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TRAVELER'S GUIDE.

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BALD EAGLE VALLEY RAILROAD.—Time-Table, April 29, 1880. Exp. Mail, WESTWARD. EASTWARD. Exp. Mail. A. M. P. M. A. M. P. M.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

(Philadelphia and Erie Division)—On and after December 12, 1877. WESTWARD. ERIP MAIL leaves Philadelphia 11:55 p m

PACIFIC EXPRESS

leaves Lock Haven 6:40 a m, Lock Haven 7:55 a m, Harrisburg 11:55 a m, Philadelphia 3:45 p m

DAY EXPRESS

leaves Renovo 10:10 a m, Lock Haven 11:25 a m, Harrisburg 12:40 p m, Philadelphia 4:10 p m

ERIP MAIL

leaves Renovo 7:20 p m, Lock Haven 8:35 p m, Harrisburg 11:05 p m, Philadelphia 11:55 p m

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leaves Williamsport 12:25 a m, Harrisburg 1:38 a m, Philadelphia 7:25 a m

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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."

Prices of Grain.

The interests of all producers are greatly affected by the prices obtained for their products. Just now grain farmers are enjoying a "boom"

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Exporting being at a standstill

the inflow of foreign money we should have been nearly stopped, and European buyers are seeking cheaper supplies in all other parts of the world.

The high speculative prices are greatly diminishing the consumption, and this alone must, ere long, bring about a decline. The laboring classes are compelled to pay much higher rates for their food, the advances mainly going into the hands of the speculators.

Of course every speculator, large and small, expects to sell out before any great decline shall come, and the shrewder ones will do so, leaving the great mass to bear the brunt of the loss.

Clear-headed business men now greatly fear that in the future, perhaps the very near future, a crash will come that will derange the whole business of the country.

To the oft-repeated question from our readers: "Shall we sell now, or hold on?" we can only answer, that a good general rule is to sell whenever ready; get the money; pay up debts, and keep in as snug and safe a condition as possible.

To sell, or hold on for change of prices, is to speculate on great uncertainty. One half of the speculators who make a business of studying the prospects—viz., the sellers for future delivery—believe prices will fall.

The other half of them—the buyers—believe grain, etc., will go higher, from natural causes, or that they can "corner" the supplies, and put up the rates. The outlook would seem to be that, while speculative influences may sustain or even advance prices temporarily, there can hardly be a demand for all the grain, etc. Consumers at home and abroad will necessarily curtail their purchases very materially, and these high rates will call out supplies from other sources not usually drawn upon.

Agricultural Publications.

Mr. Waldo F. Brown, of Oxford, Butler county, Ohio, a farmer of much practical experience, and a large contributor to current agricultural literature, publishes a little pamphlet upon fencing, in which he gives much general information upon the subject, and also describes and illustrates a self-supporting fence of his own invention, but upon which he has no patent, giving the use of it free to all.

The Country Gentleman, an advertisement of which appears in another column of the DEMOCRAT, gives notice that with the coming volume it will be enlarged from its present size of sixteen pages to twenty pages weekly, and without any increase of price.

What "Dished Faces" Indicate. From a personal correspondence between two noted swine breeders the Rural New Yorker copies the following:

In a recent agricultural journal the inquiry is made as to the relation of dished faces and heavy jaws to well marbled meat in Berkshires. "My impression is that heavy jaws indicate a disposition to lay on fat apart from the lean meat. Am I right?" He is answered as follows: "I think you are right in regard to heavy jaws.

Those Berkshires with thinner jaws make the best hams, shoulders and bacon—lean, tender, juicy meat mostly—very little fat. Heavy-jawed swine make fatter pork, etc. I used to breed the lighter jaws in preference to the heavy, and from them have had hams weighing 20 pounds or more, very sweet, tender, and juicy, with a rim of fat round them not over half an inch thick. Such are the most profitable for consumers, and they are most readily sold in market at an extra price."

So great is the present rage of this kind of speculation that on some days sales reach tens of millions of bushels. On one day (Oct. 1) the "deliveries" of grain, on previous contracts, were reported at 32,000,000 bushels in Chicago alone!

This speculation has demoralized the whole trade. The "bulls" have run up prices so high as to nearly stop exports. On Oct. 1 the "visible supply" of wheat, that is, wheat in the elevators and storehouses and in transit, amounted to 41,203,648 bushels. Last year at the same time there were only 37,099,745 bushels, showing more available wheat now than one year ago, though prices are fully 40 per cent. higher. Nearly the same of corn, the "visible supply" being nearer 27,629,172 bushels; last year only 28,289,298 bushels.

The increased price of wheat is largely by speculation. Nature is wholly unnecessary. Nature all the time is producing for restoration to the hands of a judicious farmer, and then persistent feeding to the market, as will insure a fair price for the farmer and labor, while leaving the farmer all that needs to be applied to secure subsequent liberal returns, will save to the farmers of the United States millions of dollars annually paid for artificial manures, which are valuable only in proportion as they approximate the standard of animal products.

Despite all the chapters written, and all the praises sung, in support of the claims of the sheep to a more general introduction and distribution into and through the farm economy, the fact remains apparent that many farmers will not bear, or hearing, do not need. Diminishing crops annually extorted from famishing acres drive them upon new "clearings" usually secured at greater expense than would be necessary to restore the old homestead to its wonted fertility. Quite often when the attempt at restoration is determined upon, it is through a resort to commercial fertilizers in some of the many forms in which they are placed upon the market. Results frequently disappoint the experimenter and discourage those inclined to follow his example—and thus the number of abandoned fields which disfigure the face of our Eastern and Southern States steadily increase and lower the standard of their agricultural economy. A small flock of sheep, and the introduction upon each of these farms of such crops as experience in more provident sections has demonstrated will "rotate" most conveniently and economically, would have saved nine-tenths of the present area of worn-out lands to the beauty and wealth of their respective localities. Let this fact serve not alone to warn the farmer of to-day against a repetition or continuance of the policy which has so badly scarred the face of an agriculture as yet in its infancy. Let it also serve to stimulate him to put forth his best efforts at repairing the damage already wrought. The task is by no means so great as many would believe. Given, a flock of sheep, a strong will, and a clear head; a few bushels of clover, corn, peas and other quick-growing cereals, that are to be fed on the farm where grown, and not many seasons will be required for demonstrating that there are but few places for the economical employment of commercial manures beyond the limits of the market garden.

Fall Plowing.

Correspondence of Country Gentleman. Fall plowing is one of the many ways that the comparative leisure of late autumn may lend a helping hand to the seed time of the coming spring. This plowing not only helps in a mechanical way, by making it easier to fit the soil for the seed, but, if rightly done, it has a chemical influence which makes the operation doubly important. The soil, as it is plowed, is left in a loose and more or less ridged condition, thus exposing it to the action of the air and rains. This action, which is called "weathering," is of especial importance to heavy clay soils, and in order to expose as large a surface as possible to the action of the elements a system of ridged plowing is often practiced with marked success. This ridge-plowing is done by turning the furrows two and two together, thus leaving the land quite thoroughly and uniformly ridged, and at very small expense. Should the land be hilly, the ridging out to be up and down the incline, to avoid any holding of the water between the ridges. Land that has been ridged will need to be plowed again in the spring, to bring the surface to a uniform level.

Surfacing Land with Fertilizers.

Mr. C. S. Reed, who, it will be remembered, was one of the Royal English Commission to look into our agriculture, says of concentrated fertilizers that continuous grain growing by their aid will not long succeed on some stiff soils. For two years the dressings answer well, but in the third they seem to lose their efficacy, and the land shows signs of being tired of grain growing. The springs of the last few years have been cold and wet in England, and the most valuable portion of the nitrogenous fertilizers may have found its way into the nearest rivulet. But when the season has been favorable he finds that the land refuses to answer the whip as it does at first. The straw not only grows weaker, but a great deal turns white before it ripens, and produces hardly any grain; while, if the dressings are increased, the straw is flaggy and weak, and is sure to lodge with the first pelting rain.

Look Ahead Sharp.

Let every farmer, whether blessed with an abundant crop or cut short by the drouth, prepare for a severe winter and high prices. Waste food of no kind; feed stock judiciously; sell off the surplus; husband every resource; don't sell more feed than you can well spare, because prices will be higher than ordinary; before you sell, make a close calculation how much you can spare, and don't dispose of any more. Thoughtful and judicious management was never more needed than now.

The value of a bulky food, as hay or straw, is far greater when given to a ruminant animal than when consumed by a horse or pig. Concentrated, easily-digested foods, as grain and oilcake, have clearly a value above their composition when added to a poor and bulky food, as straw chaff, or to a water food like turnips, because they are the means of raising the diet to a point at which the animal will thrive. On the other hand, roots and green fodder, even where watery and poor in composition, may have a considerable effect when added in moderate proportion to dry food.

In feeding animals, as in other things, time is a most essential element of success. Nature has most clearly pointed out to us the road to success in cattle feeding. It is found in this law that the young animal takes the least amount of food to produce a pound of growth, and that, all other things being equal, each succeeding pound of growth or live weight up to the maturity of the animal costs more than the preceding pound.

The celery should be stored before the ground freezes; a trench may be dug in a dry place, deep enough to bring the tops on a level with the soil. Set the plants in closely, side by side, with no earth between, and cover first with some straw, and add more covering as the cold increases. Boards may be put over the straw. A small amount of celery may be stored in earth in the cellar.

It is the long headed farmer who looks from one crop to the one that is to follow, and it is likewise the man of foresight who does work in one season which will help in some one that will follow.

FALL-PLANTED trees must be well staked to prevent the winds from disturbing their roots, and care must be taken that water does not stand near them.

SWEET apples are an excellent feed for cows if supplied in moderate quantities and under favorable circumstances.

Do whatever the weather will now permit to improve the garden, and aid in the hurry of spring.