

# MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

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{WHOLE NO. 577.

**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.

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## AGRICULTURAL.

### INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

#### Farmers' Insurance Companies.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I understand that in Europe farmers insure each other, or have mutual insurance companies for protection, not only against fire, but against hail and other destructive storms. They also insure cattle. Now, could not a similar system be introduced here with great advantage?—M. W. J.

INSURANCE COMPANIES of a mutual character have been established among the farmers of England and the Continent as protection against fire, hail, and the loss of cattle and horses by accident or disease. These have not always been successful, and perhaps not sufficiently so to warrant their introduction to this country. Such institutions require to be managed with great care and ability, or confusion and loss is the result, involving members in difficulties from which they would gladly extricate themselves. In insuring against loss by hail, it was found that certain districts were very much subject to loss from this cause, while others were almost entirely exempt. Farmers residing in districts where the loss was apt to be great, were anxious to insure, but those in the districts comparatively exempt could not be induced to unite with their less fortunate brethren. The result was severe losses for the members, which in a few years generally ended in the abandonment of the enterprise. The insuring of cattle was for a time more successful. It was the rule to pay three-fourths the value of any animal that died. It was, however, found that among cattle that were insured, losses were more frequent than among the uninsured, and it began to be pretty generally believed that when an insured animal became sick, the owner did not use proper care to secure its recovery. Again, farmers who took particular pains to keep their animals in a healthy condition, found that they were taxed to pay for the results of the bad management of their careless neighbors, and this feeling did much to make cattle insuring associations unpopular. Then, when any epidemic, such as the pleura-pneumonia, occurred in a certain district, the loss became so great,—calling for such heavy advances from the members of the company,—as to induce many to believe that the best course for them to pursue was to run their own risks and be their own insurers. We do not wish to discourage the trial of these institutions in our country, and present the facts only to insure caution.

#### To Save Manure from the Hen-Yard.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It is understood that hen manure is one of the richest manures we make on the farm; but much of it is wasted, no doubt. What is the best way to keep it for use in the spring? Is it good to mix with ashes, or any other material?—INQUIRER, Wayne Co., N. Y.

We cannot overvalue the manurial product of the hen-house, nor take too much care for its preservation. The hen manure may be mixed with the compost heap and its value be preserved in this way, but we would advise a different course. Every farmer wants a little extra or fancy manure for special purposes, and where there is no guano the next best thing is fowl manure, so we advise that it be kept separate from all other manures. Another advantage of this course is that we are enabled to see its effects and thus form a proper estimate of its value. Keep an old hoe, broom and shovel in the fowl-house. Every day, along in the afternoon, when the droppings from the roost have become somewhat dry, scrape and sweep up all the manure, and place it in barrels. If you have many fowls, it is well to have several old barrels filling at the same time, so as to put only a little in each, and it will become quite dry by the next day, when an addition is made. In this way the manure may be kept dry, and will receive no injury and impart no bad smell; but if it is put away wet, it ferments, loses some of its value, and becomes offensive. The barrels therefore should be kept in a dry place. In the spring this manure will crumble up, and will be found excellent for

placing in the hill with sweet corn, cucumbers, melons, &c., and will give an excellent account of itself. If any portion is moist, it can be saved and used as liquid manure, by placing a few quarts in a barrel of water. It will then be just right for forcing forward young plants to get them out of the way of insects.

#### Planting the Same Crop in Succession.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It is too late to say aught against the rotation of crops. As a general rule, it no doubt is altogether the best practice. But if the manure we put on the soil contains all the elements of the plants grown upon it, why cannot we continue to grow the same crop for a succession of years? Sometimes it is very convenient to do this.—G. W. R., Genesee Falls, N. Y., 1861.

We cannot say if all the elements needed by a plant were furnished in the manure, it could not be grown in the same soil for a succession of years. This may be true in theory, but it would be very unprofitable in practice, as any one's experience will teach him. We cannot always say with confidence that we have furnished in a manure all that a plant needs. Then, it is found by experience, that after a certain crop has been grown upon a piece of land for a year or two, although we may manure as freely as before, the result is not as good as at first; while with a change of crop the most desirable results are witnessed. Our nurserymen find that after growing a crop of apple trees, no amount of manuring makes the land in just the right condition for a second crop, but with ordinary enrichment a good crop of peaches, or other trees, may be grown. Plants of a fine, delicate nature, may be grown in succession much better than those that are more gross. We have known wheat grown upon the same soil for fifteen years, but he who tries potatoes, or turnips, or melons, or squashes, for three or four years, will become satisfied that he is working against nature. Some have supposed that there is an excrement from plants which proves injurious, and finally poisonous, to all of the same variety, while it is not injurious, but, perhaps, beneficial to other plants.

### THE PHILOSOPHY OF FARMING.

#### MANURE-SAVING AND COMPOSTING.

In my last I spoke of the importance of the compost heap, and at the risk of repetition, I will remark that I consider manure the foundation of good farming, and my experience has never taught me any economical method of making, saving, and using manure without composting. This I mean as a general rule, but to it there are exceptions. For instance, if I were planting corn and had a quantity of fresh manure, I would apply it to the crops at once, and not think of composting it for a year. Again, I often find it advantageous to draw fresh manure into the field in the winter during sleighing, leaving it in convenient piles, and spreading as soon as the ground is dry enough to get upon it with comfort and without injury to the soil. When manure is in small piles, or spread during winter, it undergoes no fermentation and no change of any kind. Manure spread in the fall may be raked together in the spring, when it will begin to ferment and heat, and be excellent for hot-beds, showing that no fermentation took place during the winter. I know of no objection to this course except in sloping land, where some of the valuable properties would be washed away. I believe the compost heap to be as important as the granary or the barn. It does not follow, however, that because a farmer needs a granary and barn, that everything must be stored before being used or disposed of.

Suppose a farmer has a hog or an animal die, or shoots a sheep-killing dog, or loses a good many chickens with the croup—is it good economy to bury them? No, sir, put them in the proper storehouse of fertilizing materials, the compost heap, along with muck and scrapings, weeds and leaves, and in a little while they will make you a rich dish of which you will have reason to be proud. In this way you can turn them into excellent sweet corn and cabbage, or almost anything else you may desire. Some of my readers may think that I am pressing this matter rather more than its importance demands, but those who do not know should learn, and those who do know should remember, that the carcass of a hog weighing one hundred and seventy-five pounds contains about as much of the most important fertilizing elements as two tons of good stable manure, and that of a cow weighing five hundred pounds about as much as six tons of manure. Now, no sensible farmer would throw away this quantity of stable manure, yet my observation leads me to believe that very many farmers waste the richest manures produced on their premises. But the flesh of animals cannot be placed near the roots of plants without doing injury, nor can it be spread over a large surface. In this, and in many other dilemmas in which the farmer finds himself placed, the compost heap affords just the assistance needed.

The compost heap, again, permits the farmer to prepare special manure for particular crops or soils. This matter is studied and understood by the gardener. He prepares the soil and manure necessary for each class of plants, having discovered that what is good for one, is poison for another. The farmer might give some attention to this subject with profit. To illustrate this point I will state my experience at top-dressing grass land. I have found that fresh manure is of comparatively little benefit for such a purpose. For grass I want a compost that will dis-

solve in water, so that it will wash down among the roots by the rains in the form of liquid manure. Then, I want it so that when it dries it will not cake, like clay or cow manure, but will separate and crumble to a powder. After I apply this top-dressing to grass, if the weather is showery I do nothing, but as soon as it becomes dry, I pass over the field with a brush drag, which divides it and spreads it as evenly over the soil as if sown by a machine. Now any farmer can make such a compost, and can test its qualities in these respects before applying to the soil.

As I have no favorite theories to inculcate, and only wish to present the truth, I will state that without care there is a great loss of valuable elements when manure is allowed to ferment in the pile, and even when the greatest precautions are taken the loss is considerable. One hundred weight of fresh manure when it is well rotted will weigh but fifty or sixty pounds. A good portion of this loss is water, but the loss of valuable matter which escapes in the form of gas is by no means small. To prevent this escape, charcoal dust, common earth and swamp muck, are the most effectual. After mixing any or all of these materials with the manure in the heap, cover the whole with about six or eight inches of earth. But, I think the farmer should so arrange things as to have every ounce of manure he possesses, old or new, placed upon the land before planting in the spring.

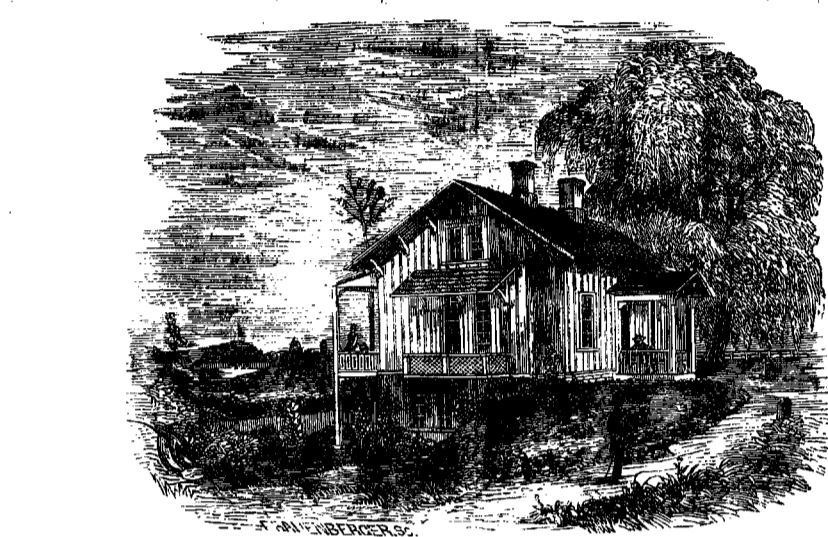
Of stable manure I need not speak at length, and will only notice a few facts. Horse manure will ferment and become burned and worthless sooner than any other, except, perhaps, that of sheep, and there is no manure quicker, or sooner, in its effect, if well saved. Cow manure contains a good deal of water and does not readily ferment, and if allowed to dry is not easily disintegrated and distributed. It is also slow in its operation, and consequently lasting. There is a mechanical difference in the manure of different animals, but as a general rule its value depends upon the food the animal receives. No cow can make a rich manure from a straw stack, and if a horse was fed from the same straw pile, I think there would be very little difference in the quality of the manure. But feed the cow plenty of meal and her manure would be richer than that of the horse from the straw. We all know the manure of fowls is exceedingly valuable, and it is because they feed on grain and animal matter which they obtain in the form of worms, insects, &c. Guano is the richest manure we have, because it is produced by birds that feed exclusively on fish. Admitting this principle, which cannot be disputed, I ask every farmer to take especial care of the richest manure produced on his farm.

To save and gather manure usually considered of little account is an important matter. All the liquid manure should be preserved, and this is so important that it is worthy some labor and expense for its accomplishment. The slops from the house should be saved, and every farmer should provide some convenient arrangement for doing this, otherwise it will not be done. The muck from a swale or swamp is exceedingly valuable for mixing with manures, but I have never found great advantage from its use in a crude state. A noxious weed is as valuable when rotten as the most desirable plant. Those whose farms are situated near large villages or cities can obtain fertilizing materials cheap. Ashes from soap factories I have drawn and used with very satisfactory results. The waste from woolen factories is exceedingly rich. It is estimated that twenty-two pounds of woolen rags are equal in value to one thousand pounds of stable manure. The common refuse from the factories is not as valuable. I never bought cheaper manure than I obtained several years ago from the button factories and comb-makers. It consists of turnings and scrapings of horn and bone. From the manufacturers of glue, a manure consisting of hair, bones, lime, pieces of hide, &c., can be obtained, and I have made arrangements to give this a trial another season. Every farmer who is on the look-out, can, in most sections, find means to obtain good manure at a reasonable rate. CERES.

### FEED THE STOCK WELL.

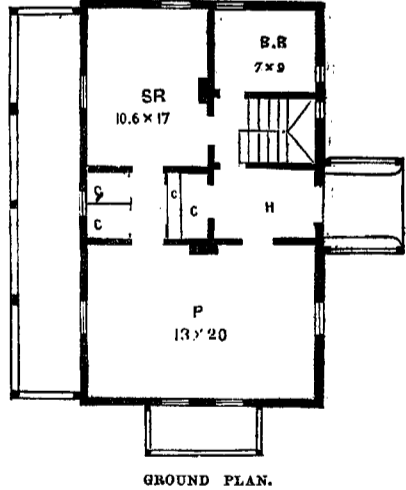
MR. RURAL:—I notice that our friend, H. T. B., has not yet got it digested, that feeding cattle and sheep so that they keep improving the year round is the true policy; and he appears to fear for trade and commerce if the sheep and cattle are fed so much grain as I propose. I have always supposed H. T. B. was only a farmer and a Major. Now I say let farmers look out for themselves, and never mind trade and commerce, as trade and commerce will only help the farmers so far as it is to the interest of those engaged in trade and commerce. I don't like to call H. T. B. a fog, but I must say I think he is in the mist, else he would understand that by feeding stock better, so that they keep growing every day as long as they are kept by the farmer, they would not only pay the farmer, but they would make a great deal more manure and that of far richer quality, and in a few years the State would produce double the quantity of corn, oats, barley, and hay, it now does. Then the Major would not be alarmed for trade and commerce.

I would ask the Major what has so largely increased the crops of grain and grass in England and Scotland for the last thirty years. Is it not draining and dung? Yes, it has been draining and dung that has done it, and nothing else. Now make the same applications to the land in this State (N. Y.). I know,



DESIGN FOR A HILL-SIDE COTTAGE.

Most of the plans we have given for houses, of late, have been designed for level sites, but some of our readers may find it convenient, or necessary, to build on uneven ground, or hill-sides, and for the benefit of such we present a plan for a Hill-Side Cottage, with some suggestions on the advantages of such sites, from Village and Farm Cottages, by CLEVELAND & BACKUS. When judiciously selected and properly built upon, such sites have many advantages,—such as plenty of air, thorough drainage, elevation above the miasmas which often float over the lowlands, fine views, and basements well lighted and ventilated. Basements, as they are usually made, more or less beneath the surface of the ground, are our aversion. Too often they are damp, almost always ill-ventilated. If city houses must have them, they should rank, and generally do rank in the class of necessary evils. The man's sanity might almost be doubted, who should put a basement to his house in the country. But it often happens that the form of surface and nature of the ground are such as allow the two sides or ends of a house to be of different depths, thus admitting entrance from without on two floors. In some families, such a division of the house divides also its duties and labors to great advantage. To give such a story its highest value and avoid the needless use of stairs, it should contain all the rooms and appliances needed for the labor of the household. The apartments should be entirely above ground, well lighted and ventilated. The ground outside should be lower than the floor, and should descend from the house, not only for drainage, but to prevent the settling within of the denser gases and vapors.



GROUND PLAN.

The floor should be elevated somewhat above the ground, and the side walls should be "furred off" with wooden strips to which the laths are to be nailed, thus forming an air-chamber between the outside stone and the inside plastering. The cellar, back of the rooms, should be separated from them by an airtight partition, and well ventilated, to prevent the intrusion into the house of its damp or impure air. A due regard to health demands the use of every precaution to secure dryness, to retain warmth, and to exclude those insidious vapors, charged with disease and death, which are wont to gather in dark and low places.

Such a story should be a real story, not a low, mean, back place, but a respectable portion of the house. Let the door be screened if necessary, and

let the whole be made pleasing by the judicious disposition of flower and vine, and shrub and tree. Houses thus built cannot easily be regular in form and arrangement. Nor is it desirable that they should be. In placing such a structure, the surface, rather than boundary of the ground, should be consulted. The house must be fitted to the declivity, even though it do not conform exactly to the street.

The hill-side plan shown in engraving, is meant for a position below the road. The principal front is therefore on the higher side. Gentle wells by some valley side, or on the outer margin of a plain, often furnish sites well adapted to this plan. To make it harmonize with such a spot it is made broad and low.

The internal arrangement, as shown by the plans, needs but little explanation. The windows opening on the veranda and on the small balcony at the end, are long, and are hung on hinges. The basement has a fuel cellar, F, a vegetable cellar, V, C, a closet, C, and the important rooms, L, R, and K. In the attic plan there are four bedrooms and as many closets. These rooms are ten feet high in the highest part, and but two feet and nine inches at the side; a result which is due to the lower pitched roof.

The stairs are of a compact form, and occupy but little space. The position of the upper flight of stairs determines that of the lower, and makes necessary the recess in the stone wall, as shown by the basement plan. Where so close a calculation is required, as in this case, a small alteration in one part of a staircase, without a corresponding change in some other, may just spoil the whole thing. Indeed, few changes in a plan are safe, or likely to be successful, unless they are considered with minute and judicious reference to every other part; and this is about equal to original planning—a thing more easily talked of than done.

The position, on the whole, most eligible for this house, is one in which its shaded side should face the west, and its parlor windows look out upon the south. The road might wind round the southern end, with a sufficient space between for shrubbery and lawn, while the garden might stretch down toward the vale.

Upright boarding is the proper covering for the sides of this building, though clapboards might be used, if especially preferred. Height of basement, 7 feet. Main story, 8 feet 6 inches. Cost, \$1,375.

and every farmer that has tried knows, draining and dung have the same effect here,—of largely increasing the products from the land,—and that of every thing the land produces. Drained and dunged land produces more grain, more milk, butter and cheese, more beef, mutton, and wool; in fact, more of every thing. Cattle and sheep don't lose more flesh from 15th November to 1st of December, than any month in the year on drained and dunged land, as they do where the Major lives, where the cattle have to live on straw and frosted corn stalks. On drained and dunged land we cut up our corn before the frost kills the stalks. I am afraid it would give me the dyspepsia if I had nothing else to feed my cattle but straw and frosted corn stalks. I wish the Major would come here immediately, and I will show him what good keeping does. I have 146 sheep that have gained on the average twenty-five pounds each, from 17th October last until this day (17th January). I have last spring's lambs that have gained over sixteen and a half pounds, each, in same time. I tell you, Major, it never paid me to keep stock unless I improved them; and if you could learn me how to make money by keeping on straw, I might save a great deal of grain and oil cake, which would go to help trade and commerce. I have no doubt I have fed five hundred tons of oil cake meal in the last twenty-two years, which would hurt commerce a little, as no doubt, had I not bought it, it would have been exported to England.

Now, Major, go right at advocating a higher grade of feeding. Of course higher manuring must be the result; and don't help trade and commerce until you have helped your brother farmers to show what good

Rural Notes and Items.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, AND A SUGGESTION.—Thanks, most sincere, to those who...

A COMPREHENSIVE REQUEST.—One C. F. C., of Gibson Co., Tenn., writes:—“Please send me a specimen of the RURAL NEW-YORKER...”

DEVONS FOR CALIFORNIA, &c.—We learn that Messrs. Jones and Wm. S. Corp., of Freetown, Portland Co., (of whose firm the Rev. Devoys we have made favorable mention in the RURAL NEW-YORKER, have recently sold several pure Devons to...

GREAT TURKEY STORY.—A correspondent at Quindaro, Kansas, furnishes the following singular story:—“Last spring I had three turkey hens, but no gobbler, and they laid their first lot of eggs before I could get one. These eggs were taken from the turkeys, and given to other hens, without my knowledge, and when I was told the fact, I grumbled a good deal at the loss of the eggs, for I was confident they would not hatch, and I wanted them for the table. But, to my great surprise, in due time every one produced a turkey. Now, the wonder is, how did these eggs become impregnated? No male turkey could have been with them. Do turkeys possess a double sex? Will some one learned in such matters explain?”

GOOD YIELD OF MANGEL WURZEL.—A correspondent writes us that Des. AMASA HOLMES, of Homer, N. Y., grew last season a crop of Mangel Wurzel yielding nine bushels per square rod, or at the rate of 1,440 bushels per acre. “He had several hundred bushels, and never fails in growing enough to feed his stock—keeping them in good health and thriving well. He has wintered hogs successfully on these and sugar beets. Des. H. finds it advantageous to dress the ground with clean manure, and generally continues the cultivation of the same plot for several years. His soil is a clay loam, not naturally very productive.”

HOW TO OBTAIN ENGLISH AGL JOURNALS.—A California subscriber inquires how he can best procure some of the English Agri Journals, and whether we can give the address of a reliable party who will receive and forward subscriptions. For the benefit of our correspondent, the information of others interested, and the good of the cause, we will do a little free advertising by stating that Messrs. SAXTON & BARKER, 247 Book Publishers, 25 Park Row, New York, are agents for most of the English and other foreign agricultural journals. They are reliable, and usually very prompt in business transactions, as we can attest.

Doings of Agricultural Societies.

NEW YORK LOCAL SOCIETIES.—THE ONONDAGA Co. AG. SOCIETY, located in one of the best agricultural districts in the State, has been disbanded! Cause,—a debt of only \$1,800! This must be humiliating to the enterprising and progressive farmers of Onondaga, unless there is a more potent reason than the one assigned. They ought to have more “pluck” than to “give it up,” and we hope the “sober, second thought” will induce active worthy of themselves and the rich county they inhabit.

WESTCHESTER Co.—Officers: President—HENRY KRELER, Westboro. Cor. Secretary—James Wood, Bedford. Rec. Secretary—John Cowan, White Plains. Treasurer—James Armstrong, White Plains.

COLUMBIA Co.—Officers: President—NORTON S. COLLINS, Hillsdale. Secretary—Abraham Ashley, Chatham Four Corners. Treasurer—J. S. Shuffel, Chatham Four Corners.

OTSEGO Co.—Officers for 1861: President—ALFRED CLARKE, Springfield. Vice President—Charles J. Stillman, Cooperstown. Treasurer—G. Fomeroy Keese, Cooperstown.

LENOX F. & M. ASSOCIATION (Maiden Co.)—Officers for 1861: President—FRANKLIN M. WHITMAN. Vice Presidents—E. C. Saunders, James H. Woodford. Secretary—I. N. Messenger. Treasurer—T. F. Hand. Balance of \$224 on hand.

VERMONT STATE AG. SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was held at Rutland on the 10th ult. Officers for 1861: President—H. H. BAXTER, of Rutland. Vice Presidents—Edwin Hammond, of Middlebury; Henry Keyes, of Newbury; J. W. Colburn, of Springfield; John Jackson, of Brandon. Recording Secretary—Charles Cummings, of Brattleboro. Cor. Secretary—Daniel Needham, of Hartford. Treasurer—J. W. Colburn, of Springfield. Additional Directors—Frederick Holbrook, of Brattleboro; L. B. Platt, of Colchester; David Hill, of Bridport; H. S. Morse, of Shelburne; D. R. Potter, of St. Albans; G. B. Bush, of Shelburne; Elijah Cleveland, of Coventry; H. G. Root, of Bennington; Nathan Cushing, of Woodstock; John Gregory, of Northfield; George Campbell, of Westmpster. The Society has a balance of \$3,635.08.

“It dried the best and brightest wood he ever cut.” It is the practice to cut nearly all timber in the comparative leisure of winter; but there is no doubt that it would be better to pay a higher price to have it done in summer. We would especially invite observation and attention to the subject.

Rats Afraid of Powder.—H. H. BALLARD, Owen Co., Ky., writes to the American Agriculturist, that with one-fourth pound of gunpowder he can keep every rat from his premises for a year. “The powder is not used to drive a bullet or shot through the animals, but is simply burned in small quantities, say a teaspoonful in a place, along their usual paths, and at the holes where they come out, with proper precautions to prevent accidents from fire.” He says he has proved its efficacy by repeated trials. The rat has a keen sense of smell, and if he has sense enough to know that he is not wanted when he perceives the odor of the burnt powder, the remedy will be of great value. Let our readers experiment and report if the value of this method can be rat-ified.

Winter Care of Cattle.—A WRITER in the Germantown Telegraph gives the following as his mode of wintering stock:

How many farmers there are who, towards the close of winter, complain of being short of fodder and are compelled to purchase hay at high prices to carry their stock until pasture time. I know from experience what this is, and find it does not pay. There are two causes and also two remedies for this state of things, viz:—Too heavy a stock and too wasteful feeding. For the former the remedy is obvious; for the latter, a great many farmers have not yet discovered a preventive; but go on in the old way of feeding in common square racks in the yard, either corn-fodder, straw, or hay. Here is where the loss occurs, and did every farmer know the great gain there would be in cutting up everything he feeds, instead of feeding it whole, there would be no more complaints of “short of fodder.” I have tried it and find I can winter ten head of cattle on cut fodder now, where I only wintered five head last year, and what is more, keep them in better order! I feed in the yard, in troughs six feet long, eighteen inches deep and two feet wide at the top, sloping to one foot at the bottom. My cattle eat it up clean—hard butts, stalks and all; and one ordinary bundle of fodder, such as would be generally given to a steer at one meal,—lasts an animal a whole day.

Another advantage is, my manure is all short, easily handled in the spring when I heap it up under the sheds, and I am not bothered by the long corn stalks all through it. Cattle prefer their fodder cut, and will eat it more quietly. The same saving may be accomplished in the stable, by cutting the hay fed to horses, cows, &c. They soon learn to like it better than long hay, and then they can waste none. Let every farmer who has not tried it, and who has been worried to know how to get his cattle through the winter rightly without buying hay, try this plan, and if he does it right, he will never regret the outlay for the cutter.

Inquiries and Answers.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THE PIGS?—Can some of your correspondents tell me, through the RURAL, what to do for my pigs? They breathe hard for ten days or two weeks, then the ears and nose turn black, and they die. They do not swell or choke up. A. B., Tullahoma, Ohio, 1861.

PULLING AT THE HALTER.—Will some of the RURAL readers tell me how to cure a horse of pulling at the halter? I have a fine mare that will, perhaps, once in a hundred times, pull tremendously. Now, it is not pleasant always to hitch with a large rope around the neck to be prepared for this pulling. She is a spirited animal, but otherwise kind and does not pull because she is frightened.—NIAGARA, Niagara Co., N. Y.

GRINDING CORN AND COB TOGETHER.—Is it hurtful to Cattle?—Will RURAL editors answer the following questions, or permit some of their numerous subscribers to do so in their journal? Is corn ground, cob and all, injurious to cattle? Which is worth the most for feed, both ground together, or the same corn ground separately?—A SUBSCRIBER, Ohio.

We have heard farmers complain of injuries received by feeding corn and cob ground together, and we have also heard practical men claim that the most advantageous mode of feeding was in this condition. As “Subscriber” wishes RURAL readers to give their views, he will doubtless be gratified.

SCAB ON THE EYE-LIDS OF CATTLE.—Noticing in the columns of the RURAL for January 6th an inquiry for a remedy for the above named disease, I would say to W. W. CHAPMAN, take fine gunpowder, (if not fine, make fine), mix with hog’s lard, rub on the parts affected twice or three times, and it will effect a cure. I have known it to come out on different parts of cattle, and go through a whole herd.—E. D. LEWIS, Jasper, Steuben Co., N. Y., 1861.

WITH regard to the inquiry of W. W. CHAPMAN, in the RURAL of January 5th, respecting scab on the eye-lids of cattle, we have found that salting very often is the preventive, and I presume would effect a cure.—J. M. EDGERTON, Watson, Allegan Co., Mich., 1861.

PROTRUSION OF THE RECTUM IN SWINE.—I have a hog that is troubled with the main passage of the body, or alimentary canal, protruding, and bleeding profusely at times. I have tried lanced oil in her feed, but it does not effect a cure. Will you, or some of your readers please inform me, through the RURAL, what I must do, and much obliged.—A SUBSCRIBER, Demerits, N. Y., 1861.

This difficulty is somewhat frequent in young pigs, and is often fatal. It is most prevalent in towns or cities, particularly where a considerable animal food is given to the animal. It may also be produced by violence. Keep the pig clean and quiet, and deny all food, with the exception of a little milk, before returning the rectum. Secure the pig carefully, wash the parts, replace the gut, at the same time pushing it up a little distance. Double some strong thread, pass through the anus, and fasten in a knot. No solids should be given for several days, but keep the animal mostly on milk.

SCOURS IN CALVES.—Will the editors of the RURAL be so kind as to give me a recipe for the scours in calves? I have one that has been troubled since last fall, and can hear of no cure.—P. FROST, Farm, Danville, N. Y., 1861.

Much acidity in the stomach and bowels attends this disease, therefore it is necessary to get rid of it, first of all, by the administration of a mild purgative, and afterwards by the exhibition of chalk, or some other medicine with which the acid will readily combine. Two ounces of castor oil, or three ounces of Epsom salts, may be given. Opium, in some form or other, must always be united with the chalk. It is of no use to get rid of one complaint when others are lurking and ready to appear. It will not be sufficient to neutralize the acidity of the stomach; the mouths of the vessels that are pouring out all this mucus and blood must be stopped; and we have not a more powerful or useful medicine than this. It acts by removing the irritation about the orifices of the exhalant vessels, and when this is effected, they will cease to pour out so much fluid. Other astringents may be added, and carminative mingled with the whole to recall the appetite, and rouse the bowels to healthy action. The following medicine will present the best combination of all these things: Take prepared chalk, two drachms; powdered opium, ten grains; powdered catechu, half a drachm; ginger, half a drachm; essence of peppermint, five drops. Mix, and give twice every day in half a pint of gruel.

This will be the proper dose for a calf from a fortnight to two months old. If the animal is older, the dose may be increased one-half.

DR. DADD, in his Diseases of Cattle, says that when sucking calves are under treatment, the mother should have a few doses of the following compound:—Finely powdered charcoal, 8 ounces; lime water, 4 ounces; tincture of Matico, 2 ounces; water, 1 pint. Divide into four parts, and give one portion every four hours. The same may be used for calves, only in smaller quantity.

as man—they did not know how to repel it. It was found enshrouded in its cocoon in the interstices of the straw, and it was supposed to have been nourished and bred there, the same as it is supposed by many now to be bred in the cracks and flaws of the wood hive, instead of among the combs, where it usually does all its mischief before leaving to find a place to spin a cocoon. The straw hives, from the nature of the material used, was thought to afford too many hiding places for the worm, and were accordingly discarded for those made of wood, which in this respect were much better. But at the present time straw is not objectionable in this respect; such hives are troubled no worse than others. The moth is not as persevering as formerly, or the bees are more so.

The second reason why they have been discarded—perhaps I might better say, why they have not again come into general use—is the form of the hive. The round, conical shape, gradually terminating in an obtuse point, gives no chance for using the surplus boxes. As the only inducement to be culture, with most people, consists in surplus honey, a hive affording no facilities for obtaining it, must of necessity be discarded. When the colonies failed that we had in these hives, we did not restore them on that account.

I know one bee-keeper who still adheres to these hives, putting the early swarms and prosperity of the bees before any of the advantages of box honey. I know another who expended some three hundred dollars in constructing wood hives to answer the same purpose of those made of straw. He conceived the principle to be in the greater warmth afforded to the bees. To make wood answer instead, he made them double, enclosing a dead air space between the outer and inner hive. Many others—including a patentee of a movable comb hive—have used and recommended hives made on this principle. But all these efforts are only partially successful. As soon as bees are enclosed with an air tight covering to secure the warmth, the moisture accumulates, and their combs mold. If an opening is made to secure upward ventilation to carry off this moisture, a part of the animal heat goes with it, and the gain by a double inclosure is very little. On the other hand, the straw hive absorbs the moisture as generated, the upward ventilation may be avoided, and the needed warmth will remain with the bees. The advantages, then, appear to be in the material—not the hive, or the manner of making it.

Mr. LANGSTROBE, speaking of materials for making hives, says: “Straw hives have been used for ages, and are warm in winter and cool in summer. The difficulty of making them take and retain the proper shape for improved bee-keeping, is an insuperable objection to their use.”

I think I have shown satisfactorily, that straw is the best material for bee-hives, if the shape could be adapted to our wants. I have taken this trouble for the purpose of calling attention to this subject. When there is a demand, a supply should be forthcoming. Now we bee-keepers want a straw hive adapted to improved bee culture. I have recently thought much on this matter, and have actually constructed a hive adapted to the movable frames, and have put bees into it as an experiment this winter. But as I am not particularly gifted in making improvements in bee-hives, it is not at all probable that I have the best plan. I wish to induce some of our Yankee ingenuity, that is now wasted on worthless patent contrivances, to take another direction, where there may be some benefit. M. QUINBY, St. Johnsville, N. Y.

Straining Honey and Making Beeswax.

BRAKE up the comb in small pieces, have ready a small tin pan, the bottom perforated with small holes, a leaky one will answer. This makes an excellent strainer for many purposes. Fill the pan half full of comb, place this in a larger pan elevated three or four inches from the bottom by small blocks of wood, and place the whole in a stove oven, upon a couple of common bricks. Let the temperature be of sufficient heat to bake common ginger cake. In a short time the honey will have drained through nicely, also most of the beeswax. Remove carefully to a cool place, and let it remain till perfectly cold. The wax has now formed a solid covering for the honey, which you can easily remove and mold to your fancy. The comb that remains in the strainer throw into an iron kettle, and when you have finished straining honey, add a pailful of water to your kettle of comb, and place the whole over a hot fire. Boil about five minutes, then strain through your tin strainer into a tub of cold water. When cold, skim off the wax, and melt it. Press it through a coarse linen cloth, and you will see beeswax worth having. A friend at my elbow says I have made sixty or seventy pounds of beeswax in one season, and sold several hundred pounds of honey, and thinks it pays better than anything else a farmer of small means can do. MABIE, Lansingville, N. Y., 1861.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

The Potato Disease.—A CORRESPONDENT of the Bristol (English) Times draws attention to a method employed in Russia to prevent the potato disease. Professor Bollman, of St. Petersburg, planted some potatoes which had been accidentally dried near a stove till they were so greatly shriveled that it was thought they would be quite useless for seed. They grew, however; and while all the other potatoes in the neighborhood were very much diseased, these remained sound. The Professor afterwards adopted the principle of drying his seed potatoes at a high temperature, and the plan has never failed. His example was followed by various other persons, with the same success; and on many estates drying houses have now been built to carry on the process. It is said that the progress of the disease on potatoes partially attacked is completely checked by the heat. The experiment is very simple, and it has this advantage—it may be tested without any serious amount of trouble or loss.

Time for Cutting Timber.

We have been long satisfied, says the Country Gentleman, that the best time to cut timber is in summer, if it is not left in the log, but is immediately worked up into boards, rails, or whatever is intended. It dries rapidly, and becomes hard and sound. Cut and saw basswood in summer, and in a few weeks it will become thoroughly seasoned, and will finally harden so as to almost resemble horn. Cut it in winter, and it will be so long in seasoning as to become partly decayed before the process can be completed. No doubt, the presence of the water or sap in great abundance in winter, and especially towards the latter part, hastens this incipient decay. Rails cut and split in summer, and the bark peeled to hasten drying, have lasted twice as long as winter cut rails. A correspondent of the New-England Farmer says he cut and split a chestnut tree early in summer, and

the day, which defies all that satire or ridicule may invent to make its use unpopular.

Now, in view of all the inventions above noted, which had their origin in this century, I would ask H. T. B. if something creditable to the age has not been done to lighten the toils of woman, and give her more time for mental culture; and if we, as a nation, have not reason to be proud of our rapid improvement in science, mechanics, arts, and intellectual culture. Religion has elevated woman to be our equal in all that ennobles, beautifies, and adorns social life, making every man’s fireside who wills it, and who will make the least sacrifice to obtain it, a perfect oasis in life’s desert. H. Mexico, N. Y., 1861.

CRIBBING HORSES.—AGAIN.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In your paper of the 12th ult., I saw a quotation “About Cribbing Horses.” Having been troubled some with such horses, and having successfully removed the habit in a number of cases, I feel disposed to let what light I have on the subject shine, for Mr. FULTON’S benefit, as well as your readers generally. Possibly, however, it may be but an old light.

I regard cribbing as a habit, not a disease, nor symptomatic of disease. It may originate from improper or irregular feeding, but all the cases that have come under my own observation, I have invariably traced to association with other cribbing horses. Therefore, I believe that the habit is acquired by allowing horses to associate with a cribber, or even to be stabled together. The horse I now have was perfectly free from this habit a few months ago, and had never cribbed previously. A cribber was then placed in the next stall, and in one week’s time my horse was proficient in the art, and actually preferred to stand and crib all night than to lie down. I allowed him to become through master of this habit before the old cribber was removed. My horse then understood the business better than any other horse I ever saw. He had improved on his teacher, and learned three new ways of cribbing, viz.—with his under jaw or chin, his mouth being shut,—with his nose by pressing it against the wall; and, lastly, by bearing down with the end of his nose, or with his teeth, his mouth being shut, against the bottom of the crib. These additional ways he learned after I had tied his jaws together to prevent the old method of cribbing with the upper front teeth. I then took a small strap and buckled it around his neck, close to his head, and kept tightening it till he could not crib; that is, could not force air down his throat. I had him wear that strap day and night for a month, and he has not cribbed since it was removed, nearly four weeks. I have never known this remedy to fail where it was sufficiently persevered in.

This habit is, I think, almost, if not entirely, limited to the Northern States; for during a three years’ residence in the Southern Confederacy, (?) I never saw a cribbing horse. The habit appears to consist in filling the stomach with air, and the strap prevents this. Should this communication throw any light on the subject, I shall be glad, as many fine horses are ruined by this obnoxious habit. It is as disagreeable to horse fanciers as “snuff-dipping” among the ladies is to a Broadway dandy.

This town is largely engaged in cabinet manufacturing—not Mr. LINCOLN’S Cabinet—but bureaus, &c. Business is about as brisk as ever. We have nearly a foot of snow and fine sleighing. Long life to the RURAL. J. H. SANBORN, Reading, Mass., 1861.

[If Mr. S. will furnish the list proposed in his note, it will be a gratification to circulate the documents to which he refers. We are certainly obliged to him for his expressions of appreciation.—EDS.]

BUTTER-MAKING IN WINTER.—I have long thought I would communicate my experience in butter-making in winter to the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and you may throw it under the table if not acceptable to you. I set my milk without warming, in a cool milk room, and let it stand from twelve to forty-eight hours as occasion requires, then set it on a grate on the stove, and let it warm gradually a little,—not as warm as new milk, but a little. This I do in the morning, and the next morning skim, and if you or your readers ever saw thicker, nicer cream, I never did. It is a luxury to take it off. I put it in the churn and grate a middle sized orange carrot for about five pounds of butter, and strain the juice into the cream, which makes sweet, delicious butter, and yellow enough. Do not get your milk too warm, as it injures the butter.—J. H. L., Herkimer Co., N. Y.

The Bee-Keeper.

Straw Bee-Hives—Their Value.

Eighty years ago, nearly all the bees in the country were in straw hives. That they were prosperous, we have abundant testimony. A few of them are occasionally found at this time—enough to prove their superiority in early swarming. A few years since, in connection with a partner, I bought twenty-two; these, with forty made of wood, equally as good in respect to the number of bees and stores, were placed in one yard. As the swarming season approached, the straw hives indicated the strongest colonies. The first five swarms were from these hives; and when seventeen had issued, thirteen had come from them. All sent out swarms but two—several of them two or three; while full one-third of the wood hives failed to swarm at all through the season. Here was an advantage in swarming, greatly in favor of straw hives. We kept some of these hives several years, which continued to maintain, in this respect, their superiority. Since our trial of them, I have inquired of many who have had them in use; all testify to their early swarming. I think it would be safe to give eight or ten days, at least, as the average time that these will swarm before others.

The swarming season, generally, is the time when bees get most honey. A colony that would collect three pounds per day, during the honey harvest, would be just thirty pounds better off at the end of the season. This amount stored in surplus boxes, and sold at twenty cents, would be in value as much as a good swarm of bees. In many seasons, we have a full yield of honey for only a few days. A swarm located at the last of this period might fail to get even winter stores, when ten days earlier would have made all safe. But it is unnecessary to offer any further proof on this point; all will admit that early swarms are better than late ones. When these results indicate that straw hives give the earliest swarms, and such swarms are the most valuable, the question will arise, why have they been so generally discarded? There have been two principal reasons. The first is, that when the moth was first introduced into the country, its ravages exceeded any thing that we have at the present time. Its nature and habits were less understood. It seemed to be new to the bees, as well

feeding does. One of my neighbors sold, on the first of this month, (January,) ten two year old cattle to a butcher for over \$60 each. These cattle he raised from calves, and kept them as all cattle that are intended for market should be kept, whether they are to be sold at two or three years old. At least six out of the ten would have paid to keep another year; but my neighbor has others to fill their places for next season. I wonder how many cattle there are in the Major’s neighborhood that are not worth \$20 at the same age. No, no, Major, it will never do to feed cattle on straw and frozen corn stalks. You will be an old fog before you know it. I may sell my sheep next month, (in fact I will sell any time I can get a paying price,) and feed others, and I would like to see the Major here before I part with them.

My sheep and lambs had nothing but pasture until the second day of December, and I guess they did not lose any thing from 15th November till December 1st. See H. T. B.’s article in RURAL of 12th of January, 1861. JOHN JOHNSTON, Near Geneva, N. Y., Jan., 1861.

FACTS IN REGARD TO SORGHUM.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It is a fact that throughout Illinois, Iowa, and other Western States, this product was grown during the last year to considerable extent. It is also a fact that it was “worked up,” and that large quantities of sirup were made from it. We estimate and believe that within a radius of thirty-five miles from this point seventy-five thousand gallons of merchantable sirup were manufactured during the last fall. It is an apparent fact that this product is rapidly gaining in the confidence and favor of the people, and that it will be more largely grown the coming year. It is also a fact that Sorghum sirup is good, and that it sells in our village markets in direct competition, at present low rates, with the New Orleans sirups, and at about the same price. It is a fact that many specimens of sirups have deposited a sediment of grained sugar, or, in other words, “have grained.” It is a fact that some specimens of cane produced a much better article of molasses than others, grown on similar soil, and worked in like manner.

In view of the facts in regard to superiority of product, we would advise the planting of only that seed grown on cane which produced good sirup in abundance; for the best sirup is where the greatest yield is obtained. Mr. K—, who has been extensively engaged in manufacturing sorghum sirup, tells us he has come to the conclusion, from the wide difference in value of the product worked by him, that much of the seed has become “mixed” and deteriorated in value. He recommends planting only the best seed of the best cane.

In view of these facts, we would urge individuals intending to plant, to ascertain, if possible, from itinerant manufacturers in their midst, where they may obtain the best seed. It is the general opinion hereabouts that the manufacture has less to do with the production of sugar than the purity or excellence of the plant. Let cultivators plant only the seed of such canes as produced crystallizable or sugar depositing sirup; and I fully, and firmly, and reasonably believe, that such improvement will be made in the production of this crop as to crown by success our desire for good sugar. It is a fact that the cane sugar producing region was fifteen years in acquiring the knowledge or skill required in making sugar. Give us fifteen years with sorghum, and we will make sugar.

We have no desire, or need, to urge the increased cultivation of sorghum,—we only caution growers to heed the hints above given. It cannot bring a worse crop to plant seed produced by the canes giving the greatest and best return; and it may result in great improvement, and we have faith in the realization of the hope that such will be the result. Amboy, Ill., 1861. W. H. GARDNER.

LABOR- SAVING IN - DOORS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Under the above caption, in a recent issue of your journal, H. T. B. takes the lords of creation severely to task for their exclusiveness of invention—all tending to abridge man’s labor and comparatively nothing to abridge woman’s toil, and ends with a flourish of trumpets to herald DANIEL’S clothes dryer. All this is very well, if his dryer is par-excellence. Perhaps H. T. B. is a bachelor, and wishes some éclat for contending for “woman’s rights.” If so, I wish him all the success his efforts entitle him to, and will endeavor to note some things for his and other’s eyes—showing that much has been done by inventors to ameliorate the condition of the laboring women of America.

Any one whose memory runs back to the beginning of this century, will call to mind the time when the housewives and daughters of those days took the raw wool and cotton, broke, corded, spun, wove, and colored the same, all by hand, for family use—and bees for braking, carding, and spinning, were among the social gatherings of an afternoon of those days, for both young and old ladies. Most of the linen which was the common garments of men and boys in those days, was of the handiwork of females.

Every farmer’s wife had her tape loom, and hosiery, gloves, and mittens, were made by hand. Now, steam and water power, with their thousands of wheels, spindles, jennies, and looms, make all these fabrics, with careful hands to guide them. The knitting machine makes every variety of hosiery, gloves, wrappers, and drawers, and easy coats for common wear. The Jacquard loom turns out carpets of oriental splendor, unknown to our grandmothers, and we have patent carpet sweepers to take up the dust, without ruffling the surface.

The cook stove was an important invention to lighten the toils of the kitchen, and gladden the hearts of those who had long-cooked over hot fires, and handled the heavy iron furniture of the fireplace. The self-heating sad-irons have eased the operations of dressing your linen, and the wash-board and machine have come to the relief of the laundress, and displaced the “battle-board” of old times.

Sofas and easy chairs have displaced the rude benches, and bark and splint-bottom chairs. Machines grind our coffee and spices, and render useless the wooden mortar. Cisterns, with pump attachments, have left the “rain trough” to decay, and the old “oaken bucket” no longer vibrates in the wind on the well pole. The ax and the “fill bow” have given place to machines that cut and fill our saws; and the “Old Dominion” gives a finer aroma to our coffee. The sewing machine, another great invention of the age, has lessened one-half the toil of the needle woman, and its destiny at labor-saving is not half worked out.

To say nothing of the inventions of the toilet, whereby native charms have been greatly improved, the crinolone stands out as the crowning climax of the inventions of men for the gentler sex. Its extensive use and utility make it one of the institutions of

HORTICULTURAL.

REPORTS-FRUIT GROWERS' MEETINGS.

We are pleased to observe that Fruit Growers in all sections of the country are increasing in numbers and in zeal, and that they are not only anxious to gain information, but are taking the right means to obtain it.

FRUIT GROWERS OF UPPER CANADA.

We are indebted to D. W. BEADLE, of St. Catharines, C. W., for the following interesting report of the proceedings of the Fruit Grower's Association of Upper Canada:

APPLES.

After electing officers for 1861, the meeting took up the list of apples, and the experience of cultivators in different sections was fully brought out. Early Harvest.—Quality best of its season. Tree perfectly hardy at Toronto and elsewhere, except Paris, where it is somewhat tender.

escapes late frosts, which destroy the crop of other varieties. Recommended for general cultivation. Swaar.—Quality best. Tree requires a warm, dry, rich soil; very tender at Paris, and a good bearer at Toronto. Recommended for appropriate localities.

DOUBLE ZINNIA. We have before noticed the appearance in Europe, last year, of double Zinnias, and the special attention they received from florists and the press. The Zinnia, in its many varieties, is no doubt familiar to most of our readers.



FRANENBERGER

PRUNING AN ORCHARD.—I should like to be informed, through your excellent paper, the best way to treat an apple orchard in regard to pruning, or not pruning.

SEVERE PRUNING is only necessary when an orchard has been badly neglected, and then must be considered a necessary evil. Where trees are taken care of every year, it will not be necessary to take off large limbs.

DWARF PEARS.—Would you plant an orchard of dwarf pears on such land as this? It fronts the east, naturally very rich, will produce at least a hundred bushels of corn per acre in a good season, and lies low, being at the foot of the slope.

YOUR SOIL and situation, we think, would do well for pears. For half a dozen varieties, we would recommend the following:—Tyson, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Beurre Die, Buffum, Duchesse d'Angouleme, and Vicar of Winkfield.

ONTARIO GRAPE.—Please to inform me, through the RURAL, if you have been able to obtain any additional information in regard to the merits of the Ontario grape the past season.

INDIANA POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S LIST OF FRUITS. LIST OF VARIETIES RECOMMENDED FOR GENERAL CULTIVATION.—Apples.—Rambo, Maiden's Blush, Wine Sap, Fall Wine, Early Harvest, White Pippin, Jersey Black, Smith's Cider, Trenton Early, American Summer Pearmain, Fall Pippin, Carolina Red June, and White Winter Pearmain, for most localities.

PEARS ON PEAR ROOTS.—Flemish Beauty, White Doyenne, Bartlett, Seckel, Belle Lucrative, Early Catharine, Stephens Genesee, Julienne. Dwarf Pears or Pears on Quince.—Louise Bonne de Jersey, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Belle Lucrative, White Doyenne, Buffum, and Flemish Beauty, if double worked.

CHERRIES ON MAHONIE STOCKS.—Early Richmond, Early May. Peaches.—Crawford's Early, Van Zandt's Superb, Crawford's Late, October Yellow, Serrate Early York, Old Mixon Free. Quinces.—Orange Quince.

GRAPEVINES.—Ohio Everbearing, Purple Cane, American Yellow Cap. Strawberries.—Wilson's Albany, Longworth's Prolific, Large Early Seckel, Hooker, (for amateurs).

RECOMMENDED AS PROMISING WELL.—Apples.—Northern Spy, Pickard's Reserve, Golden Sweet, Broadwell, Fall Green Sweet, Peck's Pleasant, Indiana Favorite. Standard Pears.—Des Nonnes. On Quince.—Des Nonnes, Vicar of Winkfield, and Le Cure.

CHERRIES.—Belle Magnifique, Donne Maria, Reine Hortense, Late Duke. Currants.—White Grape, Victoria. Grapes.—Hartford Prolific. Report from the Society's Circulars, so far as returned, January 14th, 1861.—No variety named, unless recommended by four different cultivators.

BEST SIX VARIETIES OF APPLES.—Reed Astrachan, 4; American Summer Pearmain, 4; Rambo, 8; Wine Sap, 6; Early Harvest, 8; Maiden's Blush, 4. Total number of varieties returned, including the above, 81. Best Twelve Varieties of Apples.—American Summer Pearmain, 4; Rambo, 8; Newtown Pippin, 4; Early Harvest, 8; Maiden's Blush, 9; Rawley's Janet, 5; Wine Sap, 5; Fall Wine, 6. Total number of varieties returned, 56.

BEST SIX VARIETIES OF STANDARD PEARS.—Only six cultivators answering.—Bartlett, 4; Flemish Beauty, 6; White Doyenne, 6; Seckel, 5. Total number of varieties named, 19. Best Six Varieties of Pears on Quince Stocks.—Duchesse d'Angouleme, 4; White Doyenne, 4; Buffum, 4; Stevens' Genesee, 4; Beurre Die, 5; Louise Bonne de Jersey, 4. Total number returned, 24.

APPLES.—There is scarcely an article of vegetable food more widely useful and more universally loved than the apple. Why every farmer in the nation has not an apple orchard where the trees will grow at all, is one of the mysteries. Let every family lay in from two to ten or more barrels, and it will be to them the most economical investment in the whole range of culinary.

A raw, mellow apple, is digested in an hour and a half; while boiled cabbage requires five hours. The most healthful dessert which can be placed on the table, is a baked apple. If taken freely at breakfast, with coarse bread and butter, without meat or flesh of any kind, it has an admirable effect on the general system, often removing constipation, correcting acidities, and cooling off febrile conditions, more effectively than the most approved medicines.

IF FAMILIES could be induced to substitute the apple, sound, ripe, and luscious, for the pies, cakes, candies, and other sweetmeats with which their children are too often indiscreetly stuffed, there would be a diminution in the sum total of doctor's bills in a single year, sufficient to lay in a stock of this delicious fruit for a whole season's use.—Dr. Hall.

GENESSEE VALLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—ANNUAL MEETING.—The meeting of this Society, for the election of officers and committees, and transaction of annual business, will be held at the Court House, in this city, on Monday, February 4th, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Domestic Economy.

TOMATO CATSUP—FRUIT JAR CEMENT.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Seeing an inquiry in a late number of your valuable paper for a recipe to make catsup, I send mine, which we think excellent. Take good, ripe tomatoes, steam them till done, then squeeze them through a colander, all but the skins; boil the juice till quite thick, then add a quart of good vinegar to four quarts of juice, put in pepper and salt and spices to suit your taste.

FOR CEMENT.—take one pound of rosin to an ounce of tallow, and melt together.—ANNA BODINE, Waterloo, N. Y., 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing a call in your paper for a recipe for tomato catsup, I will send you mine, which I think can't be beat: Four quarts of tomatoes; one of vinegar; four red peppers; three tablespoons of salt; two of black pepper; two of allspice; one of cloves; three nutmegs. I boil my tomatoes as long as I can and not burn, and then strain through a flour sieve, add one pint of vinegar and boil down again, then add the other pint of vinegar with all the other articles, and boil down as thick as I can. If it is boiled sufficiently (as it is the boiling that makes it keep well,) it will keep three years if made right, and it is nice, I tell you.—Mrs. J. L. Holt, Rockville, Conn., 1861.

OBSERVING AN INQUIRY in the late RURAL NEW-YORKER for making catsup, I send the following, which I know to be far superior to any other.

Heat the tomatoes, then squeeze them through a sieve. To six quarts of the pulp and juice add three quarts of the best vinegar, set it over a slow fire to boil, and when it begins to thicken add half an ounce each of cloves, allspice and pepper, one-fourth ounce of cinnamon, and two nutmegs, all finely powdered; boil it to the consistency of thin mush, then add four tablespoonfuls of salt. When cold, bottle and seal it. This should be boiled in a porcelain kettle, or removed from brass to tin before the salt is added.

SEALING WAX.—Melt in a tin basin, or some iron dish, two ounces gum shellac and four ounces resin. When melted, add two ounces beeswax, and some coloring material to suit the fancy. For a bright red, add two ounces vermilion; for green, add chrome green, &c. When required for use, set the basin on the stove, melt the wax, and insert the bottles.—MARY R. LAMB, Onalaska, Wis., 1861.

HOW TO WASH CLOTHES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I wish to give my sister readers of the RURAL who have not a good washing machine, a simple recipe for washing clothes, many of whom I know have never tried it—and which they will find far superior to the old-fashioned way of rub, rub, rub, pound, pound, pound, in tepid water.

Soak the clothes over night, or longer, in cold water, rubbing soap, with the hand, on the dirty spots; in the morning, wring out, and put in a pounding barrel, the dirtiest at the bottom; on these pour plenty of boiling hot suds; pound them, taking off the top layers as fast as done, and you will find that but a few of the very dirtiest will need any rubbing whatever, and a little boiling. In this way I usually get my washing all out of the way before breakfast Monday mornings, and though not exactly a pleasant recreation, yet the horrors of washing day are diminished fully one half. Seneca Co., N. Y., 1861. Mrs. E. M. V.

CAKES AND CRACKERS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Thinking a few more recipes would be acceptable, I send you some which I think are very good.

BELL CAKE.—Two cups of sugar; one cup of butter; one cup of cream; six eggs; one teaspoonful of saleratus; raisins. Flavor with lemon. CREAM CAKE.—Four cups of flour; two cups of cream; two cups of sugar; four eggs; one teaspoonful of saleratus; salt.

TUMBLER CAKE.—Four tumblers of flour; two of sugar; one of milk; three-fourths do. of butter; one teaspoonful of soda; two teaspoonfuls cream tartar; two eggs; raisins. I would like to inquire of the readers of the RURAL how to make good baker's soda crackers, that will be brittle. Also, how to make sweet crackers. West Cheahire, Conn., 1861. ELIZABETH.

APPLE JELLY.—In answer to the inquiry of "Housewife," in the RURAL of Dec. 22d, "whether any one has made apple jelly to compare with that in a tin, left when sweet apples have been baked," I would say I have, and for the benefit of housewives, I will state my method. Wash, and cut in quarters, (to be sure of no impurities,) any quantity of apples you choose, boil them in a porcelain kettle one hour with just enough water to cover them; place them in a colander, or sieve, but do not wash them, and let them drain over night; to every pound of juice, after straining it through a cotton jelly-bag, add one pound of refined sugar; boil briskly about ten minutes, flavor according to taste, (quince is my choice,) and turn into molds.—A SUBSCRIBER, Hayesville, Ohio, 1861.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES.—Seeing an inquiry in the RURAL NEW-YORKER as to the manner of making buckwheat cakes without soda, I send mine, which we think very good. One pint corn meal to four pints buckwheat flour; one tablespoonful salt, enough warm water to make thick batter,—add nearly a teaspoon of hop yeast, and let rise. I think our friends will like this.—A SUBSCRIBER, New Garden, Ind., 1861.

FRIED CAKES.—Take 4 tablespoons of sugar; 2 eggs; 3 tablespoons of butter; 1 teaspoon of sweet milk; 2 teaspoonfuls of cream tartar; 1 teaspoon of soda.—MAGGIE, Nunda, N. Y., 1861.

ORNAMENTAL LEATHER WORK.—Will some one send a recipe to the RURAL NEW-YORKER for making leather work, with autumn leaves, and oblige Mrs. M. J. B., Mortonsville, Woodford Co., Ky., 1861.

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP.—If any of the RURAL readers have a recipe for sarsaparilla sirup, will they please send it.—E. P. G., Dallas, Texas, 1861.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.] AGAIN WE SAY.—Use DR. LAMB & Co.'s Saleratus; if you have any regard for the health of yourself or family, throw to the dogs the miserable, impure stuff, which has so long exercised your patience, and made your bread, pastry, &c., disgusting to look at or to taste. Dr. Lamb's Chemical Saleratus is perfectly pure, and will produce the most satisfactory results when used in preparing food. It is sold by most grocers and storekeepers. It is manufactured at Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y.

Ladies' Department.

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

I did not know her in my childhood's years. When all the world seemed like a fairy land, And love a thing of course; or in my youth,

When to the future hope's bright promises A gorgeous coloring gave, and the light heart,

By sorrow unobdured, had not been taught The worth of faithful love; but after years Of sad experience in the world's cold ways,

Trusting too oft a fair outside to find Myself betrayed by seeming truth, when I Had almost learned to doubt as false

Each friendly tone I heard, she came to me. She loved me. O, to woman, in her hours

Of sadness or discouragement, how such Appreciating love can warm the heart

Into new life, how such true friendship takes The sting from all our griefs.

Seldom 'tis given The precious boon, a heart that loves us, and A mind that understands our feelings too.

Such was my friend; who not alone gave me Her loving sympathy, but knew besides Why I was sad. She chided not when I To my sad thoughts gave words, but by her love

Chased each dark cloud away. How often in our youthful zeal we prate Of faithful friendship, but to years mature 'Tis given alone to know its real worth.

Geneva, Wis., 1860. B. C. D.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] OVER-DRESSING, AGAIN.

It is well that the RURAL has opened its pages to discussion upon this subject, for extravagance in dress has become the national sin of American women, and notwithstanding LINDA's spirited defence, they are without excuse.

The fact that husbands are often bought by an expensive toilet, is the very reason that over-dressing should be avoided, for what true women would wish to marry a man who wedded only for wealth. However, that class is small which, in seeking a bride, places wealth before personal attractions, and when introductions are solicited to "that little butterfly of a coquette, made radiantly beautiful by silks and laces," in nine cases out of ten it is something in the look, word, manner, or in the taste displayed, that is the chief feature of attraction; and generally speaking, an elaborate and showy wardrobe does little to assist in gaining admiration. On the contrary, (if we dress to please the gentlemen,) they must often be displeased, if not disgusted at the low standard by which we judge their taste in our extravagant attire.

I am sure they would be better pleased, if the fair ones used a little more common sense, becoming women of America in the nineteenth century. LINDA says that "personal beauty is rarely appreciated, except it be assisted with the elegance of dress." In good society at present, personal beauty in simple but tasteful array is appreciated more highly than plainer features associated with rich apparel. But few things have a greater bearing upon our success in society than dress, which depends not so much upon its elegance, as its grace and fitness. Expensive attire may usually be dispensed with, but taste and neatness can never be omitted. I know a beautiful lassie who was wooed and won in a coral-colored print, and whose suitor was highly educated and refined, moving in the first circles in our great metropolis. Her beauty was none the less appreciated because of her simple dress. Vulgarity is often clothed in a silken garb, but refinement cannot be mistaken in tasteful though unassuming garments.

And often the chief attraction of the handsome face is dependent on some peculiarity of style, or shade of color in dress, which is made the subject of study by those who know the secret of their power in society." It is the duty and privilege of woman to make her dress a subject of study, and adopt that which is most becoming. Every delineation of form and feature should be taken into consideration, and from among the great variety of styles in fashion, that one selected which will enable her to appear to the best advantage. Expensive and superfluous dress is not necessary to produce a pleasing effect. It is good judgment and skill in every department of the toilet, however minute. If I were to appear an evening in company with a view to charm an ideal admirer, I should certainly choose the dress which would give the best effect, though it were of plain material, rather than the most elegant, if it were deficient in any particular. Let the clothing be fashionable and faultless, but it need not be superfluous to be admired.

Certainly, American gentlemen do not prefer the stolid English, the phlegmatic German, or the plain features of the French, to our fair and spirited women, with all their sin of dress; but if the dear little wife who presides in the sweet vine-wreathed cottage of our own beautiful land, without adopting the sober colors of the English, would study more perfectly the true science and art of dress, in which the French excel, she could, with less inconvenience, be arrayed becomingly in the style her husband most dearly loves to see, which is oftener the tidy print, or the robe of plain material. Is it not, gentlemen? As we like to please the fastidious of the other sex, let us hear their views upon this important subject.

Pittard, N. Y., Jan., 1861. JANE E. HIGBY.

[For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] SKATING FOR LADIES.

We have observed with much satisfaction that the art of skating is becoming popular among the ladies, and though it would hardly be considered an innovation in Holland, where it has long been practiced by the rural dames, yet here it is comparatively a new thing to see ladies striking out upon the ice with all the boldness and indifference of practiced skaters. The ladies, I think, show their good sense in entering with so much zeal into a recreation at once so beneficial and so free from all objection.

It is to be hoped that this manly and invigorating sport will receive a new impetus from its fair devotees, and be no longer looked upon as mere childish amusement. The effect is already becoming apparent, for grown men, who lately thought themselves far above such child's play, as they termed it, are often seen conducting their fair companions to the ice, and teaching them to perform evolutions they had themselves almost forgotten. The ladies, however, frequently evince such an aptitude in learning, that their instructors are speedily left behind, and they can then smile at the awkwardness of their less graceful teachers, and exult in their own stability, though but a short time before they never ventured on the ice but to find themselves sadly removed from the perpendicular. A good skater (pardon the new word) is a most graceful object whether, like

the virgin huntress HARPALYCE she vies with the wind in swiftness,

"Volucrum fuga praevertitur Eurum"

or, without apparent effort, like the circling bird of prey, sails in gentle curves. Her dress, added to an inborn ease of carriage, gives her, when at full speed, an airy lightness, which man, with his stiff clothing, can never perfectly acquire.

And then, as a health giving exercise, it is unsurpassed. No swinging of heavy dumb-bells within the four walls of a gymnasium, no scaling of lofty ropes and ladders, not even the exhilarating canter of a spirited pony, can suffice the cheeks with a more glowing tint of Nature's rouge. How the deep respirations of the pure and bracing air of Winter expand the lungs, quicken the circulation, brace up the weak nerves, and cause the spirits to overflow with gushing exuberance.

The peculiar aspect of things at this season lends a kind of charm to the sport. The delicate frost-work with which the trees are fringed, glitters in the sunbeams like the flash of myriads of gems and contrasts so strongly to the deep green hues of summer. The beautiful nights, too, seem to possess additional brightness, and skating has almost the fascination of a scene of enchantment in the soft radiance of moonlight. Besides these attractions, the rapid motion which a few skillful strokes give the practiced skater, produces sensations of delight which can scarcely ever wear away. It seems apparently unaccountable to glide so swiftly almost without exertion, that we can hardly realize we are not inspired by some wondrous influence, or like MERCURY, have wings to our feet.

Indeed, instead of being boyish, as many were wont to think, it is one of the most manly, exciting, invigorating, and delightful recreations with which we are acquainted, and we only wonder that it has hitherto met with so little favor from the fair sex. Americans, and especially American ladies, are justly censured by foreigners for not taking sufficient out door exercise, and their pale faces and fragile forms show the accusation to be only too well founded. We hope there is a good time coming, when the youthful maiden will discard the pale lily and take up the blushing rose as the emblem of true nobility. And, fair ladies, let me add, when you seek to paint your cheeks with that ruddy hue, don't wend your way to the apothecary, but with a pair of trusty skates betake yourselves to the ice, and be assured that from those who seek Nature's favors in the right way, she will not withhold the boon.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 1861. COEUR.

HOPE FOR ROUGH BOYS.

DON'T be discouraged, mother. What though the boys are rude and rough, that should not discourage you. The new farm is rough and rugged when the husbandman first begins to till it, but by patient toil he gradually extracts the roots, removes the boulders, levels the knolls, and fills the hollows. If the soil seem at first to refuse a return for his toil—presenting only heaps of rocks, and more unsightly heaps of barren earth—don't let him be discouraged, for there is a mine of wealth in the deeply-dug and well-worked field, which shall soon yield ample profits for the labor and patience invested. The old marsh shall blush with beauty and health. The sand-hill shall yet be spread with a carpet of green a monarch might be proud to own and tread. The boulders might yet kiss the feet of both the proud and humble—the poor and the rich—and draw forth praises from the man of science and of taste. The tough, unsightly tussock shall yet yield food that feeds the tiller. Don't be discouraged, mother; for those very forbidding characteristics in your boy, when checked and moulded by an intelligent and persevering discipline, will be of vast worth to him when a man. It may cost more to subdue and direct a stubborn will, but when the work is done, you have made an efficient commander. It may cost more to polish the rude boy, but you have succeeded in giving the world a man instead of a statue. There is a jewel under that forbidding frown and hostile resentment. If you would realize its full value, be very patient. Train surely and carefully.

Your investment may not at once yield you a return; nay, it may be years ere it affords you much fruit of a desirable beauty or richness; but be well assured of this: the more diligent and patient your toil, the sooner will you be blessed with a satisfactory return.

FASHIONABLE WOMEN.

FASHION kills more women than toil and sorrow. Obedience to fashion is a greater transgression of the laws of woman's nature, a greater injury to her physical and mental constitution, than the hardships of poverty and neglect. The slave woman at her task will live and grow old, and see two or three generations of her mistresses fade and pass away. The washer woman, with scarce a ray of hope to cheer her in her toils, will live to see her fashionable sisters all die around her. The kitchen maid is hearty and strong, when her lady has to be nursed like a sick baby.

It is a sad truth that fashion pampered women are almost worthless for all the good ends of human life. They have but little force of character; they have still less power of moral will, and unite as little physical energy. They live for no great purpose in life; they accomplish no worthy ends. They are only doll forms in the hands of milliners and servants, to be dressed and fed to order. They dress nobody; they feed nobody; they instruct nobody; they bless nobody; and save nobody. They write no books; they set no rich examples of virtue and womanly life. If they rear children, servants and nurses do all save to conceive and give them birth. And when reared, what are they? What do they ever amount to, but weaker scions of the old stock? Who ever heard of a fashionable woman's child exhibiting any virtue and power of mind for which it became eminent? Read the biographies of our great and good men and women. Not one of them had a fashionable mother. They nearly all sprung from strong minded women, who had as little to do with fashion as with the changing clouds.

A TOUCHING SIGHT.—Nothing can be more touching than to behold a soft and tender woman, who had been all weakness and dependence while treading the prosperous paths of life, suddenly rising in mental force to be the comforter and supporter of her husband under misfortune. As the vine which has long twined its graceful foliage about the oak, and been lifted by it into sunshine, will, when the hardy tree is crested by the thunderbolt, cling round it with its arched tendrils, and bind up its shattered boughs, so woman, who is the dependent and ornament of man in his happier hours, should be his stay and solace when smitten with sudden and irremediable calamity.

Choice Miscellany.

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

BY AMANDA T. JONES.

By the pavement, idly musing In the glowing autumn air, 'Mid the din of wheels confusing, Stands the beggar, pale with care.

Along the street the weary feet Of trade-worn men go to and fro, And laughing girls, gold-crowned with curls, Leap by with faces all a-glow.

Crimson robes, in gorgeous fashion, Wave before him in the breeze, But his eyes are dim with passion, Taking no delight in these.

O'er his head locks are spread White as moon-illumined cloud; He is old,—but how cold Is the pity of a crowd!

Rays of sunshine, quick and elfish, Touch his eyes of faded blue, As if even light were selfish, And would mock him with its hue. Gilda away, oh, scarlet day,— Let night hide his sorrow deep, Twilight rain soothe his pain,— None should see an old man weep.

See him clutch the iron railing With his seamed and dusky hands; For his little strength is failing, And he swayeth as he stands. Who will heed his bitter need? Stalwart forms are stalking past— All unheard his pleading word, And the red sun sinketh fast.

Oh, if but a boy would sadden To a look of gentle ruth! As he hurries by to gladden Some dear home with sunny youth. Wee is deep, smiles are cheap, But a smile can half restore Gleams of thought richly fraught With the light and love of yore.

Once how bravely could he tussle With the strong in friendly strife, Proud of well-tried limb and muscle, Valiant in his vigorous life. Now Miasm, hardy ward With the red blood's lazy tide, Weak and old—scarce can hold By the railing at his side.

Age has smitten him with languor, But with sudden, desperate tread, And with self-accusing anger, Starts he forth to earn his bread. Vainly starts, soon departs All the strength that longing gave, Sinking down—ah, me! the town Soon must dig this beggar's grave.

Kindly, Twilight, bend above him With thy meek and tender grace— Gentle Winds, draw near and love him— Clouds, rain dew upon his face. All the crowd, worn and proud, Shall look down with saddened eyes, When the day, red and gay, Glides the pavement where he lies.

Black Rock, N. Y., 1861.

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

The world is suffering under a flood of books got up expressly for the benefit of children and youth. Scores of second rate minds, ambitious of imparting their knowledge and thought, and perhaps sensible of their comparative unfitness to address the maturer intellects of men and women, are continually turning to the field of so-called juvenile literature to find a suitable sphere for the exercise of their talents. Thus we are met on every hand by books for beginners,—books designed to simplify the principles of science to the understandings of the young, and to reduce thought to the level of their capacities. The value of this class of writing is of course various; while some are so very simple as to disgust those for whom they are intended, and others so admirable as to be the almost equal delight of young and old, the majority have, perhaps, no very decided character, as is to be expected of works making no claim to originality, but only aiming to present in a popular and attractive form the discoveries and sentiments of original thinkers. Passing by the probable good accomplished by this multitude of books for elementary instruction and entertainment, let us consider for a moment the disadvantages of placing in the hands of the young, for study or perusal, works giving at second-hand the information originally presented by a superior class of books.

Persons of any considerable reading cannot have failed to notice in how much more clear, forcible, and intelligible manner, opinions, sentiments, and truths are placed before the reader's mind by writers to whom they belong by original thought or discovery, than by others who have no right to them but that of acceptance, and who only aim to interpret and popularize them. The reason of this is evident. The processes, often severe and toilsome, by which the searcher for new truths reaches his object, the patient going over again and again, all the approaches to the subject in hand, so familiarize the whole matter to his mind that when he comes to speak of it he does so with ease, and naturally employs the plainest, simplest language, in announcing and explaining his discovery. Whatever additions subsequent investigation may make, the original or central idea of any science or system is not likely ever to be stated with such distinctness and directness as by its founder, for no other can be said to have such intimate and thorough acquaintance with it, and it is to be supposed that the one who understands a thing best will communicate it best to others. The opposite notion, that the appreciative disciple will make the principles or doctrines of his master more intelligible to the common mind than the master himself, is the excuse for a large proportion of the book-making now and for years past going on. That the proposal to play the interpreter between the great teachers and the mass of learners is quite gratuitous, so far as any desire on the part of the former to be so explained is concerned, no one will be disposed to deny, while the encouragement the latter continually receive in their efforts to simplify and reduce to common comprehension the ideas of their masters, is due to the fact that the studying and reading world have fallen into the belief that they are not endowed with minds capable of receiving those ideas as originally enunciated.

And this leads us to speak of the greatest disadvantage the use of juvenile books is likely to prove to us; it tends to frighten us away from better books. If one had courage and resolution to break through the dread of great authors, which an exclusive acquaintance with inferior ones inspires, the harm of studying only those of the latter class in early life

might be in considerable measure repaired in later years; but to such an extent does the ordinary system of education increase our natural awe of great names, that too often we content ourselves with drinking from the lesser streams of thought and knowledge rather than attempt (what seems too bold an undertaking,) to reach the highest sources of human wisdom. But if, as we supposed above, the discoverers in science and the great masters of thought communicate themselves more successfully than others can speak for them, what hinders our going directly to them for instruction? We surely do ourselves a wrong if we accept anything less than the best teaching we can obtain. What boy or girl, old enough to read anything worthy the name of poetry, but can understand SHAKESPEARE, and MILTON, and HOMER, better than scores of the minor poets? Why then should they not be encouraged to read those first, leaving an acquaintance with singers of feebleness, more imitative strain, till they have secured the best? There is certainly no need of approaching, through a crowd of lesser lights, the poets who are acknowledged on all hands to express themselves in the clearest, simplest, most natural language in which poetical thought can be clothed. And, what is true of Poetry, is equally so of Philosophy, Mathematics, History, Political Economy, or any other branch of science. Clearness of thought gives clearness of expression; and whoever is master of the principles of any science is master of the language of that science, and of course can make its principles more easy of comprehension by others. The only necessity for the great proportion of elementary books of science arises from children being set to study at a very early age; but we deny that there is really anything gained by such a course; when boys and girls are old enough to undertake with profit, Geography, History, Mathematics, Language, &c., they are sure to get the best help from the best writers.

South Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

"BORN ABROAD."

Now, brothers are born abroad, by the wayside, on the train, in town and country—everywhere, but in the old "homestead." There is even a bond woven closer than a common pulse, the bond woven of identical association. The same trees to dream under; the same hearth to creep to, the same wood to be sprinkled with rainbows, the same meadows for the berries and the birds, and the one brook for the angling, the same birthplace for the dead—for they are "born into the spirit world" now-a-day—the like sweet faith for the living; these are the things which make that saying true, "better is a friend that is near, than a brother afar off." Not born along the trail or the warpath, but in the place hallowed by that love whose embrace warms us into life, and those dying that ally us to the dwellers in the bright homestead of Heaven, and make us "poor relation" of the people in Paradise.

To be born at a neighbor's, to sit in the twilight of an alien, to love the vine that stranger hands have trained, is the lot of more than half the world. Happy is he who can trace the far apart threads of lives that are lovely, till they all converge in some dear beginning of living and loving. Let those threads be gossamer, floating never so lightly on the summer wind, if only they are fastened there; let that beginning be of the humblest, if it only be my home and yours; if only ours and theirs.

And happy he, the landscape of whose childhood cannot be effaced by Vandals like a record upon a slate; where God did some plowing as we think, and left the furrows of his hills, or the mighty "bout" of his mountains, but where in fact He wrote with His fingers, even as on the tables of stone on Sinai, and sculptured a home for us when living, that should outlast the Sexton's for us when dead. Thank God they cannot say to the great billow of green that tosses a forest above "the cot where we were born." "Peace be still," and those billows shall obey. They may make an eyelet hole indeed through the mountain, and fling the iron shuttle with its thread of thunder from base to base, but the sun must still climb those eastern cliffs ere it is morning, and they must glow with the last steps of day before it can be night.—B. F. Taylor.

HOW TO SECURE INDEPENDENCE.

To secure independence, the practice of simple economy is all that is necessary. Economy neither requires superior courage nor eminent virtues; it is satisfied with ordinary energy, and the capacity of average minds. Economy, at bottom, is but the spirit of order applied in the administration of domestic affairs: it means management, regularity, prudence, and the avoidance of waste. The spirit of economy was expressed by our Divine Master in these words, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing may be lost." His omnipotence did not disdain the small things of life; and even while revealing His infinite power to the multitude, He taught the pregnant lesson of carefulness of which all stand so much in need.

Economy also means the power of resisting present gratification for the purpose of securing a future good; and in this light it represents the ascendancy of reason over animal instincts. It is altogether different from penuriousness; for it is economy that can always be afforded to be generous. It does not make money an idol, but regards it as a useful agent. As DEAN SWIFT observes, "we must carry money in the head, not in the heart." Economy may be styled the daughter of Prudence, the sister of Temperance, and the mother of Liberty. It is eminently conservative of character, of domestic happiness, and social well-being. It allays irritation, and produces content. It makes men lovers of public order and security. It deprives the agitator of his stock in trade, by removing suffering, and renders his appeals to class-hatred completely innocuous. When workmen by their industry and frugality have secured their own independence, they will cease to regard the sight of others' well-being in the light of a wrong inflicted on themselves; and it will no longer be possible to make political capital out of their imaginary woes.—London Quarterly Review.

THE truest criterion of a man's character and conduct is invariably to be found in the opinion of his own family circle, who, having daily and hourly opportunities of forming a judgment of him, will not fail in doing so. It is a far higher testimony in his favor for him to secure the esteem and love of a few individuals, within the privacy of his own home, than the good opinion of hundreds in his immediate neighborhood, or that of ten times the number residing at a distance. In fact, next to a close and impartial self-scrutiny, no question comes so near the truth as for a man to ask himself—"What is thought of me by the familiar circle of my own fireside?" Would that all remembered this!

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] CONSOLATIONS OF HEAVEN.

BY JENNIE M. WARD.

How oft have hope's visions Deceived the fond-hearted. Like the rainbow they shone— Like the rainbow departed— When their light, that once sparkled, Is darkened and gone; See! the rainbow that fades not, It arches God's throne!

Earth's thrones, oh, how tempting Their flowers and their fruit, How we love their sweet shadow, But a worm's at the root! When thy gourd, that once sheltered, Is withered away, Be the shadow of JESUS Thy shelter and stay!

As the Dove, when of old, From the ark it went forth, Some green spot to rest on, To seek through the earth; When it found that the deluge, So deep and so dark, Let no green spot uncovered, Returned to the ark—

So, when floods of affliction Have deluged all around, And no green spot of gladness, No Hope-branch is found, Then flee to the SAVIOR, The true ark of rest! Oh, there's no place of shelter Like His pitying breast!

From Him, thine own SAVIOR, What'er may betide thee, No distance can sever, But He'll forsake—never; Earth's loved ones must die,— But He lives—forever.

Wilson, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] TRUST IN GOD.

"Casting all your care upon Him; for he careth for you."—1 PETER, 5: VII.

Few things are more calculated to prevent us from serving God effectually than carking care. Yet, there is much in the world that is fitted to beget such a feeling in the mind of the christian. The corruption of his own heart is often a source of unhappiness to him; and even if, by the grace of God, all his inward foes are not only subdued, but are utterly driven out of his bosom, there is still enough to weigh down his soul. And the temporal circumstances of the child of God are often such as to beget anxiety. His home is often the abode of poverty. Frequently he watches day after day at the couch of a loved one, and sees the light go out from eyes that have beamed softly upon him. Or he has stood by the lifeless form of the companion of his childhood, or followed to the grave her who had been the "angel of his household." Under such circumstances, we are in danger of being swallowed up with over much sorrow. But the text recommends a better course of action, namely, casting our care upon God.

The text does not recommend a trust in God that allows its possessor to neglect any duty. Many live as though they supposed they had nothing to do in regard to their salvation. They act as though they expected to be wafted to heaven without exercising any watchfulness in avoiding the dangers that beset the voyager upon the sea of life. Such carelessness as this has no warrant from the Scriptures; but they everywhere teach the necessity of watchfulness. They represent the christian as a warrior. If the soldier fails to be on his guard, he is likely to be surprised by his foes, and to suffer loss. Is the careless professor likely to "Fight the good fight of faith?" We will never wear the victor's crown until we have fought many battles. But after we have discharged our duty, we should then leave the result with God. We are to rely unflinchingly upon His promises, even when to the eye of reason all appears dark and hopeless. The man of strong faith is careful for nothing. Though his bark is out upon the stormy sea, and the clouds gather darkly around him, he does not despond, for faith shows him CHRIST standing at the helm.

Many are the reasons why the christian should cast his care upon God; but the one given in our text, that "He careth for him," is sufficient. There is a heartless philosophy in the world, that seeks to rob man of the watch-care of God. It asks scoffingly, whether the sovereignty of a million worlds will condescend to take any notice of so insignificant a creature as man. But it has never yet been proven that man holds an inferior place in the scale of being; and whatever false philosophy may teach, the believer in Revelation knows that God watches over the interests of His children with the greatest care. The infidel may tell us that—

"To Him no high, no low, no great, no small, He fits, he bounds, connects, and equals all." He sees with equal eye, as God of all, A hero perish, or a sparrow fall; Atoms, or systems, into ruin huried, And now a bubble burst, and now a world."

But CHRIST said to his disciples, "Ye are of more value than many sparrows. As long as it is admitted that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son to die, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have eternal life," it will be impossible to deny that He takes a deep interest in the welfare of His children.

The character of God is such, as to afford a firm foundation for trust in Him. He cannot fail to supply the wants of His children on account of ignorance of those wants. The child may die for want of the comforts of life, which its earthly parent would rejoice to supply, was he not ignorant of its condition; but the eye of our heavenly Father is ever upon us—His ear is open to our faintest cry. How cheering to the humble christian is the language of CHRIST, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

And his power is equal to his knowledge. Many an earthly parent has wept over the misery from which he was unable to shield his child. Often has the earthly monarch seen the happiness of his faithful subjects destroyed by a ruthless invader, whose progress he had not the power to stay; but no being in heaven or earth has the power to pluck His children out of the hand of God. Shall he be cast down who has such a protector? Shall he repine over the petty sorrows of life, whose privilege it is constantly to look up and say to God, "What time I am afraid I will trust in Thee." Shall he not rather rejoice in the fact, that God has assured him that "His light afflictions, which are but for a moment, shall work out for him a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."—S. L. LEONARD. Bristol, Wis., 1861.

The Traveller.

LETTERS FROM CALIFORNIA.

New Series.—Number Two.

Quartz mining—Quartz Crushing—Hydraulic mining—Gold, where found—Amount of gold and silver coined in the past ten years—Amount of coin in the world.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 1, 1860.

THERE are various kinds of mining in California. Quartz mining is now considered the most safe and profitable mining carried on in the whole country. As the process is not familiar to a great many in the Atlantic States, a detailed description may not be uninteresting.

The position of a quartz lead in the mountain is generally at an angle ranging from twenty to fifty degrees. The most common method of working it, is to sink a perpendicular shaft at a sufficient distance from the line where the vein is seen to crop out on the surface, and strike the angle at the depth desired, or thereabouts. From this shaft, workmen commence removing the quartz along the vein, to form a tunnel, and as the rock is removed much more easily and rapidly by beginning at the tunnel, and working upward, this plan, of course, is adopted.

The "Allison Ranch-Lead," at Grass Valley, Nevada, Co., is the best paying, most extensive quartz mine in the State, or, in fact, in the whole world! Under the guidance of one of the proprietors, and arrayed in an India-rubber suit of clothing, we descended the shaft. On reaching the bottom we found a considerable stream of water running in the center of the railway constructed along the tunnel to the shaft. On, on we went, trying to keep a sure footing on the rail track, inasmuch as water-tight boots even then became a very necessary accompaniment to the India-rubber clothing. The miners, who were removing the quartz from the ledge, looked more like half-drowned sea-lions, than like men. We did not ascertain their wages, but we are quite sure they deserve all they obtain. Stooping, or rather half-lying down upon the wet rock, among fragments of quartz, propped of wood, and streams of water, with pick in hand, and by a dim but water-proof lantern, a man was strenuously at work, picking down the rock—the gold bearing rock—and which, although very rich, was very rotten, and consequently not only paid well, but was easily quarried and crushed. Although this rock was paying not less than \$350 per ton, we could not see the first speck of gold in it after a diligent search for that purpose. At the bottom of the drift, another man was employed to shovel the quartz into a tub standing on a railway car, and push it to the shaft, where it was drawn up and taken to the mill.

We now invite the reader to visit the mill and note the *modus operandi* of crushing the rock and extracting the gold. After the quartz is emptied from the cart into the yard, and the large pieces broken by hand to about the size of a man's fist, or a little smaller, they are shoveled with the dust and finer portions of rock upon an inclined table or hopper, on which a small stream of water is conveyed through a pipe from above, and by which the quartz is washed down the hopper to a solid, cast iron bed-plate, and beneath the stampers. The stampers being elevated by convex arms attached to a revolving shaft, which is propelled by steam power, when at the required height, fall suddenly down upon the quartz, and being shod with heavy cast iron, which, added to the stampers, make the whole weight of a stamp from 600 to 1,000 pounds, crushes the rock to powder upon which it falls. In front of the stampers is a very fine sieve, or screen, through which the water, gold, and pulverized quartz, are constantly being splashed by the falling of the stampers, and should the rock not be pulverized sufficiently fine to pass through these discharge screens, it again falls back upon the bed-plate, to receive another crushing. If fine enough, it falls upon an apron, or into an amalgamating box containing quicksilver, and into which a dash-board is inserted, that all the water, gold, and tailings may pass through the quicksilver to an inclined plane, or blanket-table below. Across and above the apron, or amalgamating box, a small trough is fixed with holes in the bottom for the purpose of distributing clean water equally on the apron or into the amalgamating box, and by which the pulverized rock and gold not saved above is washed down to the blanket-table and there saved.

Another novel invention for gold mining is termed "hydraulic mining." By this process, which consists in passing a stream of water through a conduit from a bulkhead with great pressure upon the dirt and earth to be removed, whole mountain sides have been washed down, and their golden treasures exposed to the eyes and hands in search for them. Some serious effects of the labors of gold diggers is seen in the filling up of the river beds and preventing their higher navigation. Gulches and ravines are filled with their "waste earth," and afford wagon roads across places otherwise impassable. In one place we discovered huge trees buried in an upright position, and only a few feet of their tops peering above the earth and rocks piled about them.

Gold (and very likely the love of it) exists, to a greater or less extent, in almost every country. It has been found in small quantities in Spain, Portugal, Sweden, the Germanic States, Turkey, and even in England. The produce of the Russian gold mines is from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000 annually. Besides California and Australia, gold is found in Hindostan, China, Malacca, Japan, Borneo, New Guinea, and New Zealand. It has also been discovered in considerable quantities in Lower Canada, and recently Vermont claims similar honors. The eastern gold region of the United States is considered as beginning in Virginia, and extending through North and South Carolina into Alabama. In 1843, \$1,200,000 was dug from the mines of Virginia. The west coast of America is the region having the greatest number of gold deposits. It is found in all the South American States, and is also procured from various parts of Africa to the amount of \$2,500,000 annually. It is estimated that the total yield of gold during the year 1859 was \$200,000,000; and it is now supposed that the whole stock of gold and silver now in circulation throughout the world is \$4,000,000,000! During the last ten years the coinage of gold and silver in the world has amounted to the astonishing sum of \$2,200,000,000.

It would be an item of interest to know how much gold (in value) is used yearly in the arts. In the single business of dentistry, in the United States, \$2,500,000 is annually consumed.

THE NATIVES OF ALGERIA.—The higher position of the Moorish lady, the less is her mind likely to be kindled by education. For nearly thirty years have the French given laws to Algeria, and yet there is not one of the natives who has adopted a single European idea, or deviated in the slightest degree from the traditional habits and institutions of his ancestors.—*The Corsair and his Conqueror.*

MY OWN NATIVE LAND.

W. B. BRADBURY.

THE SHIP OF THE DESERT.

From a translation of a French book recently issued by MASON & BROS. of New York, and which originally appeared in Paris last summer under the title of "*Les Mysteres du Desert*," we extract the following interesting account of the animal figuratively known as the *Ship of the Desert*:

Dromedaries, which bear the same relation to the camel proper as the thorough-bred does to the draught horse, are divided into classes. Those most esteemed among the Arabs come from Muscat. Some of these I have known to fetch as much as three thousand francs each. They are of a reddish color, and their speed is combined with strength. Next in value are those from Soudan, which are nearly white, of small size, but fine as thorough-bred greyhounds. These dromedaries are wonderfully fleet, but they cannot carry heavy burdens. The dromedaries of Hedjaz, of Nedjed, and of Yemen, although of good blood, have not the reputation of those mentioned above. Their value ranges from two hundred to three hundred francs. They can seldom travel more than ten leagues in a day's march; that is to say, from sunrise to sunset, deducting the three hours of mid-day, which the traveler usually devotes to refreshment and repose. Those of Muscat and of Soudan, on the contrary, can make their forty or fifty leagues within the same time.

The dromedary in general, the *dromas camelus* of the Greeks, the *camelus Arabia* of Pliny, is called *hejira*, or *djemaz*, by the Arabs. Its hair, which is soft and woolly, grows more thickly upon the hump, the throat, and the limbs, than on other parts of the animal. In general appearance it resembles the ordinary camel, than which it is slighter, however, and of more elegant form; its legs and whole frame being so slender, indeed, that on first seeing it we are tempted to doubt whether it can be one of those high-bred animals of whose feats we have heard so much. Its best pace is a well-sustained trot, of unvarying speed throughout the whole journey. The walk and gallop of the animal are most distressing to the rider—particularly the walk.

On a long journey, when food is scarce, the brambles and bushes of wormwood that grow by the wayside afford a scanty repast to the dromedary, who nibbles at them without slackening his pace. Should this resource fail him, he makes the most of circumstances, and trots cheerfully on to the end of his journey. He can endure hunger for three days—thirst for eight or nine. In Hedjaz and Yemen they feed their dromedaries on beans and herbage; in Assir, on the stones of dates; in Theama, on *dourah*, or millet, and on the tender shoots of the *acacia mimosa*, cut into little sticks and roasted over the fire.

The dromedaries are tethered, like horses, before the dwellings of their masters, who generally make them kneel down when they want to mount them. An active camel rider, however, springs at the pommel of the saddle, plants one foot against the knee of the animal, and the other on its curving neck, and gains his seat without making it kneel. The saddle, which extends from the shoulder to the haunches, is fastened with two girths. It consists simply of three pieces of wood, put together so as to fit the hump, the end pieces projecting about a foot above the seat. These saddles are generally very hard, the rider's share of them being nothing but a frame of wood, covered with leather. Nature has singularly adapted to these uncomfortable seats that portion of the anatomy of an Arab that comes in contact with them; but the European who ventures on them is sure to suffer. Fortunately for myself I had long been a hardened Arab; yet as it was a far stretch to Mokallah, I had insured myself from injury on this occasion by placing on the saddle a couple of splendid Abyssinian sheep skins, a gift from Cherif Hussein, of Aburisch. The dromedary's share of the saddle is carefully padded with straw, the center of it being accurately fitted to the animal's hump, on which the hair is allowed to grow, the better to guard against friction.

The rider sits on his dromedary somewhat as a woman does on horseback. A simple halter is generally sufficient for the guidance of the animal, unless he happens to be of an intractable disposition, in which case a rein attached to a metal ring inserted in the nostrils is used. For urging on the animal they use a cane with a spike at the end of it, with which they prick him behind the ears. Sometimes a *cowdash*, or whip of hippopotamus hide, is used for this purpose, but it should be applied sparingly. Generally speaking, the dromedary accommodates his pace to suit the will of his rider, putting great energy into his action when hard pressed. If over-driven, however, he either drops, exhausted, or lies sulkily down and tries to bite his tormenter.

ARTHUR, in his work on Italy, says:—"After all that we may say of an Italian sky, it is not equal to that of Egypt, nor to that of many parts of America. The most ravishing dome of blue sky my eyes ever looked upon, was from Mt. Auburn, near Boston; and the most exquisite sunrise was over the waters of Lake Erie, between Buffalo and Niagara."

THERE is nothing so true that the damps of error have not warped it; nothing so false, that a sparkle of truth is not in it.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

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

THE BEECH AS A NON-CONDUCTOR.

THERE is an article in the *RURAL NEW-YORKER* of the 5th ult., on "Protection from Lightning," that may possibly lead some one to seek shelter in the very spot where he may receive the fatal bolt. I am aware of the assertions, that the "beech tree is a non-conductor of atmospheric electricity, and that lightning never strikes it," have gone the rounds of newspaper publication from time immemorial. It is high time that such statements were returned to the "moles and to the bats," for facts tell another story, and facts are stubborn things.

The green beech is a good conductor of atmospheric electricity,—the next thing to a lightning rod, the assertions to the contrary notwithstanding. There was a severe thunder-storm in this section five years ago last summer. After it was over I saw a smoke in the woods. Thinking it was the effects of lightning, my hired man and myself started off at once to see what was burning. We found that a beech tree had been struck by lightning, when a hemlock within two rods, and other trees all around, were uninjured and untouched. The top limbs of it were dead, and they were scattered in every direction. It was a large tree, and one side of the lower part of it was dead, rotten, and dry, for twenty feet or more, and this was burning finely. The lightning made a path as it came down from the top-most limb until it reached the green timber, it glided over this without leaving a "trace behind." The side that was dead below was marked at the roots.

Some two years after this, another beech tree was struck by lightning on my own farm, only about sixty rods from the one I have already mentioned. The top of this too was dead, but not decayed in the least. The lightning took out a strip about as large as a man's hand, until it came to the dividing line between the green and dry timber, where it broke off abruptly. Finding a good conductor, it went down harmless. Close and continued observation taught me, many years before these events took place, that lightning does not "spare the beechen tree." Sherman, Chaut. Co., N. Y., 1861. S. HUSTIS.

THE article referred to by our correspondent, was a floating waif, and was given an insertion for the purpose of arriving at the facts. Many of our readers possess considerable skill in wood-craft, and if the statements were at variance with truth we knew they would not let the matter rest without an exposition. Prof. DEWEY gave an opinion adverse to the views expressed, and we expected to hear the relation of experiences supporting that opinion. The first of these is that of Mr. HUSTIS, and we would be pleased to hear both sides (if there be two sides to the question,) discussed.—Eds.

BIRDS' SENSE OF DANGER.

THE power of judging of actual danger, and the free and easy boldness which results from it, are by no means uncommon. Many birds seem to have a most correct notion of a gun's range, and while scrupulously careful to keep beyond it, confine their care to this caution, though the most obvious resource would be to fly right away out of sight and hearing, which they do not choose to do. And they sometimes appear to make even an ostentatious use of their power, fairly putting their wit and cleverness in antagonism to that of man, for the benefit of their fellows. I lately read an account, by a naturalist in Brazil, of an expedition he made to one of the islands of the Amazon to shoot spoonbills, ibises, and other of the magnificent gallatorial birds, which were most abundant there. His design was completely baffled, however, by a wretched little sandpiper that preceded him, continually uttering his tell-tale cry, which aroused all the birds within hearing. Throughout the day did this individual bird continue its self-imposed duty of sentinel of others, effectually preventing the approach of the fowler to the game, and yet managing to keep out of the range of his gun.—*Gosse's Romance of Natural History.*

HUMMING BIRDS.

THE Ruby Throat is very easily tamed, and is a most loving and trustful little creature. Mr. Webber, has given a most interesting account of a number of Rubythroats, which he succeeded in taming. On several occasions he had enticed the living meteors into his room by placing vases of tempting flowers on the table and adroitly closing the sash as soon as they were engaged with the flowers, but he had always lost them by their dashing at the window, and striking themselves against the glass. At last, however, his attempts were crowned with success, and "this time I succeeded in securing an unwounded captive, which, to my inexpressible delight, proved to be one of the Ruby Throated species, the most splendid and diminutive that comes north of Florida. It immediately suggested itself to me that a mixture of two parts refined sugar with one of fine honey, in ten of water, would make about the nearest approach to the nectar of flowers. While my sister ran to pre-

intellectual culture, for the scholar to neglect the proper exercise of this invaluable faculty.

The two principal instruments for communicating our feelings, thoughts and perceptions, are the pen and the tongue. These should be employed daily, both in writing and telling what we have read, studied, seen, heard, or thought about. School recitations, and explanations of examples, on the part of scholars, are of the highest excellence as a means for the accomplishment of this end. The writing and reading of essays, as well as discussions and declamations, and, in fact, everything connected with a good literary society, may, and should be rendered available by every scholar old enough to engage in them.

ROGER WILLIAMS.

It takes long years of severe discipline to remove the prejudices—the rust of ages—and imbue a people with a new and grand idea. The Puritans suffered severely from religious persecution, and braved the perils of the sea, the rigors of a northern winter, and the terrors of a wild and unknown land inhabited by a savage foe, for the dear privilege of religious freedom—the God-given right to worship their Creator according to the dictates of their own consciences. But, a little of the old evil leaven remained. They had learned in the school of sad experience that religious freedom was very good for those who believed as they did—excellent for the Puritan and his right; but they had not learned that more difficult lesson, to grant to others the privileges they sought for themselves. So they persecuted the Baptists and Quakers, drove them from their homes, and even compelled some to seal their faith and devotion with their lives. Among those thus persecuted was one of the purest and best men who ever lived, ROGER WILLIAMS, who, driven from Massachusetts, founded the State of Rhode Island, where all religious belief was alike tolerated. We present our young readers with a portrait and a sketch of the life of this good man, for the facts in which we are indebted to LOSSING'S Illustrated History of the United States.



ROGER WILLIAMS.

ROGER WILLIAMS, the subject of our present sketch, was born in Wales in 1599, and was educated at Oxford. In 1631 he was driven by persecution to America, and settled in his ministry at Salem, Mass. But his evil fortune followed. In 1635, the General Court of Massachusetts passed sentence of banishment upon him, and he crossed the borders of civilization to find liberty and toleration among the heathen. In January, 1639, he withdrew from Salem, traversed the forests alone for fourteen weeks, wading through deep snows, enduring all the rigors of the climate, and sheltered by the rude wigwam of the Indian, and finally reached the cabin of MASSASOIT, Chief of the Wampanoags, at Mount Hope. Here he was entertained until spring, when five friends from Boston joined him, and he located himself upon the Seekonk. Finding that he was still in the domain of the Plymouth Company, and acting under the advice of Gov. WINSLOW, he crossed over into the country of the Narragansetts, where he could not be molested. Embarking with his companions in a light canoe, they paddled around to the head of Narragansett bay, landed upon a green slope, prayed, and chose a spot for a settlement. CANONIGUS, Chief Sachem of the Narragansetts, made WILLIAMS a grant of land, and in commemoration of "God's merciful providence to him in distress," he called the place Providence.

As the settlement increased, its fame extended, and the persecuted fled to it for refuge. All creeds were allowed full liberty,—political opinions were under no more restraint than religious,—in short, a pure democracy was established. Mr. WILLIAMS reserved to himself no political power,—leader and follower possessed equal dignity and privilege. It was only required of each settler to subscribe to an agreement that he would submit to such rules, "not affecting conscience," as the majority adopted for the public good. The settlement enjoyed special favor with the Indians, as it was entirely unmolested during the Pequot war, and prospered wonderfully.

In the early part of 1638, a party of nineteen, with concurrent religious views, at the invitation of WILLIAMS, left Boston and settled in his vicinity. A purchase was made from Miantonomoe, of the island of Aquiday, of which they took possession, naming it the Isle of Rhodes, and calling their settlement Portsmouth. A covenant similar to that of ROGER WILLIAMS, was signed by the inhabitants. These little bands grew by repeated accessions, and in 1639, Newport, near the lower extremity of the island, was founded. Liberty of conscience was absolute; love was the social and political bond, and upon the seal they adopted was the motto, *Amor vincit omnia*,—"Love is all powerful." Although the varied settlements had different governments, they had united interests and aims, and they sought for themselves an independent charter. To obtain this, ROGER WILLIAMS went to England in 1643. After encountering many difficulties, he procured from Parliament a free charter of incorporation on the 24th of March, 1644, and all the settlements united under the general title of *Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*. Thus was founded the Commonwealth of Rhode Island.

For thirty-nine years after the union referred to, ROGER WILLIAMS followed his calling, and in April, 1683, at the ripe age of eighty-four, he laid aside his armor in the city he had founded, leaving behind him a memory fragrant with good deeds and kindly offices.

JUDGMENT is not a swift-growing plant; it requires time and culture to mature it, while fancy often springs up and blossoms in a single hour. The fragrance of the first, however, is everlasting, while that of the latter is as transient as its stem is fragile.—*Hoses Ballou.*

The Young Ruralist.

MUSIC FOR YOUTH.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—Some time since I wrote a short piece for the *YOUNG RURALIST* column of your paper, on music; and it has been responded to in a very able manner by MANLY H.—of Lima, and with your permission, I should be happy to continue the subject, as it is one that will bear study, and should be kept before the people, that they might become more interested in it, and try to become proficient in its execution.

*Music is a sweet gift from Heaven*; by it the gorgeous palace is robbed of its sickening splendor; and the humblest home is rendered enchanting. Then why should we not seek more diligently to cultivate the one talent which we all possess, for there is none which has not been blessed with a single talent, which, by cultivation, would at length become a source of great joy.

*Music is a blessed gift*; without it the gentle cooing of the dove, the sweet warbling of the wild-wood songster, the merry chirping of the crickets, the busy hum of bees, the rippling of the waters as they bend their way carelessly over the pebbles, would be forever hushed, and the world would become a dreary habitation. But the world is full of music; not a leaf stirs without adding its mite to the full chorus of forest voices; not an insect flutters its glittering wings without scattering around it a shower of fairy sounds; the thunder which rolls through the sky is not without music of its own peculiarity. As a former writer has said, "There is music even in the stars, which is heard by the eye, not the ear."

*The world is a great organ*; the deep rolling of the ocean is the bass, and the soprano is composed of the clear thrilling notes of the song birds, aided by the thousand commingling voices of God's creatures united in one grand anthem of praise to the Almighty Creator.

*We must have music*. Without it the tender heart would soon droop and die. Almost every living thing would perish unless it could express its overflowing joy. The influence of music is great upon humanity, for a single strain of music has been known to check the rising passions of a madman, and cause him to weep like a child. The influence of music is felt by children; it fills their souls with that tenderness and love for each other which they never forget in after life.

*Music is a part of Heaven*; the dying saint who is about to be ushered into the golden city, longs to depart this life and be with angels who are continually making melody with their harps. Just before he takes his departure from earth, his eyes dilate, his lips part with a smile, and his fluttering soul strives to break from its imprisonment to be with God and the angels, where there is music forever.

Akron, N. Y., Jan. 7, 1861. PERRY P. H.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE SCHOLAR—HIS PURPOSE.

THE purpose for which the scholar attends school is to obtain an education, that he may be respected and useful. To this end there are several particulars which he should carefully observe. A habit of close and continued application of the mind to study, is of paramount importance to every scholar, for without this he must utterly fail of accomplishing his object. Patience and perseverance must also be reckoned as essential elements in the character of the true scholar, for there is no short way, no "royal road," for the proposed end. Hours, days, months, and even years must be devoted to thoughtful study, before the scholar can show many signs of a good education. There are three objects that the scholar should ever keep in view in striving for an education, viz: first, mental discipline; second, the acquisition of knowledge; and third, the communication of that knowledge to others. The faculties of the mind may be disciplined to a limited extent by the mere acquisition of knowledge, but they can never be fully developed without the habitual practice of communicating those mental acquisitions to others. Hence, it may be perceived how prejudicial it must be to

The News Condenser.

The effects of our panic have reached England. The winter is very cold in France and England. Gov. Weller has accepted the mission to Mexico. Whole number of patents issued for 1860, 8,896. The school houses of Ohio are worth \$4,707,000. The total taxable property of Ohio is \$888,000,000. The home squadron is to be concentrated in the Gulf. The gold product of California for 1860 was \$42,326,000. The total foreign and domestic debt of Ohio is \$16,927,884. Floods have occurred on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Gold still continues to flow into this country from abroad. They are boring for oil in the vicinity of McConnelville, Ohio. There are 20 Protestant churches and 104 clergymen in Paris. The steam tonnage of New York is 120,880 tons, mostly marine. The cost of the Crimean war is said to have been \$250,000,000. Rev. Charles Lowell, D. D., of Boston, died on the 20th, aged 76. Twelve slaves were captured last year, and 3,000 negroes rescued. France is actively making preparations for war, it is reported. Railway trains are interrupted by heavy falls of snow in Virginia. Russell, the Indian Fund Bonds Receiver, has been bailed out. A new German paper is to be commenced at Omaha, Nebraska. Fort Kearney and South Pass wagon road have been completed. The average valuation of land in South Carolina is only \$2 per acre. The total valuation of property in San Francisco is \$35,809,689. There were exported from Bangor, in 1860, 120,000 bushels of potatoes. Over \$80,000,000 worth of articles passed over the Erie canal in 1860. The new Armstrong guns cost the English Government \$10,000 each. Prof. C. W. Hackley, of Columbia College, N. Y., died Thursday week. Gov. Denver is a prominent candidate for U. S. Senator from California. Grace Greenwood has been lecturing in Canada, with great acceptance. Forts Johnson and Casswell, off Wilmington, N. C., have been seized. Mayor Wightman, of Boston, asks for the restoration of the license system. The real value of taxable property in the State of Michigan is \$275,000,000. A severe shock of an earthquake was felt at Gorham, N. H., on Friday week. The young Queen of Naples has left Gaeta, probably to seek refuge at Rome. Twelve canal boats, each 96 feet in length, are being constructed in Lockport. An immense amount of fraudulent coin is in circulation throughout the West. The ordinary coinage capacity of the Philadelphia mint is \$7,600,000 per month. Cleveland, O., is the 19th city in population in the Union. In 1858 she was the 28th. The Savings Institutions in New York city have on deposit over \$40,000,000. James Dalton, a policeman in Cincinnati, is reported heir to £1,000,000 in England. Ten thousand people attended a Union meeting at Baltimore, on Thursday week. Brigham Young has contracted to construct 400 miles of the Pacific telegraph line. There are 310,000 land owners in Ohio, the average of whose estates are 84 acres. A man was killed in Cincinnati, on the 12th ult., by falling on a slippery sidewalk. The population of the United States is 30,990,000, of which 3,878,000 are slaves. Rarely's late lectures and exhibitions in New York have yielded him \$2,160 per day. In the United States there are nearly six times as many journals as in Great Britain. The banks of New York are nearly glutted with specie. They now hold \$36,000,000. The U. S. Coast Survey Schooner Dana has been seized by the Florida secessionists. Oil has been discovered, in large quantities, in the town of Cuba, Allegany Co., N. Y. There are 9 English, 2 French, 1 Spanish, and 4 German daily papers in San Francisco. News from Denver to the 19th ult., report times improved, and the quartz mills doing well. In the city of Canton, China, there are, on an average, about 5,000 suicides every year. Gov. Banks has gone to Chicago to assume his duties with the Illinois Central Railroad. An enormous cow, weighing alive 1,650 pounds, was slaughtered at Boston last week. Geo. Toppan, Jr., of Boston, recently died of hydrophobia. He was bitten by a pet dog. During the last session of the English House of Commons, 10,478 speeches were made. Floyd, the resigned Secretary, had a banquet given him at Richmond, Va., on the 11th ult. The Bank of Kentucky has made a donation of \$500 for the relief of the poor of Louisville. Lola Montez, the notorious, talented, and eccentric woman, died in New York last week. Snow fell on Monday week to the depth of six inches in West Alabama and East Mississippi. A number of country newspapers have nominated Major Anderson for the Presidency in 1864. The pilots of Pensacola are forbidden, on pain of death, to bring U. S. vessels into the harbor. A drunken man, name unknown, was almost devoured by hogs near Alton, Ill., a few days since. Horse railroads have been introduced into Mobile. The first was inaugurated on Christmas day. There are seven monthlies in San Francisco, one of which is medical and another religious. The Dubuque Times says an order has been received from Georgia, for 10,000 bushels of corn. Albany, N. Y., is the largest lumber mart in the country. The trade for 1860 amounted to \$6,000,000. A demonstration was made in Rome, on the 23d, at St. Peter's, in favor of annexation to Sardinia. The Cincinnati Commercial states that the town of Aurora, Ind., is now lighted by water gas. Twenty patriots of the revolution died during the past year. Eighty-two are all that are now left. The Rhode Island Senate has passed the act repealing the personal liberty bill, by a vote of 21 to 9. A child was born in Fort Sumter last week. The infantry department is re-inforced in spite of secession. The Monterey Bulletin announces the discovery of immensely rich silver mines in Northern Mexico. Rocky Mountain News says coal oil has been discovered in the mountains, five miles from Cannon City. Thirty cases of musketeer and a large amount of ammunition, for Savannah, have been seized at New York.

KENTUCKY.—A telegram dated Frankfort, 28th, says that the Legislature will call a Convention, but the call and action of the Convention will both be submitted to a vote of the people.

MISSOURI.—Advices from different parts of the State indicate a Union feeling, and that the Convention will be filled with conservative men.

ALABAMA.—The Alabama State Convention has adjourned until the 4th of March next.

GEORGIA.—On the 24th ult., seven hundred State troops assembled in Georgia and made demonstrations on the United States Arsenal. Gov. Brown demanded the surrender of the Arsenal, which was complied with.

Southern Fortifications.

The following table of the United States forts and navy yards, south of Mason and Dixon's Line, shows the position, cost, and strength of each:

Table with columns: Where located, Cost, War garrison, Men, Guns. Lists various forts from Fort Mifflin to Fort Livingston.

News Paragraphs.

THE total number of passengers carried between Europe and the United States last year, in the Trans-Atlantic steamers, was about 74,000, of whom 50,000 were bound westward. This is an increase of more than 13,000 in the aggregate, compared with the previous year.

THE number of immigrants arrived at New York in 1860, were 103,621; of these 46,669 from Ireland, 11,112 from England, 1,506 from Scotland, 809 from Wales, 37,636 from Germany, 1,470 from France, 1,366 from Switzerland, etc. The emigration is 25,000 larger than for two years past.

THE municipality of Naples has decreed a statute to Gen. Garibaldi, to be erected in one of the public squares, to be called after him. It has also decreed medals of honor to those of the National Guard who have distinguished themselves during the late memorable events.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The weather had moderated and a thaw had become almost general throughout England.

The Post's Paris correspondent says the Governments of Italy, Spain, Greece, and Turkey are contemplating a reformed tariff in accordance with that lately contracted between England and France.

It is asserted that England will no longer propose to Austria the sale of Venetia.

Lord Palmerston, in his speech, had referred to the situation of affairs in America. He says that there was too much reason to fear that the Union, which had conducted to so much happiness, was in danger of disruption. He expressed a fervent hope that whether the Union is maintained or dissolved, it would be accomplished by amicable means, so that the world might be spared the afflicting spectacle of a hostile conflict between brothers.

FRANCE.—Returns from the Bank of France for November, exhibit, as anticipated, a large decrease in cash of over 82,000,000 francs; an increase in bills discounted, of 69,000,000 francs; and in bank notes, of nearly 33,000,000 francs.

It was stated that a negotiation was pending between France and all the Continental States for the abolition of the passport system.

ITALY.—Advices from Gaeta prior to the present armistice, state that the Piedmontese were constructing new batteries only two hundred yards from the fortress.

It was said that the Cabinet at Turin had resolved to tolerate the intervention of no other power than France, and to resist by force any attempt of the kind.

It is not true that the French fleet at Gaeta will be replaced by a Russian fleet.

The Wurtemberg Moniteur says that Sardinia will shortly give notice to the German Diet of the different annexations to, and formations of, the Italian Kingdom, and that the Diet will refuse to recognize any Representative of that Kingdom. The same journal boasts that the German and Russian Federal army can meet any enemy.

AUSTRIA.—An autograph letter from the Emperor Francis Joseph, dated 7th inst., contains a very comprehensive amnesty for Hungary, Transylvania, Croatia, and Slavonia, on account of such persons as have merely aimed at a change in the system of the government as established before October last. The ministers are ordered to put this ordinance into immediate execution.

The Pesth Telegram says the government is resolved to adopt a Provincial Electoral Law for Hungary, on the basis of the 6th article of the law of 1848. The Hungarian Diet will assemble on the 2d of April.

TURKEY.—The dismissal of Safeti Pascha has been rescinded. The news from Servia reports increasing disquiet there.

PRUSSIA.—The King of Prussia had issued a proclamation, in which, after paying a warm tribute to the late King, he declares himself faithful to the traditions of his house, and desires to protect the Constitution, to elevate and strengthen the people, and advance their position among the German States. He says:—Confidence in peace is shaken, but I will endeavor to preserve it, and concludes by asking for the courage and confidence of the people.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadway.—Flour dull, and declined 8d since Tuesday. American 32s@32s. Wheat dull, and declined 2d. Buyers demanded a further reduction, and there was some forced sales at 40@40. Red American 113d@113d; white 120@120. Corn dull, and 6d lower. Mixed offered at 37d without buyers. White 39s@40s. Provisions.—Pork dull. Lard dull, and slightly declined; quoted at 59s@60s.

No State or combination of States can secede nor absolve themselves from the obligations of the Union. To permit this without the consent of the rest, is to confess the Government a failure. Pennsylvania will never acquiesce in such a conspiracy nor assent to a doctrine involving the destruction of the Government. If it is to exist, it must have the power adequate to the enforcement of the supreme law in every State. It is the first duty of the Federal Government to stay the progress of anarchy and enforce the laws, and Pennsylvania will give it a united, honest and faithful support. The people mean to preserve the integrity of the Union at every hazard. Amendments to the constitution made in a constitutional manner, our people will consider and act as deliberately upon as their importance demands.

MARYLAND.—Gov. HICKS was petitioned to convene the Legislature of Maryland, and to take certain action with reference to Secession. He refuses to do so, and has published an address to the citizens giving his reasons for refusal. We quote the following extracts: I firmly believe that a division of this Government would inevitably produce civil war. The secession leaders in South Carolina and the piratical demagogues of the North have alike proclaimed that such would be the result, and no man of sense will question it. What could the Legislature do in this crisis, if convened, to remove the troubles which beset the Union? We are told by the leading spirits of the South Carolina Convention, that neither the election of Mr. Lincoln nor the non-execution of the Fugitive Slave Law, nor both combined, constitute their grievances. They declare that the real cause for this discontent dates as far back as 1833. Maryland, and no other State in the Union, with a united voice, then declared the same insufficient to justify the course of South Carolina.

Can it be that the people who then unanimously supported the cause of Gen. Jackson, will now reverse their opinions at the bidding of modern secessionists? I have been told that the position of Maryland should be defined so that both sections can understand it. Do any really misunderstand the position? Who that wishes to understand it, can fall to do so? If the action of the Legislature would be simply to declare that Maryland is with the South in sympathy and feeling, that she demands from the North the repeal of the offensive unconstitutional statutes, and appeals to it for new guarantees, and that she will wait a reasonable time for the North to purge her statute books of unjust laws, and with due justice to her Southern brethren, and if her appeals are in vain, will make common our cause with the border States in resistance to tyranny if need be, it would only be saying what the whole country well know, and what may be said much more effectually by her people in their meetings than by the Legislature chosen eighteen months since, when none of these questions were raised before them.

That Maryland is as conservative as any of the Southern States all know who know anything of her people or history. The farmers and agricultural classes, planters, merchants, mechanics, and laboring men—those who have a real stake in the community, who would be forced to pay the taxes and do the fighting—are the persons who should be first consulted, instead of excited politicians, many of whom have nothing to lose by the destruction of the government, but may hope to derive some gain from the ruin of the State. Such men will naturally urge you to pull down the pillars of this sacred Union, which their allies at the North have denominated a covenant with hell.

The people of Maryland, if left to themselves, would decide, without exception, that there is nothing in the present causes of complaint to justify immediate secession; and yet, against our judgments and solemn convictions of duty, we are to be precipitated into this revolution because South Carolina thinks differently. Are we not equal, or shall her opinions control our actions, after we have solemnly declared ourselves, as every man must do? Are we to be forced to yield our opinions to those of another State, and thus, in effect, obey her mandates? She refuses to wait for our counsels. Are we bound to obey her commands?

The men who have embarked in this scheme to convene the Legislature, will spare no pains to carry their point. The whole plan of operation in assembling the Legislature is, as I have been informed, already marked out. The list of Ambassadors who are to visit the other States are agreed on, and the resolutions which they hope will be passed by the Legislature, fully committing this State for secession, are said to be already prepared. In the course of nature, I cannot have long to live, and I fervently trust to be allowed to end my days as a citizen of this glorious Union. But should I be compelled to witness the downfall of that God-inherited power our fathers established, as it were, by the special favor of God, I will at least have the consolation that at my dying hour I neither, by word or deed, assisted this disruption.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The RURAL of the 19th inst. contained an extract from the valedictory of Gov. BANKS, and we now present the opinions of Gov. ANDREWS, who was inaugurated on the 5th inst. The enrolled Militia of the State exceed 155,000, while the active Militia are but 5,600. The Governor suggests that a large number be placed on an active footing, that the State may be ready to contribute her share of force in any exigency of public danger.

The Personal Liberty law he believes strictly Constitutional. The right of a person to reclaim an alleged fugitive must always be subordinate to the original indefeasible right of every freeman to his liberty. He submits the subject to the wisdom of the Legislature. On secession he speaks to the effect that the people of Massachusetts respond in the words of Jackson, "the Federal Union must be preserved."

THE Southern Difficulties. BUT very little of importance has transpired since our last issue, but we make note of the tendency of affairs, as follows: SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Legislature has agreed on a flag for the State. The ground is to be blue, with a white oval in the center, and a golden Palmetto thereon. There is also to be a white inner crescent in the upper flag-staff corner. The Senate adopted the resolution authorizing the Governor to send volunteers to Florida in case of threatened invasion of that State. The number of men is unlimited.

LOUISIANA.—At the Baton Rouge Convention the following vote was taken on the ordinance declaring the immediate secession of Louisiana from the Union:—Yeas 113, nays 17. The Convention has adjourned, to re-assemble again in New Orleans.

MISSISSIPPI.—A dispatch from Jackson, Miss., on the 22d, says the Convention has elected seven delegates to the Southern Convention to meet at Montgomery. The Convention also passed an amendment to raise eight regiments of troops, and Jefferson Davis was elected Major General.

Mr. Yule, of Florida, announced the withdrawal of himself and colleague from the Senate. Mr. Clay read the withdrawal of the Alabama Senators.

Mr. Davis stated that the secession of Mississippi terminated his functions here. In parting he said he felt no hostility against any Senator. He hoped the relations between them might be peaceful, though he must part. If he had offended any he would now make reparation for such offence. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Speaker laid before the House a letter signed by the Alabama delegation withdrawing from further participation in the deliberations of the House, in consequence of the secession of that State. On motion of Mr. Morris, the Judiciary Committee were instructed to inquire into the propriety of amending the Neutrality laws so as to prevent military expeditions being allowed to aid seceding States.

The House Military Committee have passed a bill appropriating \$1150 for the soldiers of Fort Sumter's losses, by precipitate leaving of Fort Moultrie.

The House resumed the consideration of the Post-route bill, and adopted the Senate's amendment, making the postage of letters to and from San Francisco the uniform rate, 10 cents, whether carried by the steamer or overland.

Mr. Grow offered a resolution that a select committee of five be appointed to inquire whether any secret organization hostile to the United States exists in the District of Columbia, and if so, whether any officer or employee of the Federal Government is in the executive or judicial departments thereof. Adopted.

Mr. Colfax called up the post route bill which passed the House last session, and was returned from the Senate with amendments, which were now considered and nearly all agreed to, including provisions for procuring and furnishing one cent stamp wrappers and envelopes, requiring letters which have been advertised to be sent to the Dead Letter Office within two months, letters for the seaboard to be retained for a longer period, under the Post Office regulations unclaimed, money from the Dead Letter Office to be applied to promote the efficiency of that bureau.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The resolution to fix the 5th of February for the election of U. S. Senator, was adopted. In Executive Session the appointments of Dr. Gunn as Health Officer of New York, Benj. Welch, Jr., as Commissary General, and W. S. Benton as Auditor of Canal Department, were confirmed.

The Senate took up the bill relative to the Finance Department of the City of New York. On motion of Mr. Sessions, an amendment was adopted retaining Mr. Develin in office as Chamberlain, by a vote of 17 to 10. Mr. Robertson's amendment was also adopted, providing that the same Chamberlain may at any time, and from time to time, change the bank of deposit for the City of New York respectively, upon notice thereof to the Comptroller of said city; and it shall be the duty of any bank or banks holding such deposit at the time of such notice, to transfer the same forthwith to the bank specified in such notice; and in case of the refusal of such bank, it may be compelled by mandamus, to make such transfer, and shall be liable to pay 5 per cent. as damages for detention, besides interest from the date of demand.

In the Senate Mr. Conolly offered concurrent resolutions, that the conservative action of the Border Slave States in refusing sanction to unconstitutional measures of seceding States, merits grateful acknowledgments from the people of New York. That the refusal of Gov. Hicks, of Maryland, to convene the Legislature of that State to promote the objects of the secessionists, excites the profoundest admiration of our country. It will acknowledge him a patriot of the highest order. Liberty will own him a benefactor—the human race a friend. Also, that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to Gov. Hicks. Adopted—27 to 1. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Speaker made the following Committee on the condition and wants of the people of Kansas: Messrs. Turner, Randall, Wells, Macomber, Bergen.

Mr. Camp offered the following: Whereas it is known that the President elect will leave Springfield in a few days for Washington, and whereas the journey to the National Capitol should be marked by such manifestations of popular respect as are due, as well to him, as to the office he is about to assume, and

Whereas, the loyal people of New York will cordially welcome him at every point and assure him of the devotion to the Constitution and laws of the Country, therefore,

Resolved, If the Senate concur, that his Excellency the Governor be requested to invite Mr. Lincoln to pass through this State on his way to the Federal Capitol, and tender him the hospitalities of the authorities and the people. Adopted unanimously.

Bills Passed.—To incorporate Artists' Fund Society of New York City. To increase the salary of Deputy County Clerk of New York. Adjourned.

The Governors on Secession.

WE close our extracts from the Messages of the Governors of the various States, and think our readers will be enabled to judge as to the reverence in which the Union is held by the sentiments therein expressed.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The last issue of the RURAL contained a portion of the valedictory of Gov. PACKER, and we now present an extract from the Inaugural of Gov. CURTIN. The Governor pledges himself to stand between the Constitution and its encroachments, instigated by no hatred or ambition, fanaticism or folly. The election of a President has been made a pretext for disturbing the peace of the country, by wresting from the Federal Government the power the people conferred upon it when it was adopted. There is nothing in the life and acts of Mr. Lincoln, to warrant that his Administration will be unfriendly to State or local institutions. Nothing has occurred to justify the excitement which has blinded the judgment of a part of the people, and which is now precipitating them into revolution. If Pennsylvania has any laws infringing upon the rights of any State, or which contravene any Federal law or obstruct its execution, they ought to be repealed. She never has faltered in the recognition of all the duties imposed by the National compact, and will by every act consistent with devotion to the interests of her people promote fraternity and peace between the States. When her trade was prostrated and her industry paralyzed by legislation of the General Government, favoring adverse interests, Pennsylvania waited patiently for another opportunity to declare the public will in a Constitutional manner.

Though the State has suffered from adverse legislation, no voice of disloyalty or treason, nor arm has been raised to strike at the severed fabric of our National Union. It will be our duty to unite with the people of the loyal States in just and honorable measure of conciliation. If they are just and moderate the danger may be averted; ours is a National Government having all the attributes of sovereignty, and among them is the right of self-preservation.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. Superb New Pettunias for 1861—Ellwanger & Barry. Farm for Sale or to hire—H. B. Brewster, Jr. Near the Oil Regions—A. Partington & Co. N. Y. State Agri. Socy.—P. Johnson, Secy. Creveling Grape Vines—P. M. Goodwin & Bro. Agents Wanted—N. Douglas Robinson. Elmira Female College—Rev. A. W. Cowles, Pres. Farms for Sale—Geo. H. Preston. Doolittle's Improved Black Cap Raspberry—G. F. Wilcox. Boarding Barley for Sale—A. Clinton. Agent Wanted—J. S. Pardee.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT. ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY 2, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

THE telegraph this (Monday) morning states that the President expects to hear of a collision at any time at the South. An attack is apprehended at any moment at Fort Sumter or Fort Pickens.

Ex-President Tyler had a long, satisfactory and friendly interview with the President on the 24th ult. The latter expressed the hope that there would be no collision between the Federal and State forces during his administration, and that he should certainly make every effort to prevent riot and to preserve peace.

The National Railroad Convention, which was in session during the last week, held a meeting to take into consideration the condition of National Affairs, and appointed the following gentlemen as a Committee to draft resolutions of their sentiments. Mr. Marsh, President of the Erie Railroad; Mr. Corning, President of the N. Y. Central; Mr. Thompson, President of the Pennsylvania Central, Mr. Garret, President of the Baltimore and Ohio, and M. L'Honniesdieu, President of the Hamilton and Dayton. The Committee reported a series of resolutions which were unanimously adopted, to the effect that the plan embodied in the Crittenden resolutions, for dissipating the evils now threatening the existence of the Union, meets our approbation. The Convention, consisting of about sixty gentlemen, made a visit to the President of the United States, and Gen. Scott.

It is said that the Grand Jury presented Goddard Bailey for larceny of the Indian Trust Fund, and Russel as accessory, together with Secretary Floyd, for conspiracy to defraud the Government.

The Post-office at Pensacola has been abolished, the mail service discontinued; and the Postmasters throughout the country directed to send all letters addressed to Pensacola to the dead-letter office. This course was in consequence of the interruption of the mails by the Florida.

There appears no reason to doubt that a well organized conspiracy is in existence, having for its object the seizure of Washington by the Southern rebels, and that the leaders are fully determined to precipitate a crisis. The arrangements for repelling invasion, however, are ample.

The following paper, proposed by Representative Montgomery, has been circulated in the House:

We, the undersigned, members of the 26th Congress, convinced by the various votes taken on the several propositions presented for our consideration from time to time, that there is no hope that any measure which will reconcile existing difficulties between the sections of our country, can receive a constitutional majority, and as none of the present members were elected in view of the existing trouble, and believing that in a time of so great peril it is proper to refer this question to the people of our several districts, propose that the members of this Congress resign, to take effect on the 21st of February next; and that we immediately provide for the election of our successors by the people, who shall assemble on the 21st of February next, and to these representatives, hearing the instructions of the people, the various propositions of compromise now pending, and heretofore to be proposed, should be referred. The election is not to interfere with the officers or employees of the House.

Fifty members of the House have already adopted the plan, and have signed the proposition. A dispatch from Gov. Pickens, says the best understanding exists between Major Anderson and the South Carolina authorities, and there is no apprehension of immediate hostilities.

The friends of the Virginia peace proposition assign as a reason for pressing it on the attention of other Border Slave States, that it will have the effect of preventing them from joining the Cotton States, and if adopted by them, will afford an opportunity for the latter to return to the Union.

Secretary Dix communicated to the House an important document in reply to Mr. Sherman, Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. It gives first the amount of the public debt, and a detailed description of the public debt, and of the different kinds of debt. Second, The amount and details of the floating debt, and unpaid balances, with claims. Third, The amount of acceptances and other acknowledgments of debts by the different Governments. Fourth, The facts connected with the recent sales of Treasury notes. Fifth, The amounts required to pay the public dues, accruing prior to the first of July next, and in this connection, the estimated amounts from dues and imports, the public lands and miscellaneous sources up to that date. The Secretary estimates the amount necessary, prior to July next, in addition to the accruing revenues, as \$20,000,000. He then suggests measures to raise this money, and among them refers to the surplus revenue deposited in the States in 1836, as a specific fund which might be pledged or recalled.

Letters received from Paris, by the Asia, state that on New Year's Day the Emperor, Louis Napoleon, on the official presentation of the Diplomatic Corps, expressed to Mr. Falkner, the American Minister, the hope that no State or States had separated, or would separate from the Union. The Emperor also expressed the wish that the United States might long continue a united and prosperous people.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—Mr. Hunter, from the Committee on Finance, reported the Indian Appropriation Bill, and asked to be excused from further service on the Finance Committee. He said it was evident that the party in the majority in the Senate would soon be changed, and he thought justice to himself and the Senate required him to be excused. Mr. Hunter has been Chairman of Finance fifteen years. He was excused.

The Kansas bill was read a third time and passed—yeas 36, nays 16.

The bills for the sale of public lands, and the removal of the Arsenal at St. Louis, and the construction of a new Arsenal at Jefferson barracks, were passed.



