

THE OLD DUTCH FARMHOUSE.

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The old Dutch farmhouse usually consists of a kitchen, a large livingroom, a cheese room, a dairy, two small bed rooms in the garret and at the back (forming part of the main building). the big cow stable with its huge loft and a wide space in the middle, where threshing and winnowing are still done in primitive fashion. Hay ricks with moveable roofs on four poles, various barns or sheds and an outside kitchen called the "baking house," where the rough work is done (food cooked for cattle, etc.), surround the main build-

ing. The "baking house" is often used as living-room in summer, and is more cheerful than the solemn apartment into which the visitors is invariably ushered. A wide chimney lined with tiles stretches nearly across one side of this room, but the open fire on the hearth has long ago disappeared, and given place to an ugly stove. Quaint brass fire irons hang behind it, and on either side is an armchair, differing from its humbler brethren only in the possession of wooden arms. If there is a baby in the family it is likely to be reposing in a cradle with green baize curtains as near as possible to the One year fireplace, in defiance of all laws of It is dishealth. Two or three large cupboards, some times handsomely carved, always at least. Address kept well polished, stand against the whitewashed walls One of them generally has glass doors in the upper part, and on its shelves the family chinaoften of great value-is exposed to view. Unfortunately, these heirlooms in old families have been largely bought

Sometimes, however, sentiment has proved stronger than the love of money, and the farmer has not parted with his family possessions. In the corner of the room a chintz curtain, or sometimes a double door, shows where the big press bed is-an institution of pre hygienic times, which, to the peasant mind, has no inconveniences whatever. In the middle of the room a table stands on carpet, and, as people take off their shoes at the door and go about in their thick, woolen stockings, neither it nor the painted floor ever shows signs of mud. Another table stands near one of the windows, of which there are

zer, the medium or the mammoth variety. If wanted mainly for the fertilizing benefits to the land, I would prefer the mammoth variety, because its roots grow larger, go deeper and there will be a larger quantity of them to decompose, thus benefiting the land more, but I prefer to sow the medium clover and get the benefits of roots, hay and manure combined.

As to the method of sowing clover seed a showing of lands indicated that a good many farmers of that vicinity had good success in getting a catch by sowing it in the spring on winter grain as early as the soil was sufficiently dry and harrowing it in with a light, round tooth harrow which stirred the soil yet did not destroy or injure the growing grain.—Michigan Farmer.

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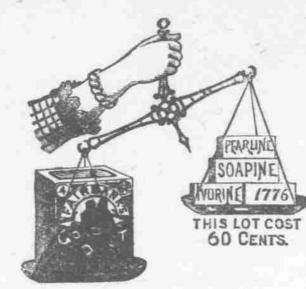
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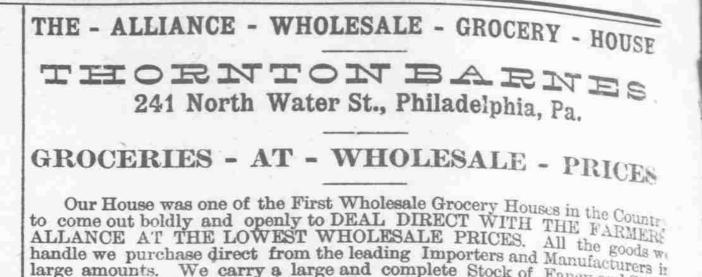
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sunbeam can hardly make its way into copies. the room, even if it had been able to struggle through the thick branches of the clipped lime trees that adorn the front of the house. On one of the tables a tray stands, with a hospitable array of cups and saucers, teapot, etc., and is protected from the dust by a crochet or muslin cover. The huge family Bible, with its big brass clasps, has an honorable place, often on a stand by itself. Rough wood cuts or cheap prints, and a group of family photographs, which do not flatter the origi nals, are hung on the walls -- The National Review.

-----CLOVER SEED ON SANDY SOIL

At a Farmers' Institute held at Kil bourn City, Wis., after a paper on clover and its benefits, the following discussion ensued, in which the author of the paper, Mr. Convey, answered Fruit Trees, questions:

"Would you sow clover with all small grains?"

Mr. Convey.-"I find it profitable to do so, even if I intend to plow the land again the next year."

"How long would you leave the land in clover before plowing again?"

200

Mr. Convey .- "I find it the most advantageous to cut hay one year, pasture the land the next year, then plow it again. I find that preferable to breaking the sod the second year after seeding.

The question of getting clover seed to grow on sandy land was quite ex tensively discussed and many experi ences given. There had been successes and failures in both fall and spring seeding, and but few successes in sow ing the seed in spring on fall sowed grain, though a few had obtained a good catch of clover by sowing the seed in open weather during the winter or very early in the spring. The greatest number of successes, however, had resulted from sowing the seed and har-rowing it in, if the land was very sandy.

Two reported having good success sowing clover seed alone in the spring. No others present had tried that method. Quite a number had tried seeding with buckwheat, but with poor success. Those who had sowed sparingly of buckwheat, merely enough to shade the land, succeeded, while where the buckwheat, was so wed thick the clover was smothered out.

"Why is it that water disappears more quickly on clover sod than on a sod of mixed grasses?"

two or three. The linen blinds so closely meet the spotless muslin curtains, which are drawn stiffliy across the lower panes on two horizontal sticks, that a stray the lower panes on two horizontal sticks, that a stray the lower panes on two horizontal sticks, that a stray the lower panes the lower pa

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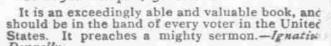
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gives elaborate tables showing the increase of wealth in railroads, manufactures, banking, and other forms of business, and he compares this with the earnings of the farmer, and also wage-workers in general. In a clear, forcible style, with abundant citations of facts and figures, the author tells how the farmer reached his present unsatisfactory condition. Then follows an elaborate discussion of "The Way out," which is the fullest and most authoritative presentation of the aims and views of the Farmers' Alliance that has been published, including full discussions of the currency, the questions of interest and mortgages, railroads, the sale of crops, and other matters of vital consequence.

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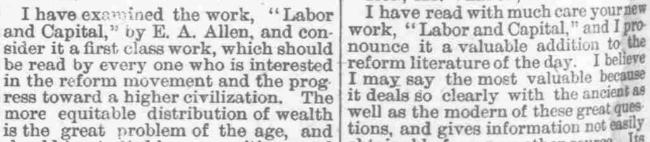
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Mr. Convey.—"It is because the roots of clover go deep into the soil, so perforating it that the surplus water readily runs into land, while the roots of other grasses are all near the sur-face leaving the subsoil compact and rolid." solid."

"It is profitable to plow under a crop of clover?"

Mr. Convey.—"In most soils it is not. If the land is very heavy, it may be profitable in the end to plow clover under as its decomposition will add humus to the soil and tend to make it lighter. But on light soil plowing under clover, or any other green crop, is liable to prove an actual damage to the soil, as it makes it too light and porous and prevents moisture coming up near enough to the surface for ordi nary plant roots to avail themselves of it. I would much prefer to make the clover into good hay, feed it to the stock and apply the manure to the

soil." "What kind of clover seed is best to sow?" Mr. Convey.—"To answer the ques-tion in few words, I would say sow only the choicest seed. It does not pay to sow poor seed. I take it, however, that what you want to know is, which will serve the best purpose as a fertili

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