

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
THE LEADING AMERICAN WEEKLY
RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.
CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.
CHAS. B. BRADGON, Western Corresponding Editor.

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

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AGRICULTURAL

CHARCOAL AS A MANURE.

A VERY interesting discussion took place at the meeting of the Fruit Growers' Society, on the value of charcoal as a manure. The President had planted a large orchard, and a portion of the trees occupied ground where, two years before planting, had been a charcoal pit. As there was much refuse charcoal left, a bushel or so of the coal was given to some of the trees in the neighborhood, and not occupying the site of the old pit. The growth of the trees manured with charcoal was really surprising, as a gentleman present testified, who, but a week before, had been upon the ground. They were about twice the size of those that had received no charcoal, and had made a most extraordinary growth. Some gentlemen who had used charcoal without apparent benefit, and others who considered this material of no material value of itself, being insoluble and almost indestructible, sought for some means to account for the benefit received by the trees other than the direct influence of the charcoal. Of course, in every old coal pit a great amount of ashes are found, which all know to be of great value to most soils and crops. The earth, too, becomes burned, and the good effects of burning, on a clay soil, are very apparent. This is a common practice in Europe, and we have now a piece of ground, in a heavy clay soil, as "mellow as an ash heap," and producing twice as much as the land around, where two years since we burned a brush heap. How far the ashes and the burning helped the growth of the trees, we will not attempt to say, but that the benefit from these sources was very considerable, we cannot doubt. From remarks made at the meeting, we thought that perhaps the nature of charcoal was not perfectly well understood by all, and that a few facts might not be uninteresting or unimportant to our readers generally.

Nearly all plants are composed of fifty per cent. of carbon or charcoal, that is, when dried, and of course they require a great amount of this substance for their growth and maturity. But, it must be remembered that plants take up their food either in the gaseous or liquid form, and therefore particles of charcoal that cannot be dissolved or made gaseous, are of no direct benefit in supplying their wants. It is the opinion of those who have given this matter special attention, that plants obtain most of their carbon from the atmosphere. BOUSSINGAULT made a series of experiments to test this point, and found that the common Borage, after a growth of five months, from the 3d of April to the 5th of September, produced ten times as much vegetable matter as the soil in which it grew had lost during the same period. In other words, it had drawn nine-tenths of its carbon from the air. In other experiments with potatoes, beets, clover, wheat, and oats, with a given quantity of carbon applied as manure, after a course of experiments for four years, he found that the crops gathered during this time contained three times the quantity of carbon given in the manure, while the land contained as much as at the commencement of the experiments, and that, therefore, the plants, during their growth, must have derived two-thirds of their carbon from the air.

The question may arise in the minds of some, how this large demand for carbon in an available form is supplied, and why the air does not become exhausted. All of our ordinary manures are composed largely of carbon, and this by decay is gradually re-converted into carbonic acid, and thus is furnished a portion of the carbon required. A large portion of the carbonic acid absorbed by plants is almost immediately restored to the air by the respiration of men and animals. Ordinary combustion gives back to the air much of the carbon taken up by plants. The air emitted from the lungs contains one hundred times more carbonic acid than when it is respired. It has been estimated that an individual in the course of twenty-four hours emits from the lungs five ounces of carbon, and thus in a year gives off from the lungs upwards of one hundred pounds of carbon in the form of carbonic acid.

Though we cannot say much for the direct influence of charcoal as a manure, yet it is of vast value to the farmer and gardener. Its mechanical effect is excellent on a stiff soil, rendering a cold clay warm and friable. For the growth of early vegetables there is nothing better, as it absorbs both heat and moisture, and is not liked by insects. Then, for use in the compost heap as an absorbent, and a deodorizer of the best yet the most offensive manures, it is almost invaluable.

We give the following on this subject from one of Prof. JOHNSTON'S *Agricultural Lectures*:

The light porous charcoals obtained from wood, (especially from the willow, the pine, and the box,) and from animal substances, possess several interesting properties, which are of practical application in the art of culture. 1. They have the power of absorbing in large quantity into their pores, the gaseous substances and vapors which exist in the atmosphere; and on this property, as I shall explain hereafter, the use of charcoal powder as a manure probably in some measure depends. 2. Thus of ammonia they absorb 35 times their own bulk, of sulphuretted hydrogen 55 times, of oxygen 9 times, of hydrogen nearly twice their bulk, and of aqueous vapor so much as to increase their weight from 10 to 20 per cent. They also separate from water any decayed animal matters or coloring substances which it may hold in solution; hence its use in filters for purifying and sweetening impure river or spring waters, or for clarifying sirups and oils. This action is so powerful that port wine is rendered perfectly colorless by filtering through a well prepared charcoal.

In or upon the soil, charcoal for a time will act in the same manner, will absorb from the air moisture and gaseous substances, and from the rain and from flowing waters organic matters of various kinds, any of which it will be in a condition to yield to the plants which grow around it, when they are such as are likely to contribute to their growth. 3. They have the property also of absorbing disagreeable odors in a very remarkable manner. Hence animal food keeps longer sweet when placed in contact with charcoal—hence, also, vegetable substances containing much water, such as potatoes, are more completely preserved by the aid of a quantity of charcoal—and hence the refuse charcoal of the sugar refiners is found to deprive night soil of its disagreeable odor, and convert it into a dry and portable manure. 4. They exhibit also the still more singular property of extracting from water a portion of the saline substances it may happen to hold in solution, and thus allowing it to escape in a less impure form. The decayed (half carbonized) roots of grass, which have been long subjected to irrigation, may act in one or all of these ways on the more or less impure water by which they are irrigated—and thus gradually arrest and collect the materials which are fitted to promote the growth of the coming crop.

USE OF LIME AS A MANURE.

In answer to the inquiry of a correspondent—who wishes to know how much lime to use to the acre and mode of applying the same—we re-publish the following articles from a former volume:

The benefit of lime as an ameliorator and fertilizer of the soil has often been alluded to and discussed in the RURAL, and hence we need not now enter into particulars. In a recent conversation with Mr. JOHN JOHNSTON, of Seneca county—the meritorious pioneer of tile draining in this country, and one of the most thorough and profitable practical farmers in Western New York—we learned some important and interesting particulars relative to the value of lime, founded upon his experience. Mr. JOHNSTON is of opinion that lime is the great panacea for our wheat soils, both in sections where the elements of fertility are lacking, and where the midge prevails. He commenced the use of lime some twenty or more years ago, by applying twenty bushels on a half acre of wheat. The benefit was so marked and astonishing to both himself and others, that he soon after lined two acres, which produced like beneficial results, induced him to subsequently apply lime to a large portion of his farm. The quantity used has varied from forty to eighty bushels per acre, and his practice has been to apply at the time of or just previous to sowing wheat—placing the lime in heaps of a bushel or more, allowing it to remain a sufficient length of time to become air-slaked, and then spreading and harrowing in with the wheat.

By this means Mr. J. is of the opinion that he has greatly and permanently enhanced the wheat producing qualities of his soil—his average product of wheat for the last eight years being as large as that of any equal period in the last thirty years. In addition to liming, however, he has underdrained most of his farm, and made liberal use of barnyard manure, (an important item, as considerable stock has been kept and fattened on the farm,) so that his large crops are not attributable to lime alone, though it has proved a highly remunerative fertilizer. He believes, however, that lime is the great need on most of the wheat soils of New York, and that its application would prove a source of marked and lasting benefit—restoring the fertility of wheat farms which are deteriorated, and so increasing the crops in sections where the midge prevails as to maintain

the former average yield of the staple product of the country.

The intelligent reader is of course aware that lime will not prove alike beneficial on all soils, yet we believe its application would be vastly and permanently useful on many farms in almost every wheat-growing locality of Western and Central New York. Mr. JOHNSTON avers that if now a young man, he would lime his whole farm liberally, especially as the beneficial effects of one good application lasts nearly a life-time, and if a second liming is necessary, a light one will answer. On wet land lime will be of little or no benefit,—and its application would also probably be nearly or quite useless on soils based upon limestone. In the former case underdraining would first be necessary,—and in the latter, deep plowing would be the best remedy to restore or bring up the lime and other elements of fertility taken from the surface soil by constant cropping.

MR. MOORE—Dear Sir.—I notice your article on lime, and you state our conversation as correct as could be expected, considering we were traveling in railroad cars in the night. I will try to explain it more fully.

I commenced liming about 50 years ago by experimenting with 20 bushels on half an acre. That half acre looked so much better the next spring that I contracted for 900 bushels for the succeeding fall, and put it on at the rate of forty bushels per acre. That gave me a great crop on land that was said to have been cropped 30 years without any manure; I then got lime for nine cents per bushel, taking a whole kiln at once. I kept liming until I had all the old land lined; and it paid well—the first crop always paying well for the cost, besides making much more straw to increase the manure. The last I lined was fourteen years ago; I then made an experiment with 100 bushels to the acre on two acres, and 55 bushels to the acre on the remainder of the field (16 acres.) The two acres with 100 bushels to the acre yielded an immense crop; had it not been on the hardest and poorest part of the field I presume it would have all lodged. Although lime stiffens the straw much, the wheat is clearer, plumper, and of finer quality. A good liming will last 20 to 25 years, and then the land may require 20 to 25 bushels to the acre. I said that if I were a young man I would lime all my unlined land at the rate of 80 bushels per acre. It would be little cost for a few hundred farmers in Western New York to each try 25 bushels on half an acre of wheat this fall, and next harvest, and in all probability long before, they would see the result. There is nothing that I can say, or any other man can say, that will convince men like their own experience.

JOHN JOHNSTON.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

FEEDING SUGAR TO BEES.

WHILE conversing with Mr. SIMS about wine-making, an incidental remark of mine led him to say that there was a great deal accepted as axiomatic which could easily be proved the reverse by any man bold enough to attempt it. For instance, he had seen it asserted that it was not profitable to feed bees sugar with a view to increase their production of honey—others had asserted that the bee would not manufacture honey from sugar at all. He had proved both to be errors; for he fed to his bees, one season, eight hogheads of sugar, and they manufactured it into honey, which he sold at thirty-five cents per pound. Except white clover honey, he had never seen any to compare with this sugar honey. He said, "Let a man eat sugar honey thus made and he will not eat blossom honey, if he can get the former." He said one stand of bees made eighty-four pounds of honey from sugar in thirty days. He took it to the Fair, received a premium for it, and sold it afterwards for twenty-four dollars. But he says it is not profitable thus to manufacture sugar into honey, except a large price can be obtained for the product. The best of sugar should be used.

DWARF PEARS IN EGYPT.

My friend, CHARLES KENNICOTT, proposes planting an orchard of standard pears. And he repeatedly expressed his distrust of dwarfs for Egyptian planting. While his large horticultural experience ought to give weight to his horticultural opinions, I am led to believe that his prejudices created by a disastrous experience in latitude 42, with untried and ill-suited varieties, have much to do in influencing his opinions in latitude 39, where climate and soil bear no analogy.

Together, we rode down to Centralia, the junction of the main line and Chicago branch of the Illinois Central Railroad, and called upon C. A. MONTESS, Esq., whose little plantation of dwarf pears I had visited soon after it was planted, a few years ago. On seventy-two feet square he has seventy-two dwarf pear trees. The soil is like that heretofore described—a prairie soil, with perhaps a greater proportion of red clay in it than in that of the prairie on which my notes were written. I think this dwarf orchard is underdrained. It is certainly well cultivated; and each individual tree is a delight to any one who likes to see success follow well directed effort. The trees are healthful and full of fruit. A good crop was taken from them

last year; they are bearing heavily the present season.

On another lot, one hundred and sixty by two hundred and forty feet, Mr. M. planted four hundred dwarf pear trees last year—evidence enough that he gains confidence in the much abused dwarfs, in proportion as he gains in experience. This last named orchard has also been thoroughly tile-drained, and is also thrown up in narrow beds, securing complete surface drainage—the trees being planted on the center of the beds.

On this question of the relative profit and pleasure derived from planting dwarfs and standards, Mr. MONTESS, with characteristic emphasis, gave the preference to the dwarfs. That it is entirely practicable to succeed with dwarf pears in this county and latitude, there can be no doubt. A return may be expected from standards, if planted. And those who invest first and largest will surely reap a rich profit.

BUT OF DWARF APPLES

I gain no favorable experience, either North or South. Side by side with the pears, of the same age and planting, with the same culture, were fine looking trees, barren and unfruitful—"not worth the space they occupied"—indeed, I would not have them in a barn-yard," said MONTESS. I have seen standard trees of the same age, variety, and planting, with the same culture, loaded with fruit when Mr. Dwarf was entirely innocent of any other burthen than leaves. This is a matter of some importance here, for thousands of dwarf apple trees have been sold in the West to those who swallow, without blinking, the specious stories of imaginative tree peddlers. Will not some one of your Western readers tell us if they have any experience going to prove the profit of dwarf apple culture? It would be a relief to hear.

QUINCES AND APRICOTS

Are producing finely on Mr. MONTESS' grounds. He thinks the former may be grown here with great ease and profit as a market fruit. I think so too—certainly profitably if easily, judging by the prices asked for this fruit in the Chicago market last fall. And I can see no reason why the quince may not become a standard product of these Egyptian fruit farms.

BRUSH FOR PEAS.

This item for towns people who cannot get brush easily. Mr. MONTESS had purchased a few rods of woven wire fence, which he uses as a brush for his peas. The peas do not hesitate to cling to it; and it lasts. When the season is over, it is rolled up compactly and stowed away in Mr. M.'s convenient and well furnished barn, where it is always in order for another season. Let those who object to any other than Tom Thumb peas, because of the brush, look out the cost of wire fence.

BUGS AND TIN.

I noticed a pile of funnel-shaped tin cylinders, the smaller end of each four inches in diameter, perhaps, and the larger end six inches. Length of cylinder six inches, I should think. I asked their use and, was told they were made to protect vines from the bugs, &c. The smaller end of the cylinder is put in the ground and is an effectual protection. The inside of the funnel should be painted a dark color. The outside may be left bright. These cost three dollars per hundred, and are regarded a good investment.

THE CONCORD GRAPE.

Testimony continues to accumulate in my note book, in favor of this grape, because of its hardiness, rapid growth, productiveness, and freedom from all diseases of vine and fruit which destroy or affect the profitable culture of other varieties. Mr. MONTESS says, "It is the grape of all others for this country. The fruit never rots, and it makes more wood than all the other grapes on my place." This confirms other testimony heretofore published in the RURAL.

STRAWBERRY NOTES FOR 1862.

Two weeks since, I was looking over GEORGE B. DAVIS' ten-acre strawberry patch, in the north part of the city. This plantation embraces, as leading varieties, Wilson's Albany, Hooker's Seedling, Longworth's Prolific, and British Queen. In this garden two kinds of culture are adopted. One is hill culture; the other is that of allowing two or three rows of vines to run together, renewing these beds every third year, and keeping them thinned out, free from weeds and well cultivated. This last process is applied in the culture of the Wilson's Albany and Longworth's Prolific; the former to the Hooker and British Queen. In both cases the runners are cut off.

HOOKER'S SEEDLING.—There is little need that I commend the flavor of this fruit. But it is not generally known as a valuable market berry. For carriage, long distances, it is not adapted; but it will carry as well as Hovey's Seedling; and that has been sent hither, in drawers, from Kentucky. Produced near market, however, it proves profitable—especially under the system of culture adopted by DAVIS. When I saw it, I could detect little difference in the amount of fruit promised by it and the Wilson's Albany. The trusses seemed equally numerous and well filled. But the culture costs more; and the fruit brings more among consumers

who know it. Its beautiful color and exquisite flavor render it both attractive and popular in market.

DAVIS, with his inimitable chuckle, thus expressed his opinion of the Hooker—"Let anybody run down those berries; yes, be golly, let 'em run 'em down if they want to! I tell ye, there are a few of my friends in the city who nudge me under the ribs and say, 'the 'ooker for me, GEORGE!'"

It is evident that the Hooker enjoys good food and plenty of it—that it thrives under it, especially with the system of pruning adopted here. I noticed sundry barrels of liquid pigeon manure distributed convenient to the Hooker plantation, and every evidence, in the condition of plants and amount of fruit, that it was so distributed for a purpose. Indeed the vines, or a portion of them, are liberally "liquored up" two or three times a week.

LONGWORTH'S PROLIFIC.—As before said, this berry is cultivated by DAVIS. He thinks highly of it; but he does not call it as productive, or as profitable for market culture, as the Hooker. The Longworth has been repeatedly commended to me, the present season, by cultivators, as a productive and palatable fruit. CHARLES KENNICOTT thinks it an excellent berry for Egypt. It may be for home use; but it is doubtful if it will serve the purposes of the Egyptians as a fruit for this market.

PRUNING STRAWBERRY VINES.—The season has been wet, and a heavy growth of vines has resulted. As I walked through GEORGE'S strawberry grounds and swept my hands over the vines in order the better to estimate the burthen of *Fragaria* they bore, I noticed a great many leafless stalks, which I was sure could not have grown without the aid of leaves. I remembered to have seen this pruning practice recommended, and to have experimented with it once myself, with some satisfaction. But this was the first time I had seen it adopted and practiced on a large scale. I learned of one of the gardeners who accompanied me, that the German women employed to pinch off the runners were also instructed to take off the tops of the rank suckers which the warm wet weather pushed forward. These stalks are of no more use in the development of the fruit than so many weeds, and are equally as injurious. Talking with GEORGE about it, afterward, he urged that it was done to let in a little sunlight on the fruit and hasten its ripening. I asked if he did not think it would add a little to the size of the fruit; a slight twinkle of the eye said "yes," while he urged that he did not think it best to publish all these things, asserting that of the hundreds who had visited him, no one, that he knew of, had detected this feature of his culture. Hence it was one of his professional secrets. Of course, the RURAL reader must regard it a secret; he need not tell his neighbor of it, unless he chooses.

EVERGREENS AND STRAWBERRIES.—At Aurora, Kane Co., the other day, I had the pleasure of looking over Mr. E. SIMS' northern fruit farm of thirty-one acres—the greater proportion of it planted with Wilson's Albany Strawberry. Mr. SIMS adopts the hill culture—rows two and a half feet apart and plants a less distance in the row. Late in autumn he covers his beds with prairie hay or other coarse litter, and removes it from the vines in the spring. He puts on two or three tons per acre. It is left on the ground between the rows during the summer, and serves as a mulch, and keeps the fruit from the soil.

Here, as in Egypt, his soil is thrown up in narrow beds, affording excellent surface drainage. He prefers the low, wet soils, for the strawberry and raspberry. He finds his plants grow better, bear more fruit, and are equally safe with his system of surface drainage. I noticed he was planting evergreens in different parts of his strawberry grounds. He said he had experimented somewhat, and had found that he could grow more and better fruit with the protection and shade which evergreens and deciduous trees afforded. In latitude 40 he planted a fourth of an acre with McAvoy's Superior Strawberry. On this quarter acre there were seventy evergreens, many of them large, and at least one hundred other trees and shrubs; and he gathered from the McAvoy's, thus planted, thirty-five bushels of fruit. Other experiments have convinced him that shade in our climate is no disadvantage in the production of this fruit. Perhaps not, where irrigation is impracticable in latitude 40. He proposes to plant the Early Richmond (Kentish) Cherry with the evergreens on his strawberry ground.

THE AUSTIN SEEDLING.—Mr. SIMS thinks this a promising fruit. His experience with it has not been great, but very satisfactory. He intends to give it further trial and will report. He is more confident of success with it on the prairies than with the Triomphe de Gand, with which he is experimenting. He is not highly gratified with the promise the latter gives. DAVIS has plowed his under and don't believe in the foreigner at all. Nevertheless, with the testimony for it, it ought not to be discarded without further trial.

THE PURPLE CANE RASPBERRY.

I have seen several small plantations of this fruit, the present season, which promise well. And the testimony is all in its favor as a productive and delicious fruit. That it will carry to market, in drawers, as well as the Black-Cap, is doubtful; but put up in quart packages, as strawberries are sent,

it may be carried long distances safely. Because of its productiveness and good quality, it is likely to become a popular fruit.

GOOSEBERRIES, AGAIN.

Mr. SIMS has six thousand two hundred Houghton's Seedling gooseberries planted, which are bearing very heavily. They are planted five feet apart each way, and cultivated as corn is cultivated—does not cost more annually to cultivate than a field of corn covering the same area. It is a low estimate to place the yield from these bushes this year at three hundred bushels. They are now selling in this market at \$1.50 and \$1.75 per bushel. But suppose he gets but \$1.00 per bushel, it is a better crop than corn or wheat. Currants are just as easily grown and are still more profitable.

Another word about marketing gooseberries. I have seen, within two days, gooseberries received here in tight barrels, that were nearly destroyed. They had no ventilation, had heated, and were more or less jammed by carriage in so great bulk. Other packages, in small gunnies, containing about a bushel each, came an equal distance in perfect condition. The latter sold quickly at a dollar and a half a bushel; the former were nearly half of them worthless, and the other half went slow at a dollar per bushel.

A GOOD RESOLUTION.

The farmers of Henry county, in this State, recently held a Convention, at which they passed sundry resolutions, of greater or less importance or significance. Among them I find the following, which I commend to the farmers of the West—especially of Illinois:

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the clubs in this county to receive nothing but gold, silver, or U. S. Treasury Notes for their produce, and that this resolution take effect on the first day of July.

The West is flooded with Eastern currency, much of which is worth less than our Illinois currency of a year ago. It will save farmers trouble, and future embarrassment, if they firmly adhere to the spirit and letter of the above resolution, and exchange their produce for no other money than that above specified. They get little enough for their products, and should get money actually worth its nominal value, or face. A little firmness and united rejection of all other currency will secure good money and sustain UNCLE SAM.

BRIEF AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE.

FARMING PROSPECTS IN POTTER CO., PA.—A few words in relation to our farming prospects in this section. The weather for the past six weeks has been very advantageous for work, though May was too dry, it having rained at only three different times. But in June, up to the present date, full one-third of the days it has rained more or less. We were visited by an untimely frost on the morning of the 16th inst., which nipped corn and tender vegetables a little, and did no good to timothy and clover, which had attained much growth. Winter wheat and rye look well, and the recent rains have pushed on the spring grain, and if the next few weeks are favorable, I think we shall have an average yield of all sown crops, and a small one of apples, with plenty of blackberries—which comprise our staple fruit crop.—A. S. LYMAN, Potter Co., Pa., June 20, 1862.

LIME AS A FERTILIZER.—I noticed in a late issue of the RURAL a communication from a subscriber, desiring information on the subject of lime as a fertilizer. In New Jersey and some of the eastern counties of Pennsylvania, lime has been extensively used as a fertilizer for the last twenty years. Many farms in that region which would sell for no more than twenty-five or thirty dollars an acre, are now worth a hundred, and the improvement has been made almost wholly by the use of lime. But renovating worn out lands by the use of lime is a business which a man should understand before engaging in it extensively. It does not act like stable manure, and produce a beneficial effect in whatever manner applied. In fact, were it so used, it would in many cases prove a serious injury instead of benefit to crops. Formerly, the practice was to spread it broadcast, at the rate of fifty bushels of slaked lime to the acre, on land prepared for wheat, and just before sowing. But more recently the practice has been to spread it as early in the season as possible, on sod intended for corn the next year. By the first method but little if any effect would be observed in the crop of grain, but the crop of hay following would be more than doubled, as well as the crops following. By the last method a very marked effect would be observed in the corn and following crops. Its effect will always be most distinctly seen in grass. In the extensive peach orchards of New Jersey, lime is almost the only manure used.—J. D., Bowling Green, Ohio.

FREE FARMING IN A GOOD COUNTRY.—The new Homestead Bill offers farms to all the houseless and landless in christendom. The value of those lands, compared with the Eastern and Middle States, is inestimable, save in point of internal improvements. The Pilgrims occupied nearly the poorest land in America, and settlements have advanced to better and better land through the Western States and Territories, yet as good land remains unsettled as heaven's light makes glad, and is now offered, a free possession—only enter and occupy.

My friends of New York and New England who have sterile lands, and who are not "joined to your idols," leave those lands to any who have money to invest where it will afford 4 or 5 per cent, and spend your latter days where digging stone, manuring and waiting for snow drifts to melt away, does not occupy so much of your time. Internal improvements will follow settlements, and the Leavenworth and Pawnee, and Pacific Railroads will soon open the great thoroughfare from the Atlantic to the Pacific States through this portion of the West, and offer to us a market, East or West, as circumstances suggest.

Your servant is of opinion that no State in the Union is more independent to-day in articles of provision than Kansas. She has a surplus of all provisions, except tea and coffee. A wild tea grows on the prairies here, which some physicians recommend as a substitute for the black and green teas. High prices of coffee drive many to the use of peas, rye, barley, and other substitutes for that. We are dependent on our neighbors for clothing, and yet we have the greatest cloth making facilities, but we have not the machinery. Cotton comes to ample perfection, and Flax and Hemp grow very nicely, and unlike most prairie countries, this rolling and spring-watered country is adapted to wool-growing and the healthy condition of flocks. All, at home or abroad, may avail themselves of the greatest pastoral privileges in America, under a system

embodied in the "Constitution and By-Laws of the Riley County Wool and Stock Growing Company," (a copy of which is herewith sent you.) The Big Blue River contains several water privileges equal to the Connecticut at South Hadley. We need manufacturers. Please send them to examine for themselves.—LORENZO WESTOVER, Manhattan, Kansas, 1862.

ABOUT WOOL GROWERS AND BUYERS.—In a late number of your paper I noticed the request of a wool buyer to blow up the farmers on the subject of preparing their wool for market. Now, sir, I would ask, why not blow up the buyers? The one you quote says he don't believe there is an honest farmer in the State. I would not wish to be quite so hard as that, but I will say that I believe there are but very few honest buyers, who understand the business, that will make no difference between good, clean, Merino wool, and coarse, dirty, badly done-up wool. I have been trying for the last ten years to make what improvement I could in preparing my wool for market. It was of good quality, and in good condition, as I took the utmost pains with it. Now for the honest buyer. Along he comes. "Is your wool in market?" "Yes." "Well, where is it?" "I showed him the wool; he said it was first rate." "What is your price?" "Fifty cents." "I will give you forty-five cents, and that is the highest figure that we have paid anywhere." Yet I found out afterwards that he had paid forty-five cents for coarse, dirty, badly put-up wool. So you see that is all the pay I get for my pains-taking. Now, how long is this state of things going to last? I say until competent judges are sent out to buy wool. I hope that the farmers, with your assistance, will be able to bring good wool up to its proper standard. Also that my brother farmers will take the thing in hand and see if we are all so dishonest, for I feel a little touched.—G. B. T., Montour, Schuyler Co., N. Y.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

The following is the Act recently passed by Congress, and approved by the President, establishing a distinct Department of Agriculture in the National Government:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby established at the seat of Government of the United States a Department of Agriculture, the general designs and duties of which shall be to acquire and diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with agriculture in the most general and comprehensive sense of that word, and to procure, propagate, and distribute among the people new and valuable seeds and plants.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the consent and advice of the Senate, a Commissioner of Agriculture, who shall be the chief executive officer of the Department of Agriculture, who shall hold his office by a tenure similar to that of other civil officers appointed by the President, and who shall receive for his compensation a salary of three thousand dollars per annum.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Agriculture to acquire and preserve in his Department all information concerning agriculture which he can obtain by means of books and correspondence, and by practical and scientific experiments, (accurate records of which experiments shall be kept in his office,) by the collection of statistics, and by any other appropriate means within his power; to collect, as he may be able, new and valuable seeds and plants; to test by cultivation the value of such of them as may require such tests; to propagate such as may be worthy of propagation; and to distribute them among agriculturists. He shall annually make a general report to the President and to Congress, in which he may recommend the publication of papers forming parts of or accompanying his reports, which report shall also contain an account of all moneys received and expended by him. He shall also make special reports on particular subjects whenever required to do so by the President or either House of Congress, or when he shall think the subject in his charge requires it. He shall receive and have charge of all the property of the agricultural division of the Patent Office in the Department of the Interior, including the fixtures and property of the propagating garden. He shall direct and superintend the expenditure of all money appropriated by Congress to the Department, and render accounts thereof, and also of all money heretofore appropriated for agriculture, and remaining unexpended. And said Commissioner may send and receive through the mails, free of charge, all communications and other matter pertaining to the business of his Department, not exceeding in weight thirty-two ounces.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the Commissioner of Agriculture shall appoint a chief clerk with a salary of two thousand dollars, who in all cases during the necessary absence of the Commissioner, or when the said principal office shall become vacant, shall perform the duties of the Commissioner, and he shall appoint such other employes as Congress may from time to time provide salaries corresponding to the salaries of similar officers in other departments of the government, and he shall as Congress may from time to time provide, employ other persons, for such time as their services may be needed, including chemists, botanists, entomologists, and other persons skilled in the natural sciences pertaining to agriculture. And the said Commissioner, and every other person to be appointed in the said Department, shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office or appointment, make oath or affirmation truly and faithfully to execute the trust committed to him. And the said Commissioner and the chief clerk shall also, before entering upon their duties, severally give bonds to the Treasurer of the United States, the former in the sum of ten thousand, and the latter in the sum of five thousand dollars, with conditions to render a true and faithful account to his successor in office, quarterly yearly accounts of all moneys received by them respectively by virtue of said office, with surties to be approved as sufficient by the Solicitor of the Treasury; which bonds shall be filed in the office of the First Comptroller of the Treasury, to be by him put in suit upon any breach of the conditions thereof. Approved, May 15, 1862.

The Bee-keeper

Chinese Mode of Taking Honey.

DURING my sojourn in this place, I had an opportunity of witnessing a novel mode of taking honey from bee-hives. The Chinese hive is a very rude affair, and looks very different to what we are accustomed to use in England; yet, I suspect, were the bees consulted in the matter, they would prefer the Chinese one to ours. It consists of a rough box, sometimes square, and sometimes cylindrical, with a movable top and bottom. When the bees are put into a hive of this description, it is rarely placed on or near the ground, as with us, but is raised eight or ten feet, and generally fixed under the projecting roof of a house or out-building. No doubt the Chinese have remarked the partiality which the insects have for places of this kind, when they choose quarters for themselves, and have taken a lesson from circumstance. My landlord, who had a number of hives, having determined one day to take some honey from two of them, a half-witted priest, who was famous for his prowess in such matters, was sent for to perform the operation. This man, in addition to his priestly duties, had charge

of the buffaloes which were kept on the farm attached to the temple. He came round in high glee, evidently considering his qualifications of no ordinary kind for the operation he was about to perform. Curious to witness his method of proceeding with the business, I left some work with which I was busy, and followed him and the other priests and servants of the establishment to the place where the hives were fixed. The form of the hives, in this instance, was cylindrical; each was about three feet in height, and rather wider at the bottom than the top. When we reached the spot where the hives were placed, our operator jumped upon a table placed there for the purpose, and gently lifted down one of the hives, placing it on its side on the table. He then took the movable top off, and the honeycomb with which the hive was quite full, was exposed to our view. In the meantime an old priest having brought a large basin, and everything being ready, our friend commenced to cut out the honeycomb with a knife made apparently for the purpose, having the handle almost at right angles with the blade. Having taken out about one-third of the contents of the hive, the top was put on again, and the hive elevated to its former position. The same operation was repeated with the second hive, and in a manner quite satisfactory. But it may be asked, "Where were the bees all this time?" and this is the most curious part of my story. They had not been killed by the fumes of brimstone, for it is contrary to the doctrines of the Buddhist creed to take away animal life; nor had they been stupefied with fungus, as is sometimes done at home—but they were flying about above our heads in great numbers, and yet, although we were not protected in the slightest degree, not one of us was stung; and this was the more remarkable, as the bodies of the operators and servants were completely naked from the middle upwards. The charm was a simple one; it lay in a few dry stems and leaves of a species of Artemisia, (wormwood,) which grows wild on these hills, and which is largely used to drive that pest, the mosquito, out of the dwellings of the people. This plant is cut early in summer, sun-dried, then twisted into bands, and it is ready for use. At the commencement of the operation, which I am describing, one end of the substance was ignited and kept burning slowly as the work went on. The poor bees did not seem to know what to make of it. They were perfectly good-tempered, and kept hovering about our heads, but being apparently quite incapable of doing us the slightest injury. When the hives were again properly fixed in their places, the charm was put out, and my host and his servants carried off the honey in triumph.—Fortune's China.

Singular Occurrence.

A POPULOUS and well stored hive belonging to one of my neighbors, swarmed on the 14th of July, 1855. It sent off three distinct swarms in quick succession, and these had clustered separately on a tree, when I arrived at the scene. On asking from which hive they had issued, one marked No. 3 was pointed out. As I saw no bees at its entrance, I turned it up and found it completely deserted. While an effort was being made to hive the two smaller swarms, they rose and united with the larger; and in attempting to shake this down, the whole body rose in violent agitation, whirled around with great noise, and then suddenly returned en masse to the hive they had deserted, entered it and speedily became quiet. Under the places where the two small swarms had settled, two dead queens were shortly after found.—Pesenbeck.

Bees and Grapes.

I NOTICED last year, for the first time, that the bees eagerly visited my grapes when ripe, and felt willing to excuse their supposed depredations, because the previous spring and summer had been very unpropitious to their honey-gathering vocation. But, on more closely scrutinizing their proceedings, I found that in no instance did they attack sound fruit, even when perfectly ripe, but contented themselves with gleaming in the wake of more powerful marauders. I saw that they invariably alighted on such fruit only as had been pecked by birds or punctured by wasps and hornets. I never perceived a bee attempting to injure sound fruit. Those kinds of grapes which were not attacked by birds, wasps, or other insects, remained unvisited by the bees.—H. H. K.

Bee Book.

I want a book that will teach a beginner how to manage bees. Please inform me, through the RURAL, the price of one you would recommend.—H. A. PEARSONS, Ellensburg, N. Y., 1862.

Langstroth on the Honey Bee, price \$1.25, and Quimby's Mysteries of Bee Keeping, price \$1.00, are both good books.

Hiving Bees.

I WANT to ask, through the columns of the RURAL, if there is any way to make bees light in a handy place to hive when swarming? If so, I would like a little light from you or some of the numerous readers of the RURAL, as my bees light in bad places to hive; frequently in the currant brush or on the trunks of fruit trees.—D. P. T., North Farmington, Mich., 1862.

Worms Destroying Bees.

I believe the worms are eating a swarm of my bees. What shall I do in such a case?—G. V. A., Schenectady, N. Y., 1862.

We know of no way but to transfer the swarm to another hive.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Coal Oil for Moles.

J. M. K. writes to the American Agriculturist, that he banished the moles, which were very destructive in his grounds, by the use of coal oil. A small opening was made with the finger, at intervals along the track, from a tablespoonful to a gill of the liquid was poured in, and then covered to keep in the scent. This was repeated as often as a fresh track was made, and they soon left in disgust. He recommends the crude, unrefined oil, which can be had cheaply.

A Two-story Milking Stool.

"SOMETHING new under the sun," in the shape of a milking-stool for kicking and unruly cows, is described by a correspondent of the Iowa Homestead. The stool can be made of inch boards, and has many advantages over the old-fashioned one. First procure a piece of board of sufficient size to accommodate the milker, and have, in addition room for the milk-pail. This may be put on legs of about eight inches in height. Then upon this erect another seat or stool, covering half the space of the bottom one, for the milker to sit, thereby giving him a chance in front to let the pail remain firm and steady, not liable to get kicked over, and by being up from the ground kept free from dirt and mud,

and so close to the udder as to prevent loss from milking over, &c. If a cow is in the habit of kicking, the milker, by using a stool of this description, can have both hands to prevent her heels from coming in contact with the pail, which sits firm upon the front part of the stool, steadied by his knees. He could in a short time effectually break a cow of the habit of kicking while being milked.

A Good Word for the Skunk.

THE American Agriculturist takes up the cudgel in defense of the despised but seldom-kicked skunk, and gives him a good notice. Our cotemporary says:

All summer long he roams your pastures at night, picking up beetles and worms, poking with his nose potato hills where many grubs are at work. He is after the grubs, not the tubers. He takes possession of the apartments of the woodchuck, who has quartered himself and family upon your clover field or garden, and makes short work with all the domestic arrangements of that unmitigated nuisance. With this white-backed sentinel around, you can raise clover in peace, and the young turnips will flourish. Your beans will not be prematurely snapped, and your garden sauce will be free from other vermin. The most careless observation of his habits shows that he lives almost exclusively upon insects. While you sleep he is busy doing your work, helping to destroy your enemies. In any fair account kept with him the balance must be struck in his favor. Thus we often find friends under the most unpromising appearances, and badly abused men are not unfrequently the benefactors of society.

Pork vs. Poultry.

A FARMER from West Newbury, Mass., (says the Springfield Republican,) interested in the relative value of pigs and hens, has jotted down his observations and experience for the year 1861. He says:—"Commenced the year with fifteen hens, one turkey, and two swine. Raised during the year forty chickens and twenty-eight turkeys; killed and set so many hens that the average number of layers would not exceed eleven. Had 166 dozen eggs, or on an average of 180 each. The average price of the eggs was 15 cents a dozen, which gives \$2.55 as the produce of each hen. The flock eat two quarts of corn daily, or, on an average, 1 1/2 bushels each per year. Calling the cost of the corn 63 cents per bushel, it makes the board of each hen 94 cents. The account reads as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Items include Dr.—To 15 hens and 1 turkey, Jan. 1, 1861; To 87 bushels of corn, at 63 cents; To oats and barley; To shorts and potatoes; Cr.—By poultry, sold 351 lbs. at 13 cents; By 168 dozen eggs at 15 1/2 cents; By hens on hand Jan. 1, 1862; Net profit; Dr.—To estimated value of swine, Jan. 1st, 1861; To 42 bushels corn, at 63 cents; To 3 bushels barley, at 76 cents; To 20 bushels turnips, at 15 cents; To 400 gallons skim milk, at 4 cents; Cr.—By 810 pounds pork, at 7 cents; Net profit.

"The cost of a pound of pork by this estimate is 6 1/2 cents, and of a pound of poultry 6 cents. Fowls are freed from lice by frequently mixing sulphur with their food, sifting snuff in their nests, and whitewashing their roosts. All things considered, the checkered Domnicks are models for the farm; they are hardy, lay well, set better, and eat best."

Cultivation of Grasses.

FROM an editorial upon this subject in the last issue of the Rural Register (Baltimore) we take the following paragraph:

It is a common complaint among intelligent farmers, and the fact is verified by statistical returns, that the average yield of meadows, as also that of arable lands, is less at the present day than it was twelve or fifteen years ago, and some of the more scientific agriculturists have attributed this deterioration to the prevailing ignorance in a great measure among farmers in regard to the nature, uses and relative value in the way of nutriment of the various species of grass. The best grasses, even when natural to the soil under culture, run out earlier than the coarser and less valuable sorts, and this fact should be constantly borne in mind. Of all the grasses, Timothy is the most nutritious, but upon uplands, for home consumption, the Orchard Grass will be found most profitable. Lime, potash, and the phosphates, must be present in the soil in which grasses are grown, and in sufficient quantities to keep the yield year after year up to the highest acreable product; but liquid manure, which contains the fertilizing elements in a soluble state, is also of surpassing advantage when properly applied. The true plan in seeding down to grass is to stock the land, not with one sort of seed alone, but with a variety, taking care however as far as possible to sow only the seeds of such grasses as come into flower about the same time. It has been demonstrated that only a certain number of seeds will grow on a given area; that not more than two seeds of blue grass, for instance, will grow upon a square inch of ground; whereas by seeding the same space to timothy, and multiplying the kinds, some five or six different varieties will fill up and mature upon the same space of ground. Of course, all other things being equal, the greater number of plants that can be made to grow and flourish upon a given space, the heavier will be the product of hay to the acre.

Inquiries and Answers.

WHAT AILS THE COW?—I have got two two-year old heifers that give milk this summer for the first time. Before they were turned to grass their milk was as good as would ask for, and it is now until nearly through milking. It first commences to be a very rich cream color, and still worse until it is clear blood. Will you, of some of your numerous readers, please inform me of the cause, and also how it can be remedied? and oblige—A SUBSCRIBER, Jeff. Co., N. Y.

THAT SUBSOIL ATTACHMENT.—About three years ago you gave an account, in your valuable paper, of attending a trial of a Subsoil Attachment to common stubble plows, composed of rotary diggers, for pulverizing the subsoil. You seemed to think that the invention promised to be a useful one, and you suggested some improvements that you thought might be made in regard to the plow. Now I think I have not heard any more about it, and I forgot the patentee's name. Has not the inventor the ability or the gumption to introduce his invention?—or has "it" been weighed in the balance and found wanting? Any information in regard to it would be thankfully received by—A CONSTANT READER, Elgin, Kane Co., Ill., 1862.

We believe the invention alluded to a good one, but the patentee had so many other "irons in the fire"—being a sort of "universal genius"—that he neglected the matter, and hence it has not been brought into practical use. BURENIA'S Subsoil Attachment, noticed in the RURAL of the 31st ult., is a promising improvement, designed to accomplish the same object as the former, and will, we think, prove a good substitute.

Rural Notes and Items.

READERS OF THE RURAL are reminded that the second half of its Thirteenth Volume commences with this number. All who desire the continued prosperity of the paper—that its value and usefulness may be augmented rather than diminished—are again invited to contribute the results of their observation and experience in Rural Affairs for publication in its pages, while any efforts to maintain and increase its circulation will prove most acceptable. See notice on seventh page—under head of "A New Half Volume."

THE SEASON, CROPS, &c.—Since our last report the weather has been favorable for most crops. Last week closed with very warm, seasonable weather, and on Sunday, (29th,) the thermometer marked 88° in the shade. A copious rain fell on Sunday night, producing quite a change in the temperature. Vegetation has taken a fresh start, the recent copious rains and warm weather giving it an upward and onward tendency. Most crops are rapidly recovering from the effects of the drouth, though grass must be a short crop. Those likely to be short of forage should sow patches of corn and turnips, as it is not yet too late. We subjoin a couple of items received while closing this number for the press:

Weather, Crops, &c., in Northern New York.—Whatever may be the state of the weather and prospect of the crops in other parts of the country, in this vicinity things do not look so encouraging as might be expected. Having returned from a tour through this section, I can speak with certainty in relation to the prospects of the season. Up to this date (July 1st) there has not been a drop of rain since May 2d, with the exception of a shower on the 12th of June and one on the 20th; with scarcely any dew. May was cold and dry with a north-east wind; so was June until about the 20th, since which time the weather has been uncommonly dry and hot. There was a severe frost on the 16th of June, which killed nearly all of the beans and other tender vegetables which were planted, and caused much injury to corn. The previous winter was very severe on grass—most of the meadows and pastures having been more or less killed out. Cattle in the pastures can scarcely support themselves, much less prove beneficial to the dairyman. Most of the meadows are extremely thin and light, and cannot, unless rain comes immediately, yield ten per cent. of last year's crop. Potatoes which have been planted since the middle of May have scarcely made their appearance, and corn, with a few exceptions, not tall enough to weed. Whatever may be the final result of the season, we look with much anxiety.—J. H. MOORE, Brandon, Franklin Co., N. Y.

Crops in Northern Wisconsin.—We have had very cool weather until to-day, when the thermometer indicates 86° above zero. Four weeks ago the farmers were wearing pretty long faces, as the spring was so backward that what was sown very late, and for three or four weeks wore a "golden hue," and was very thin at that; but about the 15th we had one or two very heavy showers, and now the prospect for wheat is very good—an excellent color, and stood very much. Corn is scarce, and there has been too much cold weather. Potatoes late. Oats look very well. Clover very heavy.—O. BERRY, Fond du Lac, Wis., June 25, 1862.

THE WEATHER IN THE WEST.—Chicago, June 28, 1862.—The wet weather continues. We have had but one really hot day since my last. The weather, however, has been favorable to growing grass and grain. Corn is backward, but there is time enough yet to mature a good crop. There is nothing very discouraging in crop prospects in the West. Farmers have more to fear from the currency which is afloat here. They are advised to take only Uncle Sam's "green-backs" and specie for their products. Specie is worth from 7 to 10 per cent. premium, and the "green-backs" from 1/2 of one per cent. to 2 1/2 per cent. premium in eastern currency.—O. D. B.

NEW YORK STATE FAIR.—Progress of Arrangements.—We are glad to learn that very gratifying progress is being made in preparing for the State Fair, which is to be held on the grounds of the Monroe County Society, near this city, Sept. 30th, and Oct. 1st, 2d, and 3d. At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee, in Rochester, considerable preliminary business was transacted, and a number of important matters definitely arranged for the exhibition. All the gentlemen selected as Superintendents have accepted the positions tendered them, and a much larger number of Judges than usual—which may be regarded as very favorable indications. JOHN HAROLD, Esq., of Queens Co., the experienced General Superintendent, has been actively engaged in perfecting arrangements on behalf of the Society, while B. M. BAKER, Esq., President of the County Society and Chairman of the Local Committee of Arrangements, is making decided progress in preparing the grounds and fixtures, and we have no doubt all will be accomplished in a satisfactory manner and due season. Contracts have been let for the permanent buildings, and their erection already commenced. The various business offices, and structures for the convenience of exhibitors and their stock and articles, have also been arranged for and will be completed in good style. Mr. O. S. HULBERT, of this city, has the contract for furnishing meals and refreshments during the Fair, and from his large experience in that department, and uniform success at local exhibitions, we judge he will refresh the people abundantly.

FIELD TRIAL OF FARM MACHINES.—The Illinois State Agricultural Society is doing a good thing this year by providing for a field trial of reapers, mowers, and heading machines, to take place this month at Dixon, Lee Co. The trial promises to be one of great interest, and of much greater magnitude than at first designed. Notice has been received by President VAN EPPS, he informs me, that there will be exhibited horse powers and thrashing machines, sorghum mills and evaporators, rotary spading machines, mole draining machines, hay-pitching machines, &c., &c. Half-price tickets will be sold on the railroads centering at Dixon. Notice of the precise date of the trial will be given as soon as it can be determined, depending, of course, upon the condition of the harvest.—O. D. B.

—Since the above was placed in type we have received, and publish in this number, an advertisement of the proposed trial, to which we refer all interested for premiums, regulations, &c.

THE NEW TAX BILL.—We give some of the most important amendments to the new tax bill, recently passed by Congress. The bill only awaits the President's signature to become a law, and is to take effect the 1st of August.—"On all cloth, knitted or fitted fabrics of cotton, wool, or any other material before the same has been dyed, printed, bleached or prepared in any other manner, a duty of 8 per cent. ad valorem. On and after October next, a tax of 1/2 cent shall be levied on cotton. Whenever duty is imposed on any article removed for consumption or sale, it shall apply only to such articles as are manufactured on or after July 1st. No duty is to be levied on any sales by judicial or executive officers making auction sales by virtue of judgment or decree of any court, nor to public sales made by executors and administrators. Tax on watches and piano fortes is stricken out. On horned cattle exceeding 18 months old, slaughtered for sale 80 cents per head. On all calves and cattle under that age, slaughtered for sale, 5 cents per head. On all hogs exceeding six months old, slaughtered for sale, when the number thus slaughtered exceeds 20 in any one year, 10 cents per head."

BUTTER AND CHEESE.—An exchange gives the following receipts at New York of butter and cheese for the twelve months ending May 1, in the years—

Table with 2 columns: Year and Amount. Items include Butter, pkgs.; Cheese, pkgs.; Exports of butter and cheese from New York to foreign ports for twelve months, ending May 1, in the years—

There was a very large increase last year over the previous twelve months, although that total was without any precedent in the history of the trade.

THE WHEAT HARVEST IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS was in the "full tide of successful operation" last week, and must be nearly completed. The crop is generally reported good, and the yield remunerative. The Chicago Journal of the 28th ult., says:—"The farmers in the Southern part of the State are in the midst of their wheat harvest. The greatest difficulty they find is the scarcity of laborers. Our advice from that region all agree that the quality of the new wheat was never better, and that the yield is abundant."

HORTICULTURAL.

FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN N. Y.

FIRST SESSION.

The Annual Summer Meeting of this Society was held in Rochester on the 25th ult. President Brooks called the Society to order at 11 o'clock.

The attendance was unusually large for the summer meeting, but the show of fruit was rather meager, though very good collections of strawberries and some cherries were exhibited by several persons.

The President appointed Messrs. DOWNING, GAVITT, and BEADLE, a committee to examine the fruits on exhibition.

The following questions, the discussion of which was deferred to the last meeting, were presented:

VI.—What are the best eight varieties for market, and on what stock should each be cultivated?

VII.—What are the best ten varieties for family use, embracing a succession through the year, and on what stock should each be cultivated?

VIII.—What is the best form of pruning the Dwarf Pear Tree, and what is the best for the Standard, and the best season for doing it?

IX.—What are the advantages of pinching? The committee appointed for the purpose also presented the following new subjects:

I.—What useful results have been found to follow the use of Ashes, Lime, or Charcoal? Upon what Fruits, and how applied?

II.—The application of manure to the surface. At what season is the application most beneficial, and in what condition should the manure be when applied?

III.—The Currant Worm. What are its habits? What are the most effectual means for its destruction?

IV.—The White Grub. What are its habits? What are the most effectual means for its destruction?

V.—Has the use of Salt been found to be beneficial to Quince Stocks, or to Plum Trees?

VI.—What new varieties of the Strawberry have been found to promise well in the experience of this Society?

DISCUSSIONS.

Best Pears for Market and Family Use.

What are the best eight varieties for market, and on what stock should each be cultivated?

What are the best ten varieties for family use, embracing a succession through the year, and on what stock should each be cultivated?

To save time it was agreed that members present should hand in a list of varieties of pears they thought most desirable for market and family use, and the following was the result:

Table with 2 columns: Variety Name and Votes. Includes Bartlett, Seckel, Flemish Beauty, Osband's Summer, Sheldon, Lawrence, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Variety Name and Votes. Includes Easter Beurre, Seckel, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Glout-Morceau, Beurre d'Anjou, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Variety Name and Votes. Includes Duchesse d'Angouleme, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Seckel, etc.

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On assembling in the afternoon, the President delivered the following address:

Gentlemen of the Fruit Growers' Association: Scarcely any worldly interest is of more importance than the one you have met to consider; scarcely any has been treated with more indifference and neglect.

In the brief record of man's early history, we are told that "the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground," put him into a garden and there made "to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food."

He who wrought this miracle of miracles—man—knew his wants, was careful to tell us, as His first announcement succeeding that creation, that He put man where there were trees "good for food," with the command to dress and care for them.

If the business men of this age were getting up a world, about the last thing they would think of would be a fruit tree, and about the last thing they would do would be to care for it.

Fruit is rarely in our bills of fare, or comes in questionable shapes. If moderns have all the ailments that "the Elixir of Life" is warranted to cure, they had better consider how they came by them; possibly they may conclude it is a mistake to apply to the pastry and pork.

It is a firm conviction that no person can enjoy uninterrupted health without the regular use of fruit in its ripe and natural state. In this I am supported by the highest medical testimony.

Profoundly as I admire the ladies, and admitting them to excel McClellan himself in "masterly combinations," I will die before I will admit that they can ever favor a Hooker strawberry or a Seckel pear.

Whoever expects a French cook, or anybody else, to equal in richness and delicacy of flavor the products of the trees, pronounced on divine authority good for food, is audaciously unwise. Then let us have more fruit as a part of our regular meals.

Fruit, like everything truly valuable, must be sought with care and pains. The glittering prizes of this world are not drawn by careless hands. Riches gems are deepest down; brightest glories bought with sternest sacrifice; no wonder, then, that these fair products that have gathered perfume and flavor from Heaven's choicest stores come through much tribulation.

True, here and there a bush or plant, reveling in forest mold mixed by God's own hand, gives us precursors of fruit, to show how things grow in Paradise; but the rule is if a man will not work neither shall he eat. I suppose a just God has sent armies of caterpillars, and all sorts of nasty worms, blights, and mildews, to punish laziness and indifference, and teach us all that eternal vigilance is the price of fruit.

Most of us men and women will start up and say, "We have tried everything; we have smoked, snuffed, ashed, limed, and kerosened the worms, till we have killed the bushes. What more could we do? I'll tell you. These enemies have been making their approaches for years; they first sent out their skirmishers, then established their pickets, but we paid no attention till they made their assault in full force, and then we were overwhelmed. Our agricultural and horticultural journals have been giving pictures of these insects for years, and telling us to be on our guard; but we paid no attention. When they were few we could pull them off, which I feel confident is a "certain cure;" but having outnumbered the locusts of Egypt and filled the ground with their deposits for another year, it will take a good deal of dust and smoke to use them up.

Still, the regular use of slaked lime will kill the currant worm.

We want more thorough knowledge in all the departments of vegetable and animal life. We need more rigid scrutiny, a deeper insight into the causes and influences that work unseen by our careless vision. Learned professors, forgetting for a while the stars beyond our reach, the dead dialects, and the lowest strata, should strive to unfold the conditions of healthy growth and acquaint us with the weak points of our insect adversaries.

We want sentinels at every point of observation. Deep and profound research should unfold hidden mysteries and bring to light the enemies that assail us. If a tree blights in this locality, and not in that, we should know what is peculiar to each. When different results are obtained, observe the precise difference in treatment; do it carefully and critically. Nature's laws are fixed and immutable—every tree and plant obeys them—there is no such thing as caprice or accident. Let science unfold these laws. If a result is obtained, we have only to put everything in that precise shape again to obtain the same result without any variation. There is no uncertainty of results, if you know your instrumentalities.

You have come together, gentlemen, to talk and to listen; to exchange what you do know for what you don't know. Where there is so much to learn, and so brief a period to learn it, it is our privilege, it is our duty, to avail ourselves of the knowledge and experience of others, and so thoroughly furnish ourselves for our work in the shortest possible time.

I take this occasion to express the great obligation that the whole country is under to gentlemen of large experience and matured judgment in fruit growing, who come here from time to time to communicate, without reserve, what they have learned on these subjects, and I ask, in all seriousness, of the public at large, a respectful hearing. The acknowledged difficulties that beset the growing of the finer kinds of fruit, furnish reasons enough for counsel together.

More than that, we need to have our interest excited, our efforts awakened, our enthusiasm kindled, by these discussions, these exhibitions, these friendly greetings.

If I knew all about fruit growing, I would make a pilgrimage here three times a year, on the same principle that the Arab goes to Mecca, the Catholic to Rome, and our Methodist friends to Camp Meeting. I always go home determined to dig about my trees more thoroughly, and put on a little more manure.

The neglect of fruit trees throughout the whole country, is positively horrible. It comes among the catalogue of crimes; for no man has a right to leave out of his own life, or out of the life of his family, any comfort, or pleasure, or profit, which might be theirs. Hoping for a continued and an increasing interest in our meetings and in our discussions, I bid you double your diligence in this good cause.

The Committee appointed to examine Fruits on exhibition presented their report, which was as follows:

Cherries.—One collection, two varieties, viz.: Mayduke and Gov. Wood, from Dr. W. Sylvester, Lyons.

Strawberries.—Collection of fifteen varieties, comprising among others Triomphe de Gand, Hovey, Ellmore, Austin Seedling, Jenny Lind, Peabody, Downer's Prolific, and Cutler's Seedling, from Dr. W. Sylvester, Lyons.

A new seedling, of very dark color, rich flavor, and good size, promising well, from J. A. Paine, Clyde.

Collection of six varieties, comprising Wilson, Triomphe de Gand, Trollope's Victoria, and others, from William Webster, Rochester.

A new seedling, called Russell's Great Prolific, originated by H. Russell, of Seneca Falls, in 1866, very large, four and three-eighths inches in circumference, color bright red, flavor "very good," flesh rather firm, juicy, and rich; appears to be very productive, and promises to be valuable. Exhibited by Geo. Clapp, Auburn.

Three baskets containing very fine samples of Triomphe de Gand, Wilson, and Hooker, and one basket Early Purple Guigois Cherry, from Joseph Harris, Rochester.

Mr. Moore, of Rochester, exhibited a seedling strawberry, which, in size, form, and flavor, is something like the Triomphe de Gand.

DISCUSSIONS.

Ashes and Lime.

What useful results have been found to follow the use of Ashes, Lime, and Charcoal? Upon what Fruits, and how applied?

H. T. Brooks planted an apple orchard six years since, and a part of the trees were planted where there had been a charcoal pit two years before. He also put some of the refuse charcoal to the other trees planted in the vicinity of the old pit. The trees having the benefit of the charcoal had made a vigorous growth, in this respect excelling all others in an orchard of twelve acres. The President considered charcoal of great value for manure, especially

as an absorbent, and thought the free use of charcoal would double the value of the manure made on any farm.

Mr. DOWNING inquired how much Mr. B. thought the farmer could afford to pay for charcoal.

Mr. BROOKS could not say how much farmers would be justified in paying per bushel for charcoal, but thought it could not be prized too high.

Mr. ELLWANGER visited the orchards of the President the past week, and was very much surprised to observe the difference between the trees that had received the charcoal and those planted in the ordinary soil. They were double the size, and had made an extraordinary growth. He believed they were Greenings.

Dr. BEADLE, of St. Catharines, said that among the English gardeners of Canada he heard a good deal said about burned soil. They sometimes lay down a layer of fresh lime, and covered this with sods, then another layer of lime and sods, until they have a pile high enough. This is watered and the turf is thus burned, and the product is considered very valuable for fruit trees. Perhaps the burned soil of the coal-pit had more influence on the President's than the charcoal. His experience caused him to doubt whether the extraordinary growth of the trees in Mr. BROOKS' orchard was chargeable to the charcoal.

Dr. SYLVESTER, of Lyons, said the absorbent power of charcoal is very great, and it will keep the soil moist and furnish plants with abundance of water. Our black ash swamps furnish farmers with charcoal, that can be obtained for the trouble of getting it out.

The President thought the free use of animal manures had been in many cases injurious to fruit trees, causing a blight, and he was glad to find a good substitute.

L. B. LANGWORTHY had been of the opinion that liberal dressing of animal manures was one great cause of blight in pear trees—producing plethora and bursting of the sap vessels; but his theory was somewhat shaken on seeing a large pear tree about killed with the blight, that had grown on a poor sandy soil and near a bank, where a portion of the soil was washed away from the roots down the bank. Charcoal is insoluble, indestructible, and therefore inoperative as a manure. As an absorbent it is good. Ashes are valuable in the garden, the orchard, and everywhere. Mr. L. had never seen ashes applied where they were not productive of great good. One bushel of unleached ashes is about equal to four of leached.

Mr. HOLMES, of Syracuse, had found the liberal use of ashes to hasten the maturity of grapes, and improve them much, both in quantity and quality.

Application of Manure.

The application of manure to the surface. At what season is the application most beneficial, and in what condition should the manure be when applied?

Dr. SYLVESTER had changed his plan of applying manure. Now applies mainly to the surface. He had also changed somewhat, the character of the manure used, composting stable manure with black mud.

Mr. DOWNING applies manure on the surface, in the autumn, and forks it in in the spring.

H. N. LANGWORTHY had used liquid manure the past season and had met with very unusual success. The effect was quick and marked.

Currant Worm.

The Currant Worm. What are its habits? What are the most effectual means for its destruction?

Mr. ELLWANGER had tried many, in fact most of the remedies recommended, and the present year had succeeded in saving the leaves and destroying the worms with slaked lime, put on in a powder. It must be done every day, or at least every other day, while the insects prevail. There would be no trouble in saving the currants if this were attended to faithfully, but neglect for a day or two might prove ruinous.

H. N. LANGWORTHY found suds made of soft-soap the best remedy, and one at hand in every family. It should be used as strong as possible without injuring the foliage.

Dr. SYLVESTER never saw any at his place until a year ago last summer. Had a row of Whitesmith gooseberries which he was anxious to save, and tried whale oil soap, one pound to four gallons of water. Found it effective. Applied the soap every other day.

White Grub.

The White Grub. What are its habits? What are the most effectual means for its destruction?

L. B. LANGWORTHY said that the white grub is the larva of the May Bug, and remains in the ground four years before becoming a perfect insect. They commence operations the second year, but the third year are the most destructive, and in the fourth appear as our well-known May Bug. Knew of no way to destroy them but to dig them up and kill them. They are particularly fond of strawberry plants, and injure potatoes a good deal. Mr. B. remarked that this year there is an unusual scarcity of our common insects—there are but few May Bugs, no Rose Bugs, though he never knew them before to delay their appearance later than the 18th of June. In this section, too, there is a great falling off in the number of the apple tree caterpillar.

Mr. ELLWANGER said the white grub always follows the use of night-soil. Wherever this is applied, great numbers of white grubs will be found.

Mr. HERENDEN had a piece of ground infested with white grub, and tried to exterminate them with salt. Finally put some in clear salt, where they seemed to live and thrive several days.

Mr. NELSON found great quantities of the white grubs in cow manure.

Salt as Manure.

Has the use of Salt been found to be beneficial to Quince Stocks, or to Plum Trees?

Mr. ELLWANGER applies salt to pear and plum orchards every season. Uses it mainly to kill insects, but considers it a good manure. Applies in February, giving the ground a good coating, making it appear as if there had been a slight fall of snow.

Mr. DOWNING said salt is good as a manure, but not worth anything for killing insects.

Dr. SYLVESTER believed in using salt, but there is some danger in the operation. A little too much would kill the trees.

New Strawberries.

What new varieties of the Strawberry have been found to promise well in the experience of this Society?

No member present appeared prepared to recommend a new variety of strawberry. Some remarks were made upon the character of a few old and well-known varieties.

H. N. LANGWORTHY called attention to the great destruction of fruit by the birds. They take nearly

all the early cherries, and strawberries suffer very much from their depredations. By law their destruction is prevented, on the plea that they devour many insects, but Mr. L. was of the opinion that while they do eat a few worms they do not destroy any of our injurious insects.

Mr. FISH said birds were both advantages and disadvantages. The disadvantages are the most apparent and most felt.

Mr. ELLWANGER would encourage the birds, and plant enough fruit to allow them a share, and they will become as tame as chickens.

L. B. LANGWORTHY said birds would not eat caterpillars or beetles, or any of our destructive insects. We have no singing birds in this country to repay us for the destruction they cause. There is a good deal of foolish sentimentality about this matter.

Dr. SYLVESTER said we grow the fruits and miss them, but birds may eat a million of insects and we would never know it, unless we watched carefully.

The following named gentlemen were appointed as delegates from the Society, to attend the meeting of the American Pomological Society, to be held at Boston, Mass., on the 17th and 18th of September next:—JOSEPH FROST, of Rochester; W. P. TOWNSEND, of Lockport; E. W. SYLVESTER, of Lyons; S. N. HOLMES, of Syracuse; T. C. MAXWELL, of Geneva; E. MOODY, of Lockport.

The following delegates were appointed to attend the meeting of the New York State Agricultural Society, to be held on the 30th of September next: E. MOODY, of Lockport; H. N. LANGWORTHY, of Rochester; S. B. GAVITT, of Lyons.

The Society then adjourned to meet in this city on the first day of the Fair of the New York State Agricultural Society.

Horticultural Notes.

ELDER BUSHES VS. CURCULIO.—A few weeks since I visited a garden in this vicinity, and saw several plum trees heavily laden with fruit. I was requested to examine and see if I could discover any traces or marks of the curculio. I did so upon fruit on the trees and ripe fruit that had fallen off and lay upon the ground. I could discover no marks and no larvae in the fruit. I gathered up fruit from the ground and carried it home; it was all perfect. I thought there must be insects; but there had been none at all. Having raised plums, more or less, for twenty years, in Michigan, but never without the effects of the curculio more or less, and sometimes to entire destruction of the crop, you may judge of my surprise when informed that all that had been done was to procure common elder bushes and tie them to the branches of the trees. This had been done every few days from the time the fruit was fairly set until full grown. This man has lived upon the place five years. The trees were upon the place—bearing trees—when he took possession; the first two years he tried to save his fruit by shaking the trees and gathering up the curculios upon cloths spread under them. He had very poor success; the fruit was all stung and dropped off prematurely. He was in the second year, when he was told by (as he said) "an old Frenchman," that if he would put elder bushes into his trees he could raise fruit. He has tried it three years with the same success—a full crop of perfect plums.—A. C. HUBBARD, in Michigan Farmer.

The above we give at the request of a correspondent, without vouching for the efficacy of elder bushes in driving off the curculio. But, we have grown good plums for many years without failure, until last season, when the blossoms were destroyed. Others in this vicinity have done even better.

UNFRUITFUL QUINCE TREES.—In the RURAL of June 21st, M. A. HAWKINS, of Herkimer, inquires what he will do with his quince trees, which have not borne fruit. His trees he probably bought of some traveling agent, and they are undoubtedly, seedlings. With us, seedlings do not often, if ever, bear fruit. I have nine seedlings, raised from the orange quince, which have not borne a half dozen quinces yet, though seven years planted. If the ground where his quince trees are planted is valuable, I would remove them; and if he wishes to raise quinces, he should send to some responsible nurseryman at Rochester, and get two or three trees, or any number that may be desirable, of the Orange Quince, plant them and afterwards giving them clean culture around the roots. Then if the trees do not make a moderate growth, give the ground a little salt. It is necessary to keep off the shoots or suckers, and sometimes to shorten in the side branches. If he should try the Orange Quince, and take proper care of the trees, he will undoubtedly succeed in raising quinces in favorable seasons. As to seedlings, they are not worth the ground they stand on, with us; but the Orange Quince has succeeded well with us, and also in other localities where I have seen them. I recommend the Orange Quince only, for I know nothing about the other kinds, but presume the fruit of the other kinds to be of but little value.—N. P., Seely Creek, N. Y., 1862.

"CREMOT PERPETUAL."—Last season I called attention to this strawberry, as exhibited at our Strawberry Show here, by Mr. DANIEL WORTHINGTON. Early this morning, on his way down to his store, he called on me with a drawer of these berries. They were astonishingly large. He says they are very productive. Their flavor is unexceptionable. They are not as good a berry to carry as the Wilson's Albany; but they will carry as well as Triomphe de Gand. To-day I can buy plenty of berries in market at 8 to 25 cents per quart, depending upon sort and size. These Cremots were selling at 60 cents per quart; not in large quantities, to be sure, for they are not in market. But the size, brilliant color, and waxy, glossy appearance, tempted the half dollars right out of the pockets of men who could afford such indulgence.

Query—May not this variety be identical with the Crescent Seedling? Who knows?—C. D. B.

[The above should have been given in connection with the "Strawberry Notes for 1862," on first page.]

KENTUCKY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Please record the names of the officers of the Kentucky Horticultural Society, which has been in operation for more than twenty years, and holds its weekly meetings every Saturday morning during the year. President.—ORMSBY HITE. Recording Secretary.—W. M. ALLEN. Treasurer.—B. D. KENNEDY. Our prospect for a full and fine crop of fruit this year is very flattering.—O. H., Louisville, Ky., June, 1862.

MARKING NAMES ON FRUITS.—A correspondent of the London Gardeners' Chronicle, writing of a Paris exhibition, says:—"Among fancy fruits I observed a large dish of the favorite French Dessert apple, the Pomme d'Api, in which each one was marked with a letter, a crest, or other device, produced by placing a piece of paper or cloth of the required shape, on the side next to the sun, causing a corresponding spot to remain uncolored."

LATE SUMMER PLANTING.—The Gardeners' Monthly says more evergreens have been planted in August and September, in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, during the past three years, than in all the other months, and not one in a thousand fails. There has been quite a revolution in regard to the time of planting evergreens.

Inquiries and Answers.

SHRINKING ARBOR VITAE.—When is the best time in the season to shear the Arbor Vitae and Red Cedar?—S. K., Centerville, June, 1862.

Shear latter part of June or early in July, after a fair growth is made.

INSECT ON CABBAGE AND TURNIP.—Will you or some of the RURAL readers please to give me some information as to the best method of destroying a small black bug, which is entirely eating up our cabbage and turnip plants, or some remedy that will drive them away? Also the name of the destroyer.—W. R. J. D., Salamanca, N. Y., 1862.

The insect is the Turnip Flea Beetle, (Haltica.) Lime or ashes dusted over the plants when wet with dew will save them, if done every day. Wetting with soap suds is very good. KOLLAR recommends a solution of Wormwood, and HARRIS thinks a liquid made from walnut leaves would be as good.

Domestic Economy.

CAKES, COOKIES, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Having proved some of the excellent recipes in your paper, I would like to give a few of mine, for the benefit of others:

SPONGE CAKE.—Six eggs; weight of five in sugar, three in flour; rind of one lemon grated; one-half the juice. Stir the sugar and yolks together; beat the whites to a froth, add to the other, then the lemon, after which add a little soda, and a very little more flour.

HICKORY CAKE.—One and one-half cups of sugar; 1 cup of butter; 2 cups of flour; whites of four eggs; 2 of a cup of sweet milk; 1 teaspoon of cream tartar; 1/2 teaspoon of soda. Beat the butter and sugar to a cream; add the milk, with the soda dissolved in it, then the whites, and lastly the flour, with the cream tartar well rubbed in; one cup of meats. This cake is excellent without the meats, with lemon or vanilla flavoring, but better with them.

VANILLA COOKIES.—Two cups of sugar; 1 of butter; 2 eggs; 1 cup sour milk; 1 teaspoon saleratus; flour enough to roll them out. If the bean is large, one is enough; if not, one and a half.

TO CORN BEEF.—For 100 weight:—6 lbs. of salt; 8 oz. of sugar; 6 oz. of saltpeter; 4 gallons of water. Boiled and skimmed, put on cold.

TO MIX MUSTARD FOR TABLE USE.—Two table-spoons of mustard; 1 tablespoon of sugar; 1 teaspoon of salt. Mix with boiling water, and thin with vinegar.

MRS. E. A. CARWELL, Herkimer, N. Y., 1862.

CHOCOLATE MANGE—A REQUEST.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I send herewith a recipe for an article reliable and suitable for invalids.

CHOCOLATE MANGE.—Soak, in a pint of cold water, one box of Cox's gelatin an hour. Put over the fire one quart of milk and one pint of cream, or three pints of milk; add one pound sugar; a large coffee-cupful of grated chocolate, fresh mixed with a little cold milk and the gelatin, and let it boil five minutes. Remove from the fire and flavor with vanilla. Let it congeal in molds. The French chocolate is the best to use.

WILL EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER, authoress of "Our Ship," the story in the RURAL of February 15, send you for publication the piece of poetry from which she quoted her caption?—

"How many watchers in life there be, For the ship that never comes over the sea."

I read it long ago, and think it well worth a re-print. In doing this you will greatly oblige one of your constant readers, and an occasional contributor to the Domestic Department. S. M. M. Elbridge, N. Y., 1862.

CURE FOR WARTS.—Bathe the hand having warts in warm water, dry with a soft towel, and touch the top of each wart only with aquafortis; a knitting needle or anything having a small point will answer to take up a small drop sufficient for each wart. In a few days a dead pellicle will be formed on the top of the warts, which will scale off when bathed in warm water. When this is removed, apply the aquafortis again, and so on repeatedly, till the

Ladies' Department.

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

BY JENNY A. STONE.

I know not, when in future years My heart shall turn to this sad home...

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] OUR LIVES AND DUTIES.

"Life is brief, life is earnest, Life is something more than play."

EVERY day adds to our lifetime, and whether each day shall be a day lost, or a day gained...

It may be no great part we were summoned to perform on the stage of life; all cannot be star actors...

If a blacksmith should sit idle, refusing to shoe any but handsome horses...

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

THERE is an island down the river of years to which we look with eager longing and high hopes...

When such thoughts come over us, instinctively we turn to Utopia, for we know that rest awaits us there...

deathless sorrow converts the heart into "a waste of despair." The eye never grows dim in watching for sights which never bless its vision...

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

It is a glorious afternoon in mid-summer, and everything seems full of life and motion.

"Friends, dear ones, weep not for me, for I have early learned that in the way in which all must go there are snares and pitfalls concealed by the fairest blossoms...

Come nearer now and look upon that broad, high forehead, from which that mass of curls have been brushed back...

It matters not now that her sisters kneel by her side and wildly kiss the cold lips; it will not bring her back; and we feign would weep when we remember that we shall never hear that sweet voice again...

One more scene and we are done. It is morning, the sun is shining in a cloudless sky, and we are standing around an open grave...

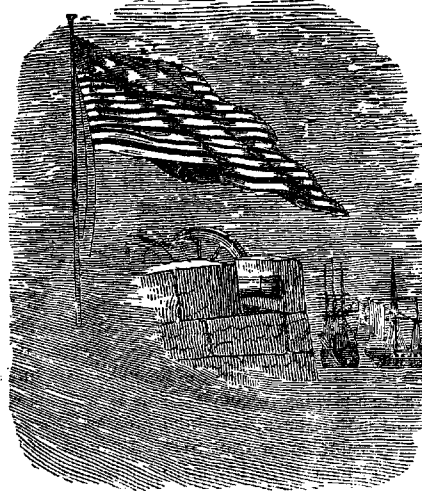
Farewell, ELIA—farewell! Peaceful be thy rest. Heaven has won thee, and we would not call thee back.

A PRISON INCIDENT.

MISS MARTHA HAINES BUTT, the authoress from Norfolk, Virginia, halted this afternoon opposite our quarters in a splendid coach.

The firmest friendship is formed in adversity, as iron is welded in the fiercest flames.

Choice Miscellany.



THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER.

BY FRANCIS S. KEY.

O, SAY, can you see, by the dawn's early light, What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming...

NATURE.

READER, did you ever talk with Nature? Did you ever go out when Spring had kissed the Earth and made her smile...

But, by and by, there was a new era in your life—you were sent to school.

TAKE CARE OF OUR THOUGHTS.

A CARE of our thoughts is the greatest preservative against actual sins. It is a most certain truth that the greatest sin that ever was committed, was at first but a thought.

DON'T WRITE THERE.—"Don't write there," said one to a lad who was writing with a diamond pen on a pane of glass in the window of a hotel.

threshold. There was a little empty chair at the family table, and the pattering of little feet was heard no more.

And thus, while "Nature glided into your darker musings, with a mild and gentle sympathy," you learned to love her.

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep, Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes...

But the Summer faded, and its rich glories melted into the sober hues of Autumn.

But the Summer faded, and its rich glories melted into the sober hues of Autumn. And then came the decay of Nature...

But the Summer faded, and its rich glories melted into the sober hues of Autumn. And then came the decay of Nature...

Human life, too, becomes a part of this masterpiece, and though the measure seems not all perfect—for in the deeds of men lie much of discord—yet here we find the greatest and grandest theme of all, the life poem of His Son...

THE SPLENDID PREACHER.—Richard Baxter preached as feeling that the truths of God were too great and glorious in themselves to be covered up with the little trappings of human adornments.

THE Bible is seeking to incarnate its truths in the family, in civil society, and all the developments of it—in its laws, its institutions, its customs, its pleasures, its arts, its sciences, its literature.

We do not know what we ask or desire when we covet other people's spiritual joys or strength. These sorrows and joys are in the same cup.

Sabbath Musings.

HYMN

Sung at the Dedication of the Second Presbyterian Church in Elmira, June 13, 1862.

COMPOSED BY A. S. THURSTON.

Tune—"Old Hundred."

Oz, Lord, our God! from Thy high throne Vouchsafe this waking thought to bless;

When to these walls, when prayers arise From hearts where sin has left its trace...

When to this house the contrite come, In penitence, to hide their face...

Should famine, pestilence, and war, Revisit Thy rebellious race...

When overhead the burning skies Like brass become, and night-dews cease...

When hither to the font we bring Our infants, smiling, or in tears...

And when before this altar stand The plighted pair, in life's young morn...

And bearing here our coffin'd clay, Death's icy river safely crossed...

Oh, Lord, our God! from Thy high throne Vouchsafe this waking thought to bless;

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE GREAT MASTER-POET.

AWAY back, years and years ago, before man ever trod this flower-decked earth, there was a Great Master-Poet at work.

There is a mysterious lore in the twilight; Wild, sad strains in the tempest's fitful roar;

The flowers breathe hymns; from the fountains gush songs of praise; and the soft-sighing of the night wind is the knell of the departing day.

Human life, too, becomes a part of this masterpiece, and though the measure seems not all perfect—for in the deeds of men lie much of discord—yet here we find the greatest and grandest theme of all, the life poem of His Son...

This, the poem of Creation, is inscribed to Time, and when the cadence of every line shall be filled, then will He open the "Book of Life" revealing that greater one, the Resurrection, dedicated to eternity.

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Useful, Scientific, &c.

THE CITY OF LONDON.

LONDON CITY now covers one hundred and twenty-one square miles, having increased three-fold since the year 1860; and bricks and mortar still invade and capture the green fields. The population, according to the report of the Registrar General, amounts at the rate of about one thousand per week—half by birth and half by immigration.

Notwithstanding the enormous wealth of the metropolis, it is recorded in the report of the Registrar, as a remarkable fact, that "one in six of those who leave the world die in some one of the public institutions—a workhouse, hospital, asylum, or prison. Nearly one in eleven of the deaths is in a workhouse.

This shows that poverty follows close at the heels of wealth, and fastens on the multitude with relentless grasp. Every sixth person dies a pauper or a criminal! Can this be said of any other city on the globe? And how great a number there must be who barely manage to escape this fate! The severe competition for subsistence and wealth which characterizes London life is a terrible ordeal for any human being to pass through, and thousands fall in the attempt, crushed beneath the golden Jugernaut.

It is now notorious, says a London exchange, that in the large establishments, where some hundreds of assistants are employed, the great majority of them are broken down tradesmen, crushed by the competition of capital. Even these occupations are obtained with difficulty, and the less fortunate gradually sink lower and lower in the scale, until they are driven into the public institutions, where they meet an untimely death.

The list is further swelled by that numerous class, who, born in a respectable sphere and well educated, sink into degradation from the sheer love of display and vanity of living beyond their means. It is on record that, out of eight thousand convicts who have passed their probation through Pentonville, one thousand had fallen through this wretched vice; and it is stated that most of the number were, originally, respectable in more than an ordinary degree.

These statements teach us that the greatness of London has been purchased at a fearful cost of human poverty, misery, and crime, the result of the eager pursuit of wealth.

LIQUID FIRE.

SOME experiments were recently tried at the Washington Navy Yard with an apparatus for the ejection of liquid fire, which, to all intents and purposes, is the famed Greek fire revived, the secret of which has been lost. The chemical composition of this fire may not be the same, but its effects are as terrible as those attributed to the inextinguishable fire of the Greeks. The composition and the apparatus for ejecting it are the inventions of Prof. B. F. Greenough, of Boston, who, though for many years nearly blind, has pursued his chemical investigations with unabated zeal, until he has produced what promises to be a terrible auxiliary in warfare.

The experiments were made under the direction of a Board, consisting of Capt. G. V. Fox, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Capt. Dahlgren, Capt. Wainwright and Lieut. Dudgeon. A target was erected upon a platform fifty feet long by thirty wide, the target being made of solid oak timber three feet in thickness. The fluid was ejected in an inert state from a pipe three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, and was thrown some thirty to fifty yards before it reached the target. At a distance of several feet from the muzzle the fluid ignited, expanding to a diameter of two feet, with an immense combustion, which covered the target and platform with liquid fire. The fire was apparently inextinguishable, burning rapidly on the water and consuming the target. It emitted fumes of smoke which darkened the atmosphere, and would have suffocated any human being who had come within its influence. The experiment was quite successful.

We understand that experiments have also been made with shells filled with this liquid, and with great success. The composition, the secret of which is known only to the inventor, promises to be a very effective auxiliary of war.

CURIOUS MICROSCOPIC WRITING MACHINE.

A CORRESPONDENT writing of the wonders of the Great Exhibition says:—"Unquestionably the most curious and ingenious instrument in the whole exhibition is a machine for microscopic writing, constructed by a Mr. Peyer. The operator writes with a pencil on a sheet of paper placed at the bottom of the instrument, which is connected with a series of levers and gimbals with another very minute pencil at the top, which reproduces on a tablet what is written below, in characters so infinitesimally small that they can be discerned only by the aid of a powerful magnifier. A line a quarter of an inch in length at the bottom becomes one of only a quarter of an inch at the top. Or, more clearly, the words, "Mathew Marshall, Bank of England," are thus legibly recorded within a space only two and a half millions of an inch in length. Or, to show still more startlingly the astounding capacity of this instrument, it is claimed that the contents of the entire Bible can be repeated no less than twenty-two times within the space of a square inch! Again, not only is the microscopic tracing distinctly legible under a suitable magnifier, but it is a perfect fac simile of the operator's autograph. The practical utility of this machine can readily be seen, when it is known that the Bank of England, for instance, is to use it for the purpose of marking its notes, and thereby rendering the prevention or detection of forgery almost certain."

HOW THE SAVAGES OBTAIN WATER.—Livingston, the African traveler, describes an ingenious method by which the Africans obtain water in the desert:

The women tie a bunch of grass to one end of a reed about two feet long, and insert it in a hole dug as deep as the arm will reach, then ram down the wet sand firmly around it. Applying the mouth to the free end of the reed, they form a vacuum in the grass beneath, in which the water collects, and in a short time rises to the mouth. It will be seen that this simple, but truly philosophical and effectual method might have been applied in many cases in different countries where water was greatly needed to the saving of life.

OUR own hands are Heaven's favorite instruments for supplying us with the necessaries and luxuries of life.

HAIL, SACRED UNION.—ON THE MOUNTAINS.

HAIL, SACRED UNION. Wedding Song.

1 Hail, sa-cred un ion, Des-cend-ed from a bove, Hail, sweet com-mun-ion, Of hearts in ho ly love, In blush-ing trust the
2 Hail, &c., No pain may hide their

3 Hail, sa-cred un ion, Des-cend-ed from a bove, Hail, sweet com-mun-ion, Of hearts in ho ly love, In gen-tle kind-li
4 Hail, sa-cred un-ion, Des-cend-ed from a-bove, Hail, sweet com-mun-ion, Of hearts in ho ly love, So life shall find its

beau-teous bride, Is fold-ed safe by man-ly pride, While hon-or and af-fec-tion fond, Knit close the pre-cious bond, Knit close the pre-cious bond.
grew-ing joy, No lone-ly toil their hands em-ploy, Each heart the oth-er's grief shall bear, Its ten-der glad-ness share, Its ten-der glad-ness share.

ness a-greed, They crown with faith each word and deed, In gather-ing cloud or sun-ny light, Their love shall still be bright, Their love shall still be bright.
peace-ful way, Se-rene and fair be-neath the ray, That beams on no-ble bosoms given, As ear-nest sure of heaven, As ear-nest sure of heaven.

ON THE MOUNTAINS.

1 On the mountain, far have I wandered, Birds of summer there have I seen, Gai-ly singing, Swiftly springing, Ev-er building nests of the green,
2 O'er the meadows I have been roaming, Thro' the woodlands, strolling away, Flowers were blooming, Bees were humming, Beauty filling, blessing the day.
3 In the gar-den I have been walking, Fai-ry forms were shining so bright, Frail and slen-der, Clothed with splendor, Winging thro' the orient light.
4 Homeward coming breathing the fragrance, Friends beloved soon have I found, Soft and du-teous, Calm and beau-teous, Love the day hath happily crowned.

[From ASAPH, a collection of Sacred and Secular Music, by LOWELL and WILLIAM MASON.]

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



"A VOICE from the East and a voice from the West, A voice from the shade where the patriots rest, A voice from the vales and each echoing height, On the ear it breaks through the dropped curtain of night; The voice of a trumpet it pealeth afar; And thrills through the nation a trumpet of war; From the roar of the lakes to the ocean's wide bound, A marshaling host doth re-echo the sound; They gather! they gather! true-hearted and brave! While star-spangled banners exultingly wave; He who sits on the stars, with his scepter of might, Sustaineth the arm which supporteth the right."

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JULY 5, 1862.

THE WAR'S PROGRESS.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

The Capture of Fort St. Charles.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Missouri Democrat, writing from Memphis, June 19, gives the following details of the fight at Fort St. Charles, which was briefly alluded to in our telegraphic dispatches of last week:

The gunboat Conestoga and transport Jacob Musselman have just arrived from White River, and bring the news of the capture of Fort St. Charles, on that river, by the gunboats of the expedition which left here on Friday last. The fleet consisted of the gunboats Mound City (flag ship), St. Louis, Conestoga, and Lexington, and the transports New National, White Cloud, and Jacob Musselman, having on board the 46th Indiana regiment, in command of Col. G. N. Fitch.

On Saturday last the fleet reached the mouth of White river, and on Monday, the 18th, began to ascend the stream. On Tuesday morning, at about seven o'clock, being within two miles of the supposed locality of the fort, and the Mound City being in advance, Captain Kitty began shelling the woods on each side of the river, as they moved up, in order to cover the landing of Col. Fitch's troops from the transports. The landing was effected a little over a mile below the fort, on the south-west bank of the river.

The fort, situated on a ridge of about 75 feet in height, which runs nearly parallel with and about two hundred feet back from the south-west bank of the river, was not completed, having only breast-works for the two batteries, but no works of defense for the rear. The upper battery of forty-two-pounders was on the point of the ridge where it puts in close to the river; these two guns had been the armament of the gunboat Pontchartrain, which the rebels had sunk so as to obstruct the channel of the river immediately abreast of the battery. Two transports had also been sunk close to her. The battery on the point of the ridge was manned by the former crew of the Pontchartrain. The lower battery, composed of five twelve-pound field pieces, was about 300 yards further down stream, where the ridge was further from the river; and the whole place was in command of Capt. Fry, the former Captain of the Pontchartrain, and who was once a Lieutenant in the United States Navy.

At about half-past eight, when the Mound City approached within less than a mile, the first or lower battery opened fire upon her. This was the first indication of the exact location of the batteries, as they had been concealed by the heavy timber in the intervening bottom land, which was only cleared along the river's edge, and at one or two other places, so as to give the guns of the batteries a clear range. The Mound City immediately moved up and delivered several broadsides, and leaving the St. Louis and Conestoga engaged, passed on up to engage the upper battery, which had now opened fire. The fight had lasted about 30 minutes after the firing had become general on both sides, and the

lower battery of field pieces was nearly silenced, when a 42-pound shot from the upper battery struck the Mound City on the port side, near the second gun from the bow, passing through the casemate, killing five or six men, and knocking a large hole in the steam drum. Instantly the hot steam burst out in dense volumes, filling the engine-room, gun-room and pilot-house, and scalding over one hundred and twenty-five persons. The shrieks of the poor fellows confined between decks in the scalding vapor were said to be heart-rending beyond description. Many were instantly suffocated, but all who were able groped their way to the ports and jumped overboard, into the river, and a minute after the explosion, fifty or sixty of them were struggling in the water. The Conestoga immediately came up and sent out two boats to pick them up. One of the Mound City's boats was also launched by Master's Mate Simmes Browne, one of the few officers who was not seriously hurt. During this time both gunboats and the small boats were drifting down the river. As the Mound City drifted near the shore near the lower battery, a sortie was made from the battery, which some supposed to be an attempt on the part of the enemy to board the Mound City, but which afterwards proved to be for the purpose of firing on the scalded men in the river, which the prisoners say they did at the command of Captain Fry. The field pieces of the lower battery were also turned upon the boats that were picking up the wounded, and a 12-pound shot knocked away the Conestoga's boats. Many were hit by the firing, and only 27 out of the Mound City's crew of 180, answered to their names at the calling of the roll, and were all that escaped unhurt.

Another singular accident now occurred.—The Mound City's starboard broadside guns had been loaded just before the shot struck the steam drum, and had not been fired since, but nearly half an hour afterward one of the wounded gunners had become entangled in the lanyard which is attached to the lock of the gun, and in his writhing with the pain fired the gun. The ball took effect on the New National, which had landed her troops and come up to the rescue of the Mound City. The ball struck her behind the wheel, and ranging forward, cut off the steam pipe, immediately disabling her and slightly scalding the second engineer.

Col. Fitch, who had now gained the summit of the ridge a short distance below the lower battery, fearing that one of the other gunboats might meet with an accident similar to the Mound City's, signaled the gunboats to cease firing, and that he would storm the batteries. The gunboats accordingly ceased firing, and after making considerable of a detour, the 46th attacked the batteries in the rear, delivering their fire as they came up, charging over the guns and killing the gunners at their posts. The rebels fought stubbornly, asking no quarter, and receiving none from the men of the 46th, who were enraged at the dastardly firing upon the helpless men in the river. Only two of those who were in the battery were taken prisoners, the rest were killed.

The Indians then came over the brow of the ridge and down into the wooded bottom land next the river, in pursuit of those who had been firing on the Mound City's crew, the rebels retreating rapidly up the bank of the river, the 46th firing on them as they fled, killing the greater portion of them. In the flight, Capt. Fry, their commander, was wounded by a ball in the back, was captured, and is now a prisoner on board the Conestoga. The rebel loss in killed is not known, but must have included the greater portion of their force, as we have only 13 prisoners, and only a few are known to have escaped. Opinions differ also as to the number of the rebels, some setting it as high as 500, and saying that Col. Fitch's estimate of 150 referred only to the gunboat's crew, who manned the upper battery.

Col. Fitch, in his report, states that the casualties in his regiment are unimportant, being only five or six slightly wounded. But for the one shot which burst the Mound City's steam drum, there would not have been a man hurt on the fleet, as not a single shot that struck the gunboats did any damage whatever except that. No one was hurt on either of the gunboats, and none of the transports were struck except the New National, by an accidental shot from the Mound City.

Col. Fitch was so exasperated at the murderous fire that had been poured upon the scalded men who were struggling in the water, that when he came on board the Conestoga, where Captain Fry was a prisoner, he reproached him bitterly for his inhuman conduct in giving the order, and asked him to

compare his own conduct with our course toward them only ten days before at Memphis, when all of the small boats belonging to the nearest of our gunboats were sent out to save the drowning crew of their gunboat Gen. Lovell. He told him that being a prisoner, was now his protection, but if justice were done him, he would be hanging to the nearest tree. Fry first denied that he had given the order, but on being confronted with some of his men, who persisted in saying that he had given the order, he became silent.

Almost all who were badly scalded have since died. Thirty-five of them died on the way up on the Conestoga and Musselman, and were buried near Island 67. Eight men were dead when the boats arrived at Memphis, and the entire number of the Mound City's dead is not far from one hundred and twenty-five.

Battle before Richmond—Secession Account.

We have given our readers, we presume, a fair account of the late battle before Richmond, but find in the Charleston Mercury a letter from a correspondent at Richmond, which gives the Southern story, and some interesting facts to all Union men heretofore unknown, or only suspected:

"With regard to the engagement of Saturday and Sunday, I can add little to the accounts which will have reached you through the city papers. It appears that our scouts reported 17,000 of the enemy on this side of the Chickahominy, at a point between the York river railroad and the Williamsburg road, some six or seven miles from the city, and not very far from the fortifications opposite Drury's Bluff. The swelling of the Chickahominy by the storm, cut off, as was supposed, all chance of re-enforcing these 17,000, and the attack, already delayed, was begun, not at daybreak, but at 10 or 11 o'clock. The enemy was found strongly entrenched, and fully aware of our approach. His strength had been very much over-estimated, if we may judge by the regiments represented by the prisoners taken. Of these nineteen were mentioned in the morning papers. There may have been 40,000 or 60,000 Yankees engaged, but nothing proves it except their obstinate resistance and our heavy losses.

Desperate courage carried entrenchment after entrenchment, and captured battery after battery. Late in the evening of Saturday, the enemy attempted to relieve himself by a heavy flank movement on our left; but this was promptly checked by Whiting, and the day ended. Early on Sunday morning, the enemy made a terrible attempt to retrieve his losses of the day previous; but he was again driven off, leaving us his entrenchments and encampments, with the addition of a few guns not taken by us the day before. Thus matters continued until this morning, when, as usual, we fell back, permitting the enemy to re-occupy the entrenchments from which he had been driven at a fearful cost.

"Our loss is heavy, particularly in officers. Berdan's sharpshooters did their work well, and unless something is done to check them, promotions in the Confederate service will be altogether too rapid and certain. Our killed may not exceed five hundred, our wounded are nearly five thousand. Gen. Johnston was wounded in the upper part of the right shoulder, the ball or fragment of shell passing over and burying itself in the muscles that cover the shoulder blade. In falling from his horse, two ribs were fractured. He is, therefore, permanently disabled—at least for a month or so to come. Lee assumes command of the army. Generals Pettigrew and Hatton were killed. Gen. Rhodes and another Brigadier, whose name I cannot recall, were wounded. The number of colonels, captains and lieutenants killed and wounded, I will not pretend to estimate. Lieutenant Washington, of Johnston's staff, while delivering an order, rode into the enemy's lines and was captured.

"The fruits of the victory are meager—some twenty-five pieces of cannon, several stands of colors, and 400 or 500 prisoners, at the outside. The enemy's loss, except at the entrenchments, is not large. Protected by his earthworks and the dense undergrowth into which we drove him, he poured a decimating fire into our devoted ranks. This, without rhodomontade, is the result of the battle.

"I walked to within a mile and a half of the field yesterday morning. The scene on the road beggars description. Omnibuses, wagons, caissons, and other vehicles, were stalled and wrecked along the road for miles. Horsemen found it difficult to traverse the continuous mud puddles, through which our brave fellows had marched to the scene of conflict, and were then marching under a terrible sun,

I told my friend that our army must fall back, it being harder to provision it over these seven miles of mud than over the one thousand miles of rails between this and Manassas. The use of cavalry and artillery was out of the question. Even the by-paths that led from the York river railroad to the Williamsburg road were almost impassable, so boggy is the ground. Moreover, it is so covered with forests, that a general engagement cannot take place, though many predict it to-morrow. It can hardly be done, even if McClellan were willing to risk it."

Items and Incidents.

A TOUCHING SCENE.—The Philadelphia Inquirer gives the following as an incident occurring at Fortress Monroe on the arrival of the wounded from the late Richmond battles:

"Among those brought to White House was a rebel Colonel who had been shot through the lungs. As he appeared to be dying, Mr. Barclay asked him if he wished anything done. He said 'Yes,' and gave the Commissioner the names and address of his wife and children. 'And now,' says he, 'ask God to forgive me for ever having anything to do with this wicked rebellion.' Mr. Barclay asked if he desired him to pray with him. He answered in the affirmative, and after a prayer, petitioning the forgiveness of Almighty God for his sins, and His fatherly interposition on behalf of the soon to be widowed wife and orphaned children, the penitent Carolinian raised his trembling arms and threw them about the neck of Mr. Barclay, and kissed him again and again. The bystanders were all in tears as they turned from the affecting scene and walked silently away."

GENEROUS AND NOBLE.—A few nights ago, says the Fall River Press, one of the ladies of our city, a passenger on the Metropolitan, while coming from New York with some sick and wounded prisoners, seeing that they were not cared for as her generous nature would dictate, and learning from them that the wants of the inner man were the strongest, called the steward of the boat to her, saying, "Can these men have supper?" "No, marm, there has been no provision made of that kind by the Government, and we cannot provide these unless we provide all." "Can you get them suppers if I will pay for them?" "Yes." "Very well, do so." The supper was accordingly got, with all the delicacies on hand. No stint, but the best, for which the sum of \$150 was paid. No one was informed of the act—no herald or newspaper reporter was there to proclaim it. One of the recipients of her noble bounty is the author of the above.

MARYLAND AS A STATE IN THE UNION.—On Saturday week, the bids for the Maryland Defense Loan were opened at Annapolis. The amount to be awarded was \$250,000; the amount for which bids were made, was nearly \$2,500,000. No bid was made under par, and they ran up to nearly two and a half per cent. premium. To obtain the amount asked for it was not necessary to accept any bid under two per cent. premium. What a contrast does this present to the Maryland of one year ago. How proudly such facts compare with the prostrated credit and the financial ruin of her Southern sisters.

YANKEE ENERGY.—The rebel papers in a thousand ways pay their tribute to Yankee resolution and industry. Thus the Petersburg Express of the 5th says:—"The Yankees were busily entrenching themselves all Tuesday. This was witnessed by our scouts from the tops of tall trees. The floods, in all probability, filled their trenches yesterday, and rendered them untenable, but the Yankees, with their characteristic energy, will bale out the water as fast as it falls."

BEAUREGARD'S BELLS.—The ship North America, which arrived at Boston on Saturday, had on board the bells which were contributed by the people of Louisiana for the prosecution of the war against the Union, under the proclamation issued by Beauregard. There are nearly eight hundred of them, varying in size from a cow bell to large church bells. Most of them are of the size used on steamboats and plantations. This consignment of bell-metal weighs about two hundred tons, and is valued at about \$50,000.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Mobile Register suggests that the Confederates should kill themselves rather than fall into the hands of the Yankees. Most of the Yankees will consider this the most sensible proposition made yet, as it will relieve them of a great deal of work. A grand hari kari of rebels would be a good thing.

THE Common Council of New Orleans has, at Gen. Butler's suggestion, employed 2,000 destitute laborers (who have families) in cleaning the streets of the city. This is a humane and wise sanitary provision.

GEN. STONEMAN says that he asked a squad of prisoners who fell into his hands a few days since, what they were fighting for. They replied:—"To support the gentlemen who got us into it." An hour's speech could not better have explained the general motive of the mass of the Southern army.

Department of the Gulf.

THREE steamers have arrived from New Orleans since our last issue, and we gather the following items of intelligence from the budget of news forwarded by them:

Commodore Farragut communicates to the Navy Department the encounter between our gunboats on the Mississippi, and the whole artillery in the vicinity of Grand Gulf, between Natchez and Vicksburg. A boat sent down to bring up a coal vessel from near that point, discovered earthworks in process of erection. The Wissahickon and the Itasca were sent down to attack them. They found a battery of rifled guns located there and a force of some 500 artillerymen ready to receive them. A vigorous fight ensued. The Itasca was struck twenty-five times and the Wissahickon seventeen. They lost, however, but one man killed and six wounded. The fort being too serious an obstacle to have in the rear of the boats, Com. Palmer, serving at that point, decided to bring the remainder of the squadron down and break up the business before it became too formidable. On the afternoon of the 1st, we dropped down with the squadron and shelled the town for an hour, but they deserted their batteries, and, with the exception of a few rifled shots, manifested no resistance. Com. Palmer says the heights are filled with riflemen, and if they give him any more annoyance he shall burn the town.

Wm. Clary, late second officer of the U. S. steam transport Saxon, and Stanislaus Roy, of New Orleans, were to be hung the 26th for burglary, having forged authority from Gen. Butler to enter a house and rob it under false names and pretended uniforms of soldiers of the United States.

Gen. Butler issued a general order complementing the troops for order and efficiency in turning out promptly on a beating of the assembly in the night to demonstrate their vigilance.

Gen. Jackson has been arrested on charge of being concerned in burning the ship American Union at the time of the arrival of the Federal fleet.

Gen. Butler issued an order to all citizens who hold offices of trust which call for doing any legal act, to take the oath of allegiance. The same must be the case with all citizens requiring protection, passports, or money paid them, or benefitted by the power of the United States, except for protection from personal violence. Foreign residents must seem to do no act to aid or comfort the enemies of the United States, so long as their own Government remains at peace with the United States.

The United States steamer Calhoun has captured on Lake Ponchartraine the Confederate steamer Whitman. The same steamer has also captured the rebel schooner Venus in the same lake. The cargo of the latter consisted of 228 bales of cotton. An expedition from the same steamer cut off the rebel gunboat Corfu. She was sounding one of the bayous, securely guarded by rebel troops.

The U. S. ship Susquehanna, on the 11th inst., captured the rebel schooner Princeton, from Havana, bound to Matamoros. Her cargo consisted of drugs, dry goods, &c.

On the 9th inst., the Bainbridge captured the schooner Borgany, and sent her to Key West for adjudication.

Col. Kimball, with four companies of the 12th Maine regiment, had broken up a rebel camp at Mauchac. There had been for some weeks 1,800 men there, with a number of heavy guns. They skedaddled on the approach of our forces, leaving their camp equipage, regimental colors, and some of their nether garments.

Gen. Butler has issued a modified form of oath for the foreign population, by which persons taking it only swear to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

Department of the South.

OUR forces met with a serious repulse at James Island, before Charleston, on the 19th ult. A reconnaissance was made the 16th. Gen. Stevens, with 4,000 men, was to make an attack at day-break, while Gen. Wright and Col. Williams, with 3,000 men, were to support him. Somehow the movement was delayed an hour, and as our troops rushed up the field, they were in broad day met by a murderous fire of grape and canister. Two regiments only reached the front, and were much cut up,—the 8th Michigan and 79th New York. The 28th Massachusetts broke and scattered, and the 46th New York did little better. The first two drove the gunners from their guns, and some even penetrated the works, but the other regiments failing to support them, they had to retire, after holding the battery twenty minutes. Meantime, Col. Williams coming to the support, was exposed to a cross fire from rebel guns in the woods. His troops, 3d New Hampshire and 3d Rhode Island, fought nobly and with considerable loss. For three-quarters of an hour no gun was fired from the fort, and the prompt presence of about four hundred men would have carried it, but they were not there, and the troops retired.

Another account confirms the above in the main, but states that the Massachusetts 28th did well. He gives our loss—killed, 84; wounded, 366; missing, 126. Our camp is now within range of the gunboats' fire, and in safe condition, entrenchments thrown up, and re-enforcements awaited.

Gen. Brannon's troops, numbering two thousand, arrived from Key West at James Island, but our forces must be largely re-enforced before operations are resumed. Rebel troops are constantly arriving, and preparations for the defence of Charleston are extensively making.

The following among other documents has been received at the Navy Department:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, }
SONO RIVER, S. C., June 10.

The Major-General Commanding cannot refrain from expressing his admiration of the noble conduct of the naval officers on duty in the Sono river, in support of the military operations in that vicinity. Ever ready and ever prompt, they have rendered invaluable services to the army.

Capt. Grayton, commander of the squadron, by his frank and cordial co-operation, has won golden opinions from all the army officers who have had the pleasure of witnessing his operations.

D. HUNTER, Major-General Com.

It is stated that Gen. Benham is under arrest, with orders to report at Washington; that Gen.

Hunter left James Island, leaving Benham in command, with orders to make no advance toward Charleston without re-enforcements or further orders. It was reported by rebel deserters that the whole rebel force at Secessionville was but two battalions, with six guns mounted and seven more ready for use.

The barque Gem of the Sea, on the 3d ult., captured the rebel schooner Mary Stewart, of Nassau, while attempting to run the blockade off the Santee river, South Carolina. Her cargo consisted of 308 sacks of salt and sundry other articles. This schooner formerly belonged to Gov. Aiken, of South Carolina.

Com. Dupont writes to the War Department, that through information derived from a negro who had been employed by our army, the enemy became aware of the absence of our troops from Hutchinson Island, and made a descent on Mrs. Marsh's plantation, and with a ferocity characteristic of all events in that part of the South, murdered in cold blood a large number of contrabands, who were awakened from their slumbers to fall into the hands of the infuriated rebels.

The Newbern Progress, of the 21st ult., reports that the rebels at Kingston and Goldsborough are living on half rations, and frequently deserting. The rebel pickets had burned Tuscarora, and destroyed a portion of the railroad. It was reported that fifteen rebels had been killed at Fisherville by the explosion of a shell thrown by one of our gunboats, which did not burst at the time it was fired.

A telegram from before Charleston, dated the 25th ult., says:—All quiet at James Island to-day. The gunboats yesterday shelled a detachment of the Marion artillery, posted on John's Island, and forced them to retreat.

The Army of Virginia.

THE forces under Major-Generals Fremont, Banks and McDowell have been consolidated into one army, called the "Army of Virginia," and Major-General Pope has been assigned by the President to the chief command. The forces under Fremont constitute the first army corps, to be commanded by Fremont. The forces under Banks constitute the second corps, and are to be commanded by him. The forces under McDowell constitute the third army corps, to be commanded by him.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning states that General Fremont having been superceded in command of this Department, by the orders appointing General Pope, his inferior in rank, over the army of Virginia, and having asked and been refused leave of absence, has, at his own request, been relieved from duty. The following order of the Secretary of War explains the matter:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, June 27.

Major-General J. C. Fremont having requested to be relieved from the command of the first army corps of the army of Virginia, because, as he says, the position assigned him by appointment of Major-General Pope as Commander-in-Chief of the army of Virginia is subordinate and inferior to those heretofore held by him, and to remain in the subordinate command now assigned would, as he says, largely reduce his rank and consideration in the service, it is ordered that Major-General J. C. Fremont be relieved from command.

2. That Brigadier-General Rufus King be and he is hereby assigned to the command of the first army corps of the army of Virginia, in place of Fremont, relieved. By order of the President.

E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

The mail arrangements for the army in the field have been re-organized. Letters for Fremont's Headquarters, whether from Washington, New York, or the West, should be all directed "Martinsburg," and will be forwarded from there. All letters for the army under and with Fremont, except those for Headquarters, should be addressed to Winchester. Letters for other districts in the Department to be sent as heretofore.

About 500 prisoners, taken by General Fremont, in the Shenandoah valley, went through Philadelphia on the 25th ult. Most of them were left by Jackson in his retreat; their destination is unknown.

General Fremont this morning turned over the command of his forces to General Schenck on the 28th ult., by the following order:

GENERAL ORDER, NO. 25.

HEADQUARTERS, Middletown, June 28.

The undersigned having been relieved from duty with the forces of the Mountain Department, Brigadier-General Schenck, as next in rank, will assume command of the same, and report for further orders to the War Department.

Maj.-Gen. J. C. FREMONT, U. S. A.

At noon on the 24th ult. a special train from Harper's Ferry to Winchester ran off the track near Wadeville, and capsized down an embankment ten feet high, killing one man and mortally wounding several, and seriously injuring thirty persons. Jas. C. Keop, of New York, was the person killed. Col. Redan, eighty soldiers, and a dozen civilians were on the train, besides fifty horses. All the men were on the top of the cars. The horses were thrown through the roofs of the cars into the river. The wounded have been brought to Winchester.

A telegram just received from Washington says: The report that Gen. Banks is dissatisfied with the order placing Gen. Pope in command of the army of Virginia, is not true. Gen. Banks is a soldier and obeys orders. Long ago he expressed his willingness to form a junction with either Fremont or McDowell in the field, and act subordinate to them, if by so doing it will contribute in the least to crush out the rebellion. The appointment of Gen. Pope to his present position was no surprise to Gen. Banks.

Army of the Potomac.

GEN. HOOKER, at 9 A. M. of the 25th inst., advanced his division with a view of occupying a new position. The result was that his troops met with a most determined resistance from the enemy, which lasted till four o'clock in the afternoon. But the rebels were forced to give way before the invincible charge of our men. During the day everything indicated a general engagement, but the enemy, for some reason or other, backed out of it. The troops all fought as gallantly as ever. The loss on our side will be about 200 killed and wounded.

The following is Maj.-Gen. McClellan's dispatch to the Government:

REBOUT NUMBER THREE, June 25—1.30 P. M.

To Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War.—We have advanced our pickets considerably to-day, under sharp resistance. Our men have behaved very handsomely. Some firing still continues.

3 P. M.—The enemy are making desperate resistance to the advance of our picket lines. Kearney and half of Hooker's men are where I want them. I have this moment re-enforced the latter's right with a brigade and a couple of guns, and hope in a few minutes to finish the work intended for to-day. Our men are behaving splendidly. The enemy are fighting well also. This is not a battle; merely an affair of Heintzelman's corps, supported by Keyes; and thus far all goes well, and we hold every point we have gained. If we succeed in what we have undertaken, it will be a very important advantage gained. Loss not large thus far. The fighting up

to this time has been done by Hooker's division, which has behaved as usual, that is, most handsomely. On our right, Porter has silenced the enemy's batteries on his front.

5 P. M.—The affair is over and we have gained our point fully, and with but little loss, notwithstanding the strong opposition. Our men have done all that could be desired. The affair was particularly decided by two guns that Captain Deerey brought gallantly into action, under very difficult circumstances. The enemy was driven from his camps in front of these points, and all is now quiet.

G. B. McCLELLAN, Major-General Commanding.

An official list of the rebel loss at the battle of Fair Oaks has been published. Fifty-eight regiments and battalions, in all, were engaged, sustaining a loss of killed, wounded, and missing, of 5,897.

A telegram from City Point, Va., on the 27th ult., states that Jackson, Price and Beauregard are in Richmond, and will be assigned important commands shortly.

Gen. McClellan has issued an order prohibiting uniformed persons from leaving White House. No soldiers, sick or well, are allowed to go North of White House for a few days.

The Richmond Enquirer, of June 21, says:—We learn from the Express that Yankee troops to the number of 6,000 advanced from Norfolk and Suffolk, to a point on the Seaboard Railroad, known as Frankfort Depot, 50 miles from Portsmouth and 30 miles from Weldon. The aim of this force is, beyond doubt, to advance to Weldon and cut off railroad communication at that place with Petersburg and Richmond. At Weldon, the roads from Wilmington, Raleigh and Petersburg converge. This explains the recent visit of Burnside to Old Point and the White House on the Pamunkey, where he and McClellan compared notes.

Gen. Viele held a conference with the city officers of Norfolk on the 24th ult., and finding that they would not take the oath of allegiance, ordered that no election for municipal officers be held the next day, as arranged for. The next morning he issued a proclamation declaring the city under martial law, and returning the old city officers, whose terms have expired. Gen. Viele has found it necessary to adopt this course in consequence of numerous petty disturbances between Unionists and Secessionists.

MONDAY, P. M.—Our city has been agitated all day with countless rumors from Richmond, and it was known that the authorities at Washington had ordered a suppression of intelligence. This afternoon details of three days' fighting began to arrive, and we publish, to the exclusion of much other matter, such information as has been received. It would seem as though the fiercest and bloodiest battle of the war has just been concluded. Our report we owe to the N. Y. Tribune:

A severe and most determined battle was fought on the right wing on Thursday and Friday, which is claimed by some of our officers as a successful strategic movement, into which the enemy had unwittingly been drawn, and which will soon result in the capture of Richmond and the entire rebel army. The attack was made by the enemy in immense force, who crossed the Chickahominy near the railroad above Mechanicsville, Thursday afternoon. They fought desperately, but were unable to drive our men a single rod, though the enemy were ten to one. The only forces engaged that day were McClellan's division, the battle lasting from two to nine P. M., when the division was ordered back. Gen. McClellan was on the field, expressing himself satisfied with the result.

On Thursday, about noon, the enemy made an attack on Gen. Stoneman's forces, in the vicinity of Hanover Court House, probably for the purpose of accomplishing an outflanking movement on the right, and to engage our attention in that direction. Shortly afterward they commenced a vigorous cannonading from the works situated on an eminence opposite Mechanicsville, about one and a half miles distant, also from two batteries, one above and the other below. They were replied to by Campbell's Pennsylvania batteries on picket duty, one on the Mechanicsville road and another from behind earthworks at the right of a grove. About 2 P. M. the enemy's infantry and squadrons of cavalry crossed the Chickahominy in immense force, a short distance above the Virginia Central Railroad, making a rapid advance through lowlands and forest toward Gen. McClellan's division, who were entrenched on a hilly woodland, across a swampy ravine, about a mile in the rear of Mechanicsville.

The 1st Pennsylvania rifles, Bucktails, and Campbell's Pennsylvania battery, were on picket duty, all of whom, except one company, fell back behind the breastworks and rifle pits, where a line of battle was drawn up. Co. K of the Bucktails, who were on picket beyond the railroad, were surrounded by the enemy, and the last that was known of them they were trying to cut their way through an immensely superior force. Their fate is not known, but it is presumed that the greater portion were taken prisoners.

The enemy advanced down at the rear of Mechanicsville, on a low marshy ground, to where our forces were drawn up behind rifle pits and earthworks, on an eminence on the northerly side of the ravine, when the conflict became most terrible. The rebels, with the most determined courage, attempted to press over miry ground, but the bullets and grape shot fell among them like hail, until, in the words of an officer, "they lay like flies on a bowl of sugar," and at dark withdrew. The cannonading on both sides continued until about 9 P. M., when the battle ceased. Our forces were covered by earthworks, and suffered but slightly.

Late in the afternoon the enemy made a charge with cavalry. About 100 of them came rushing down and attempted to cross the ravine, when the horses became mired. A squadron of our cavalry, seeing the position in which the enemy were placed, made a dash down the hill, when the cavalrymen abandoned their horses and fled. The infantry fight was then renewed, and according to the statement of Sergeant Humphrey, of the Pennsylvania Bucktail regiment, continued until about 7 P. M., when a retreat was ordered, very much against the will of the Pennsylvania boys, who begged to be allowed to defend their position, which they felt confident they could continue to hold. The outer forces began to fall back. Porter's corps were some distance below, near Gaines' residence.

Of next day's battle the correspondent states that the cannonading was terrific, and the musketry can only be understood by those who have heard the crash of immense trees in quick succession. Duryea's gallant Zouaves were lying upon the ground for over two hours while our batteries were shelling the woods over them. Finally, toward night, the enemy attempted to break the center line, in front of Duryea's Zouaves, and the musketry firing became most terrific, lasting some twenty or thirty minutes, after which there was a lull.

Shortly afterward an attempt was made to break through the right, which was repulsed; and half an hour later another attempt was made on the left, with the same result. The battle had then been raging for some hours without any apparent change or advantage on either side.

Re-enforcements of artillery and infantry then came steadily along over the bridge, marching through the heat and dust over the hill to the field of battle. The enemy then seemed to make the last desperate determined effort, and came forcing our men back into the low ground between the hill and the bridge, where they could have been slaughtered by tens of thousands before they could have crossed that long narrow bridge. Wagons, artillery, ambulances and men were hurrying toward the bridge, and a panic was almost inevitable, when a strong guard was placed across the bridge at the time when the enemy had almost reached the main hospital, half a mile from the river. Then Thos. Francis Meagher's Irishmen came over the hill, stripping themselves to the bare arms, and ordered to go to work. They gave a yell and went to work, and the result was that the enemy fell back to the woods; and thus matters stood up to 11 o'clock yesterday (Sunday) morning.

At dark an attack was made along the front of the entire line, and was renewed at two A. M. in front of Gens. Hooker, Kearney, and Sumner, without material result.

Another correspondent says of Friday's battle: Twice, all along the front, did the bloody and determined attack cling to our lines of battle, and our rifle pits and redoubts. Porter with 50 cannon, Sumner's, Hooker's and Ayre's guns, reaped them with a very death harvest. Their loss in killed and wounded was horrible.

Count De Paris took prisoner a rebel Major who belonged to Jackson's army. He said he had been in the valley of the Shenandoah all winter, and came here yesterday with part of Jackson's army. The rest of it arrived this morning. The whole of it is here. He said that in the attack on our right the rebels had from 60,000 to 80,000 troops. This will explain the enormous fire under which our men were borne down and swept away precisely as some of the regiments were swept away at the Seven Pines.

The Count de Paris testifies to the remarkably good conduct of all the regiments that sustained this unequal attack on Porter. They gave way indeed, but not all of them ran. Their losses are enormous.

The regular 11th infantry is about annihilated, nearly every officer in it is killed or wounded.

The 14th also suffered severely.

Major Roselle of the regulars, a kinsman of Gen. McClellan, is killed.

Col. Pratt, of a N. Y. regiment, is also killed; and Lieut.-Cols. Black and Switzer.

Our loss in officers is very marked, indeed the disproportion in numbers is so extraordinary, and the obstinacy of our troops so unyielding, that our losses were inevitably large.

The artillery in both Porter's and Smith's divisions piled the rebels in heaps. The fire was heavily effective.

The following is the conclusion of the Baltimore American's account of the recent affairs before Richmond:

WASHINGTON, June 29.—Since closing my letter from the White House, I find myself very unexpectedly in Washington City, and in possession of most reliable information from White House and other points on the Peninsula, nearly a day later than is contained in my letter.

It appears that telegraphic communication between White House and McClellan was uninterrupted until 1 o'clock on Saturday, and then the wires were cut at a dispatch station 11 miles out. Tunstall's station, four miles out, was in our possession until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, at which hour the operator at White House heard a strange signal coming over the wires. On going to the instrument, he was startled with what Union soldiers called the "rebel national salute." This was the signal given for final evacuation, when a portion of the infantry forces immediately embarked on steamboats in waiting for them. The last of the transports were moved off by steam tugs, and not an article was left on shore. Even some damaged hay was taken off.

In the midst of this closing scene in the beautiful Chickahominy region, I regret to state that some vandal set fire to White House, and it was entirely consumed. The enemy made his appearance in considerable force at White House about 7 o'clock on Saturday evening, and although he neither found bread for man nor hay for beast, was welcomed with heavy showers of grape shot from the three gunboats which were ranged along in front of the landing. They were supposed to be 30,000 strong, and unless they brought their haversacks well supplied, must have gone supperless to bed.

The cavalry at White House guarded the departure of the last wagon and horse, which moved off at the final evacuation and joined the forces of Gen. Stoneman, who was hovering in the vicinity all day. After passing these trains and securing their entire safety, Stoneman, with his entire force, moved off in a direction that I am not at liberty to state. Casey reports that he lost not a man, nor left a soul behind, not even a contraband.

At ten o'clock Sunday morning, Colonel Ingalls and Captain Santelles were before Yorktown with an immense convoy of vessels and steamers on the way to a new base of operations on James River. The order for debarkation says:—"Move down immediately to Fortress Monroe and await instructions of Gen. McClellan." A number are, however, already up the James River, under protection of the gunboats.

Since an early hour on Saturday morning, Gen. McClellan has been deprived of his telegraphic communication with Washington. He abandoned its use several hours before the wires were cut, doubtless being fearful that the enemy might, by placing a magnet on the wires, read his orders. Direct communication with Gen. McClellan is now being opened, however, by gunboats up the mouth of the Chickahominy, and will soon be right in this respect.

The object of Gen. McClellan was to abandon White House and draw in the right wing of his army across the Chickahominy, which he has accomplished with but little loss, in comparison with the punishment bestowed on the enemy. Gen. McClellan has also strengthened his position by contracting his lines and changing his base of operations to the James River, where he will have the co-operation of the gunboats, and if the enemy attempt to interrupt his supply vessels on James River, they will meet with prompt punishment from the gunboats, and so weaken the forces before Richmond that the city will fall into his hands with but a slight struggle.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. A Grand Field Trial of Machines—W. H. Van Epps, Pres't. National Quarterly Review—Edward L. Sears. Wood's Mowing and Reaping Machines—Water A. Wood. Beadle's Dime Novels, &c.—Beadle & Co. Rochester Agricultural Works—Fitts & Brayley. Fruit and Ornamental Trees—J. C. Taylor. Show and Sale of Sheep—J. C. Taylor. More Agents Wanted—T. S. Farns. Moody & Son. Book Canvasers Wanted—S. F. French & Co. SPECIAL NOTICES. The Metropolitan Gift Bookstore.

The News Condenser.

- The hotel proprietors at Saratoga anticipate a prosperous season.
- There are seventy rivers in Canada in which salmon are caught.
- Mad dogs are becoming alarmingly numerous in various parts of this State.
- The quantity of water pumped up daily for the city of London is 150,000,000 gallons.
- The Richmond Dispatch complains of the very frequent desertions from the rebel army.
- The seven year locusts have made their appearance in hordes in some parts of Kansas.
- During the late flood in the Leigh river, the water actually rose 15 feet in 10 minutes.
- Jenny Lind is giving charity oratorios in London to immense houses, at a guinea a ticket.
- A Temperance Society is being formed among the sailors of the British fleet stationed at Halifax.
- Three million dollars' worth of petroleum oil has been exported from New York since January.
- The total reducible State debt of Ohio is \$14,696,426, an increase of \$404,000 since the last report.
- More than 1,800 Mormons, en route for Utah, have passed through Quebec within the past two weeks.
- It is stated that the total loss from fire in Albany, for the year ending June 1, 1862, was only \$32,000.
- The daily receipt of silver at the International Exhibition in London exceeds four hundred pounds in weight.
- J. W. Fawkes is now in Illinois with his steam plow, offering to plow the fields of the farmers by contract.
- A woman in High Falls, Ulster Co., N. Y., gave birth, June 8th, to three children—all healthy-looking boys.
- A crowd of secessionists lately left New Orleans on their way to Europe, glad to love their country at a distance.
- A highly respectable citizen of Salem, Mass., lately died of smoker's cancer, caused by excessive use of tobacco.
- The Oregon papers are discussing the expediency of establishing a school for the deaf and dumb in that State.
- It is estimated that the pension bill recently passed by the House will draw from the treasury annually \$40,000,000.
- The coffee crop of Costa Rica this year now appears to be 106,000 quintals, being about 30,000 over that of last year.
- All the clergymen in Nashville, except Rev. J. S. Hayes, Presbyterian, sided with the rebellion, and have nearly all fled.
- The Legislature of California has passed a law taxing the Chinese residents of that State \$2.50 per head per month.
- The Dunkirk (N. Y.) Union says 1,046 hogsheads of tobacco were received at that port by three lake arrivals, for shipment East.
- On Sunday week, 50,000 pedestrians visited the New York Central Park, 800 people on horseback, and 4,900 vehicles.
- The total contributions received by the Mayor of Troy for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire, is about \$241,000.
- The keel of another iron-clad war vessel, similar in many respects to the Monitor, was laid at Jersey City on Tuesday week.
- The new planet, recently discovered at Cambridge, Mass., has been named Clyde, the mythological daughter of Oceanus and Tethys.
- The Union party in the city of Baltimore have, by resolution, endorsed President Lincoln's Emancipation recommendations.
- Thirty-four patients were added to the insane hospital at Northampton, Mass., on Tuesday week, making 343 now in that institution.
- The demand for Syracuse salt is very large. Manufacturers are shipping 20,000 barrels per week, and this does not fill the orders.
- According to Health Physician Eastman's report, one hundred and twenty-seven deaths occurred in Buffalo during the month of May.
- Among the new post roads in California we observe one "from Chico to Humburg Valley." There ought to be a large mail on that route.
- A boiler explosion took place in an iron forge at Bridgewater, Mass., which killed six persons and dangerously wounded six more.
- The number of claims thus far presented before the Commission at Cairo, has reached nearly 700, representing in the aggregate \$100,000.
- It is estimated that the cotton throughout England, on the first of June, was 428,000 bales, against 1,645,000 at the same date last year.
- The New Hampshire Journal of Agriculture says: "News from all parts of the State leads us to infer that there will be a large crop of grass."
- The friends of Mexico are pressing upon the Senate the ratification of the treaty with Mexico, granting pecuniary aid to that Government.
- In 1810, according to the U. S. census, there were 111,922 slaves in Maryland. In 1860, there were 87,188—decrease in half a century, 24,314.
- A firm in St. Louis advertises for salesmen, and admires those who are "afflicted with secessionism, or any other stupidity," not to apply.
- A bill to repeal the Personal Liberty Law of Wisconsin was passed by the Assembly of that State on the 14th ult., by a vote of 51 yeas to 25 nays.
- The 33d annual meeting of the American Institute of Instruction will be held at the State House, Hartford, Conn., August 20th, 21st, and 22d.
- In the town of Brantford, C. W., fifteen or sixteen dwellings and shops were burned June 25th, in the best part of the town. Loss about \$20,000.
- Lord Clyde, (Sir Colin Campbell,) the highest military authority in Europe, pronounces Gen. McClellan a splendid strategist and an able leader.
- The estimated value of British and "secessh" ships and cargoes captured by the U. S. blockading squadron for a twelve-month, is nearly \$12,000,000.
- The Nashville Union announces the arrival in that city of large quantities of cotton from Northern Alabama—the region held by Gen. Mitchell.
- The drought is very severe in Northern Vermont. Lamotte, Chittenden, and Orleans counties, have not been visited with a copious rain since last fall.
- The boats captured from the rebels, and which are in process of repair, will increase the Mississippi flotilla to 17 vessels, carrying a total of 156 guns.
- The India trade of Boston is reviving. Fourteen ships from Calcutta will arrive at that port in July and August. Several others are also loading at Calcutta.
- The Bridgewater (Mass.) iron works are engaged in forging plates for several ball-proof ships, and also in preparing castings and forgings for six new Monitors.
- The Chinese have hired a fleet of gunboats from England. They are to be officered and manned by Englishmen, whose pay will be provided by the Chinese.
- An American artist, Wm. W. Story, is admitted by all English critical authorities to bear away the honors in the department of sculpture of the Great Exhibition.
- The royal families of Portugal and Italy have been directed by an espousal between the Portuguese King and the Princess Maria Pia, fifth child of Victor Emmanuel.

Publisher's Notices.

A NEW HALF VOLUME.

To Agents, Subscribers, and Others.

As a new Half Volume of the RURAL commences July 5th, the present is a favorable time for renewals, and also for new subscriptions to begin. Many whose terms of subscription expired last week have already renewed, and we trust all others will soon do so, thus continuing the RURAL's acquaintance. And in renewing their own subscriptions, we hope its friends will invite their neighbors to join the RURAL Brigade. Agents will place us under still greater obligations if they will give the matter a little attention. Additions to clubs are in order, for either six months or a year, at usual club rates. We will receive both single and club subscribers for six months—from now to January. Any aid rendered at the present juncture, by agents, subscribers, and other friends of the paper and its objects, will help us along through the rebellion, and of course be gratefully appreciated. Meantime, and continually, our aim will be to render the RURAL increasingly interesting and valuable.

Half-Yearly Club Subscriptions at same proportional rates as for a whole year, with free copies to agents, &c., for the term.

Special Notices.

VALUABLE PRIZES DRAWN at the Metropolitan Gift Book Store, No. 26 Buffalo street, Rochester, and at its Branch, No. 199 Main street, Buffalo, during the month of June—64 gold and silver watches, 48 silver ice pitchers, 31 opera glasses, 37 silver rotary canteens, cut glass bottles, 43 silver cake baskets, 61 silver card receivers, 9 silver tea sets, 31 silver engraved tea pots, 8 silver coffee urns, 27 silver wine pitchers, 22 gold guard chains, 17 silver berry dishes, Bohemian glass lining, 12 pairs silver flower vases, 87 gold pens, silver cases, 17 silver sugar bowls, 31 silver spoon holders, 46 silver goblets, gold lined, 3 china punch bowls, 1 Bohemian glass punch bowl with 12 goblets to match, valued at \$60, besides over 4,000 other articles of value were given. Descriptive catalogues mailed free, upon application, to any address in the United States. A gift accompanies each book, varying in value from 50 cents to \$100. Address J. F. HONE, Rochester, N. Y., or Buffalo, N. Y.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, ROCHESTER, JULY 1st, 1861. FLOUR remains at last quotations. GRAIN—Genesee spring wheat has declined slightly. Rye has put on 4 cents per bushel for choice. MEATS—The only alteration noticed is in mutton, which has fallen to 40 cents per pound. BUTTER has declined 1/2 cent per pound. POTATOES are worth from 37 to 50 cents per bushel, a reduction of 6 cents on choice varieties. WOOL—The rates for wool have advanced slightly, about 3 cents per pound for the week. The range hereabouts is from 32 to 43c, and considerable is coming to market. At various points in the country we hear of 42c being paid for clips of clean open ends, but city buyers state that offers at these figures are weak. We refer our readers to the "Wool Markets," given in next column, for transactions and prices throughout the country.

Rochester Wholesale Prices.

Table with columns for Flour and Grain, Eggs, Honey, Fruit and Roots, Hides and Skins, Meats, and other commodities with their respective prices.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, June 28.—Flour—Market quiet and heavy, and may be quoted 5 cents lower, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption; sales superfine State at \$4.20; extra State at \$4.25; superfine Western at \$4.25; common to medium extra Western at \$4.10; shipping brands extra round shipped Ohio at \$5.00; trade brands do at \$5.00; extra do at \$5.00; yellow Western flour may be quoted a shade easier, with a moderate business doing; sales spring at \$4.70; winter extra at \$4.60; rye flour continues quiet and steady; prices a shade firmer; sales spring at \$2.60; winter at \$2.50; March's calor at \$2.50. Grain—Wheat market quiet and steady; prices a shade firmer; sales spring at \$2.60; winter at \$2.50; March's calor at \$2.50. Corn—Market quiet and heavy, and may be quoted 5 cents lower, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption; sales superfine State at \$1.10; extra State at \$1.15; superfine Western at \$1.10; common to medium extra Western at \$1.00; shipping brands extra round shipped Ohio at \$1.20; trade brands do at \$1.20; extra do at \$1.20; yellow Western flour may be quoted a shade easier, with a moderate business doing; sales spring at \$1.00; winter extra at \$0.95; rye flour continues quiet and steady; prices a shade firmer; sales spring at \$0.60; winter at \$0.55; March's calor at \$0.55. Butcher's stock—Market quiet and heavy, and may be quoted 5 cents lower, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption; sales superfine State at \$1.10; extra State at \$1.15; superfine Western at \$1.10; common to medium extra Western at \$1.00; shipping brands extra round shipped Ohio at \$1.20; trade brands do at \$1.20; extra do at \$1.20; yellow Western flour may be quoted a shade easier, with a moderate business doing; sales spring at \$1.00; winter extra at \$0.95; rye flour continues quiet and steady; prices a shade firmer; sales spring at \$0.60; winter at \$0.55; March's calor at \$0.55.

PROVISIONS—The market is heavy and dull for most kinds. Prices nominal. Pork—Light, 20; heavy, 18. Mess, 18. Bacon—Unsmoked, 20; smoked, 18. Sausage, 18. Butter—New in half barrels, \$23.25. Trout the same, 14.75. Butter—New Western and Canadian packed, 20.00. Cheese—Market quiet and heavy, and may be quoted 5 cents lower, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption; sales superfine State at \$1.10; extra State at \$1.15; superfine Western at \$1.10; common to medium extra Western at \$1.00; shipping brands extra round shipped Ohio at \$1.20; trade brands do at \$1.20; extra do at \$1.20; yellow Western flour may be quoted a shade easier, with a moderate business doing; sales spring at \$1.00; winter extra at \$0.95; rye flour continues quiet and steady; prices a shade firmer; sales spring at \$0.60; winter at \$0.55; March's calor at \$0.55.

TORONTO, June 28.—GRAIN—During the past week there has been little activity in the market. The receipts of all sorts of grain were larger today than on any previous day this week, the fine weather having had an influence on the supplies. Fall wheat, the receipts of which were large, sold only at 85¢. The market for wheat quotations are somewhat below those of last week or any week for some time past. The sales to-day were at 78¢; 80¢ has been the average price for the week. The recent favorable news may, however, improve prices. Barley—The supply of barley this week was very poor. There were not more than three or four loads offered the whole week, which sold at 52¢. Oats—There has been an advance in the quotations for oats. Last week we quoted them at 40¢ per bushel; to-day they were sold at 46¢ per bushel—the latter price being paid only in a few cases where very good samples were offered; 48¢ might be given as the average price for the week. Feas—The supply of this week was very poor. To-day there were none offered; we therefore quote them at 50¢ per bushel.—Globe.

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, June 28.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

Table listing prices for Beef Cattle, Veal Calves, Sheep and Lambs, and Swine.

CAMBRIDGE, June 28.—At market, 400 Cattle, about 250 Beaves, and 60 Store, consisting of Working Oxen, Cows, and one, two and three year old.

MARKET NEWS—Extra fine nothing but the best large fat Oxen (Oxen) \$20.00; first quality, \$18.00; second do, \$16.00; third do, \$14.00; ordinary, \$12.00. Working Oxen, 1 pair, \$75.00. Cows and Calves—Two years old, \$10.00; Three years old, \$8.00. Yearlings—2 to 3; two years old, \$10.00; Three years old, \$8.00. Hens—6 to 8; 10 to 12; 12 to 14. Pullets—4 to 6; 6 to 8; 8 to 10. Eggs—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Butter—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Cheese—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Flour—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Grain—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Meat—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Lard—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Soap—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Candles—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Paper—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Books—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Stationery—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Printing—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Advertising—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Legal—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Medical—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Religious—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Educational—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Scientific—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Artistic—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16. Miscellaneous—10 to 12; 12 to 14; 14 to 16.

BRIGHTON, June 28.—At market, 100 Beef Cattle, 100 Store, 50 Sheep and Lambs, 50 Pigs, 50 Swine, 50 Hens, 50 Pullets, 50 Eggs, 50 Butter, 50 Cheese, 50 Flour, 50 Grain, 50 Meat, 50 Lard, 50 Soap, 50 Candles, 50 Paper, 50 Books, 50 Stationery, 50 Printing, 50 Advertising, 50 Legal, 50 Medical, 50 Religious, 50 Educational, 50 Scientific, 50 Artistic, 50 Miscellaneous.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, June 28.—There has been rather less doing this week, but a fair demand prevails for foreign wools of the better descriptions at very fair prices. The market is very firm and well sustained, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption; sales superfine State at \$1.10; extra State at \$1.15; superfine Western at \$1.10; common to medium extra Western at \$1.00; shipping brands extra round shipped Ohio at \$1.20; trade brands do at \$1.20; extra do at \$1.20; yellow Western flour may be quoted a shade easier, with a moderate business doing; sales spring at \$1.00; winter extra at \$0.95; rye flour continues quiet and steady; prices a shade firmer; sales spring at \$0.60; winter at \$0.55; March's calor at \$0.55.

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"MORE AGENTS WANTED." To solicit orders for the Little Giant Sewing Machine, only \$15. Hemmer, Gauge, Sewer-drive and extra Needle. Will pay a liberal salary for agents, or allow commission. For particulars address with stamp, T. S. PAGE, 501-4 Toledo, Ohio, General Agent United States.

SHOW AND SALE OF WEBB PEDIGREE SOUTH-DOWN SHEEP.

My 12th Annual Sale and Letting of Yearling Rams, Ram and Ewe Lambs, will take place, on Wednesday, Sept. 24, 1861, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at the residence of J. C. Taylor, on the farm near Philadelphia. Will take the Camden & Amboy Railroad, starting at 6 o'clock, A. M. By New York a special boat will leave at 10 o'clock, P. M. To commence at 2 o'clock, P. M. Circulars of Pedigree, &c., ready, for which please address me at H. J. Taylor, 651-2.

ROCHESTER AGRICULTURAL WORKS PITTS & BRAYLEY, Proprietors, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE CELEBRATED PITTS' THRESHING MACHINE, AND DOUBLE PINION HORSE POWERS. Also, the improved All-Iron Planter Power, Empire Feed Cutters, (4 knives, various sizes, for hand or power.) Rochester Cutting Box, Hyde & Wright's Patent Horse-Hoe, or Self-acting Plow, and Reulofen & De Garmo's Patent Straight-Draft Plow, with adjustable beam for two or three horses.

A Word to Threshers and Farmers. We have introduced into our Separators, for this season, a rack or rattle between the top and bottom of the straw box, which entirely prevents any of the grain from being carried over the Separator by the straw, and with one of our new machines farmers will have no cause to complain of the waste of their grain. Our Threshing Machines are more complete and better finished than ever before manufactured in this city, and we offer them to the public with the fullest confidence.

Those intending to purchase will serve their interest by purchasing one of our Machines. Parties living at a distance will please send for Circulars, Price List, &c.

WOOD'S MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES, MANUFACTURED BY WALTER A. WOOD, Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

WOOD'S NEW MOWER. The Machine is the most known to need description, to having been awarded the highest Prizes throughout this country, from the three last United States Fairs down to State and County Fairs. It is a great improvement on all other mowers, and English Exhibitions, where it has borne away the highest prizes over offered for Harvesting Machines.

The capacity of this Reaper, combined with its perfectly easy draft, fits it as well for the most extensive grain growing in the country, as for the small farmer of ordinary capacity. I made and sold this Machine last year, as now constructed, to an extent that warrants me in recommending it fully.

The Reapers are made in great numbers, and are sold by all the leading dealers in the country. They are made in great numbers, and are sold by all the leading dealers in the country. They are made in great numbers, and are sold by all the leading dealers in the country.

WOMAN'S PATRIOTISM IN 1862. BEADLE'S DIME NOVELS, No. 40, Now Ready.

A FOURTH OF JULY DOUBLE NUMBER! BEING A Superb Story of the Rebellion in Tennessee! THE UNIONIST'S DAUGHTER. By the ever popular MRS. METTA F. VICTOR, AUTHOR OF "MAMM GUINEA," "ALICE WILDS," "THE SMOKE," and "RASHLEY PARKERS, ETC."

PARSON BROWNLOW, AND THE UNIONIST OF EAST TENNESSEE; WITH ANECDOTES, INCIDENTS, ETC. BEADLE'S AMERICAN BATTLES, NUMBER ONE. PITTSBURGH LANDING, AND THE SIEGE OF CORINTH.

THE UNIVERSAL Clothes Wringer. It is the Original and only Genuine and Reliable Wringer before the people. It surpasses all others in Strength of Frame! Capacity for Pressure! Power of Action!

WE CHALLENGE THE WORLD! We Defy All Competition! WE WARRANT EACH ONE IN EVERY PARTICULAR! We have the highest testimonials certifying to its great value, both in the saving of labor and materials, as well as its perfect adaptation to the use for which it is intended.

THE BEST TILE MACHINE. A Practical Treatise on the Garden and Vineyard Culture of the Vine, and the MANUFACTURE OF DOMESTIC WINE. Designed for the use of Amateurs and others in the Northern and Middle States.

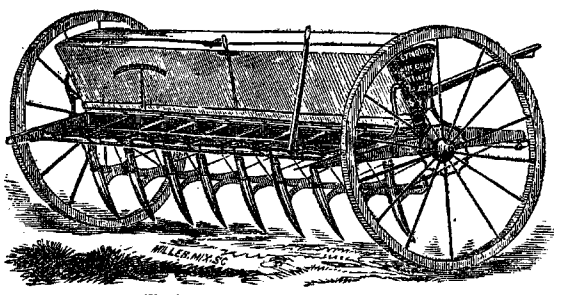
SMITH & WINEGAR'S PATENT, WITH LA TOURETTE'S IMPROVEMENTS. The above engraving represents a Drain Tile Machine which has been used for years, and with its recent improvements, is undoubtedly the best and most durable Tile Machine in America.

JAMES TERRY & CO., DEALERS IN STOVES, FURNACES, COAL GRATES, Silver Plated Ware, Pocket and Table Cutlery and House Furnishing Hardware of every description.

ALSO, Manufacturers of KEDZIE'S WATER FILTERS, Refrigerators, and Thermometers, and dealer in Tin, Copper, Sheet Iron, &c., 59 & 61 State Street, Rochester, N. Y.

SEYMOUR'S IMPROVED PATENT GRAIN DRILL.

This machine combines all the important and most desirable qualities of all the Grain Drills in use and also possesses advantages not found in any other.



It not only excels as a DRILL, but by removing the teeth and ratchets, which can be done in a few minutes, it becomes a Broadcast Sowing Machine, which will sow seed of any size, from peas to clover or timothy, in the most perfect manner. Ewe seeds can be put correctly, and grazed shallow enough for such seeds.

Those who prefer to keep the manure separate from the seed fill deposited in the ground, should order a drill with "Gun Attachment," as gunno seeds can be mixed with it before sowing. With this the manure is kept in a separate compartment till sown, when seed and manure both pass together through the same tubes into the ground. This is a very desirable way of depositing gunno fine fertilizers with the seed, as the quantity of either can at any time be increased or diminished at pleasure, and none is mixed which is not sown.

If required to sow grass seed while drilling or sowing other seeds from the main box, or while sowing clover, a Gun Seeder is attached, which will sow timothy and clover, and similar seeds, and will sow orchard grass or rye grass, or any seed from the small hop up to that of wheat, oats, and barley. All this is done without a cog-wheel or any gearing, except a zig-zag operating a roller attached to a spring, and therefore runs easier, has less wear and tear, and consequently is very durable.

The prices are now reduced as given below, yet all machines are made of the best materials and in the most substantial manner:

A GRAND FIELD TRIAL OF REAPING, HEAD-ING, BINDING, AND MOWING MACHINES, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE Executive Board of the Illinois State Ag'l Society, WILL BE HELD AT DIXON, LEE CO., ILLINOIS.

At an early day as the grain will be in condition to cut. The precise time will be announced at the earliest possible moment. PREMIUMS OFFERED.

The following liberal awards will be made to the competing machines: For the best Combined Reaper and Mower, Dip. and \$75.00; For the best Reaper, Dip. and \$50.00; For the best Mower, Dip. and \$50.00; For the best One-Horse Mower, Dip. and \$20.00; For the best Heading Machine, Dip. and \$20.00; For the best Grain Binder which can be readily attached to any ordinary Reaper, Medal.

Headings to compete with headers, and not with other machines. An entry fee of fifty per cent. upon the cash premiums offered to be required to be paid by each exhibitor. No award shall be made in any case unless two or more machines compete for the same. The machines competing will be required to be on exhibition at the State Fair at Dixon, at which time and place the awards will be publicly announced.

The details of the requirements for the trials and scale of points will be such as have been sanctioned by experience in similar trials in the United States, and the Executive Committee of this Society be the awarding Committee. In addition to the above list of machines for premiums, the Society invite manufacturers of all kinds of Farm Machinery and Implements to present and exhibit their wares, for which the PUBLIC SQUARE in Dixon will be secured, and every facility afforded for trial to those who desire it.

Sufficient notice has already been received to say that there will be exhibited at the time, several kinds of THRESHING MACHINES & HORSE POWERS, SORGHUM MILLS and EVAPORATORS, ROTARY SPADING MACHINES, HAY PITCHING MACHINES, MOLE DRAINING MACHINES, Drawing in the Tile with the operation. All of which will be carefully examined by the Executive Board, and reported upon according to their merits.

HALF FARE TICKETS. The Illinois Central and Dixon Air Line Railroads, centering at Dixon, will grant HALF FARE Tickets over their whole lines during the week of the trial, to enable all to visit the exhibition and return, who desire to do so.

MACHINES ENTERED. The number of Machines now entered is very large, and will doubtless be much increased. The people at Dixon are fully awake to the importance of the enterprise, and ample accommodations will be provided to make all comfortable who may attend. Any further local information may be obtained by addressing the undersigned at Dixon.

By Order of the Executive Committee, Dixon, June 25, 1862. W. H. VAN EPPS, President.

THE UNIVERSAL Clothes Wringer. It is the Original and only Genuine and Reliable Wringer before the people. It surpasses all others in Strength of Frame! Capacity for Pressure! Power of Action!

WE CHALLENGE THE WORLD! We Defy All Competition! WE WARRANT EACH ONE IN EVERY PARTICULAR! We have the highest testimonials certifying to its great value, both in the saving of labor and materials, as well as its perfect adaptation to the use for which it is intended.

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Drill with 9 teeth, \$20.00; Drill with 12 teeth, \$25.00; Drill with 15 teeth, \$30.00; Drill with Gun Attachment, (9 teeth), \$100.00; Drill with 6 or 7 teeth, for drilling between the rows of standing corn, with one horse, 75.00.

This last will drill within 4 inches of the corn. SEYMOUR'S IMPROVED BROADCAST SOWING MACHINE manufactured and for sale as formerly, and price reduced to \$35. The improved Distributor for both the above machines has just been patented.

Orders for the above machines solicited, and all communications promptly attended to. Address P. C. H. SEYMOUR, East Bloomfield, Ontario Co., N. Y.

INVENTIONS EXAMINED AND OPINIONS on their patentability without charge. Examinations of the Patent Office, &c. Foreign Patents at low rates. Assortment complete. Dealers supplied on liberal terms. 628-31 BATEMAN, HANFORD & CO., Columbus, Ohio.

COLUMBUS NURSERY.—WANTED.—Experienced, energetic and responsible men, to sell Trees, &c., from our Nurseries. Stock large and very fine. Assortment complete. Dealers supplied on liberal terms. 628-31 BATEMAN, HANFORD & CO., Columbus, Ohio.

FIRST CLASS AGENTS WANTED.—To assume agencies and to canvass for a Great National Work on the War for the Union. Endorsed by the PRESIDENT, CABINET, BANCROFT, the Historian, and many Eminent Citizens. Active canvassers are making \$50 to \$75 per week. Address E. F. HOVEY, 13 Spruce St., New York.

FARM FOR SALE.—A desirable improved farm, of Four Hundred Acres, three miles east of the village of Hillsdale, Michigan, bounded by the Michigan and Southern Railroad, is offered for sale, at a low price, and with a credit extending to ten years, if desired, for a large proportion of the purchase money. Will be sold one body or divided into smaller farms, and with or without the stock and farming tools and utensils thereon. Apply to the owner, at Hillsdale, Michigan. [600-21] JOEL McCOLLUM.

FARMS FOR SALE.—BENNETT &



JOSEPH HOPKINSON.

JOSEPH HOPKINSON is a name destined to live forever, as the author of that stirring National Lyric, "Hail Columbia." It was written during the summer of 1783, when there was a prospect of war with France, and our people were much divided by political party questions, growing out of the contest between that country and England.

What a mighty power there is, after all, in a simple song or ballad. It has often more influence than a ponderous volume. This song of Hopkinson's is an extremely simple one. There is no logic in it—no parade of fine words. But when it is sung, it excites in the breast of every patriot a glow of enthusiasm for our Republic, warmer, perhaps, than that of the eloquence of a PATRICK HENRY or a WEBSTER.

JOSEPH HOPKINSON was the son of FRANCIS HOPKINSON, one of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was born in Philadelphia, in 1770, and during his life, which terminated in 1843, he filled various public offices. He has served two terms as a member of Congress, and for many years was Judge of one of the District Courts of Pennsylvania.

HAIL COLUMBIA.

HAIL COLUMBIA! happy land!
Hail ye heroes! heaven-born band!
Who fought and bled in freedom's cause,
Who fought and bled in freedom's cause,
And when the storm of war was gone,
Enjoyed the peace your valor won.
Let Independence be our boast,
Ever mindful what it cost.

Ever grateful for the prize,
Let its altars reach the skies.
Firm—united—let us be,
Rallying round our liberty;
As a band of brothers join'd
Peace and safety we shall find.

Immortal patriot! rise once more;
Defend your rights, defend your shore;
Let no rude foe, with impious hand,
Let no rude foe, with impious hand,
Invade the shrine where sacred lies
Of toil and blood the well-earn'd prize.
While offering peace sincere and just,
In heaven we place a manly trust,
That truth and justice will prevail,
And every scheme of bondage fail.
Firm—united, &c.

Sound, sound the trump of fame!
Let WASHINGTON'S great name
Ring through the world with loud applause,
Ring through the world with loud applause,
Let every clime to freedom dear
Listen with a joyful ear;
With equal skill and God-like power
He govern'd in the fearful hour
Of horrid war; or guided with ease
The happier times of honest peace.
Firm—united, &c.

Behold the chief who now commands,
Once more to serve his country stands—
The rock on which the storm will beat,
The rock on which the storm will beat;
But arm'd in virtue, firm and true,
His hopes are fix'd on heaven and you.
When peace was sinking in dismay,
And gloom obscured Columbia's day,
His steady mind, from changes free,
Resolv'd on death or victory.
Firm—united—set us be,
Rallying round our liberty;
As a band of brothers join'd
Peace and safety we shall find.

The Story-Teller.

THE CHILDREN'S CITIES.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "CHARLES AUCHESTER."

THERE was a certain king who had three sons, and who, loving them all alike, desired to leave them to reign over his kingdom as brothers, and not one above another.

His kingdom consisted of three beautiful cities, divided by valleys covered with flowers and full of grass; but the cities lay so near each other that from the walls of each you could see the walls of the other two. The first city was called the city of Lessonland, the second the city of Confection, and the third the city of Pastime.

The king, feeling himself very old and feeble, sent for the lawyers to write his will for him, that his children might know how he wished them to behave after he was dead. So the lawyers came to the palace and went into the king's bed room, where he lay in his golden bed, and the will was drawn up as he desired.

One day, not long after the will was made, the king's fool was trying to make a boat of a leaf to sail it upon the silver river. And the fool thought the paper on which the will was written would make a better boat,—for he could not read what was written; so he ran to the palace quickly, and knowing where it was laid, he got the will and made a boat of it, and set it sailing upon the river, and away it floated out of sight. And the worst of all was, that the king took such a fright when the will blew away that he could speak no more when the lawyers came back with the golden ink. And he never made another will, but died without telling his sons what he wished them to do.

However, the king's sons, though they had little bodies, because they were princes of the Kingdom of Children, were very good little persons,—at least they had not yet been naughty, and had never quarreled,—so that the child-people loved them almost as well as they loved each other. The child-people were quite pleased that the princes should rule over them; but they did not know how to arrange, because there was no king's will, and by rights the eldest ought to have the whole kingdom. But the eldest, who name was Gentil, called his brothers to him and said:

"I am quite sure, though there is no will, that our royal papa built the three cities that we might each have one to reign over, and not one reign over all. Therefore I will have you both, dear brothers, choose a city to govern over, and I will govern over the city you do not choose."

And his brothers danced for joy; and the people, too, were pleased, for they loved all the three princes. But there were not enough people in the kingdom to fill more than one city quite full. Was not this very odd? Gentil thought so; but, as he could not make out the reason, he said to the child-people:

"I will count you, and divide you into three parts, and each part shall go to one city."

For, before the king had built the cities, the child-people had lived in the green valleys, and slept on beds of flowers.

So Joujou, the second prince, chose the city of Pastime; and Bonbon, the youngest prince, chose the city of Confection; and the city of Lessonland was left for Prince Gentil, who took possession of it directly.

And first let us see how the good Gentil got on in his city. The city of Lessonland was built of books, all books, and only books. The walls were books, set close like bricks, and the bridges over the rivers (which were very blue,) were built of books in arches, and there were books to pave the roads and paths, and the doors of the houses were books, with golden letters on the outside. The palace of Prince Gentil was built of the largest books, all bound in scarlet, and green, and purple, and blue, and yellow. And inside the palace all the loveliest pictures were hung upon the walls, and the handsomest maps; and in his library were all the lesson-books and all the story-books in the world. Directly Gentil began to reign, he said to himself:

"What are all these books for? They must mean that we are to learn, and to become very clever, in order to be good. I wish to be very clever, and to make my people so; so I must set them a good example."

And he called all his child-people together, who would do anything for the love of him, and he said: "If we mean to be of any use in the world, we must learn, learn, learn, and read, read, read, and always be doing lessons."

And they said they would, to please him; and they all gathered together in the palace council-chamber, and Gentil set them tasks, the same as he set himself, and they all went home to learn them, while he learned his in the palace.

Now let us see how Joujou is getting on. He was a good prince, Joujou,—oh, so fond of fun! as you may believe, from his choosing the city of Pastime. Oh, that city of Pastime! how unlike the city of dear, dull Lessonland! The walls of the city of Pastime were beautiful toy-brick, painted all the colors of the rainbow; and the streets of the city were filled with carriages just big enough for child-people to drive in, and little gigs, and music-carts, and post-chaises, that ran along by clock-work, and such rocking-horses! And there was not to be found a book in the whole city, but the houses were crammed with toys from the top to the bottom,—tops, hoops, balls, battle-doors, bows and arrows, guns, peep-shows, drums and trumpets, marbles, ninepins, tumblers, kites, and hundreds upon hundreds more, for there you found every toy that ever was made in the world, besides thousands of large wax dolls, all in different court dresses. And directly Joujou began to reign, he said to himself:

"What are all these toys for? They must mean that we are to play always, that we may be always happy. I wish to be very happy, and that my people should be happy always. Won't I set them an example?"

And Joujou blew a penny trumpet, and got on the back of the largest rocking-horse and rocked with all his might, and cried:

"Child-people, you are to play always, for in all the city of Pastime you see nothing else but toys!"

The child-people did not wait long; some jumped on rocking-horses, some drove off in carriages, and some in gigs and music-carts. And organs were played, and bells rang, and shuttlecocks and

kites flew up the blue sky, and there was laughter, laughter, in all the streets of Pastime.

And now for little Bonbon, how is he getting on? He was a dear little fat fellow,—but, oh, so fond of sweets! as you may believe, from his choosing the city of Confection. And there were no books in Confection, and no toys; but the walls were built of gingerbread, and the houses were built of gingerbread, and the bridges of barley-sugar, that glittered in the sun. And rivers ran with wine through the streets, sweet wine, such as child-people love; and Christmas trees grew along the banks of the rivers, with candy, and almonds, and golden nuts on the branches; and in every house the tables were made of sweet brown chocolate, and there was great plum cakes on the tables, and little cakes, and all sorts of cakes. And when Bonbon began to reign, he did not think much about it, but began to eat directly, and called out, with his mouth full:

"Child-people, eat always! for in all the city of Confection there is nothing but cakes and sweets!"

And did not the child-people fall to and eat directly, and eat on, and eat always? Now by this time what has happened to Gentil?—for we left him in the city of Lessonland. All the first day he learned the lessons he had set himself, and the people learned theirs too, and they all came to Gentil in the evening to say them to the Prince. But by the time Gentil had heard all the lessons, he was very, very tired,—so tired that he tumbled asleep on the throne; and when the child-people saw their prince was asleep, they thought they might as well go to sleep too. And when Gentil awoke the next morning, behold! there were all his people asleep on the floor. And he looked at his watch and found it was very late, and he woke up the people, crying, with a very loud voice:

"It is very late, good people!"

And the people jumped up and rubbed their eyes, and cried:

"We have been learning always, and we can no longer see to read,—the letters dance before our eyes!"

And all the child-people groaned and cried very bitterly behind their books. Then Gentil said:

"I will read to you, my people, and that will rest your eyes."

And he read them a delightful story about animals; but when he stopped to show them a picture of a lion, the people were all asleep. Then Gentil grew angry, and cried in a loud voice:

"Wake up, idle people, and listen!"

But when the people woke up, they were stupid, and sat like cats and dunks. So Gentil put the book away, and sent them home, giving them each a long task for their rudeness. The child-people went away; but, as they found only books out-of-doors, and only books at home, they went to sleep without learning their tasks. And all the fifth day they slept. But on the sixth day Gentil went out to see what they were doing; and they began to throw their books about, and a book knocked Prince Gentil on the head, and hurt him so much that he was obliged to go to bed. And while he was in bed, the people began to fight, and to throw the books at one another.

Now, as for Joujou and his people, they began to play, and went on playing, and did nothing else but play. And would you believe it?—they got tired too. The first day and the second day nobody thought he ever could be tired among the rocking-horses, and whips, and marbles, and kites, and dolls, and carriages. But the third day everybody wanted to ride at once, and the carriages were so full that they broke down, and the rocking-horses rocked over, and wounded some little men; and the little women snatched their dolls from one another, and the dolls were broken. And on the fourth day the Prince Joujou cut a hole in the very largest drum, and made the drummer angry; and the drummer threw a drumstick at Joujou, and Prince Joujou told the drummer he should go to prison. Then the drummer got on the top of the painted wall and shot arrows at the Prince, which did not hurt him much, because they were toy-arrows, but which made Joujou very much afraid, for he did not wish his people to hate him.

"What do you want?" he cried to the drummer. "Tell me what I can do to please you. Shall we play at marbles, or balls, or knock down the golden ninepins? Or shall we have Punch and Judy in the court of the palace?"

"Yes! yes!" cried the people, and the drummer jumped down from the wall. "Yes! yes! Punch and Judy! We are tired of marbles, and balls, and ninepins. But we shan't be tired of Punch and Judy!"

So the people gathered together in the court of the palace, and saw Punch and Judy over and over again, all day long on the fifth day. And they had it so often that, when the sixth day came, they pulled down the stage, and broke Punch to pieces, and burned Judy, and screamed out that they were so hungry they did not know what to do. And the drummer called out:

"Let us eat Prince Joujou!"

But the people loved him still; so they answered: "No! but we will go out of the city and invade the city of Confection, and fight them, if they won't give us anything to eat!"

So out they went, with Joujou at their head; for Joujou, too, was dreadfully hungry. And they crossed the green valley to the city of Confection, and began to try and eat the gingerbread walls. But the gingerbread was hard, because the walls had been built in ancient days; and the people tried to get on the top of the walls, and when they had eaten a few holes in the gingerbread, they climbed up by them to the top. And there they saw a dreadful sight. All the people had eaten so much that they were ill, or else so fat that they could not move. And the people were lying about in the streets, and by the side of the rivers of sweet wine, but, oh, so sick that they could eat no more! And Prince Bonbon, who had got into the largest Christmas tree, had eaten all the candy upon it, and grown so fat that he could not move, but stuck up there among the branches. When the people of Pastime got upon the walls, however, the people of Confection were very angry; and one or two of those who could eat the most, and who still kept on eating while they were sick, threw apples and cakes at the people of Pastime, and shot Joujou with sugar-plums, which he picked up and ate, while his people were eating down the plum cakes and drinking the wine till they were tipsy.

As soon as Gentil heard what a dreadful noise his people were making, he got up, though he still felt poorly, and went out into the streets. The people were fighting, alas! worse than ever; and they were trying to pull down the strong book walls, that they might get out of the city. A good many of them were wounded in the head, as well as Prince Gentil, by the heavy books falling upon them; and Gentil was very sorry for the people.

"If you want to go out, good people," he said, "I will open the gates and go with you; but do not pull down the book walls."

And they obeyed Gentil, because they loved him, and Gentil led them out of the city. When they had crossed the first green valley, they found the city of Pastime empty—not a creature in it!—and broken toys in the streets. At sight of the toys, the poor book-people cried for joy, and wanted to stop and play. So Gentil left them in the city, and went on alone across the next green valley. But the city of Confection was crammed so full with sick child-people belonging to Bonbon, and with Joujou's hungry ones, that Gentil could not get in at the gate. So he wandered about in the green valleys, very unhappy, until he came to his old father's palace. There he found the fool, sitting on the banks of the river.

"O, fool," said Gentil, "I wish I knew what my father meant us to do!"

And the fool tried to comfort Gentil; and they walked together by the river where the fool had made the boat of the will without knowing what it was. They walked a long way, Gentil crying and the fool trying to comfort him, when suddenly the fool saw the boat he had made lying among some green rushes. And the fool ran to fetch it, and brought it to show Gentil. And Gentil saw some writing on the boat, and knew it was his father's writing. Then Gentil was glad indeed; he unfolded the paper, and thereon he read these words,—for a good king's words are not washed away by water:

"My will and pleasure is, that my dearly beloved sons, Prince Gentil, Prince Joujou, and Prince Bonbon, should all reign together over the three cities which I have built. But there are only enough child-people to fill one city; for I know that the child-people cannot live always in one city. Therefore let the three princes, with Gentil, the eldest, wearing the crown, lead all the child-people to the city of Lessonland in the morning, that the bright sun may shine upon their lessons and make them pleasant; and Gentil to set the tasks. And in the afternoon let the three princes, with Joujou wearing the crown, lead all the child-people to the city of Pastime, to play until the evening; and Joujou to lead the games. And in the evening let the three princes, with Bonbon wearing the crown, lead all the child-people to the city of Confection, to drink sweet wine and pluck fruit off the Christmas trees until time for bed; and little Bonbon to cut the cake. And at time for bed let the child-people go forth into the green valleys and sleep upon the beds of flowers; for in Child Country it is always spring."

This was the king's will, found at last; and Gentil, whose great long lessons had made him wise, (though they had tired him, too,) thought the will the cleverest that was ever made. And he hastened to the city of Confection, and knocked at the gate till they opened it; and he found all the people sick by this time, and very pleased to see him, for they thought him very wise. And Gentil read the will in a loud voice, and the people clapped their hands and began to get better directly, and Bonbon called to them to lift him down out of the tree where he had stuck, and Joujou danced for joy.

So the king's will was obeyed. And in the morning the people learned their lessons, and afterward they played, and afterward they enjoyed their feasts. And at bed-time they slept upon the beds of flowers in the green valleys; for in Child Country it is always spring.—Atlantic Monthly.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 24 letters.
My 1, 6, 6, 19, 22 is a girl's name.
My 2, 22, 6, 10, 4, 23 is a county in North Carolina.
My 3, 22, 7, 6, 15, 23, 12 is a man's name.
My 4, 6, 12, 19, 15, 6, 1 is a county in Pennsylvania.
My 5, 4, 9, 6, 24 is what we should not believe in.
My 6, 10 is often a hard word to say in the right place.
My 7, 23, 1, 6, 9, 22 is a county in Virginia.
My 8, 23, 23, 23, 7, 23 signifies fright.
My 9, 23, 15, 6, 13 is a distinguished U. S. general.
My 10, 23, 22, 17, 7, 6 is one of the United States.
My 11, 7, 4, 23, 22 is a river in France.
My 12, 22, 22, 23 is a wild animal.
My 13, 22, 15, 24, 4, 6, 17 is what some persons delight in.
My 14, 3, 8, 13, 19, 22, 22 is a girl's name.
My 15, 6, 12, 22, 23, 5, 10, 6 is a distinguished United States officer.
My 16, 1, 8, 6, 15, 3, 18 is a county in Georgia.
My 17, 23, 22, 6, 6, 22 was a general in the Revolution.
My 18, 15, 6, 24, 4, 6, 17 is the capital of one of the United States.
My 19, 10, 6, 22 is a girl's name.
My 20, 4, 10, 17, 15 is a county in New York.
My 21, 23, 22, 6, 13, 7, 6 is a city in New Jersey.
My 22, 23, 4, 22 is a lake in America.
My 23, 7, 5, 22 is a beautiful flower.
My 24, 22, 4, 6, 22 is a river in France.
My whole is a true saying.
Spencer, Tioga Co., N. Y., 1862. MARY.
Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 19 letters.
My 8, 2, 7, 12 is a city in Maine.
My 15, 16, 19, 18, 2, 4, 7 is a county in Georgia.
My 11, 17, 8, 5 is a desert in Asia.
My 18, 6, 15, 9, 3 is a river in Germany.
My 7, 13, 18, 2, 15, 12 is a bay in Great Britain.
My 15, 17, 14, 2, 16, 2 is a mountain in South America.
My 8, 10, 2, 14 is a river in one of the Territories.
My whole is a distinguished writer of the present day.
Hastings, Mich., 1862. C. T. B.
Answer in two weeks.

POETICAL ENIGMA.

A GENTLEMAN two daughters had,
And both were very fair,
A purse of money, 'twas in gold,
Between them he did share.
Their shares just eighty thousand make,
When squared together;
Their squares two thousand are,
When added to each other.
The elder says she'll give her hand
To him who can declare
What was the sum her father gave,
And likewise each one's share.
Answer in two weeks.

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

If, in heating a cannon ball, its diameter increases uniformly at the rate of one-tenth of an inch per second, at what rate is the solidity increasing the moment the diameter becomes ten inches?
Westfield Academy, N. Y., 1862. J. C. L.
Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 649.

Answer to Geographical Enigma:—Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing.
Answer to Charade:—Wind-lass.
Answer to Algebraical Problem:—5 and 9 years of age.

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[From the New York Daily World, Feb. 15, 1862.]
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[From the New York Daily Times.]
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