

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,

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AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,

With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

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AGRICULTURAL.

INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

Paint for Out-Buildings.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—Will you please inform me the best method to make white-wash for out-buildings, fences, &c., that will stand the weather?—A. C., *Minneapolis, Minn.*, 1861.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—I avail myself of the superior advantage of your valuable paper for obtaining a recipe for making a wash or coating for the outside of buildings. Many years since I saw in a paper a recipe for making the kind of wash which was used on the outside of the President's house, familiarly known as the White House, at Washington, D. C., and which was represented to be more impervious and durable than paint. Now, if you or any of your numerous correspondents will produce that recipe, or any other equally good, you will greatly oblige a subscriber. As I have several outbuildings which I wish to serve with such a coating this spring, the answers to the following questions would be thankfully received: 1st. Should the composition be hot or cold? 2d. How can the white composition be changed to a straw color, to a yellow or flesh color? 3d. If more than one coat is necessary, how many? 4. What is the best season in the year for putting on the wash, &c.? Any information on this subject will oblige—ALEX. MCG., *Cherrywood, North Pelham, C. W.*, March, 1861.

WATER-LIME and linseed oil have been used as a paint for out-buildings, and after being on a year, it appeared as good as new. Whether it proved durable, we cannot say, but perhaps some of our readers can inform us. Gas tar makes a most durable paint for out-buildings, preserving the wood to which it is applied, for an indefinite time. Indeed, we think a coating every few years would make wood almost indestructible, except by fire. The tar is so black that it is almost impossible to affect its color by any pigment that we have tried. In Europe, however, it is made, by some process, of a chocolate color, and is used to a great extent for farm sheds, fences, &c. The recipe, which was published pretty generally, for a wash such as was said to be used on the President's house, we have not been able to find, but if our recollection serves us right, it was made of lime, ground rice, and skimmed milk. We give a number of good recipes for making the wash desired by our correspondents. They may be put on cold, and the color changed to suit the taste, by any cheap coloring materials to be found at the stores where painters' materials are sold. A second coat is generally necessary. If the weather is fine, without rain or dust, these washes may be put on at any time, but oil-paints should be used when the weather is cold, so that the oil will form a hard body on the surface, and not soak into the wood, as it will in a hot day, leaving the lead on the surface, to be washed off by the rains.

Two quarts skimmed milk; 2 oz. fresh slaked lime; 5 lbs. whiting. Put the lime into a stoneware vessel, pour upon it a sufficient quantity of milk to make a mixture resembling cream, the balance of the milk is then to be added; and lastly the whiting is then to be crumbled and spread on the surface of the fluid, in which it gradually sinks. At this period it must be well stirred in, or ground, as you would other paint, and it is fit for use. There may be added any coloring matter that suits the fancy. It is to be applied in the same manner as other paints, and in a few hours it will become perfectly dry. Another coat may then be added, and so on, until the work is completed. This paint is of great tenacity, and possesses a slight elasticity, which enables it to bear rubbing even with a coarse woolen cloth, without being in the least injured. It has little or no smell, even when wet, and when dry is perfectly inodorous. It is not subject to be blackened by sulphurous or animal vapors, and is not injurious to health. The quantity above mentioned, is sufficient for covering 57 yards with one coat.

Take a barrel and slake in it carefully, with boiling water, half a bushel of fresh lime. Then fill the barrel two-thirds full of water, and add one bushel of hydraulic lime or water cement. Dissolve in water

and add three pounds of sulphate of zinc, (white vitriol,) stirring the whole to incorporate it thoroughly. The wash should be of the consistency of thin paint, and may be laid on with a whitewash or other brush. The color is pale stone color, nearly white. If you wish it to be straw color, add yellow ochre, two pounds in powder; if drab, add four pounds raw umber.

Another good wash is made as follows:—Slake lime with hot water, in a tub, to keep in the steam. When dissolved, and in a half fluid state, pass it through a fine sieve. Take six quarts of this lime and one quart of clean rock salt for each gallon of water—the salt to be dissolved by boiling, and the impurities to be skimmed off. To five gallons of this mixture, (salt and lime,) add one pound of alum, half a pound of copperas, three-fourths of a pound of potash, (the last to be added gradually,) four quarts of fine sand, or hard wood ashes. Add coloring matter to suit the fancy.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* gives the following:—One bushel unslaked lime; half a gallon salt; three pounds alum, powdered; three pounds saleratus. Mix and put in a tight barrel with one head out. If the lime is quite fresh, cold water, if not, then use hot water. Keep stirring while slaking, adding water as required, so as not to become dry at any time. If it heats dry, it becomes lumpy, and must not be overworked with water so as to prevent the slaking going on. Stir up well from the bottom. When finished, it may be thick as mush. When to be applied by a brush, make the mixture the consistency of whitewash,—about the thickness of cream. Apply the first coat very thoroughly, filling every crack or interstice between the bricks or in the boards. For wooden fences a second coat of the same material is all that is required. Those who desire to have some other color than white, can add coloring matter to taste.

For Brick Houses.—For the second coat, add to the first-named materials, twelve pounds melted tallow, and mix as before. This coat is impervious to water,—is brighter, looking clean longer than paint, and preserves the cement between the bricks better than paint.

Vetches, or Tares.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—Can you inform me where I can find the seed of Vetches? You may not probably know it by that name, but it grows somewhat like the pea, and is generally used for green feed. It grows a heavy crop, and matures early. I saw it in Ireland, but have never seen the seed of it advertised in this country, or noticed it in market reports.—O. M. C., *Oak Grove, Dodge Co., Wis.*, 1861.

VETCHES or Tares have not been grown to any extent in this country. They are peculiarly valuable where the system of soiling is pursued, and as this has not been practiced here to any extent, little attention has been given to vetches. Now that this system of feeding is receiving favorable notice, and is advocated by some leading agriculturists, this plant will doubtless receive a fair trial here. Some years since the seed was imported by our seedsmen, but the lack of demand discouraged its importation, and we are not certain seed can be procured here, but any quantity can be obtained in Europe, cheap. The last number of the *Irish Farmer's Gazette* contains the following article on the culture of vetches, which at this time we think will prove both interesting and instructive to American farmers, for though our climate in all sections may not be as favorable to their growth as that of Great Britain, yet in many parts, and particularly on the rich lands of the West, we are confident they will be found exceedingly valuable.

Vetches, or tares, as they are sometimes designated, are more extensively cultivated for green forage purposes than for the sake of the seed. Grown in succession and cut green, they afford a large supply of most valuable food, relished by every description of domestic animals. They are also occasionally consumed on the ground by sheep folded upon the crop, and when this system is practiced, a considerably larger number of sheep can be kept on an acre than on a similar extent of the richest pasture, whilst the land is enriched by their droppings, particularly when an allowance of cake is given to the folded sheep. A crop of vetches consumed in this manner, and having cake as an auxiliary food, puts the land into good condition to produce a crop of wheat, besides contributing a large quota towards the supply of the meat market.

Vetches are divided into two classes—(1) the winter vetch, and (2) the summer vetch; these names being given from the habits of growth possessed by the two varieties, one being hardy and capable of standing the effects of winter, whilst the other cannot be sown until spring. It is considered, however, that the distinction arises solely from the mode of cultivation which has been practiced with each kind, so that if the winter vetches were sown in spring, the seed permitted to ripen, and again sown in the spring, the plant would gradually acquire the appearance and peculiarities of summer vetches. The winter vetch "is distinguished by being usually of smaller growth, and its pods being more smooth and cylindrical, containing more seeds, and in its general habit is like the wild variety" (Lawson). It is essential that those who intend to grow winter vetches, should assure themselves that the seed they procure is that of the true variety, and the best way is either to grow their own seed, or procure it from a respectable seedsmen, who will not, for his own sake, give the buyer anything but the seed of the true winter vetch.

The winter vetch is sometimes denominated a "stolen crop," because it intervenes between the regular crops in a rotation, and is grown out of the ordinary course. Thus, winter vetches grown on a grain stubble, are consumed in sufficient time to permit the land to be sown with turnips.

As the production of a large bulk of stems and leaves is the principal object when vetches are grown for forage purposes, it is obvious that the land ought to be in good heart and clean. If the land is rich, it may not be necessary to apply dung previous to sowing the seed, and we may depend only on the after use of guano, &c., for promoting the growth of the crop; but when the land is only in moderate condition, ten or twelve loads of farm-yard dung per statute acre must be spread, and plowed in before sowing.

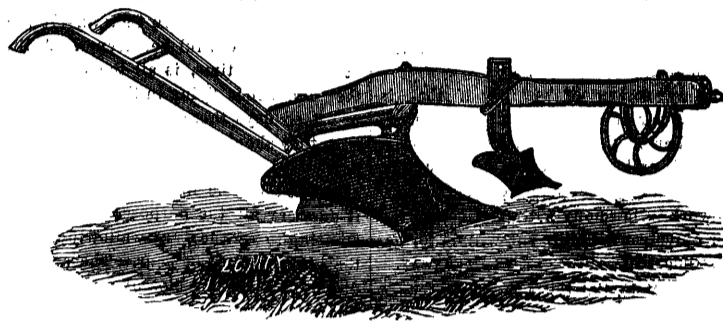
Vetches are sometimes sown on clover ley, but generally after a grain crop. If the land is foul, it must be scarified and cleaned, then damped and plowed, after which the seed is sown broadcast and harrowed in; the water-furrows between each ridge being cleaned out by the plow. The seed is also sown by the drill machine, the land being previously harrowed fine, a turn of the harrows after the drill completing the operation. From two bushels to two and a half bushels of seed are required to sow a statute acre, according to the condition of the land; rich land requiring less seed than that which is poor. It is usual and advisable to mix a bushel per acre of rye with winter vetches, as the rye stalks serve to keep the vetches from lying on the ground, which would rot them in wet weather; the rye also increases the bulk of forage, and the mixed feed is more palatable for cattle than the unmixed.

Summer vetches are sown in succession from the end of February to the end of June, the object being to have an uninterrupted successional supply of green food for soiling during summer, and until a late period in autumn. The land for spring sown vetches is plowed at the usual time in the end of the year, after scarifying, if necessary, and dung may either be plowed in at that time, or left until nearer the sowing season. When it can be done, unless the land is very light, we would wish that part of the vetch-break, at least, which we intended to sow early, dunged when plowed for the winter. When the store of farm-yard manure is not more than sufficient for other crops, we must depend upon guano, superphosphate, and the other manures already mentioned as being suitable for leguminous plants. These light manures may be partly applied at the time of sowing, and harrowed in, and partly left until the plants are above ground, when a wet day, or when rain is evidently near, should be selected for applying them. Thus, half the allowance may be applied with the seed, and half when the plants are up. The quantity of seed in the case of summer vetches required to sow an acre is similar to that mentioned in the case of the winter variety, although the seeds of the latter are smaller than those of the summer kind. Oats are also sown with summer vetches. After sowing and harrowing, the land should be rolled, so as to make the surface level for the scythe; but this cannot be done after sowing winter vetches, as rolling previous to winter would be injurious, particularly if the soil is inclined to be stiff. All surface stones which would impede the scythe must be removed. In arranging the sowing of summer vetches, the extent sown at one time should gradually increase as the season advances, with longer intervals of time between each sowing, otherwise the crop would either not be ready when wanted, or might get too far ahead before the previous sowing was fully consumed.

We may mention that if winter vetches are cut before showing flower, they will grow again, and produce a fair crop of seed; better, indeed, than if left uncut, as the plants are not so thick, and they poa better.

Stringhalt—Is it Curable?
I wish the advice of some of your numerous readers,—perhaps "Poor Farmer" can aid me. I have a fine, smart little mare, which is, I fear, affected with stringhalt. She was broken very carefully, last fall,—was not struck a blow, except a slight touch of the whip once or twice which a child would hardly have felt,—has never plunged nor kicked, and never drew a load in her life. She has never been driven over bad roads, nor had any chance to strain herself, unless in jumping in the lot. About three weeks ago my brother said something was the matter with my colt, and I immediately sent her to a horse dealer in the place, who pronounced it a case of stringhalt, and said that there was no cure. I don't know whether the case is a hard one, or not. The peculiarity almost disappears when she becomes warmed with traveling, but she is no better on warm days than on cold ones, so far as I see. Is it possible that she can not be cured? Gentlemen tell me that it will not hurt her at all for business, but it doesn't look reasonable to me. If there is a remedy, will some one make it known? and oblige—A. S. S. S. S. S., *Alexander, N. Y.*, 1861.

The disease known as stringhalt, is but an imperfect development of what is termed, when it exhibits itself in men, St. Vitus' dance. In the canine creation it is known as chorea, jerking the whole body, even to the face, sometimes shaking the creature so violently as to throw it from its balance, and it frequently terminates fatally. In the horse, however, it never reaches this extreme. As our correspondent states, it disappears after a little exercise. Save when about to start, it is seldom detected, then the hind limbs are suddenly raised. The movement is full of energy, rapid, and entirely involuntary. MAYHEW states that "Guilford," the racer, exhibited the disease in its worst form. It prevented the signal being obeyed until several of the eccentric move-



IMPROVED STRAIGHT DRAFT PLOW.

Among the patents issued under the new law, the Improved Straight Draft Plow of Messrs. RYLOFFSON & B. G. GAMBO, of this city, is one of the most valuable. Having witnessed a trial of this implement last season, we can speak with some confidence of its value, and take pleasure in presenting an illustration and brief description of it as recently improved. We considered the plow, as first invented and used, worthy of commendation, and think the change will enhance its value and popularity. The patentees thus speak of the Plow as now manufactured: "It is perfectly adapted to two or to three horses, the draft in either case being on a line with the land-

side. The beam is shown in the cut as adjusted for three horses, and by loosening the nuts on the top of the beam it may be moved parallel, laterally, toward the mold-board, for two horses, when the coupler or jointer, as the case may be, should be changed to the opposite side of the beam. The slots, through which the clamping bolts pass, being open from side to side, renders it unnecessary to remove them in order to make said changes. This plow is commended in the very highest terms by all who have used or even tried it."

For further particulars relative to this improvement see advertisement of the proprietors.

ments had been performed, and though he was esteemed good, even where speed was the requisite, so much ground was lost before motion was attained that winning was an impossibility. No drug can reach the parts affected, and veterinarians pronounce it incurable. Once exhibited, it never disappears except with life. High-spirited, nervous horses, are most subject to attack. Where the disease is the result of debility, the general health may be improved, and Dr. DADD recommends that the spine be daily rubbed with the following embrocation:—Linseed oil, one pint; spirits of hartshorn, two ounces; fine mustard, one-half ounce. Administer, as medicine, one ounce each of powdered golden seal, powdered gintran, cream tartar, charcoal, and one-half ounce of assafetida. Mix these, divide into eight parts, and give one, morning and evening, in the food.

Farm Culture of the Pea.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—I wish information through the columns of your valuable paper with regard to the culture of peas. I have a piece of land on which I wish to sow peas. It is covered with flint and limestone, and has been laying under pasture for the last three years. Will it increase or diminish the crop if it were manured, and how many bushels will it require to the acre. Any information on this subject will be gladly received.—A. B., *Caledonia, Liv. Co., N. Y.*, March, 1861.

A good sward, well turned over, and dragged, does well for the pea. A little well rotted manure would help the crop, but too much manure, especially if fresh, causes a rank growth of haulm, without increasing the quantity of peas; indeed, we have often found the crop diminished by this course. It is best to put the peas in as deep as possible without disturbing the sod. The pea is about the only thing that is not injured by very deep planting. Was it not for the pea-bug, the pea would be a profitable crop to precede wheat, as it may be sown early enough to be well out of the way of fall sowing. Frost does not injure the pea, therefore it may be sown as early as the ground can be worked, but to avoid the bug some delay to plant until the middle or latter part of May. The bug has then done its work before these late planted peas are sufficiently matured for its purposes. The objection to this course is that late planted peas suffer from the hot sun, often mildew, and seldom produce a good crop. Some, however, succeed with late planting. Peas are usually put in broadcast, though drilling is practiced to some extent, and we think it the best practice, as the cultivator can then be used. When sown broadcast, about three bushels are required for an acre, but less than this quantity is needed for drilling.

Mad Itch in Cattle.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—I wish to inquire if you, or any of your numerous readers, can give me a remedy for the mad itch that is now prevailing among our cattle and sheep? One of our neighbors lost a fine cow and several head of sheep lately, and it is feared that it will run through the whole vicinity. Please send the remedy, if any, and the cause, and oblige—A. A. WILLIAMS, *Bolton, Har. Co., Mo.*

We are inclined to the belief that the difficulty with your stock is the Mange, a disease generally produced either by poverty or contagion, and is owing to the presence of an insect (the *acarus*) which burrows under the skin, and breeds to a great extent. An intolerable itching is one of the leading symptoms, and thus the affected part becomes sore and denuded of hair, and the skin, after a time, becomes thickened, and drawn up in folds or whales. The treatment consists in rubbing in with plenty of friction, an ointment containing sulphur, such as the following:—Sulphur vivum 4 ounces; linseed-oil or train-oil 8 ounces; oil of turpentine or oil of tar 2 ounces. Mix.
DR. DADD attributes the disease to the presence of parasites. Hence it can be communicated by contact or touch; and is, therefore, contagious. This latter fact suggests the propriety of removing the diseased animals from the healthy ones.
Dr. D.'s manner of treatment is as follows:—Let

the animal have a tablespoonful of sulphur in the feed, for three or four days in succession; in the meantime anoint the affected parts daily, with a portion of the following:—Cod liver oil, 4 ounces; sublimated sulphur, 2 ounces. Mix, and apply by means of a sponge. In the course of four or five days wash the surface of the body with warm water and soap, and then give the body a thorough sponging with the following:—Lime water, 1 quart; Sublimated sulphur, 2 ounces. This treatment generally cures the most inveterate cases.

Colds among Lambs—Sore-Mouth.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—I would inquire through your valuable paper, if you, or some of your numerous subscribers, would tell me what ails my lambs, and what will cure them? They have been sick six weeks, were taken with sore lips, run at the nose and the eyes. When I first discovered the sore lips, I put tar on them, and now the lips are well and the flow of the nostrils is lessened.—A. SUBROBER, *Yates, Orleans Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

DURING winter, sheep that are exposed, or whose shelters are imperfectly constructed, are subject to *Coryza*, or cold, and experience much difficulty because of the excess of mucus, which clogs the nasal passages, rendering breathing a laborious operation. The eyes, through sympathy, also suffer. Sheep often die of suffocation when not relieved. Sometimes the inflammation extends to the bronchial organs, and pulmonary consumption results. When the flock are thus troubled, remove to warm shelters, and administer a dose of purgative medicine. Good quarters, and wholesome food, are the preventives, and are worth a dozen remedies.

For the sore lips we know of nothing better than what you have already employed. Hog's lard and sulphur will also prove efficient in their treatment.

HOW NATURE AIDS THE FARMER.

"There are two kinds of matter in the Universe—etherial or electrical matter, and gross, or, as it is frequently called by way of distinction, ponderable matter. The two, however, may have the same essence, and differ from each other only in the aggregation of the atoms of the latter; or, in other words, what we call gross matter, may be but a segregation or kind of crystallization of the etherial matter in definite masses."—*Agricultural Patent Office Report*, page 494, by Professor HENRY.

SOME of the operations of nature, in connection with Agriculture, are so subtle and secret, that the only way we can investigate them is to collate facts on which we can found hypotheses, and when an hypothesis is found to harmonize with all the facts, then we may venture, perhaps, to exalt it to the rank of a theory. From the front windows of my sitting room I look daily across the highway on a river upland lot of twenty acres. The natural drainage of adjacent territory has cut this field into ravines, perhaps fifty feet deep where they strike the river, and consequently the field has a very uneven surface. The soil is a sandy clay loam. Some years ago this field took its turn in a three year course of wheat and clover, but for a number of years it has been permanently used as a sheep pasture. During this last term no fertilizer has been applied by man. Last year this lot was summer fallowed and sown with wheat. It was obvious, on inverting the sod, that the soil had gained in richness during this period of rest, and now the luxuriant, matted, carpet-like covering of wheat assures that, barring the midge, the chief danger lies in too luxuriant growth. Where the sheep loved to congregate the soil is evidently too rich for wheat,—and yet these spots do not appear to be enriched by impoverishing other parts of the field. The question arises, whence came this increase of fertility in the soil? With the exception of the water drank from the ravines by the sheep, which came from springs having their sources elsewhere, the salt fed to the sheep, and supplies from the elements, no visible addition has been made to the soil. On the contrary, several hundred pounds of wool, and the increase of the flock, have been annually sold.

Again, a sandy soil is too poor for remunerative cultivation; apply a little manure, grow a succulent green crop, plow it under, then seed with clover, sow plaster, and pasture for a few years with sheep, and you have a soil adapted to a judicious course of remunerative cultivation. Yet what has been really added by man is trifling compared with the result. Once more we may inquire, whence comes the increased fertility?

Again, Judge BUEL wrote, many years ago, that London gardeners, although they used manure in great abundance, found it expedient to give their soil periodic seasons of rest in grass. And we know well that farmers, in all their courses, have been taught by experience the absolute necessity of this same recurrence to grass, without which no course, however otherwise judicious, would be complete.

Do not these facts prove that the farmer, exert himself as he may, is dependent upon the recuperative aid of nature; or, in other words, that nature can do something for him which he has not yet learned to do for himself; nor will he learn how to do that something until the chemist can in his laboratory, out of the constituent elements, make a piece of silk, or elaborate a diamond, or fabricate a piece of gold.

Perhaps some light is thrown on the subject by the quotation at the head of this article. But let not the farmer who has impoverished his soil by excessive cropping, hope to obtain the recuperative aid of nature quickly or easily, if at all. It is as true physically as morally, "Whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance; but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath."—Matthew 13: 12.

Nature works by means of vitality; if that is largely diminished, her processes are slow. In such a case, perhaps, her method would be to grow a forest on the soil, and thus prepare it for future generations. To obtain the recuperative aid of nature, then, we must work in harmony with nature, and the more we do for ourselves the more she will do for us. Milan, Erie Co., Ohio, 1861. PETER HATHAWAY.

P. S. In my last article, the types made me feed a cow on beans. I wrote bran.

ON CHEESE MAKING.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In a late issue of your valuable paper I saw an article on making cheese. That being my business, I will give my mode, and if considered worthy of notice, you may insert the same for the benefit of new beginners in the art.

I use a tin vat, fitted inside of a wooden one, with one inch of space between. The object of this is to use cold water for cooling the night's milk, and also warm water to heat the milk to the desired temperature. I strain my night's milk into the vat, and then turn enough cold water into the space between the vats to cool the milk and prevent the same from souring in warm weather. I then strain the morning's milk in with the night's milk. I do not take the cream off the night's milk, as I am not in favor of skim milk cheese. The cream will mix with the milk at 90°.

After the morning's milk is in the vat, I draw off the cold water and add warm water enough to heat the milk to 90°. I then add rennet enough to coagulate the milk in 30 or 40 minutes. Let it stand until it will break short across the finger, then cut it up with a common wooden knife; let stand a short time, and cut again with a curd cutter, made of tin, cutting fine. The curd should be cut carefully, so as not to break the pieces, and should be handled carefully until it is well scalded. At no time should it be pressed in the hand.

After the curd is cut, let it stand and settle. As soon as it is settled, so that the whey rises, commence dipping off the whey into a heater. As soon as it becomes warm, dip from the heater back into the vat, stirring the same gently with the hands, and so continue, dipping back and forth, increasing the heat gradually until the same is 110°. Keep the heat up to that point about one hour, draw off the warm water from the vat, then the whey, and as soon as the whey is all off, turn a painful of cold water upon the curd to cool the same, so that it will not mat together. Weigh the curd and add one teacupful of good fine salt to 20 lbs. of curd, then work the same together carefully. The curd should be worked as fine as kernels of corn, working until it is cool. Put to press and press moderately for two hours, then turn the cheese and add more weight, pressing as hard as the hoop will bare. Turn again in six hours, changing strainer every time that the cheese is turned. After pressing 24 hours, take the cheese from the press, grease and bandage, and turn every day until cured, handling carefully, so as not to break the edges of the cheese. D. HONE.

Orleans Co., N. Y., 1861.

CURE FOR PULLING HORSES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Noticing an inquiry for instruction in the method of breaking pulling horses, I am led to give my experience in a very hard case. First, I provided myself with a leather head-stall, and chain halter-stall, such as the horse could not break. After making all safe on his head, so that there could be no failure in the fixtures, I led him to a tree and hitched him to the outer end of a strong branch, and provoked him to pull. As the horse pulled, the branch gave, but still held him fast. After a long struggle he gave up. Then I vexed him again, and the same scene was re-enacted. So it was repeated until he was disposed to pull no more by any ordinary provocation, and then he was compelled to pull by the active application of a good switch over the head, until it was impossible to irritate him enough to hardly straighten his halter, when he was led away perfectly cured.

I had used this horse five years, and suffered the annoyance such cases inevitably bring; but in probably five years more that I used him, I never knew him to pull enough to "break a tow string." For some cause the "give and take," so to speak, of a swinging branch, will cure when nothing else will. I think the above method will prove effectual in all cases. H. Bellvue, Ohio, 1861.

IRON WATER-PIPE—AN INQUIRY.

MESSRS. EDS.:—Have any of the RURAL readers experience in the use of the iron pipe for conducting water? We have a well of beautiful soft water near the house, but so situated that to reach the kitchen, it must be pumped about thirty feet horizontally and twelve feet perpendicularly, or else we must go down a flight of stairs for it, as the house is built on a slope, and the kitchen is, to all intents and purposes, up stairs. Not a very convenient arrangement, you may imagine, but as we did not build the house, and choose to live in it, we must do what we can to remedy the evil. We have used the lead pipe,

but as the water stood in the pipe a good deal, it required much labor in pumping off, to get that fit or wholesome; besides, it was continually leaking, and requiring repairs, so we discarded it, and we much regret that, in purchasing another, we did not make stronger efforts to learn what kind was preferable. We did try, but as the season was advancing, and it was so hard to bring water up stairs, we bought, on recommendation, "Holley's Pitcher Pump," patented in January, 1860, and an iron pipe with it. The pump is well enough,—draws and throws water nicely,—but the pipe rusts, rendering the water hard and disagreeable; besides keeping pails, dippers, boilers, washbowls, &c., covered with rust, in spite of pumping off every time it is used, which is such hard work that most prefer to go to the well, and lug water up stairs, which we have done all winter. Is there any remedy, or must we throw it away and try another; and if so, what sort of pipe can we have that will not spoil the water, and require to be pumped off to get the pure for use? FARMER. Western New York, 1861.

The Bee-keeper.

Bee-Culture at the West.

We have received from the author, or some friend at the West, a copy of an interesting paper read before the Dubuque (Iowa) Farmer's Club, by JOHN KING, Esq., on the Culture of Bees. Not having space for the whole, we give a few extracts:

FEEDING BEES IN THE SPRING.—It is an easy matter to be a successful bee-keeper. A little attention at the proper time, is all the bee requires. When they commence flying in the spring, for the first ten or fifteen days there are few flowers, during which time they should be fed plentifully with unboltered rye flour—which I have been in the habit of doing for years, at the time indicated, with entire success—as it answers all the purposes of pollen. It is indeed amusing to see the bees wallowing, and carrying in their little pellets of flour. The article is, however, discarded as soon as blossoms make their appearance. The meal can be put in large wooden dishes, and placed a few rods from the hives. A barrel of pure water should be kept near the Apiary, and a clean piece of coarse canvass thrown over the water,—by which means they have access to it without the risk of being drowned.

ARTIFICIAL SWARMING.—With a Langstroth hive, bees can be increased very rapidly by artificial swarming, avoiding the risk of losing young swarms by the natural mode.

My plan is to take an empty hive and set it by the side of one about ready to swarm; lift three or four cards, one of which must be stocked with brood comb, or eggs; place them, with the bees attached, into the empty one. This should be performed about 10 o'clock A. M., on a pleasant day, when many of the bees are absent in quest of food. Then remove the old hive a few feet to one side, set the new one in its place in order to catch the returning bees. In a few hours thereafter the new one will be the stronger hive. In this way bees can be multiplied very rapidly. The process is simple and easy.

DESTROYING THE MILLER.—With the help of a movable comb hive, the Apiarian can readily examine the interior of his hive, and learn many things by "ocular demonstration" which he had to guess at in the common box hives. Then, entrance blocks in front of movable comb hives are good moth traps, and thousands of the grub can be destroyed in that way.

Still a better plan, or one more destructive to the miller, is to fill a number of basins with sweetened water, and place them near the hives at night, removing or covering them in the day time. I have taken from two basins, in a single morning, upwards of a hundred millers. So fond are they of sweetened water, that when presented to them in a basin at night, they rush to certain death.

If every Apiarian in the United States would attentively use the "entrance blocks," and sweetened water, so rapid would be their destruction, that in a very few years we might expect to see the bee moth well nigh exterminated. Old hives containing comb only, should not be permitted to lay around in the vicinity of the Apiary, as the moth will soon take possession of it, and fill the hive with a mass of webs. A few old hives thus lying around, would produce moths enough to ruin fifty good hives, if left undisturbed. This insect is the natural enemy of the bee, and care should be taken to lessen their number.

ITALIAN BEES.—We shall soon have the Italian bee disseminated among us in this State. They are doubtless harder than our natives. When in Cleveland last November, I called upon Mr. E. T. STURTEVANT and Dr. KIRTLAND, on different days—the weather was cold and disagreeable. At both places Italians were carrying in honey and pollen, while the black bee was nicely housed up. The Italian may have the advantage over the native in this country, from the fact that we have much cold, changeable weather during the spring months.

PROFITS OF BEE-CULTURE.—There is no kind of business that would pay so well in this State, with a small outlay, as bee-culture. The wonder is, that farmers do not go into it extensively. Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin, are well adapted to bee-culture. Among the grasses, the white clover is probably the richest in honey. It is of spontaneous growth in this State, and springs up where the prairie grass is killed out. Bass wood is plenty, and produces much pure honey. Raspberry blossoms are also rich. The prairie flowers of this State are filled with the delicious nectar. Millions of pounds of honey are wasted in Iowa alone, because we have not bees to gather it. Apple, cherry, and plum blossoms afford honey. Some of my young swarms, that came out in June, made two hundred pounds of pure honey last season.

Making Beeswax.

THE papers have occasionally given directions for making beeswax, but I have seen nothing near so satisfactory as our method, which we have practiced for nearly twenty years. During this period, our stock of bees has ranged from fifteen to seventy swarms, and some seasons we have had a large quantity of wax. Our tools consist of an iron dish-kettle, that will hold about three gallons, a tub the size of a washtub, a piece of board one foot wide and two and a half feet long, a rolling pin similar to that used by cooks in making biscuit, and a bag made of coarse toweling. To operate advantageously, two persons are required. The kettle, containing two or three quarts of water, is placed on the stove, and the comb put in and boiled until thoroughly dissolved. It is then poured into the bag, and laid upon the board, which has been placed in the tub in the same position a washerwoman has her washboard, and the wax rolled out. The tub should have a pail of cold water in it before the wax is put in. The top of the bag comes over the upper end of the board, and is held

by placing the knee against it. While one hand is rolling out the wax, the other puts in some more water and comb, and keeps up the fire, &c. By the time one batch is rolled out, and the bag emptied, another is hot; in this manner comb can be worked up at the rate of about a barrel an hour. The wax is now taken out and put into a kettle of clean water and melted, and afterwards set away to cool. When the comb is old and black, this process should be repeated two or three times. If you wish to whiten it, put the cakes in a light, warm place,—before a south window. If you wish to keep it yellow, put it in a dark place.

Some have advised putting the comb in a bag, and then sinking it in a kettle of water and boiling it, but we have failed to get out all the wax in this way. Erie Co., N. Y., 1861. A. F. H.

Bees in Australia.

THE bees introduced into Australia have multiplied rapidly and largely. They labor there almost the year round. The honey produced in the spring remains liquid; the winter honey is thick and of a doughy consistence at first, but speedily crystallizes. The quality of the honey is excellent, though differing according to the location of the apiary and the kind of pasturage. That gathered in the southern districts of the country is extolled as the best.

Salt for Bee-Stings.

SALT, slightly moistened with water and applied to the wound, has in many instances relieved the pain caused by the sting of a bee, and prevented swelling. But, like remedies for the tooth-ache, it is not effectual in every case.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Old Corn for Pork Making.

J. M. CONNER, in the New Hampshire Journal of Agriculture, gives some valuable hints on fattening swine, from which we clip a single paragraph:—"The practice of late fattening, and feeding on soft corn, is a ruinous one. Every farmer should manage so as to keep a year's stock of corn on hand, so as to make all his pork from old corn. It is worth from 15 to 25 per cent. more than corn just harvested. Hogs should not be kept half-starved through the latter part of summer, waiting for the new crop, as is frequently the case."

Potatoes—Twice Plowing.

I USUALLY put potatoes where corn has grown the year before. In the winter or fall of 1859, I plowed my ground for potatoes deep, and in the latter part of April last, after giving it a good coat of barn-yard manure, I plowed again and planted deep. The result was that my potatoes were a little longer coming up than those of some of my neighbors who planted nearer the surface; but when drouth came, the tops did not die; they kept green and growing until near frost, and I had a good crop of Peach Blows, White Mercers, and Black Mercers; also a few Buckeyes, which I tried for the first time, and which turned out very well. The Black Mercers mostly rotted, but I do not think it was owing to the time or mode of planting, which I consider was an improvement, especially the fall plowing, as the ground is in much better condition after the action of winter on the fresh plowed ground, than when not so plowed. So says a correspondent of the Germantown Telegraph.

Rough Notes on Milking Cows.

A WRITER in the American Stock Journal says, the first process in the operation of milking is to "fondle" with the cow—making her acquaintance—and thus giving her to understand that the man, or "maid with the milking-pail," approaches her with friendly intentions, in order to relieve her of the usual amount of lacteal secretion. It will never do to approach the animal with combative feelings and intentions; shoulder the milker swear, scold, or kick, and otherwise abuse the cow, she may probably prove refractory as a mule, and may give the uncouth and unfeeling milker the benefit of her heels—a very pertinent reward, to which he, the uncouth milker, is justly entitled.

Before commencing to milk a cow, she should be fed, or have some kind of fodder offered her, in view of diverting her attention from the otherwise painful operation of milking; by this means the milk is not "held up," as the saying is, but is yielded freely.

The milker should be in close contact with the cow's body, for in this position, if she attempts to kick him, he gets nothing more than a "puh," whereas, if he sits off at a distance, the cow has an opportunity to inflict a severe blow whenever she feels disposed to do so.

Before commencing to milk a cow, the teats should be washed with water, warm or cold, according to the temperature of the atmosphere, the object of which is to remove filth which might otherwise fall into the milk-pail, to the disgust of persons who love pure milk, and hate uncleanness.

Milkers of cows should understand that the udder and teats are highly organized, and consequently very sensitive, and these facts should be taken into consideration by amateur milkers, especially when their first essay is made on a young animal after her first impregnation; at this period the hard tugging and squeezing which many poor "dumb brutes" have to submit to, in consequence of the application of hard fists and calloused fingers, is a barbarity of the very worst kind, for it often converts a docile creature into a state of viciousness, from which condition she may not easily be weaned.

How I Broke Steers When a Boy.

WHEN a boy, says a correspondent of the Ohio Farmer, it was one of my greatest pleasures to yoke up and break in a pair of young steers. I recollect my first yoke, and how I trained them, just as distinctly as if I had performed the task but yesterday, and yet it is now thirty-six years since that happy time. My first pair of steers were like myself, quite young; that is, they were three weeks old, and I just ten years, when first I put the yoke upon them. Boy as I was, I had to make my own yoke and bows. My yoke was made from a piece of four by four oak scantling, and my bows were of hickory saplings. A neighbor who was a mechanic, and then practiced making more or less of ox yokes and bows, showed me how to mark and cut out my yoke, and how to bend and fit my bows, but neither he nor my father would give me further help, saying that if they let me do the work myself I would know how to do the next; but that if they did the work and let me look on, my boy mind would get no correct idea of the how; and that in making my second yoke I would require just as much showing as in the first. I think they were correct, for I have made many a yoke and bows since, and that, too, without any further teaching.

But to my steers. I recollect my first mornig, when trying to catch the calves and get my yoke on,

how they were stronger than myself, and how angry I got; how my father looked quietly on and said nothing, until it was near my school hour (for I then went to school daily), and I had not even got the yoke on one of my miniature oxen; but then he checked me in my anger, and sent me to school, with a promise next day to show me how to get along gently. Well, the next day came in due course, and with my father's assistance I got my animals together in one corner of their pen, and, by patting them, soon had them so quiet that I could lay the yoke, without its bows, on their necks; next I got my bows, and by steady patting and constant cautions from my father to keep my temper, I soon managed to get them around their necks and fastened into the yoke. Next I tied their tails together, and left for school. At noon I untied their tails, and gently released them from the yoke, by taking out both bow pins at the same time, being careful, however, not to let the bows drop, for that would frighten them. The next day I yoked them again, and without help,—tied and left them as before. The third day after yoking I let them out of their pen into a large yard. Here they ran like good fellows for a while, but as their tails were tied together, they could not get out of their yoke, and soon they were tired and laid down. I left them in the yard, and in the yoke all day; at night, before unyoking, I made them move around a little, but their fear was gone, and they did not run, as in the morning. The day following I got on the yoke, and at first there was a little disposition to run. I let them go, and soon as I could get near them, patted them a little, pulled them around, and with my whip, which was a stick about four feet long, with a lash at the end about one foot, I soon taught them to stop by touching them over the head, and saying whoa. From stopping at the word whoa, they soon got so that I could do with them as I pleased about the yard, and in two weeks I daily drove my steers, attached to a little cart, all around the village. These steers were turned away to pasture, when weaned from the cows, and had no yoke upon them until in the month of September, when they were yoked and put upon the lead of the team for going upon the salt meadows, gathering hay. They were then as tractable as old oxen, and ever after were gentle, quick, and true at their work. As I grew to more mature years, I afterwards trained many a pair of calves, as well as many a yoke of two and three year olds, for my father, who, like many another in New England, was in the yearly practice of buying young cattle from Western drovers. By using gentle means, and gradually accustoming the animals to the yoke, I could soon get steers never before yoked, to go true and steady.

Inquiries and Answers.

FEED FOR DAIRY COWS.—Will some of the RURAL'S numerous dairy subscribers be kind enough to inform a beginner what kind of feed is the most profitable to purchase to feed to cows with hay, after calving, until grass comes, Canada mill feed at \$10 per ton; buckwheat bran at the same; corn at 50 cents for 56 pounds; peas at 50 cents for 50 pounds; oats at 22 cents for 32 pounds; or meal at \$32 per ton?—A. C. ADAMS, Erie Co., N. Y., 1861.

WIND-MILL FOR RAISING WATER.—Among the thousand useful things that you have published, and are still publishing, will you or some of your readers give us the best description of a pump propelled by wind, to raise water from a well, from sixteen to twenty feet in depth, to water a small stock of cattle?—A. A., North Chili, Monroe Co., N. Y., March, 1861.

We have described various mills for raising water, in past years, and have occasionally seen such in operation, sometimes successfully, at other times with indifferent results. A few years since we noticed they were in use on some of our Western railroads, for raising a supply of water for the engines. We hope some of our readers will give us their experience with wind-machines for raising water.

FOUL SEEDS IN ORCHARD GRASS.—Inclosed I send you some seeds which I found in orchard grass seed, that I purchased for clean seed. Will you please inform me what it is? Is it quack? If so, is there no means of punishing such enemies to their race as those who raise and sell it. I had sown about two acres with this orchard grass, mixed with the seed I send you, before I discovered this seed. If it is quack, what is the best course to avoid the coming evil?—W., Port Byron, March, 1861.

The seed sent us is not that of the common Quack Grass. It seems, however, to be of the same family. Had we a perfect plant, we could give its name, but it is very difficult to do so from the seed alone.

CURE FOR SCAB IN THE EYE-LIDS OF CATTLE.—Take flour of sulphur, and add as much turpentine as will thoroughly wet it, then add as much train oil as will make it as thin as the pure oil, then rub it into the affected part. Two or three applications will cure it. Take care when rubbing that you do not get the disease yourself. If you do, the same ointment will cure you. I know by experience. It is what I call ring-worm.—R. DOUGLASS, Truxton, N. Y., 1861.

STRETCHES IN SHEEP.—Your correspondent from West Kendall, on "Constipation in Sheep," cannot determine the nature of the disease in his sheep. His flock is troubled with what is called here the stretches. Now, as an "ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," if the gentleman had fed his sheep some kind of roots two or three times a week, I think they would have been all right. My sheep used to have the trouble he speaks of, but never since I fed them roots. Any kind will answer. The disease is caused by being fed dry feed, steadily, for a length of time. Sheep should, at all times, have excess to pure water, near by. In cold weather they will not go after it. I used to give my sheep lard when they had the stretches. The disease is dry cholick, and they want quick physic. I presume castor oil would answer the purpose; but if sheep have plenty of roots, fresh water, and a good supply of suitable food, I think they will not be diseased in any way. I have never lost, except by dogs, to exceed two per cent.—W. M. CONE, Troy, Mich., 1861.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE NEW ADVERTISEMENTS encrease upon our reading columns somewhat this week, yet they are generally timely and appropriate—such as will interest, and we trust benefit, many of our readers. All of a practical character should be carefully examined—from the admirably-arranged announcement of B. K. BLISS, on last page, to the sentimental two-line cards of the one price and low price shoe-dealer, on seventh page.

THE WEATHER has been quite unfavorable during most of the month now closing—the severe cold, frequent storms, and high winds, rendering it necessary to give stock extra feed and attention. The sudden changes throughout this region have been anything but comfortable to human bipeds; but, as "misery loves company," it may console some to learn that the South has not escaped—it having been impossible for even the South Carolinians to succeed in cold weather. It is hoped that with the advent of April, we shall have brighter skies and a more balmy atmosphere.

THE WHEAT CROP AT THE WEST.—Though it is yet too early in the season to learn much in regard to the prospect of the wheat crop of this region, we have some favorable reports from the West and Southwest. For instance, the St. Louis Republican of recent date says:—"The farmers of Illinois have every reason to be satisfied with the appearance of the wheat crop at this time. We have reliable information from more than twenty counties of Southern Illinois, giving assurance that during the past ten years the wheat fields in March have never appeared so promising as now. The growth is admirably well set, covers the ground well, is healthy and strong, encouraging large expectations of full granaries at the close of the season. The amount sown last fall was unusually large, and 1861 bids fair to be distinguished in Illinois for the affluent wheat harvest, as was 1860 for the plethoric corn crop in Central and Northern Illinois."

N. Y. STATE FAIR.—Trial of Farm Implements and Machinery.—The Executive Committee of the State Ag. Society transacted some important business at its meeting in Syracuse on the 21st inst. It was decided to hold the next Annual Fair at Watertown, on the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th of September next—a compliance with the usual requirements of the Society as to grounds, buildings, necessary local expenses, &c., having been guaranteed by a committee of citizens. The fine Fair Grounds of the Jefferson Co. Society are to be occupied, and also an adjoining tract, so that there will be ample space and good conveniences for a large exhibition. The location is regarded as perhaps the best that could be designated of the Central Railroad, as Watertown is said to have a larger number of commodious and well kept hotels than any other town of its population in the State, and possesses other advantages. As the producers of Northern New York are generally progressives, we predict that, if the weather proves favorable, (and the time designated seems right for it,) the exhibition will be creditable in itself and well attended.

—At the same meeting the Executive Committee made partial arrangements for a Trial and Exhibition of Farm Implements and Machinery, open to the competition of the world, which is to be made under the auspices of the Society the ensuing season—to commence in July or August, and continue two or three weeks. The design is to have a thorough and complete trial of the most important implements used in cultivating the soil, seeding, harvesting, and preparing crops for market—such as plows, cultivators and harrows; seeding machines, (drills and broadcast); reapers and binders; mowers, horse rakes and power forks; horse powers, threshers, separators and corn-shellers; also steam engines, ditching machines, &c. The location of the trial has not been decided, but either Syracuse, Auburn or Geneva will probably be designated. Such a trial as that contemplated must prove of great interest to both manufacturers and farmers, and, if conducted in the manner intended by the Committee, its results will be of vast benefit to the agricultural community.

THE SKANATELES FARMERS' CLUB is an institution of long standing, widely and favorably known. It has been commended in this and other journals, and its example in holding frequent meetings for discussions, lectures, &c., (weekly during Winter, and monthly through the Summer, we believe,) cited as worthy of imitation. But we never appreciated the position, usefulness and influence of the Club,—or what it had done and was doing,—until last Saturday, when we had the pleasure of attending one of its regular meetings. Though we had heard of the progress of the Club, we hardly expected to meet a sufficient number of members and friends to fill a commodious hall, (which hall, by the way, is rented by the Club and contains more than the germ of a Library, Cabinet, &c.) Suffice it to say, now, that brief as our visit, we saw and heard enough to satisfy us that the efforts and influence of the Club must largely redound to the benefit of individuals and community. Of the model village of Skanateles, and surrounding country, we may have our say in future—not only remarking, here, that we saw much in both worthy of note and commendation.

DECREASE OF FINE WOOL SHEEP IN MICHIGAN.—The Michigan Farmer gives an article from Mr. GEO. A. PETERS, of Washtenaw, which states that there are at least five thousand less sheep in that county than were held by farmers last year. He thinks when the coming clip of the State is marketed, "it will be many, yes, very many thousand pounds less than last season." Mr. P. also affirms that there is less wool in proportion to the number of sheep—that "the average clip this season will be from one-half pound to one pound less per head than last season, for the simple reason it is not on the sheep's back"—and concludes that wool must be from 9 to 12 cents per lb.—more this year than last to make the coming clip average with the preceding one in amount of money. The editor of the Farmer adds that Washtenaw "has always stood first for a greater produce of wool than any other county in Michigan; but during the past year the fine wool flocks have been culled very freely for sheep to take to Texas, Iowa and Missouri." It is also said that this culling process was extended to other counties in the State.

MANAGEMENT OF HAY.—At a recent meeting of a Farmers' Club in Mass., where hay was the topic of discussion, it was decided unprofitable to mow less than a ton of hay to the acre, and injudicious to rake hay designed for horses with a horse rake, on account of the dust. Swamp or low land hay needs more drying than that grown on drier ground, but there is such a thing as drying hay too much. One man, who dried rowen clover seven days, found nothing would eat it, while that cured in half the time was well relished. Hay when housed green should be kept by itself, if it is expected to cure well. When green and dry hay are mixed together, the green undergoes fermentation, and the whole is induced to mold. None but cattle of perverted tastes prefer moldy to bright hay. Two quarts of rock salt sprinkled on a ton of hay is about the right quantity in packing.

POINTS OF A GOOD OX.—At a recent Legislative Agricultural Meeting in Boston, Mr. SHELDON, of Wilmington, gave his rule of judging a good ox, as follows:—"You should stand before him and be sure he has a fine hazel eye; large nostrils, long from the eye to the nostril, broad at the above the eyes, rather slim horns, toes straight out before him, straight in the knees, bosom full, back straight, and ribs round and wide as his hips. If you find these points, said the speaker, you need not ask of what breed he is, but if you want one, buy him. He said that he had found that a black-eyed ox was not to be depended on, as he will kick and be ugly, while a short headed ox will start quick from the whip, but he will soon forget it."

REPORTED CURE FOR GLANDERS.—In the columns of our exchange during the past few weeks, we have frequently observed an item, purporting to emanate from the "Official Gazette," of Turin, which states that somebody in Sardinia has discovered a never failing cure for this dread disease. The remedy is composed of arsenic and strychnine, and it may be all correct, but our latest Veterinary journals do not make any mention of this remedial agent. We doubt not that, if administered in sufficient quantity, it will meet the requirements of the patent medicine sent out by a Western quack, and "if once used no other medicine will be taken." Curing the glanders by killing the horse is not just the thing wanted, however.

ABOUT MATING HORSES.—An experienced horseman, H. K. STOW, sensibly suggests that in matching horses it is far more important to select those of like qualities in gait, speed, and action, than to make looks the criterion. He says:—"A man explores the country for a hundred miles in circuit, in search of a horse to match one he already owns, and imagines he has got a good match when he has found one merely of like size and color. No such thing; he has only spoiled both. If dissimilar in the qualities which constitute a match, by uniting them together in service, he diminishes, instead of increasing, their value, since each will be forced into the service of the other."

A PATRIARCHAL HORSE.—Wilkes' Spirit says—"We have given several instances of horses which had attained a great age before they died, but we have just come upon an account of one to whom those we have mentioned heretofore were comparatively colts. The horse in question was a small black Galloway, eleven hands high, and he was a resident of a small village near Haddington, in Scotland. He was foaled in 1720, and at the time of his death he was 69 years old. Moreover, he was hale as well as old. A few weeks before his death he trotted for several hours at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour, and fed well on his oats and hay to the last."

HEAVY AND HANDSOME STEERS.—Our attention has just been attracted by the passage through the street of a beautiful yoke of Devons, gaily decked with ribbons. On inquiry we learn that they are twin steers, 4 years old, weigh 4,480 lbs., and the property of Mr. MOSS SMITH, of Brighton, near this city, by whom they were bred and fattened. They are well matched, and decidedly extra in other respects.

A COLT BY CHARLESTON.—This celebrated American horse, which was taken to England by Mr. TEN BROOK for racing, and was afterward turned over to the breeders, has bred a horse colt from the mare Contraction, by Emilius. This mare is the dam of Underhand, a flyer for a little one. We will now be able to see of what stuff our racers are made.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] CHILDREN.

BY ASA ROGERS WATSON.

Yes, come ye little children, With your frolic, and your noise, — I love your lively prattle, Ye merry girls and boys!

I'll cast my books beside me, And mingle in your glee; And all life's noisy tumult Will then forgotten be.

Ye are my heart's bright sunshine, Which chases from my brow The shades of disappointment That gather 'round it now.

Man dives in sordid treasure, It holds him in its thrall; But ye, bright rays of heaven, Make him forget it all.

I hear your lisped accents, And catch the struggling words, — Each note is as harmonious As those of warbling birds.

Come, let me stroke your tresses! Come, climb upon my knee! There's room for half-a-dozen, — Come, fairies, come to me!

Then come ye happy children! — I wait your prattle here; — And, with your soft caresses, My gloomy feelings cheer!

I fain would kiss the roses That blossom on your cheeks; They are the sweet elixir A wearied spirit seeks.

All would be void of music Without your gladness noise; Come, come ye now, and cheer me, Ye laughing girls and boys!

Philomont, Va., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WOMAN—INCENTIVES TO DUTY.

Is it a well-proved fact that woman is an inferior existence—that she never ascends to the highest pinnacle of intelligence, and takes the blessings which Heaven offers? Is her soul so dead that she never longs to drink from the deep fountain of intellectuality, at which her brother man satiates his thirst for immortal good?

With one earnest glance of life, all these interrogations arise, and a solution, either correct or incorrect, follows. In studying these living marvels, we find it to be an invariable fact, that the rays of intelligence which illuminate the human mind, are convergent in the mind of man, and divergent in the mind of woman. Man concentrates every ray of truth upon a specific object, until he can clearly see to perfectly accomplish that object. He perfects the thought that interests him most, and thereby makes proficiency in something. Woman's thoughts are seldom, if ever, brought to a focus; consequently there is not the requisite light in her mind to enable her to penetrate any intricate subject, and, therefore, she makes proficiency in nothing. The fault is not that Nature did not make an equal distribution of gifts, but that woman, by will and circumstance, has become almost incapable of excelling in anything useful. It is true that some, comparatively very few, have excelled in literature, science, and art, but these few have scrupulously obeyed the aspirations of the soul, and listened to the whisperings of genius as to the commands of a divinely commissioned teacher.

Another cause of the mental inferiority of woman is, that she allows herself to be attracted by every passing vanity, and instead of consulting the garden of the mind, she neglects it altogether, and spends the golden moments "in stooping the pinion back to earth, which beareth up to heaven."

It is the climax of folly for woman to complain of oppression, until she better improves the privileges that she now possesses. When the era shall arrive in which woman will walk just as far as permitted in the field of truth, then we shall see the gates opening to other, and more extended, avenues, that she may go on, and on, until she reaches the fountain of perfect justice. Worthiness will secure for her the longed-for equality! It is but seldom we find a woman who possesses genuine nobility of soul,—that sterling principle which causes her to be a purifying element in society,—and it is because she has so long stooped to the conformity of foolish and fashionable customs, that she is mentally deformed; and while she is being "delightfully entertained" in the gossiping circle, man is pursuing something useful, and increasing, therefore, the disparity of mind, and also position!

Impatience is another cause of woman ever being with the substrata of society. If, perchance, a glorious thought springs up in her mind, she cannot wait for its maturity, but, in her eagerness, she gives it to the world only half grown. She evidently cannot learn that a thought needs time, as well as nutriment, to complete its beauty and usefulness.

Man is not the opposer of the elevation of woman that is frequently supposed. How often have we heard good old orthodox people say that, "we can have all the religion we live for." Thus it is with woman, she can have all the rights for which she will live. Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] ARE HOOPS UNCHRISTIAN, INDECENT?

As the discussion of the Dress Question has become quite general in the columns of the RURAL, why may I not claim a small space to defend the moderate use of hoops, as an article of dress.

A short time since, a Western Conference adopted resolutions that, "the wearing of hoops by females is inconsistent with a truly Christian character, — is by some considered indecent, and that therefore, we, as a Quarterly Conference, disapprove of the wearing of hoops by our female members." Through willfulness, or neglect, some of the sisters of the communion failed to obey this edict, and at a recent meeting, held in Montgomery County, Ohio, were consequently cut off from the Church, for it is stated in a Western Journal, that the Bishop "forbade any one with hoops on to partake of the sacrament, affirming that they would not be welcome to the table of the Lord." I shall not discuss the propriety of religious societies making the wearing of hoops a bar to membership, for that is nobody's business but theirs. They have a perfect right to decide what shall be the qualifications of their members. They may resolve that "a man's boots shall weigh three pounds avoirdupois," and "his hat hold six quarts dry measure," or that a woman's "dress shall clear

the ground four inches," and "sleeves come within six inches of the ends of her fingers," if they choose, and I will not complain. In this matter, at least, I believe in the "principles of non-intervention." But when a body of individuals — it matters not whether secular or religious — proclaims that "wearing hoops is inconsistent with a truly Christian character," and "indecent," thousands claim the right to inquire why? That the use of hoops is abused, is not denied. Tell us a fashion of dress that ever existed that was not abused. There is nothing "indecent" in the use of moderate sized hoops, the resolutions of a religious conference to the contrary notwithstanding. In behalf of a million American women, I deny the truth of the assertion. Nineteen-tenths of the whole civilized world will look upon it as an insult.

When hoops first came into fashion, they were looked upon by some with distrust; but they have advanced steadily, and are now worn almost universally in this country. Their advantages are so numerous, that when once worn they are never discarded. They enable a woman to make her dress assume a comely shape, without such killing loads, as were formerly worn. They are light, agreeable, and very pleasant to walk in, as there is no fear of stepping on the dress; and, what is more important, they do not injure the health, like thin shoes, low-necked dresses, or short sleeves.

But I am drawing out this article too long. In conclusion I will say, that if these modern reformers wish to begin a crusade against dress, it will be better for them to take some more tenable ground. Erie Co., N. Y., 1861. A. F. H.

We noticed the resolutions, and the edict spoken of by our correspondent, circulating quite freely in the papers of the West, and at the time classed the entire story as the emanation of some knight of the quill whose stock of news was limited, and who found the wherewithal to "fill up" by thus creating a sensation item. The paragraphs were furnished with a location, and we looked for a denial, but have not seen it as yet. The whole matter, however, is one which will right itself, for both Conference and Bishop have over-stepped the authority conferred upon them. Neither the Bishop nor a Quarterly Conference has a right to make a new rule of membership of the Church, as this would be. This can only be done by the General Conference, which meets once in four years, and held its last session at Buffalo, in 1860. Neither can we conceive that a minister has any right to refuse the sacrament to a member of the church. Complaint must first be made for violation of discipline, then follows a trial, before a committee appointed for the purpose, and this committee must either condemn or acquit. Either party then has a right to appeal from the decision to the Quarterly Conference. It is best to have Bishops and Ministers, as well as other people, keep the laws.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THOSE "HARD TRUTHS."

SEE here, Mrs. Madam Farmer,—begging your pardon,—do you perceive what a *furor* you have stirred up among the laboring population? A regular "strike" is likely to result. Have you received any challenges, and do you understand the use of weapons?—any except the broom-stick, ladle, &c. &c. But probably you could deal justice with them. It seems to be supposed that you drive your girls about with the broom-handle, and cudgel them over the head with a pudding-stick, all the time "fretting and scolding," till, doubtless, you haven't a pound of flesh on your bones,—in short, a regular Old Blue Beard, perhaps, dragging them around by the hair, and shutting them up in some dark cellar, when they do happen to "burn the bread to cinders!" Merciless woman! No wonder you have trouble—it's evident enough the poor girls "have the hardest of it!"

One advises you to retire into a "knot hole;" another recommends "patience and sympathy." "If you were a good mistress, you would doubtless have good help." You, probably "went out to service" yourself once, and that's the reason why you are so "hard" on your poor girls.

You had better be more considerate, as lots of people have met with "reverses of fortune," and your own "petted daughters may share their mother's early fate." It would be ludicrous, and too bad, if you should not happen to have any daughters, on whom the consequences of your cruelty could descend.

Being somewhat ignorant of domestic et ceteras, I am at a loss to imagine what sort of work that "meanness of all" was, that you hired done, and then did not pay for it! That proves, "out and out," that you are a most unprincipled and unkind mistress, and do not deserve any help. However, now Madam, will you take an old man's advice, and remember that truths are not always to be outspoken, especially "hard truths." I have read human nature a little, and standing, as I do, on neutral ground, I did not interpret your expressions as some have, and rather suspect that one reason why you have so much trouble, is because you are a poor hand to manage girls, being too indulgent and familiar, so that, finding you so easy, and kind, and forgiving, they become careless, and as the saying is, "run over you," as some will. But it is better to be too clever than on the other extreme; still, the "happy medium between the two extremes," would be the best policy, if you could arrive at that place. Not thinking of any bad place to send you, nor wishing your posterity any sad reverses, I will merely hope for better success for you in future.

COVEN HOVEN.

A STRONG MINDED WOMAN ON BABIES. — A majority of babies, says Mrs. Swishelm, are to their mothers what a doll is to a little girl—something to dress, a means of displaying odds and ends of finery, and exhibiting one's tastes. If infants were treated on the principle that a good farmer treats a lamb, goslings, chickens, pigs, &c., viz., well fed and kept warm, they would live and grow just as well-cared-for goslings live and grow, and we never knew one die. Dutch babies wear caps, and how could any lady of taste have her baby look like a Dutch baby? Just so; and Dutch babies generally live, laugh and grow fat, for they are "smothered in flannel" and feathers, and are kept all in a sweat. Dutch mothers do not keep their babies for model artist exhibitions. They cover them up, keep them warm and quiet, and raise a wonderful number of sturdy boys and girls. We treated our baby on the Dutch plan, and never lost a night's sleep with her.

A CHEERFUL heart paints the world as it finds it, like a sunny landscape; the morbid mind depicts it like a sterile wilderness pallid with thick vapors, and as dark as the "Shadow of Death." It is the mirror, in short, on which it is caught, and lends to the face of nature the aspect of its own turbulence or tranquillity.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] OUR WORLD.

BY MINNIE MINTWOOD.

"This world is not so bad a world As some would like to make it;" 'Tis bright and beautiful, I'm sure, If we'd but rightly take it. It's smiles and sympathies, I ween, Are things we all might covet, And if we only taste its good, Quite sure am I we'll love it.

'Tis true, dark clouds may oft arise, And render dim Hope's dawning; But then, 'tis said the darkest hour Is just before the morning. And should misfortune chance to wield Her grief-stained lance, and sever Some cherished tie, we still should cry "Nihil desperandum" ever.

'Tis true, that friends may prove untrue, And basely, too, deceive us, Prosperity on us may frown, And death, too, oft bereave us. Perchance the tasks assigned to us May always not be lightest; But of the passing things of earth We'll view the side that's brightest.

We will not let each petty grief, Or thoughts of coming sorrow, Disturb our peace and joy, till we Are overwhelmed in sorrow. Life's ocean's waves may sweep our bark, With Hope and Joy well freighted, And what we've hoped and prayed for long, Lost soon as 'tis created.

But we'll ever bravely bear All ills assigned to mortals, For better days will surely dawn, And when at Heaven's portals, We'll find that those who wear the crown Most glorious and brightest, Are they who here upon the earth Bore burdens not the lightest.

Alfred University, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] CALCULATION AND MIS-CALCULATION.

"WELL, then, my income for the year amounts to two hundred dollars,—not quite as much as I expected." So said Mr. NATHAN JONES, after casting up his accounts near the close of the year 184—

Mr. JONES was a farmer, in possession of a title for one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, on which he had lived and labored some eight or ten years; and, though this was an advance upon the previous year, as the season had been propitious, he had anticipated a greater return, and consequently felt a little dissatisfied. It should be premised that it was a very rough country, requiring good management, and a good deal of hard labor, to make much more than a living, and that Mr. JONES had done well.

"If my farm was as large again," said he, "the family expenses being about the same, I could make four hundred dollars per year clear profit. This would soon enable me to pay for it, and then money would come into my pocket quite freely. Besides, neighbor SMITH wants to sell, and if we can agree, I think it would not be best to lose the opportunity, as I would purchase it rather than have it occupied by a disagreeable neighbor. True, it contains more land than I need, (one hundred and eighty acres,—nearly as much again as I want,) and I shall have to run in debt for the whole, as my present means will not enable me to stock it properly. It will make a very large farm, but 'nothing ventured, nothing gained.' I shall have to hire a great deal more than I have done, but then I can better afford it, my income will be so much augmented."

So reasoned Mr. JONES. Perhaps pride suggested that he would be accounted richer the more property he had in his possession, and that he would be of more consequence in society if he was the owner of the "Smith farm." And, as to running in debt for it, he had done the same thing in buying the farm he then owned, to the extent of more than half its value, and had removed the incumbrance. Be this as it may, the next time he saw Mr. SMITH he casually introduced the subject of the farm,—ascertained the lowest cash price,—and a few days after bought it, paying a good price for the same.

Mr. JONES was thought to be a thriving man, which, indeed, was true, so that he had no difficulty in mortgaging this last farm,—after paying down three hundred dollars, which was all the cash he had on hand,—to procure the money for Mr. SMITH, and early in spring he took possession. Now he wanted more stock, but stock was very high; no matter, he must have it at any price, as he expected the greatest addition to his income would be derived from this source. His money was gone, but he could not wait and raise it himself, so he bought it, and ran in debt for the whole. He hired a man by the month, and other help as he required it, and went vigorously to work. At the end of the year he found he had gained very little in reality, the interest and hired help taking nearly all except what was used for necessary improvements, so that his debts remained undiminished. The two following years he succeeded better, and his courage rose in proportion. As he was now doing a large business, he must live accordingly, and make a better appearance in society; consequently the house was repaired and refurnished, an elegant tea-set provided, a more extensive wardrobe, etc. He must have wagons, sleighs, and new harness,—in fine, Mr. JONES would "cut a dash" in the world.

In the house his wife found it necessary to have help, the family being larger than formerly; besides she visited and received visitors oftener, so that to do her own work was impossible. All this took money, and Mr. JONES knew it, but how could it be helped. At the next town meeting he hoped he should be elected to an office from which he would derive some profit, consequently he must not be afraid of a little expenditure. Sure enough, as good luck would have it, (ill luck rather,) he obtained a nomination and was elected. Once installed in his office he was frequently absent, when, of course, he could not superintend his business, and the work was well or indifferently done, as his hands were faithful, or the contrary. He soon grew remiss about laboring himself, his official duties lessening his taste for work; but, as he had money to meet present necessities, he flattered himself that he was doing very well, the more so, as the next year he obtained a more lucrative office.

Four or five years passed with no apparent change, but the family expenses, meanwhile, were far from being curtailed; and, as he was thought to be prosperous, he was expected to open his heart (parstrings,) on all occasions when asked to aid any charitable undertaking. As the vulgar saying is, "he carried a high head," and people were not slow to

take advantage of the circumstance. But how was it in reality? Of late years he had not kept his accounts with the same accuracy as formerly; he knew what he received, but the disbursements were quite another matter,—sometimes he knew and sometimes not, but one thing he must have known, that he could no longer keep pace with the demands upon his purse. It was perfectly natural that he should endeavor to keep it to himself as long as possible, the world being ever ready to criticize and judge harshly, often when it is undeserved, but all would not do, the truth had to be known at last. It was very unexpected, however, to all but the knowing ones. But when it became generally known, the smile of derision rose upon many a lip as they said, "Ah! that explains the prosperity of Mr. JONES; he has been doing a heavy business, but it seems it was with other people's money." The fact was he had been so extravagant, and, perhaps, arrogant, that few could sympathize with him in his difficulty. The property was sold and the debts paid, when but little remained; and now, when past the prime of life he remained to the West, there to commence the world anew.

How much better for Mr. JONES had he contented himself in his first situation, when he was doing as well as he could reasonably expect; but no, he wished to get rich quickly, and be somebody more than plain Mr. JONES, and basing his calculations for the future upon his circumstances as they then were, he failed. And no wonder, as he then hired little, but afterwards he paid out a large amount to this account yearly. Moreover, the family expenses were greatly increased, to which add extravagances and other extraordinary expenses, and it will cease to be surprising. And herein is the great difficulty with too many of our farmers; they undertake too large a business for their capital,—hurry and drive to do a good deal, only half-doing what they attempt, and in the end find they have been at work on the wrong principle. Whatever we undertake should be well done, without being too particular, and then, if we are satisfied with small profits, there is no danger of falling as in the case before us.

The main facts in the above are but too true, in the minor details, only, perfect accuracy was not attempted. C. A. F. South Gilboa, Scho. Co., N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] TRAVEL.—RAILROADS vs. STEAMBOATS.

How often have I been struck with the different sensations we experience in traveling by the cars or steamboats. If we are accustomed to live retired lives, we notice them all the more. Enter a crowded car, and almost before you can reach a seat, if you are so fortunate as to find a vacant one, the iron horse gives a fierce neigh and starts on his journey, making a din and clatter which wakes up your ideas thoroughly. Look around you, and every one else seems animated. You cannot remain uninterested amid the lively discussions going on. Politics, sheep raising, foreign news, and the markets, are successively disposed of. Every faculty of your mind seems roused to unusual activity. But after a time you reach the steamboat landing, and soon transfer yourself to the cabin. After the usual bustle, the boat gets under weigh, and goes gliding quietly down the lake. You look around; some of the passengers are quietly reading, some of the matter-of-fact ladies are talking over their family matters, as coolly as if they were seated in their parlors at home. Seat yourself by an open window, and look out on the blue waters and the distant shore, and if you have an element of reveries or poetry in your nature, it will then, if ever, assert its power. You may forget the weary round of care which has, perhaps for a long time, shut you out from communion with nature, and for a brief hour you may taste this pure pleasure again.

These two modes of traveling also suggest to my mind two different types of men. Take the downright business man, who is never so much at his ease as when he has a great many irons in the fire, and who enjoys himself in proportion to the number of his cares, and he always reminds me of a locomotive attached to an express train. Then, again, the quiet, conscientious man, whom no ill-fortune can deprive of a certain amount of enjoyment, because he finds his pleasures more in spiritual than in material things, and the tranquil course of his life reminds me of a journey on the bosom of the placid lake. Geneva, Wis., 1861. B. C. D.

HEART-POWER.—A man's force in the world, other things being equal, is just in the ratio of the force and strength of his heart. A full-hearted man is always a powerful man; if he be erroneous, then he is powerful for error; if the thing is in his heart, he is sure to make it notorious, even though it may be a downright falsehood. Let a man be ever so ignorant, still if his heart be full of love to a cause, he becomes a powerful man for that object, because he has heart-power, heart-force. A man may be deficient in many of the advantages of education, in many of those niceties which are so much looked upon in society; but once give him a good strong heart that beats hard, and there is no mistake about his power. Let him have a heart that is full up to the brim with an object, and that man will do the object, or else he will die gloriously defeated, and will glory in his defeat. Heart is power.—Spurgeon.

THE CULTURE OF SORROW.—Nearly all sorrow, while it lasts, depresses action, destroys hope, and crushes energy; but it renders sensitiveness more acute, the sympathies more genial, and the whole character less selfish and more considerate. It is said that in nature, but for the occasional seasons of drouth, the best lands would soon degenerate; but these seasons cause the lands to suck up from the currents beneath, with the moisture, all those mineral manures that restore and fertilize the soil above. It is thus with sickness and with sorrow; once surmounted, they fertilize the character and develop from the deep fountains of the human heart a joy and fruitfulness not otherwise attainable.

READING.—The amusement of reading is among the greatest consolations of life; it is the nurse of virtue; the upholder of adversity; the prop of independence; the supporter of just pride; the strengthener of elevated opinions; it is a shield against the tyranny of all petty passions; it is the repeller of the fool's scoff and the knave's reason.—Sir Egerton Bridges.

LOVE OF NATURE.—He who has a love for Nature can never be alone. In the shell he picks up on the shore, in the leaf fading at his feet, in the grain of sand, and in the morning dew, he sees enough to employ his mind for hours. Such a mind is never idle. He studies the works of his Maker, which he sees all around him, and finds a pleasure of which the devotee of sin and folly can form no conception.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] OVER THE SEA.

BY MARGARET ELLIOTT.

I LOOK for a ship that shall come o'er the sea, In the morning's flush and the sunset's gold; Its white sails are bringing a treasure to me, A wealth of beauty and love untold.

I look for the ship,—will it never come? Do I look in vain for the snowy sail? I question the waves, but the waves are dumb, And a fearful answer is borne on the gale.

With hair dishevelled and garments torn I sit and weep by the cruel sea; The cold waves glitter and leap in the sun, And mock my grief with their heartless glee.

But I hear mid their pashing a cry of despair, A low, wild cry, and a dying moan,— The surf is tangled with golden hair And a white hand gleams thro' the shimmering foam.

It is better to die than to live and grow cold, And faithless, and false as the shifting sand, For Love, Faith and Truth will never grow old If they bloom on the shores of the Better Land.

Far over the waves in the Land of Rest I know that my treasure is waiting for me, To usher me in to the home of the blest When the Angel of Death takes me over the sea. Gainesville, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] SYMPATHY FOR THE SORROWING.

THERE are few things harder to bear, in our intercourse with our fellow men, than the repellent coldness it is often our lot to meet, when our bowed hearts are yearning for sympathy and kindness. Men may lightly estimate another's sorrows,—may talk boastfully of the strength and courage with which they could sustain the weight under which other shoulders bend; but only the heart to which the suffering is given, knows its extent and bitterness. It is not easy for a proud and self-reliant spirit to understand the skrinkings of the heart whose powers of endurance suffering has weakened, nor can such an one comprehend the agony they sometimes inflict upon a sore and bleeding heart, by the cold indifference that turns with a "don't care" from a suffering fellow creature.

Why should they, upon whose path the sunshine brightly beams, shut their hearts to the claims of sorrow? Why turn indifferently from those upon whom the storm and sleet have beaten, and withhold the word that would make the heart glad? Oh, how much more of hope and gladness might illumine this vale of tears, if men made self-gratification less an object of ambition, and sought more to emulate Him to whom no heart ever went for sympathy in vain. There are none so low that Jesus will not regard,—no grief so slight He will refuse to listen to its moan. Then, may we willfully pain one heart to whom He has given life?—make darker by word or act the already darkened way? May we add to the grief of those whom God has wounded?—taunt another with weakness because we are strong?

JOSEPH'S brethren,—when in their affliction they remembered former cruelties,—uttered a sentiment posterity would do well to consider. "We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us." Who shall say that the weakness we deride to-day shall not be ours to-morrow? That the storm cloud that has robbed another's life of its brightness will not yet enshroud us in gloom? "When He giveth quietness, who then can make trouble? and when He hideth His face, who then can behold Him? whether it be done against a nation, or against a man only?"

"If every pain and care we feel Could burn upon our brow, How many hearts would move to heal That strive to crush us now." Sherburne, N. Y., 1861. LINA LEW.

THE GOSPEL PRECIOUS.

OH, precious gospel! Will any merciless hand endeavor to tear away from our hearts this best, this last, and sweetest consolation? Would you darken the only avenue through which one ray of hope can enter? Would you tear from the aged and infirm the only prop on which their souls can repose in peace? Would you deprive the dying of their only source of consolation? Would you rob the world of its richest treasure? Would you let loose the flood-gates of every vice, and bring back upon the earth the horrors of superstition or the atrocities of atheism? Then endeavor to subvert the gospel; throw around you the fire-brands of infidelity; laugh at religion, and make a mock of futurity; but be assured, that for all these things God will bring you into judgment. I will persuade myself that a regard for the welfare of their country, if no higher motive, will induce men to respect the Christian religion. And every pious heart will say, rather let the light of the sun be extinguished than the precious light of the gospel.—Dr. Archibald Alexander.

GIFT AND GRACE OF FAITH.—The difference between the gift and the grace of faith seems to me this. According to the gift of faith I am able to do a thing, or believe that a thing will come to pass, the not believing of which would not be sin; according to the grace of faith I am able to do a thing, or believe a thing will come to pass, respecting which I have the word of God as the ground to rest upon, and, therefore, the not doing it, or the not believing it, would be sin.

For instance, the gift of faith would be needed that a sick person should be restored again, though there is no human probability, for there is no promise to that effect; the grace of faith is needed to believe that the Lord will give me the necessities of life, if I first seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness, for there is a promise to that effect.—Muller's Life of Trust.

GOD EVER GOOD.—Omnipotence may build a thousand worlds, and fill them with bounties; Omnipotence may powder mountains into dust, and burn the sea, and consume the sky, but Omnipotence can not do an unloving thing toward a believer. Oh! rest quite sure, Christian, a hard thing, an unloving thing from God toward one of his own people, is quite impossible. He is as kind to you when he casts you into prison as when he takes you into a palace; He is as good when He sends famine into your house as when He fills your barns with plenty. The only question is, Art thou His child? If so, He hath rebuked thee in affection, and there is love in His chastisements.—Spurgeon.

The Educator.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]
PARENTAL EDUCATION.

No candid, intelligent person, will pretend, or doubt, that impressions made in youth, while the mind is open, are not the most lasting. The scenes of childhood and early associations sink deeper into the mind than those in after-life. The period of youth is the most important of all periods; for it is one in which the character is forming,—one in which the foundation of future happiness is generally laid, and when the mind is willing to receive instruction from the watchful care and influence of parental love.

The Family Circle is the Primary School of our race. In this very place man begins to prepare his mind for coming years, when he shall leave home to encounter the more stern duties of active and untried life. Here he receives ideas and impressions on almost every subject—and he is, through the influence of parental example and instruction, slowly but surely forming his future character. How precious these lessons of instruction should be to the youthful mind. Who can estimate their worth? Who can tell what one good example or precept may accomplish? Great, indeed, then must be the responsibility and duty of parents and guardians who have the care and improvement of children; yet there are many, alas! too many, parents, who are not aware that there is any responsibility resting upon them, or any duty for them to discharge toward those in their care. Home is the primary school, and parents are the principle teachers and instructors of the human race. The beginning of education is not the period when a child first goes to school, but when reason and intelligence unveil the infant mind. Long before leaving home for instruction, the mind receives impressions and truths which time can never erase from the memory. This is an important fact, one which experience has long since proved to be true, and it must be alarming indeed to that parent who has set bad examples for his children, knowing that he will be held responsible for their influence on society.

We would say, then, to all who have the care of children, take great pains to store the mind of the young with useful and important knowledge. Think not that it costs too much time to train the faculties of your children for noble pursuits when they shall leave the parental roof to act their part in the great drama of life. Be sure and teach them that the foundation of future respectability and honor must be placed on the firm basis of truth and morality. Improve every suitable opportunity to convey some important lesson, and labor to discipline the expanding intellect with useful and lasting knowledge. Do not neglect to plant the seeds of virtue, love, and a deep reverence for everything sacred—and when they germinate, watch the tender plants to keep the enemy of good from checking their growth. Remember, that the examples you now set, the impressions you now make, and the instructions you now give, although they may lie dormant in the soul for a season, yet they will eventually spring up and bring forth fruit, either for good or for evil. We care not how much you educate your child's physical powers, or how much you discipline his intellect, if health permits, but we would have you educate his moral and religious powers, above all others. This is your duty, as rational, intelligent, and accountable creatures to the Author of your being, who has given you these buds of hope for your particular watchcare and molding influence, in forming the character, in elevating the affections, and in fitting the mind for genuine piety and usefulness in the varied events of life, and ever keep in view that the great thing for your child to learn, is how to be useful and do good, rather than to shine with external accomplishments, which are, at the best, but a very poor screen to hide the actions of the heart. Do this, and it will be worth to them more than any material thing you will ever be able to bestow, and your reward will be the assurance that to your children you have performed your duty.

Chili Center, N. Y., 1861.

J. L. K.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]
EDUCATION AMONG RURALISTS.

In a late issue of the RURAL, I observed an article over the signature of "W.," who hails from Big Stream Point, in which the writer thinks "great improvements are needed among our rural population in the education of our children." This, indeed, is an important subject, and has strong claims upon the attention and careful consideration of many of your readers. I would here suggest, however, that all innovations, or changes, are not improvements. Your correspondent complains that children are detained at home, to work during the summer months, so soon as they can make themselves useful,—and during the winter months, when there is nothing to do at home, are sent to school." This course, he says, "is continued until the girls have attained fourteen or sixteen, and the boys sixteen or eighteen years of age, and then they are sent to a seminary, or a boarding school of some sort, a year or two, and are thus finished off." W. would, on the contrary, "give children six years to get bodily vigor, and lay the foundation for a healthy future,"—then give them every opportunity and apprenticeship until they are fourteen years of age, and then have them come out with a good English education, fit for any ordinary position in life.

Now, Mr. Editor, I am of the opinion that but very few children or youth would come out as W. would have them at the age of fourteen or sixteen, fitted for all ordinary positions of life. Their minds at that tender age are scarcely capable of comprehending those abstruse principles in mathematics, philology, and physics, so essential to a well-educated mind, and so indispensable in many departments of business. Nor are six years, as W. supposes, a sufficient time to acquire bodily vigor, or "lay a very broad foundation for a healthy future." I object to W.'s system of separating so distinctly and continuously his physical and mental discipline. To produce a harmonious whole, the mixed system must be followed. Symmetrical characters and perfect organizations are produced only by the continuous and equal culture of each faculty and organ the pupil may possess. And the education should commence at the earliest dawnings of intellectual manifestations, and continue until maturity.

Physical discipline, in my judgment, is by no means of less importance than that of mental learning. If a child be not taught early to labor, in later life it will scarcely submit to it. The lack of useful employment is sure to beget indolence, which enfeebles the limbs, and paralyzes the energies of its subjects. To avoid labor they will remain in the abodes of poverty and want, rather than seek the

enjoyment of luxuriant abundance, provided the path hither leads through fields of toil. How important is it, therefore, that habits of industry be early impressed upon youth. The farmer who just begins to till his crops when they are already maturing, is about as timely in his efforts at cultivation, as is that parent or teacher who begins to inculcate habits of physical industry in his children at the age of sixteen or eighteen.

H. S. Starkey, N. Y., 1861.

EDUCATIONAL SUGGESTIONS.

STUDY the aptitudes of your child. Find out how his tastes lie, and direct them aright. The father of Claude Lorraine, as the old story, you may remember, goes, was in despair on account of the dullness of his boy. He apprenticed him to a baker, but he could not rise to the mysteries of making a pie. The baker complained that his apprentice marked the shop over with flour or charcoal pictures. The father sent him to a painter, and he became one of the masters of his art. Of another painter, Sir Benjamin West, the chronicle reports, that his father, a broad-brimmed, drab-coated, Pennsylvania quaker, resisted his propensities, as savoring too much of the world. But little "Ben," denied a brush, tortured the cat by pulling out the hairs of her tail, and manufactured thus an instrument to suit. The capacities and inclinations of no two children are the same. Study and wisely mould the aptitudes of each.

TRAIN to industry. A successful man once asked, "what is genius?" "Genius," he replied, "is simply patience." If you have ever glanced over Sir David Brewster's life of Sir Isaac Newton, you will have been much impressed with the testimonies of this most distinguished philosopher as to the virtues of industry. Said he, "If I have done the public any service, it is due to nothing but industry and patient thought." "I keep a subject continually before me, and wait till the first dawnings open by little and little into a full and clear light." An old lady who lived next door to him related to a visitor, with great merriment, the conduct of "a little old man that sat in the next yard all day long blowing soap bubbles." That "little old man" was Sir Isaac Newton, all day long studying the separation of the rays of light into the primary colors, as they were reflected from the shining surface of the fleeting globes. So many others, lesser stars than Newton, it is true, have borne witness. But time will not allow me to quote. Teach patient, sober, continuous industry, whether that of the brain, or of the hands, if you wish your son to rise to honor.

AIM at thoroughness in whatever a child undertakes. Superficiality is almost a national vice with us. A thorough student learns himself, and to "know thyself" was the first precept of the ancient sage. A thorough man is modest, and knows how little the wisest of the wise have attained. A thorough man is self-reliant, not after the fashion of pert "Young America," but because he knows what he knows; and he stands there as upon a rock, from whose foothold he is not easily tempted. There was something noble in a character like that of old Zachary Taylor, who at the head of his four thousand, though hedged round with swarms of guerrillas, and of the boasted soldiery of Mexico, with sixteen thousand right before him, sat down and calmly planned, not how safely to retreat, but how, with least loss of his noble men, to cut his way through to the capital of the enemy. Yet this man was too diffident to make a common political speech. A thorough man will be gentle toward those that differ from him; *savient in modo, fortiter in re*, as the old Romans said; be firm as to the end, but gentle as to the means.—"The Objects of Education," an Address by Rev. W. Spear.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

THE BEECH, AND ELECTRICITY.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Having taken a deep interest in the discussion of the question in regard to whether the Beech tree is a conductor of atmospheric electricity or not, I take the liberty of sending a few facts that have come under my own observation and that of my friends, and also presenting the theory which seems to be warranted by these facts. On my own place a green beech tree, standing about thirty feet from a large whitewood, was set on fire in a dry hollow about forty feet from the ground at the same time that the whitewood was struck and burned off at that point. No trace of the passage of the fluid was observed upon the beech.

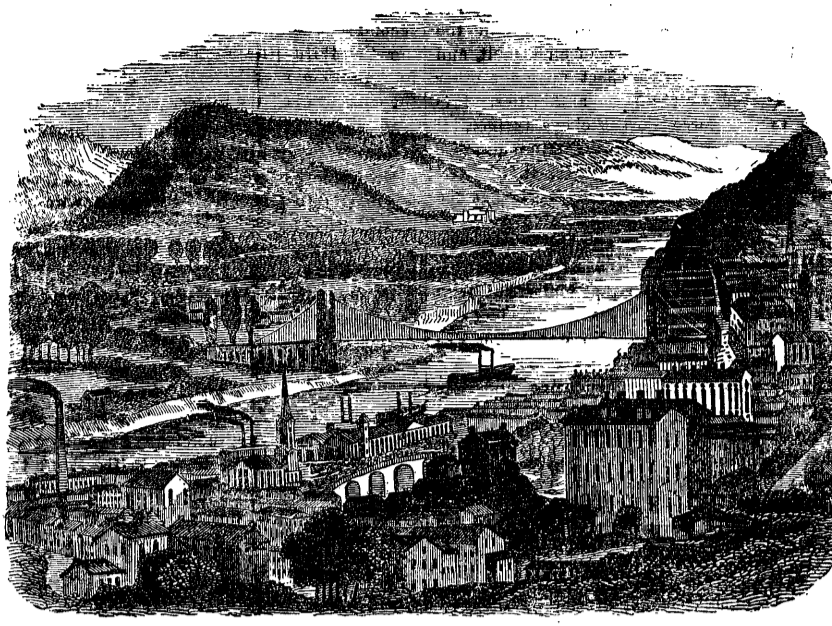
An oak (a friend tells me he saw,) that stood very near a beech tree was struck by lightning and badly shivered down to within about fifteen or twenty feet of the ground, when it passed to the beech, and from that point there was a small furrow torn through the bark to the earth. Two other instances have come to my knowledge, in this vicinity, where the beech tree has been more or less injured by lightning without standing near trees of other kinds that were struck.

The reason why the beech tree is so seldom injured by the passage of the electrical current, is because of its superior conducting power, and not its being a non-conductor. The green beech, especially the white variety, possesses a greater specific gravity than almost any other tree of our climate, and will sink in water, as woodmen have often observed. This, and the thinness of the dry portion, render the outside, when the surface is once moistened by the rain, as good a conductor as any portion of the inner wood, and in extremely rare instances only,—when the surface bark is thick and dry as in the red beech, thus rendering it a non-conductor,—is the tree injured by the stroke. In these two respects the beech differs from the oak, chestnut, whitewood, and other trees often struck, whose thick, dry, non-conducting bark, has to be torn away before anything like a conductor is reached and whose timber forms but a poor one at best.

Two horses, two or three years since, were killed on a neighboring farm under a smooth, thrifty, second-growth hickory tree (which had bark similar to the beech), and not a trace of the lightning's path could be observed on the tree. One fact for all to think of is, that electricity will leave a poor, or moderately good conductor, for a good one, whenever it is in reach, even where it has a longer road to follow, and we be to the animal body that forms a portion of that better conductor.

E. F. JAGGER. Windham, Ohio, 1861.

EDITS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—There is not the slightest wish on my part to prolong the discussion on the Beech as a non-conductor. Knowing that the "traditions of the elders" were calculated to mislead, and wishing to place the readers of the RURAL NEW-YORKER on their guard, I took the light that was under my bushel, and placed it in your candlestick. Others have seen it and commented upon it.



WHEELING, VIRGINIA.

WHEELING, a view of which we give above, is situated on the right bank of the Ohio river, and is the capital of Ohio county, Virginia. The city extends for nearly two miles along the river, has a population of about 22,000, and is first in importance among the places in the western portion of the Old Dominion. The city proper was laid out in 1793, and has had ten additions. Zanes' Island, lying in the Ohio, directly in front of the city, with which it is connected by a bridge, contains 350 acres, and is laid out in 925 lots. This portion is called Columbia City. The Wheeling Bridge Company, (capital \$200,000,) spanned the Ohio river with a beautiful Suspension Bridge, the wire cables passing over immense towers elevated ninety-four feet from the bed of the river, and stretching a distance of 1,016 feet. This bridge was destroyed by a hurricane in 1853, but, we believe, is now re-built.

The manufactures of Wheeling, according to the Census of 1850, were nails, glass, cotton yarns, cloths,

steam engines, machinery, carriages, paper, iron castings, cast steel springs, chains, silk, saddles, &c., amounting in value to \$2,560,000, and employing over 3,000 persons. The city enjoys the benefits of substantial water-works with a constant and ample supply of water.

Wheeling is situated in the center of an area of the most fertile soil, one hundred miles in diameter, the circle extending into Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. The products comprise all the smaller grains, corn, tobacco, and the grasses. This fertility extends to the summits of the highest hills. The heights around Wheeling range from 250 to 640 feet above the level of the river. In the higher of these hills are several veins of coal, but the only one worked is about 60 feet above the bed of the river, and is about seven feet in thickness. It is apparently inexhaustible, and costs from three to four cents per bushel, delivered; 2,000,000 bushels are annually shipped from this port to a southern market.

"It seems to me," says Mr. TABER, "the writer has not given the reason why the beech is so seldom struck by lightning, or persons, or animals that may have taken shelter under it." My object was to give brief facts bearing on the naked question, leaving explanations, and the laws of electricity, to the intelligence of your readers. It would be an easy task to enlarge upon his list of conductors and non-conductors. Suffice it to say, that all liquids (oils excepted,) and juicy substances, such as plants, &c., are conductors of electricity. Dry bodies of various kinds, such as leather, silks, glass, &c., are non-conductors. The public are better supplied with laws on electricity, than light upon its effects on the beech tree.

It is well known that the forked messenger sometimes "plays possum;" or, in other words, it is not always uniform in its effects, and this is what stimulates curiosity. More facts have come to my knowledge since the publication of my former article. They have split one of the planks of my own platform, and it would not be strange if Mr. TABER should find his standing-ground giving away beneath his feet. Eye-witnesses, on whom I can rely, have informed me of beech trees that have been literally shattered to pieces and scattered to the four winds. They were green from top to bottom. Five chickens were killed by lightning under a maple tree, and an apple tree was struck, killing a bird in an adjoining one. The ground was torn up at the roots of both of these trees, but no other effects were visible. Here is a lesson of admonition for every way-faring man. It shows that the thunder-bolt does not always make its mark, and that it is no less fatal on that account. A situation under any tree, during a thunder-storm, is attended with peril. My father once attempted to go under a walnut tree that stood in a meadow, but fearing danger, he changed his course, and before he reached his house the tree was struck. Some may assume that one kind of tree is safer than another, even when similarly situated, but, be it remembered, this has not been proven.

S. HUSTIS. Sherman, N. Y., 1861.

THE OCEAN.

THE ocean has, naturally, a pure bluish tint. All profound and clear seas are more or less of a deep blue; while, according to seamen, a green color indicates soundings. The bright blue of the Mediterranean, so often vaunted by poets, is found all over the deep pure ocean, not only in the tropical and temperate zones, but also in the regions of eternal frost. The North Sea is green, partly from the reflection of its sandy bottom mixing with the essentially blue tint of the water. In the Bay of Loango the sea has the color of blood, which results from the reflection of the red ground-soil. But the hue is much more frequently changed, over large spaces, by means of enormous masses of minute algae, and countless hosts of small sea-worms, floating or swimming on the surface. Near Callao, the Pacific has an olive-green color, owing to a greenish matter found at a depth of eight hundred feet. Near Cape Palmas, on the coast of Guinea, Captain Tuckey's ship seemed to sail through milk—a phenomenon which was owing to an immense number of little white animals swimming on the surface. The peculiar coloring of the Red Sea, whence its name, is derived from the presence of a microscopic alga, *sui generis*, less remarkable even for its beautiful red color than for its prodigious fecundity. In many more instances, from lake canoes, the deep blue is varied with stripes of white, yellow, green, brown, orange, or red. Small yellowish Medusae are the principal agents in changing the pure ultramarine of the Arctic Ocean into a muddy green. Of these, it is computed, a cubic inch must contain 64; a cubic foot, 110,592. It is here that the giant whale of the north finds his richest pasture-grounds.

When the sea is perfectly transparent, it allows the eye to distinguish objects at a very great depth. Near Mindoro, in the Indian Ocean, the spotted corals are plainly visible under twenty-five fathoms of water. The crystalline clearness of the Caribbean excited the admiration of Columbus, whose eye was ever open for the beauties of nature. There, on the sandy bottom, appear thousands of sea stars, molluscs, and fishes of a brilliancy of color unknown in our temperate seas; with groves of sea plants, corals, sponges, etc., which rival the most beautiful garden on earth when a gentle breeze passes through the waving boughs. The submarine landscapes on the coast of Sicily are described with equal enthusiasm. The circulation of the waters is maintained, partly by the winds, partly by the attraction of the sun and

moon, and partly by oceanic currents. What is wave-motion? The transference of motion without the transference of the matter. The most impetuous storm cannot suddenly raise high waves; they require time for their development. Thus their strength also loses itself only by degrees; and many hours after the tornado has ceased to rage, mighty billows continue to remind us of its extinguished fury. The turmoil of waters extends hundreds of miles beyond the space where its howling voice was heard; and often, during the most tranquil weather, the agitated sea preclaims the distant war of elements.

The waves in the open sea never attain the mountain height ascribed to them by exuberant fancy. But a light-house, (Bell Rock,) though one hundred and twelve feet high, is buried in foam and spray to the very top, during ground-swells. In violent gales, the sea is said to be disturbed to a depth of three hundred or even five hundred feet; while all is undisturbed and still in the deep caves of ocean.—*Wesleyan Methodist Magazine.*

The Young Ruralist.

CHILDREN AND CATTLE.

EDITORS RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I noticed in the RURAL of Feb. 9, 1861, a communication on the subject of treating horses better than children, wherein an English tenant prayed his lord that he, his wife and children, might be treated like his horses. The idea was not new to me, and it recalled to my mind an incident that occurred under my own observation. While I was Superintendent of Schools in this county, in 1844, I had called, during the summer, at a school in a district in the extreme south part of the county, and found the house a miserable old shanty, unfit for hogs in cold weather, standing upon the line of the highway, on a bleak side hill, exposed to cold westerly winds and storms. Not a convenience could it necessary for the comfort of children. I talked a little with the parents whom I saw, but their feelings were about on a par with the school house. I left them, meditating what I could do to arouse them to a sense of their duty. The winter came.

I happened into the district on one of the coldest, most snowy and stormy days in January I ever knew, and it happened to be exactly such a time as I desired. I had given notice that I should be there, and desired to see the parents at the school. About noon I came from the west down a long, steep hill, into a valley sheltered from the winds and storms, by the hill and a fine cluster of trees. Here, all was still and quiet; but half a mile east, upon the cold hill side, we could discern, through the snow, the old rickety school house, struggling against the storm. In this valley we found a cluster of good, well finished and painted farm buildings, house, sheds, wood house, barns, horse barn, hog pen, all tight and warm, warm straw bedding for horses and hogs, cattle all under cover chewing their cuds in perfect composure. Mr. H., the man of the house, was not at home. We were kindly invited by the lady to put our horse in the barn, and take dinner. The Town Superintendent was with me.

After dinner we wended our way up the stormy hill to the school house, leaving word with the lady for herself and husband to follow as soon as he returned, which they did about 2 P. M. On arriving at the school house, how changed was the scene from that below in that peaceful valley. The inhabitants had been in a quarrel, had moved the school house two or three times, till it became racked, so that every clapboard and floor board was loose, and the wind and snow were whistling through the cracks in every direction. The house had no underpinning except large boulders under the west corners and middle, giving the wind a fair chance to come up through the floor, causing the clothing of the children to flutter like the tattered rigging of an old vessel. And worse than all, the lower part of the chimney had fallen down, making a heap of brick and mortar, on which a pile of green wood was smoking out into the room, nearly blinding the teacher and children. Here we found a very good young lady, trying to teach 25 to 30 children in this wretched hole. I told her she need not trouble herself about teaching that afternoon, as that was impossible, but keep herself and children as comfortable as she could, and I would attend to the school. I then had the children collected in the center of the room as near the fire as possible for comfort, leaving the cold wall seats for the old people. And soon they began to come in. The seats were so

high that the feet of scholars could not reach the floor, and the backs to the wall. I had purposely reserved these seats for the parents, so that they might feel the benefit of the cold winds cutting their backs and whistling about their feet. They took seats as directed, and soon nearly all the parents and guardians were seated, Mr. H. and wife among them, he in the coldest seat.

I made an attempt to teach, nor did I hurry matters. It was terribly cold; soon all were suffering, children trembling, old folks restive. I began by coolly asking them what was the matter. They gave an answer in their looks. They seemed to understand what I was at. I then said, addressing Mr. H., "Have you, or any of you, parents, been here before this winter?" Mr. H. said, "No, only once to draw a load of wood, and then I only looked in at the door." I said, "We stopped at your house, put up our horse, and your lady gave us a good dinner."

He replied, "I am glad you did." "Mr. H.," I continued, "I noticed you have a fine, warm place, down in that valley, sheltered from these terrible cold winds."

"Yes, very good." "I noticed, too, you have a good, well-finished house, warm barns and stables for your cattle and horses, warm pens for your hogs, well filled with straw. You have, too, a fine stock of cattle, a good number of horses, colts, sheep, and hogs, all looking finely."

"Yes, all pretty much so." "Well, I suppose you have been some years here at hard labor, getting things thus comfortably fixed. I suppose, as you are getting old, you do not trouble yourself, especially during such severe weather, to take care of them, but stay in the house, and leave the care of your cattle, horses, sheep, and hogs, to your hired men."

Rising, a little excited, he said, "No, Sir, I don't do so much thing. I see to all my stock and things myself. I don't trust the care of them to hired men." I continued, "Then I suppose I am to conclude that you care more for your cattle and hogs than you do for your children; for you trust them here in this cold shell in the care of a hired person, and have not been here to see them during this winter; nor, as I understand, have any of the parents or guardians. And, is it not barbarous for these little bright ones to suffer, neglected here, as you now see and feel they have?"

He replied, "Well, now, look here, Mr. STEVENS, there is something about this I have not thought of before. I guess you have got it. I never looked at it in this light before; but you and this cold have convinced me, and I thank you. I feel ashamed, and something has got to be done. I do like my children better than my hogs, but I did not know that I had been treating them worse till now. It shan't be so any longer, if I can help it. I thank you again for coming here and showing us our folly. And now, neighbors, what do you say? Shall we let our children suffer in this way any longer, and be told, and told truly, that we treat them worse than we do our hogs? I can't stand it."

All at once arose fathers and mothers, shivering, and some shedding tears, concurred in what Mr. H. had said, and unanimously declared that they felt ashamed of themselves, but thankful that they had seen their folly, declaring that they would do better thereafter. At the close, all came and shook hands with me, many with tears in their eyes, and invited me to appoint a time when I would visit them again. I accepted the invitation, and gave the notice.

At the time appointed I went over with the Town Superintendent and two other gentlemen. We found all present, old and young, and many from other districts, and we talked the matter up and over. We had a good time—a time that will long be remembered in that neighborhood, for good. The best of feeling pervaded the bosoms of all. There was a unanimous will for a good school house. And "where there is a will there is a way." Before the next cold winter came "with its chilling breath," there was a school house in a warm sheltered spot in that district, better than a horse barn. There it stands now, and the people there believe it to be quite as much their duty to visit and oversee the persons they hire to teach and take care of their children, as it is to oversee those they hire to take care of their cattle and hogs.

Attica, N. Y., March, 1861. A. S. STEVENS.

MUSIC—THOUGHTS OF A CANADIAN.

I HAPPENED (as I often do now-a-days,) to take up the RURAL a few evenings ago, and the first lines which I read was an article upon music. Seeing such an euphonious title to what I supposed was a soul thrilling description of that glorious art,—I read, unfortunately, what must have been the sad mistake of some chronic old bachelor, who described most eloquently his own cracked voice, which probably had not been tuned to anything like sweetness for the last forty years. I say read unfortunately, for the bachelor or spinster, male or female, old or young, who wrote that combination of groans, guttles of any fanciful or poetical idea, will be answerable for the terrible burst of anger with which I greeted such dyspeptically erroneous opinions. I agree with the old fellow on one point, however. Can any common sense be skimmed from the blue milk notion, that any idealess fop whose organ of combativeness forms the most of his head, can, if he wishes, become a good musician? I answer no. There is no amount of pounding on piano keys, or screaming at the pitch of do, re, me, in the third octave above, that will produce real music. It is a waste of time and temper, where the "bump" is missing, as phrenologists say.

But there is a great deal of talent wasted in the world, which mourns its lost existence in the petty cares and burdens of every-day life. And with the lowly born often die the greatest germs of genius that ever flashed meteoric radiance upon the world. The path which the spirit of genius has traveled since the earth began, has ever been a winding one, more often leading through green forests where the woodman's heart sings its morning hymn to God, or where the Alpine shepherd sounds his horn, than in the crowded halls of fashion.

There is something in the atmosphere of cringing aristocracy which is stifling to an aspiring intellect; and those who seek for true lovers of melody, poetry, and nature, must look for them among nature's children, and not in the gay bubbles that dance and sport on the surface of the deep sea of human life, beneath which are the struggling levers which move the world.

YARROW.

THE first consideration with a knave is, how to help himself, and the second, how to do it with an appearance of helping you. Dionysius, the tyrant, striped the statue of Jupiter Olympus of a robe of massy gold, and substituted a cloak of wool, saying, gold is too cold in winter, and too heavy in summer; it behooves us to take care of Jupiter!

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Choice and Reliable Flower Seeds.—B. K. Bliss. Fine Imported Flower Seeds.—Jas. Vick. Hard Times made Easy.—George G. Evans. How Beautiful for a Child's Grave.—A. Lewis Baldwin. Read the Dime Book.—Beadle & Company. Webster in the Senate.—Jones & Clark. A Soul-Stirring Romance of the American Revolution. Alfred Academy and University.—W. C. Kenyon. Imported French Standard Four Trees.—Sprenger & Co. Rufous & De Garmo's Improved Patent Straight Draft Plow. Pleasant Valley Wine Co.—J. F. Weber, Supt. Farm for Sale.—S. C. Holden. Great Austin Shaker Strawberry.—C. Miller & W. S. Carpenter. Sorghum Growers' Manual for 1861.—Wm. H. Clark. Farm for Sale.—Brecht & A. Pratt. Trees and Stocks for Sale.—Harvey Curtis. Pleasant Valley Wine Co's Grapes.—J. F. Weber, Supt. New Hardy Grapes.—A. W. Potter & Co. Piano-Forte for Sale.—B. H. Cherry Seedlings.—E. White & Co. Nursery Stock for Sale.—Jayne & Platman. Six Weeks Potato.—Chas. C. Holton. Wanted.—H. Blackmar.

SPECIAL NOTICES. Brown's Troches for Public Speakers and Singers.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH 30, 1861.

TO ALL OUR READERS!

A New Quarter of the Rural will begin next week, and subscriptions and renewals are specially in order now—to commence with April, or January if preferred.

The very liberal SPECIFIC PREMIUMS and EXTRA GIFTS offered for Clubs formed before April, are EXTENDED TO MAY, so that Agent-Friends, Subscribers and others have another month to secure the Valuable Prizes. Read the list (headed "Good Pay for Doing Good") in Rural of 10th instant, and see if it will not pay to form a club. Thousands would readily subscribe for the paper if asked. Will not its friends have the kindness to see that such are invited?

See Publisher's Notices, &c., in late numbers.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

On the 19th inst., dispatches received from Maj. Anderson state that his fuel was exhausted, and lights nearly so. Since Gen. Beauregard took command of the South Carolina troops, a strict surveillance has been enforced, and no communication is allowed with the city. The only supplies received at the Fort are fresh provisions, and barely sufficient for the troops from one market-day to another. They may be cut off capriciously at any moment.

With regard to the evacuation of Fort Sumter, we have daily conflicting reports. The latest received is to the effect that orders were issued some days since for the evacuation, and that it was to be consummated on Saturday, the 23d inst. We may receive definite intelligence before going to press.

Much curiosity is manifested respecting the action of the Administration relative to affairs South, and various rumors prevail; but information derived from authentic sources warrants the belief that movements may be in progress involving nothing of a hostile character; on the contrary, in the direction of peace. It is generally agreed, however, that the military status in the Gulf ports now held by the Federal Government, will be preserved.

President Lincoln has nominated, and the Senate confirmed, Mr. Adams, Minister to England; Mr. Marsh, Minister to Sardinia; Mr. Webb, Minister to Constantinople; and Mr. Sanford, Minister to Belgium; Mr. Thayer, Consul General to Egypt; and Mr. Divine, Consul to Cork; Green Clay, Secretary of Legation to Spain.

Indictments against Gov. Floyd in Court here were dismissed as untenable. The first was for conspiracy to defraud the Government. The District Attorney stated in open Court, that there was no evidence to sustain a charge, and by leave of the Court entered a nolle prosequi. The second, for malfeasance in office in issuing acceptances. The Act of 1857, prohibits prosecution upon parties implicated who have testified before a Committee of Congress, touching the matter charged. This has been judicially decided to be, not the privilege of witnesses, but a mandate of law, and the case would have to come to an attempt to maintain, on the facts appearing in the course of the trial. On a statement being submitted in advance to the Court, by counsel on both sides, the indictment was ordered quashed, as it could not have been maintained.

The State Department is about transferring to the several States a notification of the passage by Congress of the following proposed amendments to the Constitution, which shall become valid when ratified by three-fourths of the Legislatures, namely: No amendments shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere within any State with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State.

Detroit, Chicago, and Portland have been constituted exchange offices for the French as well as the British mails, to be conveyed via Portland and Liverpool, or River DuLupe and Liverpool, to take effect April 1st. The Western Postmasters will accordingly send letters for France to the post offices of the cities first above mentioned, instead of New York.

The President submitted to the Senate, for its advice, the consent to the proposition of the British Government to refer the San Juan question to the arbitration of Sweden, Netherlands or Switzerland. The United States Government to select. The Committee on Foreign Relations has made a favorable report upon the subject, and recommends the choice of Switzerland.

Seward has written a letter to the Southern Commissioners reviewing the entire grounds of misunderstanding, with a view of restoring harmony, and closing with a recommendation for a National Convention.

The Government has received information of a plot for revolutionizing California and Oregon, implicating Gen. Johnson and other officers.

The Treasury is preparing instructions to collectors for the execution of the new tariff.

The Times' Washington dispatch says: Indications from Texas are that there will be an armed collision between the friends of Houston and the secessionists, and many advocate the keeping of the Federal troops in that State to co-operate with and protect Unionists.

The President has determined to call an extra session of Congress.

A collision at Fort Pickens is apprehended as very likely to occur. If the 400 soldiers on board the Brooklyn are landed safely, according to the order recently sent from the Navy and War Department, Lieutenant Slemmer's garrison will be in a condition to resist any attack of the Revolutionists, even if

conducted by Gen. Bragg, whose military skill is not doubted. There are three sloop-of-war and the Wyandotte to support it in case of an assault, and their attacks would tell with effect upon the other forts now possessed by the State authorities. It is practicable to re-enforce Fort Pickens further, if necessary, without serious difficulty, and no purpose has been entertained of abandoning it.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning brings the following Washington items: The President has issued orders to Major Anderson to put his command in readiness to evacuate Fort Sumter. The plan is said to be that Major Anderson salute his flag and embark in the war steamer dispatched there for the purpose. No opposition will be made by the Charlestonians.

The Cabinet was said to be considering, on Saturday, the dispatches received from Lieut. Slemmer, who states that unless supplied with provisions soon, he will have to abandon Fort Pickens. Gen. Bragg in command of the Confederate forces near Pickens, notifies Lieutenant Slemmer that supplies cannot be landed at the Fort unless by permit from Jefferson Davis. The Brooklyn, St. Louis, Sabine, and Wyandotte, are all at Fort Pickens.

Detective Keese, of Washington, has seized and retained, by order of the Court, bogus and counterfeit notes on 27 banks, amounting to \$260,000. Also plates, dies, etc. The larger packages contain the following: \$30,000 on the Bank of Augusta, Maine; \$60,000, unsigned, on the State Bank of Ohio. The dies were of ten cents, one dollar, and quarter eagles.

The Secretary of the Treasury has advertised for proposals till the 2d of April, for \$8,000,000 of the Stock of the United States, to be issued under the act of February. This sum will be sufficient for the wants of the present fiscal year.

The Administration will reply to the Southern Commissioners in a few days, stating that they have no power to treat with them, and can be regarded only as agents of a dissatisfied people, but will refer them to the next Congress.

The evidence in the Armstrong court martial indicates that there was sufficient force to defend the navy yard at the time of its surrender.

Office seekers seem to be on the increase, who through the Departments, much to the interruption of business. Removals in civil service appear to be numerous. Four to five hundred applications by letter are received daily.

U. S. Senate—Extra Session.

A LETTER was received from the Vice-President, in which he stated that it was his intention to be absent during the remainder of the session of the Senate, and in order to afford an opportunity for the Senate to elect a Vice-President pro tem., he desired this fact to be made known.

On motion of Mr. Hale, Mr. Foot was chosen President pro tem. Mr. Foot being conducted to the chair, said he received this unanimous expression of their confidence and good will with a full recognition of the personal compliment which it implied, and he trusted, with a full appreciation of the direct and contingent responsibilities imposed. Not altogether unaccustomed to the duties of a presiding officer, he had learned something of the delicacies and difficulties which beset the efforts of a faithful discharge of the duties involved. Experience indeed showed the necessity of relying very largely on the aid of the kind co-operation, indulgence, and forbearance of the Senate. A co-operation and forbearance he was pleased to say, he had never seen wanting in this body. He thanked the Senate for this flattering testimonial, and pledged himself, to his utmost endeavors, to discharge the duties of the position with fidelity, vigilance, and impartiality.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, a Committee was ordered to be appointed to communicate the fact of the selection of President pro tem. to the Vice-President. Mr. Bright and Mr. Wilson were appointed such Committee. Mr. Wade presented the credentials of Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, elected Senator to supply the place of Mr. Chase, who resigned. He was qualified and took his seat.

Mr. Hale moved to take up his resolution for the election of officers. Agreed to—28 against 13.

Mr. Bright moved its postponement till the first Monday in December, saying that, owing to the small attendance of members on the Democratic side, there could be no fair expression of opinion. This motion was negatived. The Senate, however, went into Executive Session, and adjourned without an election.

The Secession Movement.

LOUISIANA.—The ordinance submitting the permanent Constitution of the Confederate States to the people for ratification or rejection, was defeated in the Convention. The Convention, after a lively debate, ratified the Constitution by a vote of 100 to 7.

ARKANSAS.—The Secession Ordinance has been defeated in the Arkansas State Convention, by the following vote:—Ayes 35, nays 39. Great excitement prevailed at Little Rock, Ark., following the rejection of the secession ordinance. A compromise has been made that the people should vote on the first Monday in August next, for co-operation or secession. Delegates are to be sent to the Border State Convention, and report on the re-assembling of the Convention on the third Monday in August.

TEXAS.—Advices received from Fort Brown, state that the Ringgold Barracks at Brazos Santiago, have virtually been surrendered to the Texas authorities.

Resolutions passed the Texas Convention unanimously tendering thanks to Gen. Twiggs. Galveston advices of the 19th are received. Gov. Houston and the Secretary of State refused to appear on the 16th before the Convention at Austin, when summoned, after notice, to take the oath. The other State officers took the oath. Lieut. Gov. Clark was to assume the Governor's powers on the 16th. The Convention had passed an ordinance continuing in the State Government the officers who took the oath.

VIRGINIA.—The Committee on Federal Relations referred the proposed amendment to the U. S. Constitution. It is Franklin's substitute, changed by using the expression "involuntary servitude," instead of persons sold to slavery; rights of owners are not to be impaired by Congressional or Territorial law, or pre-existing laws of Mexico, in the territory heretofore acquired. Involuntary servitude, except for crimes, is prohibited north of 36° 30', but shall not be prohibited by Congress or any Territorial Legislature south thereof. The third section is partly altered for the somewhat better security of property in transit. The fifth section prohibits the importation of slaves from places beyond the limits of the United States. The sixth makes verbal changes in relation to remuneration for fugitives by Congress, and excuses the clause relative to securing privileges and immunities. The seventh forbids the elective franchise and right to hold office to persons of the African race. The eighth, none

of these amendments, nor the third paragraph of second section of the first article of the Constitution, nor the third paragraph of second section of the fourth article, shall be amended or abolished without the consent of all the States.

MISSOURI.—The State Convention adopted the third resolution by ayes 88, nays 42. Mr. Number offered a substitute to the fourth resolution, slightly altering. The resolution was adopted, ayes 77, nays 9.

The fifth resolution, relating to coercion, was then taken up.

Mr. Mc Donnell then offered a substitute, that it is necessary, for the preservation of peace, that the President withdraw the military force from the seceded States, and abstain from all collection of the revenues.

Mr. Hall offered an amendment to the effect that the Committee are not sufficiently acquainted with the position of the Federal troops in the South to make such request, but earnestly entreat the Federal Government to abstain from any act calculated to bring about a collision.

Mr. Shackelford offered a substitute to the amendment, that it is the opinion of this Convention that if the cherished desire is to preserve the country from civil war, and to restore fraternal feelings, it would be greatly promoted by the withdrawal of the Federal troops from such forts within the seceded States where there is danger of hostile collision, and we recommend that the policy be adopted. The resolution as amended passed by a vote of 89 to 6.

The sixth resolution, providing for the adjournment of the Convention to December, was adopted, and the Convention adjourned.

Political Intelligence.

THE United States Senate is now in session, having been assembled for the purpose of acting upon such nominations as may be made by the President. The body is thus constituted, politically:

Table with columns: Name, Term Expires, Party. Lists Senators from Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

After several days' balloting for U. S. Senator, by the Missouri Legislature, Mr. Green's name was withdrawn, and Waldo H. Johnson nominated instead, who was elected on the 2d ballot. The vote was as follows:—Whole vote, 145; necessary to a choice, 73; Johnson, 80; Doniphan, 36; English, 29.

JOHN SHERMAN was nominated by the Legislature of Ohio on the 21st inst., for Senator, on the 79th ballot, which stood, Sherman, 43; Denniston, 23; Schenck, 10. A resolution requesting Congress to call a National Convention, passed both Houses of the Legislature.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—We have only space to give a list of the bills passed during the week, which are as follows: Relative to protests and legal holidays.

To incorporate Bellevue Hospital Medical College of New York, after the adoption of the amendment, providing that nothing in the act shall be construed so as to prevent Homeopathic students from entering the College.

Supplementary to the act for the foreclosure and sale of the New York and Erie Railroad.

Relative to the dividends of Fire Insurance Companies.

To amend the Charter of the Jewish Society for the Education of Poor Children.

To increase the compensation of State Prison Physicians.

To facilitate the trial of civil actions. Relative to the Erie, Oswego, and Seneca canals.

The vote on the bill to amend an act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors was reconsidered, and the bill passed.

Mr. Manniere's bill, defining larceny from the person and petit larceny, provides that any person convicted of stealing from a person, although of less than \$50 value, shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and punished accordingly.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Kernan, from the Special Committee to investigate charges of bribery against Jay Gibbons, made report declaring him guilty of the charges of bribery, and submitting the following resolution:

Resolved, That Jay Gibbons, member from the 1st district of the county of Albany, has been guilty of official misconduct, rendering him unworthy of a seat in this House, and that he be and is hereby expelled.

A long debate sprang up on the motion to adopt the resolution at once.

The evidence and report were ordered printed, and the resolution was laid on the table for the present. Gov. Morgan, through his Private Secretary, Mr. Doty, transmitted the joint-resolution of Congress, proposing to the several State Legislatures an article amendatory of the Constitution, providing no amendments shall be made which will authorize or give to Congress power to abolish or interfere within any State with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service; such amendment to be valid when ratified by three-fourths of the Legislatures of all the States.

Bills Passed.—To appropriate \$7,000 a year for five

years to the Peoples' College; to incorporate the University of Brooklyn; relative to Inland and Navigation Insurance Companies, and limiting tenure of officers in Militia; to legalize the action of the New York Common Council in relation to the appointment of messenger in bureau on unsafe buildings; the annual supply bill; to incorporate the Veteran Scott Life Guard of New York; to authorize the construction of Street Railroads in Syracuse; to preserve game in Suffolk and Queens counties.

Some twenty private bills were also passed. Adj.

News Paragraphs.

THE New Orleans Delta says that a party of gentlemen have bought half a million acres of land in Southern Florida, about one hundred miles south of Tampa Bay, at two cents an acre, where they intend to raise tropical fruit.

NEAR Ontonagon, on Lake Superior, all the snow that has fallen this winter would amount in depth to 14 1/2 feet. During one night the mercury in the thermometer indicated 41 degrees below zero, or within one degree of congelation.

THE steamer South Carolina arrived from Charleston at Boston on Saturday week, with the largest cargo of cotton and rice ever sent from that port. The Charlestonians were highly pleased at the resumption of business relations with Boston.

SOME 300 tons of old bells, consigned to the Mcneelys, bell founders, have arrived in West Troy. They came from Mexico, and bear a very antique appearance. One purports to have been cast ninety-seven years since, and the others range in date from fifty to seventy-five years. They are to be re-cast.

DURING the past month, the oldest person of the Onondaga tribe of Indians, a woman named Hannah, died at the supposed age of over one hundred and twenty years! From the family traditions, it is believed that she was born as early as 1741, and perhaps at a still earlier date.

It is said that at the late session of the Illinois Legislature, the members, among other extravagances, voted themselves a gold pen each, valued at \$15. Some of the members, who had no special use for gold pens, effected a "dicker" with the jeweler furnishing them, for tablespoons, castors, and the like articles of household value.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—In the House of Lords on the 7th, Lord Wodehouse said it was true that Russia had sent a dispatch to the French Government, approving of the French occupation in Syria, and intimating that Russia would if necessary support the sending of an increased force.

In the House of Commons on the 7th an interesting debate took place on Italian affairs. Edwin James, Sir Robert Peel, Gladstone, and Lord John Russell, defended the policy of England, the King of Sardinia and Garibaldi, while several Irish members took the opposite side, and Mr. Roebuck made a pro-Austrian speech.

The London Times, in reviewing Jefferson Davis' Inaugural Speech, says it never has read a public document so difficult to analyze and interpret.

In the Commons on the 4th, Lord Hennessy charged Lord Russell deliberately with concealing important dispatches relating to trade in Tuscany and Naples, and reproached him with a breach of international law. Lyard said the course of the Government was in accordance with the sentiments of the mass of the English people. Sir Bowyer said the policy of the foreign office would lead to war.

The Times says the new tariff of the U. S. establishes protective duties on a most extravagant scale, and the result will be the almost absolute prohibition of imports from Europe, and be more detrimental to the interests of America than Europe.

FRANCE.—The Senate have finally adopted an address in response to the Emperor's Speech, by 1,200 to 3 votes.

A meeting of Hungarian and Polish notabilities is said to have been held at the Palace Royal. Independent members of the corps legislative had proposed various liberal amendments to the Address, calling, among other things, for the report of the law of public safety, the freedom of the press, &c.

The debate would commence on the 11th. It was reported that Prince Napoleon was about to proceed to Toulon to negotiate for the withdrawal of the French troops.

ITALY.—The bombardment of Civitello Tronto commenced on the 20th. Gen. Fregola notified Ciardini that the works commenced against the citadel were a violation of the regulation between him and Garibaldi, and that he would bombard the city. Ciardini responded that for every inhabitant killed, he would order an officer of the garrison shot, and that he considered Fergola a rebel.

The official journal notifies the blockade of the citadel of Messina. Hostilities have commenced. All foreign vessels have left Messina, with the exception of those of the Americans and English.

SPAIN.—The Spanish Ministry have pronounced in favor of the temporal power of the Pope, and repudiated the idea of transferring the Papacy to Jerusalem.

RUSSIA.—The Bank of Poland refuses to make a specie payment on Russia bonds. Military forces have taken possession of the amount required.

All is now quiet at Warsaw. It is stated that the number of persons killed by the troops there in the late disturbance was 53.

Warsaw presented a gloomy appearance, everybody wearing mourning. The citizens' committee on safety had issued a proclamation requesting the maintenance of order. Over 100,000 attended the funeral of those killed at the late disturbances. Troops were kept within the barracks, and everything was orderly.

A petition was being signed for the re-establishment of the Polish Constitution. It is said the emancipation of serfs will be formally proclaimed during Lent.

The Czar will soon give the project for a Constitution for Russia.

TURKEY.—The Porte had sent an answer to the last Russian note, in which he denies all right in foreign interference in the internal affairs of Turkey. The Turkish fleet, with troops and six months provisions on hand, was about to cruise off the coast of Dalmatia. Serious disturbances prevail in the ministry. An altercation had taken place between the Grand Vizier and Caliph Pacha, on financial matters. The latter disapproved the recent policy of the Grand Vizier, and demanded new taxes on articles of luxury. The carrying out of the new loan has been postponed.

HOLLAND.—The King has prorogued the Chambers, consequent on the resignation of the ministry.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadstuffs.—Messrs. Wakefield, Nash & Co., Richardson, Spence & Co., and Highland, Albany & Co., report flour quiet, but steady, at 28 1/2 @ 31 1/2. American wheat firm, at full prices for fine, and with a partial advance of 2d @ 3d for spring red. Red wheat was quoted at 11 1/2 @ 12 1/4; white 12 1/2 @ 14 1/2. Corn firm.

The News Condenser.

— There are regular cab stands in Pekin. — Infanticide is on the increase in London. — In English vessels there are 300,000 seamen. — Furious storms have been raging in the Black Sea. — The small pox is somewhat prevalent at Indianapolis. — "Awful" Gardner, the reformed prize fighter, is insane. — The banks of Philadelphia have resumed specie payments.

— Steam tugs are now used on the Grand Trunk Canal in England. — Six daily prayer meetings are now maintained in New York city. — The Empress of France contemplates a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. — There are 1,500 carriage makers out of employment in New Haven. — The Cunard Company have offered the Arabia and Niagara for sale. — Digging for oil has been commenced in the Thirteenth Ward of Buffalo. — Mr. Lincoln has already received 700 applications for office in Minnesota. — The Sons of Malta of New Orleans have expelled Gen. Twiggs from their order. — The leading railway lines in France pay from ten to twenty per cent. dividends. — The journeymen coopers of Chicago are on a strike for the severalth time this season. — The name of the postoffice at Rhinebeck Station, N. Y., has been changed to Rhine Cliff. — It is estimated that there are more than two millions of men engaged in a sea-faring life. — The Southern students, seven or eight in number, have "seceded" from Dartmouth College. — The Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle reports a severe frost in Augusta and vicinity on the 6th inst. — A new twenty-horse power steam vessel is building for Dr. Livingstone, the African traveler. — The spoils secured by the Sardinians at Gaeta, was 11,000 troops, 800 cannon, and 60,000 muskets. — The population of Virginia is as follows: Whites, 1,049,663; free colored, 57,579; slaves, 490,887. — A pegging machine is in use in New England, with which a woman's shoe is pegged in ten seconds. — As a proof of how full Washington is, 2,300 persons dined at Willard's Hotel on Monday week. — Mr. Johnson, the new Senator from Missouri, was one of the Commissioners to the Peace Congress. — Gen. Twiggs declined a brigadier-generalship in the Confederate army, on account of feeble health. — The younger children of Mrs. Lincoln are quite sick, and apprehension is felt that they may not recover. — The late dreadful storms in England were announced three days in advance by the London Meteorologist. — The banks of South Carolina report February, \$14,962,466 capital, \$7,649,479 circulation, and \$1,388,331 specie. — The water of Loch Katrine, now supplied to Glasgow for drinking purposes, is said to be the finest in the world. — A huge cannon ball is now being made at the Ames company's establishment, at Chicopee, which will weigh 440 pounds. — A bearer of dispatches has left the State department with important communications for our Minister to Mexico, Mr. Weller. — A Kentuckian named R. D. Cook has discovered that brandy, soda, and tea, are an infallible remedy for the hog cholera. — A scientific expedition into Lybia has been projected by the Duke of Gotha, to be under the direction of Theodore Henglen. — It is stated that the land offices at the West are receiving numerous letters from the South, inquiring about desirable locations. — In 1857, two cases of diphtheria were reported in New York, and in 1860, four hundred and seventy-seven in the same city. — A Berlin letter states that Russia has expressed a wish to conclude a treaty of commerce with Prussia and the Zollverein. — Mr. Perry Barnes has caught, in the Chautauqua lake, a pickerel weighing 25 pounds, 45 inches in length, and 21 inches round. — The music in the Rev. Dr. E. H. Chapin's church, New York, is furnished by a choir of 75 children, chosen from the Sabbath School. — Connecticut river is now free of ice as far up as the head of "aloop navigation," and Hartford is once more a commercial city. — Governor Pickens, of South Carolina, has proclaimed martial law over that portion of James Island known as "Fort Johnson." — A man in Bridgeport has sold Barnum a Tom Thumb dog that weighs but three ounces! It is an English terrier, and sold for \$100. — Two Virginians think they have invented a cannon which can be fired a whole day without stopping, at the rate of 30 shots per minute. — Augustus Craven proposes to use the waters of the Volturno to irrigate the thousands of acres of hitherto profligate land near Naples. — There are nine persons living within a distance of two miles, near Winsted, whose united ages are six hundred and eighty-eight years. — There are still 802 gentlemen of Southern origin on Government pay, and doing army duty, while only 127, all told, have resigned. — Collins, a Mississippi wood chopper, has, within a few years, realized over one hundred thousand dollars by selling wood to steamboats. — Of 440 prisoners for life, sentenced during the last 16 years, in New York, only 92 remain; 243 having been pardoned, and 104 died. — A horse has been invented in France, with which a runaway horse's nostrils are suddenly closed, an effectual method, it is said, to stop the animal. — The project of making a new State of the upper peninsula of Michigan, with some of the adjoining counties of Wisconsin, has been revived. — There are 6,598 boats belonging to the Erie canal, of which 1,446 are of greater tonnage than the vessel in which Columbus discovered America. — The best chapters of Dr. Holland's "Gold Foll" have been recently issued by a religious society of Britain as an English "Tract for the Times." — The Macon (Ga.) Telegraph, which has used Georgia and South Carolina paper for the past three years, is now printed on paper imported from Belgium. — The Prince of Wales' revenue from the Duchy of Cornwall will, for the last year, be about \$225,000, an increase from the previous one of over \$20,000. — The Emperor of Austria has given to the Vienna protestants a place to worship in, Concordat or no Concordat. The building has been for years a magazine. — The Vice President of the U. S., the late Postmaster General, the present Secretary of the Interior, and the present Secretary of War, were all printers. — Sir Roderick Murchison, at a late meeting of the Ethnological Society, said there were living in Poland, animals which have been supposed to be extinct. — Returns of assessors from all but six counties of Texas, show an aggregate value of property of \$291,827,584—an increase the past year of over 30 per cent. — Messina, Italy, with 100,000 inhabitants, has no newspaper, no school, but, accustomed to the habits of tyrants for generations, is amused by plenty of theaters. — The estimated amount of flour, wheat, and corn in store, in Chicago, is as follows: 62,867 bbls. flour; 1,639,371 bus. wheat; 1,589,998 bus. corn; 673,000 bus. oats.

