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The Centre Democrat. BELLEFONTE, PA. AGRICULTURAL. NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

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

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.

SUEL FOSTER, of Iowa, has used coal tar as a paint for twenty years, and speaks strongly in its favor. He particularly advocates it for painting old wagons and tools, and soaks the I wish those who feed hay would corbottoms of fence posts in it while boiling hot to great advantage.

THIS is the season in which the average agricultural paper gives instuctions for building corn cribs, and \$30. The seven cattle had the run we notice that our exchanges are following the well beaten track. What's the good? There are more cribs in of the time were not turned out until the country now than will be half filled. Better look after the old ones, and see that they are secure against mice, weather and thieves. Corn will be scarce enough to warrant the exercise of great care over what we have.

Eggs Next Winter.

Feed of all kinds will be high priced and hard to find the coming winter, and every pound fed out should be made to yield a profitable return in some manner. Many farmers complain that the feed given to hens during the winter is a waste, as they persistently refuse to yield any return for it. In very many instances we know this to be true, but the case is by no means without remedy. Pro-

per care added to the amount of food usually given, will often make all the difference between profit and loss. The probabilities are that eggs will bring unusually good prices during the coming winter, and it is now time to make arrangements for producing them at the lowest possible cost. A correspondent of the Record gives some valuable practical hints upon the subject which we reproduce be-

"To get eggs in winter a perfect system of cleanliness should be practiced. The droppings should be frequently removed and preserved for further use, and while it is necessary to have the quarters warm and the fowls protected against the ingress of cold draughts, care must be taken to have ventilation. A crack in the boards, no matter how small, will give a whole flock the roup, and filthy quarters and roosts will promote a successful sweeping off by the chole-ra. The food should be varied. Soft food in the morning and whole grains at night is better than the usual irregularities practiced. A cheap mess can be prepared for a morning meal by running hay through a fodder cutter, steeping it over night, and after giving it a warming in the morning, thicken with meal, and feed on boards

or any other clean place. It is wasteful to feed cracked corn, or even screenings. Though seemingly cheaper than whole grains, the difference will be apparent if a com-parison is made. Avoid overfeeding or too much fat. A fat hen—one ex-

a good price in the fall, and reduced my cattle to seven head, so that I wintered seven cattle, four horses, and nine sheep, seven of which had lambs early in February. I had not a pound of hay, and we began feed-ing corn fodder to our teams the last of August from a strip of early yellow corn, so that the teams have been fed over seven and a half months, and they have not had in this time a single feed of straw or bay and have eaten but little grain. Hay is selling readily in my neighborhood at the barns of the farmers-the buyer haul-ing it-at \$15 a ton. 1 have fed so little hay that I hardly know how much it would take to winter a team, but for 225 days of feeding, includ-ing such cold weather as we have had the past winter, I would estimate that it would take six tons of hayrect me if I am wrong-and this would make the fodder my teams ate worth \$90. My sheep were on fodder five months and ate just about as much fodder as one team did during the same time, which would be about of a straw stack during the day but were fed all the fodder they would eat morning and night, and two-thirds after a noon feed of fodder; but we will call the fodder they ate, half what the horses ate each for the same time. The cattle were fed six months. The fodder the horses ate is charged at \$3 a month, and calling the cattle \$1.50 a month, makes \$9 each for the six months, or \$56 for the seven head. Bringing these items together I estimate the value of my corn fodder at \$176, which is a little less than what

of stock, as I had a chance to sell at

twelve tons of hay would bring at my barn to-day. Now as to the condi-tion of my stock, I would be willing to show them with any farmer who had fed hay. I have fattened one old cow and my young grade Short-horn steer, and never made better beeves in the same length of time. My milch cows are fat enough for the butcher and my teams in first rate order."

Practical Knowledge in Farming.

tional Live-Stock Journal, Chicago

It is a misfortune that the value to a farmer of what may be classed as theoretical knowledge-such as is gained by reading or by hearing lectures, or the conversations of others, or by a process of reasoning-is often ignored or underestimated. This want of appreciation of such knowledge often arises from a lack of any clear idea of the relative places of "practical" and "theoretical" knowledge. As indicated above, practical knowledge-that gained by personal experience or observation will often enable a farmer to meet a difficulty in a simple manner, but the farmer who relies wholly on his own experience must necessarily be a narrow man, and a radical change in his circumstances will leave him helpless. A man who undertakes farming with only theoretical knowledge, will almost certainly make many mistakes, and be justly liable to the charge of being "visionary." Such a man, how-ever, will often become a more suc-cessful farmer man his purely prac-tical neighbor, when practice has led him to modify and adjust his theoas to his circumstances. What is needed, of course, is a due amount of each of the two kinds of knowledge. It is often sneeringly said that agricultural colleges "cannot make successful farmers," This is true in the same sense that it is true that

no professional school can,"make" a successful minister, lawyer, or physician. Each can do much to help a young man in acquiring practi-cal knowledge, and in better fitting him to apply such knowledge when gained.

Col. Curtis on Fodder Corn.

Our fodder corn was so large that a man could not reach around the stocks to bind them. We wanted to put it in the best possible shape to cure, and to remain in the field until winter, so we got a rope and tied an iron ring in one end and with this slipping noose one man could draw the stock as tight together as was desirable and another could put on the band. A box was brought into use for the binder to stand upon and with these simple devices the corn stalks have been set up in the best order and cannot possibly fall down. The stalks were cut off at the ground and laid evenly in small piles and left two days to dry. There were fine stalks enough to bind these piles, and the bundles were set up far enough apart to let the air circulate through them, and. slanting, so that they stood bracing. The tops being drawn closely together at the top the rains cannot pene-trate the stook. Put up in this manner the stalks will be bright and free from mould. To utilize these stalks to the best advantage, we shall cut them with a machine run by horse power. When cut fine-say a half inch in length-both cattle and horses will eat them if clean. I know a farmer who wintered a dozen horses last winter on corn and broomcorn stalks. They were cut in this manner, and after cutting mixed togeth-er. The animals did well. Cows will thrive on cornstalks cut fine without any other feed.

Good farmers estimate that our three acres of drilled corn will winter ten head of cattle. A large quantity of the stalks are from eight to ten feet high. The field was used last year for the hog pasture. Fodder corn was carted on to this ground and fed to the hogs, followed by roots. The hogs were put in again this season to feed upon the clover, which they ate down close, after which the land was ploughed the middle of June, and the crop started. Virginia white corn was sowed by hand in drills, thin enough to admit of full growth. We began cutting as soon as it was fully tasseled out, to get ahead of the frost. That this corn has virtue is proven by the fact that a half dozen breeding sows lived upon it before pigging, and every one had full litters of healthy pigs. Not one had died. It was sowed so thinly that many stalks for-med nubbins. This corn is too rank and course to put into a stack or mow. It would spoil. We propose to cart it directly from the field to the cutting machine, and then cut it and pile it up on the barn floor, where it will be carried in baskets and fed to will be carried in baskets and fed to the cows. Enough can be cut and thus piled at one time to ast a week or more for feeding. The first snows will not injure it, as they can be sha-ken off. Before the season is far ad-vanced it can all be aken to the barn and cut. It will not injure after be-ing cut, however large the pile, as be-ing mixed with the leaves will absorb the dampness from the stalks, and it the dampness from the stalks, and it will not pack as it would in a stack or mow.

Figuring the Profits of Cows.

or. of Rural New Contact.

Let us figure up a little. The ave-rage value of farm land from the Atlantic to the Missouri may be reason-ably estimated at \$50 per acre and the taxes at 50 cents per acre. interest, at six per cent. on the land and taxes would amount to \$3.50 per acre. Five acres of pasture and two acres of hay and other winter feed are required, or an average, to sup-port a cow. The cost then of her feed will be \$24.50 yearly. The cost of labor of feeding, milking, and attention will amount to ten dollars more. The total is \$34.50. At two cents a quart for the milk, this will require 1735 quarts in the year, or an average daily yield of eight quarts per 215 days or six quarts daily for about ten months. This is above the aver-age of all cows, including good, bad, and indifferent, and far above average of the worst half of all the dairy cows.

GILMORE & CO., Law AND COLLECTION HOUSE, 629 F STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C. Make Collections, Negotiate Loans and attend to all business confided to them. LAND SCRIP, Roldier's Additional Homesteed Rights and LAND WARRANTS bought and sold. 48-tf New York Weekly Herald. ONE DOLLAR A YEAR. THE circulation of this popular

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Opposite Court House, BELLE TERMS \$1.25 PER DAY. A good Livery attached. BENJ. F. GRAFTON. STORY B. LADD PATENTS. ST. XAVIER'S ACADEMY, NEAR LATROBE, PA., NEARLY half a Century old, from PAINE, GRAFTON & LADD,

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tremely so-is as useless as one that has been insufficiently fed. A moderate, changeable diet, with good

warm quarters, plenty of cracked oyster shells, and some meat scraps from time to time, will give eggs in abundance in the winter; but, like all other stock on the farm, poultry, in order to be profitable, must receive personal supervision and care."

Value of Corn Fodder,

We confess to a higher appreciation of the value of corn fodder as a winter feed than most farmers seem to have. Perhaps the lack of it, which will make itself manifest in many stock yards before the winter

is over, will have a tendency to elevate it in the estimation of many

1-1

hich the most prominent and cultivated wo naylyania have graduated, offers most thors smal aids and hisbest standard of refinion s. Papils admitted at any time. Yearly down force

BISTERS OF MERCY, Beatty's P. O., Westmoreland county, Pa.

A word about saving your apples. You can have fresh apples by packing them in dry hemlock sawdust, as your eggs in salt. We have them fresh until the new crop is gathered. They should be put in piles to sweat before packing .- Scientific American.

Does any one of our farmer readers recall that he ever prepared a field for wheat too carefully?

RIFERSISO hang the outs Upon the laden boughs; the clusters brown Of raset bazels: the spiked barsting bucks Of Polished chestituts; and the teening store Of yellow walents. Autumn-tide hath come, And pours from out her overflowing horn Her welcome blessings on the grateful earth ! —Chambers' Journal

A very important exhibit at our fair was the Bates Harvester and New Buck-eye Mower built by the Central Manuwas the Bates Harvester and New Buck-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-set Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-set Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-set Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-set Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-set Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-eve Mower built by the Central Manu-ter Addet and the comparised to readdate, having just completed its the self-rake has the most completed is third year. It seems simple and strong. The self-rake has the most completed is the self-rake has the most completed is the self-rake has the most completed in the self-rake has the most completed its third year. It seems simple and strong. The self-rake has the most completed its third year. It seems simple and strong. The self-rake has the most completed its third year. It seems and strong. The self-rake has the most completed its third year. It seems and strong. The self-rake has the most completed its third year. It seems and strong. The self-rake has the most completed its the self-rake has the most completed its third year. It seems and strong. The self-rake has the most completed its the self-rake has the most completed its the agency for this vicinity, and we are reliably informed that he sold 47 ma-the agency for this solution, he having going entire satisfaction, he having poed into this country.—Adv.

But how will this matter stand when those farms are considered which cost their owners \$100 per acre. The cost of keeping a cow on such land will average \$59 yearly, and yet we may see constantly in the reports of creameries and cheese factories that the average yield of whole dairies for the season varies from a little more than \$30 up to about \$40.

Two of our large industries are troubled by the high prices of corn. The glucose factories all over the country are either diminishing or, more commonly, altogether suspend-ing operations. With corn at 25 to ing operations. With corn at 25 to 30c., per bushel they could make a very satisfactory profit by converting it into "sugar," but with corn at 60c to 70c., per bushel, they could proba-bly make a profit by reversing the transmutation, were such a feat possi-ble. The Kentucky distillers are also morried by the advance in price of worried by the advance in price of this cereal, and are said to be debat-ing whether, in view of the low prices of whisky and high price of corn it would not be advisable to make more whisky at present. Few are the un-mixed evils in the world .-- Rural New Yorker.

THE late potatoes retain their flavor over winter and into spring better than early sorts.