

longer, all will be secured in good order. The Hes- sian fly is in some of the earliest sown fields, but has done no material damage, except to make it lodge; and the midge is in some of the late heads, yet I think it has caused no material injury to winter wheat, but has nearly annihilated spring wheat in these parts. There is on all wheat that I have seen a purple or red insect, (louse,) which is something new here, at least I have never noticed it before. They are innumerable,—literally covering the ground. After binding and removing a bundle, they can be seen by thousands. Spring wheat and oats are also full of them. What they are, or whether it is another enemy to grain, I don't know. [We presume it is the Grain Aphid, described in a late number of the RURAL.] Grass is heavy, and oats a full medium crop. Fruit in abundance.—WM. COLE, Troy, Mich., July 28.

A CONNECTICUT SHEEP STORY.—Eds. Rural:—I will give you a sheep story as a specimen of what is done in that line here in old Connecticut. Mr. P. B. PECK, of North Windham, a RURAL subscriber, informed me, in a conversation I had with him a short time since, that fifteen years ago he had one sheep, and since then he has sold over 100, killed a number for mutton every fall, and now has a very handsome lot of 20, and all from one sheep. He also tells me that on the 10th of May, 1861, he had 3 ewes, and that in one year they had increased to 21. One of them died, but he has now 20 fine sheep and lambs, and all from the 3 ewes and their progeny in one year. This looks a little like the story the man told about his corn, when he said that after manuring a hill of it with some new kind of fertilizer, he picked 35 ears from the stalks, and a stake that he had placed near it also bore several handsome ears. But friend PECK is a gentleman whose veracity none who know him doubt. He explains their increase to me in this way: The 3 original sheep had 7 lambs—2 of them had twins, the other triplets—4 ram and 3 ewe lambs. Before the year came around, they lambed a second time and had 3, and the 3 lambs of the first lot also had lambs, thus making 21 in all. Twenty of them are now alive and in fine order. If any of your readers can beat this, let us hear from them.—G. C. R., Mansfield Center, Conn., 1862.

FROM NORTH-EASTERN WISCONSIN.—CROPS, &c. Our corn crop is backward; more so, I think, in this region, than at any former period for the last eight years. Some pieces are so very small that they give little hope of a crop of any value. Others have been greatly damaged by heavy showers that have badly washed the soil. While in a majority of pieces the corn stands well on the ground and is of good color, under the most favorable circumstances the crop must fall below an average one. Oats are middling. Potatoes bid fair for a full crop. The wool crop is generally marketed and sold at remunerating prices, varying from thirty-seven to forty-seven cents per pound.

We are now in the midst of haying, for which the weather, until the past few days, has been very unfavorable. Instead of moderate showers, we have had rain in torrents, which has fairly deluged the country, greatly damaging large quantities of hay not stacked, and in some instances sweeping it from the low grounds into the streams, entirely beyond reach. I think it safe to estimate the loss sustained in grass cut and uncut at one-fourth the entire crop, which promised to be a full one. In fact, timothy and clover, which had not been extensively grown here, have done remarkably well this season, many fields being fully equal to any ever grown in Western New York, affording a very encouraging future prospect for farmers in this section.

Of garden fruits we have not a great variety. Currants are abundant, and the making of a little domestic wine is the order of the day. Apples are not so plenty as last season, yet we shall have some; the trees look healthy, and are growing finely. The wheat crop, always subject to many contingencies, has this season been injured somewhat by the great rains, rust, and chinch bugs. Still it promises to be something like a fair, average crop. Some few pieces may do to cut this week; but it will be a full week before we shall be fairly in the harvest field of battle. We feel greatly the want of help. The harvest is great, but the laborers are few.—J. C. B., Danville, Dodge Co., Wis., July 28, 1862.

WAR OR WORK.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—This is an important and solemn era in the history of our country. It calls for the exercise of all the means, and all the energies of our citizens, mental, moral and physical. Every man should feel that he is an active, and not a sleeping, partner in this great and glorious association, the United States of America, established to secure liberty and good government to all its members. Each man should consider himself a host, and feel that upon his patriotic action depends the salvation of the country in this time of sore trial. This is a time that calls for sacrifice of time, ease, money and life; and unworthy is he to be a citizen of this noble country who is not ready to make the sacrifice, and make it cheerfully.

I am, Messrs. Editors, among those whose age excludes them from draft, and whose gray hairs would hardly be permitted to be covered by a soldier's cap, even by the most anxious volunteer captain seeking for recruits; yet, thanks to a kind Providence and a temperate life of toil, I am yet able to bear some of the burthens of the Government, and if it should become necessary, might yet do something at making rebels run, though I would do so on a retreat. But those who, like myself, are laid on the shelf so far as fighting is concerned, can do a good deal towards putting down a rebellion. We can talk,—and the old are fond of talking,—and show our young men the right way. We can urge them to a prompt performance of their duty, and we can take care of the wives and the little ones, and see that while the father fights our battles, the mother and the children are made as happy as possible, by our kind words and acts. Their lot is a hard one, but we can make it lighter if we will, and be that will not do so is a hard-hearted, soulless fellow, that ought not to be allowed to live with civilized people. Then we can work. Some of us have been resting a long time,—thinking we had earned a little repose for our declining days,—and telling what big days' works we used to do, and how, even now, we could beat the degenerate young men of the present day. Well, we now have a chance to try again. The hired man wants to go, but his contract with you is not out until spring. Now, show your patriotism. Let him go; pay him up promptly for all he has done, to buy conveniences to leave with his family, and if you have a heart as big as a walnut, say to him that you

will pay his wages to his wife the first of every month, just as though he was still in your service. Indeed, he is really in your service, and doing a harder and more dangerous work, than if plowing and hoeing your fields. Call him your representative. See that the wood-pile is kept up at his house, and those little things attended to that only a man can do.

In ten years from now some men will feel ashamed of their present meanness and cowardice, while the noble deeds and sacrifices of others will make them heroes, and all men will delight to do them honor. We have got through looking back to '76 for our glory. The heroes of America are now to be those of '62,—this is the time that will try men's souls. Your boys want to go. God bless them for the noble, manly impulse. Who can blame them? Do you wish them to be cowards in a nation of heroes? Do you want them to stifle their impulses and disgrace their manhood? Give your consent, of course; encourage them by your own spirit. Tell them you can get in the rest of the crops, that you are aching to do something for the cause, and go to work. Those joints will grow supple again, and in a few days you will renew your age and feel like a young man.

This is a day in which every one must be up and doing. Even the women and children can do something, and have done a good deal towards providing restoratives and comforts for the sick and wounded. We must all work or fight; and whether we work or fight, it must be for the same object—our country's good. Individual interest must be lost sight of, and the greater interest absorb all our thoughts, hopes, desires and labors. OLD FARMER.

KICKING HORSES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—As my wife is a subscriber to your paper, (and she being a very fine woman, allows me to read it,) I thought I would take the liberty to address you, for the purpose of benefiting some of your readers with regard to the best mode of curing horses that have vicious and disagreeable habits, especially the "kicker." As I have been strictly a horse man for the past ten years, and have tried many experiments with that class of horses, I think my view of the subject will interest those having to do with that noble animal.

Undoubtedly, when the All-wise Creator gave man dominion over the beasts of the field, he designed that man should subjugate the horse, and make him a kind and faithful servant. Notwithstanding the ox, the camel, the ass, the goat, and the sheep were all domesticated a number of thousand years before the horse, the latter has been found to be the most useful animal given by God to man, and yet, perhaps, the worst abused—overworked, whipped, spurred, and half starved.

"The galled ox cannot complain, nor supplicate a moment's respite; The spent horse hideth his distress, till he caneth out his spirit at the goal; Also, in the winter of life, when worn by constant toil, If ingratitude forget his services, he cannot bring them to remembrance. Behold, he is faint with hunger; the big tear standeth in his eye; His skin is sore with stripes, and he tottereth beneath his burden; His limbs are stiff with age, his sinews have lost their vigor, And pain is stamped upon his face, while he wrestleth unequally with toil: Yet once more mutely and meekly endureth he the crushing blow; That struggle hath cracked his heart-strings—the generous brute is dead! Liveth there no advocate? for him no judge to avenge his wrongs? No voice that shall be heard in his defense? no sentence to be passed on his oppressor? Yes, the sad eye of the tortured pleadeth pathetically for him: Yes, all the justice in heaven is roused in indignation at his woes: Yes, all the pity upon earth shall call down a curse upon the cruel: Yes, the burning malice of the wicked is their own exceeding punishment. The Angel of Mercy stoppeth not to comfort, but passeth by on the other side, And hath no tear to shed when a cruel man is damned."

With regard to the best mode of teaching a horse not to kick in the stable, I differ materially from Mr. YOUTT, notwithstanding he is a graduate of the college, while I am only a graduate of the stable. While he recommends cruelty, I use kind and gentle means. If the horse kicks, it is because he thinks he has reason to do so; it is because he first wills to kick, and then carries out his design by applying his feet to some frightful object—a course which he undoubtedly deems very necessary to self-protection. Perhaps there is no object to frighten him; if so, it is very easy for him to imagine that he is in danger, especially after he has once acquired the habit—all which goes to show that it is an act of the mind, and not of the heels; and if so, why not operate upon the brain, instead of torturing the flesh, as Mr. YOUTT recommends? A person would naturally come to the conclusion, by the reading of the quotation in the RURAL from YOUTT, (in answer to the inquiry made by a Manassett, Queens Co. subscriber, with regard to "kickers,") that the horse's brains lay in his heels, instead of his head, for he recommends a very cruel and barbarous operation, such as letting him kick against the thorn bush, the furze, the log, the block, and chain, all of which help to irritate the mind, and in some cases so much so that Mr. YOUTT says he thinks the animal must be crazy, and it would not be wonderful if such treatment were to make him crazy. I think such treatment is sufficient to make a mule insane.

In order to break a horse of any vicious or disagreeable habit, we have to convey an idea from our mind to his, which cannot be done by inflicting pain upon the flesh; therefore we lay the whip and the spur aside, and use kind and gentle means, teaching the horse to have confidence in his master. Then it is a very easy matter to teach him the principles of subordination, without using brute force. Now let me say to your Queens county man, if you want to break your horse from kicking at "nothing," just give him nothing to kick at, and the way to do it is this: Hitch him on the barn floor, where there is no stall, and then swing a smooth pole, by means of ropes, on either side of him. Let them hang about even with his stifle, and then let him "fall in." While he is kicking at one the other is close after him, and he kicks under them, and falls to hit either. Thus he soon finds out that he is not hurt, and that when he kicks he only does so against the wind; and hence soon comes to the conclusion that it won't pay, gives it up, and goes to eating, or lies down and behaves himself. I have tried this a number of times, and never knew it to fail.

Kendallville, Ind., 1862.

ALBERT W. SELDEN, V. S.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

How to Tan Skins. Two correspondents of the N. E. Farmer give the following directions:

- 1. Take two parts of saltpeter and one of alum; pulverize finely, mix them, and sprinkle evenly over the flesh side of the skin; then roll the skin tightly together, and let it remain a few days, according to the weather; then scrape the skin till it is soft and pliable. I have tanned skins in this way so that they are as soft and white as buckskins.
2. A reader wishes to know the mode of tanning coon and fox skins with the fur on. I will give him my mode of operation. If the skin is green from the body, scrape all the flesh from it; then pulverize equal parts of saltpeter and alum, and cover the flesh part of the skin with it; put the skin in such a manner as to hold the brine when dissolved; then lay it away in a cool place—say the cellar—and let it lie four or six days: then cover the flesh part with soap, and wash off with clean water; dry in the shade; roll and pull occasionally while drying; then roll and pull until soft and pliable.

Economy of Small Farms.

THE Maine Farmer, in an article on Chinese husbandry, deduces some conclusions in regard to the ECONOMY OF SMALL FARMS.

- 1. The term small farms may need some qualification. In France the majority of farms do not average more than five acres each; but here a farm of from fifty to seventy-five acres would be called a small farm. And we believe there is more profit in working a farm of this size, considering the expenses attendant upon it, than in carrying on a farm of three hundred acres. Eventually, all our farms will be reduced in size, partly for the purpose of conducting them to more profit, and partly because agriculture will ultimately be the leading profession engaged in.
2. We learn another lesson from their methods of saving fertilizing material to apply to the soil—a lesson of the greatest importance, and one which we could use to good advantage. Were the same economy in saving manure practiced here as is common in China, we could support a population double our present number, send men enough to war to put down every rebellion, whip England and France, pay all our taxes, and leave everybody rich.
3. In the application of manure and irrigation, another lesson is taught us. There is no doubt that manure in a liquid form is the best food for plants that can be applied. It comes in direct contact with the rootlets, and in a form readily to be available for their growth. The more liquid manure we use, and the more irrigation is practiced—where practicable—the greater will be our crops and the more sure our success.

The Art of Catching Horses.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Valley Farmer truly remarks that there are few things more aggravating than to be in a hurry to go to some place, and have great trouble to catch a horse. I have sometimes made the assertion that a horse which I raise will never be hard to catch, unless some one else spoils him. The way I manage is to keep them gentle from colts, handling them as often as convenient. When young horses are running to grass, give them salt occasionally, and let them fondle about you, making as little show as possible of trying to get hold of them. There is nothing surer to spoil a horse forever than to run as if trying to hem him in, and yelling at him authoritatively, or scolding; he can see, just as well as you know, that he is out of your reach. To put on the cap sheaf, whip him severely for causing trouble, and my word for it, the next time you want to catch him he "will not listen to the voice of your charming, charm you never so wisely."

Horses learn a great deal by signs. In beginning to teach them to be caught, go toward them on the near side, slowly and cautiously, making no demonstrations at all. If the animal begins to walk off, stop, and whistle, or otherwise manifest indifference, until he becomes quiet again, then approach as before. When you are so close as to be confident he will not escape you, speak kindly, and hold up one hand, ready to touch him on the withers, and thence pass it along the neck until you can get hold of his head, but do not seize him with a grab, as this tends to excite fear afterwards. By practicing this course, using the sign, viz., holding up the hand when you are a little further away each time, a horse may be taught to stop and be caught, even when in considerable glee, (playing,) simply by holding up the hand and using some familiar phrase, such as whoa boy, &c. By way of caution, however, watch his actions and intentions closely during his tutoring, and if at any time or from any cause, you see that he is going to run, do not by any means say anything or hold up your hand, as the sign given and disobeyed a few times will almost inevitably prevent your making anything out of it in future.

The Way to Cock Barley.

S. EDWARDS TODD, writing to the Country Gentleman, gives the directions as to the proper manner of conducting this portion of the labors of the farm: If barley be properly cocked, it will stand a very hard rain, without being wet but very little; whereas, if it be thrown together in a hap-hazard manner, almost every straw will be wet through the entire cock, during an ordinary shower. If the cocks are to be covered with hay caps during a shower, it matters little how the bunches of barley are placed. But in case barley must remain in the cock during a storm, unprotected by caps, it should be so cocked that it will shed rain. If the straw is long, the cocks should be about one-third larger in diameter than the length of the straw. Then we should always endeavor to keep the middle the highest, by placing the heads near the middle of the cock, with the straw slanting in a direction to carry the rain from the middle. Let the cocks be "trimmed up," as we usually say, by raking them off smooth, and forming a very conical top. Now, take a gavel of short barley and spread it over the top of a cock, by walking entirely round it, placing the straws in such a position that they will conduct the rain away from the middle of the cock. The rain will be conducted along the straws, if they do not lie entirely level; and if the straws have a little inclination, the greater proportion of the water that falls—unless it should rain very hard—will all be conducted off, and the barley will be wet but little. But when a good portion of the straw slants inwards towards the middle of the cock, the water will be conducted inwards, and the cocks will be well saturated with water.

Farmers should show their awkward boys and unskillful men, how to handle the gavels or bundles of barley, with skill, when they are cocking it, in

order to have the bunches, when they are placed on the cock, lie in such a position that they will not conduct the rain towards the middle of the cock.

The same principle holds equally good and important in cocking hay. A skillful laborer will put up cocks of barley or hay so that they will turn a good shower of rain, while another man, who pays little or no attention to the principle alluded to here, will put it in cocks which will not turn the rain at all.

How Flax is Harvested.

ALL reports seem to indicate that a much larger breadth of land has been sown to flax the present year than is usual, hence we give from the Scientific American the following practical description of the mode of pulling the crop:

The flax plant is of rapid growth, and it usually commences to flower within two months after its green spears first appear above the ground. It is generally agreed that the fiber is in the highest condition for manufacturing purposes before the seed becomes quite ripe. But a small quantity of seed can be obtained from the flax that is designed for the finest fiber. When both seed and fiber are required, which will generally be the case with our farmers, the flax should stand until the seed has become plump and shiny. The fiber of the ripe flax is not so fine and strong as that of partially green flax. Still it is the very kind which may be used for most coarse fabrics, either to mix with cotton, or for making mixed linen and woolen cloth.

In Belgium, where fine flax culture has long been practised with distinguished success, a full grown plant is selected, and the best matured and ripest capsule is taken. This is cut across with a sharp knife, and the section of the seeds examined. If they have become firm inside, and the outside has assumed a deep green color, the plant is considered fit for immediate pulling. At this time the entire plant will exhibit signs of approaching maturity, the bottom of the stalk will be seen to have assumed a yellowish tint, and have become much harder to the touch than it was before—good indications of an interruption to the circulation of the juices of the plant. If this altered condition be allowed to go on by the plant remaining in the ground, the change of color will rapidly make its way up the stem until it reaches the capsules, and then the seeds will be found to be fully matured, quite hard, and to have assumed the dark color with which we are so familiar in the market samples. The next stage of the plant would be the bursting of the seed vessels and disjection of their contents, but to preserve both seed and fiber, the plant should be harvested at the earlier state, at which time the fiber is at its best condition. If left until the seeds are quite matured, the stems get hard and woody, and the fiber is apt to get much broken in the subsequent process of separation. Long experience has proved that this is the most profitable time to pull flax.

In order to get the greatest length of fiber, which is a matter of great importance, flax is pulled up by the roots. The flax is pulled by hand, each singly, grasping a small handful carefully by the neck, just below the seed vessels, and drawing it up out of the soil, and laying it in rows across one another. These are allowed to remain lying open on the ground for a certain time, generally one or two days; they are then collected together, and bound into small sized sheaves or bundles, care being taken that the band shall be placed just under the seed heads of the plant, and the bottoms or butts left unconfined and open. If the crop has been irregular in its growth, and the stems are of unequal lengths, it is desirable, as far as it can be managed, to pull them in different bundles, according to their length, as both in steeping and scutching much fiber is otherwise lost. It is also desirable, in binding them, that the butts should be gently pressed on the ground, in order to regulate the length of the different stems. After the sheaves, or "bundles," as they are termed, are bound, they are arranged in small stooks, usually of four, five, or six each, placed in a circle, the butts being well spread out, so as to admit the air freely to their centers—the weather, and the condition of the crop when pulled, of course regulating the period they have to remain on the field.

Inquiries and Answers.

HARVESTING AND THRASHING FLAX.—Will you, or some of the RURAL readers, please give me some information as to the best method of harvesting and thrashing flax, where the object is to save both seed and fiber?—SUBSCRIBER, Suspension Bridge, N. Y., 1862.

"Subscriber" is referred to an article upon this topic from the Scientific American, which may be found in "Spirit of the Ag. Press," present issue. We would be glad to publish the views of such of our correspondents as have had experience in flax culture, and hope they will respond with the information desired.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH MY HOGS?—Last fall I could boast of six as fine sows as any of my neighbors, but this last spring they commenced to be lame in their hind legs. The lameness seemed to be caused by a disease in the kidneys or small of the back. Some could not stand on their hind legs at all. I fed corn mostly. Will the editor, or some one of the RURAL readers, please give the name, cause, and cure of the disease, and much obliged.—U. S. DIEFFENBACHER, Liberty, Toga Co., Pa., 1862.

SKINNER, in his "Diseases in Swine," says there is a fatal disease among our swine in the West called the kidney worm, which causes a weakness in the back, and finally a falling of the hind-quarters, which they will drag around for months, until they become the most loathsome objects that you can conceive of. Arsenic in small portions, mixed with their food, will generally prove effectual, if given in the first stages of the disease; and the best preventive medicine is ashes and sulphur, mixed with their salt; for hogs require as regular salting to keep them healthy and in good condition as do cattle or horses.

BLOODY MILK.—"A Subscriber" wants to know what will cure heifers that give bloody milk. I have cured a number that gave bloody milk, the same as he says he do, and have often thought of sending the recipe to the RURAL. It is a sure cure, and is as follows: Give one pound of sulphur one-fourth pound at a time, four days in succession, unless the third dose effects a cure. Give in bran, or meal, or anything the cow will eat. As a cure for the garget, this is the best thing I ever tried.—N. S., Castile, N. Y., 1862.

A SCOTCH HARBOR.—Noticing an inquiry in the RURAL for the dimensions of a Scotch Harbor, by "A Subscriber," I will give a description of what we Sackers understand to be a Scotch Harbor of the "pure blood," in common use here. Each half, or wing, being connected by hinges, is composed of four pieces 2 1/2 inches by 2 1/2 inches, and 4 feet 11 in. long, connected by 3 slats of sufficient strength—say 3/4 by 2 in.—passing through at a bevel or angle of about 3 in. in 12 or 13 in. Put 6 teeth in each bar, 12 in. apart from center to center, and the bars far enough apart so that a teeth will be 14 in. that way, thus standing 12 by 14 in., a little diamonding. It then wants two pieces that bar iron, 16 in. long, bolted on the ends of the two bars, at the obtuse angle, with 3 or 4 1/2 in. holes in them to draw by. Now an even 4 feet 8 in. long, ironed off something like a whiffetree, with clamps and hooks, with links between, to hook into those iron with holes, so as to adjust to draft to any desired angle, then the thing is complete, with forty teeth. Let the hinges be placed out with 1/2 in. rods, so as to reach through all the rods. It would be well to observe and put the slats through where they will not interfere with the teeth.—G. C. C., Cherry Valley, Ill.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE SEASON AND CROPS.—Since our last report the weather has been warm and pleasant—very favorable for harvesting operations. Most of the crop of winter wheat has been secured in good order, contrary to the anticipations of many farmers. The average temperature of last week (ending August 2,) was 70.14, but that of the present bids fair to be much higher, the heat of the first three days being oppressive. The thermometer marked over 90 in the shade on Sunday and Monday.—Good for the corn crop, which is improving. We continue to receive favorable reports concerning most crops, from almost every section, near and distant.

AMERICAN MACHINES, &c., AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.—Under date of July 11, 1862, Col. B. P. JOHNSON, United States Commissioner, writes:

"The awards have just been made, and we (America) received fifty-four medals and thirty-one honorable mentions for our ninety-eight contributors—a far larger proportion than to any other country. McCormick's Reaper and Wood's Reaper and Mower, each awarded a medal. Russell & Tremain and Kirby & Osborn have four honorable mentions. Our Fire Engine, Pease's Oil, of Buffalo, Hotchkiss' Peppermint Oil, are successful, and Steiny & Sons, and Hustamp, of New York, have medals for Planos—a great triumph over the Londoners. Our articles are attracting, as they deserve, much attention. I will send you a full list of awards by next steamer. All our Sewing Machines are awarded prizes."

—The ceremony of awarding the premiums at the International Exhibition in London took place on the 11th ult., the Duke of Cambridge officiating in the place of the Queen. A grand procession was formed in the Horticultural Gardens, and moved to the Exhibition Buildings to the sound of music. Mr. ADAMS represented the United States, and all the dignitaries of England were present. Earl Granville made an address to the international representatives, and Lord Tamont then delivered to the Duke of Cambridge a report on the verdict of the Juries Award. The number of medals voted by the juries amount to nearly seven thousand, and the honorable mentions to about five thousand three hundred. The proportion of awards to exhibitors is greater than in the International Exhibition of 1851, but less than in that of 1856. The English papers publish the awards to British exhibitors, which alone fill half a dozen columns of small type.

EMERY'S COTTON GIN.—We understand that Mr. HORACE L. EMERY, of the firm of EMERY BROS., Albany Agricultural Works, and the inventor of many valuable machines, has recently gone to England for the purpose of exhibiting his new Cotton Gin and other machinery at the World's Fair, and to introduce his inventions more generally in Europe. Mr. E. has devoted much time and attention in perfecting his Cotton Gin, and is said to have made great improvements upon the rude invention of WEINZNER. The N. Y. World says he expects to introduce it to the great cotton fields springing up in Asia and Africa, and believes its superiority will give him a monopoly of the sale of ginning machines in that quarter of the globe. The same authority, after describing the new gin, states that Mr. EMERY has had a machine in operation in that city recently, and that the cotton was ginned beautifully. "The seeds, picked bare as grains of barley, fell out under the hopper, the sand and dirt caught in a revolving wire screen, and were deposited in another place, while the ginned cotton came out at the extremity of the machine in most beautiful flakes." We think our friend will find a good field for his enterprise in Great Britain and her Colonies, and trust his visit will prove eminently successful.

WHAT A COW HAS DONE FOR THE WAR.—The Albany Journal relates the following interesting incident, which, it truly says, should make some of the rich men blush who are subscribing their paltry five and tens to the recruiting funds of their several localities:—"A few days since, subscriptions were set on foot in Orleans county. A farmer of moderate means contributed \$60 and a cow. Every one conceded that this was liberal; but it occurred to a friend that the cow might be turned to excellent account. Lots were to be cast for her, and 200 tickets, at \$1 each, were distributed and paid for. This, practically, brought up the farmer's subscription to \$250. But the cow was destined to do still better. The winner put her up at auction, and \$30 more were added to the fund—making the aggregate \$280. But it was deemed a pity that a cow, so thoroughly patriotic, should be sold so cheap; and the result was that \$15 were added to the purchase money—making the cow's aggregate contribution to the fund \$295, besides the \$50 from her original owner! There are a great many rich men, all over the country, who will not do half as much for the war as this cow."

CALIFORNIA CROPS, &c.—Under date of San Jose Valley, July 28, 1862, Mr. JOHN HASSINGER writes to the RURAL as follows:—"The crops in this Valley this season are very large. Some fields of wheat will average as high as sixty bushels per acre, and barley as high as one hundred bushels. The grain will be very heavy and plump. We have got to sowing our grain in this Valley very thin, not more than from thirty-five to forty pounds to the acre, in order that it may spread. I have counted as high as one hundred stalks from one root, each having a perfect head of eighty grains to the head—so you see our increase is something over one hundred fold. Farmers, this season, have to fall back to the old method of harvesting by using the reaping and in some instances to mowing machines, the grain being too much down for the heading machines."

Mr. H. sends extracts from the San Jose Mercury of the 3d ult., one of which, among other huge things, says:—"Mr. BORTSFORD has succeeded in raising 225 bushels of barley to the acre, on a field of ten acres, from once seeding and thrice harvesting."

"STOP MY PAPER."—We gratify the writer of the subpoenaed by publishing his essay entire—being sure to "follow copy" throughout, except in omitting names:

MR D D T Moore Dear Sir I have sent two short pieces to you requesting you to publish the same I have not yet seen either of them in the columns of your Paper neither have you given any reason for not doing so one was headed our Pet the other was headed What My Fig done the first that I sent you was written in Sixty one if you publish that please state when it was written now Mr Moore I want those pieces published the story of my Fig at any rate and unless you make up your mind to do so in your next you need not send another Copy of the Rural to my address Speedsville July 27th 62 Yours in haste

—In reply to the above we beg respectfully to state that we have never yet "gone and went and done" so mean a thing as to publish a ridiculous or foolish thing to procure or retain a subscriber, and reckon the time for such action has not arrived—and will not so long as we can cut cord-wood or unearth potatoes for a livelihood. "This is a free country" yet, we believe, and so long as "this dependent" edits the RURAL, "pets" and "pigs" will be discussed or told about with proper discretion, and upon sufficient authority, only. Meantime, and perhaps for a longer period, the paper will be furnished at the usual rates, and the copy mailed to our modest friend discontinued when his subscription expires.

DAVY'S DEVON HERD BOOK.—The Journal of the N. Y. Ag Society says that Mr. JOHN DAVY, the Editor of the Devon Herd Book, has just issued a circular announcing his intention of publishing the fourth volume as soon as practicable after the forthcoming trial at the world's fair. He will publish all pedigrees sent him of thorough-bred Devons, giving pedigrees (in accordance with the rules established by the New York State Agricultural Society), for subscribers to his volume at ten shillings sterling. The volume will cost American subscribers with charges not to exceed \$3.80. He especially desires that wherever any animal has taken a premium the same should be stated, and that all lists both for bulls and heifers should be arranged, by those sending them, alphabetically, so as to save him great trouble in editing his work.

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS, &c.—The next Annual Fair of the Allegany Co. Ag. Society is to be held at Angola, Sept. 23d and 24th. The officers are: President—E. F. WILLETTS; Angelica. Vice P.—Robert Renwick, Belfast. Secretary—E. M. Alba, Angelica. Treasurer—J. Lockhart, Angelica.—A Union Ag. Society has been organized in the border town of the counties of Oneida, Otsego, Chenango, and Madison. It is entitled the Brookfield Union Ag. Society, and will hold its first Annual Fair at Brookfield, on the 24th and 25th of Sept.—The Town Fair of Columbus, Chenango Co., will be held October 13—15.

HORTICULTURAL.

NOTES IN THE FLOWER GARDEN.

THERE seems to be an increasing taste for small blue and white flowers. The great demand of our seedsmen is for the kinds that will produce small and delicate flowers, that will bear cutting well, and are therefore suitable for small hand bouquets. For this purpose the *Candytufts* are excellent, the *New White* particularly so, while the *Sweet Scented* with small foliage, is very pretty. The *Sweet Alyssum* is one of the most valuable plants of this class, growing about a foot in height, and covering the ground if planted about a foot apart. The *White Sweet Pea* is rather large for the purpose, but its fragrance is unequalled, and should be grown in large quantities, for nothing will be in more general demand.

Among the small blue flowers, the *Campanula speculum* is desirable, which, like all we have named, is an annual, hardy, and free bloomer. *Phacelia congesta* is a free bloomer, of a light, bright blue, as hardy as a weed. *Eulalia viscidula* is one of the brightest blues that can be imagined. The leaves are clean and healthy in their appearance, but a dullish green. The whole plant has a vigorous look, and grows about a foot in height. The flowers are not sufficiently abundant to suit our taste, but they are of great brilliancy, being of the deepest azure blue. One of the best, if not the best of all our small flowers, is the *Whitlavia grandiflora*. It cannot be called new, as it has been pretty generally grown in Europe for six or seven years; but we have seen it in this country only in a few cases. It commences blossoming in the hot-bed, or only when a few inches in height, and continues during the season, bears transplanting well, endures the hottest, driest season, and is quite desirable.

Among all the bright blue flowers of larger size, nothing surpasses for variety and brilliancy of coloring the *Delphiniums*. Very few are aware of the beauty of the *Dwarf Rocket Larkspur* when well grown. It is certainly one of the most showy ornaments of the flower garden; but for cutting, the *Branching* is the most useful. It grows from two to three feet in height, the flowers are in spikes, and blue, white, pink, and variegated. The seed should be sown in the autumn, to obtain fine plants the next spring. There are several perennial varieties, of the most brilliant shades of blue, perfectly hardy. Seed for these should be sown in June, and good flowers will be produced the next season, and plants may be multiplied by dividing the roots.

Last season we obtained seeds of a novelty—*Calliopsis cardaminifolia hybrida*, the plant being represented as of a pyramidal, globular growth, and covered with thousands of brilliant yellow flowers. The seeds were sown in the spring of 1861, and the plants produced did not meet our just expectations; but knowing that the *Ceroopsis* cannot be grown in perfection if the seed is sown in the spring, we waited for another trial before condemning this as unworthy of the praise it had received in Europe. This spring we were much surprised to find that every plant of last year had endured the winter, and that each was throwing up a compact mass of leaves and branches. The plants are between two and three feet in height, with a beautiful globular head really covered with flowers, like our well known *Yellow Ceroopsis*. It has truly a beautiful habit.

Lycnis Haageana has proved exceedingly desirable. If treated like a tender annual, and plants are grown in a frame with *Ten-Week-Stocks*, &c., and transplanted in June, it will flower in July and continue during the season. The blossoms are almost as large as *Dianthus Heddevigii*, and we have them scarlet and white.

In our vegetable garden we have been testing several kinds of early cabbage, and after a trial of two seasons we are satisfied that in this climate *Wheeler Imperial* is the best early cabbage grown. It heads well if the soil is even tolerable, grows very rapidly, and is not as liable to injury from insects as the slow growing kinds, while for the table we have no hesitation in saying it is unsurpassed. This is good enough if two or three plantings are made until winter cabbage is ready; but as this is some trouble, it may be followed by *Winningsstad*, set out at the same time. This is a good variety if the seed is true, but a good deal we see growing shows mixture very plainly.

THE TOWN GARDEN.

We are indebted to C. B. MILLER, of the Horticultural Agency, New York, for a copy of the *Town Garden*, a very neat little English work, more particularly designed for the residents of that foggy and smoky city, London, over which, according to M. JULES DE PREAMY, "a veil of black crape arises every morning from the Thames, spreading over the town, and at times allows itself to be pierced with a red bullet. It rains ink also, and the Londoner fills his inkstand from the spout at his window." Although this must be taken with some allowance, being a French caricature, yet the lovers of flowers in the great city have to contend with obstacles from which we are exempt, even in our largest cities. Many of the hints contained in this work, however, are so valuable and of such general interest, that we give our readers the benefit of their perusal.

WATER.—The first essential to success, our author considers a good supply of water, so that the foliage can be well washed, as often as may be necessary, and this in dusty towns, in a dry time, is nearly every evening.

RENEWAL OF THE SOIL.—Many of our city gardens are failures, solely from the nature of the soil. A garden that has been in use for a score of years, dug each season only a few inches deep, and somewhat shaded, will become pasty, and almost poisonous to plants. This must be changed by deep digging, so as to turn up the fresh subsoil, by adding good fresh loam from the country, by the use of lime, or some other available means. We have often urged this matter upon the attention of our readers.

DEAD WOOD is declared to be destructive to city gardens. It rots in the soil, and produces a fungus growth. As this is a subject somewhat new, and as we have seen the ill effects of chip manure under similar circumstances, we give a leaf from the chapter on this subject. "In the country we prize rotten wood as a capital material in peat borders, and for the culture of ferns, &c., but in damp soils, near towns, and everywhere in gardens confined by walls, dead wood is a most destructive material. Bury a few dead sticks at the roots of a rose or lilac tree, and watch what follows—the tree will, in a few

months, begin to languish, and at last will perish altogether. Take it up, and examine the roots, and you will find that the dead sticks gave rise to the growth of fungus, which has covered them with white threads; these threads have taken hold of the living roots, and have utterly checked their vegetative powers, and even the soil all round them is tinged of a ghastly blue, and would poison whatever might be planted in it. I have lately seen so many instances of the pernicious effects of decaying wood, that I would never more allow a single inch of dead stick to lie about anywhere, unless I knew that these underground fungi were unknown in the neighborhood. Two winters ago, I had to remove the whole of the soil from a border 200 feet long, owing to the state it had been brought to by an old fence, the posts of which had rotted, and spread the fungi about to such an extent that entire cart-loads were removed, in which there was not a single spadeful of soil of its natural color; it was uniformly tinged with a grayish blue, and smelt powerfully of toadstools. In such stuff as that nothing will grow, and trees and shrubs rapidly contract the disease about their roots, so as to become positively rotten from the collar downwards, and all the pruning, manuring and watering that can be given them is so much labor and material wasted.

"With trees so affected, there is, but one course,—to burn them. I have tried washing, scrubbing, painting their roots with lime and soot, and other plans which suggested themselves, but I never yet saw any tree or shrub that had become much contaminated with this fungus growth, recover sufficiently to be worth the labor expended on it. If touched only here and there, those parts must be cut away, and the tree planted in fresh soil; if much affected, burn it, and there end the vexation. As to the fungus itself, it rapidly perishes on exposure to the air. It can exist only underground; therefore, a thorough exposure of the soil in which it has spread will speedily kill it, and if, on the dressing of the ground in autumn, or early in the year, a few barrow-loads of such stuff have to be taken out, it may be used to fill up hollows on lawns, or laid in heaps somewhere out of the way, for the sun to purify it."

GARDEN WALKS.—No garden can look well without neat walks, and no walk can be neat unless well made and drained. For keeping down weeds, or rather grass, which will appear at the edges of the best constructed walks, because the earth will wash upon it from the grass, there is nothing like salt. But the making of walks is so important a matter, that we give the author's remarks entire:—"Walks should be so made as to be hard and dry all the year round, and unless well drained and with a good foundation, this is impossible. A mere surfacing of gravel on a soft bottom may do very well for summer wear, and even then will be continually broken up by worms; but during continued rains, and all through the winter, every footmark will leave a hole, and it will be impossible to traverse it without getting the feet plastered with mud. In small gardens there is no better place for a pipe-drain than under the main walk. The drain should be laid at from two to three feet deep, according to the level of the outlet. In making a walk, let the bottom be taken out and the whole of the loam removed to the depth of a foot. Then lay down six inches of whatever hard rubbish can be got—such as factory clinkers, builders' rubbish, &c.—and over this spread a layer of old mortar or lime rubbish and coal ashes, mixed together, quite to the level at which the walk is to remain. Give the whole a good rolling, and leave it to settle. If made in the autumn, the wheeling during winter-work will tend to consolidate it, and before spring will have sunk so as to allow of two or three inches gravel. With proper rolling the walk will sink the first summer so as to make another coat of gravel requisite, and if this is laid down when the garden is in its full autumn splendor, the appearance of the scene will be much improved, and a thoroughly good path insured for the winter. The plentiful use of lime, whenever it can be had cheap, is a good preventive of worms, which play sad havoc with walks imperfectly made. To keep a walk in order, let the roller be used liberally after a rain; and in spring, when weeds first make their appearance, get them out at once by hand-picking; if allowed to get strong, there is often no remedy but turning the walk and raking the weeds out from among the gravel. In small gardens it is but a little labor to clear away all the weeds by using a pointed trowel when the gravel is wet with rain, and then giving a good rolling to close up the holes.

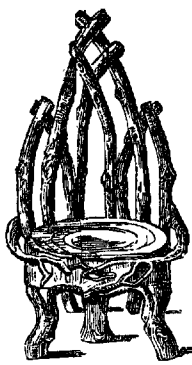
WATERPROOF WALKS.—These are sometimes very serviceable in places subject to damp, and for walks on which there is much daily traffic in all weathers. The following instructions for their formation are given in the *Floral World*:—"A layer of stones, brick-bats, shells, or clinkers, six inches deep, to form a dry bottom; a layer of chalk or lime, in the proportion of one to ten of the stones, or other foundation, and well rolled and watered, to the thickness of three inches, with a rise of two inches in the center; over this half an inch of gravel and lime, or fine chalk; water and roll well again; add one-eighth of an inch of the best colored gravel, and again roll until quite solid. Have the walk two inches wider on each side than you desire; this checks grass and weeds from encroaching, and prevents the rain-water getting to the foundation of the walk."

PURCHASE OF SEEDS.—The chapter under this head we copy in full, for nowhere is the information and advice it contains more needed:—"It costs as much trouble to grow flowers from bad seed as from good, and whoever takes the trouble should make sure of seed that will be worth it. The stuff sold at little seed-shops and corn-chandlers is generally only good enough for the birds, and all the skill in the world would be exercised in vain upon it with a view to getting good flowers. Some of the common kinds are pretty sure to be good, no matter where you get them; but asters, stocks, balsams, zinnias and others prized for their high coloring and distinctness of habit, should be purchased at none but first-class houses. The seed of choice flowers is saved with as much care as gold dust—for it is gold dust in another form—by all the leading growers. The plants for seed are picked with the greatest care; and as the best flowers produce the least seed, and single colorless and ragged ones plenty, that which is skillfully saved is valuable to a grain, and the rubbish is valuable only in pounds and bushels. All sorts of tricks are practised upon seeds. Good seed is purchased at a fair price, and mixed with the worst to increase its quantity, so that in a packet of some hundreds there will perhaps be only half a dozen worth the trouble of culture, and you cannot know it till your trouble is nearly over and the plants are in bloom; then you are dismayed to find

only one in fifty worth looking at. Asters, stocks, and balsams have been brought to such high excellence by careful culture and skillful saving of the seed of the best flowers, that those who grow from penny and two-penny packets have no idea of the beauty of the flowers which may be secured from a pinch of first-rate seed. Asters are now to be had of the size and fullness of dahlias, and of all shades of color. Balsams the same. Stocks of the best kinds produce grand pyramids, equal to the best hyacinths, and all the leading annuals are saved in distinct colors, so that the grower is in no quandary as to what the tints will be, if the seeds come from a first-rate house, and are sown separate as received, and with tallies to distinguish them. There is an immense trade carried on in penny packets of dead or worthless seeds in London, and that is one reason why the London people are so far behindhand in the growth of flowers. As a rule, never save seed of your own growing; you can buy for sixpence what it will cost you five shillings in trouble to obtain; and there are a hundred chances against your saving a single pinch that shall be worth the paper you wrap it in."

GARDEN SEATS.

THE Garden may be aid out with care and taste, and be planted with the choicest trees and shrubs, yet if destitute of convenient seats, it lacks a feature which gives an air of quiet comfort and ease to the whole scene. The garden is for pleasure and ease; it is in fact the summer parlor; and the real parlor is of no use in the summer season, where the garden is what it should be, except as a shelter from a sudden shower. Place in the garden, then, seats at all



RUSTIC CHAIR.

convenient points—under the shade of the trees, and on the lawn, at points where a good view of the grounds or the surrounding country can be obtained. This we advise not only for large places, but even for small gardens of a quarter of an acre or less.

In some cases and situations it would be well to build a summer-house or arbor, with sufficient roofing to afford shade. This is particularly necessary in new places, before the trees are sufficiently grown to afford proper shade and shelter. But the more simply everything of this kind is done, the better. There should be no attempt at anything very fine. This may be well enough in some of the gardens of Europe, where everything is in keeping; but in our places, the more plain and unpretending



RUSTIC SEAT.

the better. Rustic work, if well made, always looks well. We give specimens of rustic seats—one a chair, and the other attached to a tree. A very pretty seat can be formed around even a small tree.

MAKING WINE.

We have a good many inquiries for a method of making currant and other wine. The process is similar in all cases, no matter what the fruit may be. The black currant, we think, makes the best wine of any of our fruits, somewhat resembling port. We have already published several methods, but give the following from the last number of the *Horticulturalist*:

1. The currants should be fully ripe.
2. Have everything prepared beforehand—all the currants picked and ready, as when one commences the process of making the wine he has no time to look about for materials of any kind. The work must be done speedily, and with cleanliness.
3. Have ready a small press, a tub, a pounder, a pan to receive the juice, a measure, a dipper, a funnel, and the vessel to receive and ferment the wine.
4. To make five gallons of wine, use twenty pounds currants, and nine pounds double refined loaf sugar, to be dissolved in some of the wine over the fire in a preserve kettle. To make a barrel of wine requires about one hundred and sixty-five pounds currants. Sixteen pounds yield one gallon of juice in a press—two and a quarter pounds sugar to each gallon of wine, which consists of currant juice and water, as hereinafter described. This does not make a sweet or sirupy wine. If sweet wine is desired, it may be made at any time after the wine is fermented, by adding sugar to suit the taste. If more sugar is added than stated above, and well fermented, it adds strength and not sweetness to the wine. If the wine is not well fermented it remains sweet, and is a sirup, not wine.
5. Take twenty pounds currants; wash them in the tub with a pounder; have ready a bag of light bagging; with a dipper put the pomace in the bag; lay this in the receiver, (mine is made of a half bushel measure fitted with a follower, with a wooden screw, such as is used on a carpenter's bench, but placed perpendicularly.) The bag need not be tied, only doubled over in the receiver; then press gently at first, afterward more severely; when the juice is all pressed out, strain and measure it. I find it yields five quarts. Then take the pomace from the bag; place it in the tub, and pour on it five quarts pure rain water, (hard water will not do;) pound it well, mixing with the water, and breaking such currants as did not get cracked before; then press as before. The yield will be something over five quarts. Take the same pomace

from the bag; place it again in the tub; add five quarts pure rain water, (the rule is to add as much water each time as there was currant juice obtained from the first pressing;) pound this well, and press, placing the wine each time in the fermenting vessel. Having obtained all the liquid, let the vessels used be soaked in water, preparatory to cleaning. Take some of the wine to dissolve the sugar, which should be in the proportion of two and a quarter pounds to each gallon of liquid thus obtained. For twenty pounds currants the sugar required is nine pounds. When the sugar is dissolved, mix all together, and let it ferment in a moderately cool place. It is better that the fermentation should be slow; at first it will be rapid. The vessel should be full, and must not be closed tight, especially if it is a glass vessel. The carbonic acid gas evolved will break any vessel if tightly closed. A small aperture may be left for its escape. I prefer the tube bung, letting the gas escape into a cup of water. I let it ferment about six weeks.

"6. Sugar added to the wine increases its bulk or measure in the proportion of twelve pounds to one gallon. In making a barrel of wine, it is better to have a larger amount of currants on hand than a less quantity.

"7. Alcohol barrels are often used for this purpose, but are not suitable. Alcohol barrels are prepared inside with glue, which is not dissolved by it, but wine will dissolve this glue, and becomes impregnated with its flavor. The best casks are those that have been used as wine barrels, with iron hoops, and may be bought for one dollar each. Wooden hoops in a cellar, after a year or so, burst off and cause leakage.

"8. The wine, after fermentation, should be bunged up tightly and left to stand in a cool, dry place until it is clear, when it may be bottled, if intended to be used within two years. When first made, and for two years, it is a bright ruby color. In three years this color is precipitated gradually, and the wine assumes a color resembling brown sherry. If kept in bottles until this deposit takes place, it is liable to be again mixed with the wine when the cork is drawn, and this makes it muddy. The Scriptural injunction, 'Look not upon the wine when it is red,' is especially applicable to currant wine. This wine, carefully made, will keep without the addition of spirits, and is worthy of any prince's banquet after it is old enough to precipitate its red color, and continues good, if well kept, for the next six years."

PROFITS OF FRUIT CULTURE.

W. D. GALLAGHER has recently made a report to the Kentucky State Agricultural Society, on the commercial value of Fruit Culture, from which we extract the following:

"Of course, the first question that most men will ask, when solicited to embark in horticultural pursuits, is this: *Will they pay?* Upon which we remark as follows:

"1. Remuneration is relative. To be considered intelligently, it must be looked at with reference to the capital invested, the amount of labor employed, and the extent of the personal supervision required. Horticultural pursuits will not 'pay' as a winning game at cards pays. They will not pay as a successful speculation in breadstuffs or provisions pays. Nor will they pay as five per cent a month on money loaned pays. Nor yet as a New York hotel or a New England manufactory pays, when those concerned in it are 'satisfied.' But that horticulture, properly pursued—not as a fancy or an amusement, but as a regular branch of agricultural labor—will pay a good interest on capital invested in it, and make a handsome remuneration for work performed, there is not the smallest room for even the smallest doubt.

"2. Examples of very great success in this business, in the United States, are by no means rare. Four or five years ago, a peach orchardist in Ohio was offered \$18,000 for the fruit on twenty acres of peach trees, while it was yet growing, and more than a month before the period at which the earliest part of it would ripen. He declined the proposition, and realized about \$20,000 from the same fruit by gathering and selling it to consumers himself. This, however, was a most extraordinary instance of a good combination of circumstances, viz: fine fruit, a ready market, and high prices. It is one of those happy accidents which occur only once in a very long while. And, besides, four or five years of labor and care had preceded this crop, which was the first borne upon the trees.

"3. Some vineyards near Cincinnati have, in favorable seasons, produced nearly \$1,000 per acre; but a much more common yield, one year with another, is about \$250; a sum for about which good land in the Ohio Valley, easily accessible to the best markets, may be bought, trenched, planted, (the price of slips included,) staked, (with oak,) and cultivated to its fourth year. The fourth year brings a crop—though not a full one. Let the avails of this go for interest and contingencies, and the account will then stand thus:—Cost of a bearing vineyard per acre, \$250; value of crop, fifth year, \$250. Account balanced, (capital, interest, and expenditures for labor being repaid,) and closed. Within the succeeding five years, the equivalent of four crops may be counted upon. This is equal to \$1,000, which, divided by five, gives \$200 per year as the product per acre. This looks a good deal better than growing twenty bushels of wheat to the acre, or ten barrels of corn. In Washington Co., Ohio, single fortunes have been made in raising one single kind of apple, (the small Romanite,) and shipping it southwest for the supply of New Orleans. Strawberry growers near Philadelphia have often pocketed \$500 to \$800 per acre for that delicious fruit. And a plantation of three acres of raspberries on the Hudson river, is stated to have yielded as high as \$1,500 in a single year."

Inquiries and Answers.

WILLOW FOR HEDGES.—Will some reader of the *Ruralist* inform me in regard to the Gray Willow—its merits and demerits—for live fences, timber, belts, shade trees, &c., as tree peddlers are now canvassing this part of the country, recommending it as an eighth wonder, for the above named purposes? Will some of our Lee county friends, where the thing is reported as visible, enlighten us, and oblige—KANSAS CO., ILL., July, 1862.

STRAWBERRIES, BLACKBERRIES, &c.—Is Peabody's Haul-bis strawberry a perfect plant—that is, does it bear itself without being mixed with other varieties? Do you consider hog manure adapted to strawberries and raspberries? Is the Dorchester blackberry equal to the Lawton for general cultivation?—J. P. Fulton, 1862.

Peabody has perfect flowers. Hog manure we would prefer to have composted before applying in large quantities. Indeed, we are satisfied a good compost is much better than fresh manure of any kind for strawberries. The Dorchester is of better quality than the Lawton, but is not very generally grown in this section. We have specimens here that are producing wonderful crops, and have done so for many years.

GROWING FRONTS FROM SEED.—I should like very much to know how to procure Fronts from the seed—that is, how to save the seed, and what time to plant them, &c. At some convenient season will you be kind enough to tell us through our friend, the *RURAL*—HERBERT, Bristol, R. I.

We would gather and plant the seed as soon as ripe, in a well prepared bed, covering about half an inch. It will take four or five years to obtain flowers from seed. The better way for an amateur would be to obtain plants in the autumn, of some of the well known good varieties, from the nurseries.

TRIOMPHE DE GAND STRAWBERRY.—Will you inform me through the columns of your valued paper whether the Triomphe de Gand strawberry is calculated to do well by itself, or whether it needs a fertilizer; and if so, what is best?—SUBSCRIBER, Auburn, 1862.

The Triomphe needs no fertilizer.

Horticultural Notes.

CHERRIES—PRODUCTIVENESS.—Among the many evidences we have received of the unusual productiveness of the cherry trees the present season, one of the most remarkable was a branch of the Black Mazzard variety, five inches in length and bearing 140 specimens. For this we are indebted to THOMAS FAIRBANK, of Webster, N. Y.

QUINCES FOR THE TEA TABLE.—Bake ripe quinces thoroughly, and when cold, strip off the skins, place them in a glass dish, and sprinkle them with white sugar, and serve them with cream. They make a fine-looking dish for the tea table, and a more luscious and inexpensive one than the same fruit made into sweetmeats.

Domestic Economy.

A PERMANENT BLACK.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I find, in your issue of July 19th, in the Domestic Economy column, a reply to the inquiry of a correspondent in regard to coloring a permanent black. The recipe given is a good one; but as the walnut shucks are not always to be had, and in some places not at all, I will give one which I have practiced for years in a woolen factory. My mode is as follows:

Dissolve six ounces sulphate of copper (blue vitriol) in a kettle of water heated to nearly a boiling point; then run in your yarn, cloth, or flannel, 45 minutes; take out and rinse well in cold water; empty your kettle, put in fresh water, add three pounds of logwood and a half pound of madder, boil well, cool with a little cold water, run in your goods one hour; then cool, boil your dye well, and run in one hour more. If too blue, add a little madder; if too brown, add more logwood; run in again, and you will have a good black that will neither fade nor crock.

The above is for ten pounds of yarn, ten yards of fulled cloth, or fifteen yards of flannel. Wash well before and after coloring. The above coloring matter can be procured at any country store. Liberty, Tioga Co., Pa., 1862. U. S. D.

HOW TO MAKE CIDER WINE.—J. H. Keck, of Macon Co., Ill., gives the following method in the *Country Gentleman*.—Take pure cider, made from sound, ripe apples, as it runs from the press, put sixty pounds of common brown sugar into fifteen gallons of the cider, and let it dissolve; then put the mixture into a clean barrel, fill it up within two gallons of being full, with clean cider; put the cask into a cool place, leaving the bung out for forty-eight hours; then put in the bung with a small vent, until fermentation wholly ceases, and bung up tight, and in one year it will be fit for use. This wine requires no racking; the longer it stands upon the lees the better. This wine is almost equal to grape wine, when rightly managed.

CREAM BEER.—As the warm weather is upon us, we begin to think of refreshing drinks. I have a famed recipe, which I give. It is an effervescing drink, but far pleasanter than soda water, inasmuch as you do not have to drink for your life in order to get your money's worth. The effervescence is much more slow. Two ounces of tartaric acid, two pounds white sugar, the juice of half a lemon, three pints of water. Boil together five minutes. When nearly cold, add the whites of three eggs well beaten with half a cup of flour, and half an ounce of essence of wintergreen. Bottle, and keep in a cool place. Take two tablespoonfuls of this sirup for a tumbler of water, and add one-quarter of a teaspoonful of soda.—Selected.

HARD TIMES PUDDING.—I saw in a late *RURAL* a recipe for "Hard Times Pudding." I will give you mine, which I know to be excellent for farmers' dinner, if not for city folks:—Take one quart of sour milk, three spoonfuls of cream, four eggs, one teaspoonful of soda, one of salt, any kind of dried fruit, stir in flour as thick as can be stirred handily, take a piece of cloth, wet it and put the mixture upon it and tie it up, leaving ample room to rise. Have a pot of boiling water, put it in and boil one hour. Do not lift the lid, nor let it stop boiling. To be eaten with sugar and cream, or butter and sugar, or sour sauce.—LILLIAN, Keene, Iowa Co., Mich.

DIRECTIONS FOR CLEANING THE TEETH.—Brush the teeth well, both inside and out, every night and morning, with a moderately hard brush, constructed with three rows of bristles, standing so far apart that the elasticity of the hair may have its full play. Do not confine its operation to simply moving the brush across the faces of the teeth from side to side, but give it a rotary, and, as far as possible, a vertical direction, so that the bristles may spring in between the teeth, and free them from the particles of food, and the incipient deposits from the secretion of the tartar glands.—Dental Mirror.

RECIPE FOR CURRANT LEATHER.—Strain the currants, and spread the juice thinly on earthen plates. As it dries, add fresh juice, until about the thickness of leather. Dry in a hot sun or stove. Great care should be taken that it is not in the least burned. A small piece added to a tumbler of water makes a cooling and delightful beverage. The above described article is recommended as a useful preparation to be sent for use in the camp and hospitals.—Selected.

GREEN CORN PUDDING.—Take one and a half dozen ears of green corn, split the kernels lengthwise of the ear, with a sharp knife; then, with a case-knife, scrape the corn from the cob, leaving the hulls on the cob; mix it with three to four quarts of milk, sweet milk; add four eggs, well beaten, two tablespoonfuls of sugar, salt to the taste; bake it three hours; to be eaten hot, with butter.

RAISINS—TOMATO FIGS.—Will some of the *RURAL* readers please to give a recipe for making grape raisins, in the bunch; also a recipe for making tomato figs, and oblige—E. E. K., Naples, Ill., 1862.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] GO THOU TO DREAM-LAND.

BY MARIA M. JONES.

Go thou to dream-land, weary one, and rest, Too long hath brooding care thy heart oppressed;

Thine eyes are dimmed with sorrow's falling tear, Thy heart beats wildly 'neath some thrilling fear;

Thou must not weep, it will not call him back— Thy tears but show that thou true faith dost lack.

Go thou to rest, and in sweet dreams thou'lt see Once more his cherished image by thy knee,

Mourn not that in his childhood's vernal hour He faded like a summer's fragrant flower;

Look upward—kneel—let pure prayers arise To waft his infant spirit to the skies;

Weep not, but humbly say "God's will be done"— He to His breast will fold thy little one.

Go thou to dream-land, softly close the eye; Night's shadowy cone sweeps calmly, softly by;

Look upward—kneel—let pure prayers arise To waft his infant spirit to the skies;

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

"BLESSED be the old farm-house garret."

If there is a woman or girl—men are known to be proxy—who cannot get up some kind of sentiment when she finds herself at the top of the last flight of stairs, the garret door open, and her eyes resting on its "worn-outs" and "cast-offs,"

There, at the south end, is its one window, and the dim light coming through the cracked panes serves a double purpose, softening some of the rough points of the dilapidated furniture, and showing to matronly eyes the inch-deep dust which has found a resting place thereon.

Here is the rough cupboard in which her precious broken china was kept, empty now, and some sacrilegious "nibbler" has partly demolished the bits of verse, prose and pictures which made it a literary as well as a dish receptacle.

There is little else that seems worthy of notice, but that old red chest may, notwithstanding its uncouth and unromantic appearance, contain something which will pay us for the trouble of opening it.

Now, if there is not "one of the bonnets," I wonder if ever a rosy, blooming face was set in its capacious frame.

I DON'T suppose there's a happier little woman in the State than me. I should like to see her, if there is. I go over home pretty often; and Aunt Mimy makes just as much of my baby—I've named him John—as mother does; and that's enough to ruin any child that wasn't a cherub born.

THE following is meant to be a companion piece to the well-known evening prayer for children, beginning, "Now I lay me down to sleep," &c.:

the past to the present, and give to a thankful heart an appreciating sense of the blessings which, but for the labor of those who first possessed them, would never have been yours.

TO AUNT BETSEY.

DEAR RURAL:—With the permission of "the editor," I wish to ask Aunt BETSEY, or some other good old lady who belongs to the RURAL family, a few questions. In the first place, I want to say that it's all about matrimony, so maiden ladies need not answer, for experience is the best teacher, or something like that, my old copy book used to say.

I DON'T know, though, as I am particular about a farmer's wife's qualifications, for may be I shan't marry a farmer. Who knows? I don't, I'm sure, for I'm not engaged, nor have I any prospect of that order.

Now, auntie, just answer these few questions, won't you? If you will, may be future generations will call you blessed. I'm sure I will try and do as you direct me.

Somewhere, July, 1862.

ETYMOLOGY AND DRESS-MAKING.

WALKING leisurely through one of the streets of Boston, a lady swept by me and swept her dress under my feet. The consequence was that I trod upon it, and the consequence was that the dress gave way.

"Troy's proud dames, whose garments sweep the ground." Thereupon the way opened into a curious field of etymology. The proud dames of Rome, as well as Greece, must also have swept the ground with their garments.

DOMESTIC FELICITY.

I DON'T suppose there's a happier little woman in the State than me. I should like to see her, if there is. I go over home pretty often; and Aunt Mimy makes just as much of my baby—I've named him John—as mother does; and that's enough to ruin any child that wasn't a cherub born.

Now I rise from off my bed, I pray the Lord for daily bread; Keep me from sinful thought and deed; Be with my steps in hour of need; And make my soul, if thou dost take, All clean and pure for Jesus' sake."

Choice Miscellany.

AFTER THE COWS.

EVENING is creeping slowly on, The shadows lengthen fast, The cool, fresh western breezes Are fitting softly past;

Across the verdant hill top And through the valley shade, After the cows it sunset Go forth a lad and maid;

Shadow is over the forest, Grim are the moorland fells; Gossamer fairies wander Forth from their elfin cells.

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

THE man who sits down in a virtuous home, however humble, in which his own industry enables him to breathe the atmosphere of independence, and his wife's management to enjoy cleanliness and comfort, has a vast scope for the creation of happiness.

The traveler rarely begins with his own country; and, in like manner, the searcher after enjoyment too often looks beyond home. Too late in life's journey, when little of either strength or time remains, this is regretted.

Many spirits are moving on the stream of society, and the rising waters are attesting their influence. Every moment bears the seed of change—the present is passing away, the future unfolding.

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

DREAMS! What are they? Whence come they? In what softly tinted Paradise are our weary feet staid, when sleep shuts from our vision the actual life beyond our chamber door?

Turn, earth-worn wanderer, and rest thee in the cloudless bowers of sunny dream-land; lie down amid its thornless roses, and beneath the shadow of its vine and fig tree; refresh thy dust-stained feet in its crystal fountains; and hold pleasant converse with the dear ones of whom the outer world has said, "The places that once knew them shall know them no more, forever."

There is care and sorrow enough, in this world of ours, at best, and our paths may not always lie in pleasant places. Clouds will lower, friends will fail us, and the rose-tinted imagery of our waking hours give place to stern reality.

Wise men have advanced many theories intended to explain the mysteries of the life still going on in that sleep which, outwardly, is so like to the last dreamless rest, but none with which they satisfy even themselves; and the same impenetrable veil which hides from our earth-weakened vision the hidden spring of what to common observation seem the most trifling features of life, overshadows with its dimness the entrance to the beautiful dream-land.

It is not thus with all that constitutes our entire life? The slight knowledge which we do possess serves but to make our weakness more apparent, and we learn, from that very weakness, to bow in humility before the Power to whom the mysteries of human life are as the pages of an open book.

A SKYLARK PREACHING A SERMON.

THERE is no such thing as a song bird natural to Australia; there are birds who chatter, birds who shriek, but no birds that sing. Well, there was a young man who went out from England as a gold digger, and was lucky enough to make some money, and prudent enough to keep it.

It was on Thursday when they arrived, and the next morning the lark was hung outside the tent, and at once commenced piping up. The effect was electric. Sturdy diggers—big men with hairy faces and great brown hands—paused in the midst of their work and listened reverently.

It was a wonderful sight to see that three or four hundred men; some reclining on the ground; some sitting with their arms on their knees, and their heads on their hands; some leaning against the trees with their eyes closed, so that they might the better fancy themselves at home and in the midst of English cornfields once more; but sitting, standing, or lying, all were equally quiet and attentive; and when, after an hour's steady preaching, the lark left off, his audience slowly moved off, a little low-spirited, perhaps, but on the whole much happier than when they came.—Beeton's Home Pets.

A GOOD EDITOR.

MANY people estimate the ability of a newspaper and the industry and talents of its editor by the quantity of the editorial matter which it contains. It is comparatively an easy task for a frothy writer to pour out daily, columns of words—words, upon any and all subjects.

A MAN should have an aim in his conversation, but not take aim like a duellist.

Sabbath Musings.

THE THREE ROBES.

BY MISS A. J. DICKINSON.

I SAW a light at the window pane On a calm and starry night, And I knew there were busy fingers there, Making a robe so white.

I saw a light at the window pane When the wind went sobbing by, And cold and fitful drifts of rain Fell from the weeping sky.

Away, above, where the sweet-faced stars Are slung creation's hymn, There shineth a glory so pure and bright That the light of the sun is dim.

FILL YOUR OWN PLACE.

It takes all sorts of characters to complete this world-drama, and somebody must act them. In other words, I believe that every man was made on purpose; that every man has his place in the world; and that he was made especially for that place.

No man is born into the world whose work is not born with him; there is always work, And tools to work withal, for those who will.

The same power that created you and trained you for your work, has brought that work to you. Do not go out of your way to seek for something grand and imposing to do, but take up at once the simplest and plainest duty that lies before you, and you will not go wrong.

THE PERSONAL LEAD OF CHRIST.

HERE is the beauty and glory of Christ, as a Redeemer and Savior of lost man, that he goes before, and never behind his flock. He begins with infancy, that he may show a grace for childhood. He is made under the law, and carefully fulfills all righteousness there, that he may sanctify the law to us, and make it honorable.

God is no respecter of persons. He wills all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth. It is not tacking, but walking with God, that gives a man the denomination of a Christian.—John Mason.

The Educator.

NEW YORK TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION.

ONE of the largest, most harmonious and interesting conventions ever held by the New York State Teachers' Association, closed in this city with the 31st ult. We would be pleased to present a full record of the proceedings, but the pressure on our columns forbids more than mere mention of the important features which marked the session.

The exercises of the occasion were opened by the reading of the Scriptures and prayer by the Rev. Dr. Pease, of this city. A choir of teachers, under the leadership of M. D. Rowley, next sang an anthem. Alfred G. Mudge, Esq., was then introduced, who gave the welcoming address to the teachers of the State.

The President, Mr. Cruikshank, responded very happily on the part of the teachers of the State. He highly complimented the city of Rochester upon the advanced rank she occupied in educational reform and progress. He then delivered the Annual Address.

Mr. Henry Howe, of Canandaigua, read a very interesting Essay upon the Progress of Educational Science in this country.

In the afternoon Prof. Charlton T. Lewis, A. M., of the Troy University, delivered an address upon Waste in Education. Prof. L. presented his views upon the waste of opportunity and power of education, in elegant, strong and forcible language. He thought the great central idea of education was economy of time, energy, and opportunity. God and Nature were the great educators. To obtain his highest proficiency and intellectual development, man must be self-educated, self-developed, by his own intellectual power. His intellect must be aggressive, extending continually outward. He would thus grow to be a living compendium of all knowledge.

With the evening came an address by the Rev. E. B. Fairfield, President of Hillsdale College, Michigan. Subject—Radicalism. The manner of handling this topic by Prof. F. was decidedly original and racy. He made many sharp and cutting hits at the different creeds and systems of the theology of the day, and was particularly severe on the "cast iron machinery of conservatism." He struck out vigorously with heavy blows, hitting every species of error, opinion, and custom, that savored of a narrow conservatism, or of a bigoted prejudice.

The business of the second day opened with the presentation of the report on Compensation of Female Teachers. The report argued that female teachers should not receive equal compensation with males. Upon man was thrown all the care and labor of the support of a family, and he was also subjected to a thousand calls from society which women never felt, although her wages were inadequate, and not a fair equivalent for her services. Yet there could be no just equalization of compensation if the two sexes came in competition. The following were the resolutions accompanying the report:

Resolved, That the compensation now paid female teachers is not a fair equivalent for the value of the services rendered, and should be materially increased.

Resolved, That in the present organization of Society it is neither practical nor just to make the compensation of the two sexes equal, where the labor comes in competition.

After a lively discussion the resolutions were adopted.

The afternoon session was passed in discussing the topics suggested by the address of Prof. Lewis, the question of Object Teaching, and in listening to an address upon "Intellectual Development," by Prof. J. F. Stoddard, of New York city.

In the evening the Rev. Dr. Hosmore, of Buffalo, delivered an address—his subject—"The Ideal of Education." Dr. H. handled his subject with rare ability and power, exhibiting great research and profound thought. The discourse was interesting, and clothed with chaste and elegant language. He thought the teacher had an honorable and a noble profession. He gave the teachers some sound and practical advice, which cannot fail to be a benefit to those who follow the vocation.

The proceedings of the third day were opened in the customary manner, after which

The President announced the names of the Committee on Nomination of Officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—John J. Anderson, New York; J. W. Bulkeley, Brooklyn; S. B. Woolworth, Albany; Joseph E. King, E. J. Hamilton, S. W. Clark, F. B. Francis, Samuel Slade.

The following are the Board of Editors of the New York Teacher for the ensuing year:—J. W. Bulkeley, Brooklyn; N. A. Caulkins, New York; J. S. Anderson, New York; D. H. Cochran, Albany; M. W. Reid, Newburg; William F. Phelps, Trenton, New Jersey; J. B. Beale, Rochester; Benjamin Edson, Albany; George H. Stowits, Buffalo; W. W. Raymond, Skaneateles; J. W. Baker, Lockport.

Mr. Barringer, of Troy, with a few remarks, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to consider and report at the next annual meeting, what parents are doing in the great work of educating their children, and also the best means of bringing them to the full discharge of their duty in this work. Adopted.

Mr. Bulkeley, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, reported the following from Mr. Phelps, of New Jersey:

Whereas, It has been assumed that the number of females in attendance upon some of our higher grades of schools is greatly in excess of males; and whereas, this fact is further assumed to be a great evil; therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to investigate the facts of the case and report thereon, as well as upon the appropriate remedy for the evil, should such be found to exist.

The resolution was discussed at some length and adopted.

The President next introduced Dr. H. B. Wilbur, Superintendent of the New York Asylum for Idiots at Syracuse. Dr. Wilbur's subject was "Human Physiology and the Education of Idiots." His address was a highly finished scientific production, and many portions of it were very interesting. His reference to the education of idiots, and the peculiar methods of instruction necessary for this unfortunate class of beings, exhibited a thorough familiarity with his subject, and a close acquaintance with the mysterious relations between mind and matter.

Mr. Barringer, of Troy, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to present, at the next annual meeting of the Association, a report upon the important points set forth in Dr. Wilbur's lecture, and that Mr. E. A. Sheldon be Chairman of that Committee. Adopted.

The report of the Treasurer was next presented and referred to the Finance Committee.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Anderson, of New York, then presented the following ticket:

President—E. C. Pomeroy, of Buffalo.

Vice-Presidents—William N. Barringer, of Troy; Henry Fowler, of Auburn; Edward Webster, of Rochester; E. S. Adams, of Brooklyn.

Corresponding Secretary—James Cruikshank, of Albany.

Recording Secretaries—M. M. Merrill, of Naples; Wm. T. Graff, of New York.

Treasurer—J. W. Cole, of Troy.

The ticket reported by the Committee was elected unanimously.

The Committee on location then reported that they had selected Troy as the next place for the annual meeting, and the time, the last Tuesday in July.

Mr. Cole, who was elected Treasurer, peremptorily refused to serve, and tendered his resignation. Mr. Edson, of Albany, was then elected Treasurer.

After the passage of several resolutions of a complimentary character, the evening was spent by the teachers in a social manner, at the Hall of Eastman's Commercial College, and at Corinthian Hall, in hearing voluntary addresses, and listening to songs from Prof. Black and James G. Clark, Esq., adjourning about 10 o'clock—all seeming much gratified and benefited by their three day's sojourn in the "Flour City" and the goodly mental feasts provided during the Convention.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION ILLUSTRATED.

SOME little time since, the writer presented a few thoughts in the columns of the RURAL on the subject of Teaching, dwelling particularly upon that part of the subject which relates to the different methods of imparting instruction. Two methods of instruction were alluded to—the Analytic and Synthetic; the one presenting to the pupil, first, the facts and principles resulting from scientific investigation, and then the analysis and explanation of them; the other, beginning with elementary facts and principles, and then proceeding, step by step, developing new facts and principles at each step, till the pupil arrives at a clear and distinct understanding of the whole subject.

In illustration of these two methods, teaching Orthography—that part of it which treats of the nature and properties of letters, better known to many as the "fore part of the spelling book"—may be taken as an example. This subject is chosen for illustration because of its importance in teaching reading and spelling, though, as generally taught, (when taught at all—more frequently not,) it is not of the least practical value, as many can testify who have been "feruled," or "kept after school," or made to suffer in some other way, for "not saying the orthography lesson perfect."

By the first, or Analytic method, a lesson is assigned, consisting of the questions, What is orthography?—What is a letter?—How is the alphabet divided?—What is a vowel?—A consonant? &c., &c., with the corresponding answers, which the pupils are required to commit to memory and recite. This being done, the subject thus far is considered by very many teachers as fully disposed of, (and hence the remark above, that such teaching is utterly valueless to most pupils.) Not so. It now remains for the teacher to explain the answers given, bringing forward whatever examples and illustrations may be necessary to enable the pupils to apprehend the ideas contained in the language they have repeated. One of the main objections to this method of teaching—requiring the pupils to commit to memory language they do not understand, and then explaining it to them—is the difficulty of holding the minds of the pupils to the subject during the explanation. Having learned their lesson and recited it, the pupils have a feeling of satisfaction that their work is all done, hence during the explanations given they sit in dreamy listlessness, and it requires oftentimes not a little tact on the part of the teacher to arouse them and set them to thinking.

By the Synthetic method, the teacher takes his pupils back to the beginning of the subject, marks distinctly the point of departure, and then proceeds with them, as it were, on an exploring expedition, tracing the subject in the natural order of its development, and carefully examining and noting down every newly discovered fact or principle. Thus, in teaching Orthography, the teacher might commence by giving the pupils, in a few plain remarks and illustrations, some idea of the organs of voice, (the larynx and its appendages,) and how by them sound or simple voice is produced, and then, how the sound or voice thus produced is modified or articulated by the organs of speech, (tongue, palate, teeth, lips, &c.)—always observing to explain every new term used, or rather, (following the natural order,) first show the necessity for a term by pointing out and explaining the idea or thing to which the term is applied, and then give the term fixed upon to designate it. After some further remarks respecting elementary sounds, taking care to note the difference between vocal (simple voice) and articulate (jointed) sounds—the latter being a modification of the former—and then observing that vocal or articulate sounds, or a combination of such sounds, constitute words—the representatives of ideas, and that these elementary sounds are indicated or represented to the eye by certain arbitrary characters called letters, the teacher may then proceed with his pupils to an examination and classification of the letters of the alphabet according to the principles laid down, leaving the pupils to decide in what class each letter should be placed. By going through the alphabet, (keeping in mind that letters are not sounds, but simply the signs or representatives of sounds, this distinction being sometimes marked, as below, by using two terms, vocal and vocal, the one referring to the letter as a mere sign, the other to the sound represented by the letter,) and classifying the letters according as the sounds they represent are produced simply by the organs of voice or are also modified by the organs of speech, the pupils will readily discover the two classes into which the alphabet is usually divided. The letters of the one class, they may then be informed, have been termed, from the nature of the sound they represent, vowels, (vocal or voice letters,) and those of the other class, consonants, (sounding together—that is, the distinctive sound of each letter united with a vowel sound.) By an examination of the vowels (vowel letters) as they occur in different words, the pupils will discover that each of them represents two or more distinct sounds, which, as stated above, may be termed, in distinction from the class of letters representing them, vocals (vowel sounds.) In like manner they will discover that the sounds represented by the consonants may be sub-divided into

sub-vocals (because the articulated part of the sound, as in b, is an imperfect or suppressed vocal,) and aspirates (the articulated part, as in f, being a breathing or whispering sound.)

A still further examination of the consonants will reveal to the pupils the curious fact that by simply adding voice to the articulate aspirates, (the sound represented by h is not articulate,) the sounds produced will coincide with a corresponding number of the sub-vocals; for example, f and v, p and b, &c.: hence a class of sounds termed, from their reciprocal relation, correlatives. Other facts will, in due time, be discovered; for instance, that there are a few elementary sounds represented, not by any single letter, but by two letters combined, as the sounds represented by ng, th, ch, &c.; also that, with several of the consonants, as with the vowels, the same letter represents more than one sound; so also some of the consonants, as c, q, and z, represent no sound not fully represented by other letters.

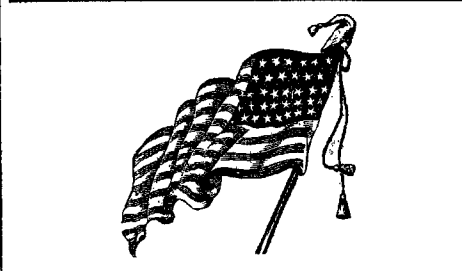
After a sufficient acquaintance with the more important classification of the consonants, the teacher might call the attention of the pupils to other classifications; for example, that one which has reference to the particular organ of speech most prominent in articulating the several consonant sounds, as dentals, (teeth etters,) labials, (lip letters,) linguals, (tongue letters,) palatals, (palate letters,) &c. By pursuing such a course of instruction, not only will the pupils acquire a thorough and practical knowledge of the particular subject taught, but they will at the same time acquire habits of thought and attention which will qualify them for the successful investigation of other subjects.

The great advantage of this method of instruction is, that it overcomes that natural aversion of the mind to close thought and careful investigation so indispensable to thorough scholarship, by combining with such labor her pleasure always so agreeable to the human mind as that arising from the exercise of its faculties in discovering for itself the hidden facts and principles of nature. With the elementary facts and principles received from the teacher as a necessary preparation, and with the teacher as a guide, the pupils proceed on their journey, delighted and encouraged, as they advance, with the new discoveries they are constantly making.

House of Refuge, Rochester, N. Y., 1862.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



"FLAG of two ocean shores
Whose everlasting thunder roars
From deep to deep, in storm and foam,
Though with the sun's red set
Thou sinkest to slumber, yet
With him thou dost not forget
To rise and make the heavens thy home.
Hall, banner, beautiful and grand,
Flag of the West! be thou unfurled
Till the last trump shall wake the world."

ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST 9, 1862.

THE WAR'S PROGRESS.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

Important from Richmond.

The following statement by a gentleman of Essex Co., Massachusetts, who has resided several years in Richmond and has lately returned from that city, is published in the Boston Traveller:

The people of Richmond are confident of the final success of the Confederate arms. That confidence is increased by the result of the late battles, and they have more confidence than heretofore in their Confederate currency. Before the battles it required \$2.50 of their shinpilasters to buy a dollar in gold, but when he left he exchanged their notes at the rate of \$2 for \$1 in gold. The only kind of property that does not rise, is the slave property. Negroes sell nominally for about the same as before the war, but owing to the currency, they are really not worth more than one-third or one-half their former value.

Jeff. Davis has become unpopular with all classes. He is regarded as too cautious, and as headstrong and obstinate in the extreme. Complaint is made that he puts his own favorites in office. He is apparently in poor health, but attends to business. During the late battles he visited the army, but failed to excite any enthusiasm among the soldiers. He says that McClellan's retreat to Harrison's Landing was the most successful recorded in history, except that of Moreau, in the Black Forest.

The gentleman knows nothing definitely of the number of the rebel army at Richmond, when the attack was made on McClellan's lines, but it was his opinion, formed from conversation with well informed men, that the force consisted from one hundred and fifty to two hundred thousand men. He thinks none of Beauregard's army, from Corinth, was there. The army had been increased by conscripts, and re-enforcements continued to come in during the six days that the contest was going on. He knew nothing of the rebel loss in the battles, except that it was large. No Generals of note were killed or wounded. He heard a rebel General say that in Tuesday's battle there was a perfect rout of their army, the cavalry in their retreat riding over the infantry, and killing and wounding many of their own men.

The people of Richmond were quite confident that McClellan's army could not reach that city. Early in the spring some of the wealthiest citizens removed their families, but when the Federal army moved toward the city after the battle of Williamsburg, no alarm was manifested, and nobody ran away. There are no very extensive works near the city, for its defense. On the side toward Fair Oaks there are some batteries; but the most powerful fortifications are at Manchester, on the south side of the river, commanding the approach to the city from that direction.

Up to the time when the Merrimac was destroyed there were no obstructions in James river, and had gunboats been sent up the river immediately, Rich-

mond must have fallen at once. The river is now filled with obstructions for some distance. A large number of vessels, canal boats, &c., filled with stone, have been sunk in the stream. Great quantities of stone have been thrown overboard and sunk. Since the obstructions were placed there, a freshet, the highest for forty years, has washed down an immense quantity of sand, and the whole mass is now solidly embedded together. It will be a great task to clear the channel, and it would not be surprising if the navigation of the river should prove to be permanently injured. Very heavy guns are mounted at Fort Darling, and in other fortifications, and the banks of the river lined with rifle pits. The works of Drury Point are understood to be completed to the satisfaction of the authorities, and labor upon them has ceased.

He has not seen the new iron-clad vessel being built at Richmond, but judging from the statements of those who have worked upon her, the steamer must be a formidable affair. She is a new vessel, and it was said that she would be completed within a few weeks. He had never heard any talk of a scarcity of ammunition for the rebel armies. They are constantly receiving powder from Europe, and they have several powder mills in operation.

He thinks the South will fight just as long as they can keep an organized army, but don't believe they will prolong the contest, if at any time their armies should be captured or dispersed, and nothing left to rely upon but guerrillas. There are in Richmond many friends of the old Union, but they keep quiet; and if the city should be captured by our forces, they would not express their sympathies until assured that it would never be re-taken.

In the Pittsburg Gazette we find the narrative of the Rev. J. J. Marks, D. D., Chaplain of the 63d Pennsylvania regiment, who was taken prisoner at Fair Oaks, sent to Richmond, and has now returned to his home, paroled for exchange. His relation of events is exceedingly interesting, and we condense from it the following:

Dr. Marks was engaged, after the battle of Fair Oaks, in Kearney's division, in the capacity of a surgeon, having charge of three hospitals, containing a large number of sick and wounded men. These hospitals were located a short distance below Savage's Station, on the railroad. When the attack was made on our right wing, at Mechanicsville, great alarm was felt among the men in the hospitals. Two hundred and fifty men could not be removed, being unable to walk. There were no means of transportation—no ambulances, no vehicles of any kind—nothing upon which to carry a man, save a single horse, his own. All who were able to walk, perhaps one hundred in number, packed up hastily and started toward our lines. The two hundred and fifty who remained begged Dr. Marks to stay with them, for if left alone they would be robbed of everything by the rebels.

At length the enemy came. The officers advanced with their swords flashing in the sunlight; and one of them, in a loud voice, advanced and demanded, "Who is in command here?" The doctor informed the officer that he had charge of the hospitals. "Who are you?" was the next interrogatory. After explaining that he was chaplain, but then acting as surgeon, the officer inquired the number of men in the hospitals, their conditions, &c. These questions were answered. The officer then informed the doctor that he wanted him to march out all the men who were able to go to Richmond; told him that his person and property should be respected. The quick eye of the officer fell upon the horse, and he asked, "Whose horse is that?" "Mine, sir," replied the doctor. "It shall not be disturbed, but will respect everything you have, and your trunks shall not be searched." The doctor then addressed the trembling and despondent men, whose heads were hung in shame and mortification. He told them to rest satisfied, that they should not be harmed.

Dr. Marks asked permission of the rebel officer to visit our lines and lay in twenty days' provisions for the men, provided he would be protected in so doing. Permission was granted, and he was assured that he would not be interfered with, but protected. He then visited our lines, and before the work of destroying our stores had commenced, he laid in 20 days' provisions and conveyed them to the hospitals—the rebels offering no resistance.

Then the battle of Sunday came. In this desperate conflict our men behaved most gallantly, and Dr. Marks (who witnessed the engagement) bears willing testimony to the fact that in this battle our men were completely and entirely victorious. The rebels were beaten at every point, and finally driven from the field. After the retreat of our army towards White Oak swamp, the rebels were most exultant. They had our forces surrounded in front, and on both flanks, and joyously shook hands, smiled and congratulated each other that McClellan would be compelled to surrender—that he could never retreat through the swamp, and that peace would be concluded, not on the Potomac, but on the banks of the Susquehanna.

The battles of Sunday and Monday left great multitudes of killed and wounded on the field, and ambulances, wagons and vehicles of all kinds were hurrying to and fro, conveying the wounded towards Richmond. In the battle of Monday night, the doctor thinks our men must have killed three to one. The rebels rejoiced, however, that McClellan's army was in flight, and would soon be captured. Our wounded were passed over without attention, and a report came to Savage's Station that they were suffering greatly for medicine, clothing, &c. The doctor desired permission to pass the rebel lines, in order to minister to our sick, but was refused. The officer in command of the hospitals stated that he had no power to give a written pass, but he was of opinion that if he (the doctor) would pass the lines he would be safe. The doctor then loaded two horses, and went through the rebel lines, talking freely to the men, and being nowhere insulted. He made three visits of this character, and was not interfered with.

Richmond, the doctor states, presents the appearance of a city in which considerable traffic had been carried on, but many of the stores and places of business are now closed. The city is one great hospital—one vast lazaret-house. All the tobacco warehouses, most of the hotels, and many private houses are converted into hospitals. Disease and death meet the eye at every point and at all times. He could smell the scent from the hospitals while walking even in the remotest streets of the city. The greatest destitution and privation exists among the citizens.

But the most remarkable feature is the high price of United States money. Treasury notes are purchased at two hundred per cent, and gold at two hundred and fifty per cent. Payment is made, of course, in Confederate notes, the chief currency in circulation, ranging from five cents upward. It was remarked, too, by Dr. Marks, that a number of these

notes are rejected as counterfeit, and it is hard to tell what is good and what is bad. Their financial distress is terrible, and (in the opinion of the doctor) they cannot hold out much longer—they must break down.

The food of the soldiers consists only of flour and meat, with such occasional articles as berries or green corn. The meat is wretched in quality, and is cured by rolling in pine wood ashes, to keep the worms out. The flour is taken by the soldiers, and each man mixes it with water for himself (without salt) and bakes it before a fire on the end of his ramrod! There is scarcely anything in Virginia, and the supplies are brought from the Southwest.

Why the Seven Days' Contests were Victories.

THE Washington Star, which has excellent opportunities for becoming posted relative to all the movements of the Federal forces, thus speaks concerning the result of the battles recently fought before Richmond:

Newspapers having mentioned already that Gen. Andrew Porter, Provost Marshal General of the Army of the Potomac, and also Gen. Marcy, chief of Gen. McClellan's staff, have recently been here, we may no longer refrain from noticing the fact, more especially as it enables us to state that they concur in the belief that the seven days' battles were a succession of substantial Union victories, inasmuch as they resulted—

1st. In the successful achievement of the purpose of McClellan, viz., to change his base as to secure the co-operation of the gunboats.

2d. In the defeat of the two ends aimed to be accomplished by the enemy, viz., the prevention of McClellan's move for the James river bank, and securing our immense supplies at the White House.

3d. In the fact that the rebel loss in killed, wounded, prisoners, and men otherwise put hors du combat, was, at the very lowest calculation, two for one on our side.

4th. In the fact that the rebel loss of arms and expenditure of munitions can not be replaced, while ours can, instantly almost.

5th. In the relative condition in which the battles left the sick and wounded of the two contending forces, our sick and wounded all being admirably provided for, while theirs are dying like rotten sheep, through their entire lack of any and every description of hospital stores and supplies, and thus creating a state of things in and around Richmond appalling to the whole South.

We may add that the general officers named above unite in declaring that it is not true that the enemy captured a single one of McClellan's siege guns, or any munitions or stores to speak of. On the contrary, while they lost more field artillery than they took from us, they got nothing worth notice in the way of supplies of any description as an equivalent.

Reflecting men will see in these facts proof that our army has indeed substantial reasons for regarding, as they certainly do, the seven days' battles as a series of Union victories.

Items and Incidents.

A UNION ADDRESS FROM NEW ORLEANS.—The Union Association of New Orleans has presented an Address to the People of Louisiana, stating the objects of the Association to be—First, a cessation of the civil war now raging in our country; second, the restoration of the State of Louisiana to her position within the Union under the Constitution and Laws of the United States.

FEARLESS HONESTY.—A business firm in New Orleans, at the beginning of the outbreak, owed \$250,000 in New York. This was sequestered under the Confederate laws, but the firm steadily refused to pay it over at the risk of jail or whatever proceedings, and are now making arrangements to discharge the debt to the proper creditors in full.

THE NEW LEVY.—It is a cheering indication that half a dozen States not represented in previous levies take part in the new movement for raising troops for the Union. Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri have fully joined hands with the loyal States. Delaware now comes into line, its Governor requesting his name to be attached to the memorial of the Governors of loyal States to the President, tendering additional troops to aid the Government in suppressing the rebellion. Governor Pierpont, of Virginia, and Andrew Jackson, Military Governor of Tennessee, also speak for those States on the loyal side.

BRAVE NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS TO BE PROMOTED.—Gen. McClellan has issued an order directing the Generals of Divisions and Brigades to forward to his headquarters the names of non-commissioned officers, who in the late "Seven Days' Battles" may have been distinguished for gallantry and good service on the field, with a view of immediate promotion of the deserving. Over two thousand names of young and old heroes have been handed in, and will no doubt soon receive deserved promotion as a reward for their faithful services.

ARRIVAL OF COTTON.—The Louisville Democrat of the 24th ult. says that the arrivals of cotton at this point are already very heavy and constantly increasing, and Louisville bids fair to become a great cotton market. The T. Q. Lloyd arrived yesterday with 140 bales; the Woodford brought up 582 bales from Memphis, and the Forest Queen arrived last night from the same port with 460 bales. Among this was a lot of 21 bales from Vicksburg, the first arrival having successfully run the blockade.

MAKING THE REBELS SENSIBLE OF THEIR LOSS.—"When you have rendered those rebels fully sensible of how much they have lost by their rebellion, you have taken the first step toward making them loyal men."

So says Gen. ROSSEAUX, and there is a world of sound philosophy in this remark of a loyal Kentucky General. While only mischief would result from barbarity, positive good would follow a steady policy of reprisals. If traitors compel our troops to go into their neighborhood, they should be compelled to feed them. If our cavalry are obliged to take long rides to expound the law to men of questionable loyalty, they should, at least, furnish fodder for the horses in compensation for the instruction they receive. The order to "quarter upon the enemy," presents a far more effective inducement to disloyal men to return to their allegiance than would a score of paternal paper proclamations.

NORTHERN MEN AMONG THE TRAITORS.—It is startling to think how much the rebellion is indebted to Northern brain and Northern muscle; how many of the leaders of the great conspiracy are natives of the free States! Yancey is a New Englander; Slidell is a native of New York city; Adjutant General Cooper, Jeff. Davis' right hand man in the Confederate War Department, is a son of the Empire State; Albert Pike, the soul of the rebellion in

Arkansas, is a Massachusetts man. Two or three of the less prominent Confederate Generals, and hundreds of officers of inferior grade, and thousands of privates in the ranks, are Southernized Yankees.

Speech of a Southern Unionist.

WAR meetings are held every day on Boston Common. At the meeting on Thursday, July 24th, the Rev. C. H. Clark, of Texas, spoke:

Mr. Clark was a Baptist minister in Houston, Texas, and is the son of the present rebel Governor of Texas, and son-in-law of Gen. Sam. Houston.

Sam. Houston, the Governor of the State, was brought before them on a charge of treason, and the old man made the most denunciatory speech against them and secession that he ever heard in his life.

Mr. Clark described at length how Texas was carried out of the Union by the treason of Twigg, and its dire effect on those who remained true to the Union.

Mr. Clark said he had been surprised, since coming North, to hear that it had been reported that Gov. Houston had given his adherence to secession.

The speaker described his getting away from the power of the rebels, his reaching New Orleans, and his interview with Gen. Butler, whom he styled "the right man in the right place."

He had been a slaveholder all his life, but he was ready for emancipation—to sacrifice everything to sustain the Government.

American Naval Progress.

THE New York Times, in giving some statistics relating to the progress of our navy during the rebellion, says:

It will be seen that the entire strength of our navy is close upon three hundred vessels, nearly all of which are propelled by steam, and that among these are two iron-clad frigates, twenty-three iron-clad gunboats, and a good stock of the highly effective naval weapon, the ram.

Colonel Floyd, of the 8th Ohio Cavalry, arrived at Luray on the 29th ult., and in pursuance of Gen. Pope's order arrested all the male inhabitants of the town, and lodged them in the Court House, preparatory to administering the oath of allegiance.

We believe that these three hundred armed vessels are a match for any naval force that any one or any two foreign powers could send to these shores; and at the same time they could keep the rebels in easy check.

Army of the West.

A DISPATCH from Memphis, under date of July 26, says General Grant has ordered Gen. Sherman to take possession of all unoccupied dwellings, stores, and manufactories, for the Government, and also when the owners are absent, (rebels,) to collect the rents for the Government.

The Commanding General has issued an order prohibiting speculators paying specie for products of the rebel States. When Treasury Notes are refused the parties refusing are to be arrested, and such of their crops not needed for the subsistence of their families will be seized and sold by the Government.

The guerrillas captured prominent citizens of Haywood Co., Tenn., on Saturday week, for selling cotton. One was shot dead while attempting to escape.

General Price has sent twenty-five cannon across the Mississippi, near Napoleon, and is endeavoring to cross his whole army. The rebels say that Price is to command in Missouri, Henderson in Arkansas, and Magruder to be over both, inaugurating a vigorous campaign.

In Missouri the guerrillas have been very active. We gather the following items:

On the 30th, Major Lazer, with 120 men of the 12th Missouri regiment, attacked Major Lenly and Capt. Polson, with 180 rebels near Bollinger's Mills, killing ten and wounding many.

Colonel Guilar, of the 9th Missouri regiment, re-enforced by Lieut. Col. Shaffer and Maj. Clopper, of Merrill's Horse, and Maj. Caldwell, 35th Iowa cavalry, were attacked at Moore's Mill, seven miles east of Butler, at noon on the 30th ult., by Porter and Cobb, 900 strong, and after fighting three hours the rebels were completely routed.

Information has been received at St. Louis that a large force of guerrillas have entered Missouri from Arkansas, and are now encamped near the State line in Howell and Texas counties.

The Louisville (Ky.) Express has been suppressed, and the editor and publishers are arrested by order of Gen. Boyle, on account of the general tone of the paper, which was calculated to aid rebellion.

On the 30th, at sundown, 170 mounted guerrillas, mostly armed, and from Boone county, Missouri, arrived at North Middleton, and went into Mount Sterling, Ky., to demand its surrender.

The Army of Virginia.

EVERYTHING wears an air of activity in this department, although nothing very striking has occurred during the week. We note such matters as have come to hand:

On the 29th ult. Maj.-Gen. John Pope, accompanied by his staff, left Washington, and proceeded to the headquarters in the field. Before breaking up his late headquarters, Gen. Pope ordered that no passes to the lines of his army should be granted to others than those having official business.

Scouting parties just returned to Waterloo, Va., report occasional skirmishing with the enemy near Orange Court House, but without any definite results. The rebel Gen. Ewell is reported to be in force from Orange Court House through Gordonsville to Stannardsville. His troops are estimated at from 20,000 to 30,000 men.

Colonel Floyd, of the 8th Ohio Cavalry, arrived at Luray on the 29th ult., and in pursuance of Gen. Pope's order arrested all the male inhabitants of the town, and lodged them in the Court House, preparatory to administering the oath of allegiance.

Col. Robinson has arrested between sixty and seventy citizens of Rappahannock Co., who will not take the oath of allegiance. Three days grace has been granted, at the expiration of which time, if they will not swear, they will be sent immediately beyond the lines.

Intelligence from Culpepper says that scouting parties go out daily, and occasionally bring in rebel scouts. No enemy in force has been discovered this side of Gordonsville. It is supposed that strong entrenchments are being constructed at that place by the rebels. Our troops are in such high spirits, and so confident of complete success, that they can defeat whatever rebel forces may be there collected.

A special dispatch from Washington on the 2d inst. says: The correspondent of the Inquirer reached here to-night, from Warrenton, with the intelligence that Maj.-Gen. Pope's army had advanced beyond that place. The men were in the best of spirits, and an enthusiastic feeling prevailed at the prospect of further business.

Army of the Potomac.

On the 29th of July, Dr. Williams, who has been a prisoner at Salisbury, N. C., for several months, arrived at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, having been unconditionally released. He states that for ten days after the battles in front

of Richmond, a thousand rebel troops passed through that town daily, on their way to Richmond, and more were on the way. The doctor's window overlooked the railway depot, giving him a good opportunity to ascertain what was going on there.

Among other facts, the doctor ascertained that eleven thousand troops were at Charlottesville, waiting transportation to Richmond; that thirty thousand conscripts had been raised in each of the States of Tennessee and Georgia, since the 19th ult., and a proportionate number in other extreme Southern States.

Gen. McClellan spent the 1st inst. in visiting the different hospitals, speaking words of encouragement to the sick and wounded, and seeing their wants properly attended to.

Six hundred troops crossed the river on the 2d inst, for the purpose of destroying the houses and woods on the opposite shore, which had afforded protection to the rebels. Everything in the shape of a dwelling was burned. This was the point where the rebels shelled our shipping and encampment the night before.

The gunboats, on the 3d, were engaged in shelling the shore and houses down the river. Five men were killed by the enemy's shells night before last, and two wounded.

Information has reached the Navy Department of the capture of two rebel vessels up Cheopocks creek, James river, near Claemont, by an expedition sent out by Commodore Wilkes, on the 27th inst. Lieut. Commanding Gibson of the Yankee, Acting-Master Foster of the Satellib, and Ely and Asst. Surgeon Longshaw of the Yankee, with a long-boat from each vessel, and a boat borrowed from the brig Nameang, in which a howitzer was mounted, were sent by Commodore Wilkes up Cheopocks creek, five miles to the head of navigation, where they discovered and took possession of the schooner J. W. Sturgis, owned by a person named Wm. Allen, of Claremont, and a schooner-rigged lighter, loaded with wood, master and owner G. S. Myres, and brought them out of the creek unmolested, although a force of rebel cavalry were stationed at a point only three-quarters of a mile off.

A letter from Fortress Monroe, July 30th, to the Philadelphia Inquirer, says that Commodore Porter's fleet, in part consisting of the following vessels, arrived and came to anchor in the roads early that morning:—Mathew Vassar, George Maraschan, T. A. Ward, Adelphi, Dugell, Daniel Smith, Wm. Bacon and the Recar. Twelve of the fleet in all left the Southwest Pass on the 17th day of July, and the five others are hourly expected. The officers and crews of all the vessels think they are to reduce Fort Darling, and intimate a perfect willingness to undertake the job. Feary times may be looked for in that direction shortly.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning informs us that it is rumored and believed that the new Merrimac has come down the river as far as Fort Darling, and that she is hourly expected to make an attempt to come further down. One thing is authentic,—all of the Federal gunboats have passed up beyond Harrison's Landing, and not one is in sight at that place, or on the river this side.

A detachment of infantry and cavalry from McClellan's army made a reconnaissance down the Chickahominy to Diascomb, and came on toward Williamsburg, till they met our pickets, and then returned, after reporting to Fortress Monroe by telegraph, that they had seen nothing of the enemy.

The mail boat from Harrison's Landing, at Fortress Monroe, arrived at three o'clock on the afternoon of the 3d. She reports that the previous night, between 12 and 1 o'clock, the rebels opened fire on the center of McClellan's army, which continued for about one half hour, from four rebel batteries of flying artillery, opposite the Landing, some above and some below. They threw shells of six and twelve pound shot, round and conical. Not one-half of them exploded.

The firing was intended, no doubt, for our camps, but many of the shot fell short, and did some little mischief to the shipping which is lying at the Landing and anchored in the river. As the shells passed over the thickest of the vessels, several vessels and steamers were struck by fragments of shells, but no one was harmed on them. It is reported that five of our men were killed and only three wounded. It being in the dead of night, and our army expecting an attack in front, caused some delay before our guns opened fire. After half an hour seige guns were brought to bear upon them, and in less than forty minutes the rebels were silenced. The firing was very brisk while it continued. Many of the rebel shells were thrown over among our camps, but did not explode.

All that is known of the fate of the rebels is that they fled, and this morning the trees where they had their batteries, presented a shattered appearance, and many were out completely down. There was one Federal gunboat near the Landing, which opened fire immediately on the enemy, but they did not respond. If the rebels' motive was to draw our gunboats down the river, they were most unsuccessful, for not a single gunboat made its appearance save the one already there, which shows they had better business on hand to attend to.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

A dispatch to the N. Y. Herald says it is stated on good authority, that when the news of the departure of the three iron-clad frigates, La Couronne, La Vincible, and La Normandie, for the Gulf of Mexico, together with several frigates and line-of-battle ships, reached Washington, Mr. Seward wrote immediately to the French government, and made strong remonstrances against the presence, in the vicinity of the United States, of such a formidable fleet. Mr. Seward gave as the reason of his protest, that the Mexican expedition being of too little consequence to justify the sending of such a tremendous

armament to American waters, the American government could not help thinking that it is destined to act against the United States. It would in consequence ask from the French government an explanation on that subject.

Simeon Draper, of New York, has been appointed special Commissioner, by the War Department, to superintend the execution of the order (given below) of July 31st, respecting absent officers and privates. Communications on the subject of said order may be addressed to him at the War Department, Washington.

Thomas McTurner, of New York, has been appointed Associate Judge Advocate for the army around Washington. He is charged with the investigation and determination of all cases of State prisoners, and of military arrests in the District of Columbia and adjacent counties of Virginia, and of all cases wherein the action of the Judge Advocate may be required.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, July 31.

The absence of officers and privates from their duty under various pretexts, while receiving pay, at great expense and burthen to the government, makes it necessary that efficient measures should be taken to enforce their return to duty, or that their places may be supplied by those who will not take pay for rendering no service. This evil moreover greatly tends to discourage the patriotic impulse that would contribute to support the families of faithful soldiers. It is therefore ordered by the President:

First. That on Monday, the 11th day of August, all leaves of absence and furloughs, by whomsoever granted, unless by the War Department, are revoked and absolutely annulled, and all officers capable of service are required forthwith to join their regiments, under penalty of dismissal from the service, or such penalty as a Court Martial may award, unless the absence be occasioned by lawful cause.

Second. The only excuse allowed for absence of officers and privates from duty after the 11th of August, shall be, in the order of the War Department; 2d, disability from a wound received in service; 3d, disability from disease that renders the party unfit for military duty. But any officer or private whose health permits him to visit watering places, or places of amusement, or make social visits, or walk about the town, city, or neighborhood where he may be, will be considered fit for military duty, and as evading his duty by absence from his command or the ranks.

Third. On Monday, the 18th day of August, at 10 A. M., each regiment and corps shall be mustered. The absentees will be marked. Three lists of the same will be made out, and within forty-eight hours after the muster, one copy shall be sent to the Adjutant-General of the army, and one to the commander of the corps. The third is to be retained, and all officers fit for duty absent at that time from duty, will be regarded as absent without cause. Their pay will be stopped and they will be dismissed from the service or considered as deserters unless restored, and no officer shall be restored to his rank unless by a Court of Inquiry, to be approved by the President. He shall establish that his absence was not without cause.

Fourth. Commanders of corps, divisions, brigades, regiments and detached parties, are to strict enforce the order and return as aforesaid. Any officer failing in his duty herein, will be deemed guilty of gross neglect of duty, and be dismissed from the service. Fifth. A commissioner shall be appointed by the Secretary of War to superintend the execution of this order in the respective States. The United States Marshal in the respective districts, the Mayor, Chief of Police of any town or city, and the Sheriff of the respective counties of each State, Post-Masters, and Justices of the Peace, are authorized to act as special Provost Marshals, to arrest any officer or private soldier fit for duty, who may be found absent from his command, and convey him to the nearest military post or depot. The transportation and reasonable expenses for this duty, and five dollars, will be paid for each officer and private so delivered.

By order of the President. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

Lieut. Gov. Dennison, Gen. Bates, Rep. Gurley, and Larz Anderson, all of Ohio, arrived in Washington on the 31st, at the request of Gov. Tod, and had a long interview with the Secretary of War, the President and Gen. Halleck, regarding military interests in Southern Ohio, together with those of Kentucky, which ended satisfactorily, and it is probable that all the committee came after will be accomplished. At night they had an important interview with Gen. Halleck, during which he alluded to the negro question, and said that he was now and always had been in favor of using negroes within the military lines, and of confiscating all slaves and other property of rebels in arms.

It is said in unusually well informed circles, that direct and decisive action is to be taken in the prosecution of the war, and that a perfect agreement exists between the principal Generals and the Executive branch of the Government. This is asserted as the certain policy of the administration, to be vigorously consummated, and indications seem to confirm the truth of the statement.

The National Bank Note Co., who have the order for the post-office stamp currency, say they will furnish large supplies by the 15th of August.

An order has been issued to the effect that henceforth no unnaturalized alien is to be employed in any navy yard in the Union. All persons seeking employment must, before they are accepted, produce certificates of naturalization papers authenticated.

This order is aimed at that large class of foreigners who like to get government money, but threaten to demand British or other protection if compulsory military service is demanded of them. If carried out it will result in the discharge of some 6,000 men at the different stations.

Reports from Indiana, Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Jersey are particularly encouraging. Other States are doing better than was supposed. The question whether or not to draft is said to have been under consideration recently in high quarters. Several of the heads of departments have been in favor of drafting ever since the call for 300,000 more men was issued. Others, however, are known to be strongly opposed to this step.

The following order has just been issued:

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 4, 1862. Ordered—That a draft of 300,000 militia be immediately called into the service of the United States to serve for nine months unless sooner discharged. The Secretary of War will assign the quotas to the States, and establish regulations for the draft.

Second—That if any State shall not by the 15th of August furnish its quota of the additional 300,000 volunteers by law, the deficiency of volunteers will be made up by special draft from the militia. The Secretary of War will establish regulations for this purpose.

Regulations will be prepared by the War Department and presented to the President, with the object of securing the promotion of officers of the army and volunteers for meritorious distinguished services, and preventing the nomination and appointment in the military service of incompetent and unworthy officers. The regulations will also provide for ridding the service of such incompetent persons as now hold commissions. By order of the President. E. M. STANTON, Sec'y of War.

It has been believed here, for several days, that the enemy have been evacuating Richmond, there being reasonable suspicion that pestilence has broken out in that city.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Emery's Patent Changeable Railroad Horse Powers, &c.—Emery, Brothers, New York. State Sabbath School Teachers' Association—K. T. Huntington, Sec'y. Help for the Women—Richardson & Keeler. Receiver's Sale of Nursery Stock—P. Barry, Receiver. Lasell Female Seminary—G. W. Briggs. Pure Leicester Sheep for Sale—Wm. Jeffrey. Oxen for Sale—S. L. J. Scripture.

The News Condenser.

- Congress has disbanded all regimental bands.
The present population of Utah is said to be 100,000.
The Union League of Baltimore comprises over 15,000 members.
Chicago city pays \$60 bounty to every recruit obtained within its limits.
Cotton and sugar continue to arrive in Louisville daily, by river and rail.
Missouri, it is said, will raise four-fold her usual amount of tobacco this year.
An insane mother in Lower Canada lately murdered her seven children in their beds.
Hancock Co., in Western Virginia, offers \$60 bounty to recruits for the Federal army.
Hon. John S. Phelps, of Missouri, has been appointed Military Governor of Kansas.
Queen Victoria has two hundred and twenty-two household servants. Desirous, that.
The only ex-Presidents now living are Millard Fillmore, Franklin Pierce, and James Buchanan.
Counting the Indian army, the British troops at present reach the number of 200,000 effectives.
City Treasurer Bedlow, of Lowell, has paid \$21,230 to 216 volunteers, and has more money left.
At one of the meetings of the Social Science Congress, in London, Eng., all the speakers were ladies.
Adderley Park, in Salford, Eng., is to be given to the people by its owner. It is valued at £18,000.
Horse railroads are to be built immediately in Detroit. The first line will run through Jefferson avenue.
The fees of the Marshal of the District of Columbia will amount this year to the trifling sum of \$100,000.
Within the last 15 years, England has paid more than \$300,000,000 sterling for imports of foreign corn.
By the official report, it appears that the enrolled militia of Boston numbers 26,222 men at the present time.
The Cape Cod Republican says the cranberry crop in that vicinity has been much injured by a peculiar blight.
In London there are no less than 600 different societies—reformatory, philanthropic, charitable, and scientific.
Two brothers, E. L. and A. Stuart, of New York, have donated \$50,000 to the Princeton Theological Seminary.
It is reported that Hon. Henry J. Raymond is about to retire from the editorship of the N. Y. Times newspaper.
Gen. Boyle has promulgated an order announcing that no dilaoyal man will be allowed to run for office in Kentucky.
Brigham Young, Jr., son of the prophet of Salt Lake City, has arrived in Philadelphia. He is en route for Europe.
Boat-builders in Cincinnati have under way, or contracted, sixteen new steamers, to be completed for the fall trade.
A correspondent of the Oswego Commercial Times suggests that political conventions nominate only men over 45 years.
A large canal stable in Oswego was destroyed by fire on Sunday morning week. Thirteen horses were burned to death.
The first of September is determined upon as the day upon which the National Tax Bill shall go into practical operation.
The steamer City of Alton, on her way from Memphis, was fired into twice on Sunday week, just before reaching Columbus.
The distance from McClellan's headquarters to the rebel capital by land is 19 miles, but by the course of the James river it is 60.
A loud cry for onions comes from the camp at Harrison's Landing. Ten cents is paid for a single onion, because scarcity is appearing.
Counterfeit five dollar bills, on the Mercantile Bank of Plattsburgh, N. Y., are in circulation. The bills are dated March 4, 1860.
The Railroad Journal estimates the value of railway inventions in the last forty years, in this country alone, to be \$1,200,000,000.
The Secretary of the Treasury has determined to issue no Treasury notes of the denomination of \$3 at present—only ones and twos.
Ezrael Benson, of Worcester, has six sons and one son-in-law in the Union army, all Vermont volunteers. A truly patriotic family.
The late show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England is described as unusually fine, especially in the way of improved stock.
John Van Buren, son of the late ex-President, is said to be in a very delicate state of health. He has been an invalid for nearly two years.
Col. Colburn, of Gen. McClellan's staff, telegraphs that all civilians, correspondents included, are now excluded from the lines of that army.
A Paris letter says the Mexican expedition has already cost 74,000,000 francs, or nearly 23,000,000 sterling, and 1,900 men are in hospitals or dead.
In the erection of the Great Exhibition building, 200 tons of nails were used; which, upon a fair computation, would give about 33 1/2 million nails.
The Chicago Journal says the bankers of Cincinnati were so much alarmed at Morgan's raid that they sent \$2,500,000 for deposit in the Chicago banks.
When Great Britain fought Napoleon, she made Bank of England notes legal tender, and the premium on gold rose so high that 21-shilling pieces rose to 27.
A semi-annual meeting of the New York State Temperance Society is to be held at Saratoga Springs, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 26th and 27th insts.
The rebel government, through its Secretary of War, has recognized guerrilla warfare, and accepted the bands of marauders who infest the border States.
The St. Louis Court House, which has been in the course of erection for 25 years, was completed last month. It is a magnificent edifice, and cost \$1,190,900.
The Chicago Journal says that since the 30th of June last, over 2,000 Norwegian emigrants have passed over the Galena railroad, bound for Minn. and Wis.
Union College, at Schenectady, N. Y., has conferred the honorary degree of LL. D. upon Maj.-Gen. Henry Wager Halleck, Commander of the armies of the U. S.
Mrs. Dr. Elbridge Simpson, of Toronto, C. W., and a female friend, have raised in that city \$400 for the benefit of sick and wounded soldiers of our Union army.
A large snow ball was made by a young man, July 16, from a drift remaining by the road-side, near Roxbury, Vt. About 60 bushels of snow remained in the drift.
Gen. Schofield has issued a general order for the immediate organization of all the militia of Mo., for the purpose of exterminating the guerrillas that infest that State.
The number of colored people in Mass., by the census of 1860, was 9,592—males, 4,483; females, 5,124. In 1850 the number was 9,064. Increase in 10 years but 528.
Only one-half a silk crop is expected this year in France. The disease among the silkworms has been less destructive than in former years, but the yield is not uniform.
Accounts from Alexandria announce that the Egyptian cotton crop for 1862 is estimated at 700,000 quintals. The crop for the year 1861 was calculated at 800,000 quintals.
The N. Y. Independent publishes a list, 3 columns in length, of the names of clergymen and clergyman's sons who are doing active service in the army as chaplains or officers.

THE WAR FOR LIBERTY.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]
BY MRS. A. L. BORTON.
"O'er to the righteous strife!" in thrilling tones,
Unto her loyal sons, calls Freedom now;

The Story-Teller.

A MOMENT OF PASSION.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

THIS story, or something like it, has been told before, but we wish to tell it in our own way. And the lesson it teaches will bear many repetitions.
Mr. Ellis was a man of kind and tender feelings, but quick-tempered and impulsive.

boy had noticed him, and was endeavoring to get into the house without being seen. But, at the door where he hoped to enter unobserved, he encountered a stern and angry face. A few quick strides had brought his father there.
"So you have been to the river, after all that I said?"

calling him, reached his ears. He came to where she stood, half-way down stairs.
"Willie wants you," she said.
"Has he recovered?" asked the father.

GUIDE THEM GENTLY.

"You careless, heedless girl! You are more trouble than you are worth. Just look at that dress—cost a dollar a yard, and you have just ruined it. You might as well go dressed genteelly."

envy, but joy is lost to me. I wonder where my husband is!" Echo answered "Where?" Reality sighed as she caught the sound.
Softly the snow fell upon the earth. The glittering stars bespoke happiness, and the keen, frosty air, life and vitality.

Corner for the Young.

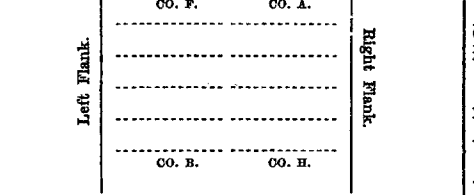
TO THE LITTLE FOLKS.—The editors of the RURAL wish it understood that there is no charge for inserting Riddles, Charades, Enigmas, or anything else legitimately belonging to the "Youth's Corner."

POETICAL ENIGMA.

One part of my birth I claim from the earth;
In the shape of a globe I must be;
If with me men contend, I make each hurt his friend,

A MILITARY PROBLEM.

A REGIMENT is in column by division, in a field not large enough for them to march either by the right or left flank, and but the distance of a company wheel in the front and rear. Here is the diagram:



The Colonel wishes to turn the Regiment completely around—place Co. A where Co. B now is, Co. F in the position of Co. H, the right of Co. A where the left of Co. B is, and the left of Co. F where the right of Co. H is.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 654.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—A pleasant and comfortable home, a lovely and agreeable wife, and the RURAL to read.
Answer to Algebraical Problem:—40, 45, 50.
Answer to Charade:—Horse-man-ship.

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.

THE VALUABLE GRIST AND FLOURING MILL, known as the RICHMOND MILLS, at Frost Hollow, Ont. Co., N. Y., five miles east of Livonia Station.

MASON & HAMLIN'S HARMONIUMS AND MELODEONS.

Warranted the BEST INSTRUMENTS of the class in the world. See Catalogue containing testimony to their superiority from the most eminent musicians.

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.

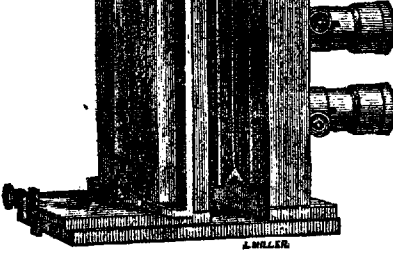
SHOW AND SALE OF WEBB PEDIGREE SOUTH-DOWN SHEEP.

My 12th Annual Sale and Letting of Yearling Rams, Band and Ewe Lambs, will take place, on Wednesday, Sept. 24, 1882, 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 1882, the largest stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, &c. west of Rochester.

SQUIERS' PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.



MR. G. W. SQUIERS, a Daguerrotypist and Photographer of fifteen years experience, formerly of New York, would respectfully inform his friends, and the public generally, that he has purchased the well-known WHITNEY ROOMS, located above where he now resides, and has fitted up all the modern known in the art, as good as the best and at war prices.

6,000 SIX THOUSAND 6,000 ACRES OF THE MOST DESIRABLE FARMING LANDS IN ILLINOIS.

High Rolling Prairie Lands, Dry and Healthy, AND ARE NOT surpassed by any in the State. They are situated near Chittewater Station, Livingston County, Illinois, and are surrounded by Railroads, one of which passes directly through them.

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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.

ROCHESTER CITY SCALE WORKS.

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

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

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