

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELLENCE LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

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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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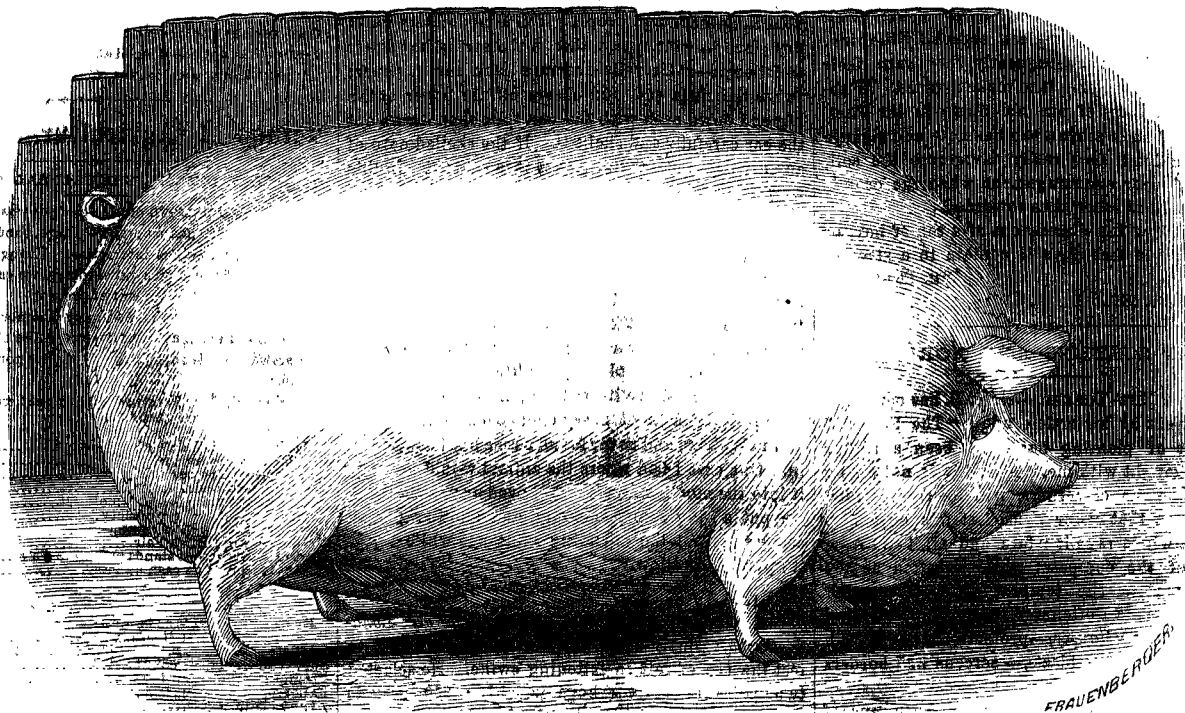
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AGRICULTURAL.

IS COTTON KING?

It may be a matter of interest to agricultural readers just now, to look at the possible bearing of any disturbances in the South which may interfere with the usual supply of cotton. As it is claimed that "Cotton is King," we ought to know its pedigree and legitimate claims (if it have any), to bear its name and sway. Of the importance and value of cotton as a textile fabric, there can be no doubt. But it should be borne in mind that fibrous plants are very numerous, and that the Almighty has not shut us up to one source, important as it may be for our supply of vegetable fibre for clothing. There are probably fifty different species of plants which yield vegetable fibre in such a form as to be useful in some degree, and, under favorable circumstance, for the manufacture of cordage, paper, and cloth. In addition to this, we have the wool and hair of different animals, either domestic or capable of being domesticated. We have the various varieties of the silk worm, some of which, like that lately introduced into France from the East, can be cheaply fed and reared, and made to produce a coarse fabric suitable in point of cheapness for common wear. It may be said that none of these have been proved equal in cheapness and excellence to the cotton. But it may be answered that no man can predict the effect of the application of scientific and inventive intellect to the general subject of textile fibres under the impulse of necessity. The inventions of HARGREAVES and ARKWRIGHT in England, and of WHITNEY in this country, actually created the cotton culture in the South, and the cotton manufacture in England. It is unsafe for politicians or economists to presume on peculiar advantages which the Creator has given to any one country or climate. There is a law of compensation which presides over all God's blessings. It may be doubted whether cotton is a "King" at all, and with still better reason may it be doubted whether the cotton of the Gulf States of North America is "King."

Let us look at this matter a few moments. Cotton grows freely in almost all the warm countries of the globe. In almost all these countries it may be supplied to an indefinite extent. The limitation upon its production is either the lack of civilization, and a government which can protect regular labor, as in Africa; or in the means of transporting it to market, as in India. It is well known that half a century ago India was the great cotton growing and manufacturing country of the world. Our older readers can remember when "India Cottons" were common in our own country. What has changed all this, and enabled Old and New England to carry cotton fabrics to India? It is not that India has ceased to raise cotton, or weave it, for a hundred millions of people are clothed with cotton of their own raising. It is simply because English and American talent has applied machinery to clean, and spin, and weave the cotton, so that by these means they are able to enter into a successful competition even with the marvellously cheap labor of the rice-eating natives of India and China. In this way England, herself, has thrown her fabrics made of American cotton into India, and by reducing the demand for raw cotton there, has reduced the amount grown. Raw cotton is easier obtained from America than from India, for want of the means of transportation over the immense distances between the cotton fields and the Indian sea ports. The quality of the American article is better, but this depends, in a great measure, on the skill of the cultivator. The railroad system of the English in India is now about coming into activity, and this will enable the natives to reach a market with all the cotton they may have a demand for. It may be safely said that in five years' time India may be made to supply a very large part, if not the whole of the English demand for raw cotton.



BRUCE'S YORKSHIRE PIG.

WINNER OF THE FIRST PRIZE AT THE WINTER MEETING OF THE ROYAL DUBLIN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WHILE the improved breeds of cattle have excited almost universal attention, and have formed one of the most important features in our Annual State Fairs; while the contest between the friends of long and short wooled, and South-Down Sheep has been both interesting and exciting; and while many have exhibited undue interest in fancy breeds of fowls, the pig for many years has been almost forgotten. Knowing this fact, the managers of our Fairs have provided few pens for this family of domestic animals, and but a small portion of those provided have been occupied. That all breeds are alike profitable to the feeder, or that the subject is unworthy the serious attention of farmers, we cannot believe. We present our readers with a portrait of one of the finest hogs we have seen for a long time. She was exhibited at the Winter Fat Cattle Show of the Royal Dublin Society, and obtained the first prize in the class of "single pigs, large breed, of any age," and is an enormous white Yorkshire pig, of great depth and thickness. She was bred and is now

owned by Mr. BRUCE, of Milltown Castle, Ireland, and is nearly two years old. Mr. B. had previously obtained with this animal four first class prizes, and we present her as a perfect model of a large pig. The engraving we copy from the *Irish Farmers' Gazette*. There is a great prejudice in England against large pigs, and the old Yorkshire has been modified in size as well as improved in form. While in this country, packers pay the highest price for large hogs, in England a pig weighing from six to eight score, or from 120 to 160 pounds, will bring more in market than one of greater weight. The Yorkshire pig is one of the oldest as well as one of the largest breeds, but until improved by modern breeders it was extremely long-legged and weak-loined; very long from head to tail, color chiefly white, with long coarse curly hair, and yielding a coarse flabby flesh. The improved Yorkshire, sometimes called Lincolnshire, however, "is well-formed throughout, its head of fair length, with pleasant, mild, docile countenance; ears droop-

ing, but not too large; back broad, and very slightly curved, with wide well-set rump, chine and loin broad; ribs springing; deep sides and full chest; color white; hair long, and thinly set. It is a fine specimen of the pig; grows very fast, feeds rapidly, and will readily, under good management, attain to from 275 to 350 pounds in twelve months from birth, and the quality of pork is remarkably good, having a good proportion of fine lean flesh." This change was effected by the Lincolnshire breeders, but those of Yorkshire have improved the form, and at the same time preserved the size of this old breed. J. A. CLARKE, in the *Cyclopaedia of Agriculture*, says, "the specimens lately exhibited of the large Yorkshire breed have attained a size too large for any useful purpose, and would exceed in weight that of a moderately grown Scotch ox. The present taste of the public is decidedly set against such an overgrown sort; at present, however, they make large prices." Here we have no such prejudices against large pork for packing.

Our readers are aware of the issue of the late Chinese war. The capital of England and France can now avail itself of the teeming millions of China with their rich lands and cheap labor for the supply of cotton. The Chinese are a migratory people,—they will go anywhere, or do any kind of work, for money. They are the Yankees of the East. The English can establish Chinese colonies in Australia and introduce the cultivation of cotton there to any extent. We know that our cousins over the water are very philanthropic, but they are not scrupulous when their own power or safety is put in jeopardy. All the islands of the Pacific may be thus made to yield the coveted staple. So can Egypt and Turkey, Sicily and Algeria, Jamaica, British Guiana, Central America and Brazil, and English capital and skill are present in all those countries. The exploration and civilization of Africa has for many years been a favorite subject with the English people and Government. Africa furnishes the finest cotton lands on the globe. Love of money is everywhere the great civilizing force. When the petty tyrants of Africa find that a man is worth more to plant cotton and hoe cotton than to sell to the coast slave dealers, the trade in cotton will supersede the trade in men. If they continue to make raids for captives, these petty kings will be more likely to send them into the cotton field than to the slave ship.

The recent letter in the *Evening Post* from Hon. E. G. SQUIER, shows that nothing is needed but a stable government to make Central America one of the most profitable cotton regions in the world. England is an adept at protectorates, and we are not exactly in the condition to enforce the MONROE doctrine for the benefit of the Southern Secessionists. It should be remarked that in this effort to open new fields of supply for cotton, France and England have a common interest, and will work together. Lord JOHN RUSSELL has just put all the Consuls of the British Government at the service of the Manchester Cotton Supply Association, and thus we find that private capital and self-interest are re-inforced by government in the great work of seeking new fields of supply for the mills of Great Britain. The secession movement and its possible consequences have set all this powerful machinery into the intensest activity. For years this Association has been making explorations, but apparently with no great vigor. Now all these considerations of danger and self-interest are increased in force by the general dislike of the slave system of the South. Such machinery, with so much capital, with so much weight of motive drawn from morality and self-interest combined, can hardly fail to be effective. The manufacturing districts of the Northern States are alike interested with England to ascertain the

extent to which their laboring population are liable to suffer from a stoppage or diminution of the supply of cotton. It is true that there seems at present to be little danger from this source. As cotton is the main dependence of the seceding States, and as their taxation will be enormously increased by their late action, they must raise cotton in order to raise money,—to raise money from their cotton it must be sold. It will be sold to those who have money to buy it. If the Southern ports are blockaded, the cotton can be sent by railroads overland nearly as cheap as it can be shipped by sea. If war or insurrection stop the cotton supply from the South, we shall have open to us through the command of the sea all those new sources of supply which the activity of the English and French shall lay open.

But though we see no reason to fear a deficiency of raw cotton for our mills, we have another kind of fibre upon which we can fall back, and this can be raised in all the Northern States, and to any extent. It is known that flax can be prepared for spinning by jennies in the manner of cotton. Several mills for its manufacture have been started in our country. But so little pains have been taken by farmers who raise flax (mainly for the seed,) to prepare the fibre and get it to market, that for all the finer fabrics the manufacturers were obliged to import from Europe, mainly from Russia. Upon this there was a duty equal to that laid on imported linen, so that they get no protection. Their success, so far as quality is concerned, was complete. But the active competition of foreigners in the substantial absence of all protection, finally induced them to abandon the manufacture of the finer class of goods. The coarser fabrics are still made at a profit, and, without doubt, when attention is given to the preparation of flax, so that the home supply will be equal to any demand made upon it, the same might be true of the more delicate fabrics. A recent letter to the writer from a distinguished manufacturer, whose means of information have been unusually good, says that there is so much flax raised, for the seed alone, in the single State of Ohio, that if the quality of the article was properly attended to, and the fibre well broken and cleaned, it would serve, in addition to the seed, to supply the entire Union with linens. Beyond all question the Northern States are able at any time to raise sufficient flax to replace the whole amount of cotton now spun without any serious addition of cost to the consumer. It was recently stated in Boston that flax could be purchased in Ohio, carried to Roxbury, cottonized, and delivered at the place where it was grown for fifteen cents per pound. The process of separating the ultimate fibres of the flax from each other, and preparing them for spinning with same ease as cotton or wool, is now well under-

stood and easy. The old idea that flax is of necessity an exhausting crop, is now controverted on good authority. With the enormous capacity of our western prairies for production, and the facilities now existing for preparing the fibre for use, it is evident that very slight advance in the price of cotton would stimulate the culture of flax so far as to meet all the necessities now supplied by cotton. It is by no means certain that free labor and scientific skill might not enable flax, or some other fibrous plant, to change places with the regal plant of the tropics. One thing is certain. We need have no fear in regard to an immediate supply of our spindles and looms should war or insurrection diminish or destroy the crop of cotton in our Southern States. We can even do much toward furnishing fibre for our English neighbors in the improbable event that their new sources of cotton supply should be insufficient. We are thus able to assure our Southern friends that in any event we shall not be in danger of suffering for shirts, bedding, or calicoes. We are, on the whole, disposed to think that cotton is not "king" either *de jure* or *de facto*. We will suggest to the cotton planter that fashions in trade are apt to become a rage. The embargo destroyed the timber trade between the United States and Great Britain,—it did the same work for the trade in beef and pork. Before the Revolution in Hayti, that island was the great source of supply for coffee. But that being, in a great measure, cut off by the insurrection, Brazil, under the impulse of foreign capital, took up the culture of coffee and now is ready to supply the world.

We venture to predict that the present secession movement will, by opening new sources of supply for cotton, effectually take away from the Southern States the control of the cotton market, and leave them where Hayti is in relation to Brazil in the culture of coffee, and where Louisiana stands relatively to Cuba in the growth of sugar. The bold assumption that the cotton of the Gulf States is "King," and that this secures the success of the Southern Confederacy, will be sure, in the end, to compel the cotton growers of the South to take the humble place of unequal competitors with a dozen other sources of supply, of whose existence they now hardly dream. In case matters look stormy in the spring, it may be well for our farming friends to recollect that we may need an extra amount of flax to keep our spindles going, while the seed, as a staple article, will always meet a ready cash sale. Meanwhile we invite those who have had experience in flax raising to give us, in definite form, the results of their labors. The subject has received some notice in previous volumes of the RURAL, but the present condition of affairs in our country now renders such a discussion peculiarly appropriate.

FINE WOOL SHEEP—HIGH FEEDING.

MR. RURAL:—I notice the remarks of S. H., of Caneus, in your issue of Jan. 26th, on raising fine wool. His fleeces of fine wool, weighing on the average 4 lbs., are very respectable. If every farmer would raise 4 lb. fleeces, these would be little use for advocating a higher system of feeding; but Mr. S. H. must be aware that his is rather an exception and not a rule. It may do very well as far as the wool is concerned, but generally those that have wool to sell have mutton sheep also to sell, and I maintain that from 60 to 70 cents expended daily for either corn or buckwheat at present prices, to his 100 sheep, over and above what he now feeds them, would, in my views of feeding, pay a good profit. In the first place it would enable him to sell his mutton sheep immediately after they are shorn, when mutton generally brings a much higher price than late in the season; besides his lambs, owing to richer milk from their mothers, would be both larger and fatter, and he would ultimately have much larger sheep. Nothing prevents a Merino sheep from being one-third heavier when they are fat for the butcher-market, but the poverty-stricken way they are kept in their youth. I have often had yearling Merinos weigh 126 lbs. gross, when sold, and that is a fair weight for much larger breeds.

S. H. says 5 lb. fleeces won't bring so much per pound by 10 cents as those weighing only 4 lbs.—that is if the buyer and seller are honest. No such deductions were ever made on any five pound fleeces, nor 6 lb. ones either, that I have sold. I shall boast nothing about honesty; but I wonder if any one would believe that S. H., if offered 50 cents per pound for 5 lb. fleeces, would tell the buyer, "No, I am too honest to take that; those fleeces weigh 5 lbs. each, and are not worth over 40 cents. You can have them for that!"

There is, in my opinion, a great gain in high feeding, every way. The high feeder can have his yearling wethers ready for market and get as high a price as many a farmer gets when two years older, and that allows him to keep more breeding ewes; therefore he can turn off his increase either in lambs or yearlings. Often good fat lambs will bring as much in market as many three year old Merino wethers, or even more. I was raised amongst sheep, have had care of them all my life, and I am more and more convinced that the better they are kept, the better they pay. Breeding ewes should not be kept too fat, else there is often serious losses at yearning. Neither should the young ewes intended for breeders be kept too fat; but all the wethers and old ewes kept from breeding cannot be made too fat. Any man may see at once that if lambs can be sold to the butcher for \$2.50 to \$3, it is folly to keep them poorly and sell them for \$2.50 to \$3 at 3 1/2 years old, which is generally the price of the common run of Merino wethers at 3 to 3 1/2 years old. Even if they get \$2 per fleece for keeping them, at the price of hay here, that would never pay. A sheep, if fed as much good hay as he will eat, will consume 500 pounds during the feeding season, and that consumes the fleece or the 4 pounds at 50 cents, which would be pasture and expenses lost. No, sir, sheep kept in that way will not pay here. We must keep them on straw and grain till March, if not longer, and then feed good hay as the weather gets warmer. In that way we winter them both cheaper and better, and then we have a large part of our meadows for other purposes. When hay is worth from \$8 to \$10 per ton at the barn, it won't pay to feed to sheep when wool is 40 to 50 cents per pound, unless grain is fed along with it, heavy fleeces raised, the lambs got to market or kept until yearlings, made fat and got to market immediately on being shorn, or before if practicable. But enough about sheep at present. JOHN JOHNSTON. Near Geneva, N. Y., 1861.

PRACTICAL SERMONS ON SHORT TEXTS.

DEEPENING THE SOIL. "SOILS should be plowed as deep as the substratum will admit of its being done by the force of the ordinary team, at least once in a course of crops."—JUDGE BURL. In this country it will be found a general rule, that the plow seldom penetrates more than four or five inches into the soil, and in most cases the soil is plowed to the same depth for every crop that is grown upon it, thus exposing only two surfaces, as it were, to atmospheric action. This may, and did, answer very well when the soil was newly cleared, as the superincumbent forest contained a large amount of fertilizing matter near the surface; but this matter having been used up, the continuation of this system of plowing has resulted in worn-out lands, with a concrete hard-pan intervening between the cultivated and the uncultivated soil, preventing the roots of ordinary crops from entering the sub-soil in search of food, and also in a great measure obstructing the drainage of surface water, and the ascent of moisture by capillary attraction. It would be well if our farmers would pay more attention to this important matter. In carrying out a system of rotation of crops, I would here strongly recommend the soil to be turned up in the first course to the depth of four inches, and to be deepened one or two inches at each successive crop till the seeding to grass, when it would be twelve or fourteen inches deep. On the commencement of each rotation after grass, begin again at five inches. In this way a new stratum of soil would be turned up, each

year, to receive the ameliorating influence of the atmosphere, and also allow such manure as is applied to become thoroughly incorporated with the soil.

In deepening the soil it will be found most advantageous to have the operation performed in autumn, that the new soil turned up may be ameliorated by the frost before growing a crop upon it.

Of course, this system is not intended to take the place of sub-soiling, as understood in England; but even where the sub-soil plow is used, it will be found advantageous to vary the depth of the after plowing to suit each individual crop.

J. M. Hamilton, C. W., 1861.

SUGAR FROM SORGHUM—HOW MADE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Since the publication of my article on Sorghum in your issue of Dec. 1st, I have received a host of letters, all from "RURAL Readers," inquiring how I made sugar.

I answer, First—My Evaporator cost sixty-five dollars at Laporte, Ind., and fifteen dollars freight. It is six feet in diameter, the rim six inches high, the bottom flat, one-half inch thick, and weighs one thousand pounds.

Second—This Evaporator reduces 50 gallons of juice into molasses per hour, or 600 gallons per day, making from 12 to 16 gallons of molasses per hour—depending on the ripeness and purity of the cane.

Third—An acre of cane will produce from 100 to 320 gallons of molasses, this is my own estimate, from four years' experience in cultivating sorghum.

Fourth—The best time to plant the cane is when you would plant corn, the earlier the better, to ensure perfection. My cane I planted last season on the 2d day of May, but on account of the drouth it did not come up until the 16th of June.

Fifth—I made sugar simply by boiling the juice down thicker than for molasses and setting it away to grain. The entire process is easy, certain, and may be briefly described. I filled one of the semi-circular pans with juice, turning it over the furnace and fire—got to boiling as soon and as fast as possible.

In conclusion, I would say to farmers, east and west of the Mississippi, plant Sorghum, and not a garden patch, but five or ten acres,—get a good mill and an evaporator like mine, and if you are not satisfied with the result by this time next year, you may sentence me through the tribunal of the RURAL NEW-YORKER. In a good cause "I ask no favors and shrink from no responsibilities." J. WILLIAMS. Kingston, Mo., 1861.

FARMING AND CROPS IN IOWA.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Perhaps some of the readers of the RURAL will be glad to hear a word from Iowa, concerning the crops and other agricultural matters. The crops last season were excellent,—never better. The wheat raised here is generally spring wheat, as fall wheat usually winter kills, so the former is preferred, because deemed more certain, although the latter is much better liked for flour.

a fine, refreshing rain, which gave new life to our withering crops, and fresh vigor to the farmer.

Our corn crop averaged about seventy bushels to the acre, excluding those farmers who plant their corn about the middle of June, drop from six to eight grains in each hill, plant even without first plowing the land, and after planting, perhaps run the cultivator through once, and then leave Nature to do the rest.

Considerable attention is being paid to the raising of Sorghum. Farmers say that it makes a superior article of molasses. If the raising of Sorghum continues to progress, Iowa will soon be able to furnish herself with molasses, independent of disunionists.

Manuring is much neglected here. Some think that to manure land is useless, especially the rich, black soil of Iowa; consequently they burn their straw, instead of keeping it to make manure.

I wish to know the dimensions of a ton of hay, or how many cubic feet does it contain in a stack of solid hay? Wm. Baxter. Iowa City, Iowa, 1861.

FOREST SCREENS AND BORDERS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—H. T. B. has conferred a public benefit by his article upon "The Forests." The subject of planting has often been a matter of serious thought with me. That this is not owing to any uncommon cleverness, will be readily seen when I report that "our house" stands on a hill, where bleak winds rake it "fore and aft," and from all points of the compass; while as often as the west winds rise, the tempest holds a regular carnival.

It is doubtful, however, whether any sharp reproof we might apply to those who have gone before us, would serve in anywise to mitigate our troubles, or make them more endurable.

I will remember an incident in my early years, bearing upon this subject. There was a piece of ten acres or more cleared, about our log house, having on it here and there a tree left standing.

Sometimes, doubtless, money ruled the hour, but oftener the wants of a numerous family demanded, or seemed to demand, an increased area of cultivable land; and in this connection, we may well remember the grant to the Israelites to cut down the timber, and make a wall against any city that was to be subdued.

PROFIT OF KEEPING HENS, &c. EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing in a late number of your paper an article respecting hens, and the profits from keeping them, I will cheerfully add my testimony in their favor. I kept, the past year, twenty hens,—raised two broods of chickens,—had from six to eight in the family, and received thirty-three dollars and fifty cents for eggs.

I think we keep nothing on the farm here that with proper care brings so much net profit as hens. The gain depends upon the constant and daily care. The practice of rudely throwing the setting hens from the nests night after night,—of ducking them

in water, or tying red strips of cloth to their feathers, is all wrong. The hen should be taken gently from the nest, when beginning to set,—placed in a suitable coop on the ground, under cover,—well fed and watered, and in two or three days, at most, let out.

Hens one or two years old are most profitable. The hen-house must be kept clean,—whitewashed two or three times during summer. I make, yearly, by throwing in muck and loam, from time to time, from four to six horse-carts of superior manure, which I have found most valuable for starting corn in the spring.

Testing Seed Corn. A CORRESPONDENT of the Nebraska Farmer, after describing his method of selecting seed corn in the field in autumn, and keeping it in a moderately warm dry place in winter, says that in the spring he tests it as follows:—"He rolls or wraps each ear in paper; twists the little end, and shears off the paper at the big end down even with the ear.

To Relieve Choking Cattle. ONE who is familiar with cattle gives the following directions for relieving them from choking:—"Put one arm over the neck, so as to have one hand on each side, find the substance that the animal is choked with, then place your thumb below it on each side, and shove it gently up into the mouth.

A LEAK IN THE STABLE. A WRITER in the American Agriculturist, while treating this topic, disquisitions thus:—"Not a leak in the roof, though that would be bad, but in the floor, which is worse, and many leaks, too, leaks between every plank! Why should this be allowed? Why not make the floor tight as possible, and have one gutter near the heels of the stock, to carry off the urine into a tank below, or in a heap of muck or other absorbent? Or, in place of this arrangement, have the floors well covered with litter, of straw, peat, tanbark, sawdust, plaster, or any dry absorbent material.

INQUIRIES AND ANSWERS. "OHIO" BROOD CORN.—I noticed in a back number of the RURAL (Feb., 1860, I think), a communication relating to brood corn, in which a variety called the "Ohio" was recommended best for cultivation.

FOR-RISING AT THE WHEAT.—As the RURAL gives valuable advice on the raising and management of sheep and cattle, I would be pleased if some of your readers would give one on the management of hogs,—their experience in raising, profits, and also the best breeds. The soil here is a clay loam, adapted to hay, corn, wheat, &c. The prevailing crop has been hay, and I am afraid it has prevailed too long.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION. GRAIN FAIR.—A. B. Benham, Hayden, Tomp. Co., \$15. BUTTER DAIRY FAIR.—Robert Harvey, Leyden, Lewis Co., \$30. CHEESE DAIRY FAIR.—Leonard S. Stranding, Deer River, Lewis Co., \$50.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS. Tompkins County Agricultural Society, \$30; Ithaca Farmers' Club, 20. DRAINING, &c. A. H. Buck, Lowville, Draining Past Swamp, \$10. GRASSES, &c. Mrs. Isaac Clement, Mechanicville, 100 varieties, \$15.

FIELD CROPS. SPRING WHEAT.—Cliff Eames, Rutland, Jeff. Co., 3 acres and 62 rods, crop 101 bushels, \$15. Mr. Hiram Olmstead, Walton, Del. Co., presented a crop of 67½ bushels Spring Wheat raised on 2 acres and 18 rods. The crop did not meet the requirements of the Society, as to the amount per acre, (30 bushels), therefore not awarded any regular premium.

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FEDRING CORN AND COB MEAL.—In the fall of 1857 I fed an ox on corn and cob meal to fatten. When killed, his paunch contained a mass two-thirds filling it, entirely composed of the hard, flint shell which envelops the end of the kernel and is left on the cob in shelling. This was so hard that it could not be broken with the pole of an ax.

FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP.—Another Remedy.—In the RURAL NEW-YORKER of January 5, a subscriber wants to know what will cure this disease. I will give him an infallible remedy, as I have tested it myself, and I never had to use it more than once, one application being sufficient either for the Foul in horned cattle or Foot Rot in sheep.

DOINGS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES. N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Society was held last week at Albany. The attendance was not large, though quite respectable, and the sessions interesting.

By Cash Payments as follows:— 1860. Premiums at Winter Meeting, 1860, \$633 00 Expenses at do. 61 73 Survey of Onondaga county, 539 75 Expenses of previous fairs, including settlement of Albany claim of 1859, 3,023 31 Salary of Entomologist, Dr. Asa Fitch, 1,000 00 Expenses of Library and Museum, 145 07

On motion the usual Committee of twenty-four—three from each Judicial District—was appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year, and recommend a place for holding the next Annual Fair. The Committee subsequently made the following report:

President—Hon. GEORGE GEDDES, of Onondaga. Vice-Presidents (one for each Judicial District)—John Jay, of New York; Benj. F. Camp, of Westchester; Herman Wendell, of Albany; John A. Corey, of Saratoga; S. D. Hungerford, of Jefferson; Ezra Cornell, of Tompkins; D. D. T. Moore, of Monroe; Samuel W. Johnson, of Cattaraugus.

On motion the usual Committee of twenty-four—three from each Judicial District—was appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year, and recommend a place for holding the next Annual Fair. The Committee subsequently made the following report:

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS. Tompkins County Agricultural Society, \$30; Ithaca Farmers' Club, 20. DRAINING, &c. A. H. Buck, Lowville, Draining Past Swamp, \$10. GRASSES, &c. Mrs. Isaac Clement, Mechanicville, 100 varieties, \$15.

FIELD CROPS. SPRING WHEAT.—Cliff Eames, Rutland, Jeff. Co., 3 acres and 62 rods, crop 101 bushels, \$15. Mr. Hiram Olmstead, Walton, Del. Co., presented a crop of 67½ bushels Spring Wheat raised on 2 acres and 18 rods.

GRAIN FAIR.—A. B. Benham, Hayden, Tomp. Co., \$15. BUTTER DAIRY FAIR.—Robert Harvey, Leyden, Lewis Co., \$30. CHEESE DAIRY FAIR.—Leonard S. Stranding, Deer River, Lewis Co., \$50.

PEAS.—E. C. Peck, East Bloomfield, Ontario Co., 1 88-100 acres, 92 bushels, \$8. DISCRETIONARY.—Hiram Olmstead raised 655 bushels Ruta. Beggs on 35 rods land and 254 bushels Carrots on 44 rods of land, \$8.

GRAINS AND SEEDS. One bushel the amount of grain exhibited. WINTER WHEAT.—A. I. Pine, Pittsford, Res. Co., \$3; 2d, C. W. Wells, 3d, E. S. Hayward, 1.

DAILY. BUTTER.—3 tubs, J. S. Holbert, Chemung, Chem. Co., \$15; 2d, Ira R. Peck, East Bloomfield, Ontario Co., 15 acres, 1,284 bushels, 10.

On Thursday evening the Annual Address was delivered by the retiring President; after which the President elect, Hon. GEORGE GEDDES, pronounced the following inaugural:

Gentlemen of the New York State Agricultural Society:—I assume the duties of this place in obedience to your action, not at all in accordance with my own pleasure. I have been content to be a learner in the past. As a member of the Society, I believe to have been the best representation upon a single field, of more value and excellence than has been elsewhere gathered.

Since you have been pleased to make me your President, I should be anxious to inquire into its responsibilities. The Society owes its success to its Executive Committee,—not so much to its President as to that Committee. In them you have been exceedingly fortunate. Gentlemen who have been many years with us, have assisted me, some have retired, and some have been elected. Accepting with confidence, and asking your indulgence, I turn to the Executive Committee, and ask them to do me as to my predecessor—to attend all the meetings, and if possible, to make this a year of success.

Rural Notes and Items.

"FARMERS, WRITE FOR YOUR PAPERS."—This has long been the motto of the Prairie Farmer, always a capital paper—whether conducted by WRIGHT and WIGWAG, or of yore, or EMERY and BRADDOCK, as now—and here is a suggestive item on the subject from its first number for 1861.

DEATH OF A VENERABLE FARMER.—In Claremont, N. H., on the 29th ult., the Hon. ISAAC HUBBARD departed this life, aged 90 years and 6 months. A long and useful life has been closed, and Mr. HUBBARD has gone to the grave mourned by all who enjoyed his acquaintance.

STREAM FLOWS IN FRANCE.—A Parisian journal, Le Genie Industriel says that ten steam plows, with twelve-horse power engines to operate them, are now being made under the orders of the Emperor by Mr. DIXON, of Bar-le-Duc. The locomotive is to be placed on one side of the field, the plow to be drawn by an endless chain, the opposite extremity of which is secured by an anchor.

KENTUCKY STATE FAIR.—Notwithstanding the excitement about Secession, our Kentucky brethren seem to think that the old-fashioned plan for saving and strengthening any government,—encouraging agriculture and mechanic arts,—is the best, and they have, consequently, set apart five days (17—21) in September, for holding their Annual State Exhibition. Louisville is the point designated. The amount of the premium list reaches \$3,000, and the prizes are judiciously distributed between the departments of agriculture and manufactures.

THE HOP CROP OF NEW YORK.—The returns of the Inspector show that, from Jan. 1, 1860, to the Jan. 1, 1861, the amount of hops inspected in this State was 2120 bales, weighing 403,680 pounds. Of this amount, 406 bales only were the growth of 1860. With the exception of 1859, when the total reached 1850 bales, weighing 286,350 pounds, this is the smallest yield of any year since 1851.

HORTICULTURAL.

VEGETATION OF SEEDS.

In a few weeks the changing seasons will again bring "seed time." The precious seed, containing the germ that under favorable circumstances will produce a plant like its parent, will be committed to the earth. But, much that is sown will fall in stony places, and be withered by the scorching sun as soon as the tender roots reach out in search of nourishment from the soil; some will be choked with thorns and weeds, and never reward the sower for his labor or expense. So it was ages ago, so it is now, and so it will continue to be, perhaps, for ages yet to come. The lovers of flowers are now providing themselves with seeds for the coming spring, from the different dealers. We think it perfectly safe to say that at least eighty per cent. of these seeds are good, and will produce plants if properly treated, and yet we have no doubt that nine-tenths will never be seen again after they are committed to the earth. It is well then that we should investigate the cause of this destruction of valuable seeds, and ascertain if we can, the conditions necessary to their growth.

A portion of the people think altogether too lightly of this subject. They appear to entertain the idea that seeds will grow anywhere, and under any circumstances. Hence it matters but little whether what they plant is good or bad, the result is the same. They have seen the farmer make a hole and throw his corn into the ground, and in a little while it was up and growing. They have learned, too, that the seeds of our native trees and weeds grow without planting and care, and from these facts they get the idea that it is of little consequence where or how seeds are planted, so that they are in the ground. But, these should remember that the seeds planted by the farmer produce stronger and more robust plants than those of the florist, and thus are enabled to bear more hardships and to live under more unfavorable circumstances. Still, the farmers are fast learning that the better they prepare the ground, and the more they study the nature and wants of the plants they cultivate, the better the crop. Another fact should be remembered, that not one seed in a thousand sown by our forest trees and shrubs, produces a living plant. We cannot afford to purchase costly seeds and lose such a large proportion, which we will do if we plant in the same manner. Our weeds are hardy and prolific, very tenacious of life, and are able to propagate themselves under the most unfavorable circumstances, otherwise they would not be weeds. Most of our troublesome weeds are of foreign origin, the seeds being brought here by accident. Perhaps the largest part thus introduced have lived for a season and perished unnoticed, while the hardiest became naturalized. If the florist would be satisfied with only the most hardy and prolific flowers, such as would take care of themselves, then he might pursue a careless system of planting and cultivation, fill his garden with dandelions and poppies; but he who wants the rare and beautiful flowers of every land, as far as climate will permit, to adorn his garden. He must have those that flourish naturally in warmer climates, and under more genial skies, and to do so, care and skill is required, and a different system of culture than is necessary for the propagation of weeds. There are others who have altogether an exaggerated view of the difficulties to be encountered in the growth of plants from seed. These views may have been the result of repeated failures. They think a Hot-Bed or a Green-House essential, and that without these conveniences little can be done in growing valuable plants. This is not the case, yet it is a fact, that in a hot-bed, if properly managed, seeds will grow freely; and, if well that we should ascertain why this is so.

In the first place, however, we will examine the causes of failure. If fine seeds are planted too deep, they either rot in the damp, cold earth, for the want of the warmth necessary to their germination, or after germination perish before the tender shoots can reach the sun and air, so that that which was designed for their support and nourishment proves their graves.

If the soil is a stiff clay, it is often too cold at the time the seeds are planted to effect their germination, for it must be understood that warmth and moisture are necessary to the germination of seeds. Neither of these will do alone. Seeds may be kept in a warm dry room, in dry sand or earth, and they will not grow. They may be placed in damp earth, and kept in a low temperature, and they will most likely rot, though some seeds will remain dormant a long time under these circumstances. But place them in moist earth, in a warm room, and they will commence growth at once. Another difficulty with heavy or clay soil is, that it becomes hard on the surface, and this prevents the young plants from "coming up," or, if during showery weather they happen to get above the surface, they become locked in, and make but little advancement, unless the cultivator is careful to keep the crust well broken.

If seeds are sown in rough, lumpy ground, a portion will be buried under the clods and never grow, and much that start will not find a fit soil for their tender roots, and perish. A few may escape these difficulties, and flourish.

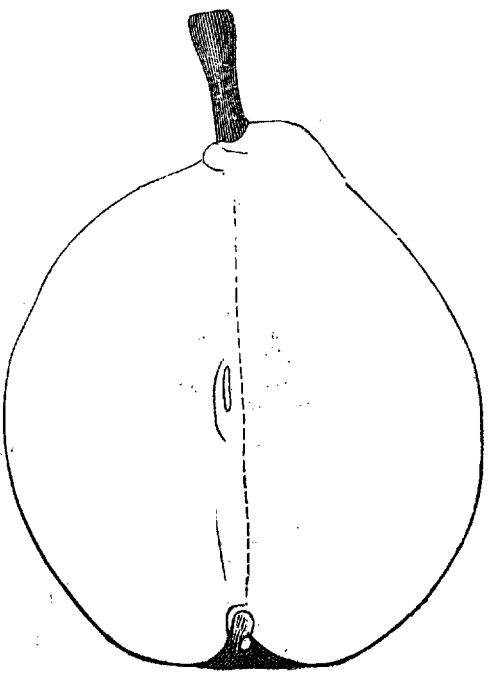
All of the above cases show good reason for failure, but there is one cause of failure in which the reason is not so apparent. The soil, we will suppose, is well prepared, fine as it can be made, and of that loamy or sandy character best fitted for small seeds. We will suppose, too, that the seed were sown on the surface with a little earth sifted over them, and that this was not done until the season was so far advanced as to furnish the warmth necessary to secure vegetation. Under these very favorable circumstances many seeds will grow, and if the weather is both warm and showery, very few will fail. But if, as is very common at the season of the year when we plant our seeds, we have a succession of cold rain storms, many will perish. A night's frost will ruin all. If, however, the weather should prove warm and without showers, the surface will become very dry, and the seeds having so slight a covering will be dried up and perish as soon as they germinate, and before the roots attain sufficient size and strength to go down where the soil is more moist.

It is to overcome these evils that Hot-Beds are useful. By being protected on the sides and ends with boards and covered with glass, they confine the moisture which arises from the earth in mist, and thus the atmosphere is kept humid and the surface moist, and the plants are not subjected to the changes of temperature, as a uniform state can be maintained, no matter what the weather may be. The bottom-heat of the hot-bed warms the soil, and enables the grower to put in his seed early and obtain plants of good size before the soil outside is warm enough to receive the seed. The principal advantages of the hot-bed, however, can be secured by what is called a Cold Frame.

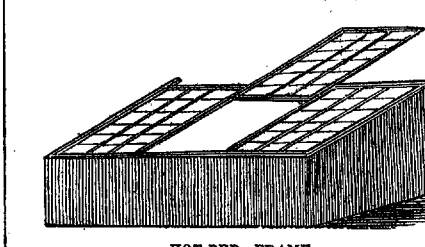
DORCHESTER BEAUTY PEAR.

AMONG the new pears we had an opportunity to examine and taste the last season, was the *Dorchester Beauty*, a seedling of Mr. CLAPP's, of Dorchester, Mass. It is inferior to *Clapp's Favorite*, which we before noticed, and far less promising; yet it is a handsome pear. The Native Fruit Committee of the American Pomological Society describe it as "a handsome, but rather poor fruit." The Fruit Committee of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, say "the tree is a fine grower, and very productive; size rather large, 2½ by 2½ inches; form, obovate; skin, yellow, with a carmine cheek, inclining to orange, and containing a few gray dots; stem, three-fourths of an inch long, inserted in a very small cavity, with several faint rings; calyx, medium; segments, exact, set in a superficial plaited basin; core, medium; seed, plump, light brown; flesh, not very juicy; flavor, pleasant; quality, very good. Ripe, from the middle of August to the middle of September."

This is one of the most beautiful looking pears that have been produced, but the specimens tested by the Committee were dry, and of ordinary quality. The past season having been unfavorable to the production of fruit of high flavor, it is not safe to express a very decided opinion of any new fruit.



This is simply a hot-bed frame, with glazed sash, as shown in the engraving, placed upon a bed of fine, mellow earth, in some sheltered place in the garden. By the exclusion of air, and the admission of sun, the earth becomes warm, and the moisture is confined, as in the hot-bed. After the frame is secured in its place, a couple of inches of fine earth should be placed inside, and the frame closed up for a day or two before the seeds are planted. As the cold-frame de-



HOT-BED FRAME.

duces plants. *Buttercups*, the plaything of children, and the overspreading plague of some grass regions, are from Europe. Some localities in Maine are absolutely golden in the season of their flowering. The *Barberry*, which has so thoroughly established itself in this vicinity, is European, and has not elsewhere taken such a hold. *Celandine*, which fills our waste places with its delicate green leaves at the very beginning of spring, and displays its pretty yellow blossoms later, with which children anoint their wary fingers to rid them of their excrescences, is European. The *Water Cress*, common in our markets in spring, the *Hedge Mustard*, which sends up its gaunt spikes of fruit so commonly by the roadsides, the *Shepherd's Purse*, covering waste places everywhere with its early green, the *Wild Radish*, which has become a very troublesome field weed, are all European. Among the common and more or less troublesome usurpers of the soil are *St. John's Wort*, *Bladder Campion*, *Mouse-Ear Chickweed*, *Purslane*, *Common Mallow*, or cheeses as the children call them, nearly all the *Clovers*, *May Weed*, and *White Weed*. This last is a thorough plague in grass lands. Its strong roots kill out the grass and are difficult to extirpate. Its origin here is differently explained. Some say it was introduced as a pretty flower; others that it was brought over, like many others, with grass seed or in luggage. In Europe it is a pet of the poets, and, under the romantic names of *Ox Eye Daisy* and *Marguerite*, it has been celebrated in verse. Here it is universally execrated as an intolerable pest. The *Canada Thistle* is not by any means a Canadian visitor. It comes from Europe, and its legion of seeds have spread its broadcast over the land. The *Burdock*, equally common and the sport of children, comes from the same source. *Succory* or *Cicory* has established itself thoroughly around Boston. This is the same plant cultivated abroad for the "Chicory," which is used to adulterate coffee; the root being used after roasting and grinding. Here it is only known for its beautiful starry blue flowers. The *False Dandelion* has completely established itself in our grass lands, and sends up its branching *Sower-thorns* in autumn, covering our parterres with its yellow blossoms. Many unquestionably think it a late blossoming of the true *Dandelion*, which is quite a different plant. Other worthless visitors are the *Low Thistles*, *Mullein*, *Toad Flax*, *Blue Verbena*, *White Verbena*, *Motherwort*, *Bindweed*, *Nightshade*, *Thorn Apple*, all of the *Pigweeds*, all of the *Amaranth*s, *Smart Weeds*, *Bitter* and *Curled Dock*, and *Field Sorrel*, and *Nettle*.

It will be noticed that in the above enumeration are comprised most of the troublesome weeds which infest our grounds. It is somewhat singular that the agriculturist should have to thank other regions of the globe for the most valuable as well as the most vexatious plants which grow under his eye. Some of the plants enumerated have become so completely naturalized as to make it difficult, without sufficient data, to affirm their foreign origin.

There are some curious points in regard to this naturalization. Many of the commonest of European weeds have never taken possession here, while others have multiplied prodigiously. Of the many European violets, only one, the *Viola Tricolor*, has established itself, and that sparingly. As we have numerous species of violets ourselves; this seems the more strange. Out of 132 species of *Carex* or *Sedge*, only one is foreign, and that only in one small locality. As Sedges must inevitably be cut with grass in the season of haying, it is singular that the foreign species should not have been brought here with grass seed. The laws which govern the growth of plants in different localities are obscure in their workings. We find individual species establishing themselves everywhere, while other closely allied species refuse to be transplanted. Some garden plants defy the care and attention of the florist, while others overrun the garden wall and take full possession of the neighboring farmer's field, destroying his harvests as they move.

changes, cold storms, and frosty nights. In this way seeds usually considered difficult of growth, can be grown with ease. For melons, cucumbers, &c., these hand-glasses are exceedingly useful. Indeed, in this latitude it is almost impossible to raise good melons without them.

But, where these conveniences are not to be had,—though we hope there are few of our readers so unfortunately situated,—make a good bed of light, mellow soil, in a sheltered situation in the garden, and as soon as the weather becomes settled, and the ground warm, sow the seeds, carefully covering with a little fine earth, and if the seeds are small, sift it on. Then cover the bed with damp moss, which will prevent the surface from drying. The covering must be removed as soon as the young plants make their appearance above the ground.

If these hints are heeded, we think our readers will have little cause to complain that their seeds refuse to grow. In a future number we will resume the subject.

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In the last year's Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, we find an interesting article under the above heading, by CHARLES J. SPRAQUE, from which we make the following extract: "There are few places which afford such an abundance and variety of naturalized foreign plants as the vicinity of Boston. The number of plants recorded in Dr. GRAY'S Manual of the Northern States, as being acclimated in that region, is 260 out of 2351, or just one-ninth of the whole. Of this number more than one-third are to be found more or less commonly around Boston. The causes of this are the immigration of people of many nations who have brought with them, in their apparel or luggage, the seeds of the commoner plants of their own country, which would be likely to adhere to them; seeds mingled with the grass seed imported here; and others attached to the many articles of merchandise coming constantly into the country.

Some of these have spread themselves so widely as to have become intolerable pests to the agriculturist, who does not know, perhaps, that the enemy he seeks to destroy is a foreign one. It is a singular fact, that nearly all the weeds which have become the special curse of New England farmers are intro-

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reasons to fear that the spot or scab, to which it is subject at the East, will also attend it here. On young trees especially it seems disposed to bear only on the inner branches, for which reason the fruit lacks color and flavor, unless the trees are kept thoroughly pruned.

With me the fruit averages very large, and doubtless for that reason fails to keep as long as it has the credit of doing at the East. It is now in its prime. Plymouth, Mich., Feb. 11th, 1861. T. T. LYON.

The Northern Spy is now more abundant in our market than any other variety. In this respect it seems to have taken the place of the Baldwin and the Greening. A few such seasons as the past would make the Spy very popular here.

INSECT POWDER.

A VEGETABLE POWDER, under the name of "Persian Insect Powder," has lately been introduced into the drug market, for the extermination of insects, vegetable parasites, &c. Until recently, the botanical source of this powder has not been known. For a number of years it was erroneously considered to be a native of Persia, but it has been traced beyond question by Dr. Koch, as having its origin in the Caucasian provinces, and to be the confused blossoms and flowers of *Pyrethrum roseum* and *Pyrethrum carneum*. It is of a yellowish, gray color, perfectly odorless, yet slightly irritating the nostrils; at first almost tasteless, but afterwards leaving a burning sensation upon the tongue. The high price obtained for it, taken in connection with the scarcity of the article, has induced dealers to adulterate it with plants of similar characteristics, such as chamomile flowers, sea-bane, &c.; but the presence of these extraneous substances can, without difficulty, be detected by their peculiar odor, and from the fact that, in proportion as these substances are introduced, the efficacy of the power is impaired.

From experiments lately made in Europe, it has been sufficiently demonstrated that the plant can be propagated from the seed, and that it will thrive in a climate similar to that of our Northern States.

I have recently been informed by a gentleman who obtained some of the seeds of this plant from the Agricultural Bureau at Washington, that the plants therefrom are in a flourishing and prosperous condition.

As its effects for the destruction of bugs, roaches, parasites on delicate plants, &c., have been fully established, and it being otherwise harmless, its introduction into general use would be of great importance to families and horticulturists, from the fact that it would exclude the use of poisonous articles, now resorted to for such purposes, which are often the cause of serious accidents.—*Amer. Journal of Pharmacy.*

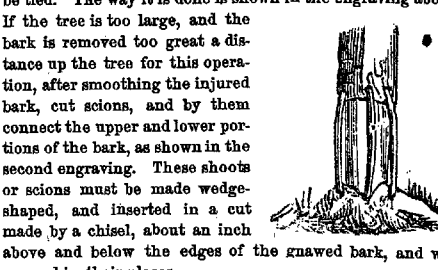
Inquiries and Answers.

INJURY TO AN ORCHARD BY MICE.

I AM IN trouble, and if you, or some of your numerous correspondents, will help me out of it, I shall consider it a favor. Two years ago last fall I commenced to set a young orchard. Of the first set, (150,) I lost fifty. I then tried another nursery, setting in the spring, and lost but very few. Yet my field was not filled. Last spring I filled out the field, and lost but three. Last fall I had three hundred trees all alive, doing first-rate, of the best varieties that I could obtain from three different nurseries. It made me feel good to walk through the lot. During the present week I was out to see my trees, and found that the mice had eaten the bark from one-third of them, clear round, from one to six inches up the trees. My anxiety is to save the trees alive.—ASA CROSBY, Cuba, Feb., 1861.

There is no more truthful saying than that prevention is better than cure. Perhaps most of these trees may yet be saved, but if so, it will be at the cost of a good deal of time and anxiety. If a piece of tarred cloth had been tied around the base of each tree, they would have been saved. A piece of tin may be bent around so as to keep the mice from the bark, or a couple of horse-shoe drain-tiles, or a wooden box, will answer the same purpose. It is well also to destroy all harbors for mice, and a little effort at the destruction of the mice by poisoning, has often been successful in getting rid of these destructive vermin. But as the evil is now accomplished, we will suggest the best remedy we know of. If the tree is small, and only a small portion is girdled, cut the bark even at the edges, and then take the bark from some limbs, and fit it as nicely as possible in the place girdled, thus restoring the bark taken from the trunk, by that taken from the limbs. It may be in one or more pieces, and secured in place by grafting wax, and over this any soft material may be tied. The way it is done is shown in the engraving above. If the tree is too large, and the bark is removed too great a distance from the tree for this operation, after smoothing the injured bark, cut scions, and by them connect the upper and lower portions of the bark, as shown in the second engraving. These scions or scions must be made wedge-shaped, and inserted in a cut made by a chisel, about an inch above and below the edges of the gnawed bark, and well secured in their places.

A correspondent of Indiana, writes:—"I think I have found out a very satisfactory way of disposing of those trees whose trunks have been winter-killed or girdled by mice. I cut the tree off with a saw just below where the bark is sound, and then insert, between the bark and wood, scions, as for cleft grafting. These make a thrifty growth, and if allowed to grow without being mutilated with the knife, will make fruit in a short time. Had I known this plan five years ago, I think that three hundred trees now now be growing for me, at one-tenth the trouble and cost I have had in digging out old trees, and in buying, hauling, and planting new ones, from the nursery."



THE COLBERT APPLE.—I noticed in the RURAL of Feb. 2d, an inquiry from a subscriber in regard to the *Colbert* apple. I have several young trees of this kind. They fruit well, are large, red striped, pleasant, sub-acid, good for culinary purposes, for eating tolerably good, rather coarse flesh, but liable to fall when fully grown on account of their size and weight. It is a late fall apple, and often keeps till January. *Colbert's Market Apple* is a stranger here.

I wish now to make an inquiry, to wit: how much orchard grass seed is required per acre, and the best time to sow it.—I. N. AVERTY, Wampsville, Mad. Co., N. Y., Feb. 8, 1861.

About twenty-four pounds, or two bushels of orchard grass seed is usually sown on an acre, either in the autumn or early in the spring. When sown with clover, only about one-half this quantity of seed is necessary.

GRAFTING, &c.—In my orchard, which I am trying to improve in various ways, are two thrifty apple trees—the largest in the orchard—from eight to twelve inches in diameter below the limbs, but they bear little fruit, and that is worthless. Will you, or some correspondent, have the kindness to inform me which is the surest and quickest way to obtain good fruit,—to graft, or remove them, and supply their places with some other thrifty trees? Also, which is the best time to pain outside work—spring or fall.—C. W. TUNNEY, Dighton, Feb. 6, 1861.

By grafting the old trees you will obtain good fruit several years before you could obtain any from young trees, and in larger quantities. Paint either late in the autumn or very early in the spring.

LOCUST THORN FOR HEDGES.—Will the RURAL, or some of its numerous contributors, please inform me whether Honey Locust is adapted to the purpose of making a hedge. When is the proper time for planting the seeds? Is it best to plant the seeds in a nursery, or in the hedge row? Is it necessary to scald or soak the seed before planting?—N. B. PATENTICO, Hamilton, Ohio, Feb., 1861.

Domestic Economy.

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In your paper of a recent date, a subscriber asks for a recipe for Sirup of Sarsaparilla,—herewith you have two:

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP.—Take of the bruised root of sarsaparilla 12 ounces, boil for two hours in 2 gallons water, strain and add 4 lbs. sugar, 4 lbs. maple sugar, and 1 gallon sugar-house molasses,—boil again and remove from the fire.

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP.—such as is used for flavoring soda water.—Take 12 lbs. brown sugar; 3 oz. extract liquorice; 3 oz. sassafras bark; 2 gallons of water,—boil and strain.—X. Y. Z.

SEEING AN INQUIRY IN THE RURAL NEW-YORKER for a recipe to make Sarsaparilla Sirup, I send mine, which I know to be good.—Sarsaparilla, one pound; red guacum, half do.; sassafras bark of roots, one-third do.; burdock roots, one-third do.; boil until the strength is all out, then simmer down to two quarts, add two pounds of good sugar, let boil, and skim. When cool, bottle for use. Dose from one-third to one-half of a wine glass three times a day on an empty stomach.—A SUBSCRIBER, Scioto Co., Ohio.

To make Sarsaparilla Sirup, take shavings of liquorice root one ounce; sassafras bark, one ounce; sarsaparilla, six ounces,—boil in soft water six hours, then add three drachms of magasarum bark, and boil half an hour, leaving six gills of the liquor. Add half pound of loaf sugar and half pint of alcohol.—S. J. J., Canton, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., 1861.

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP.—One-half sarsaparilla; one-fourth guacum chips; two of yellow dock; one oz. iodide potassium. Cover with soft water, boil down to two quarts, strain, add two pounds loaf sugar, one pint Holland gin while warm. Cool and add the iodide.—JAS. G. IRWIN, Southwest Oswego, N. Y.

DOMESTIC DUTIES.—A knowledge of domestic duties is beyond all price to a woman. Every one of our sex ought to know how to sew, and knit, and mend, and cook, and superintend a household. In every situation of life, high or low, this sort of knowledge is of great advantage. There is no necessity that the gaining of such information should interfere with intellectual acquirement or elegant accomplishment. A well regulated mind can find time to attend to all. When a girl is nine or ten years old, she should be accustomed to take some regular share in household duties, and to feel responsible for the manner in which her part is performed, such as her own mending, washing the cups and putting them in place, cleaning silver, or dusting and arranging the parlor. This should not be done occasionally, and neglected whenever she feels it convenient; she should consider it her department. When older than twelve, girls should begin to take turns in superintending the household, making puddings, pies, &c.; to learn effectually to do these things themselves, and not stand by and see others do them.—Mrs. Child.

COMFORT WITHIN DOORS.—How to Make a Lounge.—Many a one lives a lifetime wanting the little luxuries pertaining to comfort within doors, because of an impression that he cannot afford to buy, and therefore cannot have them. It is not so,—although the gloss of silk, or mahogany polished, may not be had, a little application in leisure hours, a little thought and considerable determination or perseverance, will procure all the comforts, if not the show. Money expended to fit up one show room, or to purchase one marble-top table, if applied in the purchase of some easy chairs, would give daily pleasure, and a few inch boards and four pieces of scantling can easily be put together to form the frame work of a lounge. Cover this first with a cushion of common cotton cloth, stuff it with corn husks or straw, then another covering of cheap calico, and you have a resting place equal, so far as comfort is concerned, to the best sofa. Try it, farmers' wives.

CURE FOR NEURALGIA.—Some time since we published, at the request of a friend, a recipe to cure neuralgia. Half a drachm of sal ammonia in an ounce of camphor water, to be taken a teaspoonful at a dose, and the dose repeated several times, at intervals of five minutes, if the pain be not relieved at once. Half a dozen different persons have since tried the recipe, and in every case an immediate cure was effected. In one, the sufferer, a lady, had been subjected to acute pains for more than a week, and her physician was unable to alleviate her sufferings, when a solution of sal ammonia in camphor water relieved her in a few minutes.—Alta Californian.

TO MAKE HARD SOAP OF SOFT.—Take good soft soap, any quantity you choose, bring it to a boiling heat, then add salt gradually, stirring it constantly till you observe it separate,—something like curds and whey. Then let it cool, and you can cut it into bars and take out, leaving the ley in the kettle. To purify it further, put the soap again into the kettle, and add an equal quantity of water, and for every five pounds of soap, one-fourth pound of rosin,—make it boil, and again add salt as before. When cold cut it into bars and lay it up to dry.—A PRACTICAL HOUSEWIFE, Gorham, N. Y., 1861.

COOKING EGG PLANT.—A correspondent asks how to cook egg plant. Cut the plant in thin slices, sprinkle with salt, and let them stand half an hour, pour off the water that the salt extracts, and dry the plant with a towel. Beat an egg, dip the plant in it and then in rolled cracker, fry brown in butter. Some prefer simply dipping them in the egg without the crackers, or rolling them in flour without the egg. Season highly and cook slowly.—S. J. T., South Side, Staten Island, N. Y., 1861.

FIRST PREMIUM CORN BREAD.—Scald a pint of Indian meal, add to it a pint of sponge; half teacup of molasses; small teaspoon of salaratus, stir in flour with a spoon till quite stiff, put in pan, let it rise, and bake it one hour.—MRS. E. S. H., Rochester, N. Y.

TAKEN.—However, that is neither here nor there; she went home to breakfast, and had scarcely enjoyed the full favor of her first sip of tea, when the servant passed her a plate of biscuit, the sight of which, to say nothing of smell, immediately threw her into violent hysterics. "Oh!" she exclaimed, in an agonizing tone of voice, "take the horrid things from my sight." This sad spectacle would have been prevented had the cook used D. B. LARD & Co.'s Chemical Salaratus, instead of the worthless, impure stuff which did find its way into that otherwise peaceful and happy household. D. B. LARD & Co., Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y., make a perfectly pure and reliable Salaratus. It can be procured of most dealers in groceries, and at wholesale from the grocers in large towns, and of the manufacturers.

Ladies' Department.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) MUSINGS.

O, it is pain, 'tis agony to know That those we love so tenderly below Will sometimes prove unkind;

Perhaps it was an idle breath that fanned The zephyr; and with desolating hand Left sadness in the soul.

O, I had thought of Friendship as a thing Too precious, far too pure an offering, To free from earthly stain,

And Love an emblem of the deathless mind, Too changeless, gentle, and refined, To cause one throb of pain.

O, morning dew is not more brief, I said, Than Friendship,—but a moment prized, then fled, Leaving us doubly lone.

We strive, we yearn to gain a flower so pure, But, having gained, we deem the prize secure, And soon 'tis fled and gone.

In there not spurned here, I cried, Where envy, jealousy, and human pride Will cease to mar our love?

An angel, white-robed, from the viewless Heaven, Sighed, not on earth, 'Tis given,— Seek it in worlds above.

South Denby, N. Y., 1861. MARY A. B.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) EXTRAVAGANCE IN DRESS.

IN THE RURAL OF FEB. 2d., I noticed continued observations on "over dressing," and as the subject is one in which all women are interested, we presume that those who wish are at liberty to engage in the discussion.

There is no greater evil for the philanthropist to oppose than that of over dressing. Were the custom destroyed, the human family would not only be benefited socially, but mentally, morally, and physically.

With me the effect of over dressing has been a lifetime lamentation; I regard it a curse in many ways, but the least important consideration is the idea of "pleasing gentlemen."

Fashion is a tyrant, and sends more women to the haunts of vice than all other causes united; and if the Sisters of Charity are longing for a great work to do, let them, with the chain of example, draw their sister women from the clutches of this monster;

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) THE OLD HOMESTEAD.

THERE is a sweet, magic charm in those three simple words,—the old homestead. It awakens buried memories; it kindles the soul with the recollections and associations that made home the dearest and best place on earth in the days of our youth and childhood.

There are moments in the life of every one when the past will arise to the mind, and we behold loved friends and scenes so plainly that it seems like the opening of a new grave. We forget the present, we care not for the future; our soul is dwelling upon the past.

And yet with all these pleasant memories there is mingled a tone of sadness; for there arises a picture so mournful that we would fain turn away from it. We would not if we could forget it, though the picture were thrice as gloomy and dark.

CHILDHOOD often holds a truth, with its feeble fingers, which the grasp of manhood cannot retain, which it is the pride of utmost age to recover.

his dark pinions. We saw and feared his coming. We knew when he crossed our threshold, though his step was silent and his form unseen. With bursting heart and tearless cheek we stood by the couch of the dying, and saw Death's icy glances steal over the beloved eyes that would never again beam with love and affection in our family circle.

We well remember how very lonely the old homestead seemed to us. How weeks and months passed ere the dark shadow which Death had cast over it grew less drear and gloomy, and it has never seemed to wear so joyous and cheerful a look since Death broke the chain that bound the dear home circle.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) TO FARMER'S WIVES.

WITH your permission, Messrs. Editors, I would like to say a few words in defense of "hired help," in reply to an article entitled "Hard Truths," which appeared in the RURAL OF DECEMBER 1st, and signed "A Farmer's Wife."

As a general rule, good mistresses have good help. Such has been my experience while engaged in teaching for four years, and boarding at many different places in the country, village, and city.

As when I was a child, I have become familiar to all readers of poetry; the signature to many a pure and beautiful sentiment. We saw them in childhood, and we see them still.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) LYDIA H. SIGOURNEY.

THE initials "L. H. S." have become familiar to all readers of poetry; the signature to many a pure and beautiful sentiment. We saw them in childhood, and we see them still.

Ever since Mrs. Sigourney was Lydia Huntly, the young teacher in Norwich—beautiful in singleness of purpose, and sincerity of soul, her life has been that of a true and earnest woman, and a rebuke to the crazy creatures that, pen in hand, and skirts aloft, reeled to clear all such obstacles as household guards and gates, have gone agog, to set the wretched world aright.

Some people fancy they pay her a compliment in entitling her the "American Hemans," as if there were anything in common between them, except a beautiful womanhood, a hearty nature, and the "gift divine."

Both gentle, both loving, both women in the noblest meaning of the word, and yet in all how different; our country-woman with less genius, as with less waywardness; more self reliant, with sterner views of duty, "apt to teach." In a word, the one was a child of Erse and Tuscan blood, ardent, impulsive, all emotion; the other a daughter of New England, with a large, warm heart, and a clear bright intellect, who deems duty a sacred word, and life a solemn and earnest thing.

THE END OF ALL AMBITION.—To be happy at home is the ultimate result of all ambition; the end to which every desire prompts the prosecution. It is indeed at home that a man must be known by those who would make a just estimate of his virtue or felicity; for smiles and embroidery are alike occasional, and the mind is often dressed for show in painted honor and fictitious benevolence.

INNOCENCE.—What a power there is in innocence! whose very helplessness is its safeguard; in whose presence even Passion himself stands abashed, and stands worshipped at the very altar he came to despoil.

CHILDHOOD often holds a truth, with its feeble fingers, which the grasp of manhood cannot retain, which it is the pride of utmost age to recover.

Choice Miscellany.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) WASHINGTON.

"A LARGE circle round the moon last night."—Extract from Washington's diary, Dec. 12, 1799.

The century was growing old,— The night was wearing to its noon,— A monarch on Mt. Vernon stood, And gazed a while upon the moon.

No other crown his brow had prest, And yet a Nation bowed to him With homage such as never yet Has greeted robe and diadem;

When thrice that moon arose and set, A hand had pressed that noble brow And left a glistening coronet As cold and white as virgin snow.

Wherever sped the fearful tale, A sad and dirgelike wail was heard, That trembled up from ev'ry heart As zephyrs stir the Eolian chord.

Our Banner floated on the sea, As o'er the waves our vessels sped; But ope, around its folds entwined, Proclaim that "WASHINGTON IS DEAD!"

And thus, wherever hearts were true, And love of Freedom fired the brain, The Freeman would his oath renew, And Slavery shake her loosened chain.

My Countrymen! from sea to sea, From land to land, its folds are spread; Unchanged in all save added stars, As when it waved above his head.

Oh would his spirit might return, To breathe upon the smould'ring fires That in Columbia's sons must live To make them worthy of their sires,

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) THE WINTER TIME.

WINTER! Glad old Winter, is peculiarly the intellectual harvest-field of the farmer. In budding spring-time, 'tis true, odd hours may be devoted to intellectual feasts,—sweet morsels may be picked up during summer showers, when out-door work is precluded,—and, when the driving Autumn storm beats ceaselessly against the window-pane, a cozy seat in the parlor may be given up to literature; but in winter, when the fierce frost king comes down from the North, and takes up his abode in the fields,—wages fierce nightly warfare with the elements, the farmer seeks the shelter of his cottage roof, the cheery comfort of his fireside, and gives himself up to mental culture and the bliss of the home circle.

Search the "wide, wide world," and you find no spot so sacred, so loved, or fraught with interests so great as the home-circle of the agriculturist. The farmer talks nature's language, partakes of nature's bounties, breathes full inspirations of the pure air of heaven, and is thus assimilated to the character of nature's God.

And, too, the farmer's evening visit. The "sovereigns" discuss politics,—the ladies, domestic economy and the additions to the next State Fair,—while the children seek the kitchen, and enjoy "hugely" "blind man's buff" and the like.

Farmers! God has thus surrounded you most bounteously with his beneficence. Do these blessings bring with their responsibilities? Yes, fearful responsibilities! You are not only to develop the resources of your landed estate; but within your homes, around your firesides, is the hope of the Nation; you are to develop. Do you know that the bright-eyed boy who follows you in the routine of toil, and whose budding intellect is keenly alive to every cheering influence, is the embryo Statesman, by whom senates are to be awe'd, and at the sound of whose voice a nation will tremble?

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Choice Miscellany.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) THE MELODY OF WATERS.

FROM the morning stars that sang together the ocean caught the key-note, and a thousand mountain rills and pleasant lakes joined in the harmony.

For, as thoughts flow softly in a dream, so do light-winged visions float around us as we listen to the falling rain drops,—to the "rain upon the roof."

Laughing over the pebbles with a music clear as of silver bells, the streamlet hastens down the mountain side, into the vale below, and sighing there, doth all the lily and the rose to sleep, and throw a spray, light as the breath of the morning, over the meek-eyed violets.

Calm lies the broad blue water, but each tiny wave lifts its speck of foam to the sunbeams, and rings out a sweet refrain to the laughing winds, and weary feet that tread the shore rest, and sorrow is charmed away, and a mantle of peace falls softly over the weary cares and gloomy fears, for the music is very soft.

The ocean hath a minstrelsy. The waves mount upward and talk to the stars,—as if they told the story of all time, so deep are the moanings,—as if of hidden things of the future they spoke, so mysterious are the muffled voices,—full many a funeral dirge is chanted, full many a destiny revealed,—and listening, over the heart of man a tide of sorrow rolls,—for the feeling of awe and dread awakened by the mighty voice of the ocean.

In the voice of the waters there have lingered tones that could play upon the spirit's harp, calling thence music plaintive in its sad burthen, or light and gay. The captive in a strange land hangeth his harp upon the willows, and while the waves play at his feet, sings of the rivers in his own loved land.

Then, mountain rill, ring out thy myriad fairy bells,—broad river, awake thy richest tones,—ocean, breath forth thy deepest harmonies,—for the Lord of Glory doth bow His ear to listen, and sometimes He doth set the gate of Paradise ajar, that the murmurings of the River of Life may flow down, and blend with earth's sweet music,—the melody of waters.

Some persons commence their career of active life under the most brilliant prospects of the highest success, and that full promise given at the outset falls of realization. The result is only a medium success.

Why such results from these various promises at the outset? Mainly for this reason; the one class of individuals relied upon genius, native talents, to accomplish greatness for them; the other class brought earnest and persevering application to their aid.

GENIUS AND APPLICATION. SOME persons commence their career of active life under the most brilliant prospects of the highest success, and that full promise given at the outset falls of realization.

NEVER was an exile so cheered in his banishment. Domitian sent John to work in the mines of the earth; but God called him to explore the deeper and richer mines of futurity and heaven. He does not seem to have had any human society in Patmos, but he was not alone!

TIME—ITS IMPORTANCE.—The eloquent Robert Hall thus moralizes upon this oft-repeated subject:—"Time is the most precious of all our possessions; by far the greatest deposit we have received, in regard to what depends on its use. There is nothing in eternity but what springs out of time.

LOVE TO CHRIST.—They that love CHRIST love to think of him, love to hear of him, love to read of him, love to speak of him, for him, to him. They love his presence, his yoke, his name. His will is their will, his dishonor is their affliction, his cause is their care, his people are their companions, his day is their delight, his word is their guide, his glory is their end.

DEW.—There is dew in one flower and not in another, because one opens its cup and takes its in, while the other closes itself, and the drop runs off. God rains His goodness and mercy as wide-spread as the dew, and if we lack them, it is because we will not open our hearts to receive them.

IN the world to come, our knowledge will be measured, not by the amount of thought-power we have, but by the amount of heart-power.

WHATSOEVER makes right living, according to the law of God, difficult to a sincere man, that is a burden.

TWO duties must run through a Christian's life like the warp through the woof, blessing and trusting.

Sabbath Musings.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) SUPPLICATION.

THE shades of evening gather, The stars look down on me, As by my closet window I lift my voice to Thee.

I thank Thee, heavenly Father, For the blessings of this day, And that I have the privilege Of kneeling here to pray.

I ask Thee for the pardon Of all my sins this day, That through my SAVIOR'S sufferings They may be washed away.

And now, oh, righteous Father, I pray Thee be Thou near In every hour of trial, In trouble, or in fear.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) CHRIST WITH US.

How consoling the thought to the Christian, that the same tender affection still animates the breast of our Blessed SAVIOR, exalted though he is, that prompted Him to leave His holy abode and become an inhabitant of this sin-polluted earth.

Do we, at times, mourn the absence of our Heavenly Father's smiling face? Hear JESUS cry in deepest agony, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

Oh, blessed be GOD, we have a High Priest who is touched with the feeling of our infirmities, for he was in all points tempted like as we are. Tried and tempted one, look up, hear JESUS' voice whisper, "As thy day, so shall thy strength be," and be assured: that "these light afflictions which are but for a moment," if rightly improved, "shall work out for you a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

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The Traveler.

LETTERS FROM CALIFORNIA.

New Series.—Number Three.

Mule-packing—Size of a pack-train—Amount carried per mule—How they are unladen—Packers in the evening—Their hardships and sufferings—Advantage taken by the mountain traders.

SAN JUAN, CAL., Nov. 10, 1860.

THE majority of RURAL readers, doubtless, are aware that packing by mules is the principal, and about the only way, by which the mining population of California, in the remote and almost inaccessible parts of the mountains, are supplied with provisions and other necessities of life. The sturdy, hardy, indomitable miner, in his search for gold and sudden wealth, is not to be baffled by hardships or deprivations of an ordinary character. In their prospecting and exploring tours, they surmount the apex of the Sierra Nevada; and again you find them delving away at the busy occupation of a miner's life, in some narrow auriferous gulch, or on some limpid mountain stream, wending its tributary and silent course through a vast ravine—lonely, dismal, and almost impenetrable. Talk of solitude! You find it here, monotonous and sublimely grand, with heaven-soaring mountains on either side of you, whose peaks never doff their white night caps, nor change their toilet, nor exchange vestments, but stand like stoic sentinels heralding the power, the glory, and the greatness of the infinite God!

On every side one vast wilderness; shut out from the busy world, the miner pursues his exciting labors in his restless search for gold, deprived of all the luxuries, pleasures, and enjoyments of the outside world. He absolves himself from society, from friends, from kin, to pursue a calling attended with risk to health and life, in an effort to amass an independence. The miner spends his life in a cabin in some ravine, gulch, or on some mountain stream, year after year. In many places there are quite a number settled down in one locality, which they call a mining camp; but these mining camps throughout the mountains seldom attain any great population, without the diggings prove more than ordinarily rich, and then it is but temporary; for as soon as the ground is pretty well worked, and does not pay fair wages, the miner seeks new fields for his labor. These mountain settlements have all to be furnished, of course, from the great cities of the State, with the food they eat, wearing apparel, mining implements, and the necessities of life, which, to the miner, are limited in number, but important in their character.

The supplies above mentioned, in the absence of wagon roads extending to many mining localities, have to be packed upon mules over the summit of the mountains, and down their steep, almost precipitous descents, these animals wend their way along the narrow and serpentine course of the trail. Mules are particularly adapted to this service, and their superiority over horse kind has been thoroughly demonstrated. Sure in their footing, capable of standing a great amount of fatigue, their value to California has been incalculable. An ordinary sized pack-train is usually comprised of 20 to 40 mules, according to the extent of the demand for provisions, &c., in the mining locality with which they do business. The train is generally owned by traders who have stores at the mining camps. Usually one trader owns a pack-train, and does the whole packing for the settlement. These pack-trains are generally managed and attended to by native Californians or Mexicans; their great experience in mountain packing gives them the preference over any others. A mule can carry from three hundred to three hundred and fifty pounds, and travel thirty miles a day without being fatigued. The Mexican mules are generally employed in packing in California, owing to their great powers of endurance. The freight is made fast to a kind of Spanish pack-saddle, called an *aparajo*, by means of ropes, &c. One of the packers goes on ahead with a mule, attached to which is a bell; the others follow out in line with instinctive regularity. When night comes, the packers halt with their mules, generally selecting some good grazing locality; the mules come up in rotation, forming a circle, get down on their haunches, and are relieved of their burdens, which done, they go off following, or keeping in close proximity to the one with a bell. The packers build a fire, cook their supper, crack jokes for an hour or two, or play a social game of cards, and, after appointing from their number a guard for the night, roll themselves in their blankets and lie down to rest, the cold earth for their couch, the blue heavens for their canopy.

Verily, how little do those who live in brown stone houses, and walk on velvet carpets, or ride in gilded coaches, realize the fatigue, suffering, and danger attending the development of the great wealth of our country, of which we proudly boast. While at certain seasons of the year the life of the packer is full of novelty and peculiar pleasure, at other times it is fraught with hardship and suffering unparalleled. Many times a storm overtakes a train in the mountains; the mules succumb to exhaustion, lie down and die; the packers themselves, amid cold wintry blasts, at last, in the desolate howling forest, find the same melancholy fate,—the snow for their winding sheet, and their bodies food for wild beasts. Perhaps, as was often the case in early days, the supplies expected by this very train are needed in some far-off isolated mining camp, and thus the loss of the train entails misery and starvation upon hundreds of persons. Several years since, the miners on the Middle Fork of Feather river ran out of provisions during a cold and dreary winter, when snowed in on all sides from 20 to 40 feet deep. Three hundred started across to obtain succor and relief from starvation; before they found any, several of their number perished in the snow.

Again, some of the mules make a mistake, and down, down they go, over the rugged sides of the mountain, against rocks, trees, and other obstructions, to their final and utter destruction. It is a novel scene to pass a mule train upon a trail in the mountains; the tinkling of the bell, the "hippa-mul!" of the Mexican muleteers, echoes in the still unbroken silence of the forest, sounding strange to an inexperienced ear, and lending enchantment to the wild monotony of the event.

Many of the mining camps are hemmed in by deep snows for four and six months of the year, and provisions have to be packed sufficient to last the winter, while the weather is mild. When there is a prospect of provisions running short, and, in many cases, when there is no just grounds for alarm, the mountain trader takes advantage of it, and adds to the price of his goods, many times fabulous, unprecedented, and cruel! Thus the words of Cowper are literally verified in these mountain fastnesses—the last place usually where tyranny erects her throne

and brandishes a bludgeon, and man with wealth and power is there as elsewhere, an oppressor of the weak, an abuser of his race. Yes—

"Man's inhumanity to man
Makes countless thousands mourn."
S. B. R.

THE AGAPEMONE, BRIDGWATER, ENG.

ONE bright day in the year 1854, being in the neighborhood of Bridgwater, we took it into our head to pay a visit to this mysterious institution, whose associations had been so notoriously disreputable. Previous inquiry had informed us that the head of the establishment, named PRINCE, was once the curate of an adjacent village, and distinguished for his evangelicism; but having been led into some extravagances, (in consequence of his success,) was suspended by his Bishop. He then commenced preaching in the open air, in and around Bridgwater, at first earnestly entreating men to fly from the wrath to come. Then he limited the time during which salvation could be obtained, and the number who should enjoy it. The next step was to constitute the church he had succeeded in forming; the only true church, and the climax was to proclaim himself the incarnation of the Holy Ghost, and, as such, deserving of the profoundest homage of all upon whom he bestowed salvation. This character he now retains,—this homage he now receives,—and is called "Lord," by all who are allowed to approach his august presence, or in any way connect themselves with him. Even tradesmen are not patronized unless they consent to open their accounts with the "Lord."

Having secured a sufficient number of converts, some of them possessed of wealth, missionary efforts were abandoned, land was purchased, and a building raised, bearing the title "The Agapemone," or in the popular phrase, "Temple of Love." Of the life within little is known. The external display is great. When the "Lord," himself, goes out, he rides in the State carriage of a deceased Queen, drawn by blood horses, accompanied by outriders and blood-hounds, and having by his side his Queen, (not his wife, necessarily, for but a little before, his wife was dismissed to the laundry, and a charming girl from the laundry elevated to the throne,) dressed in the regal purple. As to what passes within the walls of the temple, people can only conjecture, and conjecture is not slow to draw the most horrible conclusions from the barest probabilities. Had we yielded a credulous ear to all we were told, our ideas of the place would have been associated with scenes not surpassed by the orgies of pagan Rome in honor of Venus. Infanticide, hatred,—in fact, some would have it to be a perfect hell, in which every foul passion found unrestrained expression. However, we wished to see and judge for ourselves.

About an hour's walk upon rising ground brought us to the spot. The buildings are not remarkable, except for a lion rampant upon the top of the chapel, sustaining a flag-staff, from which floats at certain times a banner, bearing the symbols of purity and affection. Walking up to a low building outside the gates, and used as a laundry, our steps were checked at the door-way by finding the eyes of half-a-dozen, not hours, but of the plainest women imaginable, fixed upon us. We do not say this disrespectfully, but we had dreamed a little on the way about "bewitching forms of loveliness." Perhaps the public imagines (in keeping with its other notions,) that here beauty is regnant. It is not so. These ladies might have refined intellects and kindly hearts, but we cannot find it in our heart to say other than that they were the most untempting forms of womanhood we ever contemplated. Their gaze conveyed the question—what do you want? We expressed our wish, a messenger was sent to the "Gentlemen," and we were told that they would soon make their appearance at a little gate to the left. There we took our station, and soon saw two gentlemen approaching, scrupulously dressed in white chokers and black kid gloves. Taking our card, the wicket was opened, and a step placed us within the limits of that mysterious "abode of love." We were, first of all, led through the out-buildings and shrubbery. Here, at a signal from our guides, golden pheasants ran from their shelter, and doves fluttered from their cootes, and played fearlessly around our feet. This we were told to regard as typical of the feeling which characterized the institution. In the stables we found the "bloods" and hounds before described, living in the best of stalls and kennels. When we passed into the gardens, a scene of exceeding loveliness burst upon us. The ground had been so skillfully laid out that the distant hills, while they formed a back ground, seemed to be the natural limits of the spot. On the side facing the south were a number of green and hot-houses, mimicking the great Exhibition of '61; those parts not glass, gorgeously painted, and surmounted with gilded minarets and spires. In these every climate was imitated, the choicest exotics flourished and bloomed, and birds of rich plumage and sweet song pleased the eye and charmed the ear. In one of these houses, trellis work ran up the sides and along the ceiling, bearing some of the magnificent and odorous parasites of India, which sending down their tendrils, burst into clusters of waxen blossoms, shaped like stars, and absolutely intoxicating in their exquisite perfume. Musical instruments of various kinds lay around, as if just abandoned by the performers. Into the chapel and "abode of love" we were not permitted, and narrowly as we watched, the only indication of life we saw was a female face for a moment at one of the windows. With one more glance at the ornamental gardens, with their mosaic of flowers and sparkling fountains, and a hearty expression of thanks, we left.

Our first thought was, that to one weary of the friction of the world, and possessed of wealth, this place promised the most perfect retreat that taste could desire. The thought had hardly presented itself before we began to analyze the character of the institution, and were not long in concluding that it, and all such epicurean realizations, embodied the most intense selfishness, and the most absorbing self-worship, the most degrading idolatry of all. In all others, some redeeming features may, perhaps, be found. To all usual objects of worship, some excellencies are attributed, which elevate the idol above the devotee, but to which he may approximate; but here self is the center and circumference of all. The flowers breathe their perfume, the birds utter their song, wealth contributes its luxuries, and desire is sated by a thousand ministers, not that the heart may go up to God in recognition of His wisdom, or in gratitude for His mercies, but that the individual may be gratified. Not a thought, not a deed, but has this as its sole intent. To live is self. What can be worse for human nature,—more contrary to the original design? Having no high standard of excellence, morality is forgotten; no duty, no high and holy work, no mission, the mind loses its vigor, and becomes hopeless, because aimless. Confined to self, there comes at last a crushing sense of vacuity,

worthlessness, loss, under which some have sought to fly back again into the world, though penniless, and others have perished at their own hands. No more powerful light could be thrown upon the truth, "no man liveth to himself," and no more convincing proof could be given that "all things" are unable to throw around life that charm which springs from simple usefulness.

Since our hurried visit, some dreadful revelations have been made by so called "apostates," who have instituted proceedings for the recovery of their property; but for all we know, PRINCE still lives, with a sufficient number of dupes to support him in luxury and wantonness; and hitherto shielded from the interference of law by the privacy of his doings, the difficulties of escape, and the horror which haunts those who have fled from this misnamed "abode of love."
J. M.
Middleport, N. Y., 1861.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

ELECTRICITY—BEECH AS A CONDUCTOR.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In your issue of Feb. 2d, I read an article headed "The Beech as a Non-Conductor," in which I was much interested. It seems to me the writer has not given the reason why the beech is so seldom struck by lightning, or persons, or animals, which may have taken refuge under it. Any one at all familiar with the science of electricity knows that green wood is a conductor; dry, baked wood a non-conductor; charcoal a conductor, and ashes a non-conductor. These properties beech wood possesses in an eminent degree. Not only so, but the limbs of the beech are peculiarly adapted to conduct a charge of electricity silently from the cloud to the earth, or from the earth to the cloud, as the case may be.

To illustrate my idea, let a person take a charged Leyden jar in one hand, and present a knuckle of the other to the knob connecting with the inside coating, and he receives a shock; but let him, while holding the charged jar, present, instead of his knuckle, the points of three or four needles, and he will be surprised, perhaps, at the result; for instead of the shock as before, the electricity is conducted off silently, and no effect is produced. Now, let us apply these principles to the subject under consideration. Let us suppose a cloud charged with positive electricity (that is having more than the earth,) comes over an isolated, (or, if you please, one in the forest,) green beech tree, and what is the effect? Instead of a discharge of the electric fluid of which we are sensible by the report which we call "thunder," it is taken by the numberless points of the limbs and conveyed silently to the earth, the great reservoir of electricity.

In the two cases mentioned by Mr. HURDIS the limbs or top of the tree were dead, and consequently non-conductors. In the first case mentioned, there were other trees surrounding the beech "uninjured and untouched." That is not at all surprising, when we remember that the dry beech was a non-conductor, and consequently, if not capable of conducting the electricity silently away, must be destroyed by the passage of the fluid over it. In the other case "the top of this, too, was dead, but not decayed in the least;" the fluid passed on, injuring the tree until, "finding a good conductor, it went down harmless." This effect I attribute to the cause mentioned above. Let it not be understood that I think the beech a safe shelter during a thunder-storm, but it seems to me that our knowledge of electricity, and the conducting properties of the green beech, will warrant us in believing it much safer, under such circumstances, than a position in an open field or under any other tree in our climate.
H. R. TABER.
Marion, N. Y., Feb., 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I can just as well account for difference of opinion on Lightning, as anything else; but any observing man who has roamed in the beech woods as much as we old settlers have in an early day, (when our pasture was very extended,) to find our roaming cattle, knows that the idea that is frequently set forth by our "Lightning Lecturers," that lightning never strikes a beech tree, is not true. Facts are stubborn things, and cannot be subverted. I have frequently seen beech trees that had been struck, as many perhaps as any other kind of timber. Now, has not the height of a tree more to do with it than the kind of timber? The tall hickory is said to be a good conductor. I once saw where lightning had struck a very tall hickory of about twenty inches diameter, following it down within some twenty or twenty-five feet of the ground, then left the hickory, glanced and struck a scrubby beech near the top and shattered it so that it killed it. Now, if the beech is a non-conductor, and the hickory a good conductor, why did lightning leave the hickory for the beech. I once saw an article from a Kentuckian, who wrote that the best way to tap maple trees was to dig down at the roots—cut off a small root, and set the bucket under and catch the sap from the root. That was just as rational as to suppose that lightning never strikes a beech.
YANKEE.
Troy, Mich., Feb., 1861.

SCIENCE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.

DR. C. WALLICH, who accompanied the recent expedition to survey the projected North Atlantic telegraph route between this country and England, has collected some important new facts in natural history. His main object was to determine the depth to which animal life extends in the sea, together with the limits and conditions essential to its maintenance. He has proved that at a depth of two miles below the surface animal life exists. Here, where the pressure is calculated to amount to at least one ton and a half per square inch, and where it can hardly be conceived that the most attenuated rays of struggling light can penetrate, Dr. Wallich has not only discovered the minute infusorial Foraminifera, whose calcareous envelopes protect them from pressure, and whose organization is of the simplest character, but he has obtained, from a sounding 1,200 fathoms deep, a number of star fishes, (genus *Ophiocoma*), adhering to the lowest fifty fathoms of the deep sea line, which must have rested on the bottom for a few minutes, so as to allow those star fishes to attach themselves to the rope; so that it is now established that in these regions of watery desert and everlasting darkness, there exists a "highly-organized species of radiate animal, living, entwining, and flourishing, with its red and light pink tints as clear and as brilliant as its congeners which dwell in shallow and comparatively sunshiny waters."

Doubtless others exist, for this is but a preliminary inquiry so conducted, and in time we may come to hear of a new submarine fauna, peopling these dark abodes, and preparing this subaqueous floor just as the land on which we now walk, once submerged, is believed to have been prepared.

The Young Ruralist.

ROBERT MORRIS.

AMONG the host of great and good men who proved themselves lovers of liberty, and the unflinching friends of their country in its hour of darkest trial, no one is more entitled to the gratitude of a free people, or more worthy of being held up for the admiration and imitation of American youth than ROBERT MORRIS, of Philadelphia. He was the great financier of the Revolution, and to his large credit, his immense wealth, his unsullied honor, and his consummate ability, the Americans were indebted for the means necessary to carry on the war, and bring it to a successful issue. Truly has it been said, that "the Americans owed, and still owe, as much to the financial operations of ROBERT MORRIS, as to the negotiations of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, or even the arms of GEORGE WASHINGTON." In the times of deepest distress, when the army was without food and clothing, and destitute of ammunition, when the public credit was so low that a soldier could not buy a pair of boots with a pocket full of Continental paper money, when dissatisfaction everywhere existed, and mutiny was boldly talked of in the camp, and Congress could devise no means of relief, ROBERT MORRIS was seldom appealed to in vain. Either from his own abundant resources, or by loans from his friends, for which he became responsible, aid was furnished, and the drooping spirits of the army and their commander cheered while their wants were partially supplied.



ROBERT MORRIS was a native of Lancashire, England, where he was born in 1733. His father, a Liverpool merchant, removed to this country while ROBERT was a boy, and soon after died, leaving him an orphan at 15 years old. ROBERT served a regular apprenticeship to the mercantile business, and at the breaking out of the Revolutionary war was a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia. On the third of November, 1776, Mr. MORRIS was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress, and his well known abilities as a merchant caused him to be selected a member of the Committee to negotiate bills of exchange, to borrow money for the Marine Committee, and to manage other fiscal concerns of Congress.

Mr. MORRIS never hesitated to become individually responsible for means required by the public service. An interesting illustration of this fact is furnished in his conduct in the December following the Declaration of Independence. For some time previous, the British army had been directing its course towards Philadelphia, from which Congress had retired, leaving a committee, consisting of Mr. MORRIS, Mr. CLYMER, and Mr. WALTON, to transact all necessary Continental business. While attending to the duties of their appointment, Mr. MORRIS received a letter from Gen. WASHINGTON, then with his army on the Delaware, opposite Trenton; in which letter he communicated to Mr. MORRIS his distressed state, in consequence of the want of money. The sum he needed was ten thousand dollars, which was essentially necessary to enable him to obtain such intelligence of the movement and position of the enemy, as would authorize him to act offensively. To Mr. MORRIS Gen. WASHINGTON now looked, to assist him in raising the money.

This letter he read with attention, but what could he do? The citizens generally had left the city. He knew of no one who possessed the required sum, or who would be willing to lend it. The evening approached, and he left his counting-room to return home. On the way, he accidentally overtook an honest quaker, with whom he was acquainted. The quaker inquired of him the news. Mr. MORRIS replied that he had but little news of importance to communicate, but he had a subject which pressed with great weight upon his mind. He now informed the quaker of the letter which he had received, the situation of General WASHINGTON, and the immediate necessity of ten thousand dollars. "Sir," said Mr. MORRIS, "you must let me have it. My note and my honor will be your only security." The quaker hesitated a moment, but at length replied, "ROBERT, thou shalt have it." The money was soon told, was transmitted to WASHINGTON, whom it enabled to accomplish his wishes, and to gain a signal victory over the Hessians at Trenton, thus animating the drooping spirits of patriotism, and checking in no small degree the proud hopes and predictions of the enemy.

Another instance of patriotic liberality is recorded of Mr. MORRIS in 1778, or 1780. These were distressing years of the war. The army was alarmingly destitute of military stores, particularly of the essential article of lead. It was found necessary to melt down the weights of clocks and the spouts of houses; but, notwithstanding resort was had to every possible source, the army was often so destitute that it could scarcely have fought a single battle.

In this alarming state of things, General WASHINGTON wrote to several gentlemen, and among the rest to Judge PETERS, at that time secretary to the Board of war, stating his necessities, and urging an immediate exertion to supply the deficiency. This it seemed impossible to do. Mr. PETERS, however, showed the letter of WASHINGTON to Mr. MORRIS. Fortunately, just at this juncture, a privateer belonging to the latter gentleman had arrived at the wharf, with ninety tons of lead. Half of this lead was immediately given by Mr. MORRIS, for the use of the army, and the other half was purchased by Mr. PETERS of other gentlemen, who owned it, Mr. MORRIS becoming security for the payment of the debt. At a more advanced stage of the war, when pressing distress in the army had driven Congress and the commander in chief almost to desperation,

and a part of the troops to mutiny, he supplied the army with four or five thousand barrels of four upon his own private credit; and on a promise to that effect, persuaded a member to withdraw an intended motion to sanction a procedure, which, although common in Europe, would have had a very injurious effect upon the cause of the country; this was no less than to authorize General WASHINGTON to seize all the provision that could be found, within a circle of twenty miles of his camp. While financier, his notes constituted, for large transactions, part of the circulating medium. Many other similar instances occurred of this patriotic interposition of his own personal responsibility for supplies which could not otherwise have been obtained.

Allusion has been made above to the gloomy posture of affairs during the year 1780; at this time the wants of the army, particularly of provisions, were so great as to threaten its dissolution. This state of things being communicated to Mr. MORRIS, he immediately proposed the establishment of a Bank, the principal object of which was to supply the army with provisions. This plan becoming popular, ninety-six subscribers gave their bonds, on this occasion, by which they obliged themselves to pay, if it should become necessary, in gold and silver, the amounts annexed to their names, to fulfil the engagements of the Bank. By this means, the confidence of the public in the safety of the Bank was confirmed.

Mr. MORRIS headed the list with a subscription of £10,000; others followed to the amount of £300,000. The Directors were authorized to borrow money on the credit of the Bank, and to grant special notes, bearing interest at six per cent. The credit thus given to the Bank effected the object intended, and the institution was continued until the Bank of North America went into operation in the succeeding year.

In the year 1781, Mr. MORRIS was unanimously appointed by Congress Superintendent of Finance, an office then for the first time established. No man in the country probably was as well fitted for this important task, as he possessed a happy expedient of raising supplies, and enjoyed the entire confidence of the country for punctuality in the fulfillment of his engagements. At the time of his appointment the treasury was more than two millions and a half in arrears, and the greater part of this debt was of such a nature that payment could not be delayed. But Mr. MORRIS was equal to the work, and the face of things soon began to change through his exertions. At the close of the war, Mr. MORRIS continued his mercantile pursuits; but an unfortunate speculation in lands robbed him of his fortune, and left him much embarrassed. He died at Philadelphia, on the 8th of May, 1806, in the seventy-third year of his age.

AN AMERICAN WEED IN ENGLAND.

AN aquatic weed, said to be a native of this country, is causing a great deal of trouble in the small streams of England, and even in the Thames, threatening to seriously impede navigation, and creating a good deal of anxiety. It is called the *Anacharis alismatrum*, but is commonly known as the American weed. It is thought to have been brought from this country, adhering to sticks of timber that had been rafted down some of our streams. It throws out roots and branches even when floating, and when stopped by any obstruction, soon forms fields, to the dismay of navigators. We do not think this plant can be found in the Northern States, but it may grow South. When Mr. Wood's new work on the Flora of the Southern States is published, we may obtain some knowledge in regard to it.

Mrs. S. C. HALL, writing from Ensham, on the upper Thames, says:—"It is in this neighborhood we begin to perceive the dangerous results of the recent and rapid growth of the weed, *Anacharis alismatrum*, commonly called "the American weed." It has not been known in England more than ten years; but during that brief period it has spread so extensively—almost universally—through every district of our island, as very frequently to affect the traffic of rivers and canals, to impede the currents of minor streams, and even to fill up isolated ponds. It has already rendered the Thames, in some parts, almost impassable without difficulty.

A small pamphlet, written by WILLIAM MARSHALL, Esq., of Ely, gives its history as far as it can be given. "The intruder is so unlike any other water-plant, that it may be at once recognized by its leaves growing in threes, round a slender stringy stem. The color of the plant is a deep green; the leaves are about half an inch long, by an eighth wide, egg-shaped at the point, and beset with minute teeth, which cause them to cling. The stems are very brittle, so that whenever the plant is disturbed, fragments are broken off. Although, at present, it cannot propagate itself by seed, (all the flowers being male,) its powers of increase are prodigious, as every fragment is capable of becoming an independent plant, producing roots and stems, and extending itself indefinitely in every direction. Most of our water-plants require, in order to their increase, to be rooted in the bottom or sides of the river or drain in which they are found; but this is independent altogether of that condition, and actually grows as it travels slowly down the stream, after being cut." This weed is "a foreigner" there can be no doubt. Weeds very closely resembling, if not identical with it, are found in American rivers. Mr. Marshall is of opinion that it is an importation from North America; and that, probably, its first visit was paid to us in a load of American timber. He considers that all attempts to "get rid of it" must be futile; that it never can be eradicated, and that all we shall be able to do is to "keep it down." Its rapid spread is one of the marvels of nature. It is becoming a serious evil; the Commissioners of the Thames should lose no time in grappling with the common enemy."

AMERICAN WEED.

THERE are some who refuse a favor so graciously as to please us; and there are others who confer an obligation so clumsily, that they please us less by the measure than they disgust us by the manner of a kindness, as puzzling to our feelings as the politeness of one who, if we had dropped our handkerchief, should present it to us with a pair of tongs.

GOOD service is prompt service. It ceases to be a favor when he upon whom the service is conferred has lost in patience and hope deferred what he might have bestowed in love and gratitude.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Harper's New Monthly Magazine—Harper & Bro. Fine Imported Flower Seeds—Jas. Vick. Red Western Reserve Premium Cheese Vat—Roe & Blair. Astor House, N.Y. Apple Trees for Sale—C. H. Rogers. Apple Seeds—J. B. Condit. Farm for Sale—C. H. Rogers. Superior Flower and Vegetable Seed—McElwain Bros. Raspberry Plants—Chas. Lyon. Local Agents Wanted—E. O. Frost. A Good Business Chance—Agents Wanted. Gardiner Wanted—James Smith.

SPECIAL NOTICES.
Brown's Troches for Coughs.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY 23, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

The Government has official information from the Collector at New Orleans, notifying that duties on goods passing up the river will be collected at New Orleans in behalf of the Treasury of Louisiana.

The President received a telegram from Mobile, announcing the maltreatment of the British Consul there. Lord Lyons has called at the State Department for facts.

The report of the Select Committee, of which Mr. Morris, of Ill., was chairman, gives detailed facts relative to the abstraction of the Indian trust bonds. Thirty or forty witnesses were examined, including Ex-Secretaries Floyd and Thompson. The latter is exonerated from any complicity in the theft; but he, as well as former Secretaries of the Interior, are censured for the insufficient manner in which the bonds have been held in that Department, there being no adequate responsibility attached to the custodian. According to Russell's own evidence, he did not know at first where the bonds of which he obtained possession, came from. Bailey was an agent for the negotiation or sale of the bonds, and Lea was an intermediate party between Russell and Bailey. It was also ascertained that Mr. Floyd gave acceptances to the amount of nearly \$7,000,000, or from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 more than Russell, Majors & Co. ever loaned, while these contractors received all the money that was due them.

The President has issued a proclamation declaring that an extraordinary occasion requires the Senate to convene for the transaction of business on the 4th of March at noon that day, viz: to receive and act upon such communications as may be made to it by the Executive. The proclamation is in accordance with usage, and to enable the incoming President to nominate for confirmation the members of his Cabinet.

The Secretary of the Treasury says in a letter to Mr. Sherman, the liabilities due, and to fall due before the 4th March next, are nearly \$10,000,000. The accruing revenue will, it is estimated, net about \$3,000,000, leaving \$8,000,000 to be borrowed. There is in the Treasury, subject to draft and letter, more than \$5,000,000, while drafts to about \$2,000,000 are unanswered. The short time to elapse before the close of the present session renders it indispensable for the Secretary to advertise for a loan. An appropriation of \$200,000 is asked for to replace the ordinance, ammunition, &c., which has been seized at various Southern ports.

The session of the Sub-Committee of the Peace Conference lasted till midnight on the 14th, and was at times stormy. Guthrie's proposition was substantially that of the Kentucky Legislature, and was finally carried with the proviso, that no territory shall hereafter be acquired without the approval of three-fourths of the Senate.

Investigations of fraud upon the Congressional library, reveal most extraordinary peculations on the part of the succeeding members. They have gone off loaded down with valuable books, the property of the United States, in utter disregard of the commonest rules of decency.

Letters received on the 15th from the South give assurances of a vacation in the secession excitement, and state that hopes of an amicable adjustment of the difficulties are strengthened. The exertions of the officers of the Provisional Government are expected to be given in favor of a settlement. The announcement is made from sources entitled to such confidence that apprehensions of trouble at Washington are removed.

Some Postmasters recently appointed in the seceding States, decline to take the oath to support the Constitution of the United States. Of course the offices will have to be discontinued, if persons cannot be found to take and hold them according to law.

Advices from Colville Depot, Dec. 23, represent the English and American Northwestern boundary commissioners as progressing satisfactorily. The first stone of the final monument of the boundary was laid October 25th. The chief commissioner has started for home.

Special Agent Jones, dispatched by Secretary Dix to New Orleans, has satisfied himself that the revenue cutter McClelland was surrendered to the authorities of Louisiana through complicity between Collector Hatch and Capt. Brushwood, before the ordinance of secession.

It is understood that delegations from Virginia, North Carolina and Missouri, will vote against the report of the Peace Conference. Maryland, Kentucky, and Tennessee will go for it. It will probably be adopted by a majority of the States represented in the Conference. The telegraph this (Monday) morning says that those who were most hopeful of beneficial results from the Peace Conference are beginning to despair, and some of the Commissioners have advised their distant friends accordingly.

Lieutenant Gilman, one of the officers in command of Fort Pickens, arrived at Washington on the 13th inst., with dispatches, from Lieutenant Slemmer and the commander of the vessels off Pensacola, to the government. He left Pensacola on Saturday evening, having received a passport from Major Chase, who is in command of the Florida troops. He says the following vessels are off the harbor: the Brooklyn, Sabine, St. Louis, Macedonian and Wyandotta. The Brooklyn did not land her supplies for Fort Pickens, Lieut. Slemmer having notified them that he had ample supplies for three months. There are 1,200 troops at Pensacola, and it is all that Maj. Chase and others in command can do to restrain them. Lieut. Gilman says he would not be surprised if an attack was made at any moment. The health of the officers and men on board the vessels is good.

The Supreme Court of the United States, recently, in the California land case, established an important principle as to that State, in effect that when a claimant has obtained a confirmation of title and a patent, the adverse party in possession cannot in an action resist the title of the patentee.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—Mr. Foote offered a resolution that a committee of three Senators be appointed to make arrangements for the inauguration of the President elect. Adopted.

The Naval Appropriation bill was then taken up. Mr. Hale offered an amendment, to build 7 steam sloops of war. Carried. Yeas, 30; nays, 18. Several appropriations for the Pensacola Yard were struck out.

Mr. Holt offered an amendment repealing the act preventing the purchase of patented articles.

Mr. Pierce proposed to amend—"except arms." Agreed to, and amendment carried.

Vice President Breckinridge being sick on the 16th, the Secretary called the Senate to order. On motion of Mr. Powell, Mr. Foote took the chair.

Mr. Hale said that he had been asked by the unanimous request of the naval committee, that the vote exonerating Mr. Thompson from serving on the naval committee be re-considered. The vote was re-considered, and Mr. Thompson was not excused.

The resolution for printing 25,000 additional copies of the agricultural report from the patent office was passed.

The bill providing no extra numbers of any document to be printed without a joint resolution of both Houses was passed.

The bill to carry out the treaty with New Grenada was passed.

The Tariff bill was taken up, the question being on Mr. Seward's amendment extending the time when duties shall be paid to three years. The effect is to leave the system as it is now, and was, after some discussion, agreed to—yeas, 25; nays, 18. Mr. Seward moved to strike out all in the bill relating to the warehousing system. Agreed to. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. McClernand introduced a resolution which was adopted, reciting that by the seizure of the Mint, Moneys, Custom House, &c., by the revolutionary authorities of Louisiana, the United States are put at defiance; and calling on the President, if not incompatible with the public interest, for all the facts in the case, and what steps, if any, have been taken or contemplated, to recover property.

Mr. Sickles offered a resolution recommending the celebration of the 22d as a National Holiday. Adopted.

On the 13th inst., the House opened with prayer by Chaplain Stockton, in which he said:

"Bless the outgoing Administration; may it close its labors in peace, without further violence and without any stain of blood, and we pray for the incoming Administration—that Thy blessing may rest on the President elect in his journey hitherward; that Thy good Providence may be around him day and night, guarding him at every step; and we pray that he may be peacefully and happily inaugurated, and afterward by pure, wise and good councils, that he may administer the government in such a manner as that Thy name may be glorified and the welfare of the People, in all their relations, be advanced, and that an example of civil and religious liberty be followed in all the world."

The Senate was notified of the readiness of the House to have the Electoral votes counted. The Senate entered with tellers and other officials, and took stations; and after a short address from Mr. Breckinridge, he opened the different certificates, which were read by the Secretary of the Senate.

The reading of all the Electoral votes having been completed, the tellers reported the result, whereupon the Vice President, rising, said:

"Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, having received a majority of the whole number of Electoral votes, is duly elected President of the United States for four years, commencing on March 4th, 1861; and Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine, having received a majority of the whole number of Electoral votes, is duly elected Vice President of the United States, for the same time."

A committee was appointed in conjunction with the Senate, to wait on and notify the President elect of his election.

A debate took place on the amendment to the postal bill, increasing the pay of route agents \$1,000 per annum. Passed.

The amendment to the deficiency bill in controversy between the two Houses having been settled through the Committee of Conference, the Senate receded from the appropriation of \$300,000 for carrying into effect the contract of the Navy Department with A. W. Thompson, for certain harbor and coal privileges on the Chiriqui isthmus.

The House adopted the report of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing amendments of the Legislative and Executive and Judicial appropriation bill. By this the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to discontinue refining at the Mint whenever considered expedient, but leaves the place for coining as it is now. These passed the Senate. Adjourned.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The bill to authorize the State indorsement to United States bonds, came up for a third reading. Mr. Spinola moved to recommit, and advanced an opinion that as at present drawn, it was in conflict with the Constitution. After some debate, the bill was passed—17 yeas, 7 nays.

The bill to appropriate \$50,000 for the relief of the people of Kansas, came up from the Assembly. After some discussion the bill was read a third time and passed—22 yeas, 5 nays.

The Senate concurred in the joint-resolution appointing a Committee to meet President Lincoln; when a communication from the Governor was received, announcing the declension of Mr. Weed to serve as Commissioner. The resolution of the Assembly appointing Francis Granger Commissioner to Washington in place of Thurlow Weed, was called up. On motion of Mr. Truman, it was laid on the table—15 to 13.

Mr. Conolly moved to request a report from the Long Island Railroad Company, of all its business, stockholders, &c., stating as the reason for the resolution that the officers of the road had refused to show their stock books to the shareholders. Adopted.

The President appointed Senators Ferry, Ketchum, and Conolly a Select Committee on the part of the Senate, to make arrangements for the reception of the President. Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Doty, Private Secretary to Governor Morgan, presented a communication from the Governor, transmitting a letter from President Lincoln, as follows:

SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 4, 1861.
SIR:—Your letter of the 30th ult., inviting me, on behalf of the Legislature of New York, to pass through that State en route to Washington, and tendering me the hospitalities of her people, has been duly received. With feelings of deep gratitude to you and them for this testimonial of regard and esteem, I beg you to notify them that I accept the invitation so kindly extended.

Your obedient servant, A. LINCOLN.
P. S.—Please let ceremonies be only such as to occupy as little time as possible.
A. L. To His Excellency, E. D. Morgan, Governor of New York.

Gov. Morgan, in communicating the letter, stated that Mr. Lincoln would be in Albany next Monday, and he had delegated a portion of his Staff to meet him at Buffalo and escort him to the Capital.

Mr. Ball moved the appointment of a Joint-Committee of five from the House, and three from the Senate, to make preparations for the reception of the President elect. Carried.

Messrs. Ball, Ferry, Pendergast, Bergen, and Provost, were appointed on the part of the House.

The bill appropriating \$50,000 to the relief of the suffering in Kansas was passed—yeas 88, nays 22.

Concurrent resolutions appointing Francis Granger, Commissioner to Washington, in place of Thurlow Weed, declined, were called up and adopted.

The Senate bill to enable the United States Government to raise money on their bonds, was reported favorably. On motion of Mr. Robinson, the bill was read a third time and passed—89 to 3. Adjourned.

The Secession Movement.

LOUISIANA.—The State Convention adjourned on the 12th, until the 4th of March, to await the action of the Southern Congress.

TENNESSEE.—As far as heard from, all the Union candidates are elected by overwhelming majorities. The Convention is defeated by a very large vote.

ALABAMA.—Standing Committees were announced on the 12th, in the Congress of the Southern Confederacy.

A dispatch was received from the Louisiana Convention, opposing the election of Davis and Stephens. A resolution was referred continuing Custom House officers in office.

A resolution that, as soon as the President is inaugurated, Commissioners be sent to the Government of the United States, was referred.

During the secret session, resolutions were passed taking charge of all questions or difficulties now existing between Sovereign States and the Southern Confederacy and the United States, relating to the occupation of forts, arsenals, navy yards, and other public establishments, and the President was directed to communicate this resolution to the Governors of States.

Congress appointed a committee of six to make arrangements for the inauguration, which was to come off on the 18th inst.

An official copy of the Texan ordinance was presented, with the credentials of the delegates, one of whom has arrived. Objection was made to its reception, on the ground of its not being ratified. Mr. Grigg, of Texas, was invited to take a seat.

An act was passed in secret session continuing Custom House officers in office until the first of April, and requiring them to take an oath of fealty to the Provisional Government.

The Secretary of the Treasury was instructed to report a plan for reducing the expenses of collecting the revenue 20 per cent.

TEXAS.—The Texas Convention passed an ordinance favoring the speedy foundation of a Southern Confederacy. It elected seven delegates to the Southern Congress.

VIRGINIA.—The returns from twenty counties in Virginia, show a much larger vote in favor of the Union, than the entire vote for secession in all the State.

A joint resolution will be offered at the Virginia Convention, requesting Messrs. Hunter and Mason to resign their seats in the United States Senate, on the ground that their secession sentiments do not represent the voice of Virginia.

The State Convention met at Richmond on the 13th inst. John Jenney, of Loudon, was elected President, and made a Union speech, but said Virginia would insist on her rights as the condition of remaining in the Confederacy.

Movements of the President Elect.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the President elect, left his home in Springfield, Ill., on the 11th inst., en route for Washington. Large crowds, made up of all parties, gathered at the various railroad stations along his course of travel, eager to see and hear the man who is to preside over the destinies of our country for four years from the 4th of March, and to do him honor, and whenever time has permitted, he has addressed the Sovereigns. Mr. LINCOLN has not allowed politicians or letter-writers to draw out his line of policy, and it was thought that a development would inevitably be made in his addresses. We are inclined to the belief, however, that not much satisfaction has been obtained thus far by those who are most anxious to read his secrets. We give his speech at Buffalo, N. Y., the first in this State, where he remained more than twenty-four hours, and where it was hoped a leak might be discovered.

Mr. Mayor and Fellow-Citizens of Buffalo, and the State of New York:—I am here to thank you briefly for this grand reception given to me, not personally, but as the representative of our great and beloved country. (Cheers.) Your worthy Mayor has been pleased to mention in his address to me the fortunate and agreeable journey which I have had from home, on my rather circuitous route to the Federal Capital. I am very happy that he was enabled in truth to congratulate myself and company on that fact. It is true, we have had nothing to mar the pleasure of the trip. We have not been met alone by those who assisted in giving the election to me—I say not alone, but by the whole population of the country through which we have passed. This is as it should be. Had the election fallen to any other of the distinguished candidates instead of myself, under the peculiar circumstances, to say the least, it would have been proper for all citizens to greet him as you now greet me. It is evidence of the devotion of the whole people to the Constitution, the Union, and the perpetuity of the liberties of the country, for which I am unwilling on any occasion that I should be so meanly thought of as to have it supposed for a moment that these demonstrations are tendered to me personally. They are tendered to the country—to the institutions of the country, and to the perpetuity of the liberties of the country, for which these institutions were made and created. Your worthy Mayor has thought it to express the hope that I may be able to relieve the country from the present or I should say the threatened difficulties. I am sure I bring a heart true to the work. (Tremendous applause.) For the ability to perform it, I must trust in the Supreme Being who has never forsaken this favored land, through the instrumentality of this great and intelligent people. Without that assistance, I shall surely fail. With it, I cannot fail. When we speak of threatened difficulties to the country, it is natural that it should be expected that something should be said by myself with regard to particular measures. Upon more mature reflection, however, I will agree with me that when it is considered that these difficulties are without precedent, and have never been acted upon by any individual, situated as I am, it is most proper I should wait and see the developments, and get all the light possible, so that when I do speak authoritatively, I may be as near right as possible. (Cheers.)

When I shall speak authoritatively, I hope to say nothing inconsistent with the constitution, the Union, the rights of all the States, of each section of the country, and to do up to the responsibilities of those who have been committed to me. In the conference I allow me to say that you, as a portion of the great American people, need only to maintain your composure, stand up to your sober convictions of right, to your obligations to the constitution, and to the perpetuity of the liberties of the country, and the clouds which now arise in the horizon will be dispelled, and we shall have a bright and glorious future, and when this generation has passed away, tens of thousands will inhabit this country where only thousands inhabit it now.

The English papers claim a right to navigate the Mississippi, which they say secession cannot abrogate. By the treaty of Paris, signed on the 30th of November, 1782, it was stipulated that "the navigation of the Mississippi, from its source to the ocean, shall forever remain free and open to the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States."

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Lord John Russell, in a letter, tendered to the Cotton manufacturers, through the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, the services of British Consuls in cotton producing districts, to assist in determining the possibility of obtaining from other sources such supplies as may compensate for the possible falling off under the present crisis.

It is rumored that England, France and Russia are on the point of coming to an understanding for a peaceable solution of the Danish question.

The American crisis is the leading topic in the journals, and among the business community. Mr. Seward's speech is published at length, and its merits freely discussed. The London Times applauds his argument that South Carolina is guilty of rebellion, and says they are the principles which should have emanated from the President.

Queen Victoria opens Parliament in person on the 5th, and Napoleon the French Legislature on the 4th.

FRANCE.—France has intimated to other governments the necessity of a Conference of their respective representatives, on or before the 15th of February, to consider the Syrian question, as the French occupation ceases in March. There is a vague report in circulation that orders for two hundred gun-boats have been given to private builders.

It is asserted that the Pope insists on the execution of the Paris Convention on the subject of the occupation of Syria.

It is reported that France has demanded explanations of recent warlike speeches of the King of Prussia. This is denied at Berlin.

Business in France is very dull.

The Army and Navy Gazette says the Emperor has resolved to construct, with all dispatch, ten iron cased frigates of the La Glorie class. This is no mere idle rumor, but a stubborn fact.

The Patrie says it is not true, as some journals have said, that the French Government has encouraged Denmark to resist the demands of Germany. Neither is it true that France is organizing a squadron to be sent to the Baltic.

AUSTRIA.—Austria is raising a loan of 30,000,000 florins, in anticipation of taxes becoming due.

It is again asserted that a treaty exists between Prussia, Austria and Russia, guaranteeing Venetia to Austria.

It is said that the Emperor of Austria has decided to grant a constitution to Venetia, which will leave the government to the Italians.

It is asserted that Metternich notified Throuvel that Austria will consider an attack by Garibaldi, on any part of the Austrian territory, as *casus belli*.

Austria is making full preparations to suppress the recent Hungarian outbreak.

ITALY.—The siege of Gaeta continued suspended. The cause assigned is insufficient means to carry it out. It is reported, via Rome, that the first firing recommenced with vigor on both sides.

It is said that Francis II received a letter from Napoleon, counselling the King to cease resistance. The King's reply was not known.

Out of 360 elections known, in South Italy, 290 favor moderate policy.

The latest from Gaeta says a flag of truce was sent from the fortress to the fleet, and the firing was soon suspended on both sides.

King Francis had sent a fresh circular to the Minister, stating that he was resolved to meet all the perils of his position to the end.

Returns from Southern Italy are favorable to the Government.

It is said that Prince Carignan has gone to Gaeta to negotiate for the surrender of the fortress.

Italian troops, in pursuing the reactionists, had entered the Roman States. Sardinia demanded a restoration of the soldiers made prisoners by the Papal Zouaves, and seized Bishop Sabine as a hostage.

Debats says the Italian Parliament proclaimed Emanuele King of Italy, immediately on assembling.

Nothing was known relative to Garibaldi's reported departure from Capraja. It is thought by some that he had gone to Dalmatia. In a letter to an English friend, he expressed an anxious wish to make a journey to England, but was unable to fix the time. He thanked the people for their moral and material aid.

SPAIN.—The Spanish infant Don Juan has decided to relinquish his pretensions to the crown, reserving only the eventuality of being elected by universal suffrage.

DENMARK.—A ministerial ordinance has been addressed to all the functionaries whose duties are in any way connected with the calling out of the soldiers for the army, ordering them to take such steps as will enable them to execute as speedily as possible the orders for the military convocation already proclaimed, or for any other which may be made.

It is said that the Great Powers urgently requested Denmark to grant concessions to Schleswig.

INDIA.—The India mail has arrived with Calcutta dates to Dec. 22d. The Times' correspondent at Calcutta says there is not a contented mind nor tranquil tongue in all the Province, by the mismanagement of Mr. Grant. The \$2,000,000 annuity spent in the indigo manufacture, have been this year withdrawn from circulation, and in a poor country like Calcutta, the consequences are naturally those of discontent.

CHINA.—The China intelligence is to December 15th, from Hong Kong. Lord Elgin was at Shanghai on the 8th of December, and is expected at Hong Kong immediately.

At Shanghai great alarm existed from reports brought in of the movements of the rebels.

Foo Choo was quiet. Disturbances had broken out in the northeast part of the Province, and one or two walled places had been taken. The John Adams, Niagara, Hartford, and gun-boat Saganaw, were at Hong Kong.

COMMERCE.—Broadstuffs.—Flour quiet at steady quotations—28d@31s. Wheat in moderate demand at steady prices. Red Western 11s@d; Southern 12s@d; 12s@d; white Western 13s@d; Southern 14s@d. Corn slightly dearer, but difficult to sell. Some quote 8d cheaper. The range for mixed and yellow is 8s@8s@d; white 3s@d @9s.

Provisions.—Pork dull and unaltered. Lard quiet at 57c @ 60s for good and really choice.

THE LONDON TIMES ON SECESSION.—The London Times of the 10th ult., alluding to Lord Palmerston's speech at the recent Southampton banquet, says:—"The third topic dwelt upon by Lord Palmerston is the future, if, indeed, we may not say the actual disruption of the American Union. While Italy is consolidating, America is disintegrating. That privilege of a single entire nationality which Italy is shedding tears of blood to obtain, America is flinging recklessly away. The Southern States expected sympathy for their undertaking, from the public opinion of this country. The tone of the press has already done much to undeceive them, and if anything more is required, they have the assurance of our disapprobation from the person whose public station gives him the right, and whose intuitive sympathy with the feelings of the nation gives him the power, better than any one, to express its opinions."

The News Condenser.

- The debt of Virginia now exceeds \$82,000,000.
- The French distillers are making brandy out of coal.
- Judge Whitney of Birmingham, N. Y., died on the 14th.
- Hydraulic engines are being used to blow church organs with.
- No less than \$1,500,000 are invested in bee culture in Ohio.
- Several printers have recently been driven from South Carolina.
- John McManus died of starvation in Brooklyn, N. Y., last Sunday.
- Coal now produces to the State of Pennsylvania \$30,000,000 per annum.
- In the tongue of the right whale there are from 300 to 800 gallons of oil!
- A score-and-a-half of Sioux Indians ask to be made citizens of Minnesota.
- The receipts of U. S. Colonization Society last year, from all sources, was \$14,868.
- Cambridge, Md., was lighted with gas; for the first time, on Saturday night week.
- The levy of French soldiers is to be 50,000 greater this year than it was in 1860.
- There are nearly seventeen thousand deaf and dumb persons in Great Britain.
- A subscription is being raised in Virginia to purchase the birth-place of Gen. Scott.
- There are confined in Auburn prison at the present time no less than 804 criminals.
- Snow fell to the depth of eight feet in the vicinity of Montreal, Wednesday week.
- Peru has just sent 15,000 bales of her cotton across the Isthmus, most of it to Europe.
- The South Carolina postmasters are still ordering postage stamps from Washington.
- It is a singular fact that no divorce has ever been granted in the State of South Carolina.
- No less than 1,500 lives were lost by nautical disasters in the Gulf of Venice during 1860.
- The total number of hands employed in the English cotton factories in 1860 was 387,190.
- The deaths in New York last week numbered 367, a decrease of 38 from the week previous.
- Congress has voted to make the 22d of February, Washington's birthday, a national holiday.
- The number of lakes and ponds laid down in the map of Berkshire county, Mass., is ninety-six.
- England obtained from other sources than the United States in 1860, 860,000 bales of cotton.
- In some places on the mountains in Williamstown, Mass., the snow is six feet deep on the level.
- A mass of copper, weighing 13,000 pounds, was recently taken from the mines near Ontonagon.
- The national debt of the United States amounts to about a dollar and a half for each inhabitant.
- It is reiterated that a National Convention will probably be the means of settling our difficulties.
- The Grand Haven (Mich.) Clarion says that several cases of diphtheria, have appeared in that place.
- Samuel H. Black was arrested on Friday, in New York, on a charge of counterfeiting copper cents.
- Judge Lord, of the Land Court, St. Louis, has declared that religious journals are not "newspapers."
- Eighty-seven arrests were made on Sunday week in New York, for violations of the Sunday liquor law.
- A lady swallowed a cambric needle at New Albany, Ind., last week, and suffers acutely in consequence.
- There are in England and Wales 300,000 Sunday school teachers, and 2,500,000 Sunday school scholars.
- The estimated number of persons indirectly dependent on cotton manufactures in England is 1,000,000.
- A horrid Indian massacre of seven emigrants in Carson Valley, is reported in the news from Pike's Peak.
- King Victor Emanuel has granted 200,000 francs in aid of the public schools to be established in Naples.
- John A. Rockwell, formerly Member of Congress from Connecticut, died on the 11th inst., of apoplexy.
- In the year 1850, as appears by the census, the number of slaves that escaped from the South was 1,011.
- The total number of new buildings erected last year in Boston is 984, costing in the aggregate \$5,978,161.
- A writer in the Medical Times recommends sulphur as highly efficacious in the treatment of rheumatism.
- Dispatches received by distinguished secession leaders indicate that an export duty will be laid on cotton.
- At the late Presidential election San Francisco polled nearly four thousand more votes than New Orleans.
- The New York Times says the sentiment in favor of enforcing the laws grows stronger in Congress daily.
- Rocky Mountain News says that coal oil has been discovered in the mountains, five miles from Cannon City.
- The attempts hitherto made in Australia, with the view to the introduction of the salmon, have proved failures.
- It is said that nearly \$1,000 was cleared at the Concert, in Troy, Monday night, in aid of the Kansas Relief Fund.
- There is a great deal more feeling of animosity now than ever, in France, between the clergy and the government.
- By letters from Liberia, December 15th, it appears that the Liberian Republic had captured two slave schooners.
- In St. Louis last week there were eighty-four deaths, sixty-one of which were children five years old and under.
- The Supreme Court of Indiana has decided the "Liquor Law" of that State to be constitutional in every particular.
- Fifty biphods of cotton, valued at between five and six millions of dollars, cleared from New Orleans Monday week.
- There is a house in Union, Conn., tenanted by three families, where three births happened in one night last week.
- The depreciation in the value of slave property in Missouri, consequent upon the secession movement, is forty per cent.
- The measles are prevailing extensively at Baldwinville, Oneida county. Some 260 cases are reported within the village.
- The citizens of Cortland, N. Y., are making an effort to establish telegraphic communication between that place and Ithaca.
- A pine tree was lately cut in the lumbering region near Eau Claire, Mich., which yielded over six thousand feet of lumber.
- A drayman of New Orleans deliberately rolled a hog-head of sugar over the head of a little child, and killed it.
- From one thousand hills of hops planted one year ago, in California, one thousand pounds of hops were gathered last fall.
- The quantity of Anthracite coal sent from Pennsylvania in the year 1860, was 8,500,000 tons; increase over 1859, 618,717 tons.
- Garibaldi continues to call for his million of armed Italians, who shall effect the redemption of the whole Peninsula.
- A little girl named Buckley, of South Adams, Mass., aged about 12 years, slid down a hill into the river on Monday, and was drowned.
- Dr. Foster, who tore down and trampled upon the American flag at Covington, Ky., a few days since, has been fined \$20 for that offence.
- Russia is rapidly extending her telegraphs into the Amoor country, intending to reach the Pacific and the vast country of Siberia.
- The census of Missouri shows that State to have 1,407,536 whites, 1

THE SNOW-DRIFT.

O, SWEEP creation! cradled in the skies,
Crowning with beauty all the field's expanse;
Thy Parian glow and sculptured symmetries
Believe the wildest wonders of romance.

chair was in its accustomed corner by the parlor fire,
and in it sat the dear old lady, with her placid smile
of welcome for all; while grandfather stood near her,
erect and dignified, his hands crossed on the top of
his ivory-headed staff, which was his constant com-

"Well, JENNY," said Mr. NEWMAN, when they
gathered again around their own fireplace, "how was
it about that wish-bone? Did it prove to be a good
one?"

The Story-Teller.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.)

MAGIC

BY EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER.

(Continued from page 60, last week.)

The old Newman homestead, where Thanksgiving
gatherings had been held time out of mind, was a
large substantial farm-house, built in the style of the
old Puritans, with beams of solid oak that seemed as
lasting as iron.

If you take a peep into the front chamber, you will
find six fair faces nestling together around the fire,
and perhaps among them all, MARGARET'S will least
impress you as beautiful, yet your eyes come back to
it again and rest there with a sense of quiet content.

"Where is CARRIE?" asked MARGARET, in a pique
of LOUISE ELMER'S chatter.
"Oh, she staid down with the old folks," said her
thoughtless sister BESSIE, "she'd rather be there, she
is such a queer little thing."

CHAPTER II.

Clear minded, and still vigorous in body, Mr. NEWMAN,
the elder, seemed only resting from the labors and
cares of life, while his wife, gentle, loving and
beloved, though for many years an invalid, still kept
her cheerful smile, and her heart seemed as young
and warm as ever.

MARGARET made a motion to raise LOUISE from her
lap, but she only pouted her red lips and said, "Now,
MAGGIE, don't bring her up here, that's a good girl.
She makes me so nervous, with her sober face and
great mournful eyes. I feel as if it were a sin to
laugh and talk before her, when she suffers so much,
and is so miserable."

"How red your cheeks are, MARGARET," said
JENNY, looking admiringly at her sister; "I wish
they were that way all the time, you look so much
prettier. I asked Mr. FIELDING, to-night, when you
were singing with LOUISE ELMER, if he didn't think
you was a great deal the prettiest, and he said he
believed he did. I think he is a real nice man, but I
can't see what business he had to come to our
Thanksgiving."

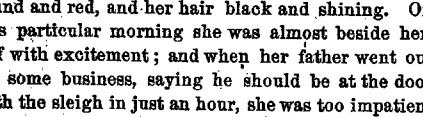
FUN, FACT, AND FANCY.

A MAN'S good fortune often turns his head; his bad
fortune as often averts the heads of his friends.

SPENDTHRIFTS economize in what they give, the
charitable in what they spend.

"I guess she did," said Mr. NEWMAN, with a hearty
laugh, "but she won't tell you about it to-night, so
you needn't ask her."

ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



Answer in two weeks.

POETICAL ENIGMA.

I'm a singular creature, of inventive art,—
No science can prosper, without I take part;
Yet in paper or book you cannot me discern;
From placed right before you, and full in your eye.

Answer in two weeks.

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

Find two numbers, such that their product shall be equal
to the difference of their squares, and the sum of their squares
shall be equal to the difference of their cubes.

Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 578.

Answer to Grammatical Enigma:—A rolling stone gathers
no moss.

Answer to Illustrated Rebus:—Ought men to cypher (sigh)
for ought which undermines their understandings, or is in-

Answer to Mathematical Problem:—
Distance between the two ships:.....895.6 rods.
" " " Star and Ft. Johnson:.....497.5 "
" " " Ft. Moultrie:.....743.6 "
" " " Brooklyn and Ft. Johnson:.....590.5 "
" " " Ft. Johnson:.....534.8 "

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be accommodated—for it would be unjust to others to comply,
and a great inconvenience to return remittances. The only way
to get the RURAL for less than \$2 a year is to form or join a club.

Advertising:—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each inser-
tion. A price and a half for extra display, or 25 cents per line of
space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, loaded,)
Sixty Cents a Line. THE RURAL NEW-YORKER has a far
larger circulation than any similar journal in the world, and is
undoubtedly the best advertising medium of its class in America.

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New Subscribers, until otherwise announced;
but all wishing them should subscribe soon.

ANY person so disposed can act as local agent for the
RURAL NEW-YORKER, and those who volunteer in the good
cause will receive gratuities, and their kindness be appreciated.

PERMISSIONS TO CLUB AGENTS.—It is not to late to form
new clubs and secure the valuable Special Premiums offered
therefor. See List and particulars headed "Good Pay for
Doing Good"—in Rural of last week. We are daily sending
copies of Dictionaries, Mearns's England, Loring's Illustrated
U. S. Everybody's Lawyer, and other choice and valuable
standard works, as premiums, and have hundreds more which
we hope to dispose of in like manner. Now is the Time to Act.

TRAVELING AGENTS are employed by us, as we wish
to give the whole field to local agents and those who form clubs.
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traveling through the country, professing to hold certificates
from us, ARE IMPOSTORS.

THE RURAL is published strictly upon the CASH SYSTEM
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gether the best for both Subscriber and Publisher.

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you—adding their names to those you procure, and sending
all together. Please think of this, and act upon the
suggestion if convenient.

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