

New Advertisements.

TREASURER'S SALE

OF UNSEATED LANDS FOR TAXES FOR 1870, AND PREVIOUS YEARS. Notice is hereby given, that in pursuance of an Act of Assembly, passed the 12th day of June, A. D. 1815, entitled an Act to amend an Act directed the mode of selling unseated lands in Centre county, and to make several supplements thereto, there will be exposed to public sale or outcry, the following tracts of unseated lands in said county, to wit: taxes due and unpaid thereon, at the Court House in the Borough of Bellefonte, on the SECOND MONDAY OF JUNE, A. D. 1880.

Table with columns: Acres & Per., Warrantee, Taxes. Lists various land parcels and their owners, including names like Thomas Johnston, Robert Holmes, John Moore, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Address, Amount. Lists names and addresses such as Abraham Scott, Samuel Scott, John Brady, etc., along with associated amounts.

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.,' that other farmers may have the benefit of it. Let communications be timely, and be sure that they are brief and well pointed.

WEEDS will now come on rapidly, and if permitted to get a good start, much additional labor will be required to put everything in as good condition as is requisite; weeds are not hard to keep in check if taken at the right time which is before they come up.

VEGETABLES must grow rapidly to be of good quality. A little extra trouble in watering, manuring and cultivating makes the difference between crispness, freshness and fine flavor on the one hand, and stringiness, toughness and flatness on the other.

TOBACCO farming is assuming somewhat important proportions in Centre county, and it will interest those engaged in it to learn that in the old tobacco districts the coming crop is likely to suffer materially from a fly which is destroying the young plants. We have not heard of any trouble of this kind in our county, and the crop being comparatively new here, it is hoped that we may escape.

We are under obligations to Secretary T. J. Edge for an advance copy of the Crop and Stock Report of the State Board of Agriculture for May, 1880, so far as it relates to Centre county. Mr. Edge writes us that this is an average of all the official reports from this county. Taking 100 as representing the condition of crops last year, the report gives the present condition of our main crops as follows: Wheat, 135; Rye, 125; Grass, 95. Stock of all kinds, including cows, is reported in average good condition. The acreage of wheat is increased over last year, by some 15 per cent., and corn by 4 per cent. While rye and oats have decreased 5 per cent., an average of the estimates of the cost of farm products for this county gives that of wheat at .72; corn, .31; rye, .55; oats, .24; and potatoes, .20 per bushel, and hay at \$9.00 per ton. Clover seed is estimated to cost \$3.00 per bushel, and timothy seed \$1.80; while butter costs .18 per pound. This probably presents a fair estimate of the cost of producing the above crops, as it is an average of the reports of several gentlemen residing in different parts of the county, who made their estimate under the following instructions from Mr. Edge: "Under head of 'Cost of Crops and Stock,' I would respectfully ask you to exercise the greatest possible care and exactness. In your calculations please place the work of two horses and a man at \$2.50 per day, and of a man alone at actual wages and board. Please include in your estimate, taxes, interest, wear and tear of implements, one-half of manure applied to the crop, and all items of actual cost. It is our wish to make this table as near exact as possible."

In time of droughts keep the soil in the finest possible state. When the entire surface is an impalpable powder, and stirred frequently, no crop will be destroyed by any drought that can be experienced on the Atlantic slope. Fine dust is a great absorbent of moisture, and of the fertilizing gases that pervade the atmosphere.

If your cow's teats are sore from any cause, wash them clean with warm water, and then apply glycerine while they are moist. Two or three applications will cure the worst cases and render the teats soft and pliable.

A NEW YORK farmer kills the cabbage worm by sprinkling the plants with common black pepper from an ordinary tin box—a pound to 150 plants—sometimes previously sprinkling with soapuds from the week's washing. MANY insects harbor beneath the loose bark of trees, and by scraping this off and washing the trunk and limbs with a solution of soft soap much good may be done. RYE sown this month will make an excellent summer pasture for milch cows and give a larger return of rich milk and butter.

Cultivating the Corn Crop.

The best mode of cultivation is to begin with the smoothing harrow; this after the corn has made a few inches growth. It will then have secured sufficient root to prevent displacement, the backward pitch of the teeth favoring this, yet at the same time stirring and making fine the soil and destroying what foul seeds may have sprouted; this repeated weekly, or oftener, if the rains will admit, all the while improving the texture of the soil and exterminating weeds. The whole surface is thus worked, including the ground in contact with the plant, which a cultivator will not do, working only between the rows and not nearly so effectually. The work with the smoothing harrow may be continued for weeks till the corn has reached the height of ten or twelve inches. After that use the cultivator, and as long as the corn will allow it; better lose a stalk or hill now and then than let the weeds have a chance; besides the working will favor moisture in a drouth.—Exchange.

We entirely agree with the above excepting as to the time of beginning. The first harrowing should be before the corn is up—say within four or five days after planting. We practice this method ourselves, for the following reasons: It destroys myriads of weed seeds, which, lying near or on the surface, have sprouted since the ground was harrowed before planting, while the corn is so far below the surface that it cannot be disturbed. If the first harrowing be deferred until the corn comes up, we must wait until it is two or three inches high, otherwise the tender, white sprout just shooting through the ground will be broken off. This gives the weeds too much of a start, and permits them to become so well rooted that they are difficult to kill. In case the ground has become "baked," as under some circumstances it will, the harrow breaks the crust, and helps the corn "come up." In "dry times," when the corn is prevented from germinating by lack of moisture in the soil, the mellowing of the surface by the harrow is almost as good as a mulch, and will materially help in securing an even stand. This is the case this season. At the time of this writing no rain has fallen since the corn was planted, and there seems to be but little prospect for any soon. The ground is excessively dry, and there is danger that such of the seed as may have been deficient in vitality or germinating power will fail entirely, and that which does come be seriously delayed. Believing that this may be remedied in part by a thorough mellowing of the surface, we have the "smoothing harrow" going at the rate of twenty-five acres per day—changing teams and men, and keeping the harrow going steadily from daylight until dark. Still another advantage to be gained is the leveling up of the furrows left by the plow or planter, so that after the corn is up, there is much less danger of "covering" it with the harrow or cultivator. For these reasons we believe the proper time to begin cultivating corn is before it is up, instead of "after it has made a few inches growth."

Some Seasonable Poultry Hints. Sprinkle air-slacked lime pretty freely in your hen-houses. It will sweeten the air, banish the spider-lice, cure the gapes, colds and catarrh in the hens and hen-keeper (?). A hen which raises a brood of early chickens is worth two which do not; an early chicken is worth two late ones; early pullets will lay when eggs are high in price. It costs about one cent apiece to produce eggs; all you get over that is gain. Feed often; it will keep your chickens from straying, from cats, hawks, and you from a quarrel with your neighbors. The manure from your hen-houses, well composted and well applied to some early crops, will do much toward the keeping of the hens the succeeding season. Out Grass Early if You Want to Make Good Butter. When the grasses are dried, a great part of their aroma has passed away. This element cannot be replaced. Grain and roots may be substituted in part. The nearest we can get to it in preparing our winter feed is to cut the meadows as soon as the first blossoms have appeared. When cut at this time a great share of the aroma is absorbed in the leaves and straw, and retained to give the right flavor to the milk and butter, and also to give the butter the desired color, as well as flavor.

SUNFLOWERS are recommended in the Dutchess Farmer for bean poles, planting them at a suitable distance in the garden and planting the beans around them when three or four inches high. One of the best corn growers in this country says: "It is better to be a week late than a week early. Thorough preparation is the first requisite. It decreases the labor and cost of cultivation, and assures a good crop, other conditions being favorable. The crop will put in after the ground is warm will catch up and go ahead of that put in hurriedly, in half-prepared soil, though planted two weeks earlier."—Ohio Farmer. All true enough; but don't comfort yourself with this if so be that you were a week or ten days too late because of lack of energy, or want of proper preparation at the proper time. Gypsum in Agriculture—Composition, Application and Effects. Gypsum, commonly called plaster, is composed of 22 equivalents of water, 32 of lime and 46 of sulphuric acid. It is soluble in 500 times its weight of water, or about 1,000 times its bulk, its specific gravity varying from 1.87 to 2.31. It is used for making cement, when there is some carbonate of lime combined with the substances named. Calcination, (which is simply driving off the water by heat) being thoroughly performed, the powdered plaster is wet and quickly made into the desired form, when it rapidly becomes hard. About 18 per cent. of carbonate of lime is found in the plaster quarried near the city which gives it its name (Paris) in France. For agricultural purposes gypsum should consist of only the lime, water and sulphuric acid—in which case it will be white. But it is not often found perfectly pure. Oxide of iron gives it various shades of color. Carbonate of lime will be shown by applying acids, when a slight effervescence follows. Clay or other earthy matter, is often mixed with gypsum rock as quarried; plainly to be seen before grinding. We have in New York State extensive beds of gypsum rock that is of excellent quality for agricultural purposes. It is quarried from the beds, and usually placed under sheds to dry before grinding. Under these sheds the rock can be examined, and when found not to effervesce on the application of a strong acid, and to be crystalline all through, light and easily scratched with the thumb nail, and no earthy matter combined, the color of a soft gray, it will make a first-rate fertilizer if ground fine. When should gypsum be applied to land, how, and in what quantity? When.—On meadows, pastures and winter wheat, early in the Spring, as soon as the ground is settled. On barley and oats and potatoes when fairly up. On young clover early in Spring or immediately after the crop of grain grown with the clover is harvested. On corn, soon as it is fairly above ground. How.—A broadcast sowing machine, drawn by two horses, on which the driver rides, sowing a strip eight feet wide, can be purchased for \$35. Such a machine will do the work much better than it can be done by casting from the hand, unless the crop be in hills. Quantity.—On land that is to be ploughed soon, one bushel to the acre is sufficient, and as the gypsum is so slow in dissolving, it is proper to take into account the time that will be given before the plough will mix it with the earth and measurably end its usefulness. On permanent meadows and pastures, from two to three bushels are often sown on an acre at one application. The cost of gypsum will be taken into consideration when deciding on the quantity to be used. Where it is costly, I have heard of good results from the use of one peck on an acre of corn, a very little being given to each hill. What is its value to the farmer?—That eminent farmer, John Johnston, now nearly ninety years of age, crowned with the respect and love of all that know him, and surrounded by a great circle of friends at his home in Geneva, N. Y., has said more than once, that he would use gypsum on his farm if it should cost him \$40 per ton. Some very carefully conducted experiments made at the Michigan Agricultural College showed that one bushel of gypsum sown on one acre of newly seeded clover and timothy produced an increased yield of a ton of hay, in the two and a half years following; it having been mowed five times during that period. Calling a ton equal to twenty-five measured bushels, and the gain to give \$5 for this one bushel, we have \$125 as the net gain from the use of a ton. Let prudent men cut down these figures till they think they are within proper limits, and then make some trial of this wonderful fertilizer. How does this mineral produce such wonderful results? No man can tell. The scientific man has taken it apart and determined exactly what it is; but why it produces such wonderful effects he has no more knowledge than any of us—and all he or we know on this point is what we have learned by trying experiments, marking results and comparing notes with each other. I AM of the opinion, from my own experience, that it pays well to feed a good cow at each milking a quantity of good corn meal and bran, even when she is on grass; not to add to the quantity of the butter, but to keep up the strength of the cow. She will pay it back with interest.

Extracts and Comments.

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How to Restore Fertility to Exhausted Farms. CROPS THAT WILL BENEFIT THE LAND. Levi Stockbridge, in Land and Home. In the attempt to renovate soils, it is neither necessary or wise to rely on one method. The ordinary course of farming may be pursued; and by combining rest, green manuring, crop rotation, and tillage, as the circumstances of the farm and the farmer require, increasing fertility from year to year will be apparent. But while this process is going on, the farmer must, to sustain himself, sell some crop or crops. It is, therefore, important to know whether it will make any difference in his work of soil restoration what crop he sells. Does one crop remove more of the prime elements of fertility from the farm than another? All plants are composed of the same soil and animal materials, but the proportions in different classes vary considerably. The cucumber takes about 2 per cent. of its substance from the soil, clover 10 and tobacco 20. Some store up large quantities of nitrogen; in others the proportion is small. Some are rich in phosphoric acids; others take comparatively little. The elements more generally deficient in soils, and which are the most difficult and costly to supply, are potash, nitrogen and phosphoric acids; the farmer should carefully select for sale those crops which contain the smallest proportional quantity of those elements; and the demands of his market may possibly be such that they will yield the greatest money return. A ton of timothy hay is worth in market a third more than a ton of clover; but for feed and manure purposes on the farm, a ton of the latter is worth nearly as much as two tons of the former. Sell timothy, but retain and feed clover and those fine grasses known by the general name of English hay. As compared with the root crops, the grains are rich in nitrogen and phosphoric acid. Therefore sell roots, and retain grain. This rule is equally true when applied to animals and animal products. Milk is very rich in nitrogen and phosphate of lime; butter is nearly all carbon. Sell butter, but feed milk, and return its rich elements to the soil which produced them. Animals grown upon the farm are a soil product, made up of its choice elements, exactly the same as plants, and when removed to market deplete it. Mature animals brought to the farm and fattened in barn or pasture, and then exported, carry away the same substance as butter, and leave the soil as fertile as they found it. Clover Hay, and How to Make It. W. J. F., in Country Gentleman. The better way to cure clover hay is to do it almost altogether in the cock. Cut the grass, and after allowing it to wilt a few hours to remove as much moisture as will readily pass off, rake it up and cock it. If very green, make the heaps smaller, but never have clover spread over night unless cut so late in the afternoon that it is not practicable to rake it up the same day. Of course the green clover will "heat" in the heaps, but this is just what is wanted. When clover is heating it is curing more rapidly than in the brightest sunshine. The weight presses the juices to the surface of the stems, and with the thermometer at 100° to 120° or more, curing goes on rapidly. The advantage of this method is that we might make hay nights as well as days. The old rule to "make hay while the sun shines" is obsolete so far as clover is concerned. As we generally get the grass in cock toward evening, it cures more in the few hours following than in all the hours before it was put up. Getting it up green will cause it to pack readily, and will also prevent most danger from rains unless very heavy or of long continuance. Keeping out rain water is very important. The natural juices of the clover are sweet and rich. They cure into a kind of gum, which cattle and horses relish amazingly, and which is extremely nutritious. When rain water or even dew is mixed with this exuded gum the seeds of ferment are always present, and it is impossible to get the hay in the best condition. After leaving the clover generally forty-eight hours in cock it will be ready to draw. Sometimes, but not always, it is best to turn the cocks upside down an hour or two before drawing. The hay will often seem damp, almost wet; but if no rain has fallen on it, there will be little danger of further heating. After clover has heated once it is much drier than it seems. Before it has been through this process it will seem much drier than it is. In a large mow, or stack, this heating is too violent and will discolor the hay; but when well cured in small cocks it will dry out more perfectly than sun and air could ever do it. One advantage of clover thus cured is that the leaves are mostly saved. It is got into cocks while quite green, and never much moved afterward. It is more easily cured, and makes better hay if timothy has been sown with the seed at the rate of four quarts per acre. ASHES or saltpetre, if applied in time, will hold the onion maggot in check.

THE CENTRE DEMOCRAT

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