grow meat, wool and milk. When mere trifle, and in England this is so English land is in the best districts, and I would wager that more than double the grain, corn and clover could be grown on the half of the The other half (in grass) should be the best and deepest soil. The grass land in the Eastern States is that which will not pay to cultivate

for corn and grain. Let any farmer who reads the papers and has common sense views of agriculture consider that although Mr. Mechi, who has a won-derfully good arable farm, has been telling the landlords and the tenants that they ought to agree to plow it all up and bring it into rotation with grain, &c., and consider also that the greater part of the Scotch farmers are averse to permanent grass and know little about it, yet under all trying circumstances it is still held inviolable, and instead of plowing it up when hard times come more is sowed down in properly mixed seeds to be kept always in grass. When grain is low in price it is folly to talk of plowing up grass which is paying by supporting live stock; and if half of the land, and the best half, is put into grass and never plowed again, the other half would grow more grain than the whole did before, thus saving the labor of attending to the whole. Of course this would not occur all at once; it would gradually happen, because all the best land being in grass, the other would be attended to and

improved.

Among our Contemporaries.

As a country-home journal no one within our knowledge better deserves a place at every fireside than the old Rural New Possibly that's true. But can the Yorker. It is original, independent and conscientious to the highest degree, and in positively assure us that it will yield better, acre for acre, than that plantits readers. The able management of Mr. its readers. The able management of Mr. Moore, its founder, has been succeeded by one much more able. Forms and precedents, so far as they interfered with the entire independence and rapid progress of the paper, have been discarded, and it stands to-day alone in a number of its more important and valuable features The company which conducts it is composed of a few wealthy men who seem to work more for the purpose of doing good than accumulating riches. Connected with the paper are eighty-two acres of ground devoted to experiments and worked in the interests of its subscribers. One of its peculiarities is the distribution of seeds and plants free to its subscribers. The details of this arrangement will be sent free with a sample copy of the paper to any one who will send his name and address to the Rural New Yorker, 78 Duane Street, New

The American Deiryman devotes itself, as its name would indicate, exclusively to the dairy interests of the country. These vast and steadily increasing interests require a representation and voice in the chief commercial city of the country, and this field the Dairyman aims to occupy. In doing so it sets forth promptly and faithfully the conditions of the dairy markets of the world, giving in one complete view the range of prices from the producer a the dairy or factory to the domestic or foreign consumer; reports and illustrates fully and thoroughly every important improvement in the manufacture of butter and cheese; publishes all important events specially notable facts; discusses the best nethods of breeding, feeding and rearing dairy stock; presents in its news columns all new and significant facts, of whatever nature, concerning the dairy interests of the country; and in short is a paper which no dairyman, large or small, in the United work The Dairyman commands the assistance of the best contributors and writers petually in sod composed of all the best native varieties, and never plowed. This is no new thing or any

Good Wagon Roads.

From the Philadelphia Record

Mr. William C. Prime, writing to the New York Journal of Commerce of a journey through New England by carriage, complains of the bad condition of the wagon roads in that part of the country. The complaint is undoubtedly a just one, and a like charge could be sustained against nearly the entire country. The wagon roads of Pennsylvania are particularly bad. The Journal of Commerce's correspondent traces the neglect of the country roads to the exaggerated notions entertained with regard to the office of railroads as a means of developing interior sections of coun-It is strange that so important subject should have received so great neglect, especially when it is considered that generally throughout the country the rates of freight by rail between local shipping points are kept at a point but a fraction below the cost of wagoning, the aim, of course, being to tax local business all that it will stand. Once or twice on some roads the mistake was made of fixing local freight rates a trifle too high, which, of course, gave an impetus to wagoning, when the rates were at once reduced. The effect of well understood that any farm with Mr. Prime: "Railways have superthe railway influence is thus stated by ceded in the minds of the people the need of wagon roads, have led to the neglect of these roads, have thus farms and villages from their old relations to central towns and cities. and have suspended the advance of civilization in many localities. over the country wagon roads have given place in the public mind to railroads. Legislators never think of compelling railroads to replace the wagon roads usurped by the rail track, at safe distance from it." He traces the standstill condition of Northern Vermont and New Hampshire to the abandonment of any system of good wagon roads, and adds that "one of the best fields for missionary work is the instruction of the people in the value, importance and method of making good wagon roads. Churches are civilizers, but a country church at a crossroads from which diverge impracticable highways is a lamp under a bushel. Good roads are great civilizers. Good roads make farms valuable, make farm life happy, make communities interested in one another, bring custom to villages, cities and railways, increase the value of farm and other lands, and lie at the very foundation of the civilization and prosperity of a State." The early improvement of the wagon roads is of the first importance to Pennsylvania. The people of this State need to take counsel with each other to the end that improved meth-

ONE-HALF ounce of salt to the pound of butter is the rule for salting What's the use of crying over adopted by the makers of the cele spilt milk? It only makes it more brated "trademark" lump butter "trademark" lump butter, which sells for a fancy price.

introduced.

From Father to Son.

If we are to reach the highest dedescent. The son must inherit the fitness of the father, and take up the calling and business where he left off, and his son after him, and so on. in our farming families, then shall we see greater stability in society, and a higher type of civilization. Every parent has the chief power to bring this work about. The very independence of the farmer's life is to be the germ which develops a race that cannot be other than an independent greatness in the development of agrifulture. Its power at home and abroad is to be established and held through the arts of husbandry, practised by a skillful and virtuous race

The average size of an Irish farm is twenty acres.

Time They Began to Learn. The twaddle about farmers keeping

velopment of a race of farmers, we out of politics is altogether too must expect it through the line of earnestly pressed in some quarters to seem disinterested. It is discreditable in any man not to perform the duties of citizenship, but especially in the agriculturist. Congress, through When this shall become the custom his carcless five million votes, is crowded with bank directors, lawyers, moneyed-men and professional politicians—but rarely a farmer. The bankers keep a sharp eye on banklaws, and the lawyer does not purposely neglect his professional in-terests as bills come before him. What excuse can there be for the people. Our nation is to achieve its great army of land-owners and landtillers, so sadly misrepresented at present, to continue their indifference to public affairs? Is it because "they do not understand these mat-ters?" If so, it is time they began If so, it is time they began

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