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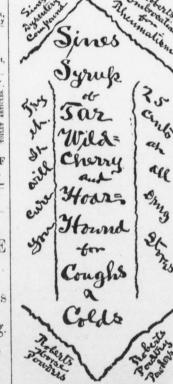
TRAVELER'S GUIDE.

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Bald Eagle Valley Rail ROAD.—Time-Table, April 29, 1880:
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BELLEFONTE, PA. AGRICULTURAL.

NEWS PACTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Every farmer in his annual experience scovers something of value. Write it and Every farmer in his annual experience discovers something of value. Write it and send it to the "Agricultural Editor of the DEMOGRAT, 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.

In another column will be found an article upon the subject of "Ensilage," from the pen of Prof. Jordan, of the State College. It just appeared in the Agricultural Epitomist, but so nearly coincides with the Demo-CRAT's views upon the subject that we transfer it entire to our columns.

THE Garden, London, sends us a copy of its issue of July 15, with an article marked which complains of a failure of the apple crop in England, supply the deficiency. The prospects for making a favorable response to the call are by no means brilliant.

If the lambs from a pedigree ram, on the cost of a ram at one hundred been sadly scourged. dollars.

The value of plaster as a fertilizing agent has never been satisfactori- For the Agricultural Epitomist, ly determined, but there seems to be no doubt that it is worth more than from the ground. The "eatch" this year has been exceptionally fine, and courage it to do its very best by the application of at least one hundred pounds per acre. Now that a "dry spell" seems to threaten this application is all the more important.

SHORT pastures may tempt you to turn the stock, hogs, cattle, sheep and all, on the young clover which the propitious season has given so fine a start. It will be quite as poor policy as it would be to put your thrifty eighteen months old colt to work at the plow. If your pasture is so short that you must furnish the cattle some additional food it will be far less expensive to cut a small portion each day than to turn them on the one young clover.

From present appearances oats will be much cheaper, relatively, than corn, and it is quite possible to profitably substitute them for corn in fattening the coming pork. The Nebraska Farmer såys : "When oats are worth 25 cents and coin 50 cents, one is as cheap as the other to feed-two of. bushels of oats being considered feed. The best way to secure the remain twelve hours in the slop from the house, water or skimmed milk: of course the milk is preferable. A of ground oil cake, and where vegetables can be had, they may also be used to advantage, and all the better if boiled.

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Chickens vs. Bugs.

After hoeing, scatter a peck of corn broadcast among your potatoes and call your flock of fowls into the field. After picking up all the corn they find they will pick up or drive away all the Colorado beetles. So says one who has tried it .- Ex.

Don't you do it. Don't wait until "after hoeing," and don't "scatter a peck of corn" at one time. Unless of corn will be more than they can consume, or at least will be sufficient to fill their crops so comfortably full to fill their crops so comfortably full mentation can in any way increase that they will refuse to touch a single the nutritive value of any food sub-"bug." A better way is to keep the fowls shut up at night, and until a late bour in the morning-after the sun has dried the dew. Then call them to the potato patch, and scatter before the food is eaten, to that exa little corn, or what is better, wheat screenings. The idea is to coax them among the potatoes, and leave them there with good, lively appetites, man "sour hay" has been found to be and a few grains scattered here and there to induce them to search, a very successful remedy; and we know whereof we speak, for we have practiced it during the entire season upon an acre of Snowflakes and costing from fifty dollars up, will Beauty of Hebron adjoining our is no doubt-it will certainly pay to other than the daily feeding therein ty-live cents per pound, a crop of ten another acre, in a part of the farm wool to pay seven per cent. interest planted to Mammoth Pearls, has

Ensilage.

The question of the preservation of crops in a green condition in soils is it costs when applied to young clover Extravagant and unfounded claims soon after the removal of the grain are made for ensilage, and the farming public seems ready to repeat what has become a chronic blunder, viz; the adoption of a line of pracit will be well to stimulate and en- tice without waiting for a demonstration of its wisdom. Scientific men and many practical farmers are dis-posed to advise a conservative course in the adoption of this method of experiment on the experimental farm preserving fodder, and with some at the college. W. H. JORDAN. preserving fodder, and with some show of reason.

In order to prove that any advantage pertains to the preservation of green crops in silos that is not sethe ordinary method drying, the truth of some one of the following points must be demonstra-

1. That more fodder is produced. more perfect manner, or in a manner that increases the nutritive effect. 3. That the fodder is furnished to

There are other minor consideraof the growing corn crop for them tions, but the above are the principal

> Without attempting to argue the whole thing to a conclusion, the following facts that bear upon the above points are offered for consideration :

> 1. There is no way that the method of preservation of fodder can directly or indirectly influence production. The twenty-ton-per-acre crops of "mammoth corn" might have been grown had ensilage never been heard

2. In order to show more complete preservation or larger nutritive efequal to one of corn, so with the fect by the use of the silo, one or prospective difference in prices tor, more of the following propositions this season, oats will be the cheapest must be established. (a). Crops lose something besides water in the process of drying, or at least lose more most profitable results from oats for than when kept in a silo. (b). Cro hogs, is to grind and allow them to in a green condition are more nutritive than when dried. (c). Fermentation increases the nutritive value. Let us see what are the facts so far

as they are known. It can be said in good plan is to add a small amount general terms, that when any ordinary plant is dried so quickly as to pre vent any change by fermentation. there is no appreciable loss of anything save water. So it can be truthfully said that when the ordinary grasses and clovers are dried in the field in good weather, water is the only substance lost, unless it be very unfate quantities of volatile oils, whose only value is to give flavor to dairy products. Corn being so coarse, with more difficulty, and it would be an exceptional season wher the process of curing it in the field would not cause some loss of nutrihereafter be shared by a large pro- tive material. But now would the portion of the Democrat's readers, average loss in the field compare with the loss by fermentation in the silo?

A very careful examination of this question by the New Jersey Experiment Station showed that there practically no difference in the loss by the two methods of curing corn fodder. The loss in the silo at Pennsylvania State College last year was dry substance in the plant. The loss

upon the Democrat's farm the pres- the silo, even in the preservation of persisted iu, produce a state of sterilcorn fodder, and we have every rea- ity,

son to believe that in the case of timothy and clover the loss would be increased.

It is claimed that fodder plants are more digestible in the green condi-tion than when dried. The only exact knowledge that we have on this point is that obtained by the German digestion experience, in which it was found that when grass was carefully dried it suffered no decrease of digestibility. The digestibility being the same then, whether green or dry, it your flock of fowls is much larger is safe to assume that the nutritive than is kept on most farms, a peck value is the same. This would hold true only when the fodder is rapidly and carefully dried.

It does not seem possible that fer stance. Fermentation is a species of combustion, a destructive process similar to that which the food undergoes in the animal body; and to the extent that this combustion goes on tent is its capacity diminished for running the animal machine. It is not probable that fermentation is any no more digestible than before being

At the New Jersey Experiment France, Germany, Holland and Bel- and thus bring them in contact with Station, when actual feeding trials gium, and calls upon America to the bugs. If properly managed it is were made, feeding milk cows both ensilage and the fodder field-cured and subsequently chopped, no greater production was observed in the case of the ensilage, neither was the ensilage more thoroughly consumed than was the dried fodder.

shear an average of two pounds more fowl house. Scarcely a bug can be lage enthusiast claims a saving in wool than those from a common or found upon the entire patch, and no cost by the use of the silo. Every scrub ram—and that they will there remedy of any kind has been applied ton of solid matter in green corn is accompanied by four tons of breed from one. With wool at thir- of near a hundred Dominiques, while two and one-half tons of this water water. By drying in the field at least are evaporated, so that when the lambs will turn off enough increase of seldom visited by the fowls, and green material is converted into ensilage double the weight is handled that would be the case in the old method of field-curing, the greater weight being also lifted more times than the smaller.

We believe that one reason why ensilage is so popular is because that since the introduction of the silo many farmers have learned for the first time what a large amount of nutrition there is an acre of fodder corn, and so they are disposed to credit the new process with the profits that might have been realized by the proper application of more ancient methods.

It is proposed to get at more facts bearing upon the whole question by Penna. State College, Aug. 8, '82.

Clean Seed.

Jonathan Talcott, in Rural "Wheat Special."

I wish to say, for the benefit of all tillers of the soil, that more dollars can be gained by sowing only clean seed on well tilled lands than by all other methods combined. Most wheat 2. That the fodder is preserved in growers would be surprised if the seed that is sown was thoroughly cleaned and they could see the foul seeds that are yearly sown even by good farmers. One of my neighbers, last year at seeding time, came to my barn to clean his seed wheat, as I had purchased a new mill for that purpose. He brought what he supposed was enough wheat to give him all he wanted when cleaned, and he also remarked that his wheat was very clean as it was. You can hardly imagine his surprise on cleaning the same to find that instead of a few pecks of worthless stuff he had bushels, and so surprissd was he that he saved all the foul seed and shrunken wheat to show the farmer of whom he got the seed, who thought it quite clean-fully fit for seed without extra cleaning. The result was a crop of nearly 40 bushels of clean wheat per acre this harvest from six acres of wheat the seed for which had been well cleaned and the soil for which had been well prepared after oats and wheat grown on the ground in 1880. Another neighbor, also, whose seed I cleaned, had about the same amount of land sown and his crop is also nearly, or quite, 40 bushels per acre of clean wheat. Both these crops have been threshed, so the results are known to be as stated, and both fields were the admiration of all farmers who saw them; yet how few farmers will take the trouble to clean their seed this fall for the purpose of growing a clean crop next year. One farmer said to the writer, last fall, that he knew his seed was foul, but his land was also full of foul seeds, and if he cleaned his seed wheat, the foul seed in his land would produce abundantly in the crop, hence there was little use of cleaning his seed. The fact that his seed was foul was too true, yet with time and care in sowing only clean seed, the foul seed would soon become less on any farm; while a careless sowing of foul seed with the good, will only increase the existing evil. In conclusion, I would advise the sowing of clean seed on well cultivated fields to obtain the

IT is no mark of good husbandry for the farmer to force a crop to such the straw will be somewhat finer and found to be about one-tenth of the an extent as to draw from the soil more of the elements of fertility than were added to it, for in that case, he be later in ripening. This is not visionary nor theoretical. It is simply a statement of facts as they existed terial is not lessened by the use of sooner or later, will, if the course is