

# Centre Farmer.



VOL. 1.

BELLEFONTE, CENTRE COUNTY, PA., JULY 15, 1875.

NO. 1.

## THE CENTRE FARMER

PUBLISHED BY THE CENTRE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

JOHN A. WOODWARD, Howard,  
LEONARD RHONE, Centre Hall,  
JAMES F. WEAVER, Milesburg,  
Publishing Committee.

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Amusements—D. H. HASTINGS, Bellefonte.

THE CENTRE FARMER will be issued  
monthly, and is devoted exclusively to such  
subjects as have a direct bearing upon the  
interests of the farming community in gen-  
eral and the CENTRE COUNTY AGRICULTU-  
RAL SOCIETY in particular.

Terms Free, and Postage Prepaid.

ADVERTISING.—We have still room  
for a limited number of advertisements—  
giving preference to such as will be of in-  
terest to farmers.

Terms—\$1 per inch for first insertion,  
and 75 cents for each subsequent insertion.

Local Notices—20 cents per line.

### OUR BOW.

We present this initial number of our  
modest little monthly to the public of  
Centre County with our most profound  
bow, and ask for it a kind reception. In  
anticipation of the many inquiries which  
we presume will be made, we have this  
to say for ourselves: We propose pub-  
lishing a large edition of our paper about  
the middle of each month between this  
and our next annual fair, and one imme-  
diately after the fair, and distributing  
the same free, throughout the county, by  
mail, and otherwise. Our object in this  
is to have a medium of direct, fre-  
quent, and thorough communication  
with the people, through which to make  
known what we are doing for the accom-  
plishment of the object for which our  
Society was called into existence, viz:  
the promotion and advancement of the  
agricultural interests of our County.  
Being only farmers, and neither editors  
nor publishers, we promise nothing in  
the way of newspaper making, excepting  
that our plain little sheet shall be the  
faithful exponent of what we conceive  
to be correct agricultural principles, and  
the chronicler of such agricultural news,  
both local and general, as will most in-  
terest Centre County farmers, and best  
promote the interests of the Centre  
County Agricultural Society. All we ask  
is that our paper shall receive a hearty  
welcome and thorough reading.

## MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Pursuant to notice, the Executive  
Committee of the Centre County Agri-  
cultural Society met at the office of Mc-  
ALLISTER & BEAVER, on Friday, June 25,  
1875, at 1 o'clock—the full committee  
being present.

The appointment of delegates to par-  
ticipate in the annual election of Trus-  
tees of the State College, to be held on  
the 28th of July, coming up first in  
order, LEONARD RHONE, Esq., Hon. JOHN  
H. ORVIS, and Hon. SAMUEL GILLILAND  
were chosen delegates, with JOHN A.  
WOODWARD, Esq., Hon. FRED. KURTZ, and  
Capt. JOHN A. HUNTER, alternates.

D. H. HASTINGS, Esq., was selected as  
Superintendent of the Fifth Department  
—Trials of Speed and Amusements—in place  
of Capt. THOMAS A. HICKS, who found it  
impossible to accept that position a sec-  
ond time.

The chairman informed the commit-  
tee that the Hon. JAMES MILLIKEN had  
proposed to offer three gold medals, val-  
ued at upwards of \$50 each, at the Fair  
of 1875, one for the best rifle shot,  
another for the best throw of the  
"shoulder stone," and the third for the  
successful competitor in a five mile walk.  
Upon motion, a vote of thanks was ten-  
dered Mr. MILLIKEN for his munificent  
offer, so well calculated to awaken an in-  
creased interest in the most desirable  
classes of athletic sports.

J. D. SHUGERT, Esq., Capt. THOMAS A.  
HICKS, and Mr. JOHN HARRIS were ap-  
pointed a committee, to consider what  
could be done in the way of increasing  
our present track to half a mile.

It was decided that the interests of the  
Agricultural Society could be best pro-  
moted by the publication of four issues  
of a monthly paper for gratuitous distri-  
bution, which should have for its pri-  
mary object the dissemination of infor-  
mation pertaining to agricultural sub-  
jects, and particularly to the details of  
the approaching fair, whereupon Mr.  
JOHN A. WOODWARD, of Howard, Mr.  
LEONARD RHONE, of Potter, and Col.  
JAMES F. WEAVER, of Milesburg, were  
elected a committee on publication of  
same and were authorized to make all  
necessary arrangements therefor.

The being no further business on hand  
the committee adjourned, subject to the  
call of the chairman.

D. S. KELLER, Secretary.

PROFITS OF FARMING AND HOW TO IN-  
CREASE THEM.—Under this head we find  
some very sensible remarks in the *Farm-  
ers' Friend* for July 3, from which we  
make the following extract:

"We need a better system. Nothing  
will help the farmers unless they help  
themselves. We may need a more elastic  
currency, fewer middlemen, more farm-  
ers' clubs, more agricultural books and  
papers, but we must have a better system  
of farming. We must raise better crops.  
If by an expenditure of \$90 I can in-  
crease productiveness to the extent of  
\$100, I have a clear profit of \$10. We  
cannot afford to waste our labor over  
three acres of land to raise 250 bushels  
of potatoes, when the same amount can  
be raised on one acre. We cannot afford  
to raise 20 bushels of oats to the acre  
and sell it for 50 cents a bushel.

At a recent spelling match one man  
spelt it "pasnip" and got beet.

## THE MILLIKEN PRIZES.

Physical training is much neglected in  
our day and in our county. This is  
especially true of the country as distin-  
guished from the city. In our large  
cities there are fine gymnasiums and  
other facilities for physical culture of  
which those who are not frequenters of  
them know nothing. Everywhere, how-  
ever, there is a lack of attention to this  
subject, and where it is attended to it is  
by an insignificant number of persons,  
who train for the prize ring, or the col-  
lege regatta, or for a special occasion.  
The training is excessive and overdone,  
and brings reproach upon the whole sub-  
ject. Just now this subject is awakening  
unusual interest. The contest between  
the Irish and American teams at Dolly-  
mount for the championship of the world  
in rifle practice, the college regatta, just  
ended at Saratoga, and the multiplied  
match games of base ball, are instances of  
the importance attached to these sports.  
The interest is not so much in the sports  
themselves as in the physical training  
involved in preparing for them. We  
need this sort of training, even among  
our farmer boys. An erect and manly  
bearing, a symmetrical and healthy body,  
and enjoyment in that which secures  
these desirable ends, are what we want.

We are rejoiced that through the liberal-  
ity of JAMES MILLIKEN, Esq., even our So-  
ciety is able to do something in affording  
a stimulus to such training as we have  
spoken of. Mr. MILLIKEN offers through  
the society, to be competed for at the  
next fair, three gold medals as prizes,  
which have been designed by Tiffany &  
Co, the great jewelers of New York city,  
and which are in themselves beautiful  
works of art, which are to be awarded to  
the three successful competitors in rifle  
practice, in throwing the shoulder stone,  
and in walking. These prizes will be in  
the shape of handsome badges, to be  
worn on the breast like knightly decora-  
tions. We cannot, by any description of  
ours, do them justice. They will cost  
in the aggregate some two hundred dol-  
lars, and will be by far the most valuable  
prizes of the kind ever offered by any  
Agricultural Society in the State. Com-  
petition for these prizes will be open to  
all, and we hope and expect to see  
a score of contestants for each of them.  
The society will offer second and third  
prizes for each of the contests, and will  
charge a small entrance fee for each con-  
testant. The details of these contests  
will be announced in our next number;  
it is understood, however, that the rifle  
practice will be at short range so as to  
reach all who wish to join in the contest,  
and that the walk will be for five miles  
upon the track of the Society's grounds.

OUR PREMIUM LIST has been carefully  
revised and very neatly printed, and we  
have endeavored to have it thorough-  
ly distributed throughout the county.  
If, however, there are any who have  
not received it, we will esteem it a favor  
if they will send their names, by postal  
card or otherwise, to any of the officers  
of the society, and it will be forwarded  
by return mail.

ORDER is the sanity of the mind, the  
health of the body, and the security of  
the State.

## OUR LAST FAIR, AND OUR NEXT.

That our last annual fair, considered as  
an exhibition of the agricultural capabil-  
ities of the county, was a splendid suc-  
cess, and a very great improvement upon  
any that had preceded it, is conceded by  
all who were brave enough to defy the  
torrents of rain and oceans of mud  
which prevailed during its continuance,  
and visit the grounds regardless of the  
consequent discomfort. So much good  
stock of all kinds, and so many splendid  
vegetables and grains of every sort adap-  
ted to our climate, were never before  
placed on exhibition in this county;  
while the HOME DEPARTMENT gave such  
evidences of skill and painstaking on the  
part of our ladies, in all the delicate  
matters of handiwork and culinary art  
which go toward making successful  
"home-keeping," as should drive every  
bachelor who was "there to see" into the  
ranks of the benedicts at once.

But well as we did last year, and  
marked as was our success then, we can  
do very much better, and make our suc-  
cess infinitely greater at the coming fair,  
if we but try. Centre County doesn't yet  
begin to know what she can do, and has  
no adequate idea of her own splendid  
resources; but progress is indelibly writ-  
ten on her escutcheon, and her motto is  
"forward" in all that pertains to her welfare.  
For the last two or three years she has  
not only maintained her relative position  
among her sister counties, in the march  
of agricultural progress, but has taken  
such long and vigorous strides as warrant  
the belief that the time is not far distant  
when she will take that position in the  
front rank of the Commonwealth, to  
which her name, her geographical posi-  
tion, her mineral wealth, her agricul-  
tural capabilities, and the progressive  
spirit of her citizens entitle her.

To stimulate this progress, and to ad-  
vance all the material interests of the  
county, is the mission of the Agricultural  
Society, and the officers confidently ap-  
peal to every citizen for aid in its  
accomplishment; and in no other way  
can this aid be so effectually rendered as  
by taking a real interest and actively par-  
ticipating in our fairs. Let each and every  
one be an exhibitor of whatever meritor-  
ious article he or she may possess, and  
then all will be gratified spectators of the  
splendid exhibition we shall make. Our  
various departments have been carefully  
arranged, and competent and interested  
superintendents appointed over each of  
them, and an appropriate place will be  
found in some one of them for every  
sample of the products of factory, mill,  
or mine, and every specimen of handi-  
work from parlor, kitchen, or shop  
that can be sent. To the ladies, espe-  
cially, we say, fill up the Home Depart-  
ment. It is new, and worthy of your  
attention, and Mrs. VALENTINE, its most  
efficient superintendent, will be only too  
glad to second your efforts to make it all  
it should be.

TURN OUT.—The Maryland courts have  
just decided that the driver of a vehicle  
on the highway has the right to pass  
another traveling the same direction,  
and at a slower gait; that the latter is  
bound to give the former half the road  
to enable him to pass, and that if he  
does not he will be liable for any acci-  
dent that may happen.