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 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. they are brief and well pointed.

A CORRESPONDENT of the American Farmer gives a tabulated statement of the dates at which he has filled his ice house for the last twenty years. Of these but two are in February, and one of them was on the 5th.

THE Montgomery (Ind.) Farmer's Club have made up their report for the year, and show that fifteen members harvested three hundred and eighty-four acres of wheat, with an average of twenty-three and one-half bushels per acre. Very good.

There is much talk just now about the benefits of salt as applied to wheat. It will cost but little to try an experiment on a part of the wheat field next spring, and the results may be beneficial. Three or four bushels per acre would probably be near the right amount. Do not read this and then forget all about it. Try it.

IT may be a good plan to make a careful inspection of the mows and graneries, and ascertain, as nearly as possible, the amount of feed yet on clover hay, all it will eat, and one hand. Possibly you will find a necessity for a more economical and careful use of it, to make it hold out until pasture comes. If you have When this calf is a year old, its any of poor quality use it now, while weight will probably be between 600 the cold weather sharpens the appetites, and save the very best you have until the warmth of approaching spring relaxes the system, and induces a sluggish appetfte which needs to be tempted with the best dainties the barn affords.

In another column of this page we give a synopsis of the bill prepared by Representative Aiken, of South Carolina, making the Department of Agriculture an executive department. This bill was accepted by the committee on agriculture without one dissenting vote, and will, in all probability, become a law in due course, July? at any rate we hope so. The agriculture of the country is the bedrock upon which its material prosperity is founded, and it is as much the duty of the government to care point to be aimed at. for and sustain the source of the country's wealth, as to look after the expenditure of that wealth. Let the Agriculture of the country be suspend- dren. The babe that weighed nine ed or abandoned, and the necessity for any of the expensive governmental departments which now exist would cease. By all means let the bill pass, and then give us a representative farmer as Secretary of Agriculture, and let the politicians have the other portfolios.

How to Plant Corn for Summer Feeding.

county have perfected their plans for was born on the 19th day of October, be glad to hear from them: the summer's work, and the summer's feed? We all know that the pasture will fail about mid-summer, and that we should have something ready to help it out. For this we believe nothing to be better than "fodder-corn" when properly grown. What we mean by "properly grown," is told in the following paragraph from the correspondence of the Country Gentleman. It agrees entirely with our own experience:

.Two years ago I raised about an acre of fodder corn to supplement the failing mid-summer pasture. For convenience in feeding out, a long narrow strip adjoining the pasture field was sown with a grain drill with all the tubes running. As soon as the corn began to tassel out, it was cut with a scythe from day to day, as required, and thrown over the fence with a manure-fork. The cattle devoured it eagerly, but it failed to take the place of the rich grasses of June, even with a corn meal ration at each milking time. Sown so thick it evidently was not very nourishing, and it was a good deal of work to

feed it. Last year a richly-manured piece adjoining my pasture was planted to corn, by hand, in hills. As an experiment, I planted that part next the pasture very thick—from six to a dozen kernels in a hill—for fodder corn. The fodder corn received the dozen kernels in a hill—for fodder corn. The fodder corn received the same care as the rest of the field, and far toward accomplishing it.

WATER of the right kind and in the right place is a very essential thing in the winter management of stock.

as the tassels began to shoot forth, L began cutting in the usual manner with a corn-cutter, and when I had a good armful, threw it over the fence to the cows. I found it was very much less labor to feed it out that way than with fork and scythe, as I had done the year before. Thus planted, it eared out well, though of course where it was the thickest, the ears were small. The "nubbins" were the making of the fodder and even when the corn had begun to glaze, it seemed to be well digested. lasted.

"Push Things" with the Young Stock.

Geo. Geddes, one of New York's veteran and most intelligent farmers, contributes to the Country Gentleman a thoughtful article upon the production of beef, from which we take extracts showing the economy earliest days:

The calf should be born as early as March or April, and fed for the first four months in the most liberal manner, and gradually accustomed to grass, and be put entirely on grass from that time, say August 1st, until the feed begins to be poor in the fall, when grain should be given in small quantities, and, before very rough weather, shelter provided. At birth, a calf should weigh from 85 to 100 pounds. Sometimes we have calves that weigh more than 100 pounds at birth, but not often. Taking the weight at 100 pounds, he will weigh from 300 to 400 pounds at four months. But such are the peculiarities of different animals, that it is not easy to predict the exact rate of pro-

Let us suppose the calf, on the first day of November, to be fed on good quart of meal, made by grinding one bushel of Indian corn with two of oats, fed each day; a warm, dry stable and yard, and plenty of good water. and 900 pounds. A herd of ten will probably average 700 pounds.

This winter feed being continued until grass and good pasture are furnished, the calves will gain one pound a day, weighing at 20 months old from 900 to 1100 pounds each.

This supposes nothing more than ordinary fair keeping—such as will return the most for the food and care given-and this brings us to the beginning of the second winter, with calves that have gained a year in time as against the common management of the average farmer.

Now comes up the question-shall these animals be sold from \$35 to \$45 each, or be kept over winter, well fed, and sold the next season when beef brings the best price, say June or

There are methods of management that, by giving more feed, will make larger animals than I have supposed, but where and how are we to get the best pay for our work, is the real

Animals not only pay best for the food consumed in early life, but they gain more pounds within a given time. This great law is shown even in chilpounds at birth at four months weighed nineteen pounds. The brother of ten years, who had ciphered to the rule of three, worked out a sum thus : If my little brother has gained ten pounds in four months, what will he weigh at my age? When he saw the answer, he exclaimed, "What a whopper!" The most authentic come to my knowledge I will give here, though I am well aware that it has been made public: Uncle Abe 1864, in Orange county, N. Y. At birth he weighed 134 pounds; at 90 days old he weighed 385 pounds, having gained 251 pounds. At 180 days old he weighed 670 pounds, gaining 285 pounds. At one year old he weighed 1,036 pounds, having gained 366 pounds; the whole gain in the year being 902 pounds, the first six year months giving 536 pounds, against 366 pounds the last half of the year. At eighteen months old he weighed 1,354 pounds; at two years old he weighed 1,616 pounds; at three years old he weighed 2,070 pounds; at four years old he weighed 2,360 pounds. The increase of food given was very great as the animal increased in age and his rate of growth constantly fell off until it was only 290 pounds for the last year of his life; only five pounds more than he gained in 90 days before he was six months old.

A New Method with Cream.

L. B. Arnold states that well-aired sweet cream, twelve hours old, taken from milk heated from 80° to 120° or 130°, and then cooled down to 60° within the twelve hours, churns as readily and makes as fine (and betterkeeping) butter as cream, lightly soured, at forty-eight hours old and taken from milk of the same quality and kept all the time at 60°.

Papa's Sheep Story.

Here's a story for the boys and girls in our farmers' homes, and many a one among them can call to mind some incident of their own lives which if as well told as this, would seem much like it. We find it in the February number of that most ex- the same annual compensation and cellent children's magazine, St. Nich-

DEAR ST. NICHOLAS: I send you And I may add I had no occasion to a story which I lately told to my feed meal while the corn fodder three little ones. They often ask for it, and seem to like it so much that I thought some of your young readers duties as may be perscribed by the might like to read it. My children call it "Papa's Sheep Story," and

here it is: "When I was twelve years of age, my parents lived on a large farm in Ohio, near Cleveland, and in the winter my father used to haul a load of hay or wood or apples into the city nearly every day, when the of liberal feeding in the animal's weather was fine. One day he started long after the usual time, and told me that, as he could not return until a late hour at night, I must do all the chores, and be 'very particular to feed and count the sheep in the south

"During the day a heavy snow storm set in, and it began to grow dark soon after I got home from school. While I was doing the chores, the driving storm and gathering darkness tempted me to think it wouldn't matter much if the sheep went without their supper for once, and that father would never know I hadn't counted them. Well, just as I was starting to go to the house, my father unexpectedly drove into the great barn, and at once asked me, 'Did you feed the sheep, Edward?

"It was no time to falter; so, fearing to be sent to the south brush-lot, which was nearly half a mile distant and bounded on three sides by a dense forest, which we boys thought as filled with bears as large as ele phants-I promptly replied 'Yes,

At this point, I see knowing looks exchanged among my children.

"'Where did you find them?' was the next question. I felt I had done wrong in telling this story, thought it would not do to back out then, so I answered, 'In the little grove, just beyond the hollow.'

"'Did you count them?' he asked, after a pause.

"'Yes, sir, there were thirty-six. I counted them over three or four times, and I'm sure they're all right,'

"As my father said no more for a few moments, I felt sure that my straightforward answers had concovered. For cholera and other mal-

"Presently he said, 'Edward, go and open the cow-shed door and then come and tell me what you see there.' I did as he said, and-what do you think I saw?

"My father had forgotten to turn the sheep out in the morning, and they had been in that cow-shed all

day!"
"Oh! oh! oh!" cry the three little ones, perched on my knee.

"'Come here to me,' said my ther; 'and I will teach you to be more truthful in future.' I went to him, and he taught me.

"Now, children, do you really think that Papa deserved to be punished?" Triumphal chorus from all three, Yes! yes! yes!

Yours truly, E. A. P.

Keeping Roots.

Country Gentleman, a suggestion as the indications mentioned above, you case, illustrating this law, that has to preparing roots for winter keep- may admire as many other points as ing, which is entirely new to us. If any of our readers have experience turned dishing face, a drooping, waxy horn, a small straight, slim leg, or How many farmers of Centre was the name given to a steer that which coincides with this, we should

> A person who is regarded as high au-A person who is regarded as high authority as a writer upon agriculture and horticulture, has published that "turnips may be preserved until spring by cutting off the tops about one inch from the bulb, and storing in a cellar," &c. (The italics are mine.) They cannot be so preserved, except in as small quantities as one barrel, or the like. When stored in hulk they will have a period of heat. as one barrel, or the like. When stored in bulk they will have a period of heating, as hay sweats in the mow. About the tops are many dormant buds, or eyes, which then begin to grow. About the root are little roots, which then also start into active life. Thus the heating is led on, and the whole mass rots together. To guard against this a slice of the bulb must be removed with the top, and another slice with the root. Then no growth is started by the sweating. no growth is started by the sweating no growth is started by the sweating, and the mass quickly cools off in safe-ty. When thus treated, many hun-dred bushels may be kept together in a cellar, protected from frost, with a little necessary ventilation.

A Good Suggestion.

From the Farmer's Review

It is now the time to look over the farm implements and repair and paint such as are in bad condition from last year's usuage. A work-bench in some room where a stove can be placed and a few inexpensive tools will enable farmers of even very slight skill to save many dollars and considerable time in visiting repair shops and paying mechanic's wages for simple repairs

Synopsis of Congressman Aiken's New Agricultural Biil.

Philadelphia Times

The bill provides that the Department of Agriculture shall be an executive department, under the supervision and control of a Secretary of Agriculture, who shall be appointed by the President and shall receive in like manner as the secretaries of the other executive departments of the government. That there shall be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, who shall be a practical agriculturist, to be appointed by the President, and who shall perform such Secretary or may be required by law, and who shall be entitled to an annual compensation of \$3,500. That there shall be a veterinary division, under the control of a veterinary surgeon subject to the authority of the Secretary, to which division shall be referred all matters pertaining to the inspection of imported and exported live stock, and to the investigation of the causes, existence and treatment of disease among animals; and said surgeon shall receive an annual salary of \$3,000. That there shall be also a division of entomology, under the supervision of an entomologist, whose duty it shall be, subject to the control of the Secretary, to investigate the habits of destructive insects and to collect such statistics as will show their effects upon the textile, cereal, and other crops of the United States, and said entomologist shall receive an annual salary of \$3,000. That in addition to the duties required of the Commissioner of Agriculture under existing law it shall be the further duty of the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, collate and submit to Congress at every regular session the agricultural statistics of the United States, including those relating to labor and the prices paid therefor; to the transportation and freight of agricultural products, live stock and manufactured articles and to the number and location of manufacturies, with their sources of raw material and their markets. That laws and parts of laws relating to the Department of Agriculture now in existence, as far as the same are not in conflict with this act, are continued in full force and effect.

Care of Roots.

. Home, in the Country Gentleman

After experimenting with kerosene sulphur and nearly everything else, I have come to the conclusion, based upon facts, that gas tar (coal tar) is the best preventative of scurvy and adies, I believe the tar to be a pro-phylactic. The parts of perches, nests, &c., which come directly in contact with the fowls, should be painted with boiling tar. This will set in an hour, and will not soil at All parts such as under the perches and under the nests, &c., should be well painted with the raw tar. Tar lasts much longer as a disinfectant, deodorizer, insect destroyer, &c., than anything else. Twice a year is an amply sufficient application for all purposes, and pays well. Kerosene will kill all insects and be otherwise useful, but it evaporates so quickly that it must be used at least once a week.

Indications for Rich, Yellow Milk.

From the National Live Stock Journal.

A yellow skin and a yellow ear (inside) is almost universally re-Mr. James Wood gives in the garded as present in a cow that gives rich, yellow milk; but after you find any other fancy points; but do not look for these till you have found the essentials.

Winter Diet for Hens.

It is hardly possible to speak too emphatically of the importance of providing for our hens a winter diet that shall, to a certain extent, take the place of and resemble the food eaten in summer. And, in doing this we must remember that in summer the fowl obtains, by her own exertions, many articles which we must endeavor to supply.

Poultry-raising requires but a modicum of real work, with, of course, the regular and ceaseless attention that must be given to any enterprise to ensure success. The risks attending it are not greater than those appertaining to any other business, if as much. Thoroughness is the great secret to success.

THE economy of farm machinery suffers from two drawbacks; viz: a lack of care on the part of the pur-chaser in selecting the good from the bad, and his neglect to properly care for it after it goes into his posession.

THE mere raising of large crops does not make the successful and prosperous farmer. The expense of raising them, whether in the form of manures or of labor, may eat up the

ARRANGEMENTS indicate that every county in the State will hold an agri cultural fair this year.

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dence, Spring street, south of Methodist church.

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side of Bishop between Aliegnens and recorder of Alleghens and Lamb streets. Services, Sunday 10:20 A. M. Wednesday services 7½ P. M. and Sunday school Sunday 2 P. M., in basement of church. Rector, Rev. John Hewitt; residence on Lamb street rear of Episcopal church.

Lamb street rear of Episcopa Church.

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tor, J. M. Smith; Post-office address, Bellefonte.

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Wednesday 11 a. M.

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