



er in the ground or to you clothing, the burdock, (Lappa major, GARTN.) which is keeping pace with all other progressive things...

There is one other noxious weed I will claim space to mention, because it has been recommended by some queer people because of the intrinsic value of its fruit for pies!

It is not generally known by new settlers in the West, that there is a great difference in the value of the wild prairie hay of the sloughs and that cut upon the uplands.

If the bottoms contain a large proportion of blue joint and red top, it is of course more valuable; but the red top is not always found in the sloughs, unless it has been sown there.

WHAT INCREASES THE PRODUCTIVENESS OF OUR FIELDS.

1. CAREFUL preparation of the ground. Draining when the soil is wet. Deep and careful plowing. The plowing of the Arabs in Palestine is not much better than our harrowing, and their crops are in proportion.

2. Careful selection of seed. Poor seed, as a general rule, produces its like. A little pains in the selection of the best seed, will often add materially to the amount of the produce.

3. Careful tillage. Hoeing, plowing, cultivating, all aid in the productiveness of the soil. "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread."

4. Again, the amount of rain and heat from heaven has much to do with the productiveness of the ground. A cold and frosty season, or a wet and damp one, may take away much from the natural fruitfulness of the ground; or where the heat is abundant and the rain plenty, and all things favorable, they will sometimes add greatly to the yield of harvests.

5. He that created the earth has a specific object for it to accomplish. Nothing was made in vain, or to be abused or misused. An all-wise God has a design for every thing to accomplish. If men work in harmony with that design, they can of course produce larger results than if they work against it.

For several years past, in the fall of the year, when my barn has been full of hay, straw, &c., one or more of the "varmin'ts" have taken possession of the bay, where they have staid all winter, or until the bay became emptied of its contents, when they have retreated in "good order" to some neighboring field, there to quietly wait until the barn was refilled, when they have returned to take undisturbed possession of their old quarters.

ence and the kingdom of heaven first, then we may expect the blessing of heaven to abound in our harvests as well as in our hearts.

Here, then, are five things to be attended to by farmers and others, in connection with their labors in the field.

EASTERN NEBRASKA - PRODUCTS, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—As we now have a Homestead bill, granting land to the landless, a brief description of this section of the wild West may be of interest to some of your readers.

The soil here is of the best quality—producing, under a good state of cultivation, and in a favorable season, from twenty to thirty bushels of wheat, and fifty to seventy-five bushels of corn per acre.

I see nothing to render the country otherwise than healthy, excepting, perhaps, along the river bottoms, where the ague may find a foothold.

It is thought that this will prove to be an excellent fruit country, if sufficient care is taken in protecting orchards by planting groves around them.

There was a good peach crop here last year, and there is a fine prospect for a crop this season.

Nebraska City, on the Missouri river, a town of about three thousand inhabitants, affords perhaps the best market in the Territory.

But a home in the West is not found without some privations and disadvantages; and he who has a comfortable habitation of his own in the East, with no other attraction to the West than to increase his wealth, had better be contented to remain in the enjoyment of his old possessions than that he may have spent long years in rendering comfortable and attractive.

Nebraska City, N. T., 1862. W. B. STONZ.

HOW TO HEAD THE SKUNKS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In the RURAL of the 5th inst. there is an extract from the American Agriculturist, showing up the beauties and usefulness of that nocturnal visitor the skunk.

My plan for a self-fastening door-catch, says a correspondent of the American Agriculturist, I will give you, which is cheap and not liable to get out of order.

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For several years past, in the fall of the year, when my barn has been full of hay, straw, &c., one or more of the "varmin'ts" have taken possession of the bay, where they have staid all winter, or until the bay became emptied of its contents, when they have retreated in "good order" to some neighboring field, there to quietly wait until the barn was refilled, when they have returned to take undisturbed possession of their old quarters.

THE Maine Farmer says "it is quite common to breed from young sows, say fall pigs, to come in with a litter of pigs when one year old, a practice to be utterly condemned, and if continued in the same family for a few generations of the swine, they will be found to dwindle down from three or four hundred hogs to two or three hundred.

Finally, feeling as an eminent statesman is reputed to have said, that "our sufferings are intolerable," I firmly resolved that no more skunks should ever again winter around my buildings.

From a prize essay upon this topic in the American Agriculturist, we clip the following paragraph: Cut wheat as soon as the straw presents a golden appearance below the head to the first joint.

Thus much for protection against skunks; and it is my opinion that should his skunkship ever again undertake to invade the "sacred soil" of my barn bay, he will find his nasal organ and claws will be very much shortened before he gets safely ensconced in his old home.

Coldwater, Mich., July, 1862.

THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE.

[From the New York Argus.] We have diligently and conscientiously labored to obtain, in behalf of the farmers of the United States, some information respecting the Commissioner placed at the head of the new Agricultural Department of the Government, and at last our efforts have been attended with some degree of success.

So far as Mr. Newton's qualifications appear from the communication below, they are of a practical character and creditable to him. To know good butter, and especially to know how to make it, is an accomplishment of no small value.

This is a subject upon which the President has no right to trifle with the interests and feelings of the great body of farmers throughout the country. Possibly his appointee is "the right man in the right place," but thus far the fact has not been demonstrated.

It appears probable, a mistake has been made by the appointing power, either through a lack of acquaintance with Mr. Newton's qualifications, or a failure to apprehend the standard of fitness which the people will insist upon, the President should lose no time in repairing the error in the only mode left open to him.

WHO IS ISAAC NEWTON?

This inquiry, copied into your valuable journal from the RURAL NEW-YORKER, has set on foot much investigation. I will contribute my mite to the general stock of knowledge to be obtained, in respect to the man who has so suddenly been elevated to be Government Chief among farmers.

Whether Mr. Newton is fitted for the very onerous and novel duties of the post to which the partiality of the President has assigned him, others can judge better than the writer of this. It does not, however, require much intelligence to perceive that the Superintendent of the Agricultural Bureau of the United States should at least be the equal in learning and agricultural experience to the majority of the intelligent farmers of the land.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Self-Fastening Door-Catch.

My plan for a self-fastening door-catch, says a correspondent of the American Agriculturist, I will give you, which is cheap and not liable to get out of order.

Breeding from Young Sows.

THE Maine Farmer says "it is quite common to breed from young sows, say fall pigs, to come in with a litter of pigs when one year old, a practice to be utterly condemned, and if continued in the same family for a few generations of the swine, they will be found to dwindle down from three or four hundred hogs to two or three hundred.

Harvesting Wheat.

From a prize essay upon this topic in the American Agriculturist, we clip the following paragraph: Cut wheat as soon as the straw presents a golden appearance below the head to the first joint.

for seed, which will save the expense of transportation, and will command fifty cents more per bushel than an ordinary article, and in proof of the above theory I will give you the result of two fields treated as I have prescribed.

A Chapter about Ditching. JOHN POSTER, of Cumberland, Guernsey Co., Ohio, one of the best farmers in the Union, has sent to the Ohio Farmer a chapter from his experience in ditching.

I have on my farm two creeks, which at one time ran zig-zag, nearly all over two hundred acres of my best bottom land, thus rendering useless twenty-six acres.

THE MONEY GAIN. Twenty-three acres at \$60, .. \$1,380

But this is only part of my gain; for I raised, on sixty acres of the bottom land, which, before ditching, could only be plowed in patches, sixty bushels of corn to the acre, in 1853, which brought me, in cash, \$720; besides \$100 worth of pumpkins, and \$60 in pasture—in all, \$880.

I have, from time to time, widened and deepened the creek drains, with spade and plow, and they are now, by the help of the floods, eight to ten feet deep, and twenty-four feet wide, and rarely overflow.

Cultivation of Winter Wheat.

FROM a prize essay in the American Agriculturist, on this topic, we select the following paragraphs: Wheat, one of the greatest staples of the country, if rightly managed, may be made one of the most profitable of our cereals, upon almost any soil.

Selection of Seed.—Select none but the best seed of bearded wheat. The white chaff is preferable, it being worth some ten cents more per bushel in Eastern markets.

Preparation of Ground, Seeding, &c.—The ground, if rich and strong enough, may be sown after peas, otherwise, after summer fallow. In either case, manure on the surface, and plow or drag in with the wheat.

Have the ground well pulverized for sowing; it is useless to sow on lumpy and badly prepared soil. In case there is no manure to be had, cover the surface immediately after sowing and before the wheat starts, with a light layer of straw; the wheat in a short time will come through, and prevent it from blowing off.

GRAIN TRADE OF THE NORTH-WEST.

Table with columns for Grain, Chicago bushels, Milwaukee bushels. Includes Wheat and flour, Corn, Rye, Oats, Barley.

Table showing receipts of four and eight in Chicago during the first six months of the past four years. Columns for Year, Bushels.

The receipts of wheat (and flour reduced) at Milwaukee and Chicago alone, have been over 15,000,000 bushels;

MORE GOOD DRAINING TILE.—The tile makers are waking up improving every day. The enterprise and competition among inventors and makers of tile machines, and manufacturers of tile, will soon accomplish two long-sought desiderata—produce a superior article, and furnish it at a reasonable price.

A GOOD WOOL CLIP.—Mr. C. L. HAYDEN, of Wyoming, N. Y., has a flock of 244 Spanish Merino sheep from which he has this season sheared 1,924 1/2 lbs. of wool—all the sheep being well washed except the first seventeen enumerated below.

THE RURAL IN THE BORDER STATES.—During the past few weeks we have received many gratifying letters and remittances from the Border States, especially from Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri.

Inquiries and Answers.

THE TURKEYS IN TROUBLE.—Will some of the numerous readers of the RURAL give through its columns a remedy for a disease which is quite prevalent among young turkeys in this vicinity? It seems to be contagious, as it never subsides when it gets in a brood until all are killed by it.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE SEASON AND CROPS.—Since our last report, we yet had considerable wet weather in Western New York—yet, though more than desired, no material damage has thus far ensued.

USE MORE LABOR-SAVING MACHINERY, &c.—The Farm Implements, Machines, &c., &c., advertised in this and recent numbers of the RURAL, are generally first class, and most attract the notice and patronage of cultivators over a wide extent of country.

THE WOOL MARKET.—As will be seen by our quotations, and reports from other sections, the Wool Market is still firm, and prices advancing. Thus far prices have advanced more rapidly than we predicted, or could expect, before the market opened.

THE CLOSING SALE OF JONAS WEBB'S SOUTH-DOWN FLOCK, which took place at Babraham, on the 18th ult., was attended by President CORNELL and Secretary JOHNSON, of the N. Y. State Ag. Society, and several other Americans now in England.

The largest amount ever realized for a sale stock by one individual, I believe, to be found on record.

THE RECIPES OF WHEAT (AND FLOUR REDUCED) AT MILWAUKEE and Chicago alone, have been over 15,000,000 bushels; and the Tribune estimates that to take those of Racine, Kenosha, Wauegan, &c., the total for Lakes Michigan ports would reach 20,000,000 bushels.

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Ladies' Department.

AFTER ALL.

The apples are ripe in the orchard,
The work of the reaper is done,
And the golden woodlands redden
In the bloom of the dying sun.

WORKING FOR WAGES.

I'd been trying to learn Grecian painting for
three days, but just as I would attempt some ex-
quisite shade upon feature or landscape, BRIDGET,

"My head aches, and has for a week," said
HARRY; "you magnetize me, or something;" and
so, after a fashion of my own, I nearly succeeded

To be honest, I never liked to have him refer to
SUSAN, because she was so much more of a manager
than I, had more executive ability than a dozen

Finally, HARRY hinted that we must in some
way curtail our expenses or increase our income.
"If I could only earn something," said I, looking

I went back to the sitting-room, and repeated
BIDDY's story with all the dramatic power I was
mistress of. HARRY asked the same question I had

I went back to the sitting-room, and repeated
BIDDY's story with all the dramatic power I was
mistress of. HARRY asked the same question I had

notice his allusion to my large hands. "Certainly,
set just as nice a table as you like out of it, and
some time when you're not trading very heavily,

"Come, wife and children, let's be gay."
"Like as not we'll have enough left to buy a little
farm with," he added, by way of conclusion.

Two months had hurried away since I was in-
stalled maid-of-all-work and since PETER and BIDDY
"went to the prairie's and thin to his sister's over

"ENLARGING THEIR SPHERE."

WOMEN, mothers even, talk of enlarging their
sphere. And how, we ask, by any possibility, can
it be enlarged? They may step out of it into

LOVE.

A single glance did it. When the mine is charged,
when the pile is prepared, nothing is more simple.
A glance is a spark. It was all over. Marius loved a

SINGING BY YOUNG WOMEN.

It was the opinion of Dr. Rush, that singing by
young ladies, whom the customs of society debar
from many other kinds of salutary exercise, ought

The institution nearest to the heart of society is
the family. The most important office in society is
the parental office. The sphere of each family is

Watch against irritation, positiveness, unkind
speaking and anger; study and promote love.

Choice Miscellany.

THE MIND.

BY CHARLES M. DICKINSON.

WHEN Flora lays her fragrant gift
Upon the verdant breast of spring,
The vines their slender tendrils lift,

And thus the mind whose shoots in youth,
If trained with care and led aright,
Will clamber up the cords of Truth,

And thus the mind when reason bright
First pierces through this mortal cloud,
And tearing off the shroud of night,

Its mortal house may waste away
'Neath the corroding dust of years,
And slow the light of life decay,

Lowville Academy, N. Y., 1862.

THE DISADVANTAGES OF READING.

It is a common practice with parents and teachers
to hold up the examples of great men to the admiration
of the young, and say, Walk in their path and

A great reader seldom makes a great writer. It
could hardly be expected. For, as soon as he
attempts to express his thoughts upon any subject,

We find, also, that a personal knowledge of things
is necessary to the writer, and this the mere book-
worm cannot have. Here, again, I might quote

Again, excessive reading is to be deplored, from
the fact that it cultivates the mind at the expense of
the body. It is well to remember, also, that when-

H. M. FRENCH.

WHO IS OLD.

A WISE man will never rust out. As long as he
can move and breathe he will do something for him-
self, his neighbor, or posterity. Almost at the last

We can in no way assimilate ourselves so much
with the benign disposition of the Creator of all, as
by contributing to the health, comfort, and happi-

FRAGMENTS.

THE shadow of death is not the darkest that is in
the world—not the darkest that falls on the loves
and hopes of human hearts. It may take from us

There are times when we are haunted by mourn-
ful fancies, and troubled by a restlessness that seems
to have no cause, to come through no sorrow, yet

Only God and our guardian angels know how
many hearts have fainting in vain longings and
aspirations; how many feet have walked unsteadily

It is no light thing to sacrifice all that one has
dreamed of, or hoped to be, to the fulfillment of
humble or uncongenial duties; yet such a sacrifice

We may all know how and where it is right for us
to go; and no effort is too strong, no ambition too
far-reaching, in a cause that is right for us to

Be sure before you are steadfast; God's ways
are the right ways, however humble, and for you
who walk them; on their thorns of trial and tribula-

"Plant ye your feet as on a stair,
And mount right up and on."

BULL RUN VINDICATED.

HARD as the case may now seem to be, I have no
doubt that a fair record of "Bull Run" will show
courage as dauntless, heroism as invincible, patriot-

We over-do, or we under-do, like a bad oven
baking bread. Historical heroes have the benefit
of forgetfulness of some points, amplification and en-

Those who undertook the Atlantic Telegraph,
found that their sorrow that though the electric cur-
rent could travel far, its force was weakened by

BEECHER ON NEWSPAPERS.—The Rev. Henry
Ward Beecher, in the course of a sermon delivered
in Plymouth church last week, thus spoke of news-

WAR is all very well in its place and time, but
usually it is better to deal with the sword than the
gun-barrel, to drive the cart than the cartidge, to

Sabbath Musings.

MAN'S WORK SHALL FOLLOW HIM.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

We shape ourselves the joy or fear
Of which the coming life is made,
And all our future's atmosphere

The tissue of the life to be
We weave with colors all our own,
And in the field of Destiny

Still shall the soul around it call
The shadows which it gathered here,
And, painted on the eternal wall,

For there we live our life again—
Or warmly touched, or coldly dim,
The pictures of the past remain:

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

THERE is a dear dead one in the house. One
about whom the tendrils of our affections fondly
twined, has been suddenly, rudely torn from us,

"Dead!" What word is sadder? Yet there are
few words that are more frequently uttered. It
thrills the heart with painful sensations—brings to

"Dead!" Soon shall it be spoken of all the liv-
ing. What is man, with all his pride and boasted
powers, when he stands in the presence of the

"Dead!" say we of the loved? Nay, not dead,
but gone. We know not yet the full import of that
word which sounds a death-knell over the heart's

A. T. E. C.

THE PLENTIFUL HARVEST.

MULTITUDES to be instructed, and few to instruct
them; a world lying in wickedness, sleeping the
sleep of spiritual death, and only here and there one

AGES have rolled away; the faith once delivered
to the saints has been heard in many lands, and
established in the hearts of many races. As the

THE FAMILY AND REVIVALS.—Many persons
are forever running around for revivals, careless
of home, neglectful of children, and seeking their

CHRISTIANITY.—Pure christianity never was, and
never can be, the national religion of any country
upon earth. It is a gold too refined to be worked







SHINE, SUN OF THE SUMMER.

BY AMANDA T. JONES.

SHINE, sun of the summer! bloom, roses of June; Bring joy to the senses and health to the brain; Our ears ache with news from each Southern lagoon, Our hearts ache with news from the fields of the slain. Bring us balm for the pain.

The Story-Teller.

WOUNDED.

"Six hundred and forty-three wounded!" "If that were all!" My wife spoke in a sad voice. "If that were all!" "The return is given as complete," I said, referring again to the newspaper which I held in my hand. "One hundred and forty-one killed, and six hundred and forty-three wounded."

It was nearly two months before Harley was sufficiently recovered to be removed from the hospital. His wife had been permitted to see him every day, and to remain in attendance on him for a greater part of the time. "Did you know that Mr. Harley and his wife were at home?" said I, on coming in one day.

THE DARK SIDE.

BY VIRGINIA F. TOWNSEND.

It was strange what a "faculty" that woman, Mrs. Rufus Mitchell, had for looking on the dark side of things. She managed to find it everywhere. The fairest May morning that ever rose out of the night, with its great pink and white vases of apple blossoms, with its golden wisp of sunlight, and its singing birds filling the new air with their praises, had always a "little chill in the air, a little dampness under foot, or a small black cloud in the east that promised rain," to the vision of Mrs. Rufus Mitchell.

Wit and Humor.

WAR WIT.

COULDN'T SUPPORT IT.—A chap in Virginia was taken prisoner by the rebels, who demanded that he should take the oath to support the Confederate Government. The fellow said he had taken a great many big oaths in his day, but he could not even support his own family, and to swear to support the Confederate Government was taller swearing than he dare do.

Corner for the Young.

FOR MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER. MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 74 letters. My 9, 8, 1, 9, 19, 23, 71, 69 is a specimen of the fair sex I have strong objections to. My 15, 65, 25, 61, 72, 43 I am averse to wearing.

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

THERE are three numbers in arithmetical progression, such that the product of the first by the third is equal to the square of the second, minus one-half of the third; and four times the quotient arising from dividing the third by the common difference, is equal to the first. What are the numbers? G. H. HOLLIS.

CHARADE.

MY first is irrational; my second rational; my third is mechanical; and my whole is scientific. KINGSTON, N. Y., 1862. WM. E. VANTEUREN.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 652.

ANSWER to Geographical Enigma:—Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God. ANSWER to Miscellaneous Enigma:—A wicked messenger falleth into mischief.

To Business Men.

THE BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM of its class, is MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER, the leading and largest circulated Agricultural, Business and Family Newspaper in America.

Advertisements.

TO BUILDERS AND FARMERS.

The Rochester Brick and Tile Manufacturing Company are now prepared to meet all demands of either Builders or Farmers wanting Brick or Tile. Pipe Tile of all sizes from two to six inches and Horse Shoe from two to ten inches.

SHOW AND SALE.

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, 1862, at my residence, 2 1/2 miles from Holmdel, Monmouth Co., N. J.

6,000 SIX THOUSAND 6,000 ACRES.

Most Desirable Farming Lands in Illinois, at \$10, \$15, and \$18 PER ACRE.

AMERICAN HOUSE, BOSTON.

Is the largest and best arranged Hotel in the New England States; is centrally located, and easy of access from all the routes of travel.

SQUIERS' PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.

MR. G. W. SQUIERS, a Daguerreotypist and Photographer of sixteen years experience, formerly of New York, would respectfully inform his friends, and the public generally, that he has purchased the well-known PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY, located as above, where he promises to furnish all kinds of Pictures known in the art, as good as the best and at fair prices.

FOR SALE.

ONE OF THE BEST FARMS IN WESTERN NEW YORK. The Subscribers, assignees of GEO. BROWN, offer for sale A FARM OF 205 ACRES.

ONE OF THE MOST DESIRABLE FARMS.

Ever offered for sale. Said Farm will be sold at a bargain. Possession given at any time, a part of the purchase money can remain on the Farm. Also, with or without the Farm.

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, SEEDS, FRUITS, &c.

M. J. MONROE, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCER AND COMMISSION MERCHANT, 90 Buffalo Street, Rochester, N. Y.

A NEW AND IMPORTANT INVENTION.

BY DOUGLAS BLY, M. D. BY frequent dissections Dr. Bly has succeeded in embodying the principles of the natural leg in an artificial one, and in giving it lateral, or side motion, at the ankle, the same as the natural one.

ROCHESTER CITY SCALE WORKS.

E. A. FORSYTH & Co. keep constantly on hand a large assortment of Hay, Cattle, Grain, Platform and Counter Scales, which will sell at greatly reduced prices.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY WEEKLY, IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

TERMS IN ADVANCE.

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.—To Clubs and Agents as follows:—Three Dollars One Year, for \$5; Six, and one free to club agent; Twenty, and one free, for \$25; and any greater number at same rate.—and one free for \$25; and any greater number at same rate.

THE LEGAL RATE OF POSTAGE ON THE RURAL NEW-YORKER.

IS ONLY 35 CENTS PER QUARTER TO ANY PART OF THIS STATE, (except Monroe county, where it goes free), and 65 cents to any other State or Territory, if paid quarterly in advance at the post-office where received.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Subscribers wishing the address of their papers changed from one Post-Office to another, must specify the old address as well as the new to secure compliance.