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## The Centre Democrat.

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uthwest of Snow Shoe City, Pa. J. J. DELANEY, Pro. AGRICULTURAL. NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

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### Precautions against Drought.

On account of the plentiful rains thus far it is not too much to expect that before the season is over we may experience some weeks of dry weather. In any event the following sugin regard to preparations for drought are worth noting: "It is a wellknown fact that when the soil is kept in a loose, fine friable condition it not only absorbs moisture from the atmosphere, especially at night, but allows of the downward course of the water during showers instead of a loss by flowing off, as is the case when the surface is hard. A loose, deep soil also permits an upward tendency of water by capillary attraction, the loose soil thus storing moisture by its greater power of absorption when rains are abundant-We therefore find in time of severe drought that the frequent use of the cultivator, even when the soil apparently does not require working, is very beneficial, the greenish tinge of the growing corn giving evidence that the constant stirring of the soil enables the crop to derive a certain proportion of moisture that it would not otherwise obtain.

"The leaves of plants give off moisture very rapidly. When we sprinkle a plant with water the moisture is not absorbed by the leaves as many suppose, but it arrests, temporarily, the rapid evaporation that con. stantly takes place, which is greater when the season is very warm. We may safely compare a growing plant to a pump, which brings the moisture from below and discharges it from the leaves. The moisture is collected by the roots, which spread in every direction, and the amount of moisture given off in a day by a plant, as corn, for instance, is very laden steamships, whose coming and great. We cannot, of course, water a field of corp, but we can at least lessen the amount of water which it gives off. The warmer the soil the more serive the plant in search of moisture. Among the agencies used for assisting to retain moisture is plaster, which absorbs the moisture to a certain degree, from the atmosphere. Any material that serves as a mulch will impart great benefit to a growing crop, not only by prevent. ing the evaporation of moisture from the soil, but also by keeping the earth cool. The only method known, however, for securing the largest proportion of moisture is, as we stated, the deep, constant and thorough pulver-

ization of the soil. "There is another fact to be considered. Weeds and grass also give off moisture, and every weed that grows by the side of a plant intended for cropping deprives the desired plant of moisture. Sometimes the weed or blade of grass requires more moisture than the plant and flourishes, while the plant dies. Clean cultivation, therefore, prevents the robbery of the plant of moisture, by destroying weeds and grass. As two plants of the same kind growing together are rivals, the one struggling against the other for supremacy in procuring food and moisture, we should be cautious not to have too many plants to the hill. It danger occurs during drought thin out every plant that can be spared, in order that the stronger and more thrifty may have better opportunities to mature. A clean surface and deep tillage will often save a crop, that would otherwise be lost during a dry sea-

In warm weather feed fowls principally oats, or varieties of food containing but little fattening properties. Most, if not all, of the ailments of poultry may be traced to errors in their diet, the water they drink, or the filthy condition of their houses.

The Department of Inland Reve-

### Utilizing Waste

disease, can be so manipulated as to add to the fertility of the soil and increase the well-being of mankind. The amszing growth of cities in the modern world is forcing upon us the consideration of sanitary problems unheeded by our fathers. It was considered in former generations a simple enough matter to convey sewerage through pipes or conduits to latter, however, is a smooth headed some neighboring river or bay; but variety known as "Martin's Amber," as the city grew and its sewerage in- with very fine heads and quite promcreased, the water became poisoned ising, only it is slow about ripening, and the once healthful shores were and of very sappy straw like rank made the seat of all manner of foul oats. Fultz is our standard, smooth diseases. The river Thames was at headed variety, and very hard to exone time a nuisance due to the filth cel for large yield, early ripening and gestions from the Philadelphia Record of the English metropolis which was stiff straw, but rather soft grain fopoured into it. The same was true making good flour. A new sort that of the Sein in Paris. In both great I have been testing for the last three cities gigantic public works had to years, known as "Lemon," resembles be constructed to convey the sewage it, but is a greater yielder of splended to distant farm lands. Certain arid grain and very stiff straw, without a and strongly mineralized soils were fault that I have been able to find so rendered wonderfully fruitful by the far. I expect to seed with it alto sewaerge of London and Paris. The gether this fall. "Golden Eureka," a sewers of the latter city are among Russian variety, is coming rapidly the wonders of the world. An army into favor. It is a great yielder, of can be marched to any part of Paris immense growth, head measuring as by making use of the underground long as six and even eight inches, and passages. In this country we have counting up to seventy five grains to paid far less attention to this import the head. It has the fault, however, ant matter than it deserves. Cities of being too soft for good milling have grown so rapidly that the re. purposes. I am testing a new sort quirements of sanitary sciende have called "McGehu," a nice looking ambeen overlooked in our haste to profit ber wheat, with short, strong straw; by improvements. It is only recently grain sown first week of October, that Boston has built a great sewer shooting May 23. I cannot speak reto discharge the foul accumulation of liably from one season's test, however, that growing city into the ocean, yet | - Wm. T. Smedley. it is admitted that this is sheer waste as the sewerage might be utilized to render fertile great tracts of land west and north of the city. New York city, although surrounded by water, with two swift rivers on either side of it, is most imperfectly sewered. The health maps of the metropolis show large areas where fever and diphtheria claim a steady crop of victims due to dammed-up streams dishonest plumbing and imperfect sewerage. The central government has had to interfere also to prevent the reckless citizens of New York from ruining their noble harbor by night. dumping their garbage and debris into the channels used by deeply going enrich that city. Some of the younger communities realize the importance of this matter. Any one who visits the town of Pullman, near Chicago, will notice that the great Corliss engine, which attracted so much attention at the Philadelphia Centennial, is made use of in that artistically laid out city, to pump the sewerage to farm lands three miles

### Drink Buttermilk.

away. This example is worthy of

following. The greatest of modern

benefactors are those who are insist.

ing upon the necessity of sanitary

reform. He who puts dirt in its place

-who rids a neighborhood of a cen-

tre of fever affection, who improves

the plumbing of houses, and thus

adds to the general health of the

community, is the real philanthropist

of our age, the true friend of human-

ity .- Demorest's Monthly.

In warm summer weather many persons feel an irresistible craving for something sour, and often gratify the desire by a free indulgence in pickles, or vegetables made acid with vinegar. This demand for acids indicates deficiency in the acid secretions of the stomach, and the demand for an artificial supply is a natural one, but vinegar is not the best substitue. Lactic acid is one of the chief agents that give acidity to the grastric juice of the stomach in health. This is the acid of sour milk, and, therefore, one of the best summer diet drinks that we can use is buttermilk. It satisfies the craving for acids by giving to the stomach a na ural supply, and at the same time furnishing in its cheesy matter a good supply of wholesome nutrition. A man will endure fatigue in hot weather better on but-

Market gardeners find the growing of small cucumbers for pickles one of their most profitable crops. In most farm neighborhoods a patch for nue of Canada has decided that tea pickles will find a merket among farWheat in Chester County.

Dirt, it has been well said, is only The present wheat harvest has satmatter out of place." The waste of isfied our farmers that none of the large cities, which occasions so much bearded varieties are to be relied on for the fullest crop. The soft nature of the straw throws it on the rich soil before the grain has time to fill; and also tempts the new enemy that cuts the heads off, and has devastated so many fields within the past three seasons. This will exclude all the Mediterranean varieties, and many of the so called ambers. Among the

> COMFORT FOR STOCK -- If stables generally could be warmed with safety by stoves there is no doubt that a saving in the amount of fodder would result. Much can be done in this direction by keeping animals in well built stables, and free from all chilling currents of frost-laden air. A few hours patching the walls, flooring and doors, with very little expense for lumber, would have made its good effects evident within a single week at the dairy-room. A cow is not at her best when she must shiver with the frost and snow of a severe winter

> WEEDS growing upon footpaths are easly destroyed by the liberal use of salt scattered over them. The salt should be scattered over the weeds when they are wet with due, and as much as will quite whiten the ground should be used. It is better to use too much than too little, as in the one case no harm is done and the plants are totally destroyed, while with an insufficient quantity the weeds are only checked and soon recover, and both salt and labor are expended worthlessly. By using salt to keep down the weeds a very good walk may be made of common earth or loam mixed with sand. A gravel walk appears very bright and clean after a dressing of salt. If the soil is clayey the walk should be well rounded, and then sanded and rolled. No walk should be made flat so as to retain water; if so it is never dry.

Gleanings.

Not too great or too immediate effects should be expected from drainage. In loose, porous soils, draining easily and quickly, the effect is marked within a month after drainage, but in tenacious clays and soils which have been for a large part of the year under water, the change is slow and often requires a year to convert the drained field into friable and produc-

If you are a careful cultivator and have cultivated a particular kind of field-corn for a dozen years or more, selecting the ears from the most fruitful stalks, while they stood in the field, and kept the corn improving from year to year, you have corn with a pedigree, and it can hardly fail to give a better crop next year than any seed corn you can buy, far or near.

When a horse is not doing well a pint of linseed oil may be given with termilit than on any diet drink he benefit. It improves the digestion and softens the skin. A quart of linseed-cake-meal given once a day will have the same effect, and a pint of molasses put in the crib feed will be taken and then with relish and dust as an article of food is injurious mers at better prices than the market to the public health, and cannot be gardeners obtain at wholesale for their ginger may also be added occasion-



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