

The Farmer.

Flax vs. Cotton.

Some considerable inquiry, says the Cleveland Democrat, has of late been made in relation to the probabilities of a sufficient supply of flax-cotton in the Northern States in case there should be demand for it for manufacturing purposes.

The annual imports of fine linens average about \$35,000,000, and the wholesale prices of these cloths range as high as to average 65 cents per yard; while the retail prices go up to 95 cents and \$1.20 per yard.

In 1840 the number of acres of land on which grain, &c., was grown in ten of the Northern States, was about 29,000,000; and the flax crop of that in all the States North of the Ohio river, including Maryland, covered some 4,000,000 acres.

The average crop of flax lint is about 330 lbs. per acre, of which one-third, or say 120 lbs., is flax-cotton, leaving 220 lbs. of course for paper, bagging, or any other articles it will make.

The flaxseed is about 15 bushels per acre, and generally worth \$1 to \$1.60 per bushel.

We may readily suppose that in all the States suitable for the growth of flax, 8,000,000 of acres could now be turned to that crop, without at all disturbing the present cereal crops, or diminishing the quantity now devoted to the culture of other objects.

This basis gives us the following results:—

Table with 2 columns: Acres and Value. Rows include 8,000,000 acres average 120 lbs. flax-cotton per acre, 100,000,000 bushels seed at 1 dollar per bushel at factory, 1,840,000,000 lbs. coarse tow at 2c. per lb. at factory.

This being sufficiently near the amount of such a crop of flax, the following figures give us the value of the same, as near as we can determine from our present limited knowledge of its properties:—

Table with 2 columns: Acres and Value. Rows include 8,000,000 lbs. flax cotton at 7c. per lb. at factory, 100,000,000 bushels seed at 1 dollar per bushel at factory, 1,840,000,000 lbs. coarse tow at 2c. per lb. at factory.

The cotton crop of '49 and '50 was about 2,200,000 bales at say 400 lbs. per bale; and the price averaged 114 cts. per pound—value, \$99,400,000.

The flax-cotton would be 2,400,000 bales of 400 lbs. each, giving above the present average of cotton, 200,000 bales.

The difference in the total value of the two crops would be \$132,000,000 in favor of the flax crop. Allowing these estimates to be high, still \$132,000,000 is quite a margin to work on.

For the new Leavitt machinery, the flax may be either moved or cradled, so that the harvesting of the crop may be done on the cheapest possible scale.

Farmers would do well to consider these facts, and act accordingly; for that there will be a demand for their flax crop of the coming season, there can be little doubt.

Those who raise flax should, after threshing the seed, bind up the stalk in convenient bundles to handle. It should then be laid as even as possible, and in this condition stacked away and covered with straw to dry and prepare for the market.

How to make Vinegar.

There are many great notions entertained among our farmers about making vinegar. The grand old plan was to put out cider, or water and molasses in a cask, to the sun and expose it to the luminary with a bottle in the bung hole.

The reason why cider or other fluid mixtures change their nature and become vinegar, is owing to a transformation of the particles and then a separation of one or more, and a combination of others.

In the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, last week Chief Justice Gibson decided an auction case as follows: The employment of a puffer at a public auction, vitiates a sale, and the buyer is defrauded, even though he did not pay more than the article was worth in the opinion of the witnesses.

CINCINNATI, June 6.—A great flood has occurred in the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, destroying property to an incalculable amount. A large portion of Fort Winnebago is inundated, and several flouring mills at Peru have been carried away.

Horace Groely in one of his letters from England, says that the working class appear to be very ill-dressed, stolid, abject, and hopeless. Extortion and beggary are very prevalent. He also thinks that the habit of drinking intoxicating liquors is more universal in England than in this country.

The Potato Rot, again.

P. R. FREAS, Esq.—Dear Sir:—I see statements in the papers since the publication of my remedy for the Potato Rot, that others have made the discovery also. There is an item in the Public Ledger of to-day, under the leading editorial, to which I would call your attention.

Respectfully yours, TRACY E. WALLER.

May, 30, 1851.

State Agricultural Fair.

The Hon. Frederick Watts, President of the State Agricultural Society of Pennsylvania, has issued a circular relative to the fair which is to take place at Harrisburg on the 23d, 24th, and 25th day of next October.

The farmer, the horticulturist, the inventor, the mechanic, are all cordially and earnestly invited to contribute and partake in the interest which will be excited by the occasion; and especially do we invite the aid, countenance and presence of our mothers and daughters, upon whose handiwork and good example we are so dependent for all the domestic comforts of life.

Arrangements are now being made for enclosing the grounds, and providing separate and safe places for all animals and articles which shall be presented for exhibition. All the canals and railways of the State will be open free of charge for their transportation to Harrisburg; and visitors will come and go on them at one half the usual rates.

While we address the communication to the people of our State, it will not be understood that it is designed to exclude the citizens of other States; much less to avoid the honorable competition which their contributions may afford.

A Valuable Sheep.

The Village Record states, that "a two year old buck, of the Cotswold breed, was shown last week, upon the farm of Jabed Cope, in East Bradford, Chester County, and the fleece weighed 124 pounds." We doubt if this has been exceeded half a dozen times in this country.

Quitting the Sinking Ship.—The Greenville (S. C.) Patriot, mentions the fact that Carolina is already losing many of her best and most influential citizens, who have resolved to quit the State, rather than by their presence, seem to countenance her wild and reckless action. We have no doubt of the fact. We last week heard of an instance where one of them invested one hundred thousand dollars in Georgia stocks. A gentleman well acquainted with the facts, informs us that at the moment secession becomes inevitable, some ten to twelve millions of mercantile capital will be withdrawn from Charleston. Her banks will of course go by the board, and our neighbors will enjoy to their heart's content, the blessings of disunion.

In the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, last week Chief Justice Gibson decided an auction case as follows: The employment of a puffer at a public auction, vitiates a sale, and the buyer is defrauded, even though he did not pay more than the article was worth in the opinion of the witnesses. A man is defrauded whenever he is incited by artful means to bid more than he otherwise would; and whenever the price is ever so little enhanced by a secret contrivance, he is cheated. Judgment reversed.

CINCINNATI, June 6.—A great flood has occurred in the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, destroying property to an incalculable amount. A large portion of Fort Winnebago is inundated, and several flouring mills at Peru have been carried away. The Burlington (Iowa) Gazette states that the tributaries of the Mississippi are greatly swollen, and much damage done in that vicinity. The river is within eighteen inches of the great flood of 1844. At Hannibal, (Mo.), the river is rising rapidly, and the country, for fifty miles in length and six miles in breadth is inundated. At St. Louis the high water stopped business almost entirely at the levee.

Telegraph Rates. The "Susquehanna River and North and West Branch Company" having extended its lines to this place we give below a tariff of prices, &c., for the information of our readers.

CATAWISSA RAILROAD.—We understand that the Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie Railroad Company have perfected their moneyed arrangement for the completion of their road to the Susquehanna. A large amount of their mortgage bonds have been negotiated in Europe and this country at satisfactory prices, and that contracts for the iron and superstructure have already been made some years since.

THE CHRONICLE.

H. C. HICKOK, Editor. J. O. N. WORDELL, Printer. At \$1.50 each in advance, \$1.75 in three months, \$2 paid within the year, and \$2.50 at the end of the year.

Wednesday Morning, June 11, 1851.

ADVERTISERS.—Executives, Administrators, Public Officers, City and Country Merchants, Manufacturers, Mechanics, Business Men—all who wish to procure or dispose of anything—would do well to give notice of the same through the "Lewisburg Chronicle." This paper has a good and increasing circulation in a community containing as large a proportion of active, solvent producers, consumers, and dealers, as any other in the State.

Democratic State Nominations.

For Governor—WILLIAM BIGLER, of Clearfield Co. For Canal Commissioners—BETH CLOVER, of Clarion.

County Papers Free.

We hope all our friends will bear in mind that after the first of July next the Chronicle will circulate anywhere in the county FREE OF POSTAGE, and out of the county, within fifty miles of this place, for only five cents per quarter.

We this week, to the exclusion of our usual variety, give Gen. Paeker's speech on the Bill to tax the York and Cumberland rail road; in which our readers will find more full and satisfactory information with regard to the projected line of rail road through the Susquehanna country, and the business it must do, and the consequent value of its stock, than can be readily derived from any other source.

The Democratic State Judicial Convention meets to-day at Harrisburg to nominate candidates for Judges of the Supreme Court. We confess to some misgivings as to the result of their action, on account of threatened intrigue and disreputable combinations; but yet from the intelligence and high moral and professional standing of a majority of the delegates we are induced to hope better things than some of the signs of the times would seem to indicate.

The following is a list of the Operators on the Susquehanna, and W. & P. Lines: NORTH AND WEST BRANCH LINE. STATIONS. DANES OF OPERATORS.

The following important law with regard to Telegraph Offices and operators, was passed at the last Session of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

The Rail Road Convention at Georgetown, Northumberland county, on Tuesday last week, was well attended, and the proceedings were spirited and enthusiastic.

The New Constitution in Maryland has been carried by a majority of about 12,000. It abolishes imprisonment for debt, and makes many other changes in keeping with sound policy and the spirit of the age.

Thank to Hon. Jos. Casey for a mess of the largest and finest strawberries we ever saw in this latitude—grown in his garden at New Berlin.

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Despatches for the Lewisburg Chronicle.

THE READING CONVENTION. READING, June 5. [The first day was spent in adjusting the conflicting claims of delegates to seats in the Convention.]

The Democratic Convention met again this morning, and was permanently organized by electing Hon. JAS. L. GILLIS, of Elk county, President.

Mr. Gillis, on taking the chair, returned his thanks to the Convention, for the honor done him, in a neat and appropriate speech.

The Convention then proceeded to nominate a candidate for Governor.

A letter was read from Hon. Samuel W. Black, of Allegheny, declining to be a candidate for the nomination.

Hon. WILLIAM BIGLER, of Clearfield county, was then nominated unanimously by acclamation, as the candidate of the Democratic party for Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for a candidate for Canal Commissioner. Four ballots were had. The fourth ballot resulted as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. Rows include For Clover (38), Scarrigt (36), Campbell (25), Bratton (24), Scattering (10).

After the fourth ballot was taken, the committee appointed to wait on Col. Bigler, returned and reported that he was now present in the Convention.

Col. Bigler made a very happy and eloquent speech, accepting the nomination, committing himself to the canvass, and determining to battle personally for the prize offered him.

After Col. Bigler's speech, which was received with great enthusiasm, the balloting for Canal Commissioner went on, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. Rows include For Clover (38), Scarrigt (37), Campbell (24), Bratton (24), Scattering (9).

The Convention re-assembled at 2 o'clock and after the usual preliminary business, resumed the balloting for Canal Commissioner. The following is the result of the ninth ballot:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. Rows include Clover (35), Scarrigt (38), Considerable excitement followed this announcement, which having subsided, the Convention declared Seth Clover of Clarion County, unanimously nominated.

After the nomination of Mr. Clover, which was unanimously confirmed by the Convention, a State Central Committee consisting of nine members, was appointed, Committees on Resolutions and Address were appointed, who made a report to the Convention at the evening session.

The Address and resolutions take high national ground and were unanimously adopted.

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The "Evening Argus" is a new and able Democratic daily paper, recently started in Philadelphia by Jas. Severns & Co. A weekly edition will be furnished to subscribers for 25 cts., from this time till after the October Election.

By the recent arrivals from California we learn that there had been many rains at the mines; a rise in the wages of labor, large shipments of gold; and the usual number of thefts, murders, lynching &c., together with more suspicious accounts of new discoveries of gold.

No foreign news of special importance except a decline in Cotton and Breadstuffs. We are sorry to learn that Kosuth and his companions are not to be released. There has been a stormy and tumultuous debate in the French Assembly on a bill to regulate the National Guard.

Correspondence of the Lewisburg Chronicle.

Jottings Down by the Way.

KREMER'S "EAGLE HOTEL," Williamsport, June 2, 1851. MR. EDITOR: You assured me, on parting a few days since, that a line or two, now and then, would be acceptable (in these days of news-lacking) from a locomotive correspondent.

The first thing new to my observation on my trip hither, was a brisk little town, just springing up in the northern corner of your county, which, from the spirit indicated, bids fair to rival Milton in the line of business.

White Deer Mills, which you saw one short year ago, you would not know if you were telegraphed there with your eyes shut. The blackened walls of High's (formerly Caldwell's) Mill have been renovated by Mr. Hoffman, who has rebuilt it, in a larger and more imposing form than before.

Robert Candor, Esq., has built a large and handsome edifice on the hitherto unoccupied corner; and besides these, there are half a dozen new stores and shops just erected, all in a neat, solid, and durable style, and mostly of brick.

Public accommodations ("barin' the liquor") are had at Mr. Fisher's. [These two items, by-the-by—brick houses and no fire-liquor—are two capital notions in the establishment of a business-place.]

The inhabitants, both new and old, appear to be busy, driving, "through-going men." The Woolen Factory of Dr. Marr and others, I was assured was in good condition; and the completion of the Sugar Valley Turnpike will afford facilities for the erection of other mills on the rapid waters of this creek, which, with the lumber, grain, &c., finding its outlet here, will give White Deer Mills a name and an influence among the towns on the West Branch.

The contemplated Bridge at Uniontown, and the Brush Valley Plank Road may not help, but they certainly can not hinder, the prosperity of this thriving place.

Saw 15 or 20 men and boys doing work on the road with shovels, which one man, two horses, and a scraper, could do as quickly and as well. Also, puddles of water in and by the sides of roads, by a little pains in turning off the water to either side, might be kept dry, and save much work in filling up with soil to be transformed into mud by the water remaining.

Many lots of land also appear covered with water and a cold and comparatively profitless soil, which by a little draining can be converted into excellent meadows and tillable lands. [Common sense and common reflection are blessings which would save some of our farmers many hard days' work, and also "put monev in their purse."]

Passing through Uniontown, with its multiplicity of public houses "and nothing else" remarkable—also the dilapidated town of Somerset with its public square—the next novelty we encountered was a prospective public house on the summit of Loyalsock Gap. Some genius has made a clearing on this elevation, and is constructing a tenement whereat many thirsty souls and beasts may refresh themselves.

As "nothing is made in vain," the inquiry has been propounded, What was the design in depositing such a luxurious superabundance of rocks and stones along this Gap? To-day I heard the answer: they are to assist in the construction of a MacAdam Road, or of a Rail Road, thro' here.

It is believed that by a more gradual ascent and descent of the mountain, a practicable route for the Susquehanna, or the Sunbury & Erie Rail-road, may be found over the mountain. Certainly, stone will not be wanting.

A lunge-filling, eye-captivating, appetite-provoking, pleasure-inspiring ride it is down the north west side of this mountain, along the comfortable farm-houses by the river, through the "meandering, supertine and winding" streets of "Morrisville," into this capital of Lycoming county.

"No news stirring." Hadn't heard of the Telegraph. (They will hear of it, and hear it, after Dr. Goess passes along; and if the sports do not connect themselves with the world by this electric nerve, it will be an "everlasting shame.")

But I find the people here are setting their hearts upon an iron linking to the rest of mankind by the means of rail-roads, with the expectation that Williamsport will be the place of transhipment from 44 to 6 feet rail-cars.

Some, however, are dubious, and deem all recent operations merely speculations of stockholders, &c. I trust these latter idealists will be happily disappointed.

"Something new" is expected here, daily—"The Lycoming Democrat," under the care of Col. Carter, assisted by Mr. J. R. Eck, and backed-up by influence and wealth. What political end it is to ultimately attained by a second journal of the same faith, deponent (being a Loco only as far as locomotion impels him) guesses not; but it is determined that it shall be a No. 1 paper in all respects.

Look out for something showy, racy, and good: but don't expect to see the Gazette abandoned by its half century patrons, or the annihilation of Whiggery by this new engine.

The increasingly beautiful public grounds here (to say nothing of the public square in Somerset) called up the reflection, that your own well located and well built Borough is not beautified—is not blessed—with a public breathing-place, which may

be ornamented and improved for the gratification, and benefit of the health, of the poorest as well as the richest citizens. Advancing as Lewisburg is and will be, the earliest time is the best to secure one or more of these "lungs of towns"—public squares. The gentlemen who have control of the University property, are disposed to aid in any matter of public improvement: they would probably sell any proper portion of their land at cost price. Perhaps a public square could be obtained from them, or else in some other quarter of the town.

I was struck with the remark of a gentleman here—"I like a town with a country around it"—"romantic scenery" don't build up the most solid towns.

Grand prospects for crops, hereawa, —Gentlemen of Williamsport! "suffer the word of exhortation." On divers occasions hath it been observed, that certain persons (supposed to be yourselves,) have planted themselves, and their chairs, on the sidewalks in front of your principal hotels, and there remain until ladies wishing to pass, compel them to abdicate their thrones, which is performed very handsomely; but on the gauntlet of smoke and rum being run by the ladies, the persons aforesaid resume their original position, to be routed by the next berry of the fair enjoying the evening air. Thus have been seen not overwise sheep and kine driven from the public highways, many times a day, by carriages and horses; yet the creatures forthwith returned and deposited themselves in the self-same spots.

The crack of a friendly whip is the best corrective of this silly and dangerous habit among the brutes: to advert to it in print without the sting, should ensure the abandonment of a similar practice among sensible beings.

The first shad of the season were caught at Sunbury on Thursday week.

MR. EDITOR.—I am glad to see people express their wishes in time about the men they wish elected this fall. Several gentlemen have been named in the different papers for Senator. But I decidedly prefer Col. E. S. STARR, before any others who have been mentioned for that office; and there are many persons down here of my way of thinking on this subject. Col. Starr has been one of the best and most industrious members ever had in the House—prudent, talented, energetic and upright. He is personally popular, more generally and favorably known in the District than any other who has been named; and I think could carry the District with more ease than any other person we could nominate. I don't know what his feelings may be on the subject, but I and my neighbors have resolved to go in for his nomination heart and hand.

JUNE 8, 1851.—2w. A WAIVE OF PAPER.

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