

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

(SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.)

VOL. XIII. NO. 4.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1862.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
THE LEADING AMERICAN WEEKLY
RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

CHAS. D. BRADGON, Western Corresponding Editor.

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

For Terms and other particulars, see last page.

AGRICULTURAL.

IMPROVEMENT IN FARMING.

BEFORE us we have an inquiry from a young farmer, the substance of which is:—"How can I improve in my system of farming, so as to raise larger crops, or in some way to make farming more profitable? I think I do as well as most of my neighbors, and have no desire, and no particular reason to complain, yet I barely earn a respectable living, as the reward of hard labor and constant care, and I have many times thought that the same amount of capital and energy in any other kind of business would yield more satisfactory results."

He who earns a respectable living in these times, has certainly no particular reason to complain, and then the care of the farmer is nothing compared with that of men in other pursuits. His thought is only just enough to keep the brain in tone, and he knows nothing of the harassing, desponding care,—the life-consuming anxiety,—that makes existence almost a burthen. Then, few farmers know how much they obtain from their farms. As a general thing, agriculturists are not very skillful accountants. If a merchant makes three thousand dollars a year in business, and expends for family support, &c., twenty-five hundred, he gives his business credit for the full three thousand. If he keeps horses, and rides at pleasure and convenience, he knows this and other luxuries cost money. The farmer lives on the products of his farm, rides to church and to fairs, and on pleasure excursions, possesses every convenience for comfort and pleasure, and enjoys most of the luxuries of life; in fact, obtains a support that in some of our large cities would cost three or four thousand dollars a year. At the end of the year, when he sells off produce, stock, &c., he has but a few hundred dollars left, and then he concludes that farming is unprofitable and won't afford much over a decent living. He has heard of acquaintances, perhaps merchants, making three or four thousands, or more, in a year, and feels dissatisfied at his small gains; but forgets to inquire how much of this is saved, or how much was lost last year, or the last panic, and what security there exists in regard to the future. Business men know what value to place upon safe and permanent investments. Any wise capitalist would rather invest at three per cent interest when there was no doubts in regard to safety, than run great risks at three times this rate. In this respect, the farmer has the advantage over all other classes. Seed-time and harvest never fail, for they are controlled by a higher law, and not subject to the caprice or ignorance of man. The agriculturist may well congratulate himself on the safety of his position, for though his gains are not rapid, they are sure; and though he meets with losses, they are not great nor embarrassing. The wheat midge or the rust may injure the grain, the rot destroy the potatoes—some seasons are very dry and others extremely wet, and crops suffer—but these losses are only partial, and usually confined to one of many crops upon which he depends for profit. The loss, too, is one of anticipated profit, and not of capital invested, for under the most unfavorable circumstances, enough is annually saved to pay for the outlay of money and labor. Then the causes which injure his crops affect those of his neighbors also, and generally extend over a large district of country, and the natural consequence is an increase of price, which makes up to some extent for the diminution in quantity. The loss may be inconvenient, or even annoying, but it brings no crushing calamity that destroys hope and darkens a whole life.

The inquiry, how can I improve in my system of farming, is the most important that the farmer can make, and one which, he should keep constantly before his mind. He who does so can hardly fail to make constant progress. A knowledge of a disease is said to be half a cure, and a mind alive to the necessity of improvement, will rest satisfied with nothing short of the good for which it craves. We could not of course specify in what way our correspondent could improve in his system of farming,

without more knowledge of his present practice; but we can give a few general rules, that may be useful to him and others. The farmer conducts his business, not for pleasure, or honor, but for profit. That system which yields the best returns for the capital and labor invested, is the best system, no matter whether it corresponds with the practices of others or the teachings of books, or not. If for every day's labor, costing the farmer seventy-five cents, a dollar's worth of corn, or wheat, or meat, can be produced, of course the more labor used the better. If enough can be thus employed, the farmer may fold his arms and live on the profit, notwithstanding the old maxim about holding or driving. The farmer's head, if he has a good one and makes good use of it, is of more value than his hands. Of course there is no objection to the farmer working as hard as any man on the farm; if in doing so he does not neglect the necessary head work, by not giving himself time to think. A man can be hired to do as much labor for a dollar a day as any owner of a farm can do, but at what price can he get his thinking done? Who can he hire to do his managing, and at what price? He who tries the experiment will find it a very costly operation. Many a man prides himself on the amount of labor he does, who perhaps by this excessive toil incapacitates himself for a wise and judicious management of his business, and thus loses much more than he gains. What would be thought of the wisdom of the merchant who, to save the wages of a porter, spent nearly the whole of his time and strength in hauling boxes and bales. Many soldiers in the ranks can no doubt fight as bravely and successfully in that position as Gen. McCLELLAN, and yet the General, in his position, is of more value, no doubt, to the army, than a dozen or perhaps a hundred regiments. How ridiculous then would it be for the General to give up his position and take a place in the ranks, or to waste the greater part of his time in doing work that ten thousand other men could do just as well. The farmer is the general in command of every living thing on the farm. He must marshal his forces for a successful struggle for large and profitable crops. He will meet with many enemies to be conquered, many difficulties to be overcome, but by a wise and skillful generalship he will conquer, and peace and plenty reward his efforts. Next week we will continue the subject, and show where American farming, as a general thing, needs improvement.

EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE.

Substitute for Roots and Hay.

We think in this country we have made a great advance when we substitute roots, in a measure, for hay and grain, but in Europe they are endeavoring to find some economical substitute for both. At a recent discussion of this subject before a Farmer's Club, a very successful feeder said that few farmers know the value of straw, and were more care taken in the harvesting and preparing of it for cattle, it would play a much more important part in the economic feeding of stock than it does at present; any description of straw I consider to be of little value when given in its long or natural state; it must be cut and mixed up with hay, roots, meal, &c., to make it palatable, and when so treated, goes a long way to supply any deficiencies. In describing the system of preparing food, he said:—"I will detail the plan I pursue now, and which, I think, is one that enables me to keep one-third more stock than on the dry system. The corn or meal I use is ground, and then boiled; the chaff is placed in layers of about six inches in thickness, in large cisterns; upon this chaff a thin coating of pulped or cut roots is spread, and upon the roots a portion of the boiling mucilage is poured, to which, after being slightly mixed, is added more chaff, roots, and mucilage, until the cistern is quite full. It is then left for twenty-four hours, in which time fermentation takes place; and, with three parts of straw and one of inferior hay, one pound of linseed meal, half a bushel of roots per head per diem, I have had eighty head of store cattle all winter that have kept in good condition, thriven, and done well. With fattening cattle, the proportion of hay is greater; and I generally commence with four pounds of meal or cake, and gradually increase to eight pounds, which quantity I rarely, if ever, exceed. My mixture usually consists of one pound of linseed to four pounds of barley, lentils, or other corn meal; it boils down and makes a much better mucilage. Upon one hundred and twenty acres of roots, one hundred of upland hay, eighty of pasture hay, I never had less than two hundred and fifty head of cattle all winter; eighty fat ones sold at Christmas, and I shall get rid of eighty more before this month is up; eighty store cattle, &c., and over one thousand sheep. I hesitate not to say, had it not been for the consumption of straw, I could not have kept much more than half the number. Cotton-seed cake is much used in this neighborhood. I prefer it when things are at grass, or receiving large quantities of roots. Most of the meal, I find, answers better when mixed with linseed meal than when used alone."

On the subject of cooking food Mr. McCULLOCH said, experiments he had tried demonstrated the superiority of cooked over uncooked food, as an auxiliary of roots. "By merely boiling the same quantity of bean meal (four pounds,) instead of

giving it raw, an equal result is produced by 71 cwt. of mangels as by 84 cwt.; and with Swedes, the cooking of the auxiliary bean meal makes a saving over the raw meal of 27 cwt. of Swedes; or, to put the value of the cooked food in another light, it appears that an ox fed on turnips alone, consumed daily one hundred and fifty pounds of Swedes, while one with four pounds of raw bean meal consumed daily one hundred and thirty pounds of Swedes; and another, with four pounds of bean meal cooked, consumed one hundred pounds of Swedes; the four pounds of raw bean meal being an equivalent of twenty pounds of turnips; while, by merely cooking it, it became equal to fifty pounds of turnips. So simple a process must recommend itself, by the above surprising and satisfactory results, to every feeder of live stock."

Wire Worms.

The wire worm is exceedingly destructive in many parts of Europe, as here, and the best mode of exterminating them is a question of considerable importance. They have done great mischief to the wheat and other grain crops, for several years past, as well as to potatoes and turnips. Peruvian guano is found to be offensive to the worm, and either effects their destruction, in a great measure, or drives them away. The Scotch Farmer says:—"If the grain crops are sown in rows, the attacks of wire worms can be greatly mitigated by hoeing them in spring as soon as the attacks of the vermin are observed. Harrowings will so far have a similar effect, if the crops have been sown broadcast. The mischief in this case having been already done, such operations as harrowing and hoeing will cause the remaining live plants to tiller out and fill up the blanks. They also serve to keep down weeds of all kinds, and allow the thinned plants to grow more vigorously. Rolling is of great advantage to the plants.

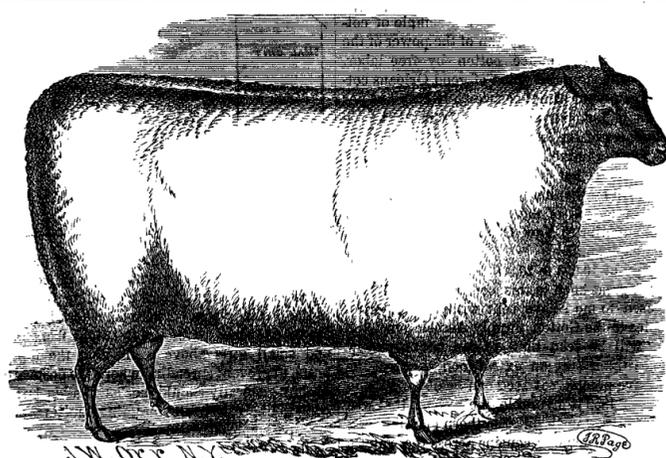
Potatoes are also a favorite food of the wire worm, and they are often found burrowed out of sight in the tubers. So much is this the case that gardeners trap them by slices of this esculent. They sometimes ascend within, and destroy the stems of potatoes, and their depredations are often considerable in dry weather. Guano applied to the crop when planted is the best preventive of their attacks. The sets should not be cut, but planted whole, when the ground is loose and dry.

Wire worms, however, have done more harm to the turnip crop than all others put together. They cut off the young plants when only a few days above the ground, and large portions of fields are at once cleared. Even when the numbers are not so great as to do this, they will gnaw at the roots of the plants after being newly thinned out. Crows are very partial to feeding on wire worms, and they can distinguish by the eye, what no farmer can, every plant having one at its roots. To obtain the insects, these birds will frequently tear up, in a short time, large patches in newly singled fields of turnips, to the great loss of the owner. Farm-yard manure and bone dust rather encourage the insects to come to the roots. Peruvian guano, in the case of the turnips, is by far the most useful agent as a vermin-dispeller, if rightly applied. After the land is otherwise thoroughly prepared for the crop, guano should be sown broadcast over the level surface, and then ridged up with the double-mold plow. This will bring seed and manure as closely together as is desirable. This method has been found completely successful in preventing the attacks of wire worms on turnips, when other portions, dressed with farm-yard manure and bones, were quite destroyed."

Destruction of Small Birds causing Alarm.

For several seasons, and particularly the last, there was found to be a scarcity of breadstuffs in France. This state of things caused great alarm, and memorials were presented from some of the departments to the Minister of Agriculture, the Legislative Chamber, and the Emperor. An elaborate report has been made on the subject, in which the destruction of small birds is charged with being one of the leading causes of deficient crops. The destruction of the small birds has gone on increasing, and in a corresponding ratio has proceeded the increase of those insects and reptiles which prey on the crops of grain and all kinds of vegetable food; and on these insect tribes the small birds live. To that degree of alarm has the public mind been brought, that inquiry and investigation have been instituted, and have demonstrated the fact that the destruction of the beautiful feathered songsters may, if continued, lead to something like positive famine. This document has been translated and is being circulated in England, to aid in arresting the wanton destruction of birds in that country. It was the subject of a paper recently read before the Natural History Society of Reigate, from which we cut the following:

"Although the sparrows levy a small contribution on the farmer's grain, yet the far greater portion of their food is from injurious insects, and the whole of the food they give their young is from the tribe of insects. At the beginning of the world man would have succumbed in the unequal struggle if God had not given him in the bird a powerful auxiliary, a faithful ally, who wonderfully accomplishes the task which man is incapable of performing—in fact, against his enemies of the insect world man would be powerless without the bird."



WEBB SOUTH-DOWN BUCK, "MASTER FORDHAM."

WHEREVER delicious, juicy, rich mutton is prized, the South-Downs will be favorites, and we believe their more general dissemination over this country will make mutton far more popular than it now is, and reduce the consumption of pork—a consummation much to be desired. In the RURAL last year we gave a group of Improved South-Down Ewes, from the celebrated stock of JONAS WEBB, of England, imported by J. C. TAYLOR, of Holmdel, New Jersey, and now we present a portrait of a choice buck, owned by the same gentleman. The South-Down has long been a favorite mutton sheep in England, and those bred by Mr. WEBB have become the most famous, selling and renting for almost fabulous prices. The Improved South-Downs are also becoming favorably known, and

quite popular, among breeders in this country. One of the most valuable flocks is that of Mr. TAYLOR, who has devoted nearly twelve years to its establishment, and paid extraordinary prices for stock animals—his aim being to obtain the best of Mr. WEBB's selected stock. Last year he purchased "Reserve," Mr. W.'s best ram, and has a fine lot of lambs from this celebrated animal. Previous to Mr. WEBB's recent great sale, Mr. T. applied to him for his best yearling and two year old buck, expressing a desire for such as Mr. W. would keep for his own flock, if he were to continue breeding. Mr. WEBB selected No. 89, which was knocked down to Mr. TAYLOR, in the public sale, at 260 guineas, or one thousand three hundred dollars, the highest price ever paid for a South-Down buck in England.

At a late agricultural meeting at St. Gallen, in Switzerland, BARON VON TSCHUDI, the celebrated Swiss naturalist, dwelt on the important services of birds in the destruction of insects. Without birds, said he, no agriculture and vegetation are possible. They accomplish in a few months the profitable work of destruction which millions of human hands could not do half so well in as many years; and the sage, therefore, blamed in very severe terms the foolish practice of shooting and destroying birds, which prevails more in Italy, recommending, on the contrary, the process of alluring birds into gardens and corn fields. Among the most deserving birds he counts swallows, titmice, redtails, etc. In a flower garden of one of his neighbors three tall rose trees had been suddenly covered with about two thousand tree lice. At his recommendation a marsh titmouse was located in the garden, which in a few hours consumed the whole brood, and left the roses perfectly clean.

The small birds have rapidly increased in most sections of this country during the past ten years. No man now would be seen carrying a gun for the destruction of little birds, or shooting anything less than a pigeon, or partridge, or snipe. The consequence is we lose some of our cherries and other fruits, but the curculio and other destructive insects are fast disappearing.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE RIGHTS OF KING COTTON.

AGRICULTURE was introduced in Illinois with the first French settlers in 1682. These French settlements were not made for agricultural purposes, but as trading posts. The fertility of the soil, however, and the ease with which it could be cultivated, invited the culture of grain; and wheat was for a number of years the only grain produced. Wheat and flour were exported to France; also wine, made from the native grape. Apples and pears were also cultivated to a considerable extent; and it is asserted that there are pear and apple trees near these old French villages which are more than a century old, and now yield fruit of a more excellent quality than many of the more modern popular varieties.

These French traders were not skilled in agriculture, and no progress was made in it up to the time of the wresting of this territory from British dominion in 1778 by General GEORGE ROGERS CLARK. American settlements were rapidly made thereafter, up to the time of the war of 1812. Corn became a staple, and both corn and swine were exported. But even after 1778, up to 1790, there is no record of marked progress in agriculture; and the writer can find nothing to establish the fact that cotton had been cultivated at all up to the last-named date. In that year (1790) a company of emigrants, from Hardy county, Va., settled near New Design, and were the first who improved agriculture in this State. They introduced sheep-husbandry, manufactured linseys, and cultivated flax and cotton—the latter most—and wove it into clothing. Both French and Americans cultivated tobacco extensively—not much for export, but for their own consumption and for traffic with the Indians. Thus it will be seen that cotton has long been a

staple in this State. It was grown as a staple for domestic manufacture, in a large portion of the south half of Illinois, until the manufactured goods became so cheap and the pecuniary condition of the settlers such as to render it unnecessary and unprofitable. But it may safely be asserted that more or less cotton has been grown and matured in this State each year during the past sixty years. There is abundant testimony establishing the fact. Within three years the writer has seen a half acre of almost mature bolls in Union county; and he has in his possession a single boll, matured in 1859 or '60, in Cook county. There is documentary evidence enough, and living witnesses to add to it, if necessary, to prove the right—the pre-emption right—of King Cotton to a foothold on Illinois soil. During the past year considerable quantities of it have been grown. During the present year a large area will be planted, if seed can be obtained. The Federal Government has promised to aid in securing seed for planters.

Now, if cotton is to be cultivated, it is important that those who engage in its culture should do so intelligently. It can be grown on Illinois soil, because it has been. The writer has before him a mass of testimony from Illinoisans, gathered by the Illinois Central Railroad Company, from which are obtained the following facts and assertions. There are forty-eight different witnesses.

1. *Of the Soil best adapted to Cotton Culture.*—Of those who say aught of the soil, two believe the best crops can be grown on prairie soil, freshly turned over; one has grown it equally well on old and new land; two think it best on new land; one believes it a sure crop on fresh-turned soil; one thinks it does best on timber; and one on high, sandy land. This testimony may be said to establish but little; but from what the writer has gleaned, it is apparent that the plant can be grown on almost any soil; but for the purpose of early maturity, and to secure an extended picking season, the dry, light soils should be chosen for the more northern latitudes.

2. *Preparation of Soil.*—The testimony before us leaves us in the dark on this subject, nearly. It seems that the most successful crops were obtained by turning the prairie sod over and planting upon it at once—some in drills, giving it culture similar to corn, with plow and hoe; others using the hoe alone. There can be little doubt, from what we know of the nature of the plant, and its habit of growth, together with the importance of early maturity, that thorough preparation will pay, and is important.

3. *Kind of Seed used.*—The seed first planted by the early immigrants was brought from Kentucky and Tennessee. The plant (*Gossypium herbaceum*) is herbaceous and of course an annual in this State. But the planters do not seem to have failed to grow what seed they needed to plant; and I find no record of experiments to establish the utility of "changing seed."

4. *Time of Planting.*—The testimony before me, in a majority of cases, fixes the time of planting at the 1st to the 10th of May. Some planted the last of April and others succeeded in getting a good crop when compelled by insects to replant the last of May. The picking commenced the last of August, and continued through September and October, depending of course upon the character of the season. It

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We think in this country we have made a great advance when we substitute roots, in a measure, for hay and grain, but in Europe they are endeavoring to find some economical substitute for both. At a recent discussion of this subject before a Farmer's Club, a very successful feeder said that few farmers know the value of straw, and were more care taken in the harvesting and preparing of it for cattle, it would play a much more important part in the economic feeding of stock than it does at present; any description of straw I consider to be of little value when given in its long or natural state; it must be cut and mixed up with hay, roots, meal, &c., to make it palatable, and when so treated, goes a long way to supply any deficiencies. In describing the system of preparing food, he said:—"I will detail the plan I pursue now, and which, I think, is one that enables me to keep one-third more stock than on the dry system. The corn or meal I use is ground, and then boiled; the chaff is placed in layers of about six inches in thickness, in large cisterns; upon this chaff a thin coating of pulped or cut roots is spread, and upon the roots a portion of the boiling mucklage is poured, to which, after being slightly mixed, is added more chaff, roots, and mucklage, until the cistern is quite full. It is then left for twenty-four hours, in which time fermentation takes place; and, with three parts of straw and one of inferior hay, one pound of linseed meal, half a bushel of roots per head per diem, I have had eighty head of store cattle all winter that have kept in good condition, thriven, and done well. With fattening cattle, the proportion of hay is greater; and I generally commence with four pounds of meal or cake, and gradually increase to eight pounds, which quantity I rarely, if ever, exceed. My mixture usually consists of one pound of linseed to four pounds of barley, lentils, or other corn meal; it boils down and makes a much better mucklage. Upon one hundred and twenty acres of roots, one hundred of upland hay, eighty of pasture hay, I never had less than two hundred and fifty head of cattle all winter; eighty fat ones sold at Christmas, and I shall get rid of eighty more before this month is up; eighty store cattle, &c., and over one thousand sheep. I hesitate not to say, had it not been for the consumption of straw, I could not have kept more than half the number. Cotton-seed cake is much used in this neighborhood. I prefer it when things are at grass, or receiving large quantities of roots. Most of the meal, I find, answers better when mixed with linseed meal than when used alone."

On the subject of cooking food Mr. McCULLOCH said, experiments he had tried demonstrated the superiority of cooked over uncooked food, as an auxiliary of roots. "By merely boiling the same quantity of bean meal (four pounds,) instead of

giving it raw, an equal result is produced by 71 cwt. of mangels as by 84 cwt.; and with Swedes, the cooking of the auxiliary bean meal makes a saving over the raw meal of 27 cwt. of Swedes; or, to put the value of the cooked food in another light, it appears that an ox fed on turnips alone, consumed daily one hundred and fifty pounds of Swedes, while one with four pounds of raw bean meal consumed daily one hundred and thirty pounds of Swedes; and another, with four pounds of bean meal cooked, consumed one hundred pounds of Swedes; the four pounds of raw bean meal being an equivalent of twenty pounds of turnips; while, by merely cooking it, it became equal to fifty pounds of turnips. So simple a process must recommend itself, by the above surprising and satisfactory results, to every feeder of live stock."

Wire Worms.

The wire worm is exceedingly destructive in many parts of Europe, as here, and the best mode of exterminating them is a question of considerable importance. They have done great mischief to the wheat and other grain crops, for several years past, as well as to potatoes and turnips. Peruvian guano is found to be offensive to the worm, and either effects their destruction, in a great measure, or drives them away. The Scotch Farmer says:—"If the grain crops are sown in rows, the attacks of wire worms can be greatly mitigated by hoeing them in spring as soon as the attacks of the vermin are observed. Harrowings will so far have a similar effect, if the crops have been sown broadcast. The mischief in this case having been already done, such operations as harrowing and hoeing will cause the remaining live plants to tiller out and fill up the blanks. They also serve to keep down weeds of all kinds, and allow the thinned plants to grow more vigorously. Rolling is of great advantage to the plants."

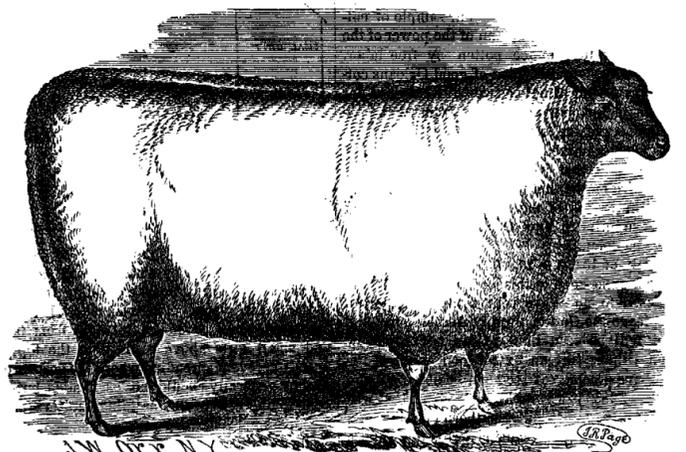
Potatoes are also a favorite food of the wire worm, and they are often found burrowed out of sight in the tubers. So much is this the case that gardeners trap them by slices of this esculent. They sometimes ascend within, and destroy the stems of potatoes, and their depredations are often considerable in dry weather. Guano applied to the crop when planted is the best preventive of their attacks. The sets should not be cut, but planted whole, when the ground is loose and dry.

Wire worms, however, have done more harm to the turnip crop than all others put together. They cut off the young plants when only a few days above the ground, and large portions of fields are at once cleared. Even when the numbers are not so great as to do this, they will gnaw at the roots of the plants after being newly thinned out. Crows are very partial to feeding on wire worms, and they can distinguish by the eye, what no farmer can, every plant having one at its roots. To obtain the insects, these birds will frequently tear up, in a short time, large patches in newly singled fields of turnips, to the great loss of the owner. Farm-yard manure and bone dust rather encourage the insects to come to the roots. Peruvian guano, in the case of the turnips, is by far the most useful agent as a vermin-dispeller, if rightly applied. After the land is otherwise thoroughly prepared for the crop, guano should be sown broadcast over the level surface, and then ridged up with the double-mold plow. This will bring seed and manure as closely together as is desirable. This method has been found completely successful in preventing the attacks of wire worms on turnips, when other portions, dressed with farm-yard manure and bones, were quite destroyed."

Destruction of Small Birds causing Alarm.

FOR several seasons, and particularly the last, there was found to be a scarcity of breadstuffs in France. This state of things caused great alarm, and memorials were presented from some of the departments to the Minister of Agriculture, the Legislative Chamber, and the Emperor. An elaborate report has been made on the subject, in which the destruction of small birds is charged with being one of the leading causes of deficient crops. The destruction of the small birds has gone on increasing, and in a corresponding ratio has proceeded the increase of those insects and reptiles which prey on the crops of grain and all kinds of vegetable food; and on these insect tribes the small birds live. To that degree of alarm has the public mind been brought, that inquiry and investigation have been instituted, and have demonstrated the fact that the destruction of the beautiful feathered songsters may, if continued, lead to something like positive famine. This document has been translated and is being circulated in England, to aid in arresting the wanton destruction of birds in that country. It was the subject of a paper recently read before the Natural History Society of Reigate, from which we cut the following:

"Although the sparrows levy a small contribution on the farmer's grain, yet the far greater portion of their food is from injurious insects, and the whole of the food they give their young is from the tribe of insects. At the beginning of the world man would have succumbed in the unequal struggle if God had not given him in the bird a powerful auxiliary, a faithful ally, who wonderfully accomplishes the task which man is incapable of performing—in fact, against his enemies of the insect world man would be powerless without the bird."



WEBB SOUTH-DOWN BUCK "MASTER FORDHAM."

WHEREVER delicious, juicy, rich mutton is prized, the South-Downs will be favorites, and we believe their more general dissemination over this country will make mutton far more popular than it now is, and reduce the consumption of pork—a consummation much to be desired. In the RURAL last year we gave a group of Improved South-Down Ewes, from the celebrated stock of JONAS WEBB, of England, imported by J. C. TAYLOR, of Holmdel, New Jersey, and now we present a portrait of a choice buck, owned by the same gentleman. The South-Down has long been a favorite mutton sheep in England, and those bred by Mr. WEBB have become the most famous, selling and renting for almost fabulous prices. The Improved South-Downs are also becoming favorably known, and

quite popular, among breeders in this country. One of the most valuable flocks is that of Mr. TAYLOR, who has devoted nearly twelve years to its establishment, and paid extraordinary prices for stock animals—his aim being to obtain the best of Mr. WEBB's selected stock. Last year he purchased "Reserve," Mr. W.'s best ram, and has a fine lot of lambs from this celebrated animal. Previous to Mr. WEBB's recent great sale, Mr. T. applied to him for his best yearling and two year old buck, expressing a desire for such as Mr. W. would keep for his own flock, if he were to continue breeding. Mr. WEBB selected No. 89, which was knocked down to Mr. TAYLOR, in the public sale, at 260 guineas, or one thousand three hundred dollars, the highest price ever paid for a South-Down buck in England.

At a late agricultural meeting at St. Gallen, in Switzerland, BARON VON TSCHEUDI, the celebrated Swiss naturalist, dwelt on the important services of birds in the destruction of insects. Without birds, said he, no agriculture and vegetation are possible. They accomplish in a few months the profitable work of destruction which millions of human hands could not do half so well in as many years; and the sage, therefore, blamed in very severe terms the foolish practice of shooting and destroying birds, which prevails more in Italy, recommending, on the contrary, the process of alluring birds into gardens and corn fields. Among the most deserving birds he counts swallows, titmice, redwings, etc. In a flower garden of one of his neighbors three tall rose trees had been suddenly covered with about two thousand tree lice. At his recommendation a marsh titmouse was located in the garden, which in a few hours consumed the whole brood, and left the roses perfectly clean.

The small birds have rapidly increased in most sections of this country during the past ten years. No man now would be seen carrying a gun for the destruction of little birds, or shooting anything less than a pigeon, or partridge, or snipe. The consequence is we lose some of our cherries and other fruits, but the curculio and other destructive insects are fast disappearing.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE RIGHTS OF KING COTTON.

AGRICULTURE was introduced in Illinois with the first French settlers in 1682. These French settlements were not made for agricultural purposes, but as trading posts. The fertility of the soil, however, and the ease with which it could be cultivated, invited the culture of grain; and wheat was for a number of years the only grain produced. Wheat and flour were exported to France; also wine, made from the native grape. Apples and pears were also cultivated to a considerable extent; and it is asserted that there are pear and apple trees near these old French villages which are more than a century old, and now yield fruit of a more excellent quality than many of the more modern popular varieties.

These French traders were not skilled in agriculture, and no progress was made in it up to the time of the wresting of this territory from British dominion in 1773 by General GEORGE ROGERS CLARK. American settlements were rapidly made thereafter, up to the time of the war of 1812. Corn became a staple, and both corn and swine were exported. But even after 1773, up to 1790, there is no record of marked progress in agriculture; and the writer can find nothing to establish the fact that cotton had been cultivated at all up to the last-named date. In that year (1790) a company of emigrants, from Hardy county, Va., settled near New Design, and were the first who improved agriculture in this State. They introduced sheep-husbandry, manufactured linseys, and cultivated flax and cotton—the latter most—and wove it into clothing. Both French and Americans cultivated tobacco extensively—not much for export, but for their own consumption and for traffic with the Indians.

Thus it will be seen that cotton has long been a

staple in this State. It was grown as a staple for domestic manufacture, in a large portion of the south half of Illinois, until the manufactured goods became so cheap and the pecuniary condition of the settlers such as to render it unnecessary and unprofitable. But it may safely be asserted that more or less cotton has been grown and matured in this State each year during the past sixty years. There is abundant testimony establishing the fact. Within three years the writer has seen a half acre of almost mature bolls in Union county; and he has in his possession a single boll, matured in 1859 or '60, in Cook county. There is documentary evidence enough, and living witnesses to add to it, if necessary, to prove the right—the pre-emption right—of King Cotton to a foothold on Illinois soil. During the past year considerable quantities of it have been grown. During the present year a large area will be planted, if seed can be obtained. The Federal Government has promised to aid in securing seed for planters.

Now, if cotton is to be cultivated, it is important that those who engage in its culture should do so intelligently. It can be grown on Illinois soil, because it has been. The writer has before him a mass of testimony from Illinoisans, gathered by the Illinois Central Railroad Company, from which are obtained the following facts and assertions. There are forty-eight different witnesses.

1. *Of the Soil best adapted to Cotton Culture.*—Of those who say aught of the soil, two believe the best crops can be grown on prairie soil, freshly turned over; one has grown it equally well on old and new land; two think it best on new land; one believes it a sure crop on fresh-turned soil; one thinks it does best on timber; and one on high, sandy land. This testimony may be said to establish but little; but from what the writer has gleaned, it is apparent that the plant can be grown on almost any soil; but for the purpose of early maturity, and to secure an extended picking season, the dry, light soils should be chosen for the more northern latitudes.

2. *Preparation of Soil.*—The testimony before us leaves us in the dark on this subject, nearly. It seems that the most successful crops were obtained by turning the prairie sod over and planting upon it at once—some in drills, giving it culture similar to corn, with plow and hoe; others using the hoe alone. There can be little doubt, from what we know of the nature of the plant, and its habit of growth, together with the importance of early maturity, that thorough preparation will pay, and is important.

3. *Kind of Seed used.*—The seed first planted by the early immigrants was brought from Kentucky, and Tennessee. The plant (*Gossypium herbaceum*) is herbaceous and of course an annual in this State. But the planters do not seem to have failed to grow what seed they needed to plant; and I find no record of experiments to establish the utility of "changing seed."

4. *Time of Planting.*—The testimony before me, in a majority of cases, fixes the time of planting at the 1st to the 10th of May. Some planted the last of April and others succeeded in getting a good crop when compelled by insects to replant the last of May. The picking commenced the last of August, and continued through September and October, depending of course upon the character of the season. It

is important that the crop be got in as early as possible, and yet escape the late spring frosts.

5. Yield per Acre.—It is placed at two to four hundred pounds of ginned cotton per acre.

6. Of the comparative Quality of Illinois Cotton.—Samples of cotton grown in this State, the past year, (1861), have been sent to England to be examined by the cotton factors and manufacturers there.

"A supply of 10,000 to 20,000 bags per week of it would be a great boon to this country. The letters you inclosed to me I have sent with a chief part of the samples to the Cotton Supply Association."

THAT EXPERIMENT IN FEEDING PIGS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—The result of the experiment in feeding pigs, given in No. 2, page 14, present volume, by Mr. WHITTEMORE, hardly coincides with my experience.

Now, I wish to inquire for a little light. Mr. W.'s feed account begins when the pigs are about five months old.

During the last three and a half months of the experiment we have a rather imperfect account of the expense. Mr. W. says "bushels of meal."

Corn 18 bushels, at 50 cts; 8 1/2 do. Peas, at 88 cts; 8 1/2 do. Barley, at 60 cts; equaling, \$21.54

To say nothing of the time consumed in tending hogs, going to mill, killing, marketing, &c., &c. Time is money, and these items ought to go into the estimate.

A FEW FACTS ABOUT POTATOES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—An article in your issue of January 11th, about potatoes, induces me to give the readers of the RURAL a few facts that came under my own observation.

In September, 1858, I took possession of a house, and found in the cellar a box in which were a few potatoes in a very shriveled condition.

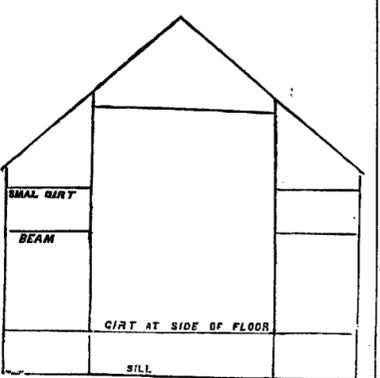
potato mentioned and others like the second. The individual who occupied the house previous to myself, informed me that the potatoes were of the growth of 1857, and remained in the box during the winter and summer of 1858, and had been out of the ground and no way connected with the earth for about fourteen months.

The potatoes had attracted moisture from the air and earth on which they lay, and attained their natural size nearly, and the small potatoes had grown during the two months they had remained on the earth, but without any connection with it.

Pontiac, Mich., Jan., 1862. S. B. NOBLE.

A GOOD BARN FRAME.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I send you a sketch of a portion of the frame of a barn, which is much liked in this part of the country.



The sketch represents the portion of the frame at the side of the floor, by which it will be seen that there are two central posts extending from the sill to the purlin plates.

There are long beams at the ends of the building, as usual, on which stand short purlin posts. There should be girls over the floor between the central posts, in front of the scaffolds, of sufficient size to support movable joists from one scaffold to the other, which are very convenient to stand on when an extra pitcher is required in filling the upper part of the barn, or for enlarging the scaffolds, if necessity requires.

CUTTING STALKS FOR FODDER, AGAIN.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—A gentleman signing himself "RUSTICUS," came out in very decided language, in an article published in your paper, in answer to a short article I sent you concerning my experience in feeding cut stalks.

Now, if Mr. R. will just call and see my cows, and see the amount of milk I get, he will not think they are very badly starved; and they eat from two to three bushels each per day, and eat them up clean.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Manure Measure.—THIS is generally estimated by the load, which is just about as definite as the phrase, "about as big as a piece of chalk."

The Cost of Fences.

THE Maine State Agricultural Report presents some striking statistics in relation to the cost of fencing. The fences of the State have cost \$25,000,000; the repairs require \$2,500,000 annually; 6 per cent interest is \$1,500,000; and a renewal in twenty years would be \$1,250,000; making the total yearly expense \$5,250,000—or two-thirds the original cost of the Erie Canal.

yearly cost of breaking through snow-drifts caused by such fences, and opening roads. These estimates will do to apply to other places besides Maine.

Value of Raw-Hide.

We find the following item "going the rounds" without a hailing mark. The topic is worthy of consideration:—How few persons know the value of raw-hide. It seems almost strange to see them sell all of their "deacon" skins for the small sum of thirty or forty cents.

Lasting Effect of Muck on Crops.

E. LEONARD, of New Bedford, Mass., writes to the New England Farmer as follows:—Right in front of my house there is a fifteen acre lot of sandy land. Forty-four years ago, a portion of this lot was treated to a heavy dressing of meadow mud.

I have been digging up a piece of low swamp land, and carted on a coat of sand from the high land that lays along the border, on a part of which I intend to plant in the spring different kinds of garden vegetables, and slow grass on another part.

Feeding Carrots to Horses.

THE following, from the Working Farmer, is well worth the attention of those keeping horses:—Carrots should never be used in place of grain, but only as a substitute for a portion of grain.

We are in favor of pulping carrots and all other roots, before feeding them. With such practice there is no danger of colic, although frequently caused by the use of other roots, particularly when not pulped.

Why Scald Dairy Utensils?

In reply to this query, the Maine Farmer says every one admits that all vessels and utensils used in the dairy should be kept perfectly clean and sweet.

The cause of the necessity of this has been the subject of chemical examination, and Professor Voelker, of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, has made known the results of his researches in this question.

the boiling point; hence every vessel and utensil used in the dairy for any purpose whatever, should pass through the scalding process, and it should be done thoroughly, too.

A writer in the Michigan Farmer attributes to this peculiar fermenting, or fungoid substance, the cause why butter does not possess at all times "that perfect sweetness and rich taste that arises alone from perfectly unchanged milk; and so with cheese, in which the changed milk causes a still greater depreciation, and preventing the curd from ever making a first quality cheese."

Inquiries and Answers.

HUNGARIAN GRASS, CULTURE, YIELD, &c.—Being desirous of learning something further in regard to the cultivation, produce per acre, &c., of Hungarian Grass, I address a few inquiries to the readers of the RURAL, hoping that some one among the large number of subscribers will be able to give the desired information.

MEASURING GRAY IN THE MOW.—Will you please inform me of the most correct way of measuring timothy hay in mow, upon which hay has been stored?—Wm. A. P., Columbiana Co., Ohio, 1861.

An experienced farmer, 75 years of age, to whom we have just read the above, says that 18 feet square, a foot deep, of mow-pressed hay, will make a ton, and on average will over-run—that at or near the bottom of a stack or mow being more closely packed. Can any one give a better rule?

DISEASE AMONG FOWLS.—I have a brood of chickens about half grown, some of which are affected in this wise:—A warty excrescence swells up on the head, extending all over it, in some cases inducing blindness, difficult breathing, and death.

We lost a good many fowls early in the winter by the disease described by our correspondent. It is new to us, although we have kept fowls the last twenty years.

Doings of Agricultural Societies.

Annual Meetings, &c., of State, County and Local Societies.

THE KENTUCKY STATE AG. SOCIETY held its seventh annual meeting at Frankfort, and elected the following officers for 1862: President—Hon. L. J. BRADFORE (re-elected) Vice Presidents—F. Swigert, Franklin; J. B. O'Bannon, Jefferson; John G. Holloway, Secretary—Col. J. S. Wallace, Louisville.

VERMONT STATE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this Society was held at Bellows Falls, on the 3d inst., when, after usual reports, the following board of officers was elected: President—H. HENRY BAXTER, of Rutland. Vice Presidents—Edwin Hammond, Middlebury; J. W. Colburn, Springfield; Henry Hayes, Newbury; John Jackson, Brandon. Rec. and Cor. Secretary—Daniel Needham, Hartford. Treasurer—W. Colburn, Springfield. Directors—Frederick Holbrook, Brattleboro; E. B. Chase, Lyndon; H. S. Morse, Shelburne; D. R. Potter, St. Albans; Henry G. Root, Bennington; David Hill, Bridport; John Gregory, Northfield; Elijah Cleveland, Coventry; Nathan Cushing, Woodstock; George Campbell, Westminster. It was decided to hold the next Annual Fair for 1862 at Rutland, Sept. 10th to 12th inclusive.

OHIO STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.—The Board for 1862 is constituted as follows: President—T. C. JONES, Delaware. Del. Co. Rec. Secretary—Henry B. Perkins, Warren, Trumbull Co. Co. Secretary—John H. Klippart, Columbus. Treasurer—David Taylor, Columbus. Executive Committee—Darwin E. Gardner, Toledo; Wm. Dewitt, Cleveland; C. W. Potwin, Zanesville; N. S. Townsend, Avon; Jacob Egbert, Lebanon; N. J. Turley, Circleville; J. M. Millikin, Hamilton.

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.—Officers for 1862: President—JAMES D. WILLIAMS. Vice Presidents—William H. Bennett and S. Fisher. Secretary—William H. Loomis, Indianapolis. Treasurer—H. A. Fletcher, Indianapolis. Executive Committee—J. D. Williams, S. Fisher, C. Fletcher, Jr., A. D. Hancock, W. H. Bennett. The tenth Annual Fair will be held in Indianapolis, commencing September 29th and continuing during the week.

TOWNSHIP VALLEY SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of this progressive and well managed Union Society, the following officers were unanimously chosen: President—Col. J. B. FOLSON, of Bennington. Vice Presidents—M. C. Bigelow, Attica; W. F. Cogswell, Alexander; Leonidas Doty, Batavia; A. J. Olcott, Elba; Wm. Jenne, Bethany; C. L. Hayden, Middlebury; A. G. Collins, Pavillion; Azro Brown, Covington; E. C. Shattuck, Warsaw; Charles Richards, Orangeville; J. J. Deolittle, Wethersfield; M. C. Humphrey, Java; C. O. Shepard, China; E. H. Williamson, Sheldon; James E. Cross, Bennington; Henry Harlow, Darien; Spencer J. Stone, Alden; John A. Campbell, Marilla. Recording Secretary—Dr. C. Houghton, Attica. Corresponding Secretary—A. J. Lorch, Esq., Attica. Treasurer—F. R. Wright, Attica. Librarian—Dr. G. Dorrance, Attica. The above board of officers constitute the Society's Executive Committee.

NIAGARA CO. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, held in Lockport, Jan. 7th, the following board of officers was elected for 1862: President—JAMES D. SHULER. Vice Presidents—P. L. Ely; A. J. Hibbard, Newfane; James Thompson, Fendleton; Andrew Robinson, Lewiston; Lyman Flanders, Cambria; George Sherman, Wheatfield; Asa Aldrich, Hartland; Ambrose Packard, Niagara; E. S. Holmes, Wilson; Stephen Mead, Somerset; John D. Dytinger, Royalton; Peter Tower, Porter. Secretary—Henry Shaft. Treasurer—P. D. Walter. Directors (to fill vacancies)—Robert Pierson, of Royalton, and Alex. Campbell, of Newfane.

WYOMING CO. SOCIETY.—The recent annual meeting was largely attended, and both pleasant and profitable. The reports showed the Society to be in a prosperous condition. Officers elected: President—DUNCAN CAMERON, Covington. Vice President—E. Wheeler, Orangeville. Secretary—H. A. Dudley. Treasurer—T. H. Buxton. Executive Committee—E. C. Sherman, Middlebury; S. M. Howard, Perry; George Peck, Orangeville.

Rural Notes and Items.

"HOW DO THE TIMES AFFECT THE RURAL?" is occasionally asked by friends who call upon us, and as many at a distance would probably also like to know, we will briefly answer in print. Thus far this year our receipts have been larger than last, with a greater proportion of new subscribers.

"The friends of the RURAL will remember that its field of operations is somewhat circumscribed this year, on account of the Rebellion, while its advocacy of the Union, Constitution and Laws has caused secessionists in the Border States and elsewhere to oppose it; yet, thanks to ardent Ruralists who adhere to the good old flag, we are enabled to make the above favorable report, and if they and others will keep the RURAL before the People for the ensuing two months, its circulation on the first of April will be greater than ever before."

ARE OUR CATTLE MARKETS OPEN ON SUNDAY?—We recently noted the fact that a reform had been instituted in the Chicago Cattle Market, by closing it on Sunday.

WESTERN RURAL ITEMS.—On the 11th the Illinois State Agricultural Society is about to commence the publication of a large monthly journal, in order to more fully supply the farmers of the State with agricultural matter adapted to their wants.

MEM. FOR JAN. 21ST.—Fine winter weather, with a mild temperature, and good sleighing. Snow about six inches deep hereabouts—the most we have had this season.

BOTH YOUNG AND OLD ARE "DOING GOOD."—We venture to say that the RURAL has more warm and working friends among the old and young, of both sexes, than any contemporary journal.

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—The conclusion of the above is similar, in sentiment, to that of another letter received by the same mail from Wayne county. After giving names to be added to club, the writer says:—"Your acknowledgment of receipt of \$36.25 was duly received. Indeed, sir, I feel it a high privilege to use my influence to extend the circulation of your high-toned paper. I shall do it most cheerfully, feeling that I am assisting in elevating the morals of mankind. In doing what I should do, I can wish you the most brilliant success. Heaven will reward you."

And another letter received the same day (from Schuyler county) closes thus:—"Yours of 2d inst., acknowledging the receipt of \$30 by my letter of Dec. 28, is received. I have felt much pleasure in my efforts to promote the circulation of your paper, which I unhesitatingly believe to be the best paper of its kind published in the State. Its Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Rural, News, and Religious departments, are excellent; and as a family newspaper, it is unsurpassed. I wish you abundant success in your worthy and useful enterprise, and will do what I can to aid you."

COULD NOT FIND A BETTER PAPER.—Extract of a letter just received:—"I have deferred sending for your paper, thinking that I could find some other paper that would suit me better; but the longer I wait the worse I am off. And as yours is the best agricultural paper that I can find, I remit \$2, and wish you to send me the RURAL, commencing with the first number for 1862." We advise all to examine, compare, and then "get the best"—like the writer of the above!

HORTICULTURAL.

FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN N. Y.

ANNUAL MEETING.

As we could give our readers no more instructive matter than the suggestions of practical fruit growers, we continue our report of the discussions at the Annual Meeting of the Fruit Grower's Society of Western New York.

DISCUSSIONS.

Best Time for Pruning.

V.—What is the best form of an Apple tree, and which is the time for growing?

Mr. HUNTINGTON said that in his early days he grafted a great many trees, and had to take off many large limbs. In many orchards large limbs had been taken off by the axe previously, and he always noticed that limbs removed in the winter or early in the spring healed badly, often causing rot; while those taken off when the leaves were out healed rapidly, forming a lip of bark around the wound, and apparently without injury to the tree.

Mr. ELLWANGER had found the latter part of winter the best time to prune. The wound then becomes calloused, and there is no bleeding; but later in the season, when the buds begin to swell, if limbs are removed, bleeding often results and the wood becomes injured and often rots. If trees are pruned when in leaf, growth is arrested for the season.

Mr. FISH agreed with the previous speaker, and recommended pruning in the winter.

Mr. SHARP, the year before last, trimmed a pear orchard early, and got a good growth. Last year a part was trimmed early and a part late, and that pruned late made but little growth during the summer.

H. N. LANGWORTHY had found that pruning pear trees when growing always checks and often stops growth altogether. If large limbs are taken off old trees about the first of April, bleeding ensues and the wood decays; but if done in April, the wood seasons before the sap moves, and remains sound.

Mr. HOOKER agreed with Mr. Langworthy and Mr. Ellwanger, and thought the best time for removing trees was the present, or about the middle of winter.

Grapes.

VI.—What are the best varieties of Grapes for family use, and which are the best for vineyard purposes?

Mr. KNOX had found, among the new varieties which he had tried, three which gave entire satisfaction—Hartford Prolific, Delaware, and Concord. In a vine for general culture, we need two things—freedom from disease, in vine and fruit, and early ripening. Hartford Prolific and Concord are free from disease in the vine, never mildew, and the fruit is free from any disease. The Delaware mildews somewhat. We want early ripening, so as to be out of the way of frost. The grapes of Kelly Island are very popular, because they are obtained fully ripe. The soil is calcareous, and the season long. Such soils can be obtained, and if we had grapes that would ripen early, we would have all the advantages of that favored locality. The Concord is a splendid grape, but he watched the ripening with fear and trembling as the season for frost approached. Hartford Prolific, it was stated, drops from the bunches but it does not with him. His crop is sold readily at twenty-five cents a pound. Mr. K. would not advise planting very largely of this variety, as Concord displaces it as soon as ripe. The Concord will stand more hard usage than any other grape, and bears well. It is the most beautiful grape he had ever seen. It bears early, and vines the third year after planting average ten pounds each, which sell at from 16 to 20 cents per pound. Prunes by the renewal system, and plants the vines seven feet three inches one way by six feet the other, making 1,000 plants to the acre. This is eight feet high. After the third year each Concord vine will yield 25 pounds of grapes.

Dr. FARLEY, of Union Springs, said Diana is a favorite grape with him. He thought, with Mr. Knox, that the Concord would prove one of the best of American grapes. The Isabella has done well, and has been injured by frost only two years. They ripen uniformly. Mr. F. has a Catawba vineyard on a point of land running out into Cayuga Lake, which is there two miles wide, and they get pretty nearly or quite ripe. The renewal is undoubtedly the correct system. The Delaware grape is excellent in quality, but could never get a bunch to weigh over half a pound, which is too small. Has no mildew. Diana last year showed signs of dry rot, and its wood is not as hardy as that of Concord or Delaware.

H. N. LANGWORTHY is well pleased with Delaware, Diana, Concord, Union Village, and Rebecca, for the table; and for wine, Clinton and Delaware. Mr. L. thought well of Bright's system of pruning. J. J. THOMAS has measured specimens of Isabella grapes at Dr. Farley's place seven-eighths of an inch in diameter.

Mr. JACOBS has bought grapes in all parts of Western New York, for several years, and Dr. Farley has the best he has ever purchased or seen.

Dr. FARLEY, in answer to inquiries, said his land is mostly a pretty heavy gravel, though he has a variety of soils some gravel, some on lime stone rock. First underdrained well, then trenched. Plowed three times and succeeded in getting it well broken up eighteen or twenty inches deep. Put on muck in a crude state. Some portions received no muck and only good common culture, and there the vines did pretty well. Trenched a portion three feet deep with the spade, and gave a heavy dressing of manure. The result was a very large growth of wood but little fruit. At first commenced planting vines twelve feet each way, then eight feet each way, but now eight by ten. Mr. F. had seen some beautiful looking grapes grown by ringing, but size was obtained at the expense of quality. His soil is naturally dry, such as would not generally be thought to require draining, but water runs from the tile nearly the whole year.

Mr. HOLMES thought the Catawba and Isabella stand first on the list of grapes. Askes he found to hasten the ripening.

Mr. AVREY had good ripe Catawba grapes the 10th of September. Produced by having the vine on the south side of a house, and well pruned. The roots were covered with leached ashes.

Dr. ELLWANGER considered Isabella, Concord, Hartford Prolific, Rebecca, Diana, and Union Village, the best varieties for table; and the Oporto and Clinton for wine. The Rebecca does well with a warm exposure, the Hartford Prolific does not drop its berries after the vine obtains age, and the Diana Mr. S. thought one of our best grapes.

Mr. ELLWANGER said with him Diana does not ripen much earlier than Catawba. This year neither ripened well. The Union Village is a large grape, but of poor quality and ripens too late. Could recommend the Catawba where it would ripen, and the Concord and Delaware. Mr. E. was not prepared to recommend other varieties at present.

Mr. MOODY was in the same fix as Mr. Ellwanger, and was not prepared to recommend six varieties for general culture. The Delaware would make good wine and is a good grape for the table. He ripens the Diana earlier than Mr. Ellwanger.

L. B. LANGWORTHY said he introduced the Clinton from the Hudson river, in Saratoga county, and gave it the name by which it is known. One winter the thermometer was thirty-three degrees below zero, and killed all the Isabella vines. A friend wrote him that he had a grape that endured that winter without injury, and he obtained cuttings, brought them to Rochester, and named it after Gov. Clinton.

Mr. SMITH said the Northern Muscadine had this year been excellent.

Mr. BARRY said the Rebecca, when ripe, is one of the very highest flavored grapes. Unfortunately the vine is rather tender, and suffers from the sun, and in some cases from the winter, but those who have a favorable situation should plant the Rebecca, and they would have a most delicious grape.

Mr. HOAG fruited thirty or forty varieties last season. Of these he found a few very desirable.

Would name the Delaware, Diana, Concord, Hartford Prolific, To-Kalon, and Perkins. The To-Kalon is perfectly hardy, a good bearer, and the fruit superior to the Isabella, and keeps well, but the clusters are somewhat broken. The vines were on the trellis last year, and did not suffer in the least. The Perkins is hardiest of all grapes, ripens early, only a few days later than Hartford Prolific. It keeps well and improves by keeping. A little foxy. Mr. LAY was much pleased with Concord.

Mr. FISH thought Northern Muscadine a good grape. It does not drop from the vine. Let some remain last season until frost.

H. N. LANGWORTHY had five or six years experience with Northern Muscadine. The bunches are very small, and it had proved very unproductive with him.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was suggested that a vote should be taken, which was ordered, with the following result:

Table with 2 columns: Variety and Votes. Hartford Prolific 5, Northern Muscadine 2, Delaware 7, Diana 6, Concord 6, Clinton 1, Oporto 1, Perkins 1, To Kalon 2, Union Village 1, Rebecca 3, Catawba 3.

Fruits on Exhibition.

The Committee regret that so few members brought specimens of fruits for exhibition. The only general exhibition was that made by Messrs. ELLWANGER & BARRY, consisting of 58 varieties of Pears and 51 of Apples. The following is a list of fruits shown:

BY ELLWANGER & BARRY—PEARS.

- Alphonse Karr, Abbe Edwards, Alex. Bivort, Black Pear of Worcester, Bergamot Thoin, Belle de Meire, Bezi Vast, Belle Canaise, Beurre Leon le Clerc, Beurre Langeller, Beurre d'Arenberg, Beurre Gris d'Hiver, Beurre Bachelier, Beurre Gris d'Amer, Bezi des Veterans, Bezi Sanspapel, Bezi de Cassoi d'Hiver, Chaumontel, Cadone de Vaux, Cavellier, Calabasse Delvigne, Chaptal, Doyenne d'Alencon, Duchesse de Mars, Dr. Bonvier, Doyenne Goubault, Easter Beurre, Easter Bergamot, Franc Real, Fulvie Gregoire, Gen. Lamorieiere, Grand Mogul, Great Britain, Haddington, Hericart de Thury, Jeanne de Witte, Jamette, Josephine de Malines, Leon le Clerc de Lava, Mignonne d'Hiver, March Bergamot, Niles, Ne plus Meuris, Orange d'Hiver, Prince's St. Germain, Pater Noster, Poudre, Pousse Tardive, Reading, Reine d'Hiver, Ralley, Reine des Reinettes, Reine de St. Germain, Susette de Bayre, Tarquin, Vicar of Winkfield, Winter Nels, Willermors.

Among these, the Committee deem several varieties worthy of special notice. Alex. Bivort, good; Beurre Langeller, very good; Beurre Bachelier, the very best; Beurre Sanspapel, good; Doyenne d'Alencon, very good; Duchesse de Mars, good; Easter Beurre, very best; Gen. Lamorieiere, very good; Jeanne de Witte, best; Jamette, good; Josephine de Malines, very best; Prince's St. Germain, very good; Pater Noster, very good; Pousse Tardive, good; Reine d'Hiver, best; St. Germain, good; Winter Nels, best.

APPLES.

- Alfriston, Baldwin, Botrusa, Canada Reinette, Chesboro, Russett, Cornish Gillflower, Oullasaga, Carter, Christiana, Dutch Mignonette, Dumelon's Seedling, Fallwater, Grafton Sweet, Granny Smith, Golden Russett, Gifford, Groveland Sweet, Imperial or Magnifique, Leyman Pumpkin Sweet, Lady Apple, Monmouth Pippin, Marks, Tewksbury Winter Blush, Minister, Michael Henry Pippin, Northern Spy, Nick-a-Jack, Pennock's Red Winter, Peck's Pleasant, Fryer's Red, Pomme Gris, Peach, Rhode Island Greening, Roxbury Russett, Rome Beauty, Reinette Pippin, Reinette d'Or, Ribeton Pippin, Reine des Reinettes, Rambo, Sweet and Sour Greening, Sweet Rambo, Smith's Elder, Seek-no-Further, Spitzberg, Esopus, Scarlet Nonpariel, Tolman Sweet, Tewksbury Winter Blush, White Pippin, Yellow Bellflower.

H. C. Heath, a plate of fine Northern Spys. J. M. Joy, a plate of apples of 1860. J. H. Thompson, plate of large and very good apples for name, but unknown to the Committee. E. M. Bradley, Clinton, Isabella, and Catawba grapes, well kept. N. Hill, Caton, N. Y., a dish of very fine cranberries. J. H. Osborn, beautiful specimens of the McLellan or Martin apple.

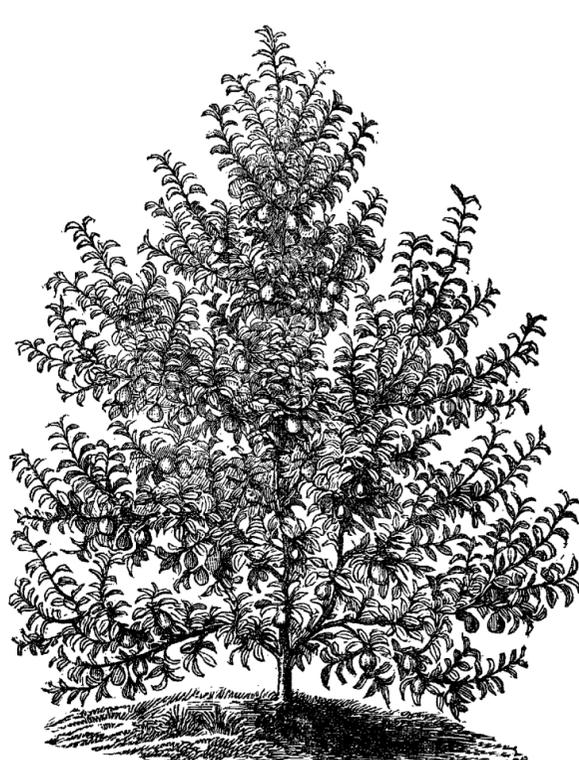
CRANBERRY CULTURE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—A correspondent in Michigan makes some inquiries of Cranberry growers, which, from a similarity of circumstances, I think I am able to answer. He says he has about fifteen acres of swamp land, a rich muck from four to twenty feet deep, which will produce no corn and but little grass, on account (as the writer says) of its being too cold. Such swamps as he describes are not generally considered rich in this country, whatever they may be in Michigan, but richness is a quality not very essential to the growth of cranberries. I have such a swamp, which I attempted to drain for the purpose of raising grass, but without success—probably for the same reasons that our inquirer might assign for his fruitless attempts.

I live in the latitude of Adrian. Mine is a black muck marsh, skirted by thickly timbered forests, but it is not a rich soil. The chances of draining the marsh is certainly an advantage. By means of the ditch which I dug as mentioned above, I can let off the water so as to leave the surface of my meadow tolerably dry. In the fall, after gathering my berries, I close my drain and flow my marsh. This I do for the double purpose of destroying the moth, if there are any, and to prevent the growth of grass or weeds. It leave it in this situation until after frosts in the spring, when it may be let off so as only to leave the ground tolerably well saturated with water.

The principal element in cranberry life is water. There are several small marshes not very distant from this place, on which cranberries grow spontaneously. During winter and spring they are entirely covered with water. In the summer they are partially drained, either by the water slowly sinking, or by filtering slowly through some narrow boggy outlet; but never so dry but that the people gather the coveted fruit at the expense of wet feet, as they pass over the spongy soil. When I first discovered cranberries on my marsh, it was mainly under water. Now that I am cultivating it, I manage the water in the manner already mentioned. Care should be taken not to drain too dry until the berries are matured, when, for the convenience of gathering, it may be made passably dry.

As to the manner of setting the plants. If there is any grass, I pare off the sod sufficiently deep to secure a clean surface. I then make shallow drills, eighteen or twenty inches apart, into which I lay the vines, (which usually vary from one to four feet in length), covering them lightly every six or eight inches. Beneath these coverings the vines take root, and send forth new vines, which often grow from three to four feet the first season. The planter should also select with great care his seed vines, from bearing plants, as there are some vines that do not bear. Let our Adrian friend attend to the



DWARF PEAR—BELLE LUCRATIVE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the crusade against dwarf pear trees, which a few years since was originated and to a great extent carried on by disappointed cultivators, who failed through ignorance or carelessness, every year has added to the popularity of this class of trees. Even farmers are beginning to believe that they are competent to cultivate dwarf trees successfully, and it is now no strange thing for them to plant out many hundreds. We now present our readers with a specimen tree, eight years planted,

growing in the grounds of ELLWANGER & BARRY. The drawing was taken, as the engraving shows, when in bearing, and gives a very good illustration of the pyramidal mode of training. The variety, Belle Lucrative, is one of the very best Autumn pears, the tree being hardy, vigorous and productive, and the fruit the best. It succeeds well both on the quince and pear roots. Every pear-grower who has not yet planted this variety, should obtain it for spring planting.

above hints and pursue the course they suggest, and I doubt not his ground will soon be covered over with a beautiful carpet of evergreen, tastefully ornamented with rarest luxury. NOBLE HILL. Caton, Steuben Co., N. Y., 1862.

THE FARMER'S NURSERY.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I observe that farmers and many practical fruit-growers place too much dependence on nurseries for their supply of trees. This could be altogether different—not that I would depreciate the value of a nursery, for I believe them to be blessings to any place, county or State, but we are a progressive people, and more than all, a fruit-growing nation. Already we have every facility to obtain trees of every quality—the best and also the worst. With bad fruits we have no patience—so away with them. Let every person owning a piece of land, appropriate a lot, of a hundred square feet or more, to the purpose of cultivating fruit-trees only. Here he may have his stocks to graft his choice apples, to bud his apricots, pears, peaches, cherries, or plums, and all other subjects of horticultural experiments he may wish to try. From this source he could obtain plants or trees when he finds any missing in garden or orchard. Here he could spend many an hour of otherwise leisure time, in tending these objects of his darling care. What instructions could the fathers of the rising generation impart to those who soon will take their places! Here he could teach them the art of grafting, of budding, of layering, of training, and of trimming, ingrafting into their minds a love for plants, a knowledge of their growth and peculiarities.

We could gather here all varieties of such fruits as we deem suited to the locality we live in—in nine cases out of ten not to be obtained in nurseries. And here I would say, let all plant those kinds only which are known to be the very best suited to their locality, and experiment with such varieties that are highly recommended in another part of the land. The ground he may term his "experimental nursery." I believe if the foregoing plan were more generally practiced, there would not be so much cry of "humbbug" in the trade of fruit-trees, tree-peddlers, and nurseries generally. A. DURKES. Weston, Mo., January, 1862.

We commend the above to every fruit-grower, and have before urged it upon the attention of our readers. Every farmer and fruit-grower should have his reserve grounds or nursery, from which he can take a tree at any time. We do not think farmers should turn nurserymen, as they cannot do the work as cheap as those who make it their business; but a few trees, in a little reserve ground, every one should grow. The knowledge there acquired would be of immense advantage, and learn planters to be better satisfied with what they obtain from nurseries. They would there ascertain that some trees grow slow and crooked, and cannot be had of large size and good form; while others make a rapid, fine growth.

PROTECTION OF WALL-FLOWERS.

EVERYBODY loves the beautiful fragrant wall-flower. But the difficulty is in keeping the plants over the winter. The tops endure the winter, and appear green in the spring, but the stems near the ground are found to be decayed from thawing and freezing, and this is always the case where the ground is low, or water permitted to stand on the surface. We have saved plants by throwing up a cone of earth around the stem, even covering some of the lower branches. The following plan, proposed by a correspondent of the Gardener's Monthly, it strikes us as good:

"Observing several times in the spring that my wall-flowers, which were out through the winter, looked as well in the fall at the top, and yet were dead, in fact, I was lead to examine the cause, and found, in every case, that the soft wood of the stalk was injured by freezing and thawing. I took the hint, and the next fall, having some very fine plants, I procured nail keys, knocked out the ends, and putting a fork full of loose litter around the stock, slipped the keg over the plant, driving it slightly into the ground, and throwing the earth around the bottom to hold them securely, leaving the top open.

This plan preserved them safely, and has never failed. If the plants are small, I set them close together in a secure place in September, and put a broad frame around them, with loose manure around the stocks. This answered equally as well as the other plan. The idea is, to keep the sun from all but the foliage, which is not injured by it."

Horticultural Notes.

AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—NEXT BIENNIAL MEETING.—By a note from the President, Hon. MARSHALL P. WILDER, we learn that the Ninth Session is to be held in Boston, on the 17th of September next. This Society was established in the year 1848, and has held meetings in the cities of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and Rochester, and has exerted a powerful influence in systematizing and advancing the science of Pomology throughout the Union. In conjunction with this appointment, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society have ordered its annual exhibition for this year to take place on the same week. Mr. W. writes, "we shall do all we can to make the session agreeable and useful." Of this, no one acquainted with the President and the horticulturists of Boston will entertain the least doubt. We certainly anticipate a pleasant and profitable meeting.

At the last meeting of the Association at Philadelphia, a General Committee was appointed for the revision of the Fruit Catalogue, with power to appoint Local Committees in every State and Territory. It is the duty of each Local Committee to report to the General Committee a list of fruit adapted to its own locality, and from these reports and the present Catalogue of the Society, the General Committee is to report a full list of all the fruits therein named, properly classified and arranged, with due regard to nomenclature and terminology, which is to be submitted to the Society at its next meeting for consideration and action. The General Committee consists of the following gentlemen:

- Marshall P. Wilder, Boston C. M. Hovey, Cambridge, Mass. P. Barry, Rochester. L. E. Berckmans, Georgia. J. A. Warder, Cincinnati. Wm. Reid, New Jersey. Chas. Downing, Newburgh, J. S. Cabot, Salem, Mass.

Although the condition of the country has interfered with the progress of the work, the Committee, we understand, have been quite active, and have received satisfactory reports from many Local Committees. The Chairman has called a meeting of the General Committee, to be held at Albany, at the time of the annual meeting of the New York State Agricultural Society, February 12th, for the purpose of examining the reports, and for consultation on some plan for the arrangement of the catalogue to be presented to the Society.

A CALIFORNIA PEAR.—A pear was shown in our office yesterday which would be considered a pomological wonder in the best of our horticultural exhibitions. It was seven inches in length, between sixteen and seventeen inches in circumference, and weighed three pounds and six ounces when taken from the tree. This huge pear was raised on the rancho of Sweetzer and De Long, in Marin county, California, about seventeen miles from San Francisco. It was brought from California by Mr. E. Wood Chapin, of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express, who has with him another nearly as large. They were picked from the tree on the 20th day of November. The variety is the Duchesse d'Angouleme, and it is a most magnificent specimen. At Panama, Mr. Chapin was offered ten dollars for it, and large offers have been made for it since he arrived in Massachusetts.—Mass. Spy.

TO SAVE SQUASHES FROM INSECTS.—In reading a late number of the RURAL, I find a complaint against the bugs, because they destroy vines in the garden, and especially the Hubbard Squash. Now this is all useless. Let each gardener provide himself with boxes about one foot square, six or eight inches in height, one to each hill, and put them on when he plants, and I will warrant the safety of his vines until they grow above the boxes.—W. W. F., Cassadaga, N. Y., 1861.

PEACH GRUB.—L. M., Grand Haven, Michigan.—You will have to remove the earth and dig out the grub from the trees with some convenient instrument—a knife and a piece of stout wire will answer. After this is done, keep a watch of the trees, going over them two or three times in the year. Piling the earth up around the trunk in a cone, so that the insect cannot get at the soft bark, is of some advantage, but there is nothing like keeping a good look-out.

Inquiries and Answers.

NORWAY SPRUCE.—Where can the seed of the Norway Spruce be obtained; and when and how should it be sown? Where can the trees be obtained, and at what price? Is the Norway Spruce of more rapid growth than the Balsam?—D., January, 1862.

The Norway is of more rapid growth and a much better tree than the Balsam. The latter loses its lower branches. Seed can be obtained of some of the large dealers, but no one who is not well acquainted with the business should attempt to grow evergreens from seed. Young trees of all ages and sizes can be obtained very cheap of the leading nurserymen.

Domestic Economy.

A PRETTY PORTFOLIO, PAPER MATS, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In answer to M. A. H., I will say, although not able to give all the information she wished for, I send such as I possess, hoping others will give that which I cannot.

A PRETTY PORTFOLIO.—Take two pieces of cardboard, (or perforated pasteboard, as it is sometimes called,) any size you wish, and work in the center of each some handsome pattern with Berlin wool, such as a large rose with leaves and buds, or anything fancy dictates. If you have not time to work this, it will look very well to cut from furniture calico some nice patterns, and paste on in place of the work, with pieces on the corners to match. But if worked with wool, the corners should be trimmed with rosettes of ribbon; then line them with sprightly colored sarcenet, and bind the edges with narrow ribbon. Take eight pieces more of the same color, fasten four on each piece,—two to each side,—leaving the ends open. Tie four of them together for the bottom, leaving the others to tie when wanting.

PAPER MATS.—Take tissue paper (two colors only,) and cut it in squares as large as you wish your mat. Have eight or ten pieces of each. Fold each one up in folds three-fourths of an inch wide, then lay half of them down side and side on stiff brown paper, or whatever you wish for the bottom of your mat, with the colors alternate, taking care to have them all even in length. Now fasten down one end of each with a pin, take the rest of your pieces and braid them across the first number, so as to form a square, when it will resemble a checker-board if done right. Sew the outside pieces together, firmly but neatly, as far as you wish the center of your mat, but not further. After the middle is all tacked, trim off the brown paper so that it will not show, and cut the part that is to form the fringe in as narrow strips as possible. Then dampen it in clean cold water; that is, the part which is to form the fringe, and shake gently until dry, which will cause the paper to curl up nicely.

INQUIRY.—Will some of the RURAL's readers please inform me how to make baskets of tissue paper, and how to knit mats with wool? January, 1862. CONSTANT READER.

HOW TO DO UP WOUNDS.—I have just cut my foot with an axe for the fourth time in my life, and yet I have never lost an hour's work. The secret is in doing up the wound. I close up the wound in the blood as soon as possible, by winding flax or tow around the part cut; fill that with copal varnish, and in eight days undo the same and find it as sound as ever.—A SUBSCRIBER, Heron, Wayne Co., N. Y.

FRIED CAKES.—One pint basin of sweet milk; one teacup, heaping full, of butter or lard; one teaspoon of salt; two eggs; nearly a teacup of hop yeast; two tablespoons of cinnamon. Use flour enough to mix to the consistency of biscuit. Let rise till very light, then knead and cut into cakes. Let them rise again and then fry. These will not absorb lard while cooking.—Mrs. L. H. HIGBY, Piffard, N. Y.

NICE BREAKFAST BUNS.—Take a quart of warm water, mix with it half a teacup of butter, one teacup of lively yeast, two teaspoons of salt, and as much flour as you can stir in. Set it in a warm place over night, and in the morning take it out and knead it into biscuits; set it to rise once more, then bake. If all the processes are rightly gone through with, this will be found very light and delicate.

QUINSEY.—Every winter, for the past six or seven years, I have been blessed (?) with one or more attacks of quinsy, and having tried the various "palthies," regular and irregular, with but transient relief, now ask some of the RURAL's friends for help. If any one is acquainted with a remedy, will they not please give the same, and oblige?—E. M. K., Franklin Square, N. Y., 1862.

MILK TOAST.—Place the milk to heat, mix a teaspoonful of flour smoothly with a little milk, stir it in, and let it come just to a boil, with a piece of butter the size of an egg to a quart of milk, and some salt. Place your toast in a deep dish, and cover it with this gravy. Thin cream, omitting the butter, makes a nicer dish for those who are so fortunate as to have it to use.

BEEF PIE.—Make a nice crust, a little richer than for biscuit; chop up pieces of the boiled round of beef, when you have them cold; season with salt, pepper, and butter, and onions if you like; line the basin with crust, rolled about half an inch thick; fill the beef, moistened with gravy or water; dredge in a little flour, cover; bake half an hour.

HOW TO COOK TURNIPS.—Take eight medium-sized turnips, pare and slice them, then put water just enough to cook, a lump of butter the size of a hen's egg, one spoonful brown sugar, and pepper and salt sufficient to season. Add the ingredients when you put them on to cook.—T. R. J.

COLORING COCHINEAL.—Will some of the RURAL's readers please give a recipe for coloring a good bright, un fading cochineal red, and oblige?—P. F. MOSES, Marathon, Mich., 1862.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

UNION COFFEE.—In these times, when coffee is sold at prices placing it beyond the reach of the poor, and even the middling classes, the man who can produce an agreeable substitute for the delicious beverage, at a reasonable price, may be properly regarded as a public benefactor. Our townsman, J. J. VAN ZANDT, dealer in and manufacturer of coffee and spices, has produced an article composed of coffee and rye, which is an agreeable and healthy substitute for the real Java. This article is made from pure materials, and is free from deleterious substances—as physicians attest—and can be had, ready for boiling, at twelve cents per pound from the stores. It is a healthy beverage, and may be used by those who cannot use clear coffee without injury to the nervous system. It is pleasant to the taste, many preferring it to any other coffee. Some of our citizens add a small quantity of Java to the Union Coffee, and thus raise the grade, without materially increasing the cost. It behooves all who would economize to try this "Union Coffee." It is now sold by the leading grocers of the city and in many of the towns of Western New York. Orders are rapidly coming in and are being filled by Mr. Van Zandt.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

GOOD CHEER.—Ladies, if you are melancholy and cast down in your minds, use D. B. DE LAND & Co.'s Chemical Saleratus; it will not only successfully raise your blood, biscuit, &c., but it will thereby raise your drooping spirits, so that you will be better prepared to endure the troubles and trials of domestic life. Call for this Saleratus where you do your trading, and if they have not got it, tell them they must get it. Most wholesale and retail dealers in the country keep it.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. HOUSES IN THE SAND.

BY ADLAIDE STOUT.

WILLIE reared a palace Of the glittering sand; Sure, he found the "model" In the fairy land! Arched the tiny doorway O'er his baby feet, Pearl-like shell for windows Made it all complete.

WILLIE left his palace With the arched door; Kings have left their treasures Just as loath before. Finding at the dawning Not a single trace Of the mimic palace, O'er his fair young face Fell the first dark shadow; Fell the bitter tear.

I'll not smile, my darling, Nestle softly near, And I'll tell thee, WILLIE, How my stronger hand Many years had fashioned "Houses in the sand."

Wind and tide, O, quickly, Swept them all away; Yet I have a Mansion Very strong to-day. Lift thy face up softly, In a sweet surprise, Beyond the tidal flowing That bright Mansion lies! Gates of pearl are open For all weary feet, Leading to that Mansion, Lo, a "Golden street!" There's no sun at noonday, There's no moon at night; Of those Mansions, WILLIE, God Himself is light.

Buffalo, N. Y., 1862.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

LETTERS FROM HILLDALE FARM.

LETTER THE FIRST.

Sept. 25th.—I've been sitting here in the shadow of the jasmine, JENNIE, darling, wondering how it happened that you, — a great, noble, earnest-minded woman, ever came to know me well enough to begin your letters with "MRS. PEGASUS." How much formality we use about commencing letters. Sometimes I feel just like calling somebody "dear," and when feeling so, it doesn't matter to whom I'm writing, "dear" makes its appearance, much to the astonishment of the cool-blooded receiver, who not infrequently thinks I'm becoming attached. You remember GEORGE BRADGON? Well, he always reminded me of a great bird. He wrote to me once, and when I answered the letter I began with "My Dear Great Eagle." I don't know how he relished the compliment, but I never heard from him again.

Hilldale is in all its glory. The Dahlias and Asters were never finer. One of the Snowball bushes has borne blossoms all summer, and several are on it now. The neighbors say 'tis the "sign of a death in the family." As you have never been here, I think I must tell you something of our farm and its inmates. The grandest and uppermost of all, is the blue, calm bosom of Cayuga, lying at our feet. Our house is a substantial farm one — white, with green shutters. There are two front piazzas — the larger one shaded at one end by the jasmine where I'm writing. Father has threatened many times of cutting it away for fear of its causing decay. I should feel sadly enough to see it done, for I had such a time to get a trellis made for it, and finally did that piece of carpentry myself. We have none of those fine articles of furniture that rich people pride themselves upon possessing. — HELEN'S piano is the only article of rosewood. The keys and the dear fingers are both very white, and seldom touch each other.

How I've sat for hours and listened to that child's music! Her voice always grew fuller, clearer, and of greater compass after a half hour's singing. I never heard a voice that suited me so well. She is very, very pale and thin now, JENNIE; but I cannot bear to think otherwise than that she will recover, and yet I fear greatly. I don't know what I could do without her — 'twould be utter desolation.

Then there's father and the boys — three of them. One, of course, in the army — the eldest. Every family ought to give a country offering, and he was ours. Many he not prove a sacrifice.

Father never loved me as he did the other children. He often says I cause him more trouble than all the rest together. If anything is broken, or out of place, of course nobody but I did it. Mother died when I was such a little girl that I can but just remember her pale calm face. I know if she had lived I should have been vastly different. Father married again, but in all one's life time one never has but one mother. Father seems to think now that I've not a redeeming quality. Nearly every day I have the rehearsal of my faults, and a full exegesis upon the same. He never gives me a word of encouragement, but is always ready with tauntings and upbraidings. I have prayed many, many times to die, when he has said he wished I would go away and never come back! I would have felt happy to know that the life which had become so burdensome was ebbing rapidly away.

I had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. How I've toiled and sacrificed to obtain it, and how father always opposed it. His plea was, that I would never make anything if sent to school my lifetime. In truth, he made me out quite idiotic, and I've often wondered if I was really his own child, or one taken in infancy to rear. I would have felt relieved if I had known I was not, for then his treatment would not be quite so unnatural. Under such discipline I have grown hard, cold, proud and bitter — but not heartless after all, JENNIE. If one knows how to touch the heart-strings, sweet music is discoursed. When the strings are rudely swept, one cannot expect to hear pleasant tones. I'm so strange — father says so — that no one knows me hardly, but you — and I always thought it strange you should. How sad to be always misunderstood!

I have never loved any body, scarcely, but my sister — and her I've idolized. I think, sometimes, I'm almost devoid of affection — the result of my training. I was never taught to love, and if I had, father would have said 'twas just my foolery. Great, strong men have given me their love, and I could hardly yield them my friendship. It always seemed strange that one should love me — so full of faults, and never trying to win love. I am making this letter tedious, JENNIE, and all about myself. But let me tell you of an incident, trifling, yet somewhat

interesting, and 'tis this, that I have been foolish enough to correspond with a stranger. I received one of the nicest letters from a "farmer's boy," so different from those received from any other stranger, that I just sat down and answered it. 'Twas so frank and manly like — and you know I love farmers anywhere — and thinking him a lad, perhaps not out of his teens, I considered nothing could be wrong in it. He wants to come and see me. He evades all my inquiries about himself so adroitly that I am completely puzzled in regard to him. I let father read his first letter, and he commented thus upon it, — "I guess he wouldn't love you if he should see you." I didn't tell him I answered it, for I knew how he would "storm." His last letter — I've had six or eight — says he will visit Hilldale at his earliest convenience. What will father say to that? I'll tell you of his visit in my next. Yours for the truth's sake. MINNIE.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

AN APPEAL TO MOTHERS.

It has been the lot of the writer to associate much with children, and to care for them (in her former life,) and she realizes what they are by nature, can readily enter into their sports and listen to their ever free and joyous laugh, without one fear of a crazy brain, or distracted thought. It is often remarked that children are jewels. To almost every family one or more of these jewels are entrusted, and how selfish are the possessors! They have no wish that others may behold the beauty of the jewel, — they make it as disagreeable as possible — dim its lustre until it looks like brass, not gold.

Indulgent mother, will you listen to Aunt MARTHA, while she relates to you some of the grievous troubles to which she and her neighborhood friends are subjected. If so, you will see what a wrong you are doing to yourself and others not to polish these, your jewels.

Mrs. B. is a woman very much beloved in the community where she resides. Her friends love to visit her, and she is ever ready to receive her visitors with the utmost cordiality. Mrs. B. has her parlor arranged with neatness and care, every thing in its place. Mrs. N. and Mrs. K. send their compliments, and will visit her in the afternoon. She is most happy to receive them, and they are accompanied by Master K. Mrs. B. fails to become interested in the conversation, she is fidgeting about, wonders why she enjoys the visit so little. Let us see why. The daguerreotypes are scattered about in confusion. Now, Mrs. B. dislikes this very much, for there are faces inclosed within those cases that she never will see on earth again. But she must keep her mouth closed for fear of offending. Mama's choice books are taken from the table, — chairs whirled topsy turvey, to the destruction of some, — cake crumbled upon the carpet, and so on. Mrs. B. wonders why it is that she never discovered a mark on the polished surface of their parlor chairs or sofas, or that their daguerreotypes were minus the covers.

Mrs. H. has just retired to her room on account of a severe headache, when company is announced. She descends to receive them, and in the hall discovers great trunks, little trunks, band-boxes, and bundles. In the parlor she meets Mrs. W., is introduced to Mrs. J. and her promising children. Master JOHN is riding one of her best chairs, she is so choice with. She gently objects. He soon throws a ball amid the ornaments upon the mantle, and relieves the table of its contents. Mrs. H. persuades the youthful hero to retire to the back yard to seek amusement, but she soon finds that it is no place for him. Her hen-yard is bombarded, eggs destroyed, and old speckle turned into a horse. Oh! dear, sighs Mrs. H., I wonder how long they intend to stay.

There are many instances of this kind that have come under the writer's observation, but she thinks these are sufficient. She knows of intimacies which have existed for years in families to be broken up on account of this troublesome neglect on the part of mothers. It cannot be expected that Mrs. B., Mrs. H., or Mrs. R. will invite these mothers with their rough children to their afternoon gatherings, — they prefer a quiet tete-tete, or sociable chat without a jewel.

Indulgent mother, this appeal is to you. Will you take it home to your own heart. If you love your children, why will you not make them lovable in the eyes of others? Do not cause your friends to feel, when you are entering their house, that they must hang their chairs on nails, lock their daguerreotypes up, put their choice books on the top of the house, and, finally, take out every article of furniture with which the room is filled.

This appeal goes forth with the assurance that it will do some good. If it will enable one mother to examine her mode of management, with regard to the children, then Aunt MARTHA will feel that she has not written in vain. AUNT MARTHA. River Falls, Wis., 1862.

A BEAUTIFUL SONG.

HERE is one of the most beautiful songs in the language. Imagine a sweet, little girl, for whom life's morning bell has just rung "five," the light of child-like beauty clustering round her brow, slowly and thoughtfully repeating it, between daylight and dark.

The window is open, and through the swinging vine that drapes it, the young moon seems rocking at its anchor in the evening breeze, and the little night dress is nestled in the shadow, and syllable by syllable, like the music of the lapsing of a brook, come the words:

"I think when I read that sweet story of old, When Jesus was here among men, How He called little children, as lambs, to his fold, I should like to have been with them then."

"I wish that His hands had been placed on my head, That His arms had been thrown around me, And that I might have seen His kind look when He said, 'Let the little ones come unto me.'"

"But a beautiful place He has gone to prepare For all that are washed and forgiven! And many dear children are gathering there, 'For such is the kingdom of Heaven!'"

And if that evening vision has passed forever away, and in dreams a circle of gold is about the radiant brow, and the little white night-dress has been changed for a garment from the wardrobe of Heaven, those words she said have grown holy as a Scripture, and hallowed as the spot where we lay her.

FANNY FERN says, to her eye, no statue that the rich man places ostentatiously in his window, is to be compared to the little expectant face pressed against the window pane, watching for its father, when his day's labor is done.

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. TO THE SOUTH WIND.

WRITTEN IN JANUARY.

From thy own fair cerulean, Thy sun, with ray serene, Looks o'er the glittering pageantry, Without a cloud between. O'er all this wintry scene Thou comest, and I hear Again the wood-bird near, And children on the green.

My lattice flower is drooping low, Long has she yearned for thee; And now I hear the music of Thy coming o'er the sea, Bearing the minstrelsy From softened southern plains — The old enamoring strains — Beneath the trusting tree.

Oh, enter at the casement which I've opened wide to-day; But at the gable, first, awhile, Pipe thy low roundelay; Then softly stoop. Oh, may She once more taste thy balm, And hear thy quiet psalm That brings the olden day!

Starkville, N. Y., 1862.

F. C.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

PEDIGREES AND FIRST FAMILIES.

Is it a christian duty to love and admire people who have distinguished pedigrees, and "let patience have her perfect work," when such people begin to talk about them? I have no respect for those individuals who are forced to rifle the graves of dead ancestors, or count up the virtues of living notabilities who happen to belong to their lineage, in order to bring themselves into notice. I like that style of greatness, or goodness, that can stand on its own feet. Those men and women who have not stamina enough to make something of themselves, to be admired and respected irrespective of dead progenitors or distinguished relatives, are regular nobodies, and never were and never will be anything better.

There's one of my acquaintances, Miss SOPHRONISBA MATILDA GREEN, by name, (she bears the name of one of her great grandmothers, you perceive,) nobody has a grain of respect for her, and the chief reason is that she belongs to a good family, and is always boasting of it. On the very first evening of our acquaintance she favored me with a detailed account of the whole arrangement, grandfathers, uncles, cousins, and all, not omitting, of course, the inevitable silver plate which all first families are supposed to have preserved from time immemorial. On learning that I had just come from a neighboring State, she took occasion to inquire if I were acquainted with Ex-Governor B., who resided there. The reply that I had never had the good fortune to be so honored did not, in the least, interrupt her plans, for the ice being thus broken, she launched forth into her family pedigree and relationship at once. She informed me that her mother's grandmother's niece married DANIEL WEBSTER'S cousin, and their son was EX-GOVERNOR B. Her mother's uncle's wife was a cousin of MARTIN VAN BUREN, and her father's step-mother a daughter of THOMAS JEFFERSON. I learned at the same time that her brother was the President of a flourishing college, and that his son was a Professor therein; that her eldest sister had lately married the wealthiest man in the State, and her niece was soon to wed the wealthiest man somewhere else. Of course, I smiled, and said "Indeed," and seemed highly edified, though long before she had finished I wished her and her whole race at the antipodes. Yet, say what she might, the stubborn fact that Miss G. herself was squint-eyed, and exceedingly plain looking, was constantly before me, and my convictions on that subject were in no wise altered when I learned that her deceased grandmother was a perfect Venus, and her father's father a second Apollo.

The knowledge that one of her great aunts danced like a fairy, and sang like a nightingale, did in no wise prevent me from observing that Miss SOPHRONISBA turned her toes in when she walked, and possessed an extremely harsh voice. Though her uncles, aunts, and grand parents may all have been distinguished as poets, linguists, and scholars, I received painful evidence that Miss G. had never even learned to converse in her own language correctly, and her talents are, I am sure, less than mediocre.

Mr. D., another of my "first family" acquaintances, centers all his affections on the Scotch and English nobility. As "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh," so good Mr. D.'s mouth is exceedingly voluble on the "lord and lady" subject. His great-grand-father's father was a Scotch laird, — his grandmother's sister wedded "a fine old English gentleman; and when you go to his house he will show you, along with the old genealogical tree, a piece of a silk bodice which belonged to one of his ancestresses, who was maid of honor to "Good Queen BESS." The old man is never so happy as when engaged in leading his patient guests along the ramifications of his ancestral tree, tracing out the tangled way of births, marriages, and deaths, from JOHN DOBSON himself, the youngest of fourteen children, up to Sir LEOPOLD, and Lady MAUD, and WILLIAM WALLACE DOBSON, the noble laird, and father and grandfather to them all. But, be that as it may, the present JOHN DOBSON is only a grocer in a small way, in a small country town, and not one whit wiser or better, as I can see, than if his father had been a button maker, and his grandfather a tin pedlar.

For my part, I am quite satisfied with being descended from old FATHER ADAM, who, though only head-gardener in Eden, and without doubt, totally ignorant of such splendid beings as lords and ladies, kings and queens, was, at least, as honest and respectable as any of his sons. Simple-hearted creatures were ADAM and his wife, and, no doubt, after they left Eden would have been better pleased with the gift of a few simple flowers from that blissful garden, than to have been dubbed "lord and lady" a dozen times. A. M. P. Fayetteville, N. Y., 1861.

"WHEN you seek advice," remarks Montaigne, in one of his essays, "there are two things to be considered. See that you ask the most competent person to give it; and that his conditions are such that he may give it without prejudice."

If a boy loves reading, reward him with a plaything; if he loves sports, with a book. You may easily lead him to value a present made thus, and to show that he values it by using it.

EVERY-DAY LIFE.

BY LEAD PENCIL, ESQ.

I NOTICE one fact in my walks among, and talk with, men. It is worthy of record, and may grow to be a profitable suggestion to some one, viz: — That the world appreciates simplicity, whether in the character of men, a theory, a practice, an implement or machine, or in whatever object, idea, or axiom may attract its attentions.

Truth is simple; neither complex or ostentatious; and whatever is not simple is distrusted — as it ought to be, in most cases. But it is a fact that all that seems complex is not so; that complexity is a relative term, and is determined when applied to the object only when we estimate rightly the magnitude of the work to be accomplished, and the power and contrivances necessary to its accomplishment.

The greatness of an invention is gauged in the popular mind entirely by its simplicity. Its practical value among the mass of men is estimated according to its simplicity. Its popularity is entirely dependent upon its simplicity, utility, and durability; and in most cases simplicity governs the latter qualities.

I remember STEELE says, "Simplicity, of all things, is hardest to be copied." This is doubtless true when applied to the habits of life. Whether true or not in its application to effort to duplicate machinery, it is true that there is no more difficult task than to create a simple, effective machine. And it may be proper to repeat the remark, that the greatest contrivances or inventions impress the tyro with their simplicity, and he "wonders that it was never thought of before." Simplicity of character and habit is not always valued as it should be. And I do not mean that quality of mind best indicated by the term "silly." I do mean the simplicity of greatness and truth — the simplicity that is insensible to the frivolities of life; that is not attracted by its gloss and glitter, by its follies and false pleasures — the simplicity that ignores its vapid vanities and reaches after its realities, and the real riches that result from constant intercourse with the best minds, the purest lives and thoughts of the good and the great.

Noteworthy is it, that the wisest men live the simplest lives — that their growth in wisdom is synonymous with their growth in simplicity and humility — that in proportion as we discover the beauty of truth, we exclaim at the wisdom that rendered it so simple and comprehensible to finite minds. Again, the difficulty in our search after truth is, that we overlook it by seeking for something wonderfully complex. We refuse the modest native flower and look for the showy exotic.

SHORT DAYS AND THEIR LESSONS.

THE Springfield Republican speaks thus aptly and happily of the lesson taught by short days:

"The days are now at their briefest, the sun showing himself above the horizon for only nine hours of the twenty-four. But Nature makes the most of this brief period of daylight, and so in truth should we. She condenses the air we breathe until we inhale vitalizing draughts, instead of the faint breath that fans the languid leisure of the summer. She intensifies the sunlight, usually by reflecting it from a surface of dazzling snow. At night the stars shine with double brilliancy, the moon walks with additional brightness, and a wintry aurora flaunts and flickers in the north.

"The fire, too, which our changeable climate requires so large a part of the year, becomes cheerful and chattering, like the groups that surround it. The drowsy cannel coal hums its small song from the glowing grate, and, amid wars and their rumors, puffs over the pipe of peace. And wherever open wood fires are yet retained, it is pleasant to watch the quick dissolution of that which grew so slowly, yielding in an hour the light and warmth stolen from the sunshine of a summer, and crowning its pale ashes with flowers of fragrant flame.

"We should borrow a hint from the economy of Nature. We should intensify our efforts as she condenses the air we breathe and the water we drink. We should fill with wise activity, the brief, beneficent day. Our cherished thoughts should be bright as the winter landscape and healthful as its air. While around us is only strength and purity, we also should be pure and strong. And the thousand appliances we require for our comfort during bitter nights and inhospitable days, should remind us of those whose only chance for such comforts lies in the hope to receive them at our hand. May our hearts afford us as warm a shelter as the frescoes by which they throb, and our smile beam as brightly as the sunshine on the hills. May our love burn as cheerily as the fuel upon the hearth, whether the flames mount upward in gladness, or the red coals blush through the white ashes like the cheek of the bride through the folds of her snowy veil. May our thoughts catch the graces of the season, and be crisp and sparkling as the wholesome frost without, and warm and benignant as the genial fires within."

DEPTH OF QUIET PEOPLE.

SOME men dawn upon you, like the Alps. They impress you vaguely at first, just as do the hundred faces you meet in your daily walks. They come across your horizon, like floating clouds, and you have to watch a while before you see that they are mountains. Some men remind you of quiet lakes, places such as you have often happened upon, where the green turf and the field-flower hang over you and are reflected out of the water all day long. There is nothing remarkable about the flowers, only that they seem so much like love and kindness, gentleness, and those other every day ordinary little virtues. Perhaps you become attached to the lake because it is a genial spot, and whether you lived near a lake or not, it seems to remind you of home. But you never dream of its being in any way wonderful. Some day or other, you carelessly drop a line into the clear depths, close by the side of the daisies and daffodils, and it goes down, down, down. You lean over and sound deeper, but your line doesn't bring up. What a deep spot that is! you think, and you try another. The reflected daisies seem to smile at you out of the water, the turf looks as green as ever, but there is no shallow spot beneath. You never thought it, but your quiet lake is all around unfathomable. You are none the less impressed from the fact that it is a quiet lake. — Williams Quarterly.

The tasks set to children should be moderate. Over-exertion is hurtful, both physically and intellectually, and even morally. But it is of the utmost importance that they should be made to fulfill all their tasks correctly and punctually. This will train them for an exact, conscientious discharge of their duties in after life.

Sabbath Musings.

HOLD STILL.

From the German of Julius Sturm.

BY CHARLES T. BROOKS.

PAIN'S furnace-heat within me quivers; God's breath upon the flame doth blow, And all my heart in anguish shivers And trembles at the fiery glow; And yet I whisper — As God will! And, in His hottest fire, hold still!

He comes and lays my heart, all heated, On the hard anvil, minded so Into his own fair shape to beat it, With his great hammer, blow on blow; And yet I whisper — As God will! And, at His heaviest blows, hold still!

He takes my softened heart, and beats it, The sparks fly off at every blow; He turns it o'er and o'er, and heats it, And lets it cool, and makes it glow; And yet I whisper — As God will! And, in His mighty hand, hold still!

Why should I murmur for the sorrow Thus only longer-lived would be; Its end may come, and will to-morrow, When God has done His work in me; So I say, trusting — As God will! And, trusting to the end, hold still!

He kindles for my profit, purely, Affliction's glowing, fiery brand, And all His heaviest blows are, surely, Inflicted by a Master-hand; So I say, praying — As God will! And hope in Him, and suffer still!

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

STRAY THOUGHTS.

No one that lives fails to exert an influence either for good or evil upon those about them. It is impossible to do otherwise. As the circles in the water grow wider and wider until they break in ripples upon the shore, so do the influences and examples of our daily lives strengthen and deepen, until their fruits are landed upon the "strand of Eternity."

God, in His infinite wisdom, does not always prosper His own children, or defeat the plans of His enemies. "The rain falls alike upon the just and the unjust." The warm rays of the cheerful sun shine as equally upon the rank weed as upon its fair and delicate neighbor whom it chokes and destroys. Oh! is it not wise that in the other world it be the heart, not the life — the spirit, and not the deed — that shall justify or condemn us? Is it not good that this world, with its "golden dreams and leaden realities," is but an ante-chamber, dull and comfortless in comparison with the glories of that untried and unseen world, where there shall be no more tears, nor parting of friends, and where there shall be no more going out forever!

As the ripest fruit suffers most from the greedy birds, so do the noblest minds and purest hearts suffer most from the vicious tongues of envy and jealousy.

SOME one, who it matters not, has said that flowers are the alphabet of the angels, and that with them great and mysterious truths are written upon the hill-sides and valleys. It is a beautiful thought, and FANNY FORBSTER confirmed it when she said that alone in the depths of a forest the scent of the wild flowers made her feel safe, for flowers always betray the presence of angels.

It is flowers that are woven in among the locks of the blushing bride, as she stands in the pride and beauty of her womanhood, upon the threshold of a future made bright with fond hopes, and gilded with the glorious tints of joy and happiness. And it is flowers that we place in the hands of dear dead friends, when the light of their eyes are dimmed, the sound of their voices hushed and the fragrance of their lives exhaled to a purer atmosphere.

As we remember the sweetness of the perfumes of bright summer flowers in the dreary winter time, when the leaves have withered and gone, and the winds make wild music about us, — so do we remember the virtues and warmth of noble hearts once near and dear to us, but now gone from us forever, when we are weary on the road of the journey of life, and when sorrows and troubles sweep about us like the December storms. O. S. D. Buffalo, N. Y., 1862.

RELIGIOUS DEPRESSION.

It is the strange truth that some of the highest of God's servants are tried with darkness on the dying bed. Theory would say, when a religious man is laid up for his last struggle, now he is alone for deep communion with God. Fact very often says, "No; now he is alone, as his Master was before him, in the wilderness, to be tempted of the devil." Look at John the Baptist in imagination, and you would say, "Now his rough pilgrimage is done. He is quiet, he is out of the world, with the rapt foretaste of heaven in his soul." Look at John in fact. He is agitated, sending to Christ, not able to rest, grim doubt wrestling with his soul, misgiving for one last black hour whether all his hope had not been delusion. There is one thing we remark here by the way. Doubt often comes from inactivity. We cannot give the philosophy of it, but this is the fact. Christians who have nothing to do but to sit thinking of themselves, meditating, sentimentalizing, (or mysticizing,) are almost sure to become the prey of dark, black misgivings. John's struggling in the desert needs no proof that Jesus is the Christ. John shut up, became morbid and doubtful immediately. Brethren, all this is very marvelous. The history of a human soul is marvelous. We are mysteries; but here is the history of it all; for sadness, for suffering, for misgiving, there is no remedy but stirring and doing. — Robertson.

THE DIVINE MERCY. — However old, plain, humble, desolate, afflicted, we may be, so long as our hearts preserve the feeblest spark of life, they preserve also, shivering near that pale ember, a starved, ghostly longing for appreciation and affection. To this attenuated spectre, perhaps a crumb is not thrown once a year; but when ahungered and athirst to famine — when all humanity has forgotten the dying tenant of a decaying house — Divine mercy remembers the mourner, and a shower of manna falls for lips that earthly nutriment is to pass no more. Biblical promises, heard first in health, but then unheeded, come whispering to the couch of sickness; it is felt that a pitying God watches what all mankind have forsaken; the tender compassion of Jesus is recalled, and relied on; the fading eye, gazing beyond time, sees a home, a friend, a refuge in eternity. — Charlotte Bronie.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



"WASHINGTON bequeathed the flag of the Republic to us in trust for our children's children to the latest posterity."

"Our nation's banner streams upon the wind, The harbinger of hope to all mankind! The welkin's hues were blended in its dyes, And all its stars were kindled in the skies. It waves in triumph over land and sea; Our Father's boon—the symbol of the free— Vain is the strife that would its glory dim While it reminds his countrymen of HIM."

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 25, 1862.

THE WAR'S PROGRESS.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

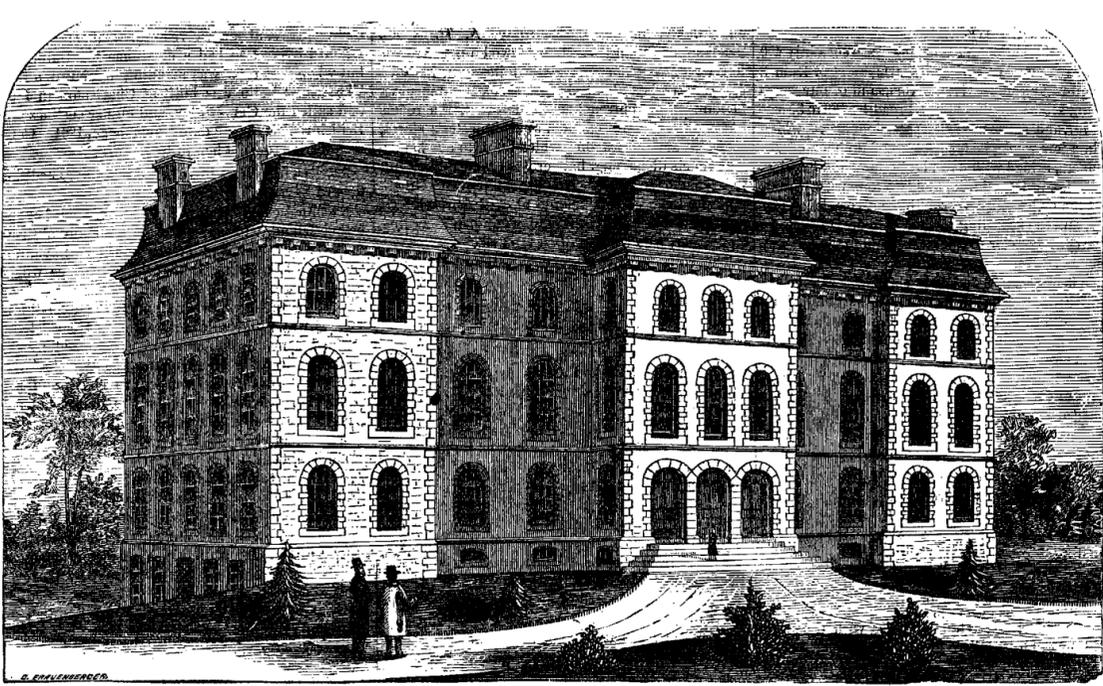
Western Rebel Defenses, Preparations, &c.

A LETTER addressed to the Chicago Tribune from Nashville, Tenn., furnishes, we are inclined to think, the most minute and trustworthy account of the rebel means of defense in the West which has yet come under our notice. Though it dissipates some illusions which have been formed as to the hundreds of thousands of men now in arms against their country, it is apparently free from any disposition to underrate the strength or resources of those now in the field against us:

At COLUMBUS.—Before the 17th of September, when General Polk made his advance into Kentucky, the insurgents had about forty-five thousand troops in Tennessee and Kentucky; at present they are believed to have about seventy-five thousand, of whom only two-thirds are good for anything. This is largely below some of the estimates which have been published of their strength. General Polk took possession of Columbus with about eighteen thousand men, and Buckner advanced upon Bowling Green with half that number, where he was joined by nearly two thousand sympathizers from Kentucky. Zollicoffer had, in Eastern Tennessee and Kentucky, about eight thousand. Adding to these a few garrisons, recruits in encampments or organizing, and we have the aggregate, as stated above, at the middle of September. On General Johnson assuming command, he issued a requisition on the Governors of Tennessee and the adjoining States for eighty thousand additional troops. The mutiny which burst out at Nashville, when Governor Harris attempted to raise his quota by a forced levy, after the ordinary means had failed, is well known. But with five thousand men, obtained from Missouri, Arkansas, Alabama, and Louisiana, General Hardee was ordered to join Buckner at Bowling Green. Various other bodies were, shortly afterward, directed by the War Department to repair thither previous to the 9th of November, making at that time the following force: Under Zollicoffer, eight thousand; under Hardee and Buckner, twenty-three thousand; under Polk, twenty thousand nine hundred; other bodies, four thousand three hundred. Grand total, fifty-nine thousand two hundred. Since the uprising of the loyalists in East Tennessee, this force has received some accessions of strength. An entire brigade, under General Carroll, has been ordered to that section. But the motley crowds raised by Governor Harris' draft, and the frantic appeals of the press, are rather a rabble than an army. Of the thirty thousand called out by that official, it is not believed one-third the number can be raised. A number of companies of Home Guards have, however, been induced to repair to Columbus and elsewhere to defend their State: it is supposed that General Polk has thus been strengthened by about eighteen hundred men. Hardee was lately joined by a regiment from Louisiana, and four others from Alabama, under General Walker, are shortly expected at Bowling Green, besides the irregular militia of Tennessee, who are drawn out for service in that State solely.

In these estimates the numbers of the insurgents have been estimated liberally, allowing seven hundred men to a regiment. No deduction has been made for the ravages of disease, which has decimated some of the armies of the West as well as Eastern Virginia. The number of sick from Hardee's division alone has averaged fifteen hundred men for some weeks past. General Polk's division has been tolerably healthy. The rebel losses in battle, again, have been serious. In the bloody affair of Belmont seven hundred of them were put hors de combat. On the whole, it is not probable that Johnson's entire force exceeds sixty thousand available men. The equipment of these troops is perhaps better than might have been expected. Within a few weeks some thousands of rifled muskets of English make have been distributed at Columbus and Bowling Green; most of the remaining soldiers are armed with serviceable smooth bore United States muskets; but some irregular bodies are armed with shot-guns and such other weapons as they could pick up. The cavalry is, on the whole, well mounted, but indifferently armed. The field artillery consists of five batteries under Polk, six under Hardee, and one each under Zollicoffer and Carroll, making about seventy-four guns in all, which are mostly smooth bores and of small calibre. Those troops who have long been in the service are represented to be pretty comfortably clothed and shod, the Southern people having been forced to turn their attention to making those indispensable articles; but the newly recruited men are sadly deficient. Whole regiments are unprovided with belts, cartridge-boxes, and bayonet sheaths.

The training of the rebel soldiery is wretchedly defective, with the exception of company drill. In respect to battalion maneuvers, Hardee's troops are said to be the worst of all. The unruly spirit characteristic of the South betrays itself on all occasions in the want of discipline. Johnson has given up all idea of advancing North on this account; and it is believed that defeat would result in a total rout, owing to the incoherent character of the elements forming the Confederate army. The medical department is in a very primitive condition. The defenses of Columbus are stated (on belief, not knowledge,) as consisting of two regular bastioned forts, which mount respectively eighteen and



UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER—"ANDERSON HALL."

THE people of Western New York are justly proud of the University of Rochester, an institution which has, during the few years of its existence, acquired a reputation that compares favorably with several Colleges of much longer standing. Its able Faculty, its judicious and enterprising management of its affairs, and the location of the institution in the heart of a district famed for productiveness and the intelligence of its population, account for the popularity and increasing prosperity of the institution. But our present purpose is to speak of the University Building, a fine view of which is given above. This building, but recently completed and dedicated, is named "Anderson Hall" by the Trustees, in recognition of the services rendered by the President (M. B. ANDERSON, LL. D.) in accomplishing the work. The design and plans of the building were executed by ALEX. R. ESTY, Esq., of Boston, whose original design was modified to some extent. In respect to interior accommodations, it would be difficult to determine the various paternities. The President and other members of the Faculty, the Secretary and other members of the Board of Trustees, studied, suggested, and compared views, and the fruit of all these labors was cast and re-cast in the mind of the architect.

The building stands on a gentle elevation at the easterly margin of the city, near the northerly side of grounds extending over twenty acres. From all the easterly approaches it is a conspicuous object, the New York Central Railroad curving around its rear, at the distance of about two hundred and fifty yards. From its upper windows and its roof, the panorama includes the city at your feet, the fertile farms of Brighton and Irondequoit, three or four villages in the circling outline, the blue hills of Bristol, and the more deeply blue waters of Lake Ontario. In every direction, the eye falls upon scenes of surpassing loveliness.

The structure is of Medina sandstone, from the Albion quarry, not unlike that of New Jersey and Connecticut, but with a warmth of coloring which sixteen guns en barbette, mostly 32, 34, and 42-pounders, with a few 8 and 9-inch columbiads. These works cover the approaches by land. The water front is protected by seven batteries, mounting forty-six guns, some of them 24-pounders. These sweep the Mississippi channel for two miles. Though the works are formidable, there is no foundation for the oft-repeated boast that they are impregnable. Next to Columbus, there are on the Mississippi, a battery at Hickman, Kentucky, said to mount ten guns; a fort near the Tennessee State line and almost completed; Fort Pillow, a short distance below, capable, when finished, of mounting sixty-four guns; Fort Randolph, said to mount eighteen guns.

TENNESSEE AND CUMBERLAND RIVERS.—On the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers only two small earthworks, Forts Henry and Donelson, have been constructed. The former is situated on the Tennessee, near the State line, and is armed with sixteen guns of light calibre; but it is reported that the opposite hills have been fortified. Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland, is near Dover, and mounts twelve guns. Neither is adequate to an attack by land forces. At Clarksville, higher up the Cumberland, a large body of whites and negroes is reported to be at work for the protection of the railroad bridge. Some thirty guns are said to have arrived there. Apart from these defenses, the rebels have been trying their hand at sinking stone-laden vessels in the channels of the Tennessee and Cumberland. Some temporary works for the protection of Nashville are also in progress; but the place cannot long hold out against a siege or bombardment, on account of its situation.

PREPARATION AT BOWLING GREEN.—The strength of Bowling Green is a topic of more immediate interest. That reported stronghold is not half so well fortified as Columbus. Defensive works have been raised on one side only of the place, the Barren river sweeping round the other three sides. On the 12th of last month there were not over forty guns in position at the place, and of these only six were heavy siege guns. But some shipments of large guns had lately passed through Nashville, and part are believed to have gone to Bowling Green. The field works around it are intended for only temporary purposes, and require a vast army to man them. In addition to these defects, the rebels have few or no efficient artillerymen, and those they have seldom practice target firing. Their forces are scattered over quite too long a front to render mutual support in case of disaster; and it is believed that an expedition of gunboats up the Tennessee would so completely isolate Polk's division as to render it practically useless for the defence of Nashville.

A Forward Movement at the West.

THE St. Louis Republican, of the 10th inst., says the indications at that point, and at Cairo, Paducah and Bird's Point, confirm the advices we have had by telegraph, in relation to a grand for-

ward movement of the Union troops in the Mississippi valley. It is stated that the immediate destination of the projected expedition is Nashville, the Tennessee military rendezvous. This may, however, be a report designed to create apprehension at Columbus and Memphis, and produce a stampede from those points toward the interior; and, whether precisely true or not, the contemplated movement will tend to separate and scatter, to some extent, the rebel soldiers in that quarter. At all events, we do not imagine that it is any part of the plan to allow Columbus to remain in the hands of the Confederates, formidable as the entrenchments at that position are represented to be. Hearing that Nashville is threatened, the rebels may consider themselves strong enough to spare a portion of their large garrison to the defence of that city, in which event it is not altogether impossible we may hear of the simultaneous fall of both Nashville and Columbus.

That Columbus is a difficult position, we can readily fancy, when we consider the vast amount of labor that has been expended to make it so; but that it is impregnable, we have no idea. Nevertheless, in taking Columbus, there is a wide field for the display of strategic skill, in order that the cost of the capture, in the way of human life, shall not counterbalance the value of its possession. The submarine precautions of the Confederates, to impede the progress of the gun and mortar boats down the river, are not regarded by military men as presenting the obstacles claimed for them. As for the torpedoes placed in the channel, a raft of logs will dispose of them, and clear the way for the fleet without any vast amount of bloodshed, while the land forces may attain the rear of the rebel batteries, and take possession by either assault or siege.

But whatever the destination of the forces which are about to take up the march southward, we welcome the movement most heartily. The country, it is idle to deny, is eminently prepared, by "vigils long" and a forbearing patience, to receive the tidings of some marked and decisive victory in the West. Even a defeat might be brooked as the initial of a determined and vigorous fighting campaign. But there will be no defeats. The troops in this department are numerically strong enough, and well enough officered and equipped, to meet and vanquish the insolent foe who oppose their arms. Let us believe that the time of organization, tutorage and preparation, is at length passed, and that soon will begin the hard, resolute strokes, that shall make rebellion quiver and shake, from Fairfax to Pensacola.

The Situation in Kentucky.

THE dispatches relative to the destination of the expedition from Cairo, and its route of travel, have been conflicting—they could not well be otherwise, as the Government keeps its own secrets pretty well just at present, and "guessers" only have the "latest news"—but the latest received possesses a military probability. The intention is that the expedition, which is already under way, will ascend the

Tennessee river to some point as yet unknown, where it will be met by a body of cavalry, and the two forces uniting will proceed to their ultimate destination. This would indicate that, instead of a direct attack being made upon Columbus, it is the intention of the military commanders to first attack Nashville, and thus command the railroad approaches to Columbus and Memphis, which must then be speedily evacuated by the rebels. Whether this be the plan or not, it certainly appears reasonable that such a course should be pursued. Assuming, therefore, that such is ostensibly the direction of the expedition, a brief description of the situation of the country may not be uninteresting. The Tennessee river is the largest affluent of the Ohio, and is formed by two branches, the Clinch and Holston, which rise among the Alleghany Mountains in Virginia, and unite at Kingston in Tennessee. The length of the river is estimated at eight hundred miles, but if the Holston, the largest branch, is included, its length is eleven hundred miles. The channel of the river is obstructed by no considerable falls or rapids, except Muscle Shoals, in Alabama. It is navigable for steamboats to Florence, Ala., a distance of two hundred and eighty miles. Except at the upper part of its course, the banks of the river are not steep, but the country in the vicinity is quite level and unobstructed by hills or other eminences of importance. The Cumberland river, by which a portion of the expedition may advance, is six hundred miles long, and is navigable for steamboats two hundred miles, to Nashville, Tenn. From Dover, Tenn., the course of the river is parallel with and ten miles east of the Tennessee. At Sandy Mouth, on the Tennessee, and Dover, on the Cumberland, the track of the Memphis and Ohio railroad crosses. From Dover to Clarksville, Tenn., the track of this road runs parallel with the Cumberland river. Mayfield creek, at the mouth of which a portion of the expedition encamped on Thursday night week, is about eight miles below Cairo, and Columbus is about thirty miles below. Mayfield, Ky., the terminus of a railroad from Paducah, is about equidistant, in a straight line, between the mouth of Mayfield creek and Sandy Mouth, Tenn., the entire distance being about eighty miles. Having thus given the topography of the country, a glance at the course already suggested will, we think, incline any person to the opinion that Columbus will not be attacked from the Mississippi river, nor from the rear, until Nashville has fallen beneath the combined assaults of Generals Buell and Halleck. The expeditions up the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers can seize upon Sandy Mouth and Dover, at which there are but slight fortifications, and at once command the approach between Memphis and Clarksville, preventing re-enforcements being sent from Memphis should they be desired. The detachment from the main body, which encamped at Mayfield creek on Thursday night week, can cross the

modation. The basement story, which, except on the front, is entirely above ground, is ten feet in height; the main stories, beginning with the first, are thirteen, fifteen, and thirteen. The interior wood-work is pine of the best quality, finished in the natural color with oil and varnish. The floors of the hall are of yellow pine, and those of the Society rooms are tessellated, of oak and black walnut in alternate stripes. The impression of solidity and strength which is created by the exterior, is justified by the interior finish, while at the same time the lighter colors of the interior give it a more cheerful air. Besides the rooms to which we have referred, there are various others for cabinets and works of art, with private rooms for officers—these last generally in contiguity to the lecture-rooms of the various departments. Use and convenience were carefully and successfully studied in all the interior arrangements.

The cost of the building has been surprisingly low. The contract price was \$34,625. So few were the changes in the progress of the work, that the extras on the contract did not exceed fifty dollars. The additional expenses of architect's fees, gas-pipes and fixtures, furnaces and furniture, outbuildings, &c., make the total expense near \$40,000, which was the anticipated sum. Few public buildings, of equal magnitude and excellence, have been erected at so low a cost, and fewer still have been erected for the sum originally allotted to the work.

The ample grounds are in process of improvement. The natural fertility of the soil invites an outlay in this direction, and the rapid development of vegetation in Western New York will ensure a rich growth of ornamental trees and shrubs in the course of a few years. New necessities—indeed, necessities already existing—will demand, not long hence, additional buildings; and the young men are now in the University, who, in their later years revisiting these grounds, will find them shaded with overhanging trees, and cut by numerous pathways leading to structures consecrated to Science and Religion.

State to Sandy Mouth, receiving re-enforcements at Mayfield. Clarksville is fortified, to some extent, as it is an important key to Nashville.

At this point General Buell will probably cooperate, and from thence the united commands will proceed to Nashville. When this point falls, the last hope of rebellion in Western Tennessee is crushed. The enemy at Columbus and Memphis will then evacuate their strongholds, fearful of an attack in the rear from the victorious forces of the Federal Army. The formidable torpedoes and chains—the expensive cannon and entrenchments at Columbus—all will be found useless to protect the rebels from the advance of the Union forces. Bishop Polk will find that himself, as well as Pillow, has thrown the earth out on the wrong side of his ditch.

Some apprehensions have been felt that an attack upon Nashville might be productive of much loss to the Federal forces. It is so situated, however, that it cannot long resist the Federal attack or siege. Should it become necessary, the supply of water may be cut off, in an effectual manner as that in which Price cut off Mulligan's supply at Lexington, for the city obtains water from the Cumberland river. The importance of Nashville, in a strategic point of view—it being the termination of the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad, which completes the connection with Charleston and Savannah—renders it quite desirable that we should have possession of it.

The Command of Gen. Buell.

THE regular correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune furnishes that journal with a detailed statement concerning such portion of the Federal Army as is under command of Gen. Buell, in Kentucky. This correspondence is rendered doubly interesting by the fact that the North is daily anticipating an opening of the campaign in the "dark and bloody ground;" hence the subjoined extracts, showing the number of regiments composing it—their agglomeration into divisions, and their halting points, condition, discipline, &c., &c., will prove welcome to our readers. The composition is as follows:

- Ohio—Thirty regiments of infantry, two regiments of cavalry, three detached companies of cavalry, and six batteries of artillery of six pieces each.
Indiana—Twenty-nine regiments of infantry, one regiment of cavalry, four detached companies of cavalry, and five batteries of artillery of six pieces each.
Kentucky—Twenty-three regiments of infantry, four regiments of cavalry, and two batteries of artillery of six pieces each.
Pennsylvania—Three regiments of infantry, two regiments of cavalry, two detached companies of cavalry, and one battery of artillery of six pieces.
Illinois—Three regiments of infantry.
Michigan—Three regiments of infantry, and one battery of artillery of six pieces.
Wisconsin—Three regiments of infantry.
Minnesota—Two regiments of infantry, and one battery of artillery of six pieces.
Tennessee—Two regiments of infantry.
Regulars—One full infantry regiment, three battalions (forming parts of three other regiments), and three batteries of artillery of six pieces each.

Table with 2 columns: No. Reg'ts. and No. Reg'ts. for INFANTRY. Rows include Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Tennessee, Regulars.

Table with 2 columns: No. Reg'ts. and No. Reg'ts. for CAVALRY. Rows include Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Detached companies from Pennsylvania, Detached companies from Ohio and Indiana, Regulars.

Table with 2 columns: No. Batteries. and No. Batteries. for ARTILLERY. Rows include Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Regulars.

Making an aggregate of about 100,000 infantry, 11,000 cavalry, and 3,000 artillerymen, with over 100 guns.

Of these 114,000 men, about 75,000 have been pronounced fit for the field, and formed into brigades and divisions, including about 68,000 infantry, 5,000 cavalry, and 2,500 artillerymen. Of the remaining 39,000, probably 5,000 will yet be added to one or more of the divisions, and the balance form a reserve, to be partly kept in a camp of instruction, and partly employed in guarding railroad bridges, and crossings, preventing the rising of Secessionists in disloyal counties, conveying trains, &c. The reserve will include about one-third of the Kentucky contingent, nearly half of the cavalry, some raw artillery, and the most recently-recruited regiments from Ohio and Indiana. It appears from the above that the cavalry arm is not proportionately represented among the forces that are to take the field. The truth is, that for want of arms and proficiency in drill, one of the Ohio, the Indiana, and the two Pennsylvania regiments, will prove a dead expense to the Government. The brunt of the war will be over before they will be fit for field duty, and the best the War Department could do would be to transform them into infantry regiments.

Of the infantry selected for active work, about one-half is effective, the other only tolerably so. The best regiments are the 6th, 10th, 32d and 37th Indiana; the 1st, 2d, 69th, 10th, 24th and 41st Ohio; 1st Wisconsin, 19th and 24th Illinois, 2d Minnesota, and 7th Michigan. The cavalry will prove only moderately serviceable. Of the artillery, about ten batteries are likely to perform their part of the campaign creditably. The remainder will be more apt to scare than to kill the rebels. The infantry and artillery are splendidly armed. Of the cavalry, some portions are fully armed, others have sabers and pistols, and again some have only sabers. As to clothing, the troops are all well supplied.

But whatever deficiencies there may be in drill and discipline among our forces in this State, they are compensated for to a great extent by the excellent natural qualities of the material of which they are composed. I feel warranted by virtue of my personal acquaintance with most of the Union armies, in expressing the opinion that the mass of the men of the army of the Ohio is not equaled by any other portion of the Union soldiery in intelligence, physical vigor, moral soundness, and noble impulses. Nine-tenths consist of the hard-fisted, high-spirited, self-reliant sons of the Northwest—the essence of its agricultural and industrial population—the real flower of the land. They are all wide-awake, energetic, plucky representatives of true Americanism. They know what they propose to fight for, and will fight well, if their leaders only understand how to handle them. All it wants is to rouse and sustain their native spirit, and the General that can do it will not fail of victory.

The Great Naval Expeditions.

ALL are now anxiously watching and waiting for the first tokens of success from the Expeditions on our coast and down the Mississippi. The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. World writes that the long looked for period of military activity is not far off. The sailing of the Burnside Expedition, and the sailing of the gunboat fleet from Cairo, are key notes to movements along the whole line of the war. The next thirty days are big with the fate of this Republic. All our armies will probably move simultaneously, and at least four hundred thousand loyal troops will be hurled upon the arms and batteries of the enemy. It is improper, of course, to speak of specific movements, but it can be no longer doubted that events of great moment are at hand. That victory will crown the Federal arms in every encounter, is hardly to be expected; but with our knowledge of the number and arms of the rebels, the Administration has every reason to believe that the back of the rebellion will be broken before the first of March.

When the blow once falls, and if our troops are successful in the onset, it will be followed up with a vigor rarely witnessed in history. The long delay so admirably borne by an excited and impatient people, was absolutely essential to the accumulation of the vast warlike material requisite for a campaign through such an enormous stretch of territory. It is admitted here by parties attached to the foreign diplomatic bodies, that should the United States succeed in its movements, it will emerge from this war the greatest military power on earth. It certainly will, be so for defensive purposes. There is immense activity in every military department, and although a movement on the Potomac is not expected immediately, events may make an advance on Centerville a military necessity.

THE MISSISSIPPI EXPEDITION.—The importance of this expedition down the Mississippi cannot be over-estimated, especially as viewed in connection with the grand combined movement which, we have good reason to believe, will take place before long. We append a brief resume of the force composing it:

The fleet has been prepared with great care, and consists of seventy-eight boats, of which twelve are gunboats, thirty-eight mortar boats, and twenty-eight tugs and steamboats. The gunboats are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Guns, Tons. Includes Benton, Essex, St. Louis, Carondelet, Mound City, Cairo, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Louisville, Conestoga, Lexington, Tyler.

Seven of these boats cost eighty-nine thousand dollars each to build. They are one hundred and seventy-five feet in length, fifty-one feet six inches in breadth, and draw five feet when loaded. The bows and bow-bulwarks consist of about three feet of oak timber, bolted together, and sheathed with the best quality of wrought iron plates, two and a half inches thick. The sides have the same sheathing, with less bulk of timber. Each boat is pierced for fifteen guns, four on each side, four on the stern, and three at the bows. The bow-guns are eighty-four pounder rifled cannon; the others are eight-inch columbiads. The sides of the boats, both above and below the knee, incline at an angle of forty-five degrees, and nothing but a plunging shot from a high bluff could strike the surface at right angles. The boilers and machinery are so situated as to be perfectly protected, and may be considered quite out of danger. The iron plating has been severely tested by shots from rifled cannon at different distances, and has shown itself to be utterly impervious to any shots that have been sent against it, even at a range of three hundred yards. The flag-ship of the expedition is the Benton. She is one hundred and eighty-six feet long on deck, and seventy-five feet wide at the beam, and carries eighteen guns, from 32-pounders to 42-pounders. The mortar boats are built of heavy timbers, the sides of boiler iron, loop-holed for musketry, and are so arranged that they can be used for bridges. They will carry one fifteen-inch mortar. The mortar boats will be towed into position by tugs.

How Our Navy Might be Enlarged.

DONALD McKAY writes a very intelligent and striking letter to the Boston Commercial Bulletin, relative to our naval resources, from which we make some extracts:

It would be easy for us to build in one year a fleet of 500 to 600 men-of-war ships, from a gunboat to the largest class of iron-cased frigates. It is a well-known fact that we built, in one year, the astonishing number of 2,034 vessels and steamers of all classes, measuring together, 683,450 tons. A large number of these vessels were as large as the biggest class of frigates hitherto constructed. What we have done once, we may do over again, and working at the same rate, we would be able alone in our merchant yards to turn out, in one year, 583 ships of 1,000 tons each. In our six Navy Yards, where the choicest materials are stocked for building a fleet of 100 ships, 60 more men-of-war ships might be built in one year, making a total of 643 men-of-war ships of all classes, varying in their armament from three to sixty guns. More than a hundred of our greatest engineering firms would complete all the machinery necessary to be put in these ships in less than a year.

It is true, on a very urgent occasion, in a great emergency, our country could largely increase her navy in a very few months, with very powerful descriptions of vessels, if they would proceed as follows:

Cut down all of our line-of-battle ships one or two decks, case them with five-inch iron plates, put a battery of 30 or 40 guns of the heaviest calibre on board of them, and moor them across the entrance of our harbors. Plate our frigates with shell-proof iron plates, and to make up for the additional weight put into them, do away with their armament on the upper deck.

Transform 100 of our best sea-going merchant steamers into so many frigates, sloops, dispatch and gunboats, of a speed superior to any men-of-war ships yet produced.

Among our large clipper ships and traders more than 500 may be found that are capable to be transformed into so many efficient sailing sloops and frigates. Their length varies from 120 to 200 feet; their breadth from 30 to 52 feet, and whenever they are cut down one deck, or their decks are lowered, will be found capable of carrying an armament varying from 20 to 50 heavy guns, according to their respective capacity. Twenty or thirty of our best and largest clipper ships might very well be transformed into powerful screw-frigates, as, for instance, the Great Republic, which exceeds in her dimensions the largest English 50-gun frigates, while her shape for speed is incomparably superior. The scantling of all these ships is well known to

be larger than that of the best and strongest men-of-war ships of our Navy.

Among the barks and brigs there are certainly 400 to 500 capable of receiving an armament of from 8 to 20 guns, and more than a thousand of our large coasting schooners that have a breadth of 28 to 30 feet and over, and a form never surpassed for speed, which can in a few weeks be transformed into men-of-war schooners, armed with one pivot gun of the heaviest description in the middle, and two to four 22-pounders at the ends. The vessels have a very large stability, and the scantling of their timbers, etc., is by 20 per cent. heavier than of the common men-of-war schooners.

This fleet of about 2,000 vessels of war can, working with all the natural energy of our nation, be turned out in less time than four to six months, and it would be sufficient to protect our coast and meet the first storm.

Time would so be gained to build a fleet fit to represent our great nation, and to make our flag once more respected in all seas of the globe.

McClellan and the Approaching Movements.

THE N. Y. Post of the 14th says, the following extract from a letter received, this morning, by one of our prominent citizens, comes from a responsible source, and hints at certain movements said to be impending:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12, 1862. MY DEAR SIR: * * * * * The night of the rebellion has passed, and the dawn is about breaking. Before the present month has gone these things will surely come to pass: Gen. Halleck, with the great flotilla and an army of one hundred thousand strong, will sweep like an avalanche down the Mississippi, where they will be joined by Gen. Butler in New Orleans and Mobile. Gen. Buell, with nearly or quite the same force, will march into Tennessee, capture Nashville, and co-operate with the Union forces in a manner and direction it would not be politic now to point out. Generals Rosecrans and Kelly will advance from Western Virginia, and do their share in harmony with the general plan.

Generals Banks and Stone will move in conjunction with the rest from the upper Potomac. General Burnside will do his appointed work in Virginia. Gen. Sherman will explain by deeds, not words, his inaction. Gen. McClellan will force the rats from their holes at Manassas, attack them at three points at once, and will fulfill his modest pledge that the war will be "short but desperate." I do not give you more than the general outline of these simultaneous movements. The details of the grand plan of this campaign will startle the world, and vindicate Gen. McClellan's high reputation for military strategy. The men and supplies are now, for the first time, nearly ready. The delays, in and out of the departments, and by thieving contractors and material men, will be accounted for, and the blame placed where it belongs. A premature movement would have deranged the plan of the whole campaign, which is so perfect that success is certain. A bad move, untimely made, might have hazarded the game. The impending mate is close at hand in a limited number of forced moves. The loss of a piece here or there, the defeat of one or another division of the army, cannot affect or prolong the result. The combinations are so perfect that failure is impossible! Yours ever,

Department of the Ohio.

THE War Department at Washington has received intelligence from Col. Garfield, dated Pointsville, January 8th, which confirms the report of the dispersion of Humphrey Marshall's force. It says his whole army is flying in utter confusion. They burned a large amount of stores. We have taken 15 prisoners.

Another dispatch from Col. Garfield to Gen. Buell, dated Prestonburgh, January 11th, states that he left Pointsville on Thursday at noon with a force of 1,100 men, and engaged Marshall's force, 2,500 strong, with 3 cannon posted on the hill. We fought them until dark, and drove them from all their positions. This morning we found 25 of the enemy's dead on the field. His loss cannot be less than 60. We took 25 prisoners and a quantity of stores. The enemy burned most of his stores, and fled precipitately during the night. To-day I have crossed the river and been occupying Prestonburgh. Our loss is 2 killed and 25 wounded.

The following are copies of the official documents:

POINTSVILLE, JAN. 8. To J. B. Fry, Assistant Adjutant General:—I entered this place yesterday with the 42d Ohio, 14th Kentucky, and 300 of the 2d Virginia cavalry. On hearing of my approach, the main rebel force left their strong entrenched camp and fled. I sent my cavalry to the mouth of Jennis creek, where they attacked and drove the rebel cavalry, which had been left as a guard, a distance of 5 miles—killing 3 and wounding a number. Marshall's whole army is now flying in utter confusion, and they burned a large quantity of stores. We have taken 15 prisoners. Our loss was 2 killed and 1 wounded. I will start in pursuit to-morrow morning. P. A. GARFIELD.

PRESTONBURGH, KY., January 14. To Captain J. B. Fry, Assistant Adjutant:—I left Pointsville Thursday noon with 1,100 men, and drove in the enemy's pickets two miles below Prestonburgh. The men slept on their arms.

At 4 o'clock yesterday morning we moved towards the main body of the enemy at the Forks of Middle Creek, under command of Marshall. Skirmishing with his outposts began at 1 P. M. We engaged his force of 2,500 with three cannons posted on the Hill. We fought them until dark, having been re-enforced by about 700 men from Pointsville, and drove the enemy from all his positions. He carried off a majority of his dead, and all his wounded.

This A. M. we found twenty-seven of his dead on the field. His killed cannot be less than sixty. We have taken twenty-five prisoners, ten horses, and a quantity of stores. The enemy burnt most of his stores, and fled precipitately in the night. I have crossed the river this morning, and am now occupying Petersburg. Our loss is two killed and twenty-five wounded. P. A. GARFIELD, Colonel Commanding Brigade.

The Bowling Green correspondent of the Nashville Courier says that General Johnson has called upon the provisional government of Kentucky for twenty-five thousand infantry and five thousand cavalry, to serve three years. Floyd's brigade from Virginia are going to Scottsville, Kentucky.

The telegraph this (Tuesday) morning brings the following gratifying intelligence:

CINCINNATI, Jan. 20.—A combined attack was made to-day on Zollicoffer's entrenchments at Mill Springs, Wayne county, Ky., resulting in a complete victory. The Stars and Stripes now float over the fortifications. We captured all their camp property and a large number of prisoners. Our loss is heavy. Zollicoffer's dead body is in the hands of the Federals.

The Lexington correspondent of the Commercial gives the following account of Saturday's battle:

Zollicoffer, learning that the Federal forces had appeared in his rear, marched out of his entrenchments at 3 o'clock Saturday morning, and attacked Schoepff in camp. The pickets were driven in at an early hour, and the attack was made before daylight. The battle is reported to have raged with great fury until 3 P. M., when Zollicoffer having been killed, the whole rebel force fled in confusion to their camp. The loss is not stated, but thought to be heavy. Our victory has been very decisive, and will result in the rout of the whole force defending the right flank of Bowling Green.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 20.—The recent fight took place on Sunday, instead of Saturday, A. M. Gen. Schoepff, on Sunday P. M., followed up the rebels to their entrenchments, sixteen miles from his own camp, and when about to attack them, this morning, he found their entrenchments deserted, the rebels having lost all their cannon, quartermaster's stores, tents, horses and wagons, which fell into our hands. The rebels dispersing, had crossed the Cumberland in steamboats and barges, at White Oak Creek, opposite their entrenchments at Mill Springs. Of the rebels, 275 were killed and wounded, including Zollicoffer, who was found on the field.

The 10th Indiana regiment lost 75 killed and wounded. Nothing further of the Federal loss reached us.

Department of the East.

DURING the past week Gen. McClellan was before the Joint Committee on the conduct of the war. For three hours they listened to a patient and candid account of his operations in the responsible office to which he was so suddenly and without his knowledge or procurement summoned by the President and by the nation's voice. The difficulties of his position, the embarrassments of questions arising, the amount of labor to be done, the ferocity and strength of the rebellion he has to vanquish, were grouped together in a manner so effective as to win sympathy from members who had imbibed prejudices against him, and the modesty and steady assurance he manifested of an early and utter overthrow of the rebels, gave confidence in his capacity and generalship that had not before existed. Gen. Butler was also before the committee.

An order just issued from the Army Headquarters contains the following:—"The exigencies of the service demand that every officer and soldier of this army able to do duty shall be at his post. The Commanding General therefore deems it necessary to direct that, unless by reason of sickness upon a medical certificate, no leaves of absence or furloughs shall be granted at the present time, except in urgent and exceptional cases, when the necessity for indulgence must be clearly set forth in the application. It is proper to remark that many of the reasons for which leaves of absence and furloughs have heretofore been granted cannot be allowed."

Some time ago Gen. Hooker asked Gen. McClellan what he should do with fifty or sixty fugitive slaves that were within his lines at Budd's Ferry. Gen. McClellan replied with an order to inquire into each case whether the fugitive had or had not been employed in the military service of the enemy. If he had been, Gen. Hooker should employ him; if not, he should exclude him from his lines, thus temporarily liberating him, and leaving the final disposition of the bondman to the civil authorities. It is understood that a similar rule will hereafter be applied in every case occurring with the army of the Potomac.

A difficulty is presented as to the disposition of all the cavalry regiments accepted into the service. The Commanding General asked for twenty-seven regiments, and the whole number accepted and authorized to be raised is seventy-three. This is forty-six more than Gen. McClellan wants or knows how to dispose of. This excess will cost the Government about \$46,000,000 of needless expense. It is proposed that the number of regiments actually required shall be made as efficient as possible, and others offered the option to be discharged from the service or transferred to infantry.

So far, about 1,000 prisoners on each side have been exchanged, nearly 500 of whom were connected with the army of the Potomac. The system of exchange inaugurated by our Government is fully reciprocated by the rebel authorities.

A Harrisburg letter of the 16th instant states that Gen. Williams, in command of the Fourth Union regiment, and three 14-pounder Parrot guns, reports small bodies of rebels scattered along the river thence to Cumberland. At New Creek, near Cumberland, there are four regiments, while 7,000 or 8,000 are at Patterson's Creek, eight miles below Cumberland. Gen. Kelley is at Cumberland. He has three full batteries, besides several independent batteries. The rebel General Jackson is near Bath with 5,000 men and 27 guns. The Ohio and Indiana troops express a warm desire for Gen. Rosecrans to be put in command at Cumberland, and say that with 30,000 men he would whip Jackson, take Winchester, and turn the right flank of the enemy at Manassas.

A Fortress Monroe letter of the 12th says as to the Burnside Expedition:—"I presume I shall violate no confidence if I state, on common rumor and belief, that the expedition will rendezvous at Hatteras Inlet, and that Pamlico and Albemarle Sounds will be the immediate fields of operations. Of these operations in detail it is not proper to speak, any further than it is understood that the force, when fairly afloat on the waters of Pamlico Sound, will address itself to Roanoke Island, which is strongly fortified and defended by 2,000 to 3,000 men. I presume the clearing out of the rebels from all the Sounds will follow. It must not be supposed that this is the whole map laid out for the expedition. It will clear away the under-brush, and it will be time enough to record the rest when it takes place."

It is understood that the Ninth New York regiment, Col. Hawkins, now at Hatteras, will accompany the expedition, and possibly the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania regiment, also there.

The Navy Department has received dispatches from Commander Gleason, of the U. S. steamer Mount Vernon, dated off Wilmington, N. C., giving an interesting account of the burning of a light-ship. Having heard that the rebels made use of it as a beacon for guiding vessels in and out of the harbor, and for the purpose of annoying our vessels by hoisting lights at night, he determined to take advantage of a hazy night, with wind off shore, to effect her destruction, and accordingly dispatched a cutter, under command of Acting Master Aleck Allen, with John P. Foot, Coast Pilot, and a crew of five men; and a gig, under command of Acting Master Sturges, and a crew of six men. The boats proceeded within a short distance of the light-vessel on the off side of Fort Caswell. Two officers, a boat-swain's mate and a quartermaster, climbed on board by a rope which was hanging at the side. The light-boat was quite deserted. Carpenters had been at work. The vessel was being pierced for eight guns. No attempt was made to molest the expedition until they had kindled a fire, which effectually destroyed the light-ship. The fort did not open upon our boats until they were nearly out of harm's way.

The rebel steamer Gordon is on the stocks for repairs, according to the reports of "contrabands" on board the Mount Vernon, on account of the damage received in her encounter with the Mount Vernon in December. The Augusta, Commander Parrot, captured the

schooner Island Belle off Nassau, laden with sugar and molasses, about twelve miles southeast of Bull's Island Light. She had a clearance for Baltimore, but when first seen was standing in for Bull's Bay. The Island Belle was built at Charleston in 1861, and called the Gen. Ripley, and on her certificate of British registry bears date November 4, 1861. Commander Parrot sent her to New York.

Advices from Port Royal state that the expedition toward Savannah was in progress.

Reconnoitering parties have proceeded beyond Tybee Island, with apparatus for removing obstructions from rivers and creeks south of Savannah river. It is understood that the land force would consist of 10,000 men, and also that Moiram Inlet would be the first destination of the expedition. The railway progressed across Hilton Head Island.

The Steamer Isabel was much damaged by the shells of the Mohican while running the blockade. One shell knocked off her entire stern, and she hardly got in afloat. The fog was dense, but she was discovered by the sailing gunboat Roebuck. The Mohican slipped her cable, and chased her under the batteries of Morris Island. The Isabel returned the fire, but without avail.

The De Soto had arrived there with the French war steamer Milan, disabled, in tow, the De Soto having run into her at the mouth of the Mississippi, on account of her acting in a suspicious manner. It was proved that she was permitted by Government to ascend the river and take off several families desirous of leaving Jeff's dominions. She had no light when run into.

It is confidently asserted that General Wool has sent notice to General Huger at Norfolk to remove the women and children from that city.

Information has been received that the rebels have abandoned Roanoke Island in Pamlico Sound. It is also said to-day that they are preparing to evacuate Yorktown. The latter is not generally credited.

The gunboat Rhode Island arrived from Galveston on the 18th. Her dates are Galveston, December 28th; Ship Island, December 31st; Mobile Bar, December 31st; and Fort Pickens, January 2d. She brings a large mail. The gunboats St. Louis, New London, and Water Witch, left Ship Island for Biloxi, December 31st. The result was not learned; but as the Rhode Island was leaving, the New London was seen returning with three schooners in tow.

The schooner Venus was captured off Galveston by the Rhode Island. She was bound from Point Isabel for Franklin, La., with a cargo of tin, copper, lead, and wood, valued at \$10,000. She was sent to Ship Island.

The rebel steamer Florida is inside Horn Island. The gunboat Wissahickon is off that place.

The rebel batteries at Pensacola having repeatedly fired at our small vessels, Fort Pickens opened on the rebel steamer Times, which was loading stores at the Navy Yard, on the 1st of January. The rebel batteries responded, and the firing was continued till evening, Fort Pickens firing the last shot. The rebel guns were well aimed, and most of their shells burst inside of our fort. Only one of our men, however, was wounded. One of our shots made a large breach in Fort Barancas. In the evening our firing set Warrington on fire. The conflagration continued all night, and the place was still burning on the evening of the 2d inst., when the Rhode Island left. The fire was seen at a distance of thirty-five miles at sea.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

THE results of the various conferences held in Washington, by Representatives from the Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce and Banking Institutions of our leading cities, among themselves and Secretary Chase, may be summed up briefly, as follows:

- 1st. The general views of Secretary Chase are assented to.
2d. The Banks will receive and pay out United States Notes freely, and sustain in all proper ways their credit.
3d. The Secretary will issue, within the next two weeks, in addition to the current daily payment of \$1,500,000 of United States Notes, the further sum of \$30,000,000, in '73 bonds, to such public creditors as desire to have them, and thus relieve the existing pressure upon the community.
4th. The issue of United States demand notes are not to be increased beyond the \$50,000,000 now authorized; but it is desired that Congress will extend the provisions of the existing loan acts, so as to enable the Secretary to issue in exchange for the United States demand notes, or in payment to creditors, notes payable in one year, leaving 3.65 per cent interest, and convertible into 7.30 three years bonds, or to borrow under the existing provisions to the amount of \$250,000,000 or \$300,000,000.
5th. It is thought desirable that Congress should enact a general law, relating to currency and banking associations, embracing the general provisions recommended by the Secretary in his report.
6th. It is expected that this action and the Legislature will render the making of the United States demand notes a legal tender, or their increase beyond the \$50,000,000, now authorized, unnecessary.

The U. S. Treasurer's last weekly statement shows that the total amount on deposit was \$7,700,000, on which drafts had been drawn to the amount of \$6,000,000. The bullion fund is \$1,102,000. The available balance in the States under insurrectionary control, is stated at \$4,500,000.

The President, on the 16th, submitted to Congress the following documents relative to the Trent affair: COUNT RECHBERG TO THE CHEVALIER HULSEMAN. [TRANSLATION.]

VISNAU, December 19, 1861.

To the Chevalier A. Hulseman, Washington.—SIR: The difference which has supervened between the Government of the United States and Great Britain, in consequence of the arrest of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, made by the Captain of the American ship-of-war San Jacinto, on board the English mail packet Trent, has not failed to fix the most serious attention of the Imperial Court. The more importance we attach to the maintenance of friendly relations between the United States and England, the more must we regret an accident which has come to add so grave a complication to a situation already bristling with so many difficulties. Without having the intention to interfere, upon an examination into the question we nevertheless cannot but acknowledge, according to the right of international law, adopted by all the powers, and which the American Government has often taken as the rule of its conduct, England could not in any wise in the present case refrain from reclamation against the affront given to the flag, and for asking proper preparation for it. It seems to us, moreover, that the request reduced to form by the Cabinet of St. James, has in it nothing offensive to the Cabinet at Washington, and that it will enable them to do an act of equity and moderation without the least sacrifice of dignity, by

taking counsel from rules which guide international relations, as well as from considerations of enlightened policy, rather than from manifestations produced by our excited national feelings.

The Government of the United States, we are gratified to hope, will bring into its appreciation of the case all the calmness which its importance demands, and will deem it proper to take a position which, while preserving from rupture two great powers, which Austria is equally bound in friendship, will be such as to prevent the disturbance to which eventually the war could not fail to bring, not only upon each of the contending parties, but upon the affairs of the world generally.

You will please, sir, to bring the preceding reflections to Mr. Seward's notice, and make a report to us of the manner in which the Minister may receive your communication. Accept, sir, the assurances of my distinguished consideration. RECHBERG.

MR. SEWARD TO CHEVALIER HULSEMAN. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, January 9, 1862.

To the Chevalier Hulseman.—SIR: I have submitted to the President the note which you left with me, which was addressed to you on the 18th of December, by Count Rechberg, touching the affair of the capture and detention of the British steamer Trent, by Capt. Wilkes, of the San Jacinto. I send you a copy of the correspondence which has passed on this exciting subject between this Government, France and England, and I have to request that you will transmit these papers to Count Rechberg.

The Imperial government will learn from these two important facts: First, That the United States are not only incapable for a moment of seeking to disturb the peace of the world, but are deliberate and friendly in their intercourse with all foreign nations; and secondly, that they will not be unfaithful to their traditions and policy, and advocate the broadest liberality in the application of the principle of international law to the conduct of maritime warfare.

The United States, faithful to the sentiments, and while at the same time faithful to their political Constitution, will rejoice that the occasion which has given rise to this correspondence is a law of nations, which will render more definite and certain the regulations and obligations of States in time of war. I shall esteem it a favor, sir, if you will charge yourself with the care of expressing these sentiments to your government, and at the same time assure Count Rechberg that the President appreciates very highly the cordiality and frankness which the Government of Austria has practiced on an occasion of such great welfare to the United States.

I avail myself of the circumstances to offer to you, sir, renewed assurances of my very high consideration. W. H. SEWARD.

Mr. Cameron has been confirmed as Minister to Russia, by a vote of 28 to 14.

The President has said that he will not accept Gen. Sigel's resignation, except as a last resort. He accounts him a valuable officer, and will spare no pains to retain him in the service.

Lieutenant-Governor Fisk, and other prominent citizens of Kentucky, have been in Washington, and succeeded in obtaining 5,000 carbines, for the use of their State and Tennessee.

The Senate Committee on Military Affairs have for several weeks past been engaged in the examination of 1300 or 1400 army appointments, of all grades, made by the President during the recess, and which have been submitted by him for confirmation. Early this week, that body will consider in executive session such of them as have received favorable action of the Committee.

The number of Brigadier-Generals is nearly 70, including the recent appointments of N. J. T. Dana, of Minnesota, and Jos. Shields, of California. All the Brigadier-Generals will be recommended for prompt commission except twelve or fourteen, and these will be reserved for future consideration for the Committee. It is believed that good habits and morals, as much as competency and bravery, have not been overlooked in the appointments. In some cases of doubt, the Committee have been voluntarily supplied with documents to aid them in coming to a favorable conclusion.

Complaints have been made relative to the jail regulation of Col. Lamon, Marshal of the District of Columbia, who acted under the advice of high legal authority. It appears that the reason of the regulations have either been misunderstood, or his motives not known in requiring Members of Congress to procure passes from the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House. It was to facilitate rather than obstruct their entrance into that heretofore unattractive institution, in thus making known to the prison guard the official standing of visitors, and securing their prompt admission.

Notwithstanding the absence of any cause for serious apprehensions of a foreign war, it is the desire of the Government, and the Commanding General, that the militia of all the loyal States shall be fully and efficiently organized; and in this connection Gen. McClellan strongly urges the organization and the practical preparation of artillery corps in all the seaport and lake towns, with a view to have in readiness for any emergency an effective body of well-drilled artilleryists, for the defence of our harbors and coasts. It is designed that these corps shall be provided with guns and equipments, and to be paid by the United States whenever called into actual service.

The Committee appointed by Congress on the conduct of the war, has resolved to advise the immediate passage of the bill to punish with death any person who commits a fraud upon the Government whereby a soldier is bodily injured—as for instance, in the sale of unsound provisions. Also, to punish with imprisonment and confiscation of all property and Government dues, all contractors who, in any way, defraud the Government in the quality of goods sold, or services pretended to be rendered to the Government.

The Government Contract Investigating Committee are now engaged on the subject of alleged frauds in this vicinity. They discover that some horses have been twice sold to the Government. Superintendents and Inspectors have been bribed to certify to the horses, sometimes selling them to private individuals; that the enormous amounts paid by the War Department for transportation, has induced strong competition among railroad companies, so that many of the Colonels in the West, in moving their regiments East, have received, each, from \$1,000 to \$2,000 bonus; that some sutlers are making \$3,000 profit per month; that nearly all of the sutlers south of the Potomac sell liquor with the knowledge of the officers; that it is smuggled in boxes marked government and hospital stores, or packed in barrels marked beef. Rumors are rife as to the discovery of frauds committed by those who have been raising and equipping regiments. Double rations and other supplies have been drawn, for a force on paper not regularly recruited. It is understood that the contracts let out by Secretary Cameron for over 1,000,000 of Springfield muskets, and 250,000 rifles and carbines, will be ordered to be annulled by Congress. They will not be available in the present war, and as they are to cost, on an average, \$7 each above manufacturers' prices, they involve the loss of nearly \$9,000,000 to the treasury.

THE NORTHERN LIGHTS.

They shone like lightning over head, They flashed along from shore to shore, The bright reflection of their red Crimsons the streets of Baltimore; And the men who saw, serene and clear, Their progress through the heavenly heights, Made the world ring with cheer on cheer, Crying, "Behold the Northern Lights!"

The Story-Teller.

LITTLE BROWN FACE IN THE FIRE: OR, HOW A BACHELOR WAS WON.

My cousin, Arthur Langley, was a confirmed bachelor—at least, so he said, and so all his acquaintances believed; but why he was so was a profound mystery. He was rich, handsome, of unexceptionable family, and entirely independent of control. Without being a scholar, he was well informed; without having dabbled in art, he was an ardent and intelligent admirer of its works; and his address, though not strictly polished, was singularly fascinating. I often wondered that he remained so gentle and unaffected amid the unceasing homage which he had received from his birth. As a child, nothing in or out of the house was too good for "Mars. Arthur," and his negro nurse hid, lied, and stole for him in a manner which threatened seriously to confuse his notions of right and wrong. As a boy, at school, and a youth at college, he won universal favor, and he had scarcely entered society when he became an acknowledged idol. Countless were the superb dresses, the jewels and laces which were selected and worn with reference to his supposed preferences, and numberless were the books read upon his chance recommendation. Many a drawing and singing master was aided in his toilsome way by the recollection of this favorite beau, and his random word helped more than one sady-eyed foreigner—French and Italian—to fill his classes with remunerative if not studious pupils. But I could not perceive that Arthur felt the slightest touch of the grand passion, and in time the girls grew tired of their worship, and looked about for less impracticable subjects for their charms.

Rumor was busy with the cause of such marvelous indifference. The spiteful said he was scheming for money; the sentimental, that death had cut off the object of his choice; and the romantic—owing, I fear, to sly hints dropped by myself—believed that he had fallen in love with a portrait in the shop of a picture-dealer in Florence, and that he was seeking the original in sorrowful earnestness. Nothing could well be further from the truth than these conjectures, for the simple fact was that he had never seen the most lovable side of womanhood. His mother died when he was very young, and his aunt, a wealthy and stylish widow, took charge of the household. She fancied herself a model of fidelity, and she did really live up to her own standard, which was not oppressively high. She counted the silver every Saturday, dusted daily the rare and delicate decorations of the drawing-rooms, attended scrupulously to the fitting of the children's clothing, and never failed to be present during their dancing lessons. When my uncle fell ill, she fidgeted about his room in tasteful morning dress, and when he died she attended him to his grave in becoming mourning. Josephine Langley profited by her precept and example. She was strikingly beautiful, and she became elegant and accomplished. After reigning in society one season she married a millionaire, who would have sneered at the possibility of loving his own wife, and who married her simply because she would be an appropriate finish to his magnificent mansion. There Arthur saw a cold, glittering selfishness running through word and deed. He saw it in silly extravagance and reckless waste, in time and money withheld from the poor and suffering to be lavished in self-indulgence, in petty quarrels, harsh recriminations, and mean compliances. The spectacle disgusted him, and when, in the brilliant circle in which he moved, he found one lovely girl becoming more pleasing to him than another, he recalled some scene witnessed beneath the roof of his brother-in-law, and the tenderness faded from his dream, and his air-castles vanished. So he tried to content himself with his bachelor establishment—a suite of noble rooms in a great lodging-house. His cook, Pierre, was fat, dexterous, and thievish; and Adolphe, his body-servant, helped Pierre drink his wine, and wore his shirts and waistcoats. I disliked Pierre, but Adolphe was my abomination—there was so much self-conceit under his demure and reverential manner, and such cool cunning under his pretended eagerness to serve. More than once I attempted to procure his dismissal, but Arthur said that the rascal amused him; that he took him for his skill, not his honesty, and that he should keep him as long as he could maintain undisputed possession of his hats, boots and gloves.

Affairs stood thus when Mr. Hamilton, a distant connection of the family, invited Arthur to spend a week with him in the country at "The Grove"—so he had named his estate. Owing to a mistake in the date of the invitation, Arthur arrived sooner than he was expected, and all the guest-chambers were occupied, so that he was put in Jennie Hamilton's, she having gone out for the night. He was conscious of a peculiar pleasure the moment he entered the apartment, although he could not perceive its cause. A cheerful wood fire blazed on the wide hearth, sending a ruddy light to the four corners, deepening the hue of the crimson curtains, and giving a mellow tint to the light-colored paper, the toilette service, and the drapery of the bed. In front was a lady's sewing-chair, and near it, on a rosewood stand, was

a brown work-basket, its bag tied with scarlet ribbons, the long ends of which fell over the edge with a coquettish grace. The cover was partially lifted, for Jennie had been called in haste to visit a poor old woman in the neighborhood, and had left behind her two or three slight marks of the hurry of her departure. The desire to examine it was irresistible, and— I regret to confess it— Arthur peeped. How daintily and yet how convenient every thing was within! The very genius of comfort sat in the glittering thimble, nestled in the housewife with its needles, its scissors of various sizes, its wax and tapes, and glanced from the spools smoothly packed in the inlaid spool-box. A new thought came into Arthur's mind, and the popularity of a true union between usefulness and taste presented itself to him for the first time. How wonderful the revelation appeared to him! In the eagerness of discovery his scruples vanished. First he drew out a neatly-mended stocking. He handled it as if it had been some rare piece of jewelry, and turned it over and over again, marking every winding of the emmeshing and strengthening threads, which at the moment shone to his eyes with a luster like that of pearls. Then he kicked off one of his slippers, and perceived that the great toe was just pushing through the yielding silk, and that the second was striving to keep it company. His other slipper followed the first, but the foot was in no better case, for the heel was visible through its gray covering. "I must buy a new package of hose to-morrow," he said, with a half sigh. Turning again to the basket he took up a cambric handkerchief, hemmed with machine-like precision, but without the stiffness that machinery imparts to its work. Arthur placed his own beside it, observed the edge unevenly turned and coarsely basted, and indulged himself in another gentle sigh. Finally he lifted a vest, the size of which showed it to be Mr. Hamilton's, and which had renewed its youth under a judicious process of binding, new buttoning, and button-holing. A third sigh was audible, and Arthur, after carefully replacing the articles, went to the study-table. Upon one end of it were a quantity of artist's materials, and lying among them was a comic pen-and-ink sketch of a domestic incident, which told the story with considerable spirit. Opposite was an open writing-desk, evidently much used, and with unmistakable marks of travel on its polished sides. Arthur bent down and read on the plate, "Jennie Hamilton, from E. F." Who was "E. F.?" Was he a man? Possibly, although the appointments, so far as they were visible, were exquisite. Would a man have selected such a one? It was Parisian in make, and Jennie had many traveled acquaintances. Edward Framlingham had been to Europe three times. He was the very man to have made such a present. Yes, Ned did make it. That was as clear as daylight. Sly fox, that Ned! and Arthur was conscious of a faint feeling of dislike to his old friend.

A knock at the door aroused him, and a servant entered with an apology and went to the closet on an errand for her mistress. She did not wait to shut the door, but gave it a push, the current from which sent a cloud of delicate muslin into dangerous proximity to the mantel lamp. A new temptation beset Arthur. Doubtless he should have turned his head aside when he replaced the fleecy folds, but he did not such thing. He paused at the entrance to the closet, and feasted his eyes upon its contents. A dozen cambric skirts, white as snow, and without any other embellishment than a broad hem at the bottom, and a half-dozen prettily-stitched white flannel ones, boldly confronted him. Across the end hung two black silk dresses, (and he preferred a black silk to any other dress,) a Mazarin blue and a dark brown one. Opposite there hung a narrow thibet, and a gay cashmere morning robe, with buttons, and laces, and tasseled cords, contrasted with the soft fall of the summer apparel, to protect which was his ostensible business at the press. Beneath were boxes large and small, but closely shut, and a narrow shelf covered with pretty slippers, jaunty gaiters, walking boots, snow-shoes, rubbers—in short, with samples of all the accepted styles of protection for the foot in all seasons of weather. Not a speck of dust was to be seen, nothing was awry, and regard was had, consciously or unconsciously, to the general effect in the harmonious arrangement of colors. Even the minutest details indicated thorough self-respect. For years Arthur had enjoyed nothing more than that long gaze into Jennie's closet, half-spoiled though it was by the consciousness of the ill-breeding of the act.

His survey was not yet completed. He scanned the book-case narrowly, and carefully noted the volumes which it contained. All were in plain covers except a few presentation copies, holiday gifts, and illustrated works. There were many poets, English and American, with india-ink illustrations more or less finished up, placed between the leaves. There were translations also from the Greek and Roman authors, a few standard histories, choice criticisms, and studies in art, some of the best manuals of natural science, and many religious writings of different eras and various creeds.

Arthur nodded approval to each, rolled an easy chair to the hearth, and looked steadily into the glowing coals. Presently a little brown face appeared against the dazzling background. It was very plain, but it was crowned with smooth braids of shining hair, and the honest countenance was lighted by a pair of earnest, truthful eyes, which could look through and abash falsehood wherever it might be met. A falling brand obscured it for a moment, then it grew brighter than ever, and silently lifting itself, brought to view the figure that belonged to it. It was not a stylish one, but it was round and trim, and it was arrayed in a well-fitting robe of simple material, edged at the neck and wrists with collar and cuffs of glossy linen. The new comer bore a striking resemblance to Jennie Hamilton, and flitted about with an unembarrassed air which bespoke her ownership of the surroundings. Smiling upon Arthur in a manner which made his heart beat as it had never done before, she drew the sewing-chair to his side, put the work-basket on a cricket at her feet, and picking up his handkerchief rehemmed it, chatting the while upon such topics as naturally presented themselves. Never had the flight of white and jeweled fingers over the keys of a piano or the strings of a harp bewitched Arthur like the movements of those small brown ones managing the needle with such dexterous grace; and never had he found small talk so agreeable as that light midnight gossip. He tried to beguile his visitor into a prolonged stay, and brought out his choicest anecdotes one after another, until she, thinking one of them especially picturesque, dropped the kerchief, and seizing a pencil, illustrated it with a few rapid and graphic strokes. As she placed it within her desk a handful of letters fell out. The superscription was Ned Framlingham's. A pang of jealousy shot through Arthur's heart. He sprang to his feet, and lo! the

vision had vanished, the fire was out, and he was shaking with cold, and cramped with his uncomfortable posture in the deep arm-chair.

The next morning Jennie was missing, and all life seemed to have gone from the breakfast table. She was accustomed to preside, and her beaming good humor and nice tact imparted a singular zest to the meal, and dismissed the circle well pleased to the day's duties. Now, Mrs. Hamilton took her place, but she was infirm in health, and a servant poured the coffee so awkwardly that all the aroma seemed to exhale from it, filled the bowls too full, and let a few drops fall into the saucers in a slovenly manner. Conversation flagged, and there was no one to suggest new subjects, or to draw out the guests on the old. Luckily, Jennie returned before the close of the breakfast hour, and the atmosphere was speedily changed. She had watched with the sick woman, but the crisis of the disease was passed, and, walking home in the clear frosty air, she had gathered a few bright thorn leaves and some clusters of scarlet berries, which she put in her brown hair, and which set off—if anything could be said to do so—her Spanish complexion and happy countenance. Arthur silently compared her appearance with that of his sister after a grand party, and gained a still deeper insight into the connection between labor and beauty. Suddenly everybody wanted more coffee, which they would take from no hand but Jennie's. Fresh muffins and toast were ordered, eggs and anecdotes went round and round, and the meal ended with bursts of hearty laughter.

A party had been arranged for the evening, one of those miscellaneous gatherings of old and young which country people like to get together. It was to be composed of almost all the neighboring acquaintances of the several families then in the house—uncles, aunts, and cousins, up from the city, to enjoy the present for the sake of the old times. "How will they get on without Jennie?" said Arthur to himself; "she must sleep this morning, at least." He had yet to learn that Jennie was never self-indulgent when the wishes or needs of another called her to activity. He had a hint of this when, in a game of romps with the children, he permitted himself to be led into the kitchen, where he found her deep in jellies and oysters, cake, and trifles of innumerable kinds, and when, returning from the woods at the head of a merry train laden with evergreens, she planned the decorations of the rooms, as lavish of care and thought as if she had spent the previous night in bed, like the uproarious troop around her. She was absent from the tea table, but she was ready for the earliest of the evening guests, dressed in one of those black silks with which Arthur had made acquaintance in her closet, and for ornament only a knot of gay ribbon and her garland of thorn.

Arthur did his best to make himself agreeable to his young hostess, but she told him that he was at home, and must take care of himself, or, if he would be very good, he might help her to amuse the children. The latter was certainly a novel suggestion, but Arthur was fast falling in love, and finding it impossible to keep away from his charmer, he established himself as her aid, ordinary and extraordinary. There was a whole room full of boys and girls, and Jennie and Arthur soon found themselves busy enough. They danced with the little people until the elders wanted the large parlors, and then played games of every kind, served them with refreshments, that no shy one should be overlooked, shawled, and bonneted, and hatted them, and fairly saw them into the carriage and out of the grounds.

By some unknown process one of the guest chambers had been vacated for Arthur, who moved unwillingly from his fascinating quarters. He grumbled about it to himself in a manner which the arrangement by no means justified. He said that he hated guest chambers—they always had an uninhabited aspect; and then he smiled as he remembered that Mr. Hamilton's were seldom empty. He fancied it was chilly, but the thermometer stood at eighty. It was on the cold side of the house, he argued, but the curtain of crimson damask effectually shut out the north star and its circling constellations, and he smiled a second time at his folly. "Tis the books that are wanted, he suggested, but moving uneasily in his chair he beheld a glass door closing a recess in the wall, and ranged behind it were most of his favorite authors, from Chaucer to Hawthorne. He reluctantly confessed that he needed only an atmosphere warmed and vitalized by Jennie's presence to make everything else delightful.

The period appointed for Arthur's visit passed but too quickly, and his return home was anything but pleasurable. He found Adolphe no longer amusing, and Pierre's dishonesty unendurable. His beautiful apartment looked cheerless. He wanted the basket and sewing chair more than ever. He bore it awhile, and then wrote to Mr. Hamilton that he was lonely and blue, and longed to get back to the cheerful country house.

"Poor fellow," said Mr. Hamilton, "it is shocking dull, this living in chambers. I tried it myself once, and came near hanging myself. And it is very cheerful here, as Arthur says. He may come, mayn't he, mother, and stay as long as he likes?" Mrs. Hamilton, who never differed from her spouse in hospitable intentions, answered "Yes;" and the return mail carried an intimation to Arthur that he was welcome to a plate and bed at "The Grove" at any and all times.

There was a something vastly suspicious in the manner of Arthur's setting out for this second visit. A hamper of excellent wine just received from a friend in Europe preceded him, because it happened to be of a kind that Mr. Hamilton had commended. Bruno, the great dog, accompanied him, because Jennie liked dogs; and among his luggage was a trunk filled with choice engravings and objects of art, while a fine saddle horse followed him, ostensibly because he could not be trusted at the stables, but really intended as a present to Jennie, should it appear probable that she would accept the gift.

I heard pretty regularly from Arthur during the winter, his letters being dated from "The Grove" as frequently as from his chambers; but I could only infer from their general tone that affairs were progressing hopefully. One morning, however, in the following spring, upon entering a jeweler's shop, I perceived one of the proprietors in close attendance upon a young man, who was standing with an open jewel case before him, and giving minute directions for the resetting of some magnificent pearls. "Arthur!" I exclaimed, and in a minute Arthur was whispering, "Congratulations, coz—I have won her!"

And so Jennie Hamilton, without beauty, or style, or fortune, married my admired and petted cousin; and from that day to this he has uttered fervent thanksgivings that the lovable home side of womanhood was revealed to him before he had been captivated by mere outside show, or had become too old to accept the deep and lasting happiness which it never fails to yield.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH.

BY CHAR. D. BRADGON.

[Mr. BRADGON, President of the Chicago Garden-er's Society, delivered the following address of welcome before the Illinois State Horticultural Society, on the occasion of its recent meeting in Chicago. It has not yet been published as delivered. The following is a corrected copy:]

"Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Illinois State Horticultural Society:—A talented woman once wrote: 'What is done interests me more than what is thought or supposed. Every fact is impure, but every fact contains in it the juices of life. Every fact is a seed, from which may grow an amaranth or a palm.'

"May I not greet you, sir, and gentlemen, as representatives of a class to which this woman, by her confession, belonged—a class who read romance in reality, philosophy and poetry in fact, and the record of truth in all things—who revel in the wonderful disclosures which follow the study of nature and natural law, reap rich harvests of pure enjoyments in the peaceful pursuits to which you are so devoted, who, to use a hackneyed couplet:

"Find tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, Scrimous in stones, and good in every thing."

"May I not welcome you to our city and to our hospitalities, as diligent searchers after truth? For truth, like nature, is permanent—is enduring. And I may add, pertinently, I trust, that this search for truth is the work of this life—the Alpha and Omega of our mission here!

"It is to be sought out and adopted—searched for as for hidden treasure, and with a zeal corresponding to that with which we follow after comparative dross.

"Truth is worthy the labor mankind expend in finding it. It is omnipotent and omnipresent. It is every where in nature, and as powerful as it is constant in the exercise of its power. It surrounds us, molds our life, controls our existence—is material to our existence.

"Truth is sweet, palatable, profitable—always sweet to the honest man, palatable to the upright, and profitable to all men. It is beautiful, too. Shafsbury wrote a great truth when he wrote, 'the most natural beauty in the world is honesty and moral truth.' And he might have added—all truth is beautiful.

"Again, I say, it is to be sought for everywhere and by everybody. No one is released from the responsibility of this work in life, for it is the test by which we fix the standard value of all things and theories, physical substances, and metaphysical nonentities. "Every bud that bursts, every tiny grass blade that springs from the rested and winter nourished earth, every pebble and every dew drop, every germ of a new life, is a truth, and involves a multitude of other truths in its existence.

"Causation says: 'The study of truth is perpetually joined with a love of virtue, for there is no virtue which derives not its original from truth. Truth is the foundation of all knowledge, and the cement of all society.' Its study, therefore, involves virtue and begets knowledge; it is something to do to secure it and adopt it. We are to seek it for its own sake—seek it for the good it may do us—seek it for the power it will give us to do good to others—seek it everywhere and constantly.

"Colton says: 'Pure truth, like pure gold, has been found unfit for circulation, because men have found it far more convenient to adulterate the truth than to refine themselves. They will not advance their minds to the standard, therefore they lower the standard to their minds.'

"This may be true of the language of truth, abstractly, and Colton's words will be appreciated by such of you as have much commerce with men; but it will be found that the great natural truths which underlie success in all the departments of human life, directly dependent upon them, must become current; not only so, but so familiar to us all that we shall be able to detect the genuine from the counterfeit, and reject the adulterated.

"Something must be done to obtain this result. We are all convinced of it. We have ample experience teaching us the fact; our interests demand it; we feel the pressure of circumstances—circumstances which we have not the power to control—daily. We have not the power, because we have not the knowledge which gives the power—we submit per force to circumstances—and how tamely do we submit! Where is our patient, persistent effort to dig up the truth or class of truths that shall bring us to relief?

"We have enemies—open and secret enemies. They prey upon us, destroy our substance, neutralize our labor, dishearten and disarm us! Why? Because we do not know them—do not know the truths which illumine the laws that govern them— which disclose to us the guise in which they come to torment us, and the character of their weapons. How shall we meet them, and what must be the order of battle, what the mode of attack? and what will be the result of a victory on either side? It is plain, if we study our own interests, that the causes which contribute to our adversity must be sought out and removed. The incidental growth of weeds and hedgerows in the way of our progress must be hewn down and uprooted.

"We have friends—open and secret friends, known and unknown, appreciated and unappreciated— friends that labor for us, promote our interests, minister to our comfort, and aid in the supply of our wants. They often come in disguise, and we too often repel them. They are a good providence to us. They prey upon our enemies, and surround and defend us from them. They linger about the homestead, and in the orchard, garden and field, they labor for us. They are active ministers to our comfort—faithful and true agents. It is important we should know them. It is imperative that we learn to distinguish our friends from our enemies. The search for truth involves the acquisition of this knowledge. And I do not underestimate any man's knowledge, when I aver that only the A B C of the truths that affect our life and prosperity, as a producing people, have been learned.

"This, then, I think, is the character of the work before us—the intent that has gathered us together. "In behalf, therefore, of the Society I have the honor to represent, and the lovers of horticultural truth in this city, and as co-laborers, miners, delvers after truth, I give you good greeting, and a right cordial welcome to Chicago."

THE mind is like a trunk. If well packed, it holds almost everything; if ill packed, next to nothing.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Inclosed you will find an enigma for insertion in your columns at pleasure. It will be a little different from those you generally use, and 'twill be rather difficult to work out:

- I AM composed of 84 characters. 1st. My 69, 74, 2, 8, 30, 11, 38, 52, 4, 38, 11, 84, 64, 37, 70 is a query generally asked by my 17, 20, 27, 58, 3, 42 on the advent of my 30, 8, 51, 1, 35, 16, 61, 28, 37 into society. 2d. My 32, 7, 64, 10, 25, 22, 52, 13, 69, 36, 55 is a short sentence which is, at certain times, used with great effect by my 11, 67, 27, 12, 24, 9, 61, 28, 57, 42 who have marriageable daughters, to the discomfiture of their 26, 23, 66, 44, 47. 3d. My 81, 63, 73, 3, 51, when placed before my 81, 23, 48, 80, represents a time long to be remembered by all American citizens. 4th. My 81, 62, 12 is in the singular number, but if my 84 be added, it becomes plural. 5th. My 46, 32, 68, 28 is a name which ought to be held dear by every 31, 71, 42, 21, 60, 87, 27; but when my 65, 8, 52, 17, 27, 9, 78, 51 use it, it is changed to that of my 61, 11, 1, 14, 5, 41. 6th. My 16, 38, 39, 19, 50 comes next before my 21, 78, 43, 16, but my 11, 36, 62, 70, 24 comes last of all. 7th. My 68, 60, 20, 37, 84, 10 are due by my 59, 72, 44, 5, 18, 24, 63, 41, 32, 38, 1, 74 to my 54, 22, 18, 72, 3, 42, 14; that is, all who have stood up manfully for my 69, 80, 19, 59, in this time of our country's 27, 68, 74, 13, 72, 5, 10, 42. 8th. My 26, 69, 37, 40, 71, 8 bears the same relation to my 29, 69, 45, 22 that my 82, 48, 79 bears to the sum of my 29, 58, 12, 48, 78, and my 23, 54, 32, 9, 1, 48, 75. 9th. My 33, 28, 42, 71, 10 was the means of raising my 67, 56, 49, 16, 41, 44, 74 from the 30, 9, 24, 45, 62 to 4, 32, 29, 16, thereby causing great excitement among the 33, 3, 6, 42. 10th. My 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83 is another form of expressing my 1, 46, 5, 51, 7, 48, 13, 19, 9, 15, 61, 32, 67, 4, 58, 38, 37, 10, 12, 11, 44, 72, 2, 71, 37, 62, 57; 22, 27, 16, 37, 52, 29, 64, 68, 7, 48, 74, 69, 47, 6, 60, 11, 71, 42, 66, 87, 27, 42, 78, 45, 56, 51, 2, 44, 37, 62, 9, 28, 27, 50, 37, 27, 55, 32, 30, 64, 68, 48, 51, 32, 37, 55. 11th. By using my 39, 5, 67, 42, 22, 45, 55, 72, 16, 51, 26, 62, and my 82, 37, 20, 28, 61, 44, 68, 1, 48, this enigma may be worked. 12th. My 27, 62, 7, 36, 11, 38, 57, 15 conducts one of the best papers for the benefit of my 68, 20, 72, 61, 3, 41, 10 that has ever been published in 13, 2, 55, 74, 6, 24, 43, 8, 42. 13th. Take away my 14, 73, 20, 27, my 26, 38, 52, 48, and my 31, 14, 37, 27, 42, together with my 24, 41, 10, 10, my 29, 5, 8, 63, and my 35, 56, 30, 74 from my 61, 17, 61, 50, 37, 68, 41, 56, 36, 28, and nothing will remain. 14th. My 39, 66, 44, 4, 2 was once called 38, 73, 9, 65, 44, 41, 58, 44, 10, and my 21, 66, 37, 17, 16, 26, 66, 42 was called 33, 44, 18, 69, 1, 28, 72, because they were supposed to be 70, 11, 27, 42 instead of men.

My whole may be divided in two parts, without the first of which no love-letter could be written, nor no newspaper printed. Nearly all of my first part was used in writing the Declaration of Independence. My last part is of so much use to all of us that we could not do without it very well. It pleases the possessor to know it well, and those who have not a knowledge of it, desire to have. A complete knowledge of my whole is seldom attained, and a partial knowledge of my whole has made many a poor man rich.

Cross Creek Village, Pa., 1862. "WATERMELON." In order that our young readers may have sufficient time to work out the foregoing, the answer will not be published until the 22d of February.

CHARADE.

My first is marked by good or ill, Or is a blessing or a wee; My second does each purpose fill Of use, variety, or show; United, they a thing express That's never found in scenes of pleasure, Whose use a moral may impress, And of the first it is the measure.

Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ARITHMETTICAL PROBLEM.

SOLD a hoghead of 63 gallons of molasses for \$25, and by so doing made as many cents on each gallon as I paid dollars for hoghead. Required, purchase price. January, 1862. Wm. CHAPLIN.

Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 626.

- Answer to Agricultural Enigma.—In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread. Answer to Bouquet of Flowers.—1, Four-o'clock; 2, Fox-Glove; 3, Sweet William; 4, White Lily; 5, Blue Bell; 6, Red Pink; 7, Lady's Slipper; 8, Rich Lydia; 9, Cow-slip; 10, Monkshood; 11, Jessa-mine; 12, Lady of the Lake; 13, Wax Pink; 14, Damask Rose; 15, Larkspur; 16, Rose-Mary; 17, Morning Glory; 18, Car-nation. Answer to Decapitations.—Clock, boat, bull, pear, brook seven, plane, broom, bale, box, bowl, table. Answer to Geometrical Problem.—100.

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