

The Farmer.

From the Germantown Telegraph. Amelioration of Grass Lands by Top Dressing.

Mr. FRENCH.—Thirty years ago the practice, now so prevalent in many sections, of renovating sward land by top-dressing, was unknown. Even in the older agricultural sections, where the science and art of husbandry were somewhat advanced, land that had become inert and unproductive was supposed susceptible of radical and complete amelioration only by plowing and relaying. At present, however, the fact is far otherwise. Those who have sward-lands which fail to yield good crops, or whose fertility and improvement by the adoption of agencies for more speedy efficient and economical. There are many methods of top-dressing employed, and a very great variety of materials are made use of, some of which, by your permission I will enumerate and describe.

The first which I shall notice, and which is also the most ancient, is the practice of spreading manure upon the surface, broadcast, in the spring or fall. For this purpose, the solid excrement of black cattle, sheep, horses and swine, is used. It is merely spread, and permitted to remain uncovered, and freely exposed to the deteriorating action of the atmosphere, till its powers of tritification are exhausted, and it becomes a perfectly dead and effete mass. That manure applied in this way, and does, to a certain extent, benefit and improve the soil, I by no means am disposed to deny; but that the practice is an economical one; is a proposition for which few judicious and discriminating minds will probably contend. It is a practice that deserves to become obsolete, and, indeed, already has become so in every section where the true interests of husbandry have been investigated with candor, and the philosophical principles upon which the art is based, are accurately comprehended and understood.

If a farmer has a piece of sward land which, from long cropping, or other collateral causes, has deteriorated so far in the quantity and quality of its produce, as not fully to remunerate him for the outlay involved in its management, the best method of amelioration he can possibly adopt, is the following:

In the spring, as soon as the snow is off, haul on and spread from thirty to forty double horse loads of good manure; spread the same evenly over the surface, and then pass over it a "spiked roller," an implement of great utility, which is constructed in the following way: A heavy cylinder, six feet long, and two and a half in diameter—made of a single log, is armed with iron spikes, of bar iron, one inch square and eight inches in length, measuring from the surface of the cylinder. These spikes are inserted over the entire circumference of the roller, one foot apart each way, in the same manner as the teeth of a thrashing machine, and so firmly as not to be displaced by any substance or obstacle in the soil with which they may fortuitously be brought in collision. The action of this implement, when properly constructed and operated, is to scarrify and loosen the old sward, and in some measure to bury the weakened and emaciated fibres of the grass roots, the range of which is generally very near to, or but little below the surface of the soil. By passing it two or three times over the field, the sward will be torn up, and no small portion of the manure brought into immediate contact with the rootlets, while the scarrification and enlightenment of the soil, will afford a free passage for the soluble portions of the application into its interstices, thus affording an immediate advantage to the crop, and one that will speedily make itself apparent in the increased greenness and luxuriance of the grasses, be their character what it may. As the "spike roller" leaves the surface rough and uneven, it should always be followed by the common roller, which will press down the loosened sward and even for the scythe. After this, gypsum or wood ashes should be applied; or, if the soil is of a silicious or vitreous texture, common clay, finely pulverized, may be sown or spread with advantage.

In some cases I have known grass land, which had become almost completely bound out, renovated and restored to its original productiveness, by a top-dressing of clay. If the texture be sandy, with but little vegetative power, the application of this earth will always be beneficial. By filling the pores and interstices of the surface, and thereby arresting, in a certain degree, the economy of transportation, in seasons of excessive drought, its effects are similar to those produced by irrigation, and of course, immediately and directly beneficial to the crop. But in all cases where amelioration of grass lands is attempted by top-dressing, ashes, lime, and gypsum, nitre or common salt—one or all, should be associated with the vegetable substances applied. Their tendency is to warm and sweeten the soil, and to prepare it for producing to the utmost extent of its constitutional and vegetative powers.

A CHESTER COUNTY FARMER. Kennett, 15, 1852.

The Nectarine and Apricot, are natural hybridizations between the peach and plum.

Drilling vs. Broadcast.

We have received a pamphlet copy of the "Proceedings of the New York State Agricultural Society's Trial of Implements, at Geneva," N. Y., last July, and find in it many things elicited by the said trial, of value to the farming community. We were struck, however, with the remarks of the Committee, on the subject of drilling in and broadcast sowing of grain. The Committee says— "The advantages of Drill-Husbandry have not yet been decided, except only the evident benefit of weeding drilled fields by the hand or hoe. Broadcast sowing has prevailed throughout the world and possesses the advantage of greater expedition, and as many believe, a greater product from an acre, and grain of more uniform quality. The perfection to which both drills and broadcast sowers have arrived, must ere long settle the claim of preference among cautious observing farmers."

We never read purer twaddle than this. Indeed, we are amazed that such language could proceed from a Committee with such men upon it as J. DeLafayette Sanford Howard, Anthony Van Bergen, &c. The entire paragraph looks like a burlesque. The "advantages of drill husbandry has not yet been decided"—broadcast sowing has prevailed throughout the world, and possesses the advantage," &c., &c. If the Committee were not acquainted with the results as established by experiments in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, Indiana, and several other States, in regard to drilling, they should hold their peace. Every body who has experience in drilling in wheat—which pretty much embraces all that is meant by "drill husbandry"—knows that by the drill about half a bushel of seed is saved to the acre—that it is put in equally as expeditiously as with the hand and with far greater certainty—and that the product is from two to five bushels per acre more! The straw is also stronger and more uniform, with not more than half the amount of small weeds produced by hand sowing. The fact—for fact it is beyond question—that a half bushel of seed is lost, by broadcast sowing, which must be left uncovered, and either perishes, or is carried off by birds, &c., tells us also very plainly that these small heads come from the grains that are barely covered and have no hold in the soil.

Gen. Franklin Pierce, President elect of the United States, together with Mrs. Pierce and their son, were among the passengers in the train, being on their way home from this city, when by some unforeseen accident, the car, containing about seventy passengers, men, women and children, was thrown down an embankment, some twenty feet high, upon a pile of rocks, killing several instantly, and among them the son of Gen. Pierce, and seriously injuring Mrs. Pierce, who narrowly escaped death.

Terrific Accident.

Boston, Jan. 6.—We regret to record a terrible and heart-rending accident, which occurred upon the Boston and Maine Railroad to-day, attended with serious loss of life, and under circumstances calculated to give to the occurrence the most painful interest. Gen. Franklin Pierce, President elect of the United States, together with Mrs. Pierce and their son, were among the passengers in the train, being on their way home from this city, when by some unforeseen accident, the car, containing about seventy passengers, men, women and children, was thrown down an embankment, some twenty feet high, upon a pile of rocks, killing several instantly, and among them the son of Gen. Pierce, and seriously injuring Mrs. Pierce, who narrowly escaped death.

Triennial Assessment of Union County for 1853.

STATEMENT, pursuant to Law, of the aggregate value of all property, real and personal, and of the taxes (except watches), within each Township and Borough in the County of Union, subject to Taxation by the laws of this Commonwealth, whether for State, County, Township or Borough purposes, made and returned by the respective Assessors of the aforesaid Townships and Boroughs, to the Commissioners, at their Office in New Berlin.

Table with columns: Township, Assessed Value of Real Estate, Assessed Value of Personal Property, Assessed Value of Trains, Occupations and Professions, Assessed Value of Manufactures, and Amount of Taxes and Levies.

WE the undersigned, in accordance with the provisions contained in the 11th section of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the ordinary expenses of the Government, payment of the Interest of the State Debt," &c., approved the 27th day of July, 1852, publish the foregoing Statement; and at the same time hereby give PUBLIC NOTICE that on Monday the 31st day of January inst., the Commissioners will meet at their Office in New Berlin for the purpose of finally determining whether any of the valuations of the Assessors have been made below a just rate, according to the meaning and intention of this Act—when and where all persons interested will attend if they think proper.

H. GERHART, Surgeon Dentist.

At his Residence, South Third St., corner of the Board walk. LEWISBURG. 390

FAMILY Groceries.

25 BBL'S FISH. 200 lbs. CHEESE. 3000 lbs. HAM, Lard, and Shoulders, Dairy Salt, &c. for sale at Lewisburg Cheap Store U. E. ROWLES

GRAYDON'S FORMS.

NEW AND FOURTH EDITION. GRAYDON'S FORMS, for use by the Justices of the Peace, and the Clerks of the Courts of Common Pleas, Quarter Sessions, and the Courts of Sessions and of the County of Lancaster, &c. &c. Price only \$1.00.

AMONG THE INJURED.

Among the injured, Mr. Baily Lawrence had a leg broken; a little girl had her foot crushed, and another, whose name is unknown, was very badly injured. The express train, with the President and the injured, had taken the cars at Andover, for Concord, having remained at Andover all last night. Those present at the accident, say that the escape of the President and others was most miraculous.

CONCORD, N. H., Jan. 6.

The greatest excitement prevailed here to-day, since the receipt of the news of the death of Gen. Pierce's son, on the rail-road near Andover. The Legislature immediately adjourned. Boston, Jan. 10.—The funeral services over the remains of the son of Gen. Pierce took place this morning at Andover, in the presence of a very large assemblage. The Rev. Mr. Parker, of Concord, officiated. After the services had been concluded, the remains were conveyed to Concord, in a special train, for burial.

300 AGENTS WANTED.

WANTED in every County of the United States, active and enterprising MEN, to engage in the sale of some of the best books published in this country. Men of good address possessing a small capital of from \$25 to \$100 will have such inducements offered as cannot be made from \$3 to \$10 a day profit.

\$500 CHALLENGE.

WHATEVER concerns the health and happiness of a people, is at all times of the most valuable importance. I take it for granted that every person will do all in his power to save the lives of his children, and that every person will endeavor to promote their own health at all sacrifices. I feel it to be my duty to solemnly assure you that WORMS, according to the opinion of the most celebrated Physicians, are the cause of all the diseases which afflict children and adults alike.

THE TAPE WORM!

This is the most different Worm to destroy of all that infest the human system. It is not only the most common, but the most dangerous, and the most difficult to cure. It is the cause of all the diseases which afflict children and adults alike.

TO FEMALES.

You will find these Pills an invaluable medicine in every complaint to which you are subject. In deterring you from using any other medicine, I am bound to state that this is the only one that will cure you of all the diseases which afflict females.

AGENTS WANTED.

Agents wishing new supplies, and storekeepers desiring of becoming agents must address the Proprietor, J. N. HORNBACK, at his Laboratory, No. 120, North 2d, above Race St., Philadelphia.

India Rubber Gloves, Mittens, &c.

COUNTRY Merchants, in making their purchases, should not neglect these desirable and valuable articles. Their manufacture has been much improved recently, and they are made very durable. Particular attention is requested to the

Oyster Saloon.

HAVING fitted up the Rooms in PARKER'S new brick block in a superior manner, the subscriber is now prepared to accommodate individuals and parties with OYSTERS etc. in the best style. A share of public patronage solicited by C. F. HESS

New Shop.

Samuel Shifer has just opened a shop on Market Square, between the Post Office and Lyndell's Bookstore, where he is prepared to make and sell Boots and Shoes of all kinds, for Ladies, Misses, Men and Boys. Also for sale, GUM SHOES of all sizes. Repairs done as usual.

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WATCH DEPOT.

A. L. HATHFIELD, on hand a large and splendid assortment of WATCHES, SILVERWARE and JEWELRY, just received from the best Importing and Manufacturing Houses in Philadelphia and New York, and consequently at much lower rates than if purchased from those Dealers who pretend to be Wholesale.

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MEDICAL REFORM.

DR. H. B. HARRIS would announce to the citizens of Lewisburg and vicinity that he has removed into North Third street, in the house formerly occupied by Capt. Paul, above the German Restored Church. Thankful for the liberal patronage hitherto received, he desires to give his professional services to all who may desire them.

THE ONLY TRUE PORTRAIT OF WASHINGTON.

JUST published, T. B. WELCH'S magnificent Portrait of GEORGE WASHINGTON—engraved by the late artist, and the only original portrait in the Atlantic States. This superb picture, engraved under the supervision of THOMAS SMITH, Esq., the eminent and highly gifted artist, in the only correct likeness of Washington, is now published in the country. As the Society, we refer to the original portrait of Washington, which was painted by the late artist, and is now in the possession of the Hon. J. M. W. McKim, Esq., of New York, who says, "It is the only true portrait of the Supreme Chief of the Nation, who was a man of a noble and heroic character, and whose name is forever associated with the name of our country."

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Lightning Rods.

AFTER many years' close investigation and numerous experiments, the Patentee takes pleasure in informing the public that he has arrived at the true principle of protecting families, dwellings and property from the destructive influence of LIGHTNING. The calculating victim to annually, thro' the gross negligence of its inhabitants, is beyond calculation, especially when the remedy is so easy to obtain—this is found in

ARMITAGE'S Patent Magnetic Lightning Rods.

and in this alone. This Rod has been examined by the most scientific gentlemen, and has been found to be the most perfect and successful of any ever used. It is the only one that will protect a family, dwelling and property from the destructive influence of LIGHTNING. The calculating victim to annually, thro' the gross negligence of its inhabitants, is beyond calculation, especially when the remedy is so easy to obtain—this is found in

THE SUSQUEHANNA RAIL-Road.

which is to be extended from Lewisburg to Millburg, on the Juniata. Through by Millburg!! It is a fact that D. H. Hissel has got ahead of all the Companies, and has now opened one of the best and largest stocks of FALL & WINTER GOODS ever opened in this country, and of such styles and qualities as will give satisfaction to all.

THIS MACHINE.

has been invented, and the statement of a few facts may prove that it is not only the Best Machine of the kind in existence, but that it is the most profitable that a man can have on his farm. The apples are by this machine grated up into a fine pulp, so that it requires but a comparatively little pressure, and that but a minute or two to extract all the cider, it being actuated by practical experiment that One Fourth more can be obtained by the old process. Besides this it requires only two to three men to make up into cider a larger quantity of apples than can be possibly made on the old-fashioned machines. On this press, owing to the compactness of the pomace in the tub and the complete manner in which it is ground, a pressure of three to five tons— which can be easily obtained—will produce a more favorable result than one hundred tons pressure on the ordinary cider press even if the apples were ground as finely as on the improved Mill; and if the apples were merely crushed as on the Nut machine, it would require a pressure of two hundred tons to produce the result accomplished by the Patent Mill. The following are added as decided advantages of this machine:

THE 10th Session OF THE Lewisburg Academy.

Will commence on Monday, October 18th, to continue 20 weeks. The course of instruction in this Institution is calculated to prepare Young men to enter College, for general business. All branches of a thorough academic course, including Languages, Mathematics, and General Literature, are taught. The present session affords a good opportunity for improvement to Young Men, residing in the neighborhood, who are at leisure during the Winter months. Composition and Declamation will receive particular attention. All gross, immoral practices are strictly prohibited, both in and about the school; and kindness, courtesy, and a spirit of honorable rivalry among the pupils, are encouraged. The subscriber is desirous to secure a class of Young Ladies.

TO COACH MAKERS.

STEELE'S Spring Steel, Iron and Brass Nail Springs, Top Iron Springs, Plain and fig'd Clock Oil Cloth, black and fancy oil cloth Cloth for Trimming, Lining Cloth, Coach Lards, Tatts, &c., &c. to be had at reduced rates at the cheap store of KREMER & CO.

MOST KINDS OF JOB PRINTING.

NEATLY & EXPEDITIOUSLY EXECUTED AT THE "CHRONICLE" OFFICE Lewisburg. 1853. MANUSCRIPTS FOR 1853, just received and for gratuitous distribution. Call and get one and save your sixpence. Da THORNTON & CHRIST COAL, PLASTER, SALT, FISH, IRON and NAILS, always on hand and for sale by D. S. KREMER & CO.

A Bargain!

A NEW Rockway Carriage—with seats for four—for sale cheap by CHARLES S. CRITES.

2,000 BUSH.

Corn in ears wanted on account of in exchange for goods by KREMER & CO.