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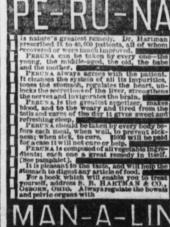
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The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PA.

AGRICULTURAL.

NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

FHE TEST OF THE NATIONAL WELFARE IS THE INTELLI GENCE 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.

Report of the Statistician of the Agricultural Department.

Mr. J. R. Dodge, the statistician of the agricultural department, bas just completed preliminary estimates of the principal crops of the country for the year 1883, which are to be printed as a special report for Dec. They show that potatoes, as well as all other roots and oats, have grown luxuriantly and yielded abundantly. The average yield of corn per acre for the present year, Mr. Dodge says, is nearly 23 bushels or, more exactly, by preliminary estimatess 22.7, which is 12 per cent. less than the average yield for a series of years, or 1,551,-066,835 bushels. This stands for the quantity of the present crop. The quality, he says, is another consideration. If soft corn is cribbed in masses, and after a few weeks of mild and moist weather is badly injured. or even spoiled, it does not change the fact that the corn was grown and harvested. It is doubtless true that allel of 40 degrees is worse than for the amount of shortage indicated by more beneficial if mixed with four or pods, number of peas in a pod-in the number of bushels. As the whole of the corn grown in 1883 in Michi- cause by mixing the sand with the different varieties proved to be one kota, added to half of that grown in terials that is highly favorable to timized pertinently asks: "Have seed-Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, would make 400,000,000 only, ing the soil into that state which ening names to old varieties and to bea fourth of the whole crop, a possible depreciation of 40 per cent. in While surface application is not as fering the same article under five difall of it would be equivalent to 10 good, it is often beneficial, especially ferent names ?"-N. Y. Examiner. per cent. reduction in the value of if a good dressing of manure is ap- Veal should be white, fine and fat. the entire crop. Our Illinois agent plied at the same time, and a liberal The kidneys should be full of tat, makes the quantity 13 per cent. less quantity of grass seed sown and well When yeal is red, or yellowish it is not than an average in that State.

An effort will be made later, after "sound corn," as no crop ever is free sachusetts Ploughman. from immaturity and imperfection. There are always some northern fields gaught by frost, some neglected acres, by overflows and some sod corn that rison Wier, that a tree of the Early and then tell it. There is nothing Duchess of Oldenburgh. In another

The general use in the west of seed corn grown in lower latitudes, the planting of Nebraska seed in Minnesota and of Kansas seed in Illinois has demonstrated the folly of attempting to acclimatize southern maize in more northern districts. Much of the loss from frost would have been avoided had seed been carefully selected from the best corn grown in the immediate neighborhood.

The whest crop, Mr. Dodge says, s, as before stated, slightly in excess of 400,000,000 bushels, and the cotton product, as shown by the December returns, is 6000,000 bales. There will be another investigation after the close of the cotton harvest and the shipment of a large portion of the crop, when the precise results can be approached more nearly than has hitherto been possible.

MR. SAMUEL M. SHOEMAKER, of Baltimore county, has at his farm, Burnside," in Green Spring Valley, the following high-priced cattle: The bull, Forget-Me-Not, cost \$2,150; Princess 2d, \$4,850; Queen of the farm, \$2,000; Khedive Primrose, \$5,15); St. Clementine, \$2,600, and nures. Miss Muffett and Butterfly, which cost something 'ess.

Applying Sand to Grass Land.

Those who have meadow land that has been drained and seeded down to find it necessary to apply a dressing as a dressing of manure. The reason why this is so, few stop to inquire. The application of sand to a mead-

off, and second, it furnishes silica to sunshine on all clear days." the grass, which is necessary to strengthen the stalk. Meadow land that is composed en-

the farmer may desire to grow. Un- than store impure ice. less there are numerous passageways for both air and water, the roots of plants fail to get the material neces-In reclaiming meadow land the first

sary for their growth. effort is to drain off the surplus water; ditches are dug low enough to draw the water, perhaps two feet ow be composed entirely of decayed share their food with weeds. vegetation, advanced to just that the water can not pass through it, for good manure is not, therefore, to be some time after the ditches are dug had from a half-starved herd. the water fails to readily drain off, A farmer who has tested five differharrowed in.

The winter season is the most favthe worst of the crop has been fed. orable time to apply sand to low insipid and flabby; if older than two to test the feeding value of the year's land, because time is worth less, and product. It is not proposed, however, the meadows are frozen so that full to reduce the product to an equiva- loads can be carried over it without is made by boiling four ounces of lent of "merchantable corn" or danger of cutting the land up.—Mas-

some choked with weeds or flooded the papers, on the authority of Har- aphides .- Chicago Times. and if extensively performed may and labor to do so. lead to valuable results. Some fruits are considerably affected in quality by the stocks on which they are is true that all kinds of fruit and ty is always maintained; in the same way that good and bad soils or culture will affect the quality without changing the sort.

> WHAT DRAINAGE DOES .- The late John H. Klippart condenses the advantages of tile drainage under the following twelve heads:

1. The drainage removes stagnant waters from the surface. 2. It removes surplus water from

under the surface. 3. It lengthens the seasons.

4. It deepens the soil.

5. It warms the soil.

6. It equalizes the temperature of the soil during the season of growth. 7. It carries down soluble sub-

stances to the roots of plants. 8. It prevents "heaving out" or "freezing out."

9. It prevents injury from drought. 10. It improves the quality and

quantity of the crop. 11. It increases the effects of ma-

12. It prevents rust in wheat and rot in potatoes.

Gleanings.

A correspondent in the Farner's Home Journal says: "The cold frame the better qualities of grasses, often is the best possible appliance for forcing early cabbage and, used the of sand; experience teaching that it 1st of February, the best for tomavery much improves the condition of toes. For the latter about six inches the grass roots and increases the crop of fresh manure (stable) should be of grass; sometimes quite as much placed at the bottom of the bed. Covered with glass or strong, heavy brown cotton with oil on it, the seed will vegetate very rapidly and the plants grow well. On extra cold days ow often accomplishes a double purpose. First, it lightens up the soil and nights cover the bed with straw, and gives the water a chance todrain hay, old carpet or anything else Give

No farm should be without its icehouse. Not only is ice indispensable in the absence of a cool spring house tirely of partially decomposed vege in summer for having nice milk and table material, settles together some- butter, but for keeping all kinds of times so closely that water will not fresh meats, fish, etc. But in cutting readily pass through it, except in ice during the winter remember that small streams. This is very unfavor- water in freezing does not free itself able to the growth of any crop that from impurities. Better gather noice

The culture of fruit will pay you a hundred-fold in health and enjoyment, and make your home, small though it may be, large in the bounties which nature will provide.

Cultivate the corn not only to mellow the soil but also to make it unbelow the surface; but if the mead- necessary that the plants should

The richer the "keep" of live stock stage which makes it so compact that the richer the manure. A pile of

except near the banks of the ditches. ent varieties of peas, according to Such land needs a few inches of sand the catalogue from which he made his to bring it into a favorable condition selections last spring, now finds that for vegetable growth. When it can there is not the slightest difference in be done without too much expense, any of them. In earliness, manner many years, increasing practically the application of sand will be much of growth, height of plant, length of five inches in depth of the soil, be- fact, in every particular, the alleged gan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Da. muck it secure a combination of ma- and the same. The farmer thus viccourages a rapid growth of grass. wilder and mislead the public by of-

good. Good veal must be two months old; if younger than this the meat is

A good insecticide for garden plants quassia in a gallon of water, and adding two or three ounces of soft soap, diluting as may be necessary, so as to DOUBLE WORKING APPLE TREES. be fully thrown over the plants with A statement is given in some of a syringe. This answers well for

An experienced sheep raiser says is mainly "nubbings." What is in Strawberry in a decline was restored that a good way to control a flock of tended without reference to panic or to handsome vigor by grafting it sheep is to take a ewe lamb to the exaggeration is to find the exact truth with the hardy and free growing house and make a pet of it. Use nothing but kindness, and give it a gained, be it to farmers or consumers, instance the same sort grafted on an name, teaching it to come at the call. in suppressing truth on the one unfavorable stock, grew badly and When the lamb is grown, place it in hand or exaggerating losses on the gave poor fruit. Several other exam- the flock and you will need only to ples, quoted from English practice, call that one sheep, when all the oth-One feature of corn growing in gave various results, some successful ers will follow. As sheep follow their and others unfavorable. Experilesson to the farmers of the country.

and others unfavorable. Experiments of this sort are interesting,
and if extensively conformed in ing of all, and it is a saving of time

FROST IN THE CELLAR.-While it

worked, but the identity of the varie- vegetables will keep better in a cellar with the temperature as near freezing as may be without injury, it is also desirable that there be proper protection afforded to prevent the entrance of frost when there is a season of protracted and severe cold. Without some protection, at such times frost is liable to enter unawares, and do much mischief to both fruit and vegetables. In olden times it was believed to be necessary to "bank up the house" with earth, but this practice has given way to one equally as effective and much easier, and that is by the use of leaves. Set boards or planks up on their edges, a little distance from the underpinning, supported by stakes driven in the ground, and then cover all the intervening space as compactly as possble with leaves, and all the protection necessary will be afforded. If the cellar becomes too warm at any time the temperature can be reduced by ventilators when cold weather is and proaching, rather than to take chances without protection .- N. E. Farmer.

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