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it would be advisable for him to do so. To make one successful requires attention, and it is not always in the power of the farmers for whom we write to bestow these. Besides this tive times is many early plants as will supply the demands of the best farm garden can be successfully and easily raised in a half dozen shallow boxes in the windows of the farmhouse kitchen. Every farmer's wife knows how to do this, and in nine ter plants when the time comes to put them in the garden than her husband would by fussing with a hotbed. It is time now to be looking after these matters, in order to secure

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PA

AGRICULTURAL

NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

THE TEST OF THE NATIONAL WELFARE IS THE INTELLI GENCE AND PROSPERITY OF THE PARMER.

THE average farmer does not, as a

and we are by no means certain that

Every farmer in his annual

early vegetables, and we recommend those who are interested to read "Tomato Culture" in another column, written by Joseph HARRIS. than whom we have no better or more successful practical farmer. Wherever the word "hot-bed" occurs read "window box," and the article will be suited to the wants of every Centre county farmer.

THOSE of our readers who contemplate raising tobacco next season should secure reliable seed at once. It will be interesting to them to know that an exceedingly small package pect good results without labor. will be quite sufficient for the needs of any one grower. According to the Cincinnati Tobacco Journal, one the proper time. It may be too late a plant, will be sufficient for 144 acres.

In this connection, the proposed reduction of the tax on tobacco is attracting universal attention. "The Courier-Journal, along with many we think with much reason, that the present excellent prices received by prowers is due to the operations of the present internal revenue system. If manufacturers shall reduce their prices to any considerable extent they must make an effort to procure their leaf at lower rates. Every farmer can see for himselt how this would effect him. The Internal Revargues that the tobacco tax effects a class of men who cannot be reached

level with the surface. This last point should not be overlooked. It gives the roots of the plants the needed "bottom heat," and the heat is much more uniform than if the pots are simply placed on the top of the soil in the hotbed. The plants were allowed plenty of air and soon were hardened off. The last week in May the plants were set out in the open ground, in rows three-and-ahalf feet apart each way, The land was mellow and moderately rich.

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. We made good sized holes with a spade where the plants were to be set. out, and then with a rake or hoe filled these holes with fine, warm surface soil and put a tablespoonful of superphosphate in each hole, and worked it thoroughly into the soil rule, bother himself with a hot-bed. with a hoe. Give the plants a thor-ough watering before removing them from the pots. Set the plants deep, or say till the first leaves are on a level with the surface. Press the loose, mellow soil firmly around the ball of earth and roots. Keep the ground very loose and mellow on the surface by the constant use of the cultivator and hoe. If you have no hotbed start the plants in a box of light soil in the kitchen window. When the plants begin to crowd each other in the box transplant into other boxes, and when they are well grown harden them off by leaving the boxes out of doors during the day in fine weather. Good plants may be knows how to do this, and in nine cases out of every ten, will have bet-ter plants when the time comes to ure; work into the soil some dry, sifted coal ashes. Sow the seed in drills, fifteen inches apart. For raising young tomato plants in this way the soil cannot be too rich. But the land where the crop is to be grown need only be in good average condition, except that it should be made very fine and mellow.

Hatch Your Chicks This Month.

From the Farmer's Magazine. Chickens that come into market about April bring the best prices, often remunerating the poulterer more at an early age than when al-lowed to mature. When the weight is about one pound, and they are the first of the season, the price sometimes \$1. At such a figure who can object to the trouble and care to produce them ? for no one ought to ex-

But how are chickens to be hatched early? is the query. It can be done by selection of the pullets at ounce, supposing every seed to make now to do that, but we have so often a plaut, will be sufficient for 144 called attention to this matter that we have no doubt many are ready for the experiment.

The first important matter is to keep the early batched pullets, as they come into laying sooner. Then carefully notice those that mature Food," "Horse Clipping," "Brood Mares the earliest and begin to lay early. others, is strongly opposed to the The cockerel should be selected with proposed movement. It claims, and out regard to size, and only as regards early maturity. We all know that among a flock of fowls there are a certain proportion (or at least one or two) of cockerels that show up the red comb, plumes out full, and trim up in shape much sooner than others, although the chances are that the slower ones will be larger in size in the end. The earliest matured of these cocks should be selected for mating with the early pullets, and the result will be that the chickens from such mating will grow faster enue Department of course, casts its and come into laying a little sooner this issue. Published by the Stock influence against the reduction. It the next season. If old hens are to Journal Company, Chicago, Ills., at be chosen for the purpose it should \$2.15 per annum. Send 20 cents for be known that the hens that first begin to moult should be selected, as by argument. Men who smoke and they lay as soon as the period of The New Scientific American Ofchew do so without giving a second moulting is past, and the earlier the thought to the tax. Take the man who chews, for instance. The tax is inst one cent per onnee and not be earlier they begin to lay the earlier they begin to set.

just one cent per ounce, and not many chewers use more than one been taken then we must resort to in the intermediate the subscription of the subs ounce per day. To say that such a the most immediate methods within tion lists, account books, patent records, man is oppressively taxed by the our reach, such as variable food, warm quarters and cleanliness. Unpayment of one cent per day, levied der such conditions hens will often on the first cost of the article he lay a month or six weeks sooner than uses, is indeed going far for an ar- they would otherwise, and this is a uses, is indeed going far for an ar-gument. Besides, the burden falls just where it belongs and where it is chicks are desired. The finest and unharmed, and no interruption of busimost easily borne-on the old and best chickens-those that grow the young men of the community, and fastest, fatten readily, feather well and give good weight-are produced not on women and children. Not one chewer in a thousand finds fault Plymouth Rock cockerel on Brahma with this nominal tax. No demand or Cochin hens. We have known has ever been made by tobacco users weigh, fully plucked and dressed, two pounds at nine weeks old. But as to increase their gains from the man- they are sold in some markets without being dressed, we might safely estimate their weight near three

pounds.

Farm Stock in February. From the Stock Journal.

Animals that are reasonably hardy, and that have been well nourished during summer and fall, will go through the first half of winter quite cleverly, retaining, if they have been well fattened, quite a proportion of the accumulated flesh, even though unduly exposed. But from now till grass comes, look out for shrinkage, for this, when once started, makes rapid progress. Stock will seek for its most natural and relishable food, viz : grass ; and if this cannot be had in the green state, it will be eaten in whatever state of semi-decay it is found. Half-frosted grass, taken very sparingly, once a day, other food being fully kept up the while, is not injurious, and may be beneficial, by keeping the bowels in a reasonably loose state; but it is quite easy to drop into the habit of reasoning, that if a small quantity of anything is good, then certainly the same article liberally given will be better. But this does not prove to be true of frosted grass; and we advise our readers to restrict access to it from this time on. Eating frosted grass, and staying out in the night air, very soon cause the coat to stare. The grass produces flatulence, the abdomen becomes distended, indigestion sets in, and, under these influences, animals will be found in the morning, with dull expression and humped back. A few hours in the sun usually dissipates these indications, only to be repeated upon another night in the open air.

MR. CHARLES A. GREEN makes the following statement : "We have had tedious work churning in Winter, the boy often occupying the larger part of the day without effect. Since adopting the following method we have not had any trouble, and have never been over fifteen minutes in churning; to-day, a very cold day, the butter came in five minutes, and was nice and firm. Heat the milk as soon as strained (but not to the boiling point), which causes the cream to rise in twelve hours. When ready to churn, warm the cream to the proper temperature, then stir with a spoon, in one direction, 300 times without stopping. Churn immediately, and the butter will come in from five to fifteen minutes. A small piece of pulverized saltpeter added to the cream also helps to bring the butter quickly."

National Live-Stock Journal.

The Journal for February is filled with its usual assortment of matter especially interesting to those who are engaged in stock raising in any of its branches : "Farm Stock in February," "Large and Small Farms," "Cooked or Uncooked on the Farm." "Early Training of Horses," "Lessons of the Fat Stock Shows," "Feeding Steers," "Barns and Saving Manure," "Red Short-horns," "Abortion in Cows," "The Formation of Breeds," "All Milk not Good for Infants," "The Drawbacks with Sheep." "Sheep Barns or Early Lambs," "Utilizing the Hog Product at Home," "Oats, Peas and Rye, as Pasture for Hogs,' "White v. Black Hogs," and a number of valuable and interesting articles on Horse, Cattle, Dairy, Sheep, and Swine matters will be found in specimen copy.

fices

We are glad to announce that the Scientific American came out of the late patent drawings, and correspondence were preserved in massive fire-proof safes. The printing of the Scientific American and Supplement was done in ness was occasioned. The new Scientific American offices are located at 261 Broadway, corner of Warren street, a very central and excellent situation. The new building chickens from such a cross, when fronts towards the City Hall, the Court well fed and carefully attended to, to House, and the New Post-office-a magfronts towards the City Hall, the Court nificent structure, which cost eight millions to build. Nearly opposite, and a few hundred feet distant from the Scientific American offices, is the entrance to the great Suspension Bridge over the A young cockerel, produced by crossing a Plymouth Rock cock on a East River, between New York and Brooklyn, which required ten years to Houdan Brahma hen, owned by Mr. construct and twenty millions of dol-James L. Wright, now of German-town, was weighed by a committee the day he was 3 months old, and he lars to pay for. In front, also, of the Scientific American is the City Hall Park and Printing House Square, with its statute of Benjamin Franklin, and the home of many eminent newspapers, such as the New York Sun, World, and Herald, Mail and Express, Zeitung, and

DR. JAS. H. DOBBINS, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Office Allegheup St., over Zeigler's Inug Store, 641
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Tomato Culture.

The chief requisites, says Joseph Harris of Rochester, New York, in growing good tomatoes are : First, good seed of a good variety ; second, good stocky plants, and third, warm, good story i good cultivation. The best crop of tomatoes I ever raised was treated in the following manner: Seed sown in hotbed in March, in these facts suggest several ideas, These facts suggest several ideas, rows three inches apart and four or five seeds to the inch. When two five seeds to the inch. When two inches high the plants were removed to another hotbed and set out in rows five inches apart and the plants three inches apart in the rows. As soon as the plants began to crowd each other they were transplanted into pots being plunged into the soil

DURING mild spells-if the frost is out of the ground-prepare the soil for the kitchen garden.

THE first-premium fowls of the Fairs are hatched this month.