The Bloomfield Times.

Tuesday, May 12, 1874.

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

We invite communications from all persons who are interested in matters properly belonging to this department.

Statistics Regarding Seed Wheat.

The statistician of the Department of Agriculture, has concluded an investigation of the extent and advantage of the use of the drill in seeding wheat. It appears that forty per cent. of the entire area is drilled in; fifty-two per cent. of the winter wheat and but three-tenths of the spring wheat, exclusive of that of California. A line from Chicago to Leavenworth prolonged to the Pacific practically divides the production of spring from winter wheat. North-west of it scarcely two per cent. of winter wheat is grown, except in California. South-east of it only four per cent. of wheat is spring sown. Half the area of winter wheat is seeded with the drill.

In New York, fifty-five per cent; in New Jersey, seven-tenths; in Pennsylvania, three-fourths; in Delaware and Maryland, three-eights; in Virginia, from North Carolina to Tennessee, an average of less than three per cent.; West Virginia, four-tenths; Ohio, six-tenths; Michigan, one-half; Illinois, three-fourths; Indiana, one-half; Missouri, three-eights; Kansas, forty-five per cent. In seeding spring wheat the broad-cast seeder is most used in the north-west. The drill is employed for three-eights of the area in Wisconsin. In Minnesota, one-fifth; in Iowa, one-fourteenth; in Nebraska and elsewhere scarcely at all. It is shown that the use of the drill saves one-sixth of the seed and increases the aggregate product of winter wheat ten per cent.

Method for Making Hard Soap.

A farmer's wife says: Having used several different recipes for making hard soap, and having found one very much superior to any other, I venture to send it to you.—Take 1½ pounds of lime, 3 pounds washing soda, 2 gallons soft water; boil half an hour, and settle all night; then pour off the liquid into a brass or iron kettle, and put in a half pound of rosin and three pounds of grease; boil an hour, and put into your mould. It is ready for use when cold, but inproves with keeping in a cool place. This recipe I have used for a number of years, and it has never failed to give perfect satisfaction. I make it out of tallow, lard, grease arising from meat boiling, drippings of beef, mutton or pork, and always have a good article. For toilet soap I use perfectly pure, sweet lard or tallow and white rosin, and give it a little longer time in boiling, sometimes adding a little borax, or something healing to the skin.—Of course perfume and coloring can be added by those who like them, but I prefer the pure article. This soap I prefer for my own use to the finest articles that can be bought, not only because it is an excellent and beautiful soap, but also because I "know what is in it."

Dickenson Cotton.

Of this variety a correspondent in Louisiana, who had planted seed received from the Department, is satisfied, by the experiments of two seasons, that with a favorable seasons, and ordinary cultivation the yield would be 600 pounds of lint per acre. "The crop in this section did not average more than a bale to four acres, notwithstanding the great ravages of worms in July; but my Dickenson cotton, having been planted early, in new ground, had so nearly matured that the worms injured it comparatively little—abandoning the tough leaves for those more tender in an adjoining field." The freedmen say that this cotton "picks better" than any other. However, our correspondent does not advise any planter to put his entire crop in this cotton, as it falls out very soon after opening, if not picked.

Lemon Custard.

Take the juice of three lemons, with four ounces of fine sugar; heat a pint of cream scalding hot; pour it through a tea pot, holding the vessel a yard high; the lemon juice should be put in a soup plate. The custard is best when made ten or twelve hours before using.

Orange Pie.

Grate the peel of one fresh orange; take the juice and pulp of two large oranges; add to them one cup of sugar and the beaten yolks of three eggs; mix one cup of milk with the whites of the eggs beaten to a stiff froth. Bake in puff paste.

Hurry Biscuit.

To two quarts of flour, take butter the size of three eggs, and enough water to form the dough. Work very little, and cut out your cakes. Bake them on tins.

Raised Muffins.

One pint sweet milk, two eggs, piece of butter size of an egg, a little salt, two tablespoons yeast, add flour till thick as pound cake.

☞ It has lately been shown that tobacco is so little needed by the human race, that about 970,000,000 pounds of it are annually consumed.

Chartered March 11, 1870.

U. B.

Mutual Aid Society

OF PENNSYLVANIA,

HOME OFFICE:

LEBANON,

Lebanon county, Penn'a.

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This Society is based on the assessment plan.

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Age	Ass.	Age	Ass.	Age	Ass.	Age	Ass.
15	60	28	73	41	92	54	1.70
16	61	29	74	42	94	55	1.82
17	62	30	75	43	96	56	1.94
18	63	31	77	44	98	57	2.04
19	64	32	79	45	1.00	58	2.16
20	65	33	81	46	1.06	59	2.28
21	66	34	83	47	1.12	60	2.40
22	67	35	85	48	1.18	61	2.45
23	68	36	86	49	1.24	62	2.50
24	69	37	87	50	1.30	63	2.55
25	70	38	88	51	1.40	64	2.60
26	71	39	89	52	1.50	65	2.65
27	72	40	90	53	1.60		

☞ For all classes of $2,000 benefits the above rates are in all cases double, and for all classes of $3,000 benefits tripled. Eight classes now in operation. Classes open to insure for $1,000, $2,000 and $3,000.

Male and Female from Fifteen to Sixty-Five years of age, of good moral habits, in good health, hale, and of sound mind, irrespective of creed, or race, may become members. For other information, address

GEO. A. MARK,
Sec'y U. B. Mutual Aid Society, Lebanon, Pa.
Or, D. S. EARLY, Gen. Ag't, Harrisburg, Pa.
L. W. CRAUMER, Ass't. Gen. Ag't, General Agent's Office, corner of 9th Street, and Rail Road. LEBANON, PA.

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By Crawford & Fobes,

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New Pension Law.

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The guardian of a minor child of a soldier who heretofore only received $8.00 per month pension is now entitled to $10. per moth.

Soldiers who receive invalid pensions can now have their pensions increased to any sum or rate between $8. and $18. per month.

Soldiers who have lost their discharges can now obtain duplicates.

Fathers and mothers who lost sons in the service upon whom they were dependent for support, can also obtain pensions.

The undersigned having had over 10 years experience in the Claim agency business will attend promptly to claims under the above act.

Call on or address

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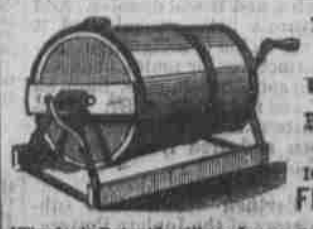

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