

# MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.]

“PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT.”

[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

VOL. XII. NO. 40.]

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1861.

{WHOLE NO. 612.

**MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,**  
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY  
**AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.**  
CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,  
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.  
CHAS. D. BRADGON, Western Corresponding Editor.

The Rural New-Yorker is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of Intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other Journal.—rendering it the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

## AGRICULTURAL.

### NEW YORK STATE AG. FAIR.

#### EVENING DISCUSSIONS.

Not the least profitable feature of our State Fair is the discussion of practical questions by the farmers who there congregate. Formerly the evenings were wasted in lounging about hotels, but now those who are really in pursuit of knowledge, hasten to the place appointed for the discussion, where, without any pretension to oratory, all seem ready to give their views and experience upon any matter before the meeting. The debates partake of the character of a familiar conversation, and truth is well received, though presented in a homely garb. Occasionally some one tries to show off ability or science, but finds the former is not appreciated as much by the audience as the speaker, and in the latter soon becomes fogged. Science is a dangerous thing to handle—like edged tools in the hands of children—and he who tries to show more knowledge than he possesses, is very apt to get hurt. As we reached the fair late on Tuesday night, we are compelled to rely upon the local press for a report of the discussion.

**TUESDAY EVENING.**  
Previous to the discussion, Dr. ASA FITCH gave a brief lecture on the Army Worm, but presented no subject to our readers.

**SUBJECT.—Barnyard Manure, and the best mode of applying.**

GEORGE GEDDES, of Onondaga, President of the Society, said that to save manure the barnyard should first be made so that it will not be washed away by the rains. Next, enough straw should be obtained to absorb the manure. Next, in the spring of the year, the coarse manure should be put in piles with square sides and flat top. Early in the fall it would be ready to draw off. Would not put straw manure under cover. Thought the manure best applied on grass or wheat land. Would not, as a rule, apply it to corn. Would use the manure to make a crop of clover, and turn the clover under to make corn. Would apply manure to pastures and meadows in the fall.

MOSES EAMES, of Jefferson, would apply manure to the surface. Apply it in the fall, but never when the ground is frozen. Preferred rotten manure mixed with earth. Manure is as important to the farmer as money to the banker. Had seeded gravelly ground well with manure alone, unrotted.

MR. ANDREWS, of Connecticut, said that in his State they have a stony surface, and hard pan a few inches below. They put their manure under the shed, and apply it to corn in the spring. Apply on surface of sod, and then ridge, or turn two furrows together. Plow but three or four inches deep. Apply it unrotted.

MR. PARKER, of Jefferson, thought manure should not be piled. Applies his in January, February, and March. Keeps it under cover until drawn. Had lost manure by plowing under in dry seasons.

MR. FAXTON, of Utica, thought farmers did not understand the value of manure. Never saw land so good but what manure would make it better. He thought the greener it was applied the better.

MR. VOLNEY, of St. Lawrence, always cuts his hay before grass and other seeds have matured. In this way, he avoids weeds when he applies his manure. Applies in the spring, and always to grass land. Manure without foul seed, is 25 per cent. the better for it. Earnestly recommended cutting grass earlier. Was careful to save all slops, and everything he could for manuring purposes.

T. C. PETERS, of Genesee, believed that circumstances alter cases. Mr. Geddes' method might be right for him, but not for another man. Did not think manure sheds necessary, if manure is properly plied. Thought that stable manure should be applied to the current crop and straw manure rotted. The following propositions were finally unanimously agreed to by votes of the meeting:

1. Stable manure is best saved by applying it to the surface as soon as practicable.
2. Straw manure should be saved until rotted.
3. All manures are best applied on or very near the surface.

4. For hoed crops, and especially corn, manure can be applied deep to better advantage than for any other crops.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING.

This evening Dr. FITCH occupied about thirty minutes in describing the Grain Aphid, with which the farmers of this and neighboring States have become well acquainted the present year. We have already published all the information to be obtained on the subject, and therefore will not republish facts already familiar to our readers. The Doctor expressed the opinion that it would not be numerous next year, on account of the numerous enemies that were preying upon it. The subject for discussion was the following:

*Is it advisable to cultivate Dairy Farms, so as to secure fresh pastures, or are permanent pastures most profitable? And how can noxious weeds be excluded from pasture lands most advantageously?*

MR. BURROWS, of Lewis, thought the propriety of breaking up pastures depends upon soil. His farm is on the west side of Black River, natural to grass, and was benefited by breaking up. On the east side where grass does not take readily, would not break up. Moss accumulates in old pastures and injures the feed. Cows prefer pastures that have been newly seeded down. Canada Thistles and White Daisies were the most troublesome weeds he had to contend with; but by constantly working, prevented their increase, although they might be gaining a little. Had an instrument made like a chisel, with a long handle, with which he cut up the weeds.

MR. VANDYKE, of St. Lawrence, found Yellow Dock the most difficult weed to subdue. He pulled it without cutting the roots. If allowed to grow until haying time, the seeds will ripen.

MR. BURROWS, of Lewis, had a pasture of 600 acres, which, when it came into his possession, was overrun with briars. It then only kept ten cows. He procured sheep and they subdued the briars. June grass came in very thick, and this pasture now keeps from 25 to 30 cows. It makes as good butter and cheese, and as much of it, as any land in the county.

MR. MILES, of Lewis, concurred with Mr. Burrows. His cows would leave the old June grass for new pastures.

MR. LYON, of Lewis, thought gravelly or sandy loam requires breaking up oftener than limestone land. On the sandy soil in his section, the first year broken up, there was a good deal of sorrel; but the second year, a fine crop of white clover. Always sow white clover, either for pasture or meadow, with red clover and Timothy. Would break up light land every third year.

MR. WALWORTH, of St. Lawrence, got his land clean before sowing, and then destroyed every weed that appeared. Cut grass in flower, and if he found a weed, then carried it out of the lot if it took ten minutes to do it. Scarcely a weed could be found on his farm of 50 acres. It was natural to white clover, but seeded with red clover and Timothy. Used manure as a top-dressing. Cows at first refused to eat grass from top-dressed land, but in five or six weeks they relished it as well as before. Cows generally prefer white clover when it is about six inches in height.

MR. WALKER, of Oswego, had found good effects from breaking up old meadows. Would never let land remain in grass more than eight years, then break up and crop two years, and seed down again before the vegetable mold is taken up by hoed crops, as it is essential in bringing on a new crop of grass. Work all manure in in the spring. Got it in with the cultivator. Took great pains to eradicate weeds—white daisy and yellow dock—by digging them up. Got rid of sweet elder, which was very troublesome, by summer fallowing, plowing three times. Subsoiling very beneficial.

MR. GEDDES, of Onondaga, President of the Society, said that what he saw and heard in traveling over this county, was the cause of the introduction of the present question. It occurred to him that farmers did not plow enough. In walking over a fine new pasture with a gentleman, asked him if an acre of such pasture would support a cow, and was answered in the affirmative. Inquired if it would do so next year, and doubt was expressed. When he inquired if it would do so the third year, there was a decided answer in the negative. In fact he had made various inquiries with reference to pastures of different ages, and ascertained that the older they were the greater area it required to support one cow. Hence he originated the question before the meeting. In making out the Agricultural Report of Onondaga county, he had ascertained that in Fabius, their chief dairy town, it requires, on an average, three acres to support a cow; while in Camillus, their chief grain town, a cow is supported on a little more than an acre and a half. This goes to show that it would be better for dairymen to raise more grain. In addition to improving their pastures, they have the grain, straw, corn stalks, &c., to feed. The weeds, too, would thus be more effectually eradicated. If the gentleman from St. Lawrence who has no weeds on his farm, would come to Onondaga and put fifty acres in a similar condition, they would surely send him to Congress.

MR. WALWORTH said he would be willing to pay a dollar apiece for all that could be found in his pasture.

MR. HALSEY, of Cayuga, was satisfied that old pastures make better butter, but that new will sustain more stock. Did not think white clover makes the best quality of butter.

MR. STANLEY, of Lewis, after seeding land, mows one or two years before turning into pasture. Thought his pastures improved every year after seeding. The best pasture he has is sixteen years old, and it now gives much more feed than that seeded three years since. His land is flat, and in part overflows.

MR. HAWLEY, of Syracuse, was not a farmer, but was well acquainted with the dairy business in Cortland and Chenango counties. Had known old pastures where it required three acres to keep a cow, broken up, when the same land would keep twice the number. Plaster was indispensable to the dairy farmer. The best way to apply manure is on the surface, early in the autumn, and bush it in.

MR. ELLISON, of Herkimer, found that by the application of plaster, old pastures may be made to produce as much as by plowing. He sowed a great deal. Eradicated white daisies completely by its application, and could get rid of them in no other way. The cattle always prefer pasture land where plaster has been applied. Does not think frequent plowing beneficial. White clover produces the best butter and cheese. Makes meadows improve with age, and has them first rate thirty years old. Applies his plaster early in the spring.

MR. ROBINSON, of Westchester county, had grass land on primitive rock, which, three years ago, grew more white daisies than all things else combined. Would this season have given a dollar for every white daisy that could be found. He had put on manure, plaster and salt. The salt had done more good than manure, plaster, and everything else. Salt will eradicate daisies. Plaster lessens them; salt finishes them up. He usually puts ten bushels of salt on an acre, but any quantity from five to twenty bushels will answer. Applies in the spring or fall, though it may be sown on pasture land at any time.

MR. CONGER, who presided over the evening meetings, summed up the discussion, as was his custom, and made two propositions, on which he asked the vote of the meeting. He stated that grass and clover exist in the soil, not in the form of seed, but in the germ state, and inert; and that as soon as suitable food is furnished, these inert germs start forth and produce plants. The subject of permanent pastures has attracted a good deal of attention in England, and it was found that permanent grass land produces more grass and the grass produces more flesh than land where breaking up is necessary. But they also found that no permanent grass land could be kept fertile without top-dressings of fertilizing matter. He therefore offered the following propositions, which were adopted:

1. All pasture lands that cannot be easily cultivated, may be improved by top-dressings of manure, plaster, salt, ashes and other fertilizers, because these are unfavorable to the growth of weeds, but favorable to the growth of grass.
2. On land which is arable and easily cultivated, the dairyman will obtain the best results by rotation of crops.

#### THURSDAY EVENING.

*Agriculture of New York—is it paying a fair compensation for the capital and labor employed?*

D. PARKER, of Watertown, would tell his own experience. Commenced life at \$6 a month, and had hammered and pecked ever since. Had had a hard time of it, but managed to get a living and pay all honest debts. Ran in debt for a farm, but had been enabled to pay for it. Kept no account with the farm; if he did, thought it would run him in debt. It is now worth \$4,000 more than he bought it for fifteen years ago.

MR. THOMAS, of Cayuga county, twelve years ago bought a farm of 100 acres at \$100, and had since added forty more. He had paid for it from the land, and laid twenty-one miles of tile drain, and built a \$12,000 barn. These men pursued a mixed husbandry—raised corn, wheat, and seeded down to clover with barley or oats. Manured well and turned under clove. Special attention was given to tile draining.

MR. FRIS, of Herkimer, thought the question was hardly comprehensive enough. The State of New York has improved in wealth, and agriculture is the basis of all prosperity. Success depends on two points—the capacity of the soil and the capacity of the man.

MR. ROBINSON stated that the object of the question is to ascertain whether farming is as profitable as other business—whether it will pay the young men to keep at work on the farm. A young man goes to New York, and if successful in getting into business, may make twenty thousand a year, but after a few years of success he turns out a bankrupt. The farmer, if he does not live so fast, makes a comfortable living for his family and is in no danger of bankruptcy. Very few merchants, after being in business twenty years, are able to retire worth \$50,000.

MR. ELLIS, of Herkimer, said if merchants would live with the same economy that farmers do, they would not become bankrupt. Knew of several cases among the dairymen of Herkimer county, similar to

those mentioned by Mr. THOMAS. One of his neighbors made from 600 to 700 pounds of cheese from each cow kept. They were crosses between Ayrshires and Devons. A good cow costs no more to keep than a poor one. The town of Fairfield, in Herkimer county, plows less land than any other town in the United States, and produces more butter and cheese.

MR. CORNELL, of Ithaca, had taken pains to procure the agricultural statistics of Tompkins county, and these went to prove that the farms of that county paid an annual interest of ten per cent. on their value. We think these figures will need some revision before they will show the facts. Statistics are worse than useless unless they are prepared with the greatest care. Mr. C. said the farmers of Tompkins county were growing rich, living in better houses, riding in better carriages, sending money to the West, and loaning it on bonds and mortgages.

MR. WALWORTH, of St. Lawrence, had kept an account of all he raised, and expenses, for ten years, but farmers do not generally do so, and when they make statements of crops or profits, they usually guess at it, and always guess too high. Farmers of St. Lawrence are prosperous. Farms have risen in the last fifteen years from \$15 to \$60 per acre.

MR. THOMAS said that farmers sometimes think they do not get the interest on their farms, but forget they are getting a living for themselves and families from their land.

MR. VICK, of Rochester, thought the farm should pay interest on its value besides giving a living. The farmer, and his boys, and his wife, earn their living by their labor—in the way designed that man should get his bread, by the sweat of the brow. The same labor in any business or trade, would afford a living; therefore whatever capital the farmer has invested in land and buildings, should give a profit equal to simple interest, above an economical living.

MR. CONGER, in closing the discussion, said that in estimating the value of a business we must not forget to look at its permanence. A business that affords a large profit for a year or so, and then nothing until the profits of previous years are sunk, cannot be called profitable. He also stated that after expenses, taxes, &c., are deducted, the ordinary rate of interest falls far below seven per cent.

The meeting decided the question in the affirmative by a unanimous vote.

#### WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

##### THE ILLINOIS STATE FAIR.

I HAVE preferred to speak of this Fair retrospectively, even at the risk of being called "behind hand" with my report. I have preferred to get away from it, where I might look back upon it dispassionately and without any unpleasant medium through which its deformities might be magnified. Indeed, I have not much to say about it; for I was early taught that it is better to say nothing where nothing good can be said. And yet, a false impression must not obtain, from what I have written, for there was much on the fair grounds at Brighton worth writing about.

##### THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS—A RAPID REVIEW.

In order that I may know when I get through, I will briefly speak of the exhibitions in the different classes. And in doing so, I cannot undertake to catalogue the many meritorious animals or articles that may have come under my notice. Space will not permit it.

1. In Class A (Cattle) there were nearly or quite 400 entries, embracing Durhams, Devons, Alderneys, and a few Herefords. This number of entries embraced a larger number of animals than the like amount would have done at any previous exhibition, because of a modification of the rules admitting animals to competition.

Never before have I beheld such rings of competing animals as obeyed the summons when the Durhams in this class were called, embracing the royal heads of the royal families of Short-horns in the State, with the maternal beauties, combining the parentage of worthy sons and daughters of worthy sires and dams, — never has competition in this class of animals been closer or more excited,—never was the judgment of awarding committees more severely taxed. Among the Durham herds represented I may name, as a guarantee of the character of the stock present from this State, those of Brown, Bone, and Iles, of Sangamon Co.; Hill, of Cass Co.; Sisson, Mitchell, Martin, and Whitney, of Knox Co.; Spears, of Menard Co.; Wentworth, of Cook Co.; Kearsaw, of Du Page Co.; Bell, of Logan Co.; Cloyd, of Champaign Co.; Withers and Short-horn, of McLean Co.; &c., &c. Those who know anything about the herds in Illinois, know that I have named the best herds in the State; and they were largely represented here.

The Devons exhibited embraced the large and fine herds owned by C. D. Bent, of Iowa City, Iowa; a herd of fine animals from London, Canada West, owned by Wm. H. Locke, who has recently purchased several thousand acres of land in Champaign Co. in this State, whither he intends removing; John Wentworth's herd, &c., &c. The show of Devons was a good one, embracing nearly 100 animals.

There were but few Alderneys, and no Herefords from this State. There was one herd here from Ohio. If I am correctly informed, it was here last year and the year previous. This year no premiums were

offered for Herefords owned out of the State, whereas said exhibitor was exceeding wroth. The fact is, most Agricultural Societies offer large premiums for all classes of thorough-bred stock; and the offerings for Herefords have been co-equal with those offered for Durhams or Devons. Men belonging to the same class that he does, have found it profitable to itinerate with their herds of Herefords and Ayrshires, and attend these fairs. Their stock being transported free, fed free, and there being a moral certainty that they would win prizes, it has hitherto proved profitable. But so far as this State is concerned, such men—such professional exhibitors—will go begging for premiums hereafter.

There were a few Alderneys and a few monster fat cattle exhibited. In this State there are few Alderneys kept. I learn that some of the dairymen of Wisconsin are breeding from them with good result—one man with whom I talked at the Milwaukee fair, asserting that his Alderneys gave cream, compared with the milk of most of the native cows.

There is a good deal that might be said of the different breeds of cattle and their adaptation to different localities in the North-West; and it must be said; but I prefer to say it in connection with the localities where the herds are kept, as I may visit them hereafter. It is true of cattle,—as it is of sheep, or of any other products,—there is no reliable rule which does not consider circumstances. The kind of vegetables to grow, must depend upon the soil, character, and distance of the market; so the kind of stock. Cattle, sheep, swine, or horses must depend upon the object one has in keeping it—upon the character of the demand that exists for it. If men will only study this, they will not be continually "breaking up" in one kind of business, trying again and again, "tearing up" in another, to test some new scheme. The fact is, before a man acts in anything, he must clearly conceive what he wants to do, and why he wants to do it. He will make few mistakes or failures then. Is not that good economical gospel?

2. In Class B (Horses) there were about or over 500 entries! And when one remembers the amount of horse slang, horse talk, horse yarns,—the scrubbing, brushing, washing, oiling, swearing, jockeying, betting, bullying, bluffing,—the amount of horse idolatry thus concentrated on a single fair ground, is it any wonder that the grounds became submerged, and a dead sea? Just think of it, reader!—between thirty and forty stallion roadsters came in competition with each other, and were in the ring at the same time, from which a single committee of five were to choose the two best; and yet their choice must be in consonance with the pleasure, prejudices, and preferences of half a thousand (more or less) hooting, howling, horse-laughing, horse-jockeying, half-horse men and boys in the amphitheater yonder, jealously watching the motions of said committee, or all pandemonium would be let loose. The horse influence at this fair was overshadowing, overwhelming, and ministered as much as the bad weather to its failure.

One thing I mention here, that it may serve to provide against similar mistakes hereafter. No entry fee was charged. Stalls, good timothy hay, and plenty of water were provided for all stock entered, free of charge. Here comes Sam the Shrewd, leading all his neighbors. He looks through the stalls, and selects a half dozen and marks them; goes to the business office and enters one team for the premium offered for the "best mares of all work," another for that offered for the "best draught horses," another for "the best roadsters," &c., &c. The entries count up hugely. More stalls are required. The fair is to be a big thing—of course it is!—look at the number of entries. Having made these entries, he gets his cards, and ties them to the head-stalls of the respective teams of his respectable neighbors; they pay their "quarter apiece" to get into the grounds, put their teams in their stalls, have brought all the grain they may need to feed them, in their wagons, have hampers of food for themselves, and hay and clothing enough to enable them to sleep comfortably anywhere. Thus provided, they "stay a day or two," look at the fair as long as they choose, hitch up their teams, pull off the cards with the number of their entry, and go. They forfeit the premiums—of course they do; but mind you, they have not won them yet, and had no intention to try to do it when they made the entry. They have had a good comfortable place for their teams and themselves, free of cost, as long as they choose to stay. What more did they want? It is true I am letting out a class of secrets for the benefit of the great fair-going public; but I do so in order to explain why there was such an enormous show of horses at our State Fair. The condition of the track prevented a particle of good training being done. One real race was gotten up one day, of which more hereafter.

There were many good animals on the ground; but there is no class of animals that I speak of with so much diffidence as horses, and none that I admire more. But I give notice I am no horseologist at all.

3. Class C (Sheep.) There were about 200 entries in this class, embracing representatives from the best herds in the State—Spanish and French Merinos, Saxons, South-Downs and their crosses with French, Hampshire Downs, Cotswolds, Leicesters, &c., &c. I but echo the voice of all shepherms when I assert (as I predicted before the fair) that there never was so large or so good a gathering of sheep from the flocks of this State as were on the grounds at Brighton last week. And when I have said this, it is all I have to



HORTICULTURAL.

SEASONABLE NOTES.

We have just passed through what is supposed to be our equinoctial storm. The heavy rains of the few past days have injured our fall flowers, and the high winds did injury to fruit.

The few weeks of pleasant weather before winter should be improved in dressing beds of herbaceous plants, transplanting to the border such as have been grown in seed-beds the past summer, and making beds of tulips, hyacinths, and other bulbous roots.



POMPONÉ CHRYSANTHEMUM.

Our nurserymen are taking up and changing their Chrysanthemums for flowering. Those who want a good show of flowers for the house about Christmas time, cannot do better than to purchase the Chrysanthemum.

PROVINCIAL FAIR OF CANADA WEST.

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—We are having a fine display here this season, and we Canadians are showing the world we can do some things as well as you, if not a little better.

Messrs. BRUCE & MURRAY, of Hamilton, exhibited fine specimens of Tritoma uvaria grandiflora, in bloom; some six varieties of Gladiolus, and one hundred of Verbena, and a fine sample of the Pampas Grass.

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The Exhibition has been a grand success, and the crowd seems as great as that of last year.

ORCHARD CULTURE IN ILLINOIS.

A CANNY young Scotch Southron, with whom I was talking about fruit, said, "Orchards appeared to do well here until they came to be seeded down, as they ought to be, when the bark louse infested them and destroyed them."

The young man's "as they ought to be," I suppose to be but the echo of the opinion of the mass of farmers here; for their practice is to seed down their orchards; and they wonder at their unproductiveness, greatly.

Another thing: I find few stilled trees bearing—and a much less number that are healthy and thrifty. The low heads, trees whose branches start from within two feet (or less) of the ground, many of them lying on the ground, are almost invariably productive.

It is a grave and very general error among farmers to suppose that the orchard may take care of itself. It is a fatal error in almost all cases in the West.

There is one other common expression that we hear from the owners of these grass-grown orchards. If we talk with them of the experience of the best orchardists, and refer them to the published reports of Horticultural Societies for information—for the experience and practice of those who have been successful—we are answered, "Well, you know we farmers don't have time to keep posted in these matters—we have too much to do, and can't keep track of all these things."

Men do not have time to get out of the old beaten track which leads straight to an exhausted soil, small crops, a mortgaged farm, and ultimate foreclosure! They do not have time to carefully examine and "figure upon" any new glittering scheme that is presented for their adoption; but they rush headlong into it, and never get out of it!

All through the country is this lesson taught: Men have invested all they had in a single enterprise in which they had previously no experience, and have lost all—or might as well have lost it, for it is now subject to interminable litigation.

But there are plenty of men who do "get along." They are of a class who know what they are about—who are educated in their business—who spend the same time that a merchant does, to find which are the most profitable forms of investment of time, labor and money.

HAWTHORN FOR HEDGES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I once more take up my pen to renew the subject of live fences, notwithstanding the continued opposition of the Agricultural Press generally, to the plant I advocate, as witness the last Genesee Farmer, where an article inserted from the Country Gentleman is, I consider, unfairly given.

I recommend persons that have everything to learn to procure small plants of the hawthorn, as they can be planted with the same ease and in same manner as cabbage plants, with a small stick to make the holes, pressing the dirt firmly with the feet on each side of the line, and raking off evenly afterwards.

For line fences, the plants should not be less than eight inches apart—twelve would not be too much—and should be planted uncut, either in root or top, unless needful to get it in good position.

clean, straight growing plants, than with bushy ones. Another thing—having the plants so distant from each other, gives the weeder the opportunity of using the hoe where the hand has to do the work on hedges where the plants are only four inches apart.

In planting, I generally advise leaving one plant next to the gate posts uncut, and also at the corners of fences, as these places are more subject to injury than other parts are. This method I have found a perfect remedy. Letting such plants grow untrimmed, these may in five or six years be ornamentally cut into shapes to suit the fancy, either as vases, birds, or animals, or left, as I leave mine, in a state of nature.

Trimming hedges is often done without any regard to reason. I have seen fine hedges ruined by being cut at the wrong season. In fact, I know from experience that this is the great reason of failure.

I have had a life-long experience in the hawthorn, and can surely say I never saw as fine plants of the same age in Europe, or as thrifty growth, as I have grown them here; and I think I may safely defy any person to prove a failure in this country, where the hedge has been properly planted and cultivated, that has not originated from improper trimming.

I hope, Mr. Editor, you will renew your visit and give your readers your opinion. Our Fair is on the 8th and 9th of October. This will be a good time to view our fences redolent in nature's livery of deep, rich green, and tempting scarlet fruit, unless the frosts are earlier than usual.

THE PRICKLY ASH.—I think, from Professor TORREY's statement, this plant would be only suitable for a fancy hedge, as it is thornless. Whether it roots horizontally or not, I cannot say, as it does not grow in this vicinity. I am glad to see inquiries and experiments, as I feel positive it will conduce to the adoption of the hawthorn eventually.

CULTURE OF STRAWBERRIES.

Messrs. EDITORS.—It is a fact well known that when an inquiry is made concerning fruit or flowers, or anything beneficial to community, the answer is, look in the RURAL NEW-YORKER. I want to say a few words to my brother farmers, and to my lady friends.

Will any one tell what is the best hedge plant for Western New York? Will the honey-louise (Gleditsia triacanthos) make a good hedge?—J. G. F., Stafford, N. Y., Sept. 25, 1861.

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Will any one tell what is the best hedge plant for Western New York? Will the honey-louise (Gleditsia triacanthos) make a good hedge?—J. G. F., Stafford, N. Y., Sept. 25, 1861.

BEST TIME TO PLANT STRAWBERRIES.

EDITORS RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Having noticed several queries and discussions as to whether the spring, summer or autumn is most suitable and most successful for the transplanting of strawberries, I have deemed it beneficial to those interested therein to express my settled conviction on the subject, resulting from a long experience.

PLANTS FOR NAME.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Will you give the common and botanical name of the enclosed flower in your next paper, and oblige—M. B. G., Canandaigua, N. Y., 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—As domestic recipes seem to be the rule, and as I can stir up a good mess of cake, I send you a few of mine for your readers:

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New Hampshire and Maine. Why, sir, the strawberry is found growing abundantly further to the north than any other of our garden or orchard fruits. Around Hudson's Bay it is found in profusion, and RICHARDSON, the explorer, found it plentiful in the Arctic region.

Horticultural Notes.

NOTES ON THE BOTANY OF JAPAN.—There is a place named Ab-sax-saw, on the eastern side of Yeddo, which is renowned for its large Buddhist temples, its tea-houses, and its gardens. The gardens were reported to contain an extraordinary collection of chrysanthemums, and I was therefore in duty bound to pay them a visit.

NEW TOP ONION.—I enclose a specimen of a variety of onion which needs to be known to be universally cultivated, instead of the black seed. The onions are of good size, three to four inches in diameter; the seeds are small onion, produced at the rate of 1,000 to 2,000 from a single onion.

Do POTATOES MIX IN THE HILL?—This seems to be a question not satisfactorily decided. In digging our potatoes this fall, we found one which seems to settle the question—a perfect June potato and a common Mercer joined together.

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Inquiries and Answers.

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Domestic Economy.

CAKES, CUSTARDS, ETC.

APPLE TOURTE OR CAKE (GERMAN RECIPE).—Take ten or twelve apples, sugar to taste, the rind of one small lemon, three eggs, one quarter of a pint of cream or milk, one-quarter of a pound of butter, three quarters of a pound of good short crust, three ounces of sweet almonds. Pare, core, and cut the apples into small pieces; put sufficient moist sugar to sweeten them into a basin; add the lemon peel, which should be finely minced, and the cream; stir these ingredients well, whisk the eggs, and melt the butter; mix all together, add the sliced apple, and let these be well stirred into the mixture.

VERY GOOD OLD-FASHIONED BOILED CUSTARD.—Throw into a pint and a half of new milk the very thin rind of a fresh lemon, and let it infuse for half an hour; then simmer them together for a few minutes, and add four ounces and a half of white sugar. Beat thoroughly eight fresh eggs; mix with them another half pint of new milk; stir the boiling milk quickly to them, take out the lemon peel, and turn the custard into a deep jug; set this over the fire in a pan of boiling water, and keep the custard stirred gently, but without ceasing, until it begins to thicken; then move the spoon rather more quickly, making it always touch the bottom of the jug, until the mixture is brought to the point of boiling, when it must be instantly taken from the fire, or it will curdle in a moment. Pour it into a bowl, and keep it stirred until nearly cold, then add to it by degrees a wineglassful of good brandy and two ounces of blanched almonds cut into spikes, or omit these at pleasure.

STEWED APPLES AND CUSTARD.—Take seven good-sized apples, the rind of half a lemon or four cloves, half a pound of sugar, three-quarters of a pint of water, half a pint of custard. Pare and take out the cores of the apples, without dividing them, and, if possible, leave the stalks on; boil the sugar and water together for ten minutes, then put in the apples with the lemon rind or cloves, whichever flavor may be preferred, and simmer gently until they are tender, taking care not to let them break. Dish them neatly on a glass dish, reduce the sirup by boiling it quickly for a few minutes, let it cool a little, then pour it over the apples. Have ready quite half a pint of custard. Pour it round but not over the apples when they are quite cold, and the dish is ready for table. From twenty to thirty minutes to stew the apples.

APPLES A LA PORTUGAISE.—Take eight good boiling apples, half a pint of water, six ounces of sugar, a layer of apple marmalade, eight preserved cherries, garnishing of apricot jam. Peel the apples, and, with a vegetable cutter, push out the cores; boil them in sugar and water, without being too much done, and take care they do not break. Have ready a white apple marmalade; cover the bottom of the dish with this, level it, and lay the apples in a sieve to drain; pile them neatly on the marmalade, making them high in the center, and place a preserved cherry in the middle of each. Garnish with strips of candied citron or apricot jam, and the dish is ready for table. From twenty to thirty minutes to stew the apples.

HOUSEWORK AND WAGES.

WOMEN, especially those who do housework, make complaint that they do not receive near as large wages as men, and there is a great and sufficient reason why this is so. Men who learn any business or trade, have to serve an apprenticeship, and become good and competent workmen before they can offer their services for wages. Women who learn trades have to do the same. They have to give time and use measures to fit themselves to do their work properly.

But housework is not thought to require any fitness or understanding. A girl will offer to do your housework who does not know how to do one single piece of work properly, and is better qualified to waste her time and destroy your property than anything else, and you must give her just as high wages as though she were a real help to you. If not, you are branded as hiring her to do "the meanest of all work for the meanest of all pay."

Girls would do well to practice the golden rule in housework, and do as they will like to be done by when the responsibility of housekeeping and the comfort and happiness of a family come to rest upon them. It is well to "set reason to work," especially before we condemn others.

CAKES AND PIES.

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Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] LOVE'S TRICOLOR.

FLOWERS in their sweet array! A gift of blossoms for the soldier boy, The proud, the young, the ever full of joy, Who says "Good-by" to-day!

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] ELATION AND DEPRESSION.

WHAT a different expression the world wears to us at different times, according to the state of our minds. When the blessing of perfect health is ours, and every thing goes well with us, how at seasons our spirits will rise and our pulses bound with pleasure.

There are some whose lives seem so staid and calm that they never vary from the same even tone of feeling; sometimes incapacity, for deeper feeling produces this, and sometimes it is the result of a happy combination of qualities, or an uncommonly well disciplined mind; but we think the majority of people have their bright and dark hours; that the world does not always present the same appearance, but varies somewhat according to the condition of the mind.

HOME-WORK AND OFFICE-WORK.

THE end of education, says the Saturday Review, is to fit its subjects for that station and those duties in which the chances are that their future life will be spent. As things are, it is likely, while the sexes retain their present equality, that our girls, when it is sought to put down to the desk and counter, will have to abandon them when they become wives and mothers.

"OUR JESSIE."

THE name of one Northern woman is recorded who, without making a fuss, or having it announced in the newspapers, is doing her duty at her husband's side, and does not complain of weakness or fatigue, or find it necessary to leave him to go to fashionable watering places, or keep posted in the fashionable world.

THE SOURCE OF HOME HAPPINESS.

MAN presides over the warfare of life; to woman it is left to regulate its peace. Man provides the means of comfort. There are few stations in life where man is not in some respect a worker—glad to seek rest and cheerful enjoyment when the toils of the day are past.

Choice Miscellany.

OCTOBER.

CHILD of the grand old Autumn! October foateth by, A regal grace on her sun-kissed face And light in her beaming eye;

HONEST ISAAC, THE OLD SINGER.

It was a pleasant July morning when two of us (P. G. and the writer) started homeward. A dozen long miles were stretched before us, and a broiling sun was stooping over us. We gave the stage coach and the plank road a broad margin, and "struck" into the woods, where we easily found the old road, now so seldom used it is overgrown with wild grass and embowered with flowers.

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

"Six days shalt thou labor."

THE wickedness we are especially warned against committing on the Sabbath is work; as, according to the above command, the particular sin of secular days is idleness. Other commands to do or forbear certain acts are absolute and without reference to times or seasons; we are not to suppose it is more unlawful to speak falsely or profanely, to take what is not our own, or to deprive another of life on the Sabbath than on any other day of the seven.

INTELLECT DEVELOPED BY LABOR.

Are labor and self-culture irreconcilable to each other? In the first place, we have seen that man, in the midst of labor, may and ought to give himself to the most important improvements, that he may cultivate his sense of justice, his benevolence, and the desire of perfection.

THE SCHOOL IN THE HOUSE.

Every family is a school. All its members are teachers, all are scholars. Without text-books, all study, and by instinct all learn. Looks, smiles, frowns, caresses, reproaches, shrugs, words, deeds, make up daily household lessons, from which each learner derives first impressions, next convictions, and then character.

THE SMILE.

There are few persons capable of smiling gracefully. A really graceful smile, emanating from the heart, playing lightly and in beauty around the lips, casting an expression of pure benevolence over the countenance, and bearing—as such a smile will—the mark of intelligence and a frank, open disposition, is a rare gift indeed, and proclaims the possessor a member of the aristocracy of Nature.

THE WEAKEST LIVING CREATURE.

The weakest living creature, by concentrating his powers on a single object, can accomplish something; the strongest, by dispersing his over many, may fail to accomplish anything. The drop, by continual falling, bores a passage through the hardest rock; the hasty torrent rushes over it with hideous uproar, and leaves no trace behind.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] "PEACE LIKE A RIVER."

COME and walk at the twilight hour Down by yon quiet stream; Thy weary spirit fain would know What th' words of our Father mean.

SONG OF REDEEMING LOVE IN PROSPERITY.

O, WHEN the light of the Sun of Righteousness shines into our hearts, it is easy to sing the written song of our redemption. The winds of heaven breathe upon the "Solian harps in our souls, and our living spirits echo the music sweet and low. Our hearts are full of song. We can sing of the loving kindness of our God, who hath led us out of the greatest of troubles by "the pillar of cloud."

RELIGION.

SOME men only think of religion as something which gives them a title to heaven—as if the devil were some sneaking thing going about to snatch from man his title to a property. Or as if a man had an estate to which another claimant arose. The case is contested, and the man who holds the estate is adjudged to have it rightfully. He goes back home—is the estate improved? are the fences repaired? are the fields more fruitful? No, it is the same thistle-grown estate that it was; but the man rejoices and says, "Now I know it is mine; for I have got a title."

NO BACKWARD MOVEMENT.

Man is constantly advancing to the eternal world. He cannot go back to improve privileges that have been wasted. Life cannot be traveled again, and each foot-print is made to be seen by us no more. Onward we must go. He that comes after us may profit by our follies, and track our way, nearer and nearer to the beach where the ocean of eternity rolls,—he may see step after step in the sand till he comes to the last print, half washed away by the tide, where we plunged into the vast ocean and disappeared forever; but backward we cannot go, to pick up the golden gems which we once passed with indifference as they lay sparkling at our feet. Onward we are moving, and onward we must continue to move. How solemn, then, does life seem in its progress! And how loud the admonition to improve the golden moments as they fly, for saving the soul, blessing the race, and giving glory to God.—Standard.

THE TENDENCY OF SORROW.

Nearly all sorrow has in it the same tendency. While it lasts it depresses action, crushes hope, and destroys energy, but it renders the 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, those mineral manures that restore and fertilize the soil above. It is thus with sickness and sorrow—once surmounted, they fertilize the character and develop from the deep fountains of the human heart a joy and fruitfulness not otherwise attainable.

MUSIC.

REAL music always affects the heart. It inspires, cheers, or subdues the feelings, never leaving them in a state of indifference. We hear a bird at summer's sunset and stop unconsciously until its gushing song is ended. From the woodland where the shadows sleep come the spirit voices of the winds, and we hush our every breath to listen to the mysterious murmurs, that bear the thoughts away in wild and pensive wanderings.

The power of swaying the feelings of men by music is the gift of nature. By patient drilling and long-continued application, the mere theory of music may be learned; but, after all, nature is the best teacher. Men may puzzle their brains to invent unusual and unnatural strains; they may be able to accomplish astonishing feats in mechanical execution, and yet leave those who listen to their performances wholly unmoved. Many seem to believe they can counterfeits true feeling, and they make desperate efforts to move others; but while their auditors should weep, laugh, or become inspired with deep feeling, they either coldly criticize, or affectedly applaud. Miss FANNY FLARE, at a crowded evening party, is invited to entertain the company with music. She is considered a connoisseur, and has been invited with a special eye to her acquirements in this direction.

Let now a master hand touch those keys, and the simplest strain will seem to be invested with new power to charm. How softly and sweetly the voice harmonizes with the instrument, and yet how full and rich is it in compass. The singer has the feelings of the company at perfect command. They do not think of the performer, but of the music. It sounds as though any one might sing or play it, so simple is it in construction, and so devoid of intricate and far-fetched combinations. Who has not been charmed with the singing of children? One traveler tells of hearing in Europe several thousand children all singing together, and he observed that the effect was wonderful. The artless, unaffected melody of their voices touched every heart, for they sang as nature taught them. Not that cultivation is unnecessary. The science of music should be studied carefully and well; but if there is a false standard of excellence to which people slavishly bow, that standard should be pulled down and a better one erected in its place.

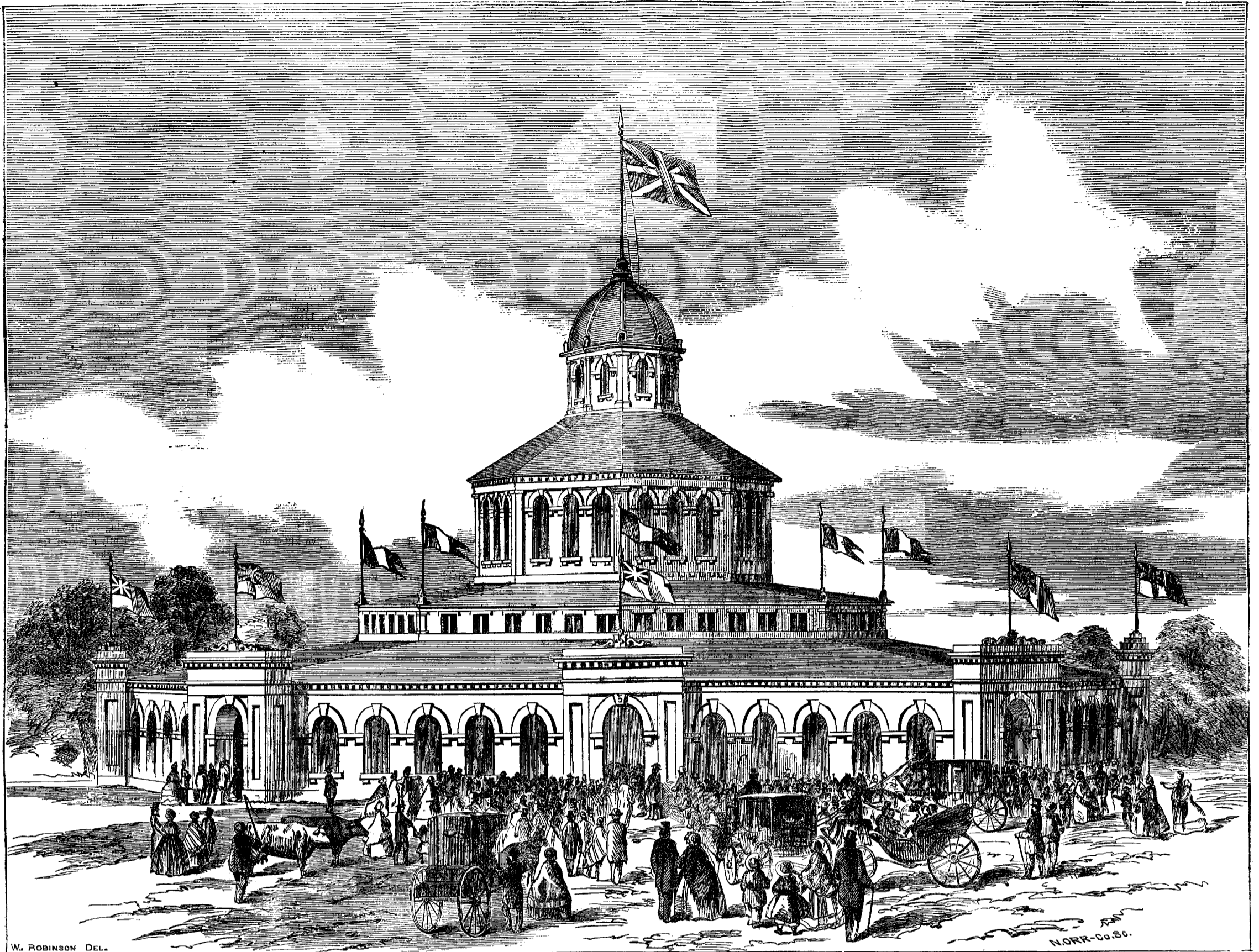
SCOLDING.

If laughter begets fat, it is no less true that scolding is the parent of meagreness. Who ever saw a plump tergumant? The virago is scraggy—scragginess is the badge of all her tribe. It would seem that the attrition of a fierce exacting temper gives sharpness to the human frame as inevitably as a gritty grindstone puts a wiry edge on a broadax. Artists understand this fact, and guide their pencils accordingly. They invariably represent ladies supposed to be given to "the rampage" as remarkably high in bone. Shrews are thus depicted in comic valentines, and all the illustrators of "Curtain Lectures" have presented the "rib" of Mr. Caudle without a particle of fat. Lavater, referring to female firebrands, says flatly to their faces that their noses are sharp. We have a dim idea that he mentions some exceptional cases of ladies with snub noses, who are given to smubbing their husbands; but these form a mild variety, and only a small proportion of the genus scold.

Love is of such superlative worth that it is more honorable to be its victim than its conqueror.

Do good for thine own satisfaction and care not what follows. Cause no gray hairs to any one; nevertheless, for the truth even gray hairs are to be disregarded.

God hears no more than the heart speaks; and, if the heart be dumb, Heaven will certainly be deaf.



THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION BUILDING, LONDON, C. W.

The above Engraving, from drawings by Wm. ROBINSON, Esq., the Architect, gives a fine view of the new and spacious EXHIBITION BUILDING, recently erected, and entirely completed in time for the Provincial Show of 1861. In connection with the account of the recent Exhibition, given on our second page, the illustration and following description of the "Palace" will no doubt prove interesting to many RURAL readers in both Canada and the States:

The ground plan of the building is a regular octagon, its dimensions, from opposite angles, being 186 feet. The space afforded by the ground area is

upward of 24,000 feet, while the galleries give an additional space of 4,000 feet more. The external wall is built of white brick, on a foundation of rubble masonry and concrete, and is twenty-one feet in height. The entrance to the building is through eight doorways, one at each angle, each eight feet wide and fourteen feet high. In the brick wall on each side of the octagons, and between doorways, are five spacious windows, making on the ground floor forty windows. The roof of this portion of the structure is covered with felt, gravel, &c. The arrangement of the doors will afford ready ingress and egress to the building, besides securing

a thorough draft for the purposes of ventilation. The second tier of the building, containing the gallery, rises to the height of thirty-two feet above the ground line, and 114 feet in diameter from opposite angles, giving a wall accommodation of more than 300 lineal feet, lighted with 48 windows, every alternate one being hung on a pivot to admit of ventilation. The ascent and descent to the upper portion of the building are provided for by two stairways, one being intended for the entrance and the other for the exit of the public, and leading in opposite directions, so as to divide the ground. The third tier of the building is a continuation of the inside gallery wall,

and runs to the height of forty feet above the ground line. This tier supports the cupola, and is covered with a shingle roof. The interior view is clear, and is not intercepted by any timbers to the height of eight-seventeen feet. The full height of the building to the top of the flag-staff is 114 feet; the dimensions of the cupola, twenty feet diameter by thirty-one in height; area of the ground floor and gallery, 28,000 feet, being about the same area as the Hamilton Exhibition Building, and 4,000 feet less than the Toronto Building.\* The sheeting of the roof is painted a blue color, the timbers a drab. Provision is made for a band of music in a suitable situation.

The building is designed and constructed with a view to the purposes for which it is erected, and also with a due regard to economy. The building is of the most permanent character, the best stone, brick, and lumber obtainable being used in its construction, while the entire workmanship is of a superior order. On the whole, it may be said that the London Exhibition Building is alike creditable to the Association and the Province.

\* Exhibition Buildings for the use of the Provincial Association of Upper Canada have in former years been constructed in Kingston, Toronto and Hamilton.

**Rural New-Yorker.**

**NEWS DEPARTMENT.**

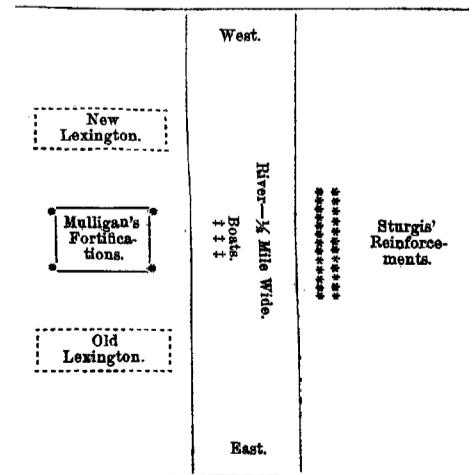
ROCHESTER, N. Y., OCTOBER 5, 1861.

**THE WAR'S PROGRESS.**

**FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.**

**Lexington, Me.—Interesting Facts.**

The rebels have captured Lexington, it is true, but we believe that Gen. Price and his command are destined very soon to have ample opportunity for judging what are the peculiar blessings attaching to a state of siege. The interest in the location is not lost, and we publish the following diagram and explanation of the position from the *Missouri Democrat*. It will be remembered that at the date of its appearance, Col. MULLIGAN was still fighting the traitors:



The general direction of the Missouri river at the city of Lexington is from west to east, as is marked, the city lying on the south bank. Old Lexington is the early settlement, situated back on the hill. It has been superseded by New Lexington, further up the river, where the steamboat landing now is. New Lexington is the main city. There are scattered houses along the bluff between the two, and both are now united under the one name of Lexington. Col. Mulligan's fortifications are between the two

locations, consisting of heavy earthworks, ten feet high, with a ditch of eight feet in width. These fortifications surround a college building, which has been used as quarters for the soldiers, and also been strengthened to resist an artillery attack. The line of the fortifications are extensive, and are capable of containing a force of 10,000 men.

The main body of the army of Gen. Price is located at Old Lexington, from which point the attack has been made, though the Fort has been assailed on all sides. The occupants of the Fort had a skirmish on Thursday last week with a party of rebels, not, however, under Price at the time, who sheltered themselves behind the houses in Old Lexington. To deprive them of this advantage the old town was afterwards shelled and burnt, by order of Col. Mulligan. New Lexington, or Lexington proper, is in possession of the rebels, but the city is not nor has it been the theater of conflict. Col. Mulligan could easily shell and destroy it, but this, of course, he will not do, unless under some contingency which is not now apparent.

The line of the fortifications runs down to the river bluff, and from the bluff to the water's edge there is a wide shelving beach. The boats reported to be captured, laid at the water's edge, within the directions of the lines of the fort, and on this beach is where a severe struggle ensued on Tuesday, for the possession of the boats. Col. Mulligan's force consists of his own regiment, Col. Marshall's cavalry regiment and Peabody's command of about six hundred Home Guards and Kansas troops, the whole amounting to from 2,500 to 3,000 men. As to their supplies of provisions and ammunition little is known. The assurance of an abundance of both would set the question of the result at rest, for Mulligan cannot be taken, whatever the force of Price against him, unless his powder and shot or his provisions grow short.

Gen. Price's strength is not ascertained, but may be put down anywhere between fifteen and thirty thousand men. He has plenty of artillery, but must be short of powder and shot, for he has had no adequate stores to draw upon since the Springfield battle.

As was stated yesterday morning, the Thirty-ninth Ohio, Col. Grosbeck; the Third Iowa, Col. Scott; the Sixteenth Illinois, Col. Smith; with a force of Missouri State Militia and Iowa State troops under Co. Crayner and Edwards; about 3000 irregular and regular cavalry, and six pieces of artillery, left St. Joseph and Chillicothe, in two divisions, early on Sunday morning, and according to our best advices, arrived on the banks of the river opposite Lexington on Wednesday night or Thursday morning. The capture of the three boats by the rebels, of course

prevented them from at once crossing the river, and if they gave Col. Mulligan any assistance at all on Thursday, it was from their artillery, the river at that point being only a half mile in width.

The character of that artillery, we learn, does not include any mortars or howitzers with which shell might be thrown over the bluff into the midst of Price's forces. If this be true, the only service that could have been rendered, was the command of the beach on the river side of the fortifications, and the destruction of the three boats in the hands of the rebels, should they have attempted to hold or use them. We learned yesterday, from high sources, that these reinforcements would be augmented on Thursday or Thursday night by another division under Gen. Sturgis, who had been lying at Hudson City, and that the whole force on the north side of the river opposite Lexington would, on yesterday, number about six thousand men. Beyond the mere gratification at the sight of friends, Col. Mulligan had, up to yesterday, derived no benefit from their nearness, except that it stirred his heart, stiffened up the sinews of his gallant little band, and encouraged them to hope and hold fast.

Our readers will remember that late Jefferson City advices noted the departure from that place, on Wednesday last, of three steamers for Lexington, having on board the 18th, 22d, 24th and 26th Indiana Regiments; also that the steamers Des Moines and White Cloud, with troops from St. Louis, had passed up in company with them, making the total force under way to re-enforce Mulligan by river, about six thousand men. The boats left Jefferson City, we learn, at one o'clock P. M., on Wednesday. They probably reached the vicinity of Lexington on Thursday night or yesterday morning.

They would not, of course, attempt to land the troops at Lexington, nor would they be likely to disembark below and give battle to the largely preponderating forces of Price. In the absence of all information, we are only left to conjecture their movements; and the probabilities seem to be, that they will not give Gen. Price battle until they shall have communicated with Gen. Sturgis, transported his command to the south side of the river, and with a conjoined force of at least twelve thousand men, marched to the relief of Col. Mulligan. These troops are fresh, vigorous and enthusiastic, and we have no doubt that in an encounter under Gen. Sturgis with the rebel forces, at the odds of even three to one, will prove gallantly and gloriously victorious.

In this connection we purposely omit mention of the four or five thousand troops approaching from the West under Gen. Lane, because we are not reliably informed of their movements. Whether these

conjoined forces save the gallant Col. Mulligan or not, we think they are bound to have a victorious encounter with Gen. Price.

**Faithful Among the Faithless.**

COMMODORE STRIBBLING, Flag-Officer of the East India Squadron, although a native of South Carolina, proves true to the Union and the old flag. A general order, issued by him upon the receipt of intelligence that Fort Sumter had been taken, and civil war inaugurated, has been brought to this country. He reminds officers and men of the solemn obligation of their oath of allegiance, adding:

I charge all commanders and officers to show in themselves a good example of virtue, honor, patriotism and subordination, and to be vigilant in inspecting the conduct of all such as are placed under their command. The honor of the nation, of the flag, under which many of us have served from boyhood, our own honor and good name require now, if ever, that we suffer no blot upon the character of our country while the flag of the Union is in our keeping.

**The Navy—Additions to the Force.**

WE learn from the *New York Sun* that about ninety vessels of various descriptions have been purchased by the Navy Department, and purchases are still being made by Mr. Morgan, the Government Agent. The vessels are sent to one of the Navy Yards as soon as purchased, to be fitted out, and receive their armament and stores, and be put in commission. Many of the purchased vessels are commanded by captains of the merchant service, who have passed the necessary examination before the Naval Board appointed for that purpose. We have given the names of the purchased vessels from time to time, as they have been fitted out. The *Monticello*, engaged in the affair at Cape Hatteras, was one of them. Up to this time, nearly \$4,000,000 have been paid for purchased vessels.

Eight sloops-of-war were ordered by Congress, and no time was lost in putting them on the stocks at the Navy Yards. Two of these sloops have already been launched, viz., the *Tuscarora* (13), built at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, and the *Kearsarge* (13), built at the Portsmouth Navy Yard.

The remaining six boats are now being built, and most probably will all be launched before the middle of the present month. Their names are:

	Tons.	Guns.	Yards where Building.
Junista	1,020	18	Philadelphia
Onida	1,020	18	Brooklyn
Adirondack	1,020	18	"
Wachusett	1,020	18	Charlestown
Housatonic	1,020	18	"
Ossipee	1,020	18	Portsmouth

Twenty-three gunboats were also ordered to be built by private contract. The dimensions of these boats will be, on the average, as follows:—Length over all, 160 feet; breadth of beam, 28 feet; and depth of hold, 12 feet. They will be pierced for 12 guns, and will carry, in addition, one heavy pivot gun aft, and a rifled gun on the fore-castle.

Five of these have been launched, viz.:

Names.	Where built.	By whom.
Ottawa,	New York,	J. A. Westervelt.
Wissahickon,	Philadelphia,	Thos. Slack.
Seneca,	"	J. Simmonson.
Chippewa,	"	Webb & Bell.
Winona,	"	C. & R. Follin.

Eighteen are in the course of construction, and are more or less advanced:

Names.	Where built.	By whom.
Japania,	Wilmington, Del.,	W. & A. Thatcher.
Wisconsin,	Philadelphia,	John Lynn.
Scioto,	"	John Birley.
Itasca,	"	Hillman & Stroaker.
Unadilla,	New York,	John Englis.
Owasco,	Myrtle River, Ct.,	Mason, Fish & Co.
Kanawha,	R. Hadham,	E. G. & W. H. Goodspeed.
Seneca,	Portland,	Gilchrist & Son.
Canyons,	Boston,	Paul Curtis.
Huron,	"	Curtis & Tilden.
Chocoma,	Saginaw,	Messrs. Sampson.
Saginaw,	Newburyport,	G. W. Jackson, Jr.
Marblehead,	Thomasston, Me.,	A. W. Lawrence.
Kennebec,	Kennebunk, Me.,	A. W. Thompson.
Aronostook,	Portland, Me.,	J. W. Dyer.
Kineo,	Bath, Me.,	Larabee & Allen.
Katahdin,	Belfast, Me.,	C. P. Curtis.
Penobscot,	Baltimore,	J. A. Abrahams.
Pinola,	"	"

In addition to these sloops-of-war and gunboats, seven ball-proof gunboats for the Western rivers are now being built; four at Carondelet, near St. Louis, and three at Mount City, on the Ohio, near Cairo. They are to be ready for delivery at Cairo, on the 5th inst. Their dimensions will be length over all, 175 feet; breadth of beam, 51½ feet; depth of hold, 6 feet. Each boat will mount 16 heavy guns, and will not draw more than 6 feet of water. All the upper portion of the boats, including the machinery, will be covered with 2½ inch iron plates. The cost of the seven will be \$623,000.

**The Expedition to Ocracoke, N. C.**

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* gives the following particulars of Fort Ocracoke, recently vacated by the rebels, and afterwards destroyed by the federal fleet:

On receiving information that the fort at Ocracoke Inlet had been evacuated by the enemy, Capt. Rowan fitted out an expedition, consisting of the crew of the ship's large launch, numbering twenty-two men and six marines, the steamer *Fanny*, with sixty-six of the Naval Brigade, under Lieutenants Tillotson and Bewe, and a howitzer crew from our ship, with axes, sledge hammers, powder, shot, &c., the whole

under command of Lieutenants James G. Maxwell and Thomas H. Eastman.

Our work was about to commence. Taking sledges and axes, etc., on shore, we commenced cracking the trunnions off, so as to render them forever unfit for service; but being such slow work, Lieut. Maxwell directed the gun which had not been spiked to be loaded with solid shot, pointed at the trunnions of a gun and then fired; by this means the work was soon accomplished; and the guns were forever rendered useless. After finishing this work, all the lumber, wheel-barrrows, and about one hundred and fifty barrels were placed under and around the bomb proofs, and at night set on fire, which made the greatest conflagration witnessed since the burning of the Norfolk Navy Yard.

We started at 8 o'clock on Monday morning last, and reached Fort Ooroake, which is situated on Beacon Island, at 11 o'clock. It is about twenty miles below Hatteras Inlet, and thirty miles from Beaufort. It commands the entrance to Ooroake Inlet, is octagonal in shape, and was built by Colonel Morris, in the most scientific and substantial manner; in fact it was pronounced by the officers of the expedition as being far superior to Pickens, and, considering the depth of water, almost impregnable. Why it should ever have been evacuated was a matter of surprise to all who looked upon this splendid monument of engineering; and could only be solved by allowing for the limited supply of water on hand, and the impossibility of procuring a further supply, as there is no well on the island; all the water was brought from Washington and Newbern.

At equal distances inside the fort were the shell rooms, four in number and twenty-five feet square. In the center of the fort was a large bomb-proof, about 100 feet square, and capable of holding 3,000 men. In the center of the bomb-proof is the magazine, protected on each side with three large tanks, ten feet deep, filled with water, which were intended for dropping shell. There were platforms for twenty guns, but in burning the gun carriages before they left, they were partially destroyed. There were four navy shell guns and fourteen long 32-pounders in the fort; two of the guns had been carried off from the entrance of the fort by the steamer Abernethy, and taken to Newbern on the day before we arrived. All the guns except one had been spiked by the Confederates before leaving the fort. All of them had been received from Norfolk, and were marked U. S. 1847. The fort was commenced in May last, and all the free negroes, and as many of the white men of the State as could be spared from military service, were employed in building it. It cost \$200,000.

A light-boat, which had been used by the rebels for a store-ship, and run upon the shore before evacuating the fort, with the intention of subsequently towing her off and arming her, was also set fire to and destroyed.

About a mile and a half from Beacon Island is the village of Portsmouth, which contained, before the bombardment, four hundred and fifty inhabitants, but nearly all had fled to the mainland, so that scarcely a hundred remained in the place. Here a camp, called Camp Washington, had been established, composed of the Roanoke Guards, Tar River Boys, &c., in all about five hundred, who could whip five Yankees each, but who came to re-enforce Fort Hatteras on the morning of the bombardment, and are now safe prisoners of war in Yankee Land. Lying on the beach in Portsmouth were three navy shell guns, and one mounted on a carriage near by. It was the intention of the enemy to have erected a battery, but the sudden visit of our fleet changed their mind, and the guns were subjected to the same course of destruction as those at the Fort.

Beaufort has been cased outside with railroad iron, so as to render it impregnable; ten thousand troops have been quartered in and around it, and it is said to be now one of the strongest forts in the southern part of the United States. To-night another expedition is to start for Oregon Inlet and Roanoke Island, where there are batteries. It is about twenty miles above Hatteras, and is the key to Norfolk. Once in our possession, the whole coast of Virginia and North Carolina is rendered useless to them for the present.

place the same under the command of Gen. Thos. L. Crittenden.

6. Resolved, That the patriotism of every Kentuckian is invoked, and is confidently relied upon to give active aid in the defence of the Commonwealth. Have this day been passed by both Houses of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Governor's objections thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, and are therefore the law of the land, I do hereby issue this my proclamation, enjoining all officers and citizens of this State to render obedience to all the requirements of said resolutions, and in obedience thereto I have ordered Gen. Thos. L. Crittenden to execute the purposes contemplated by said resolutions; and I hereby require all citizens of Kentucky subject to military duty to obey the call which the said Gen. Crittenden may make upon them in accordance with the provisions of said resolutions.

In testimony whereof, I, BERTHIA MALLORY, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the seal of the State to be affixed. Done at Frankfort, this 20th day of September, in the year of Our Lord 1861, and in the 70th year of the Commonwealth.

By the Governor: B. MAGOFFIN.

The 35th Ohio regiment took possession of Ironton, Kentucky, on the 20th ult. The 14th Ohio regiment crossed the river on the 27th, and embarked on the Kentucky Central Railroad for the interior of the State. On the same day the 26th Indiana regiment marched into Louisville. Col. Harris' regiment, the Second Ohio, left Camp Dennison, for Kentucky, on the 28th. They were conveyed a short distance up the Licking, where they will remain encamped for the present.

The following is a portion of a note directed to Col. Blair by the Adjutant-General in St. Louis, by order of Gen. Fremont:—"In consequence of a telegram from your brother, Postmaster-General Blair, followed by a letter asking your release, for public reasons, you are hereby released from arrest, and directed to resume your sword and join your regiment for duty.

The following is the text of the original telegram sent by Gen. Fremont to Washington relative to the surrender of Lexington:

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEPARTMENT, ST. LOUIS, SEP. 23, 1861.

Col. E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General:—Have a telegram from Brookfield that Lexington has fallen into Price's hands, he having cut off Mulligan's supply of water. Re-enforcements, 4,000 strong, under Sturgis, by the capture of the ferry boats, had no means of crossing the river, and Lane's force, from the southwest, and Davis from the southeast, upwards of 11,000 in all, could also not get there in time. I have taken the field myself, and hope to destroy the enemy either before or after a junction of the forces under McCulloch.

Please notify the President.

J. C. FREMONT, Major-General Commanding.

The following account of the siege of Lexington is furnished to the St. Louis Republic by Henry Bradburn, one of Col. Mulligan's soldiers, who left Lexington Saturday morning the 20th ult.

The Fort was surrounded on Friday afternoon. The men fought fifty-nine hours without water, and had only three barrels of vinegar to quench their thirst during all that time. There were no springs or wells of water in the camp ground. The supply was from the river, and was cut off after a desperate fight on Wednesday.

The camp ground consisted of about ten acres, and was located a short distance from the river. There were breast works entirely around it, with the exception of the portion next the river. It was here that the hardest fighting took place. The rebels procured a large number of hemp bales and rolled them in advance, and under their cover gradually succeeded in getting a position in the rear. They then cut off the supply of water, and had the fort completely surrounded.

They made but few charges upon the breastworks. During the entire siege their object seemed to be to surround the fort and cut off the supply of water, and having succeeded in this, they awaited until Col. Mulligan was compelled to yield to a foe more terrible than the 27,000 rebels who surrounded him. After the surrender the rebels, mounted the breastworks and seemed mad with joy. As soon as the surrender took place, a party took down the Federal flag and trailed it in the dust. An immense amount of gold, supposed to be about \$250,000, fell into the possession of the rebels. It was taken from the banks and buried by Col. Mulligan on the camp ground, some time ago, but the rebels speedily unearthed it.

The evening after surrender the men were all released on parole and ferried across the river. The officers were retained. The loss of the enemy is not ascertained, but it is thought to be not less than 1,000 in killed and wounded. The first attack proved more disastrous to them than the long siege which followed. For a day or two prior to the last attack they were engaged in burying their dead.

By a dispatch from Leavenworth, Kansas, dated the 26th ult., we learn that Gen. Lane's command surprised a superior force of rebels at Papineville, Mo., on the 21st, and after a severe fight routed them, losing 17 killed and a large number wounded. The rebels lost 40 killed, 100 prisoners, and all their tents, wagons and supplies. Lane is reported to be moving on Osceola.

The gang of rebels which recently sacked the town of Humboldt, has been defeated by a force from Fort Scott, and their leader, Matthews, killed. On his person was found an order from Ben. McCulloch for the enrollment of the Quappaw Indians. Scouts at Fort Scott report McCulloch, with 15,000 men, to be within thirty miles of Fort Scott on the night of the 21st ultimo.

Gen. Lane has issued a proclamation to the citizens of Western Missouri, in which, after saying for what purpose he is there, and urging those in arms against the Government to disperse and come to him for protection, he uses the following language:

"Should you, however, disregard my advice, the stern vicissitudes of war will be meted out to all rebels and their allies. I shall then be convinced your arming for protection is a sham, and rest assured, traitors when caught shall receive the traitor's doom. The cup has been exhausted. Treason will hereafter be treated as treason.

"The massacre of woman and children, by black hearted traitors lately burning bridges on the St. Joseph railroad, satisfied us that a traitor will perpetrate crimes which devils would shudder to commit. They shall be blotted from existence, and sent to that hell which yawns for their reception. The two roads are open to you. People of Western Missouri! choose ye between them; the one leads to peace and plenty, the other to destruction."

A gentleman who arrived in Washington on the 24th, direct from Kansas, states that the rebels were preparing to make a raid upon that State. They had notified the residents of the southern portion of Kansas of their intention. They assert that they mean to be avenged for the treatment which the border ruffians received during the Kansas difficulties. Proper steps will be taken by the Department of the West, in the premises.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning brings the following interesting items from Kentucky:

Agents are now stationed along the Ohio River, to prevent smuggling of arms into Kentucky.

The Louisville Bulletin says that 500 troops from Terre Haute, Indiana, have gone up Greene River, and taken possession of locks 1 and 3. One shot was fired at them and the fire returned, killing a number of their assailants.

Many Union families had fled to Louisville from the Greene River country.

A regiment of cavalry from Ohio has gone into camp near Covington, on the Lexington pike. Cynthia, Ky., is occupied by federal troops.

It is reported that some of the rebel Gen. Buckner's men were attacked at Mud River, forty miles from Bowling Green, under Col. Hawkins. The rebels were badly whipped. The Union men are coming to Hawkins' aid in all directions, with shot guns and rifles.

The Senate Committee report the arrest of Ewing and others, on unwarrantable ground, and have procured their release. The thanks of the Legislature were voted to the Ohio and Indiana troops for arresting the invasion of Kentucky.

Among the passengers by the train to Jefferson City on the 28th, were the following officers of Col. Marshall's cavalry regiment from Lexington:—Maj. D. P. Jenkins, Capt. James Foster, Paul Waters, John Burnap, and Lieuts. Porter, Yost, Knight and Blair. These officers were released on their parole of honor. They left Lexington on the forenoon of Thursday, coming in wagons overlaid to Sedalia. To their knowledge, up to Thursday, Price had not started any portion of his forces towards this direction, though it could have been done and they have been in ignorance of it.

Capt. Foster was informed on the morning after the surrender, by the rebel Quartermaster, that he had issued that day 34,000 rations, and the Captain thinks that the force has since been increased by additions from the country round about to at least 60,000. He represents that men are flocking in from all quarters. He heard nothing definite in regard to McCulloch's whereabouts. The rebels told him his force was from 10,000 to 15,000. Officers think that McCulloch is moving towards Jefferson.

Price's troops had devastated the country a circuit of over ten miles. Every corn field and mill had been cleaned of their contents. Fields that were a few days ago covered with ripe grain, are now made as bare as a desert. Dwellings that were filled with the comforts and necessities of life have been stripped of their contents. Money, silver-ware, clothing, bedding, and everything was seized, owners insulted and maltreated, and threats made against the lives of all Union men, as well as those who remonstrated against their lawless proceedings.

A few members of Jackson's Legislature assembled in Lexington and had passed an ordinance of secession. When our informant left they were discussing an act of confiscation of property of all persons opposed to C. S. A. Other acts of a very severe character were also under consideration.

The following order has been issued in Kansas:

In accordance with Section 4th, Article 8th, of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, I hereby order every man in the State, between the ages of 18 and 45, capable of bearing arms, to immediately enroll himself in some military company in accordance with the military laws of this State, and each company is hereby ordered to hold itself in readiness for immediate marching orders. Each man will furnish all the arms in his possession. The refusal of any man to obey this order, will be taken as evidence of his disloyalty, and he will be treated accordingly.

J. P. ROOR, Lieutenant and Acting Governor, and Commander-in-Chief.

Department of Western Virginia.

In our last issue we gave a brief statement to the effect that the rebel commander, Gen. Lee, had attempted to force the passes and had been driven back. Herewith we publish Gen. Reynolds' official report:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE I. V. M., ELK WATER, SEP. 17, 1861.

TO GEN. L. HARTSHOFF, Assistant Adjutant General, Department Ohio.

Sir: The operations of this Brigade for the past few days may be summed up as follows:—On the 12th inst., the enemy, nine thousand strong, with eight or ten pieces of artillery, under command of Gen. E. B. Lee, advanced on this position by the Huntersville Pike. Our advanced pickets—portions of the Fifteenth Indiana and Sixth Ohio—gradually fell back to our main picket station; two companies of the Seventeenth Indiana, under Col. Hascall, checking the enemy's advance at the Point Mountain Turnpike, and then falling back on the regiment which occupied a very advanced position on our right front, and which was new ordered in.

The enemy threw into the woods on our left front three regiments, who made their way to the right and rear of Cheat Mountain, took a position on the road leading to Huttonville, broke the telegraph wire, and cut off our communication with Col. Kimball's 14th Indiana Cavalry on Cheat Summit. Simultaneously another force of the enemy of about equal strength advanced by the Staunton Pike on the front of Cheat Mountain, and threw two regiments to the right and rear of Cheat Mountain, which united with the three regiments from the other column of the enemy. (The two posts, Cheat Summit and Elk Water, are seven miles apart by a bridge path over the mountains, and eighteen miles by the wagon road via Huttonville. Cheat Mountain Pass, the former headquarters of the brigade, being at the foot of the mountain, ten miles from the summit.)

The enemy advancing towards the pass, by which he might possibly have obtained the rear or left of Elk Water, was met there by three companies of the 13th Indiana, ordered up for that purpose, and by one company of the 14th Indiana from the summit. These four companies engaged and gallantly held in check greatly superior numbers of the enemy, foiled him in his attempt to obtain the rear or left of Elk Water, and threw him into the rear and right of Cheat Mountain—the companies retiring to the pass at the foot of the mountains.

The enemy, about 5,000 strong, were closed in on Cheat Summit, and became engaged with detachments of the 14th Indiana, 24th and 25th Ohio, from the Summit—in all, only about three hundred—who, deployed in the woods at the foot of Cheat Summit, and the enemy, who did not at any time succeed in getting sufficiently near the field redoubt to give Dunn's battery an opportunity of firing into him. So matters rested at dark on the 12th, with heavy forces in front and in plain sight of both posts, communications cut off, and the supply train for the mountain, loaded with provisions which were needed, waiting for an opportunity to pass up the road. Determined to force a communication with Cheat, I ordered the 13th Indiana, under Col. Sullivan, to cut their way if necessary by the trail road, and the greater part of the 3d Ohio, under the command of Col. Mason and Major, respectively, to do the same by the path—the two commands starting at 3 o'clock A. M. on the 13th, the former from Cheat Mountain Pass and the latter from Elk Water, so as to fall upon the enemy, if possible, simultaneously.

Early on the 13th, the small force of about three hundred from the summit engaged the enemy, and with such effect that, notwithstanding his greatly superior numbers, he retired in great haste and disorder, leaving large quantities of clothing and equipments on the ground; and our relieving forces, failing to catch the enemy, marched to the summit, securing the provision train and re-opening our communication. While this was taking place on the mountain, and, as yet unknown to us, the enemy, under Lee, advanced on Elk Water, apparently for a general attack. One rifled ten pound Parrot gun, from Loomis' battery, was run to the front three-fourths of a mile, and delivered a few shots at the enemy, doing fine execution, causing him to withdraw out of convenient range. Our relative positions remained unchanged until near dark, when we learnt the result of the movement on the mountain, as

above stated, and the enemy retired somewhat for the night.

On the 14th, early, the enemy was again in position in front of Elk Water, and a few rounds, supported by a company of the 15th Indiana, were again administered, which caused him to withdraw as before—the forces that had been before repulsed from Cheat returned and were again driven back by a comparatively small force from the mountain. The 17th Indiana was ordered up the path to open communication and make way for another supply train, but, as before, found the little band from the summit had already done the work. During the afternoon of the 14th the enemy withdrew from before Elk Water, and is now principally concentrated some ten miles from this post, at or near his main camp. On the 15th he appeared in stronger force than at any previous time in front of the Cheat, and attempted a flank movement by the left, but was driven back by the ever vigilant and gallant garrison of the field redoubt on the summit.

To-day the enemy has also retired from the front of Cheat, but to what precise position I am not yet informed. The results of these affairs are that we have killed near one hundred of the enemy, including Col. John A. Washington, Aid-de-Camp to Gen. Lee, and have taken about twenty prisoners. We have lost nine killed, including Lieut. Junod, of the 14th Indiana, two missing, and about sixty prisoners, including Capt. James Bense and Lieuts. Gillman and Shaffly, of the 6th Ohio, and Lieut. Merrill, of the Engineers. I append the reports of Col. Kimball, of the 14th Indiana, Capt. Higgins, of the 24th Ohio, and Lieut.-Col. Owen and Col. Wagner, of the 15th Indiana.

J. J. REYNOLDS, Brig.-Gen. Commanding 1st Brigade. GEORGE S. ROSS, Assistant Adjutant-General.

By telegraph from Grafton, Va., on the 25th ult., we learn that 500 of the 4th Ohio regiment, with one piece of artillery, the Ringgold Cavalry, 75 in number, under Col. Cantwell, and 400 of the 6th Ohio, Col. Hart, made an advance from New Creek on Monday toward Romney. They drove the enemy, 700 strong, out of Mechanicsville Gap on Monday morning, and advancing on Romney, stormed the town, causing the enemy, whose force numbered 1400 infantry and cavalry, to retreat to the mountains with a loss of about 35 killed and a large number wounded. Our loss amounted to five killed and ten wounded.

Department of the East.

On the 24th, a portion of Col. Geary's force had an action with 500 rebels on the Virginia side of the Potomac near Point of Rocks. The rebels were shelled on a high point on the Catochan Mountain and houses at the base. They were driven away by the rifles and battery of Col. Geary, and the houses burned. Several of the enemy were killed and wounded. None of the Federal troops were hurt.

On the 25th, 5,000 infantry, three companies of cavalry, and three batteries left Chain Bridge, under command of Gen. Smith, for the purpose of making a reconnaissance in the neighborhood of Lewinsville, and to obtain forage, &c. The result of the expedition was altogether successful. Several head of cattle and sheep, besides large quantities of hay, corn and oats, in wagons employed for the purpose, were brought into camp. At about 2 P. M., while our troops were at Lewinsville, a large party of rebels, consisting of about five regiments of infantry, a regiment of cavalry and six pieces of artillery, approached from the direction of Fall's Church. They opened on our men with their battery, and their firing was immediately responded to by Capt. Griffin's and Mott's guns. Thirty shots were fired from our batteries, which silenced the rebel cannon, and the enemy immediately retreated to Fall's Church. It is not known what damage is sustained on their side. One man of ours was slightly wounded by the explosion of a shell. The object of the expedition being accomplished, our troops fell back to their original position at the Chain Bridge, bearing with them a man representing himself as aid-de-camp of Col. Stuart, of Va., of the rebel cavalry, who was taken prisoner at Lewinsville. He was dressed as a civilian, with the exception of his hat, which he procured at Bull Run, originally belonging to one of our men.

Recently released prisoners from Richmond represent the Union prisoners there who are wounded, most infamously maltreated by the rebel surgeons, who perform amputations and capital operations where there is not the slightest need, nearly all resulting fatally. The only persons showing any humanity towards prisoners are Georgians and Louisianians. The treatment of Virginia Unionists is stated to be infamous, neither sex nor age being respected.

The steamer Delaware, Capt. Canan, arrived at the Washington Navy Yard about noon of the 26th, with a body of Marines from Philadelphia. The captain reports that the battery at Freestone Point was unmasked. He passed it in the morning, the wood having been all cleared away, and that it opened upon him, firing about seven shots, none of which took effect. They were all good line shots, but either fell short or went over, two just grazing his decks. Capt. Canan says about fifty vessels passed the battery, up and down, but none were fired at but the Delaware.

From the disclosures of a rebel officer, Lieut. Sherburne, who crossed the Potomac on a raft, it is ascertained that the battery on Freestone Point was commanded by H. J. Hartstein, formerly a commander in the U. S. Navy, and that there are two batteries on the Virginia side of the Potomac every two and a half miles from Occoquan to Mathias Point. The river is now considered by naval officers as effectually closed. Our Potomac flotilla is insufficient to clear it of the numerous batteries on its banks. A land force is indispensably necessary, and it is believed that within a few days, perhaps a few hours, the rebels will attempt to cross the lower Potomac into Maryland. They will meet a warm reception, but it may be necessary to strengthen our forces in that direction.

Early in the forenoon of the 28th, the pickets from Gen. Smith's division advanced to and now occupy Fall's Church. Neither this nor the preceding movements met with any opposition whatever, as the rebel army had on Friday night retired from the whole line of their positions near Washington. Upton's Hill, this side of Fall's Church, is included among the points now held by the Federal forces. The works of the enemy at the places they had left were, in a military point of view, almost worthless, being nothing more than rifle pits of common construction.

The advance of General Smith on Fall's Church from the Chain Bridge was accompanied by events of the most deplorable character. Having passed Vanderworks' and Vanderberger's houses, on their way to the former place, and half a mile from it, by some unaccountable blunder, Col. Owens' Irish Philadelphia regiment, in the darkness of the night, mistaking for rebels Capt. Mott's battalion, which was in advance, sustained by Baker's California regiment, Baxter's Philadelphia Zouaves, and Col. Friedman's cavalry, fired a full volley into the forces last mentioned, killing and wounding a large number. The California regiment not knowing whence the firing came, returned it with marked effect.

The horses attached to Mott's battery became unmanageable, and the tongues of the caissons were broken, owing to the narrowness of the road. Lieut. Bryant, having command of the first section, ordered the guns to be loaded with grape and canister, and soon had them ranged to rake the supposed enemy, when word was sent to him that he was in the company of friends. All was excitement, and a long time elapsed before the actual condition of affairs was ascertained, and confidence re-established. Many conflicting stories prevail as to the parties on whom the blame should rest, but Gen. Smith immediately ordered Col. Owens' regiment to fall back to camp.

The killed and wounded of Capt. Mott's battery are as follows:

Killed—Timothy Ray.

Wounded—Corporal Bartlett and private Cilley, who probably died, as they were not only run over by the gun carriages, but trampled on by the cavalry horses.

Of Gen. Baker's California regiment:

Killed—Edwin Morris, Joseph Paschall, Joseph White, and Sergeant Alexander Phillicor.

Wounded—Barry Chitan, slightly in the knee; Sergeant Brands, in the head; Wm. Ogden, also in the head; Timothy Gregory, shot in the leg; R. G. N. Blakely, shot in the thigh; G. W. Martin, Martin Glennin, Luke Budebin, and Atwood Morris.

Baxter's Fire Zouaves—none killed. The wounded are Sergeant Gray, shot in the head; Benjamin Flood, do; Lieut. Sheves, shot in the leg and head; Geo. Hargraves, shot in the leg.

None of the wounds will probably prove fatal. In Col. Ewing's Philadelphia regiment, Sergeant Gillian was killed. The wounded were removed to the hospitals in Georgetown, where they are receiving the best attention.

We received by telegraph this (Monday) morning the following gratifying intelligence:—During last week it was so frequently reported from day to day that our troops had taken possession of Munson's Hill that, when last night this long predicted event took place, it found few believers among those least excited by sensation reports. A personal visit, however, puts the fact beyond doubt. The American flag now floats there. Detachments from Generals Richardson's, Keyes' and Wadsworth's brigades, and Franklin's division, now occupy Munson's Hill, having in command Col. Terry of the 6th Michigan regiment. The rebels have retired about four miles back. All the rebel entrenchments fronting Arlington are abandoned, and are now occupied by the Federals.

Affairs at Washington.

The Cabinet held a long session on the 25th ult., at which the disaster at Lexington to the Federal forces was the subject of discussion. The opponents of Gen. Fremont charged that he could have prevented the necessity of Mulligan's surrender by sending timely re-enforcements to Lexington. Recent advices received from St. Louis by Fremont's friends, however, state that he had no troops to spare, and that it was entirely impossible for him to strengthen Mulligan's position.

Gen. Fremont, a day or two since, made a requisition for \$500,000 to be paid immediately for the commencement of purchases of ordnance and ordnance stores in St. Louis. General Ripley has specially reported upon this application:

1st. That no authority whatever was known in the Ordnance Bureau for General Fremont making the purchases.

2d. That the vouchers accompanying the application show that excessive prices were paid for many of the articles.

3d. There is no evidence from Gen. Fremont's command that these arms have undergone inspection by a United States officer or Army Inspector at all.

Finally, Gen. Ripley reports that unless purchases and expenditures, like those of Gen. Fremont, are regulated and restricted by the War Department, the liberal appropriations of Congress will be wholly insufficient to meet the liabilities that can be rolled up against the Government.

A dispatch went on the 25th from Secretary Cameron to the Governor of Iowa, forbidding the drafting of troops, and expressing his unbounded confidence in the patriotism of the people, and intimating that the policy of the war would be to rely wholly on the popular love of freedom and the military attachment to the Union.

Intercepted letters written by a secession member of the late Maryland Legislature, show that the traitorous members of that body had formed an elaborate scheme for the passage of a secession ordinance, and an attempt to inaugurate an armed rebellion in the State against the power of the Federal Government. The summary measures recently instituted alone saved the State from the horrors of civil war.

Commissions have been issued to the Counts de Paris and Duoc de Chartres, as aids to Gen. McClellan. They expressly stipulated that they will receive no compensation for their services. The following are the names of distinguished foreigners who have entered our service:

Prince Salm-Salm, .....	Prussia.
Colonel Liebenhoff, .....	Prussia.
Lieut. Oscar Brendener, .....	Prussia.
Lieut. Adolphus Vane Tompest, .....	England.
Lieut. Col. Fitzroy de Courcy, .....	England.
Count de Paris, .....	France.
Duke de Chartres, .....	France.
Captain Vegelesck, .....	Sweden.
Captain Holtman, .....	Sweden.
Major W. A. Kirk, .....	Canada.
Colonel R. A. Rankin, .....	Canada.

The Indian Bureau has received information, which it considers satisfactory, that nearly all the Indians who have joined the rebels are half-breeds.

The following important orders have been issued from the Post Office Department:

Ordered, first, that no newspapers or other printed matter be admitted into the letter pouches destined to the Pacific Coast—letters exclusively to be placed therein.

Second—That separate bags be appropriated exclusively to newspapers destined for the Pacific Coast, excluding all other printed matter.

Third—That such letter pouches and newspaper bags be forwarded to California as usual, by the overland route.

Fourth—All other printed matter of every kind destined for the Pacific Coast must be sent in bags to the New York office, there to be delivered to the agents of the Overland Mail Company.

Fifth—Postmasters are requested to comply carefully with these orders until further notice. Any neglect therein to be immediately reported to the appointment officer.

By order of the Postmaster General.

JOHN E. KASON, First Ass't P. M. General.

The State Department has made satisfactory explanations to Lord Lyons in reference to the new passport system. The omission to inform him of the adoption of the new plan was purely accidental.

There was a long session of the Cabinet on the 28th ult., at which Gen. McClellan was present. What was the subject of discussion has not transpired.



ON GUARD.

At midnight, on my lonely beat,  
When shadow wraps the wood and leaf,  
A vision seems my view to greet  
Of one at home that prays for me.

Camp Cameron. Harper's Weekly.

The Story-Teller.

[From Godey's Lady's Book for October.]

JOSEPHA ASHTON'S NEW SILK DRESS.

BY EDITH WOODLEY.

It was late in October, and though the air was keen and frosty without, a bright, flickering fire diffused a genial warmth through the sitting-room of a rambling old farmhouse, which had evidently been constructed with a view to convenience rather than architectural beauty.

The room looked very cheerful in the ruddy glow of the firelight, which searched out every nook and corner, and would have made the one solitary candle in the well-burnished candelstick unnecessary, had it not been that one of the two persons sitting near the fire was busy with her needle. This was Josepha, the only daughter of Joseph Ashton, the proprietor of the adjacent farm, which, though hard and rock-bound, was productive from being carefully cultivated. She was now seated on one side of a small light-stand, while opposite her, in a low rocking-chair, sat a comely-looking woman engaged in knitting a seamed stocking, which had arrived at that hopeful state toward completion called the "toeing off."

The ties which bound the two together—Josepha Ashton and Rhoda Ellis—sitting on either side of the light maple light-stand, were not those of consanguinity. They had first found root in the warm and kindly heart of her who now sat in the low rocking-chair, and who had watched with affectionate solicitude over Josepha's infancy and childhood. She had been in the family ever since Mr. Ashton's marriage, and, on account of Mrs. Ashton's failing health, was soon obliged, in addition to the duties of domestic service, to assume those of the housekeeper, which were carefully and efficiently performed.

"What will George and Josepha do, if you go away," was the question which Mr. Ashton asked her when, soon after the death of his wife, she spoke to him about leaving.

"Sure enough, poor things! what can they do with nobody but a stranger to take care of them, and for them to tell their childish sorrows to?" And, as she spoke, tears sprung to her eyes.

"If you could only stay," said Mr. Ashton.

"I can and will!" And Rhoda Ellis took off her bonnet and shawl in a very decided manner.

The subject was never again mentioned.

There were not wanting those who soon began to whisper among themselves that Rhoda Ellis would make Mr. Ashton an excellent second wife. The subject at last, after being a good many times discussed, was mentioned to her. The way, however, in which it was received prevented it from being renewed whenever she was present.

For the last two years she had been silently and gradually yielding the direction of the household affairs to Josepha, who was now eighteen. Rhoda was very proud of her, and she had reason to be.

"She has the same ways her mother had," she would often say; "and, if she isn't called handsome, her looks suit her."

so noble-minded; he was generous, too. It is true that he was apt to be thoughtless, which caused him in some instances to be too lavish when his father's somewhat straitened circumstances were taken into view; but these indiscretions were readily forgiven.

"I have been thinking," said Rhoda, "that you had better buy the silk for your new gown before long; the last time we were over to the village we saw a piece of silk at Smith's store that would just suit you, and if you don't make sure of some of it soon, it may all be gone."

"I don't know but that I ought to give up having it," replied Josepha.

"Well, I know that you hadn't. You are eighteen now, and there isn't a girl in Mapleton but what thinks she must have a silk gown when she arrives at that age. Even Job Brockle's daughter had one then, though she has to earn every inch of her clothing by going out to work."

Just as she finished speaking, they heard some one enter the outer door, and the next moment that communicating with the sitting-room was unceremoniously thrown open, giving entrance to a lad of fourteen. He was tall of his age, had a thin, freckled face, large gray eyes, and a wide mouth. The habitual cast of his countenance was sad and wistful, but the moment he saw Josepha it was irradiated with a smile, the effect of which was almost magical, so entire was the transformation it wrought in the expression of his features, particularly of his eyes and mouth.

"Thank you, Natty," said she. "Did you get it at the post-office?"

"Yes, sir."

"And you've walked a whole mile this sharp, frosty evening to bring it to me?" And as she spoke she glanced at his thin, insufficient clothing, which exhibited rents so large and numerous as to make it safe to conclude that whoever had the care of it did not realize the truth of the old adage that "a stitch in time saves nine."

"I shouldn't mind going as far as 'g'in," he replied, taking a chair and placing it near one corner of the fireplace, "for the sake of gettin' a few sich words as I'm always sure of if I do anything to oblige you; and as for being cold, what do I care, when jest a glimpse of your face, which always seems to have a whole heap of sunshine in it, makes me feel so glad and warm here"—placing his hand on his side—"that it's enough sight better to me than Mr. Hardley's new greatcoat is to him."

"I don't doubt it a bit," said Rhoda.

"Have you had any supper, Natty?" inquired Josepha, who noticed that his eyes often rested on a covered dish near the fire, containing some hash intended for her father, who had gone to the mill.

"None to speak of; Miss Hardley ain't willin' I should eat much at night, 'cause she says 'twill make me sick if I do, and then there'll be a doctor's bill to pay."

Rhoda Ellis put aside her knitting, for she understood the look which Josepha gave her, and left the room; in a few minutes she returned with a large plate in which were plenty of doughnuts, and a smaller one containing several thick, substantial slices of cheese.

There, said Rhoda, "you must eat all the pie, and as many of the doughnuts as you can; I'll warrant 'em not to hurt you. The cold, frosty air will take care of that."

A longing look at the tempting food, a bashful, sidelong glance at Josepha, who apparently was wholly absorbed in the contents of her letter, and then, taking heart of grace, he no longer hesitated to obey Rhoda's command.

"I told you that you must eat all of the pie," said she, seeing him, in the nice, gingerly manner which he thought so great a delicacy deserved, cut it into two equal parts, one of which he carefully put aside.

"Yes, Natty, eat it all," said Josepha, looking up from her letter.

"Yes, he is. I will read the letter to you." And she read as follows:

"MY DEAR SISTER:—I am passing a few days with Andrew Chester, who, as you have often heard me say, was my room-mate the last two years we were in College. I could not well refuse his pressing invitation, as I would willingly have done, knowing as I did that accepting it would involve the necessity of inviting him to return my visit. I took an early opportunity to request that he would accompany me when I returned home, which he assented to without hesitation, as I very well knew that he would, from certain allusions I had heard him make relative to the charm of those social gatherings peculiar to the country, such as apple-pees, huskings, quilting, etc."

When at home, Aubrey is accustomed to living in almost princely style, which will suggest to you the necessity of doing what you can to make things decent and comfortable, for when the best is done that can be, the contrast will be sufficiently glaring. It is impossible for me to go into the minutiae of what ought to be done, or even what cannot well be left undone. All that sort of thing I leave to the ingenuity of you and our good, kind Rhoda, possessing as I do unbounded faith in the abundance of your resources, which in time of need never appear to fail you, and which in the paucity of my own inventive powers I never should dream of. I will barely name one thing which cannot be omitted; the spare chamber, which, of course, must be appropriated to Aubrey's use, must be papered. It ought to be painted, too; but Rhoda's skill in the art of renovating is such that the painting may possibly be dispensed with. I dare say that paper which will answer the purpose can be obtained over to the village for a dollar a roll.

You may expect to see us in just a week from the date of this letter. I am aware that I ought to have let you know sooner; but, somehow, there have been so many things to engage my attention that time slipped away imperceptibly. I would say a few words relative to the expediency of some addition to your wardrobe did I not know that a girl of eighteen never fails to have such articles of dress on hand as are proper and becoming in a case of emergency."

Thus far Rhoda Ellis had preserved a grave silence, but this allusion to Josepha's dress was so great a tax on her equanimity that she could no longer retain the appearance of composure.

"I should like to know where he thinks the articles come from," said she, with a voice and look of great indignation. "I never knew anybody to be so thoughtless as he is. This is the second time we've got enough together to buy you a silk gown, and now 'twill all have to go into the spare chamber for the sake of one who is a stranger to us, and who has ways and means enough to enjoy himself without coming to such a poor place as this is."

"Don't think about the silk gown," said Josepha; "I gave it up the moment I read the letter, and even before it came I hadn't, as you know, exactly made up my mind about having it."

"But you wanted to have it, for all that; I know all about it." And she gave her head a little toss, a way she had when anything occurred to make her angry, which, to her credit, was very seldom.

Josepha did not contradict her assertion; she did wish for the dress; and not only that, she needed it; but self-abnegation was a virtue which had already become familiar to her, and after a short struggle with that desire which any young girl slightly situated would naturally feel to appear attractive in the eyes of others, she bravely and cheerfully dismissed the subject from her mind.

"On the whole," said she, speaking up in her bright, cheerful way, "it is fortunate that we had some motive for getting the money together. Had it not been so, we should now be without the means of complying with George's request, and the room does want renovating and brightening up. I was thinking the other day, when looking at the dull, lead-colored paper, how gloomy it made the chamber look."

"Well, Aubrey Chester won't care whether it's the color of lead, or of gold. For my part, I think you are of much more consequence than the spare chamber is."

"Oh, I can do quite well with this," and Josepha rose as she spoke, and held up the winter dress she had been making for herself, in which she had set the last stitch. "Only see," she added, "what a warm, rich brown it is!"

"Well, it is a good color, nobody can deny that; and it's a nice fine, soft piece of cloth, too." And as she examined it, the look of good humor which, above all others, was the characteristic trait of her countenance, displaced the cloud hovering over her brow.

A degree of self-complacency, too, might have been observable, and well it might be; for the cloth was of her own manufacture, and colored with moss Josepha had gathered, plenty of which could be found adhering to the large blocks of granite lying round the fields and pastures.

"As there's a good deal to do, and a short time to do it in," said Josepha, "we must set about it at once. If father isn't going to make use of the horse, you and I must go over to the village as soon as we can, after breakfast. I think it will be best to go round by Aunt Sally Farnsworth's—it won't be much further that way—and see if she won't come home with us, and help about papering the room. Aunt Sally is one of those who can turn her hand to anything, you know."

"Yes, and if we can only get that done, I sha'n't care for the rest. If money is hard to get at, where there's a farm as well cultivated as your father always cultivates his, there's no fear but that there'll be a plenty to eat and to drink."

"And that which is good, when you're about," said Josepha; "how is the maple-sugar—isn't that getting low?"

"No, we've a plenty to last till the time comes round to make it again."

"From George," said she. "He says we may expect to see him next Tuesday."

"We shall all be glad to see him." He said this very quietly, but Josepha knew, by the ruddy glow which it sent to his cheek, that the thought of his coming warmed his blood. By the time he had finished his supper, she had, in her own pleasant way, omitting only the allusion to her dress, made known to him the different items contained in the letter.

"I shall be glad—hearty glad to have his friend Aubrey come with him," said she. "Besides, the hospitality which he has accepted, should be reciprocated; but as to the chamber, dingy as it is, I believe it must remain so; I've only the means of raising money enough to pay the taxes, and never in my life, except in case of sickness, have I suffered them to remain unpaid the first time they were called for."

"Papering the chamber is our affair," said Rhoda, who in her secret heart, notwithstanding her recent, somewhat angry demonstration, would have preferred living on bread and water for weeks, rather than to have George disappointed. "As long as I can get well paid for all the knitting I can do," she went on to say, "if it is a slow way of earning money, I guess when added to what Josepha gets by making netting fringe, which everybody, now-a-days, must, to be in the fashion, have to trim the window and bed curtains with, that we can buy a few rolls of room-paper, and have something left in the locker."

"Well, daughter, you and Rhoda can do just as you think best about it," was Mr. Ashton's answer. [To be concluded next week.]

Wit and Humor.

VANITIES FROM "VANITY FAIR."

Literary Lynchings in the South.—The Charleston Mercury announces the "suspension" of a number of S. C. secession papers, and the "cutting down" of two, of the Southern and the Enquirer. V. F. would suggest, as the best course with regard to the editors, that they be suspended and not cut down. Talking of suspension, three or four traitor papers in New York are "hanging by the eyelids."

"Cut this out."—For organizing an army, feeding, clothing, and equipping it, and going into war business, in general, the American people stand a loan.

Something of a Rush.—Which Summer Retreat was the most crowded this season? That from Manassas to Washington.

A Good Name.—We are rejoiced to learn that Mr. G. F. Ketchum has been appointed Quartermaster of the Boston Light Artillery. Many of our contractors need a Ketchum very much, and a few of them a plain Ketch.

How would they like it.—There are a number of heavy guns now in the fortifications on Arlington Heights, and, at the risk of being thought traitorous, we must say that we wish the rebels would take the whole charge of them.

Sentiment by one in the paint business.—"We have got to put the rebels through the mills, don't you see, till we take all the grit out of them."

Southern Notes Depreciated.—According to the Nashville Banner, the treasury notes of the rebel Confederacy are "miserably executed." They are not so badly done as the fools who take them.

How they differ.—The man Jeff. Davis: A reckless one. The privateer Jeff. Davis: One wreck more.

Garments for the Seat of War.—The breaches made by the artillery.

Bail required for the appearance of the Southern Loan.—The Cotton Bale.

Why do our soldiers need no barbers? Because they are regularly shaved by the Government contractors.

What Sambo thinks of Bull Run.—There's victory in de feet.

Corner for the Young.

GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

- I am composed of 28 letters.
My 24, 12, 20 is a river in Asia.
My 28, 8, 10, 14, 8, 17, 23 is a river in Asia.
My 18, 28, 25, 8, 3, 2 is a river in Europe.
My 22, 14, 16, 7, 20, 4 is a river in Asia.
My 15, 1, 23, 25, 11 is a river in Europe.
My 5, 11, 18 is a river in North Carolina.
My 7, 20, 24, 16, 27, 28, 10, 19, 2 is a river in South America.
My 24, 27, 14, 25, 24, 21, 24 is a river in South America.
My whole is a very useful and distinguished work.
Jersey, Ohio, 1861.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS.

- My 1st is to disguise, a pronoun, and a kind of metal.
My 2d is a bird and its beak.
My 3d is the organ of sight and a word denoting brilliancy.
My 4th is a blossom, a preposition, an article, and a space of time.
My 5th is a race of men and a vegetable.
My 6th is a bird and an instrument.
My 7th is a number, an exclamation, and an instrument to measure time.
My 8th is a quadruped and a cover for the hand.
My 9th is elevation, a preposition, and my native State.
My 10th is a flower and a feminine name.
Glendale, Ohio, 1861.

CHARADE.

- My first a baby does when you pinch it.
My second a lady says when she does not mean it.
My third exists and no one e'er has seen it.
My whole contains the world's best half within it.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM.

A PARK is to be surrounded with a walk which shall occupy just 25-64 of the whole number of square rods in the park. What must be the width of the walk, supposing the park to be 16 rods long by 12 wide? Castile, N. Y., 1861.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 610.

Answer to Biblical Enigma.—Have faith in God.
Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma.—David Livingstone.
Answer to Charade.—Count Rod-e-reck.
Answer to Mathematical Problem.—17 feet and 9 inches.

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Blair's Farmer at Home... 25
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Brown's Poultry Year... 50
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