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EDITED BY DR. F. M. HEXAMER.

This popular Magazine, heretofore published by MESSRS. BEACH, SON & CO., will hereafter be published by the present proprietors, in an entirely new dress, and will appear in January, April, July and October of each year.

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BELLEFONTE & SNOW SHOE R. R.—Time-Table in effect on and after May 1, 1880:

Leaves Snow Shoe 7.20 A. M., arrives in Bellefonte 9.10 A. M.
Leaves Bellefonte 10.25 A. M., arrives at Snow Shoe 11.57 A. M.
Leaves Snow Shoe 2.00 P. M., arrives in Bellefonte 3.45 P. M.
Leaves Bellefonte 5.15 P. M., arrives at Snow Shoe 6.57 P. M.

DANIEL RHOADS,
General Superintendent.

BALD EAGLE VALLEY RAILROAD.—Time-Table, April 29, 1880:

Exp. Mail. A. M.	Mail. P. M.	WESTWARD.		EASTWARD.	Exp. Mail. P. M.	A. M.
8 10	6 32	.....Arrive at Tyrone Leave.....			7 8	8 20
8 3	6 25	.....Leave East Tyrone Leave...			7 15	8 27
7 59	6 21	..... "	Vail	"	7 19	8 31
7 55	6 17	..... "	Bald Eagle	"	7 23	8 37
7 48	6 9	..... "	Fowler	"	7 33	8 46
7 42	6 3	..... "	Hannah	"	7 36	9 7
7 35	5 55	..... "	Port Matilda	"	7 44	9 16
7 27	5 47	..... "	Martha	"	7 52	9 28
7 18	5 38	..... "	Julian	"	8 1	9 40
7 9	5 27	..... "	Unionville	"	8 11	9 43
7 00	5 18	..... "	Snow Shoe In	"	8 21	9 51
6 56	5 15	..... "	Milesburg	"	8 24	9 55
6 46	5" 5	..... "	Bellefonte	"	8 32	9 51
6 36	4 55	..... "	Milesburg	"	8 45	10 3
6 25	4 45	..... "	Curtin	"	8 55	10 14
6 18	4 40	..... "	Mount Eagle	"	9 00	10 19
6 9	4 31	..... "	Howard	"	9 8	10 29
5 55	4 20	..... "	Eagleville	"	9 18	10 42
5 50	4 15	..... "	Beech Creek	"	9 22	10 47
5 34	4 3	..... "	Mill Hall	"	9 34	11 00
5 29	4 00	..... "	Flemington	"	9 37	11 4
5 25	3 55	..... "	Lock Haven	"	9 42	11 8

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 58 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. 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.

Erie Mail East and West connect at Erie with trains on L. S. & M. S. R. R., at Corry with O. C. & A. V. R. R., at Emporium with B. N. Y. & P. R. R., and at Driftwood with A. V. R. R.

Parlor cars will run between Philadelphia and Williamsport on Niagara Express West, Erie Express West, Philadelphia Express East and Day Express East, and Sunday Express East. Sleeping cars on all night trains.

WM. A. BALDWIN,
Gen'l Superintendent.

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.*

Shade Offensive to Potato Bugs.

We have on our place potatoes planted in no less than six different patches or lots—some for ourselves, and some for the men employed on the place—besides sundry small lots in the several gardens; having been governed in the selection of the several places by considerations of convenience and adaptability of the land. We have noticed, all through the season, that while some of those lots are completely overrun with the "bugs," others are comparatively free from them. During a drive of an hour or two last week, we noticed the same discrimination in various other places, but failed to find any satisfactory reason for it. This morning, in looking over some of our agricultural exchanges, we find the following paragraph credited to Charles A. Green, of New York:

We have potatoes planted in the old apple orchard. Where the earth is shaded by the trees the Colorado beetle does not disturb the plants at all, but where the sun strikes in between the trees, or where a tree is missing, the beetle has to be fought constantly. Numerous theories are suggested by this freak, but I have not investigated far enough to offer an opinion.

Recalling our own observations, and going over, so far as we can remember, the several lots we have noticed, we find that Mr. Green's statement furnishes an entirely satisfactory explanation. So far as we can now recall the different patches we noticed, every one which struck us as being unusually troubled by the bugs lies open to the sun, while those which enjoy a degree of immunity from their attacks, are at least partially in the shade. We should be glad to know if any of our readers have made similar observations.

A Timely Caution.

The "ensilage" of green corn or other forage crops, as clover, rye, and so on, is attracting wide spread attention and inquiry throughout the country. Those of our readers who carefully read the article on this subject in our issue of the fifteenth inst., from the *Chicago Stock Journal*, will have a clear understanding of it. The claims set up for this method of preserving fodder, by some enthusiastic gentlemen who have practiced it, are so great that a word of caution from so high an authority as Prof. S. W. Johnson may not be amiss. We are indebted for the extract to the *Country Gentleman:*

That the silo cannot create any fodder, or that we cannot take out of the silo any food element that we do not put in is evident.

It is, I scarcely doubt, equally true that ensilage is no more palatable, no more digestible and no more nutritious than the fresh corn from which it is produced. The rumor now floating in the air that ensilage is worth more, nay, much more than the fresh corn fodder, has nothing solid to rest on. Fodder is on all hands conceded to lose nothing in the silo that can effect a concentration of its nutritive matters. The analyses of Barral which Goffart quotes in his book, give both for fresh maize and for ensilage 80 per cent. of water. The main advantage of the silo plainly is to magazine green fodder. Whether in our climate the silo or the stook and shed are the best, experience must decide. Whether successful ensilage is more palatable or more cheap than well cured corn fodder, experience must likewise settle. That ensilage once provided may be a valuable accessory to dry feed is fairly to be anticipated, but evidently the enthusiasts are over-rating it.

The Horse Fork Neglected.

While the excellent labor-saving machinery for sowing, caring for, and cutting the farm crops, have been generally appreciated and employed, the means for placing the grass and hay in the barn have been far too frequently neglected. The improved and almost perfect horse forks have claims upon the farmer, that he is slow to acknowledge. We used to think the hardest work of the haying and harvesting was the "pitching off," but when we put up one of those grappling forks and set it at the work, with a horse as the power, the hard labor was changed into a sort of half sport. The horse fork is one of the great recent inventions, and deserves to take a front rank among those machines that lighten the labor of the farmer, and at the same time allows his work to be done in the most rapid manner in that portion of the season when he is the most hurried and every aid is appreciated.

So says the *American Agriculturist*, and so say we.

We have used some one or another of the many different horse forks ever since we commenced farming, and would think we could not farm at all without one. Heretofore we have used them with the simple rope and pulleys, but last fall, Mr. J. R. Leathers, of Mountain Eagle, who appreciates good farm machinery, and is aiding in introducing some of it to our farmers, put up for us a "Church Elevator," for conveying the hay to different parts of the barn, and we are now using it, for the first time, in connection with the double harpoon fork made by the Pennock Co., at Kennett Square. The two combined make a complete arrangement for unloading hay, leaving nothing to be wished for in this direction.

Experiments in Thin Seeding of Wheat.

We find in the *American Farmer* a very interesting account of a series of experiments in the thin seeding of wheat, by C. Howard Shipley, of Baltimore county, Md. After giving a statement of the previous treatment and croping of the land, Mr. Shipley says:

Now this prepared us for the final and successful results which I come to in 1876, namely: finding out that we could produce a larger yield of wheat from a smaller quantity sown than the old quantity, viz: six pecks per acre with drill, which was the amount I formerly sowed as first referred to.

As to the increased yield of wheat per acre from a small quantity sown, it was proven to me by accident, viz: by the setting in motion of a new Hagerstown drill I had put to work, intending to set the seed part of the drill for sowing five pecks of wheat per acre. I placed the lever bar on the wrong side of the centre, or bushel notch, which made it sow only three pecks per acre instead of five pecks, which mistake I did not discover until I had sown three-fourths of my field. This being a particular piece of ground I had selected to sow with a new lot of wheat (amber) I had just purchased for seed, I discovered my seed going too slow. Upon examination of drill I found the mistake as above mentioned, viz: wheat gauge set to wrong notch; and having only sown three pecks per acre, I immediately changed the lever bar upon the other side of bushel notch, as I first intended, and sowed balance of seed with five pecks per acre, and noticed result. Having sown it about middle of September, the three pecks came up looking very thin to what the five pecks did, and I should have been discouraged but for the fact of having read some years previously an account in an extract from an English agricultural journal where in England they had produced large fields of wheat per acre by sowing, or planting, if we may so call it, one grain to the square foot, or, in other words, one foot apart—making as high as eighty bushels of wheat per acre.

As I stated, my thin sowing looked very unpromising at first; but the next spring, as the warm rains and hot sun began to have their effect, it was not long before I could see it thickening up, with strong branches shooting out fifteen to twenty stalks from one grain, while the five pecks per acre sowing did not contain more than half as many branches; and when ready to harvest it stood equally as thick upon the ground as where I had sown the five pecks, with all the branches well up and heads much larger. When harvested the yield was thirty-six bushels of good wheat per acre for the three-peck sowing and only thirty-one bushels for the five-peck sowing.

This being conclusive to my mind, that the smaller quantity we sow per acre the larger return we will realize, provided the ground is strong enough.

It therefore caused me to attempt a similar trial in earnest to a greater extent, so far as I had better and stronger ground—as the thinner you sow the better it requires the ground to be. Consequently the next year (1876) my principal crop was sown with only three pecks per acre of amber wheat, in corn ground, plowed, &c., as first described, with an application of four hundred pounds of Slingluff's raw bone per acre (this standard fertilizer I prefer to all others, after having tried several kinds.) My return from this test of three pecks per acre was thirty-eight bushels per acre.

But being disposed to test my experience still further the coming season (fall of 1877,) I prepared one field of sixteen acres, and sowed it with three pecks per acre.

I had about four acres in another lot; this was clover sod, plowed late in spring, top dressed with manure and cross plowed in August, sowed at the same time as the other, about middle of September, with only two pecks per acre and five hundred pounds of Slingluff's bone per acre—both pieces put in with Bickford & Huffman's drill. I also had another small piece in my truck patch—a little better piece of ground than the above, containing about one-twelfth of an acre, upon which I sowed at the rate of only one peck per acre, with the same quantity of fertilizer. This was put in with a Hagerstown drill, the Bickford & Huffman drill not sowing a less quantity than two pecks to the acre.

Now as to results.

Lot Nos.	Acres.	Bus. made.	Bus. per acre
1	16	568	35½
2	4	154	38½
3	1-12	4½	54

Or, in other words, a table showing bushels harvested to one bushel's sowing.

Lot Nos.	Quant'y sown.	Bus. per acre.	Bus. for 1 sown
1	3	35½	47.50
2	2	38½	77
3	1	54	216

This first sowing of sixteen acres with three pecks stood beautiful and regular all over the field; but heads were short and of ordinary length.

The second lot sown, of four acres, with two pecks per acre, was equally as thick a growth upon the ground, but wallowed considerably in places, which affected the yield of this piece somewhat. The heads of this wheat averaged from four to five inches in length.

The third lot of one-twelfth of an acre, at rate of only one peck per acre, stood upon the ground from four, five and six inches apart; but sometimes three or four grains would drop together, which was an objection to thin sowing. Here I would remark, there should be constructed a drill especially adapted to thin sowing of wheat, so as to deposit but a single grain of wheat in a place, from four to six inches apart.

I could stand some distance from this wheat and count the single growths of grain near the bottom; but when viewing the whole piece over the top it looked as thick as either of the of the other two pieces, with much longer and larger heads, averaging about five inches in length. Some of this wheat put up as many as thirty to thirty-five branches from one grain, and upon an average over the whole piece twelve to fifteen stalks from a single grain.

* * * * * *

In conclusion, I am unhesitatingly in favor of thin seeding of wheat; but the ground must be good and thoroughly worked, as in the case of the third lot, where I sowed at rate of one peck per acre,—it having been cultivated three or four years as a truck or vegetable garden, and consequently the ground had been well worked and highly improved.

I continue my seeding with three pecks of wheat to the acre; but as my lands improve I shall reduce to two pecks per acre. Then when brought to that high state of cultivation in which all lands should be to make them pay, (more particular now than in former years, owing to the great competition we farmers have to contend with against the Western production of all kinds,) followed by setting in grass, my labor will be less, my crops larger, my profits greater; and my satisfaction at results will commend a consideration of this mode of farming to all tillers of the soil.

Coldness of the Horns.

The horns of a cow are always hollow. They are the natural covering and perfection of bony processes from the skull and are themselves insensible as the hair or the hoof is. They are formed of a fibrous substance, having the same composition as hair, but as they contain within them the bony cores which are part of the skull, they may indicate by their temperature disease in these or neighboring portions of the skull. A low temperature indicates decreased circulation, and heat is a symptom of increased circulation. Either of these may be the result of disease elsewhere and the temperature of the horns should be regarded only as one of the many circumstances which point to some constitutional condition, just as a hot, dry skin or a cold, clammy one, would indicate the same in a person. By itself it is no guide to the seat of the disorder, but taken with others it may be.

Stones in the Meadow.

From the American Agriculturist.

As the knives in the mowing machine strike against the loose stones in the meadow, or become broken by the small ones that get between the guards, they are not pleasant reminders that these obstructions should be removed from the surface of the meadow. There is no better time for doing this, than just after the grass crop has been taken off, while the surface is comparatively bare, and the stones often loosened by the horse rake, and other haying implements. A few hours now spent in gathering up the loose surface stones, will be well spent, and may prevent a serious break to the mowing machine, and in a hurried time of work.

HAVE a good deal of faith in an overruling Providence, but plough early and often, and use the cultivator as often, with plenty of manure in the hill; then, with occasional rains, Providence will never hide a smiling countenance.

A North Carolina Bonanza.

An extraordinary change has occurred in one phase of the agriculture of North Carolina, by which the rejected lands are preferred, and prices have risen from a dollar an acre to thirty and even fifty. The extension of the culture of bright yellow tobacco has been the cause, and the regions affected are the northern counties adjoining the Danville district, in Virginia, and also the Piedmont region farther south and west, including the counties of Alexander, Caldwell, Catawba, Lincoln and Cleveland. The light, gray, sandy soils are peculiarly adapted to this crop. A moderate quantity of phosphates and guano is used to get a quick growth, which the dry weather of the late Summer terminates, and the porous quality of the soil supplies from below sufficient moisture to make the ripening very gradual to a clear lemon color, and the curing without spot or blemish. This tobacco is used for plug wrappers, commands a very high price, and often brings to the grower $500 per acre. It is enriching multitudes, building houses and stimulating unaccustomed improvements and making handsome bank accounts throughout the favored district. It is a rural bonanza for many an industrious poor man, whether white or black, and still yields a golden harvest.

Importance of Good Stock.

From the American Dairyman.

A large portion of the possible value of products is lost by reason of not having the right things in the right place. A dairyman for instance who has not the right kind of cows must submit to receive a yearly income of $40 or $50 per cow, or less, when he might otherwise gain $60 or $70. A keeper of poultry may not receive from his fowls the actual value of the fool consumed; or the feeder of pigs may find himself in the same predicament when he sends his pork to market. Much of this preventible loss occurs from want of judgment or discrimination of selecting or breeding stock. The live stock of a farm, and more especially of the dairy farm upon which no crops, but only animal products are sold, are the tools or instruments, so to speak, with which the profits are dug out of the soil. If the tools are not the very best, the work done by them is proportionately poor and poor work is not profitable. It is then of the the first importance that the animals which are to be used as machines should be of the very best kind.

Hoven.

American Farmer.

Judge Luse says that in cases of hoven, tympanitis, or drum-belly, as it is sometimes called, which is caused by cattle eating too heartily of wet rank grass, clover or green rye in the spring, and overfilling the paunch before the stomach has time to act—hence fermentation commencing, the animal swelling, suffering great pain and generally dying in a short time unless relieved—he gives a teaspoonful of pulverized charcoal every fifteen minutes, in about one-half pint of milk and water sweetened with a little molasses, until relieved. Since he learned of the efficacy of this remedy he has had no difficulty in relieving his cattle from the severest attacks of hoven.

IT costs no more to winter an old hog than it does a pig. The practical difference is that a BREEDING SOW may be kept up on the same feed which a pig would require, and in the spring a litter of young ones would make a large margin in favor of the old one. Old sows are twice as profitable as young ones, as the offspring are always larger and more of them. They may be kept a number of years with profit. When a year old, small-boned breeds will have their growth and require but little food, only enough to maintain life and locomotion, whereas a growing pig requires food for the same purposes and to promote its growth.

TIMOTHY can not be cut low, especially in dry weather, without harm attending; therefore it is advised that all attempts at close shaving the sward will be avoided. Not a few of our most successful farmers cut timothy nearly or quite four inches from the ground. Others, in gauging mowing machines for this grass, take care to run them so high that it will not be cut below the second joint above the tuber.

IF you want your chickens to grow fast feed them on oatmeal scalded with sweet or sour milk. Don't make the feed wet or sloppy, nor give more at once than will be eaten up clean. Only prepare as much as will be eaten before any fermentation takes place in it. Where oatmeal can not be had, fine corn meal or cracked wheat similarly treated and administered will answer a very good purpose.

Do not try to mow with a dull scythe; in one hour double the time will be spent in whetting that it would require to give it a good grinding, beside twice the physical force is expended in mowing. These remarks apply with equal force to all who use edge tools.

EARLY maturity is a desirable quality in chickens.