

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

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"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
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RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.
CONDUCTED BY 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 zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal, rendering it the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

GOOD AND BAD CROPS.

It is the wise man that sees the end from the beginning—that from the means used can judge pretty certainly what will be the result. In passing through the country, among the growing and rapidly maturing crops, no one can fail to observe the great difference in the yield of the same crops in different fields, ranging from one-third to one-half, and even more. It makes a vast difference in the receipts, whether a field of wheat yields ten or twenty bushels to the acre, or potatoes one or two hundred bushels, or whether one or two tons of hay are cut to the acre; and unless there is a very great saving in the cost of culture in favor of the lesser yield, he who produces it does so at a much less profit than that obtained by the other. Indeed, one would be apt to judge that unless the profit on the large crop is very great, the small one must be made at an actual loss. This difference is always to be observed, no matter what may be the character of the season, or the average yield; and it may be well to observe that vegetable growth depends so much upon circumstances often beyond man's control, that we cannot expect the uniformity of result generally to be reached in mechanical and manufacturing operations. As a general rule, however, success in farming, as in other things, is the result of well-directed effort. In any department of industry, extra care is always well repaid; but in farming this care always pays a greater proportionate benefit. It requires a great deal of labor and expense to produce a poor crop. There is the same expense, or nearly so, in each case, for plowing, seed-sowing, or planting; the same interest on the value of the land, wear and tear of implements, &c.; and if all these expenses have to be paid out of a small yield, the portion left to the farmer for his profit is small indeed. Now, after enough has been done to give a crop that will pay expenses, every additional bushel adds largely to the profits. When the farmer has done so much, let him remember that every particle of manure applied, all extra attention given the crops, adds directly to the product, and consequently to his own gains, and it is for his labor. In fact, having done so much, he is constrained to do still more, in order that it may not be labor lost. If you have plowed thoroughly, you receive no compensation for this labor, unless you manure; and plowing and manuring are both lost labor, unless good seed is sown in the proper season, and in the best manner; and plowing and manuring and seeding all goes for nothing, unless the crop, when it comes up, receives the care it requires for its perfection. In fact, every stage requires an additional investment, and makes it more necessary that everything should be done well, for there is more at stake.

Harvesting is the last act, and here there is necessity for promptness. No country in the world is more favored with good weather for gathering the crops than our own; and yet we sometimes see a great part of the profits of a season destroyed by want of a little promptness and thoroughness at last. Who can tell how much our grass crop is depreciated every year in value by being allowed to stand so long that much of the sugar and starch becomes a tough, woody fiber? Our seasons are singular in this respect; haying and harvest crowd each other, and it is not often easy to decide whether the grass or grain should first be secured. Almost every season hundreds of bushels of potatoes are wasted, and some seasons thousands are injured in Western New York, because they are dug a week or so too late, and after sharp frosts; while the labor of digging and sorting is much increased. Corn, too, is often injured by being left stacked in the fields through the latter part of fall, and even into winter, while costing more time and labor to husk and secure than if done at the right time. It never costs more, and generally less, to harvest a crop at the right time than it does afterward.

We have no disposition to complain at the course farmers are pursuing. We believe, as a class, they are industrious, enterprising, and successful. Still,

there are some that may read these brief hints with profit, and they can injure none. In fact, we often have to remind ourselves of these things, to keep us anything like correct in practice. We try to get along with too little labor, and when work crowds, something must be neglected. The better way is to secure help enough for a busy time, and when work is not pressing, employ leisure time in collecting muck, turf, &c., from the fence corners, for making compost heaps, and in grubbing, extra hoeing, hand-weeding, draining, &c., all of which will be found in the end quite profitable.

EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE.

Air-Tight Bins for Grain.

A RECENT issue of the *Le Genie Industriel* contains a notice of a report lately made to the Society of Civil Engineers in Paris, by M. DOYERE, in which that gentleman gives an account of a long series of investigations and experiments made by him in relation to the preservation of grain. M. DOYERE comes to the conclusion that the very best mode of preserving wheat and other grains is by inclosing them in air-tight boxes, which are buried in the earth, or deposited in cellars beneath the surface. He says that the best material for the boxes or bins is sheet iron in very thin plates, galvanized, or covered with zinc, and painted on the outside with bitumen.

The principal purpose of M. DOYERE'S report is to give an account of five experiments on a grand scale, which have been made at Paris, Alger, Cherbourg, Brest, and Toulon, from 1854 to 1861, to test this plan. The conclusion formulated in the documents is, that the wheat, in all the cases, came from the bins the same as it went in, weight for weight, quality for quality. It was preserved without deterioration, without detriment, and without expense. In addition it is stated that the iron bins cost from one half to three-fifths as much as ordinary granaries.

Benefits of the Angle-Worm.

THE present volume of the RURAL has contained inquiries from several correspondents relative to a mode by which the earth-worms in their gardens and fields might be destroyed. Some of the European Agriculturists maintain that the presence of these worms is of great benefit to an estate, and we copy the following from the *Scottish Farmer*:
"Though the angle-worm yields a considerable amount of food to the birds and fish that grace the dinner table, it is much more beneficial to man as a fertilizer of the land. Subsisting on the earth through which it burrows, with an occasional meal from a decaying tuber or leaf, its excretions from the husbandman are of the smallest nature; whereas it lightens the earth's surface by its burrowings, and thereby aids the spreading of the roots of all cereals and bulbs; and the burrows also carry down water after heavy rains, that but for them would often gather in surface pools, and thereby injure the crops; and they also admit the air to the soil to a depth which by natural means it could not reach. The earth ejected by them also tends to the improving of the soil; and instances are known whereby these droppings, or 'worm-casts,' caused, in a few years, a considerable increase to the depth as well as the quality of the soil. Mr. DARWIN, the Naturalist, gives an account of a case of this kind which he tested, and from experiments he clearly proved that, in an old pasture, a layer of cinders and lime had been covered within a few years, to the depth of an inch, by the castings of worms. 'On carefully examining,' he also wrote, 'between the blades of grass in the fields above described, I found scarcely a space of two inches square without a little heap of cylindrical castings of worms.' A week or two ago we chanced to walk through a very old pasture, and we were much struck by the number of the worm-casts it showed. They were, we are certain, nearly if not as numerous as those mentioned by Mr. DARWIN, and they darkened the field so much, though the grass was growing, that they caused some parts of it to look as if newly top-dressed."

Choice of Animals for Fattening.

MR. HEDLEY contributed the following valuable hints on fattening cattle to the Newcastle Club, and we find them published in the *London Agricultural Gazette*. He says:
"In my close identification with fat cattle for several years, I have always found that the best animals have the most massive heads, most capacious chests, and the strongest spines. I have, therefore, evolved a few rules to go by in the purchase of lean ones, and scarcely with one exception I have found them to be applicable. The head of any of our bovine races ought to have the first consideration; this is the true index to the vital account, and even bodily construction, and will be found to foreshadow all good or bad that may be accomplished. Thus an animal possessed of a broad, full, spacious skull, with strong evenly-bent, defective horns, will be found to have a thick neck at the base, wide thorax, and strong, nervous system; while one with long, narrow, contracted skull, and puny, abruptly bent horns, will be characterized by weakness, wildness, and slowness to fatten. A small, dull, sunken eye betokens hardness of touch and inaptitude to fatten; and a bright, large, open eye, vice versa. A staring, dark, fiery eye often

accompanies a small forehead and hereditary wildness, and when combined with small, drooping horns, and a chin with no loose skin hanging from it, is a very despicable animal indeed, weak in constitution, predisposed to lung disease, and sterile in fattening propensities. Animals with weakly formed heads, have always small loins, and the width of these parts will always be found in an exact ratio with the strength of the head. The nose, instead of being long and fine, as Virgil, Aristotle, and several other naturalists recommend it, ought, in my opinion, to be thick, strong, and near the ear as possible, if only in proportion to the size of the frame. Thickness of nose and thickness of chest are often twins, and so are thin, meager, irregular noses and consumption. Small, snipy noses oft sniff the air into frames of small capacities, and are joined to mouths that can crop but very small morsels at a time. These observations I have found to be applicable to any of the kinds of cattle shown at Newcastle market. But besides the shapes of animals, the age and class must always have especial consideration, and be adapted according to food and situation; otherwise, the realization of remunerative profits will be uncertain."

The Turnip Fly.

IN England, where the turnip is an important crop, there have been many "remedies" applied for that destructive little insect, the turnip fly. At a late meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, Mr. FISHER HOBBS, a member, presented the two following remedies, which he had used with great success:

First Recipe.—Take one bushel of fresh white gas ashes, or fine wood ashes may be used instead of gas ashes; one bushel of fresh lime from the kiln; six pounds of sulphur; ten pounds of soot—to be well mixed together, and got to as fine a powder as possible, so that it may adhere to the young plant. This is sufficient for two acres when drilled at twenty-seven inches, to be applied early in the morning when the dew is on the leaf, with a broadcast machine, or sprinkled with the hand carefully over the rows. If the fly continues troublesome, the process should be repeated, always when the plant is damp. In light land it is best to make the drills on the flat, the ground being well prepared to receive the seed.

Second Recipe.—Take fourteen pounds of sulphur; one bushel of fresh lime; two bushels of road-scrappings, or a substance of mold where road-scrappings cannot be obtained, per acre. Mix together a few days before it is used. Apply very early in the morning or late at night, in the same manner as directed in No. 1, using the horse hoe immediately after.

Lambs Swallowing Wool.

LAMBS very frequently swallow particles of wool, which, in playfulness, they suck and bite from their dams; to prevent which, says the *Irish Farmer's Gazette*, the dams, when this occurs, should be smeared with a mixture of aloes and water, or assafœtida and water. When they swallow the wool, and it gets mixed with curd in the stomach, it forms hard balls that are indigestible; but the administration of a teaspoonful of soda mixed in water, twice or thrice a day, dissolves and digests the curd, if not too far gone. Calves frequently die of the same disease, and the only remedy yet found is the soda.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

CORN FOR SOILING

SHOULD be drilled in now. I find the value and importance of this crop, both as a reserve when the pastures are dry, and for feeding about the time the frosts affect the pasturage in the fall, is underestimated by dairymen especially. It has been my observation that the earlier in July the crop is put in the ground, the better. It should be put in thick drills; and the kind, here in the West, should be the small yellow or Yankee corn. If sweet corn seed can be obtained, it is better for this purpose. It is a common thing, even among men who know its value, and who sow it, to neglect to cut and cure that portion of the crop that is left after the dry weather soiling. One reason, doubtless, is that it costs so much labor to cut and cure it. But one man can secure a greater weight of it per day than he can of timothy hay; and it is of greater value if cut, well cured, and stacked before frost, than the timothy, especially for feeding milch cows.

I have seen many modes of curing adopted; but the best way I have discovered is to cut the corn with a hook or corn cutter, bind it in small bundles as fast as cut, and set in medium sized shocks—binding the tops of the bundles firmly together, so that the shock may resist the wind. If this is done, as all work on the farm should be done, thoroughly, and then properly stacked during the fine weather in October or November, before the late rains begin to fall, it will be found vastly more profitable than cutting and securing even upland prairie grass.

Snug is the word in performing this work. That is, it is not safe or profitable to cut down more in a day than can be bound up and set up snug the same day. There should be no gavels left unbound at night-fall. There is economy in the handling that compensates for the heavy work of binding in bundles. It cures better, also, and there is less

waste. It is tedious to harvest it in any other way that I have discovered; and it is perfectly practicable and profitable to adopt the mode here recommended.

[The foregoing was mislaid when received, and although rather unseasonable, it is "put on record" on account of hints which may prove of value in the future to those who desire to test the system.—Ed.]

CUTTING UP CORN.

I AM aware that it is early in the season to say anything on this subject. But because it is early, I broach the subject. I was talking with a farmer the other day, who said he did not believe it was any benefit to the crop to cut it up,—that he found he could get from one to three bushels per acre more if the corn was allowed to ripen on the stalks before the latter were cut up. He thought he got more weight.

In most cases, I have no doubt, he would do so. But that fact does not prove it is the best practice.

As the mass of farmers in the West cut up corn, it seems to me little better than a waste of time and labor. Four-fifths of them—it may be that fraction is too large, but I think not—cut their stalks after the virtue has gone out of them—after they have matured the corn, and the foliage has become dry and crisp, like husks. I seriously doubt if it pays the labor of cutting them. I have seen farmers actively engaged in cutting large fields long after every particle of foliage had been withered by the frost. That is not expending labor economically, unless a large herd is dependent upon that kind of fodder. The time to commence cutting up corn is as soon after the ears are glazed as it is possible to get at it. No matter if the foliage is as green as in mid-summer; so much the better—so much the more valuable will the fodder be; and the loss in the weight of the grain will be more than compensated by the increased value of the stalks.

In cutting up corn when the stalks are so full of sap and the foliage so green, it is not good policy to set them up in the large shocks or stooks common in the West. It is better to set them up around an uncut hill—fifteen or twenty hills to the stook—and bind them well to it. It is not a difficult matter to make the corn stand erect in this way. Then it is easy to cut the hill with a hook when it is to be husked or removed from the field. Fields intended for winter grain can be easily cleared in this way, and in good season. The corn off, the stalks may be stacked securely, and the fodder preserved fresh and nutritious for horses and cattle. I have met farmers in the West who have adopted this practice, and who aver that it is the cheapest way they can winter stock. The amount of fodder wasted in the corn fields of the West, from this want of providence, would, if saved and fed, keep double the amount of stock now fed annually.

I am glad to say that the ancient practice of topping corn does not obtain here to any great extent. That it is practiced anywhere, is only a striking proof of the want, as well as the value, of a more general knowledge of the laws of vegetable physiology. That portion of the stalk above the ear, with its foliage—and that is the part usually taken off in the process of topping—is as essential to the life of the plant and the development of the grain, as the head of a man is to the life of his body. Cut off the top of your corn, and the ear ceases to grow—the grain ripens prematurely. There are hundreds of experiments that prove this,—some are on record.

A PLACE FOR REFUSE.

I like to quote BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, there is so much of that uncommon article, common sense, in his writings. In one of his miscellaneous papers he says, "There seem to be but three ways for a nation to acquire wealth. The first is by war, as the Romans did, by plundering their conquered neighbors. This is robbery. The second by commerce, which is generally cheating. The third by agriculture, the only honest way, wherein man receives a real increase of the seed thrown in the ground, in a kind of continual miracle, wrought by the hand of God, in his favor, as a reward for his innocent life and virtuous industry."

I quote this, in order to say that agriculture is not always an honest way, because the increase obtained is not always the result of the observance of the law of compensation on the part of the farmer. He often gathers where he has not sown, and reaps where he has not sown. He does not always keep the principal good while receiving the increase. He exacts enormous usury of the soil. The result is often its ruin. Now, one of the modes of compensation involves the necessity of saving refuse. And it will astonish the careless farmer, when he discovers what he loses by not saving what he has the power to save.

There should be a convenient place appropriated for the receiving of all manner of refuse that can be gathered from the house, the out-buildings, the garden, the fence corners, the street, &c. &c. The weeds that are pulled from the garden, or rooted out of the field; the refuse lime, and bones, and ashes, and chip manure, and old wood, slops from the house that are not food for swine, chamber lye, soap-suds, charcoal, worthless rags, decayed or decaying vegetables, the droppings along the high way, the leaves and dried grass raked from the lawn, should all go to this penny-saving and pound-making place,

and from thence, after being turned over a few times, to swell the grand compost heap in the barn-yard, or directly to the field, where it may be made useful.

It will create a different atmosphere about the farmer's house, if he will prepare such a place for such a purpose. Now that the hot weather is at hand, when the processes of decomposition are as active in dead matter as those of production are in vitalized nature, health may be insured, disease prevented or removed, by attention to this matter. Neighborhood filth accumulates more rapidly than the inattentive suppose, even on the farmer's premises; and it is scarcely less important to himself and family, as a sanitary measure, than to the denizen of the city, that all such accumulations are removed, or absorbents applied to absorb the gases evolved by decomposition.

THE GRAIN APHIS (Aphis Avenae.)

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Several neighboring farmers have called my attention to the fact that their oat crop is infested and swarming with the aphids to an alarming degree, so much so that it is feared the yield will be very poor indeed. The numerous showers of rain, however, aided greatly in supporting the plants against the depletion of these pests of vegetation, and in fields otherwise in good condition no serious loss need be apprehended. I have examined numerous heads, well filled, and likely to mature, notwithstanding they were literally encased with aphids. Had there been a long spell of dry weather, no doubt the entire crop would have proved a total failure—and this may yet be the case where fields are in *the drag*.

I had prepared an article, with illustrations, for your valuable paper, but neglected to forward it; and now find, in your reply to D. HILANDS, of Perysville, Pa., (in the RURAL of July 12th inst.,) my article so well supplied that I concluded to say nothing further about them, only that in Lancaster county we find them (the aphids) on the oats (*Avena sativa*); hence the name you give it is correct—*Aphis Avenae*—as is also the description.

In regard to the means to be employed to rid the fields of this pest, a serious question is involved—one not easily answered. You say "slaked lime in powder has been recommended for dusting the wheat heads, as also chloride of lime." Air-slaked lime, when it has been kept in a dry place, contains sufficient pungency to destroy the tender carcasses of the aphids. If an east wind and then a west wind could be gotten up for the occasion, and a *huge dusting box*, operated so as to carry the light powdered lime over the field, when moistened by the morning or evening dews, I have no doubt but the application on a large scale would be of service over a ten-acre field; but as the wind "bloweth where it listeth," some ingenious inventor must get up a balloon fixing, or contrivance to effect that object. I, as his agent, (being in that line of business,) will help him to obtain letters patent.

Isolated plants are often infested, and it may be well to mention the easiest method of ridding them of these disgusting creatures. Have a suitable vessel partly filled with strong and warm soap-suds; bend the branchlets infested into the vessel, and agitate them gently in the suds a few minutes. Afterwards they may be again immersed in clean water, to remove the suds. This will clean and enliven the plants.

Having given these creatures some attention, I have quite a collection of the various genera and species belonging to this family, in my *picture gallery*, but can not attempt a detailed notice of them here. However, being frequently asked where they come from, and where they go to, should you deem it worthy a space in your paper, I will simply state what has been stated by every writer on the subject, adding a few remarks of my own.

According to observers, aphids propagate twenty generations in a single year, without the intervention of a male! REAUMUR proves that in five generations a single aphid will produce the astonishing family of 5,904,900,000 descendants. If there be four times five generations, and supposing one hundred to begin with, what would be the number? Any one curious enough may figure it out. I know that they produce their young alive, a fact of which any observer may be readily satisfied by patiently inspecting their operations for five minutes at a time; but that they give birth to twenty-five during a single day, (as it is asserted,) I have reason to doubt, however prolific they prove to be. With regard to their eggs,—which we are informed are like small grains of powder, affixed to the buds, &c., of plants,—after diligent search I have found them, but when submitted to the microscope, and touched with a fine needle, they prove to be thin, black, glossy shells, enveloping the pupae of the next year's brood. If we could find and destroy these minute eggs, so to speak, it would be "nipping them in the bud;" but who has patience for such a task? As to their sudden departure, this often arises during a protracted spell of cold rainy weather, or from other local causes, such as reaping the fields. When the cut grain and dry haulms fall to yield them suction, (being like some old toppers who live upon suction, "tobacco and grog,") they soon perish. Occasionally whole fields will take wing, in early autumn, and fill the air with dense clouds, as no doubt you and most of your readers

HORTICULTURAL.

NOTES IN THE FLOWER GARDEN.

A FEW of the herbaceous plants are in flower, but the garden at this season depends almost entirely upon the bedding plants and annuals for its beauty.

The Aconite is another valuable flower now in bloom, the flowers growing in spikes, which in some species are two feet long.

The Digitalis or Foxglove is one of the most showy and desirable of our biennial flowering plants, though but seldom seen in our gardens.

ers to its merits, and also present an engraving of the plant as it appears in flower. The seed may be sown in the open ground any time in the spring...



DIGITALIS, OR FOXGLOVE.

Among our annuals just coming into flower, we have several new and fine things. Bidens atrosanguinea was announced last year in Europe...

Cuphea Zimapani is also one of ROEZZI'S recent introductions, and is by far the finest of this class of flowers. The plant grows to the height of four feet...

Tropeolum Dwarf Crystal Palace Gem—This is the first dwarf Nasturtium we have ever grown. The plant is compact in habit, with a round head...

The Double Zinnias show a great improvement since last season. A greater proportion give good double flowers, and there is also a wider range in color.

RISE AND FALL OF SAP.

MUCH has been written on this interesting question—much is known; yet of some things we shall perhaps always remain ignorant.

What a curious hallucination is that which supposes the sap of trees to fall, or settle, in the winter into the roots! One would have thought that the notorious difficulty of cramping a quart of water into a pint measure, might have suggested the improbability of such a phenomenon.

We shall assume the word sap to signify the fluids, of whatever nature, which are contained in the interior of a tree.

When a tree falls to rest at the approach of winter, its leaves have carried off so much more fluid than the roots have been able to supply...

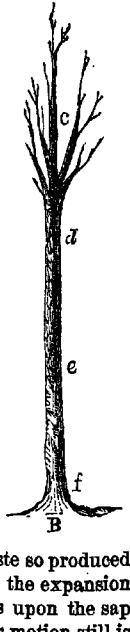
When the leaves have fallen off, the tree is no longer subject to much loss of fluid by perspiration, nor to extensive chemical changes by assimilation...

During all the winter period, the sap appears indeed to be at rest, for the re-filling process is a very gradual one.

As to the idea that the bleeding of a tree begins first at the root, and in connection with this supposition, that what is called the rise of the sap is the cause of the expansion of buds, and leaves...

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UTILITY OF SMALL BIRDS.—In several of the public prints, especially in the Times, there have lately appeared very interesting letters on the destruction of small birds...



necessary on the part of the sap to make good the loss; and thus from above downward is that perceptible flow of the fluids of trees...

The well known fact of trees sprouting in the spring, although felled in the autumn, proves that the sap had not at that time quit the trunk to take refuge in the roots.

NEW EVERGREENS—EFFECT OF PAST WINTER.

FOR several years, H. W. SARGENT, Esq., of Woodstock, near Fishkill Landing, who imports and tests the new evergreens...

Though the winter generally was much less severe in cold than many previous ones, and the spring was equally favorable, yet about the average amount of disease and disaster has taken place, though not always in the same or even expected subjects.

I have been coming, very unwillingly, to a similar conclusion the past year or so, for I think it within the experience of most planters of imported trees...

We all know, I believe, that foreigners always suffer less from heat and cold the first year of their residence in this country than natives...

I have been led to make these remarks, to show how difficult it is to make any decisive rules by which we can judge of the entire hardiness of any plant...

The latter is said to be one of the handsomest of evergreens, having the grace of form and habit as well as color of the Decodar, but much greater vigor and strength.

As the true Gigantic—rising to an altitude of 140 feet—is one of these, (either Lobbia or giganta), it is very gratifying to know we are to have such a valuable addition to our ornamental trees.

Wellingtonia seems to do perfectly well here, with a little advantage of position; and the Golden Yew is decidedly hardy and most distinctive.

Cryptomerias seem to have worked up into an improved condition of health, as well as Cedars of Lebanon, though neither can be, I think, depended upon for large trees.

Do not despair, I fear are hopeless, except as bushes. Among the older evergreens, Douglassii, Clambrasilensis, Cephalonica, monstrosa, Hudsonii, Kemferi, nobilis, Nordmanniana, Pinnapo, orientalis, Webbiana, Whitmaniana, etc.

The English Hollies, Laurel, Portugal Laurel, and many others of the broad-leaved evergreens, can be grown perfectly well if taken up in winter and removed to a cold pit; a system of cultivation eminently adapted to this country.

Horticultural Notes.

UTILITY OF SMALL BIRDS.—In several of the public prints, especially in the Times, there have lately appeared very interesting letters on the destruction of small birds...

Most destructive to the cereal crops of all the feathered race now, Bewick, in his "British Birds," says: "It has been observed that a single pair of sparrows, during the time they are feeding their young, will destroy about 4,000 caterpillars weekly...

White's Selbourne, in a note, the editor says: "A young sparrow which I picked up in my garden, and placed in a cage for the purpose of ascertaining what food would be brought to it by its parents...

Last, I will quote Dr. Stanley, the late Bishop of Norwich, who states that "sparrows feed their young thirty-six times in an hour, calculating at the rate of fourteen hours a day in the long days of spring and summer...

I would add, supposing the sparrow does much mischief in the harvest, which may be prevented by a few live scorpions, does not this bird pay back a good percentage in the destruction of grubs and insects?

A LONG-KEEPING APPLE.—I send you specimens of a seedling apple, raised by R. B. LOCKHART, of Shelburne, for your examination and opinion. The apple, in my mind, is worthy of general cultivation...

CROPS IN MICHIGAN.—A correspondent in Wayne county, Michigan, writes: "We have a fair prospect of good crops generally, and fruit in great abundance."

TWO NEW CAMELLIAS.—Amera is perhaps the finest Camellia yet raised. The petals are beautifully smooth, carnation striped, the flower very double, and the habit of the plant excellent.

WILSON STRAWBERRY.—PRODUCTIVENESS.—In the spring of 1861, I set out twenty-four strawberry plants of the Wilson variety on one hundred and sixty-nine feet of land.

BLACK EAGLE CHERRIES.—Among the very fine specimens of cherries we have received from fruit-growing friends in this section, none were finer than a sample of the Black Eagle, grown by Dr. C. CAME, of Pittsford.

SALEMIA REPERNS.—This is a pretty Gesneriaceae plant, recently introduced into England, having scarlet flowers and small round leaves, and it is supposed will become a very popular basket plant...

Inquiries and Answers.

TO CLEAN A STRAWBERRY BED.—I wish some of the readers of the RURAL would inform me whether it will answer to mow the bed in order to clean it?

Mowing will not clean an old strawberry bed. We judge your strawberries have been so much neglected that the best way would be to set out a new bed, taking the young, well-rooted plants.

DOUBLE CAMPANELLA.—I would like to inquire if double Canterbury Bells are known to florists. Among my blue Canterbury Bells this summer is one plant bearing double blossoms.

WHORTLEBERRY.—HUCKLEBERRY.—I should like to inquire of the RURAL, or some of its numerous contributors, the difference between Whortleberry and Huckleberry?

Whortleberry and Huckleberry are different names for the same thing, the latter being only a corruption of the former; but it has become so common as to be adopted by authors, and authority for its use may be found in WEBSTER.

INSECT ON GRAPE VINES.—CITRON.—A little mischief-maker has appeared in this neighborhood this spring, but as yet in a single garden. It has destroyed all the grapes in that one.

PLANTS FOR NAME.—You were so kind last year as to answer some inquiries relative to flowers, or names for them, and as we are in the same place again, having flowers without satisfactory names, I have concluded to appeal to you as undisputed authority.

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Domestic Economy.

TO MINERVA—A HINT.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I must dispute with "MINERVA" about the wonderful efficacy of her doughnuts. Really, and seriously, the less we eat of cakes fried in grease, the better off we shall be...

I should expect that the ultimate tendency of doughnuts would make my children cry, or groan, or fret. As for my husband, he is a confirmed dyspeptic, and I should not hope to cure his disease...

IN PLACE of all the recipes for fine cakes, pies, preserves, &c., I for one would be glad to see instructions in the art of preparing our flour, fruit, and vegetables, in a plain, substantial manner...

VEAL CUTLETS.—Cutlets are cut either from the fillet or the neck, but chops are taken from the loin. Some persons have deprecated the practice of beating meat, but it is essentially necessary in veal cutlets, which otherwise, especially if merely fried, are very indigestible.

TO CLEAN FEATHERS FOR BEDS.—Mix well a gallon of clear water with a pound of quick-lime; when the lime is well dissolved, let it settle, and pour off the lime-water; put the feathers in, adding two gallons of water; stir the feathers occasionally; let them remain in the water three or four days...

BOTTLING CHERRIES.—In answer to "A Country Curate's" inquiry, I can assure him, if he tries the following recipe, he cannot fail to have delicious fruit for tarts, through the winter:—To every pound of fruit, add six ounces of powdered lump sugar. Fill the jars with fruit; shake the sugar over; tie each jar down with two bladders, as there is danger of one bursting, during the boiling.

RASPBERRY CREAM.—Rub a quart of raspberries, or raspberry jam, through a hair sieve, to take out the seeds, and then mix it well with cream; sweeten with sugar to taste; put into a stone jug, and raise a froth with a chocolate mill; as your froth rises, take it off with a spoon, and lay it upon a hair sieve. When you have got as much froth as you want, put what cream remains into a deep china dish or punch bowl, and pour your frothed cream upon it, as high as it will lie on.

COOKING PEAS.—I send you a recipe for cooking peas for what it is worth. At all events I think it worthy of trial. Take about half the pods after shelling, and boil them pretty thoroughly, then take them out and boil the peas in the same water, and season as usual.

A GOOD PUDDING.—One quart sweet milk; one pint bread crumbs; one cup of sugar; a piece of butter the size of an egg; the yolks of four eggs; rind of one lemon, grated. Bake half an hour. Take the whites of the eggs, one cup of sugar and the juice of the lemon; beat the whites stiff, add the sugar and lemon, and pour over pudding when done.

TO CLEAN OUT THE MOTHS.—For the benefit of RURAL readers, I send a recipe to prevent moths, and at the same time create a nice perfume. Take cloves, cedar and rhubarb, each one ounce; pulverize, and sprinkle it in the chest or drawers. It will create a beautiful scent, and prevent moths.

PLAIN BREAD PUDDING.—Take a quart of milk, in which soak crumbs of dry bread or crackers until they are soft and as thick as batter; then add three eggs, two tablespoonsful of sugar, and a very little saleratus; bake about three-quarters of an hour; serve with butter, sugar, and nutmeg, beaten together.

FRUIT RICE PUDDING.—Swell the rice with milk, over the fire; then mix fruit of any kind with it—cherries, currants, gooseberries, quartered apples, or anything you like; put in one egg, to bind the rice; boil it well, and serve with butter and sugar, beaten together, with nutmeg or mace.

COLORING SKY BLUE.—Will some of the numerous correspondents of the RURAL please favor me with a recipe for coloring sky blue, or a shade darker, on woolen, and oblige—CARRIE W., East Avon, N. Y., 1862.

TO DYE SILK SLATE COLOR.—Will some of the lady readers of the RURAL please inform me how light changeable silk may be colored a dark slate color, and oblige—MIRIAM, Westfield, Chau. Co., N. Y., 1862.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



"FLAG of the eagle who Upon thy shining fields of blue, His fiery pinions boldly spread; Around thee we will stand, With our bright blades in hand, And swear to guard the land We love, till life's last drop be shed! Hail, banner, beautiful and grand, How sweet, how beautiful is death, When for thy sake we yield our breath."

ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST 2, 1862.

THE WAR'S PROGRESS.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

The New Militia Bill.

ONE of the most important acts passed by Congress was that entitled the Militia Bill. It is doubly important from the fact that all slaves, after its passage, who come within the lines of the army are made free forever.

Sections one and two provide that whenever the President shall call forth the militia of the States he may specify in his call the period for which such service is required, not exceeding nine months; and the militia so mustered in shall serve for the term specified, unless sooner discharged. If, by reason of defects in existing laws, or in the execution of them in the States, or any of them, it shall be found necessary to provide for enrolling militia, the President is authorized to make all necessary regulations, and the enrollment shall in all cases include all able-bodied men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, and shall be apportioned among the States according to population, and when so enrolled shall be organized after the mode prescribed for volunteers.

The third section authorizes the President to call one hundred thousand volunteers as infantry into the field, in addition to the number already authorized by law, for a period of nine months, unless sooner discharged; and every soldier who shall enlist under it shall receive his first month's pay in advance, and also twenty-five dollars as a bounty, upon the mustering of his company or regiment into the service of the United States; and all provisions of law relating to volunteers enlisted for three years or during the war, except in relation to bounty, shall be extended to embrace the volunteers raised under the provisions of this section.

The fourth section authorizes the President to accept such a number of volunteers as may be required for filling up the regiments of infantry now in the service for twelve months, unless sooner discharged. All volunteers when mustered into service shall be on a footing with similar troops, except as to service bounty, which shall be fifty dollars, one-half of which is to be paid upon joining their regiments, and the other half at the expiration of the term of enlistment.

Section fifth authorizes the appointment of a judge advocate-general, with the pay of colonel of cavalry, to whose office all proceedings in court martial shall be returned, and no sentence of death or imprisonment in the penitentiary shall be carried out without the approval of the President.

Section six authorizes a judge advocate for each army, and section eight requires all battalion adjutants and quartermasters of cavalry exceeding the number authorized by law, and now in service, to be mustered out of service.

Section nine authorizes the President to establish and organize the army at his discretion, and section ten regulates the staffs of commanders of army corps, as follows:—One assistant adjutant-general, one quartermaster, one commissary, and one assistant inspector-general, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and three aides-de-camp.

Section eleven regulates the number of officers of cavalry regiments. Section twelve authorizes the President to receive into the service for the purpose of constructing intrenchments and performing camp service or any other labor, or any military or naval service for which they may be found competent, persons of African descent; and such persons shall be enrolled and organized under such regulations, not inconsistent with the Constitution and the Laws, as the President may prescribe.

Section thirteen enacts that whenever any man or boy of African descent who, by the laws of any State, shall owe service or labor to any person who, during the present rebellion, has levied war or borne arms against the Government, or adhered to its enemies, and shall render any such service as enumerated in the section, he, his mother and wife and children shall forever be free, any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding. And where such persons owe service to loyal masters, provision is made for compensation.

The Rebel Programme for the Future.

THE Baltimore correspondent of the New York Herald, in his letter of the 12th inst., has the following intelligence:

"A council of war, composed of all the principal rebel Generals, was held at Richmond on the 4th of July. The conferences were animated, and were protracted far into the night. They embraced a complete review of the military operations of the past fifteen months, and plans for the present summer campaign. Nothing was decided upon, and the council re-assembled early on the morning of July 4th. At this meeting the plans for the summer campaign were decided on.

The general review of military operations did not appear to the council in a very favorable light. The amount of territory that had been abandoned caused the council great chagrin. The evacuation policy was warmly discussed, being unsparingly ridiculed and denounced by some, and defended by others. Every one agreed, however, that in the case of Corinth it was highly proper, and indeed a masterly stroke of policy, since it had saved Richmond. But the fact that they had lost the whole Mississippi valley, New Orleans, Norfolk, and the whole of

Tennessee and Kentucky, besides so large a part of Missouri, appeared to dampen the ardor of the members somewhat. It was unanimously agreed not only that it would not do to lose any more territory, but also that what had been lost must be regained.

The results of the defensive policy, which has been hitherto the policy of the South, were not regarded as satisfactory, and its abandonment was strongly urged. Both Gen. Beauregard and Gen. Lee endeavored to demonstrate the feasibility of an invasion of the North at three different points—namely, from Cumberland or Williamsport into Pennsylvania; from Louisville and Cincinnati into Indiana and Ohio; and from Paducah and Cairo into Illinois. It was not certainly known whether the 'invasion' plank of the platform had been adopted or not. It was strenuously opposed by Jeff. Davis and one or two of the Generals; but a large majority of them were in favor of it. It is known, however, that the following operations were agreed on as forming parts of the summer campaign:

1. The immediate obstruction of James river, so as to make it impossible for McClellan to use it as a means of communicating with the government and for the transportation of re-enforcements and army supplies.

2. The re-occupation of Williamsburg, Yorktown, and the entire peninsula.

3. The recovery of the whole of the territory of Virginia, and the re-possession of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

4. The recovery of New Orleans and Memphis and the Mississippi river, and the expulsion of the federal troops from Tennessee and Kentucky. When these objects had been accomplished, the Lee and Beauregard plan proposed:

5. To make the Potomac and Ohio rivers at once their base of operations and frontier line, and to transfer the seat of war from Virginia to Maryland.

6. To hurl upon Washington, from Richmond, a column of two hundred thousand troops; the capture of that city, the 'liberation' of Baltimore, and the invasion of the North at the three points named above. By becoming in turn the invaders, they hope to make it necessary for us to keep at home for the defense of our cities fully five hundred thousand troops.

The plan adopted for the obstruction of the James River was by the secret erection of permanent batteries, to be afterward mounted with heavy guns of long range, and by the use at present of batteries of light artillery, mostly rifled guns, that can be moved from place to place. Several of these batteries are already in the course of erection at various commanding points on the James river, where they are completely concealed by the thick woods and bushes. This dense foliage affords, also, complete concealment to the men who work on them, who have instructions, also, not to show themselves to any passing vessels. Sentinels are stationed so as to give notice of the approach of vessels, and as the latter pass, the men at work on the batteries suspend their labor if there is any danger of their being either seen or heard. When all the batteries are completed, the trees and bushes in front of them will be cut down, and the river will be found to be closed. It will be remembered that it was in this way that the batteries on the Potomac river were erected last summer.

The importance of Virginia to the rebels has been forcibly demonstrated by the events of the spring campaign, and hence the strenuous efforts which they will make to regain it. If they can restore there the status quo ante bellum, or even the state of affairs as they existed in June, 1861, they believe that we can never again invade that State. Its capabilities for defense are superb; indeed, unequalled anywhere. And if, on the recurrence of the cool weather of the fall, we can be compelled to begin the campaign over again at Manassas and Romney on the north, and at Fortress Monroe on the southeast, the rebel leaders expect that we will find the road to Richmond less practicable in the fall than we found it in the spring.

Such is their rather extensive programme for the summer campaign. The means at their command for its execution are rather inadequate; but they count upon the active assistance of both England and France. Both of these nations, they think, will recognize their independence, and their vessels, breaking the blockade, will take their cotton and sugar away and bring them arms and ammunition in return. They have now in arms 500,000 troops, distributed as follows:

Table listing military units and their counts: Richmond (200,000), Central Virginia (40,000), Charleston (20,000), Savannah (20,000), Mobile (part of these troops are from) (50,000), Vicksburg (Beauregard's late army) (75,000), West of the Mississippi river (40,000), Knoxville (20,000), Interior of Georgia and Alabama (20,000), Total (800,000).

So far as General McClellan's army is concerned, the rebels at Richmond are confident that by the end of this month they will have driven them entirely from the peninsula.

Southern Conscription—Over 1,000,000 Soldiers.

THE Memphis correspondence of the Chicago Times states that the rebels are enforcing rigidly their conscription, without respect of persons.

Every man between the ages of seventeen and thirty-three is compelled to take up arms and go into the field. Hundreds of refugees from Arkansas tell the same story. Many of them have lain in the woods for weeks to escape from it, while others have taken to canoes and paddled down the stream, night after night, to meet our boats. There seems but a shadow of a chance that a man in Arkansas can escape. The majority of them enter the ranks with a negative acquiescence, but, once in, make as good soldiers as anybody. The remainder, who are deadly opposed to it, either run away and escape, or are caught and hung.

It is stated in rebel circles that when the conscription was resolved upon the rebel Secretary of War caused the Sheriffs of every county in the seceded States to make a return of the number of men between the above-mentioned ages fit to bear arms. The total returns showed \$1,400,000 men, who can be relied upon as soldiers when once brought into the ranks. The conscription is the measure to accomplish this, and with ample powers to carry it out, the end will surely be attained. With one-half that available number in the field two or three months from now, and the rest as a reserve, what may not be expected in the way of resistance?

It would be well for the North to understand these facts. It would have been well if they had been understood three months ago; for then the people would not have been astonished to find two hundred thousand men at Richmond, where they only expected one-third that number; while, if only the official statements from Corinth are true, there are not less than a hundred thousand more in Mis-



MARTIN VAN BUREN.

MARTIN VAN BUREN was born at Kinderhook, Columbia Co., N. Y., December 5, 1782. His ancestors, both paternal and maternal, were among the early emigrants from Holland to the Colony of New Netherlands, now the State of New York. The father of Mr. VAN BUREN was a farmer in moderate circumstances, an upright, intelligent man, of strong common sense, and pacific disposition. The maiden name of the President's mother was originally Gogarty. She was distinguished for her amiability, sagacity, and exemplary piety. MARTIN VAN BUREN was the eldest son of these parents. His opportunities for instruction were limited, but at an early age he exhibited indications of a superior understanding. After acquiring the rudiments of an English education, he entered the Academy in his native village.

When but fourteen years of age we find him leaving the Academy to begin the study of a profession. In 1796 he entered the office of FRANCIS SYLVESTER, Esq., and commenced the study of law. At that period seven years of student-life was required of candidates who, like the subject of this sketch, had not received a collegiate education. The last year of this course of preparation was passed in the office of Mr. WM. P. VAN NESS, a distinguished member of the bar in New York city. In 1803 Mr. VAN BUREN was admitted, as an attorney at law, to the bar of Supreme Court of the State of New York, and returned to his native village to pursue the practice of his profession.

Mr. VAN BUREN was an active and ardent politician even while pursuing his legal studies, and when he began his professional career the violence of party spirit was extreme throughout the country. He had connected himself with the Democratic party, and naturally became the vindicator of their political faith. In 1807 Mr. V. B. was admitted as counsellor in the Supreme Court, where he was brought into more immediate conflict with the distinguished legal minds of the day, and rapidly advanced to a high rank in the profession. In his own country he filled offices of trust and responsibility, and in 1815 was appointed Attorney-General of the State. His practice in the courts had become extensive and lucrative, but his career as a lawyer closed in 1823, when he may be said to have entered the National political arena.

In 1821 the Legislature of New York elected Mr. VAN BUREN a member of the Senate of the United States, and he was re-elected in 1827. Circumstances compelled him to resign, and in 1828 he was chosen Governor of New York. He remained but a brief period in the chief magistracy of his native State. In 1829 he resigned the office of Governor, because of his appointment as Secretary of State of the United States. In 1831 he retired from this position and was appointed Minister to Great Britain. In 1832 he was elected Vice-President of the United States, and in 1836 was chosen President. The public political life of Mr. VAN BUREN closed

with the expiration of his term of the Presidency, and he retired to his residence at Kinderhook, to which retreat he gave the name of "Lindenwald." Professor HOLLAND thus speaks of the man as he appeared in social life.

"The private character of Mr. VAN BUREN is above all censure or suspicion. In the relations of father and son, of husband, brother, and friend, he has always displayed those excellencies of character and feeling which adorn human nature. Extending our view to the larger circle of his personal friends, rarely has any man won a stronger hold upon the confidence and affection of those with whom he has been connected. The purity of his motives, his integrity of character, and the steadiness of his attachments, have always retained for him the warm affection of many, even among the ranks of his political opponents.

"The ease and frankness of his manners, his felicitous powers of conversation, and the general amiableness of his feelings, render him the ornament of the social circle. Untiring in his character firmness and forbearance; habitual self-respect and a delicate regard for the feelings of others; neither the perplexities of legal practice, nor the cares of public life, nor the annoyance of party strife, have ever been able to disturb the serenity of his temper, or to derange for a moment the equanimity of his deportment. He has with equal propriety mingled in the free intercourse of private life, and sustained the dignity of official station."

We close our biographical sketch with the following "Recommendation" by Governor MORGAN:

STATE OF NEW YORK, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, ALBANY, July 24, 1862.

MARTIN VAN BUREN is dead! One more event is added to the long catalogue which distinguishes the year of 1862 in our country's annals. His years were many, and though past the time of life when his personal services could be fully executed, it is sad to separate from one whose history connects him with the more auspicious days of the Republic. Few men have enjoyed more largely of the public confidence than Mr. VAN BUREN, none have more worthily executed the great trusts committed to them. In this his native State he has held successively the offices of State Senator, Attorney General, Member of the Constitutional Convention of 1821, Senator of the United States, and Governor. It is most fitting, therefore, that he be honored in his death by all, and especially by those in authority in this State.

Under the General Government he was Secretary of State, Minister to England, Vice President, and President. His fame is the common property of the country. His death is a national loss. His high qualities of mind and heart, the purity of his private character, his devotion to the national good, and his unabated loyalty to the Union, renders his long successful and useful life an example for emulation. In obedience to what I believe to be the sense of the people, I respectfully recommend that all judicial officers, and the authorities of the cities and towns in this State, do adopt such measures as shall publicly testify their respect for the deceased, and I further recommend that the public institutions of the State and the shipping in the harbors do honor the event in the usual manner.

EDWIN D. MORGAN.

issippi, to say nothing of the Arkansas force, which is increasing by hundreds every day. The movement is, to speak literally, a united uprising of the people—an arming of every man in the country who is capable of bearing arms. Not but that they go unwillingly enough many of them, but they go. They find arms, or the government finds arms for them, (it has an abundance to spare now,) and they become soldiers from that day on.

In connection with the foregoing we give the following paragraph from the correspondence of the Cincinnati Gazette, dated "Athens, Ala. July 10:"

THE REBEL ARMY.—I see it stated in one of your papers of a recent date, that the South has upward of seven hundred thousand men in the field—an assertion I think entitled to credence. I have probably in some of my other letters noted that very few men between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five are remaining at home. From the time of our leaving Corinth up to the present date, we have traversed a section of Alabama and Mississippi equal in extent to several hundred miles square, and from this vast area of territory, thickly populated as most of it was sixty days ago, enough men young and aged could not now be gathered to form a regiment. The conscript law has done its work faithfully, and every person capable of bearing arms has been forced, willingly and unwillingly, into the Confederate service, and in numerous instances the tenure of the act has not been respected, men forty, fifty, and sixty years of age being dragged to aid the schemes of the insurgents. The same policy has doubtless been pursued in all parts of the South, with as much rigor as in the particular section to which I refer, and basing a calculation upon the figures you publish, it is easily to be seen that 700,000 men approximates nearer to the truth than would a smaller number. Grant them an army of this size, and all is granted. They have culminated, and every day must grad-

ually weaken their aggregate strength. They have no reserve to draw upon, no means to fill their ranks which are so fearfully being decimated by sickness, death, and desertion; and while the army of the North can be swollen to triple its present number, that of the South cannot be increased at all.

The Fight at Murfreesboro'.

THE Editor of the Louisville (Ky.) Journal has had an interview with Lieut. C. H. Blakesley, Adjutant of the 3d Minnesota, one of the regiments attacked at Murfreesboro' by the rebel cavalry, and gives the following details of that battle:

The force at Murfreesboro', as we learn from Lieutenant B., consisted of six companies of the Michigan Ninth, two companies of the Fourth Kentucky, nine companies of the Minnesota Third, and four pieces of Hewitt's First Kentucky Battery. The Ninth and the cavalry were encamped in the edge of the town, and the Third and the battery a mile and a half outside, on the Nashville pike. The forces are a part of the Twenty-third Brigade, which is commanded by Col. Duffield, lately of the United States forces in Kentucky. General T. T. Crittenden assumed command of the post on Friday night. The attack was made on Sunday morning at four o'clock, upon the cavalry and Michigan regiment, they being completely surprised. So large was the attacking party that the infantry could not form in line of battle, and after fighting as best they could for several hours, the Michigan regiment surrendered. Our cavalry was of no assistance whatever; not a man mounted his horse; and but one or two escaped.

In the meantime, a portion of the enemy had burned the railroad depot, freight house, containing commissary stores, and a large warehouse, containing forage and Quartermaster's stores. Having compelled the surrender of the cavalry and infantry in

town, they broke for the battery. Col. Lester had been advised of the attack, and placed the battery upon a knoll a quarter of a mile from his camp, with his own regiment to support it. The rebels passed around to the north of the camp, and driving through it, burned the officers' tents and killed or wounded the guards. As they came out of the woods to make the attack, Col. Lester retained his fire until they were within forty paces of him, when the battery was opened upon them. They were completely disorganized and retired in the greatest confusion. Upon the next charge the infantry and battery both fired, and the enemy was thrown into confusion a second time. Not relishing such treatment, a portion of the rebels went round to the rear, for the purpose of attacking us in the rear as well as in front. This, however, was of no avail, for Col. Lester formed his men in a square, and Capt. Hewitt directed his pieces both ways.

A third attempt was made to cut the brave men to pieces, but the result was the same as before. The rebels retired for a while, and Capt. Hewitt turned his pieces upon the town, shelling it in the most approved style. It is said that the town was badly damaged, and fired in several places.

The fighting commenced again at noon, and continued unabated until 3 o'clock, when a flag of truce from the enemy appeared, stating that the Michigan Ninth had surrendered early in the day, and demanding an unconditional surrender by the remainder of the forces. It is said that a threat was also made that, if Col. Lester did not surrender, Gen. Crittenden and Col. Duffield—who were taken out of their beds by the enemy at the outset—would be immediately shot. Col. Lester rode into town, under protection of the flag of truce, and ascertained that he had to encounter a force of about four thousand, and that he could only rely on his own little handful of men to sustain himself. His ammunition, too, had nearly given out, the battery having only sixty-five rounds of case and solid shot, and the infantry but a few rounds of cartridge left. He returned, and, after a consultation with Capt. Hewitt and his own officers, it was determined to surrender, which was done about 5 P. M.

The only loss that we can learn among the officers is the killing of Capt. Rounds, of the Michigan Ninth. Neither the battery nor the Third Minnesota lost any officers. About twelve men of the Third were killed. It is thought that at least one hundred and fifty of the rebels must have been killed. The strength of the rebels was about 4,000 cavalry—two Georgia and one Texan regiment being of the number.

Brilliant "Cutting-out" Expeditions.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Boston Transcript gives the following details of a daring expedition up the North Santee River on the 19th ult:

The United States steamer Albatross, Geo. A. Prentiss, commander, was blockading off the North Santee River, S. C. On the 19th Capt. Prentiss received information that the schooner Louisa, laden with 150 bales of cotton, was lying at a rice mill about twelve miles up the Santee River. He sent his executive officer, Acting Master T. B. DuBois, to try and effect her capture. About 10 o'clock at night, Mr. DuBois, accompanied by Acting Master's-Mate J. H. Harris and Second Assistant Engineer Thos. Hawky, and ten seamen, left the ship in the cutter and gig. After a hard pull of five hours up the river, they saw the masts of the schooner. Mr. DuBois ordered the boats to keep close to the banks, where the overhanging bushes would screen them from observation. While pulling cautiously in this manner, a negro suddenly hailed from the bank. Keeping the negro in conversation, the boat's head was suddenly turned into the bushes and the negro captured by the boat.

The party now made the boats fast, and started single file, walking on a narrow mud bank that surrounded the rice fields, and forcing the negro to pilot them to the mill where the schooner lay. When near the mill, to our surprise, we observed a steam tug and two large flats of rice at the wharf, near the schooner. Both vessels were boarded at once. We found the crew of the schooner (consisting of five men, who have been some time employed in running the blockade,) asleep on board. We secured the prisoners, and in less than ten minutes we had the whole concern, schooner, steamer, rice, &c., cast off quietly from the wharf, and shoved out into the stream. Within two hundred yards of the vessels, the captain (Dexter) of the schooner, the proprietor of the mills, his overseer, and two seash army officers, were sleeping; but this we did not know till after we left the wharf.

Steam was got up on the tug quick as possible, and she started ahead, towing the schooner and rice flats. It was now near daybreak, and they were getting along finely, when by some accidental pull on the wrong wire by the negro pilot on the steamer, the steam whistle set up one continued scream that seemed like a call for help to the whole State of South Carolina. Our party now expected an instant attack, as there was a quantity of soldiers within a mile, and the overseers of the plantations might be aroused. But no attack was made; no doubt they thought the whistle was blown in defiance, and that we were in strong force, as the Charleston Mercury reported the capture by thirty Yankees, a few days afterward.

Finding the tug unable to steer with the whole fleet in tow, Mr. DuBois sent her on with the two lighters of rice, with instructions to anchor them at the mouth of the river, under cover of the guns of the Albatross, and then return for the schooner. The schooner now proceeded under sail for about three miles, when she grounded near a large plantation, within ten feet of the shore. She lay in this situation five hours, with only Mr. DuBois and five seamen on board, with five prisoners. An attempt at re-capture seemed certain; the plantations were all round them, and men could be seen at a distance in several directions. The crew, part of whom fought in the Cumberland and Congress in the engagement with the Merrimac, expressed their determination to stand by their officers till the last, in case of attack. The plan was, if attacked by a greatly superior force, to burn the schooner and retreat, fighting in the small boat. At 9 A. M., Mr. Harris went to their relief, with news that the tug was aground at the mouth of the river, and Capt. Prentiss was sending boats loaded with men to their assistance. At noon the steam tug was got afloat, and by the time she reached the schooner she also was afloat. Both vessels proceeded safely down the river, and were soon under the protecting guns of the Albatross. Mr. J. H. Harris was sent home to Boston in charge of the schooner Louisa. Her cargo consists of 147 bales fine cotton. The steam tug and lighters are still in Winyaw Bay, near Georgetown, S. C., (also two small pilot boats previously captured at Georgetown by the Albatross,) in charge of the United States blockading fleet off

Publisher's Notices.

As a new Half Volume of the RURAL commenced July 5th, the present is a favorable time for renewals, and also for new subscriptions to begin.

To Agents, Subscribers, and Others.

As a new Half Volume of the RURAL commenced July 5th, the present is a favorable time for renewals, and also for new subscriptions to begin.

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

BACK VOLUMES.—Bound copies of our last volume are now ready for delivery—price, \$3; unbound, \$2.

THE LEGAL RATE OF POSTAGE ON THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is only 3 1/2 cents per copy for any part of the State.

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.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Royal New-York Office, ROCHESTER, July 29th, 1882.

The market is very quiet to-day and such changes in rates as are able to note are but very few, and of minor import.

EGGS are down to 10 cents per dozen.

DRIED FRUITS are beginning to fall off materially.

Wool.—Considerable wool has been sold the past week at a slight advance above our previous quotations.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

Flour and Grain. Flour, winter wheat, 4 1/2 @ 4 3/4.

Flour, buckwheat, 4.00 @ 4.25.

Flour, rye, 3.75 @ 4.00.

Flour, corn, 3.50 @ 3.75.

Flour, oat, 3.25 @ 3.50.

Flour, bran, 2.00 @ 2.25.

Flour, shorts, 1.50 @ 1.75.

Flour, middlings, 1.25 @ 1.50.

Flour, meal, 1.00 @ 1.25.

Flour, bran, 1.00 @ 1.25.

Flour, shorts, 1.50 @ 1.75.

Flour, middlings, 1.25 @ 1.50.

Flour, meal, 1.00 @ 1.25.

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, July 22.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

BEUF CATTLE. First quality, 7 1/2 @ 8 1/2.

Ordinary quality, 6 1/2 @ 7 1/2.

Common quality, 5 1/2 @ 6 1/2.

Inferior quality, 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2.

COWS AND CALVES. First quality, 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2.

Ordinary quality, 3 1/2 @ 4 1/2.

Common quality, 2 1/2 @ 3 1/2.

Inferior quality, 1 1/2 @ 2 1/2.

VEAL CALVES. First quality, 5 1/2 @ 6 1/2.

Ordinary quality, 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2.

Common quality, 3 1/2 @ 4 1/2.

Inferior quality, 2 1/2 @ 3 1/2.

SHEEP AND LAMBS. Prime quality, 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2.

Ordinary quality, 3 1/2 @ 4 1/2.

Common quality, 2 1/2 @ 3 1/2.

Inferior quality, 1 1/2 @ 2 1/2.

SWINE. Corn-fed, 3 1/2 @ 4 1/2.

do. light, 3 1/2 @ 4 1/2.

Still-fed, 3 1/2 @ 4 1/2.

ALBANY, July 22.—Beef.—This has been a discouraging market for the past few days.

Butcher's sales at the market were made up to a demand of 1000 head.

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REJECTED Applications for Patents prosecuted without charge, unless patents are obtained.

EMPLOYMENT.—Agents wanted in every county to sell the best Two-threaded Sewing Machine ever offered to the public.

500 COLORED PLATES OF FRUITS AND FLOWERS. Described for Nurserymen, Tree Agents and Amateurs.

FAMILY SEMINARY, Fulton, Oswego Co., N. Y. of 250 acres of choice land in a high state of cultivation.

FARM AND NURSERY FOR SALE.—Consisting of 250 acres of choice land in a high state of cultivation.

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Cuts any length desired and all kinds of feed. No machine works easier or faster, and none is less liable to get out of order.

THE NATIONAL TAX LAW. GET THE BEST.

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THE DIAL, A DAILY AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER, PUBLISHED AT Philadelphia.

OHIO STATE FAIR, THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL FAIR OF THE Ohio State Board of Agriculture.

Married. In New York on the evening of the 21st inst., by Rev. Mr. MINTON.

Died. In Canandaigua, July 13th, after a lingering illness, borne with great resignation and quiet submission to God's will.

New Advertisements. ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS CHEAP.—Austin's Strawberry Seedling, 25 cents per dozen; \$1 per hundred.

MILLIKEN'S STENCIL PAMPHLET.—Shows how any active person can make money rapidly. Sent free.

PEACH PALM.—A new and valuable variety of Peach, which also bears Apples, Apricots, &c.

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SEYMOUR'S IMPROVED PATENT GRAIN DRILL.

THE SIMPLEST, BEST, AND MOST DURABLE DRILL EVER OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC.

This machine combines all the important and most desirable qualities of all the Grain Drills in use.



Those who prefer to keep the manure separate from the seed will deposit it in the ground, should the weather be so dry that it is necessary to water the seed.

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G. C. PEARSON & CO., COMMISSION MERCHANTS, No. 167 Water Street, Chicago, Ill.

RECEIVE consignments of produce to be sold in this market, and for shipment; all Eastern orders for Grain by the cargo, Flour, &c.

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ALL kinds of new, rare, and Seedling Plants, Fruits, Flowers, Trees, Vines, Shrubs, &c.

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MASON & HAMLIN'S HARMONIUMS AND MELODEONS.

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The only Combined Butter-Worker, Washer, Weigher and Slicer extant is RICHARDSON'S PATENT, now offered to Butter-Makers, &c., by the Manufacturers of Implements.

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COGSWELL'S REVOLVING WHEEL RAKE! The Rake can be mounted on common carriage wheels, and has a spring seat for the driver.

WARRANTY. The proprietors warrant their machine to do the work easier and better than any other rake in the market.

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INVENTIONS AND THEIR RESULTS. A New Book just published. Send 2 stamps (6 cts.) for a specimen copy.

A BEAUTIFUL MICROSCOPE, Magnifying Five Hundred times, for twenty-eight cents (in silver).

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ALLIS, WATERS & CO., BANKERS, 55 Buffalo St., Opposite the Eagle Hotel, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Books for Ruralists. The following works on Agriculture, Horticulture, &c., may be obtained at the Office of the RURAL NEW-YORKER.

American Farmer's Encyclopedia, \$4.00.

Allen's Am. Farm Book, \$1.00.

Allen's Diseases of Domestic Animals, \$0.75.

Allen's Rural Economy, \$1.25.

Allen on the Horse, \$1.00.

Allen on the Dog, \$1.00.

Allen on the Cat, \$1.00.

Allen on the Pig, \$1.00.

Allen on the Sheep, \$1.00.

Allen on the Cattle, \$1.00.

Allen on the Poultry, \$1.00.

Allen on the Fish, \$1.00.

Allen on the Bees, \$1.00.

Allen on the Silkworm, \$1.00.

NOW OR NEVER.

BY OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

Listen, young heroes! your country is calling! Time strikes the hour for the brave and the true! Now, while the foremost are fighting and falling, Fill up the ranks that have opened for you!

THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND MORE.

We are coming, Father Abraam, three hundred thousand more, From Mississippi's winding stream and from New England's shore;

If you look across the hill-tops that meet the northern sky, Long moving lines of rising dust your vision may descry;

If you look up our valleys, where the growing harvests shine, You may see our sturdy farmer-boys fast forming into line;

You have called us, and we're coming, by Richmond's bloody tide, To lay us down for Freedom's sake, our brothers' bones beside;

The Story-Teller.

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

BETSEY MORSE: A COUNTRY STORY.

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 17, of the town of Pineville, boasted of a goodly number of scholars, both large and small, handsome and homely, and endowed with the usual variety of talent and disposition peculiar to a school.

Among those who for years stemmed the current of unpopularity in the district in question, was BETSEY MORSE. BETSEY was truly an uninteresting specimen of girlhood; homely and ungraceful, and without any of the mental brilliancy that would have made her respected, she seemed truly what her chief tormentor, WILL HOPKINS, designated her, "a regular gawky."

But there came a time in BETSEY's school-days, when for two whole winters she had a champion. MORTIMER BLISS came down from the North to stay with his aunt, Mrs. BREWER, and go to school.

would say, "that's not fair," and would often shame them into better behavior.

There were many rival spelling schools held in that and the adjoining districts about those days, and it was owing to MORTIMER that BETSEY was invited to go with the rest of the school, whenever they went away from home to exhibit their spelling.

Had BETSEY been of a sensitive nature, she would have been soured by her experience at school; but nature, in depriving her of beauty, had kindly seemed to withhold the sensibility that would otherwise have caused her so much suffering.

BETSEY was such a proficient with her needle, that after she left school her parents had taken her away to learn a trade, and on her return she went from house to house sewing.

Thus passed five years of BETSEY's youth. She had almost ceased to think of marriage as her lot, and had she remained in the neighborhood where she was reared, she might have equaled public expectation and been an old maid;

The first place that BETSEY went to on Uncle BEN SLOCUM's was Mr. BRONSON's, one of the best and richest farmers of the town. There was a large family, and her services were required a month or more. While there she daily saw the oldest son, LEVI BRONSON, go in and out; but she was so accustomed to pass through the world unnoticed, that she never dreamed the quiet, sensible man, whom every one, even his own father, looked up to, bestowed a second thought on her.

It was, however, with some confusion that she announced to her uncle that he need not be to the trouble of taking her home, as Mr. BRONSON was going over to Pineville the next day, and had asked her to go with him.

For some cause Mr. BRONSON was uncommonly still that morning, and as BETSEY could not think of anything to say about the weather, or any thing else, she was silent too.

"Why, Mr. BRONSON," was BETSEY's first astonished exclamation, when she found herself able to speak at all, "you can't be in earnest in wishing to marry me. Nobody ever saw any thing in me to love before; how can you?"

The remainder of their conversation would, perhaps, not be interesting to general readers, but BETSEY was not hard to be convinced of his sincerity, and by the time they had reached the site of the old school house, where she had suffered martyrdom so many times in her childhood, she was engaged.

The time that intervened between the engagement and the wedding was a season of quiet but intense happiness to BETSEY. So much more joy had fallen to her lot than she had ever anticipated, that she wondered what she had done to deserve it;

When BETSEY's children were old enough to begin going to school, almost for the first time during her happy married life her old school experiences rose up before her, and she felt resentful for the persecutions she had suffered.

One morning, about this time, Mr. BRONSON entered the room where BETSEY was seated with the baby in her arms. "Well," said he, pleasantly, "isn't this boy to have a name sometime, BETSEY? What is it going to be?"

BETSEY was silent a moment, as if gathering courage for the effort, then she spoke: "LEVI, haven't I always been a good wife to you?" Her tone was so different from usual that her husband looked at her in astonishment.

"Nothing, LEVI," said she, "but there is something I wanted to say to you about naming the baby." The whole story came out then, how through those dark years before she knew him she had loved the memory of MORTIMER BLISS, and it seemed to her now, through the development and self-knowledge which had come with her maturer years, that she had been guilty of deceit towards her husband, in keeping the knowledge from him.

One of BETSEY's quiet enjoyments, after her marriage, had been to ride over to Pineville Center occasionally, to attend church. She never felt her heart swell with such thankfulness for the blessings of her lot, as it did in the dear old church, when the past unconsciously rose up in contrast with the happy present.

pleasant morning in June, in her old place there, with her husband, the little LEVI and his two sisters, NATHAN, the trusty oldest son, having charge of the baby in the roomy family carriage without. There was quite a time shaking hands with her old school mates, after services, all glad to recognize her now, and a great crowding round the carriage by the young mothers to get a sight of the baby.

Among them were SARAH BREWER, the cousin of MORTIMER BLISS, now the wife of a wealthy farmer living a short distance from the town, and MARIE BLAIR, who had been for many years the wife of WILL HOPKINS, Esq., a lawyer and politician, in a small way, living at the Center. The two school-mates were intimate yet, and walked homeward together.

"Wont you come in," asked Mrs. HOPKINS, pausing as she reached her own door, "and wait until the children come along from Sabbath school?" Mrs. WILSON assented, and on entering the house they were soon joined by the master.

"How well BETSEY BRONSON does look," Mrs. HOPKINS was remarking to her friend. "Yes," broke in her husband, not at all improved in his disposition, and who never lost an opportunity to make his wife feel uncomfortable, "if I was going to marry again I would look out for the homeliest old maid I could find. Look at BETSEY BRONSON; she looks at least ten years younger than MARIE does now."

"I believe that BETSEY is as happy as a woman need be," said Mrs. WILSON, "but I do wonder how she came to call her baby MORTIMER." "I don't," said Esq. HOPKINS, "the amount of it is that there always was more about her than any of us was willing to allow, and I believe she has never forgotten your cousin. I often think of the jokes I used to play on her and wonder if she bears any malice for them." Betty tyrant that he had ever been, he would have prized BETSEY's good opinion now.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ORNITHOLOGICAL ENIGMA.

- I AM composed of 24 letters. My 1, 3, 6, 4 is a web-footed water fowl. My 7, 2, 12, 11, 15, 5 is the butcher bird. My 23, 12, 11, 23, 4, 16 is the popular name of several species of birds allied to the thrushes.

DOUBLE REBUS.

WHEN I work I'm always clothed; When idle, naked stand; And boldly I, myself, may say, I'm singly in this land.

A RIDDLE.

I AM a vehicle that's wondrous large, But neither coach nor wagon, ship nor barge; Whether sitting, standing, lying, With you I'm miles uncounted flying.

GEOMETRICAL PROBLEM.

DETERMINE the base and perpendicular of a right-angled triangle, the hypotenuse being 700, and the side of an inscribed square 240.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 653.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma.—For wisdom is better than rubies. Answer to Charade.—The vowels a, e, i, o, u. Answer to Question for Surveyors.—N. 44° 26' E.

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. Business Men who wish to reach, at once, TENS OF THOUSANDS of the most enterprising Farmers, Horticulturists, &c., and thousands of Merchants, Mechanics, Manufacturers and Professional Men, throughout the loyal States, should give the RURAL A TRIAL.

Advertisements.

BATTLE SCENES. BY THE most severe BATTLE SCENES AND INCIDENTS of the War now ready, (size 18x30 inches), highly colored, on fine card paper, for 25 cents, or 35 for \$1, post-paid. To Agents and the Trade no better opportunity was ever offered.

TO BUILDERS AND FARMERS. Building Brick and Drain Tile.

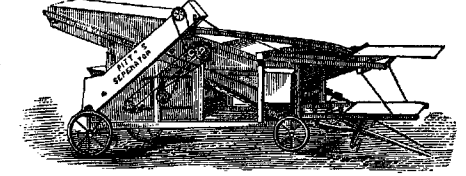
The Rochester Brick and Tile Manufacturing Company are now prepared to meet all demands of either Builders or Farmers wanting Brick or Tile. Pipe Tile of all sizes from two to six inches, and Horse Shoe from two to ten inches. The Tile manufactured by this Company are longer than that made by other manufacturers, being 16 inches in length, 1,000 pieces making 50 rods. They are also strong, hard burned, and every piece of superior quality.

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.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

We offer for sale, for the Autumn of 1862, the largest stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, &c. west of Rochester. Our stock consists of 20,000 4 year old Apple Trees, &c.



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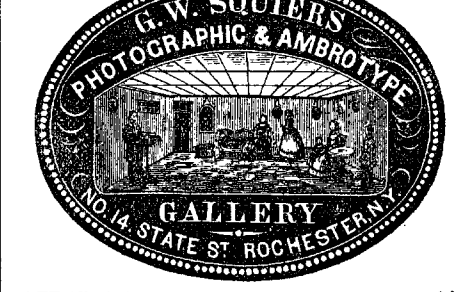
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