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TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.
CONDUCTED BY **D. D. T. MOORE,**
With a Corps of Able Assistants and Contributors.
G. D. BRADTON, Western Corresponding Editor.

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Agricultural.

ON GROWING BROOK OR SPECKLED TROUT, ARTIFICIALLY.

BY S. E. AINSWORTH, WEST BLOOMFIELD, N. Y.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In your issue of Feb. 28th, Mrs. L. A. R., of La Fayette, Indiana, calls upon you for the best method of constructing fish ponds, the varieties of fish that may be introduced therein, and their general cultivation—for answer to which, you refer to Mr. PAGE, of Sennett, or to myself. I have experience in breeding the *Salmo Fontinalis*, or *Brook Trout*, only—the most beautiful, delicious and sportive of the "finny tribe." What is there more inspiring to the angler than to behold a score of two pound trout laid side by side, before him? They are modeled by Nature in the most perfect form, speckled and colored in the brightest, most exquisite shades, even excelling the finest touches of art.

To give a minute description of the propagation of trout, in all its bearings—the requisite ponds with all their fixtures—would take more space in your paper than you would be willing to devote to Fish Culture—as you know, you editors—although you write long yarns yourselves—want short articles from your correspondents. Hence, I will endeavor to make this article as short as possible, intending some time to give you the results of a more extensive experience. That I may be better understood, I will present the subject under different heads—beginning with the

BEST METHOD OF CONSTRUCTING PONDS.

To grow trout successfully, there must be three ponds, one above the other, in the same stream, if possible, as it saves much time in transferring the "small fry" from one pond to the other, as they increase in size. The object of these ponds is to keep the young trout out of the reach of the larger ones until they are of sufficient size to take care of themselves, which requires two years at least. Pound trout would soon exterminate a pondful of one year olds, if not well fed, and undoubtedly take more or less of them if well fed, so that they would soon run out if left together. The first, or upper pond, is to grow the "small fry" in the first year; the second one for the second year's growth. In the spring of the second year they will generally be large enough to care for themselves—say from seven to nine inches long, and from four to five ounces in weight, if well fed. They may now be turned into the lower, or large pond. The first pond may contain from one to eighty square rods, and be from one to three feet deep, according to amount of water, and number of trout one wishes to grow. The second pond from 300 to 400 square rods, and from two to eight feet deep. The third, or last pond from forty square rods to ten or more acres, and from eight to twenty feet deep. The water in the last pond must be deep if large trout would be grown. From 8,000 to 10,000 trout may be grown in the smallest pond, and from 300,000 upward to 2,000,000 in the largest pond.

The dams for these ponds should be built of stone or earth to be lasting. Earth is much the cheapest. Clay will hold all the water and make a permanent dam. If built of stone, the cheapest way is to build a double wall, laid in quick lime, with two inches space between, and fill the space with water-lime grouting, which will hold the

water through all time. This wall should be in thickness in proportion to its height, say from four to ten feet. These dams can be built partly of stone and partly of earth, as may be desired. At the bottom of each of these dams there should be a flume from six inches to four feet square, according to volume of water; to draw off the water and fish when desired, from one pond to the other; also, to catch and assort the fish for use in the lower pond, and to clear the ponds of grass and filth when necessary—perhaps in from four to eight years. There must also be a flume for waste-water on top, with a wire screen to prevent the trout from running out, or they would soon leave the pond. To hold the young fry, the meshes in the screen must be but little larger than the head of a pin, as these young trout are very tiny when the egg is absorbed, not more than one to one and one-fourth inch long. The first dam must be tight to keep them. The dams will cost from \$50 to \$4,000, depending upon size and quality.

SPAWNING BEDS.

There must be a race leading into each of the two lower ponds from two to ten feet wide, and two to six rods long, with descent enough to produce a gentle, rippling current. The bottom must be covered two or three inches deep with well washed gravel, with a nice screen at each end, to be raised or closed at pleasure. These races should be so constructed that the top of the gravel at the lower end will be on a level with the water in the pond at its lowest stage; and the dams are constructed in such a manner that the water may be raised at will from 12 to 18 inches in the pond and lower end of race. The races are the spawning ground for the trout, in each of the ponds, and every trout will run up into them during the spawning season, to deposit their ova—at which time the eggs may be procured by artificial means, by dropping the screens and taking the fish in a scoop-net. During this season the race should be covered with boards, and all intruders kept away, as they are very shy at this time, although quite tame in the ponds. In like manner races may be built at the lower ends of the ponds by taking the water out along the side of the bank. The trout will find their way down as well as up.

WATER.

The most important thing to be looked to in trout-growing is the amount, purity and temperature of the water. The volume of water should be ample, entirely free from all sediment and all surface water, and at least 40 deg. Fah.—still better at 48 deg.—the temperature of the water in the far-famed Caledonia Springs, where the trout naturally increase and grow faster than in any other place known in the world. This stream, only one mile in length, is fished constantly from the first of April to the first of September, furnishing thousands of pounds, annually, without any apparent diminution, which can only be accounted for by taking into consideration the exceeding purity as well as the high temperature of the water,—the water in the coldest day of winter being 48 deg. in the spring, and 47 deg. in the spawning beds, and 42 deg. generally, in the creek. The small ponds can be supplied by a spring that will fill a two-inch pipe, and so on in proportion to volume, up to the largest named ponds, which should, at least, fill a forty-inch pipe. This will keep the water pure and clear in all the ponds, and the fish in a healthy and vigorous condition.

HATCHING BOXES.

The only sure method of success in hatching the eggs, is to place them in troughs from eight to eighteen inches wide, according to volume of water, six inches deep, and from ten to fifty feet long, with a slight descent—enough to produce a gentle current, but not enough to move the spawn when placed in them. The bottom of these troughs are to be covered with two inches of fine gravel, and clean, coarse sand. These troughs are completed with a lid to cover tightly, and with screens at each end. They are now ready for the water. The water should be from one and a half to two inches deep over the gravel and eggs. The number of these boxes may be increased with the amount of water and number of eggs. The nearer the boxes are to the springs the better. The water from the spring should run directly into a box placed at right angles with the hatching boxes, to be used, say from three to fifteen feet long, twenty inches deep and wide, and drawn from this box through fine screens and spouts into the hatching boxes, graduating the amount of water required in each hatching box, to give the required depth to the

water over the eggs. The boxes are now ready for the eggs.

SPAWNING SEASON.

In my pond, the trout commenced spawning on the 12th of November in 1860, on the 5th in 1861, and on the 3d in 1862, and finished each year from the 10th to the 15th of January. I am informed that in some other sections they commence the first half of October. The female trout seldom come into the race until the very day they begin spawning. As soon as they commence to deposit the ova they should be taken out and the spawn procured artificially.

HOW TO EXTRUDE THE EGGS.

Take out the trout in the race with a net, and place them in baskets, standing in the water, in some convenient place to handle them. Take a pan or pail with three or four inches of water in it from the spring, and place it near the baskets containing the trout. The eggs must be quickly extruded and the trout replaced in the water. This operation must not consume more than one minute if possible. All things being ready a female trout is taken out of the basket with one hand; with the other gently rub the abdomen from the gills downward, and the spawn will flow in a continuous stream into the vessel. Continue the rubbing until the spawn is wholly extruded, then quickly replace the trout in the race, or separate basket. One side of the egg has a small, white speck; here is where the impregnation takes place. This side of the egg being the lightest it always falls this side up ready to receive the milt. We now have in the pail from 400 to 8,000 spawn, according to the age and size of the female. Now take a male trout from the basket, and in like manner, or by the thumb and finger on each side of the abdomen, which requires rather more pressure, extrude the milt. The milt falls upon the water and settles upon the eggs. I usually take from two to four males to impregnate from 2,000 to 3,000 spawn. In like manner I serve all the trout in the baskets. I then place the spawn and milt in shallow vessels, and put the dishes in the spring water, where I allow them to remain in the milt from one to twenty-four hours. Probably one hour is sufficient to insure impregnation. I took from 300 to 10,000 spawn, daily, from the 3d of November to the 10th of January, making, in all, about 130,000 spawn, attended with perfect success. [Concluded on page 137, this number.]

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

TOBACCO IN THE WEST. &c.

JUDGING by the demand for, and the sale of, tobacco seed, the area to be put in tobacco the present season, is going to exceed the expectations of all. Add to this the areas to be put in flax, cotton and sorghum, heretofore devoted to wheat and corn, and the increased attention being paid to wool-growing, and we have before us hopeful indications of progress in Western Agriculture—a promise of release from the thralldom of low prices and high freights. The enormous tax paid by the farmers of the West to transportation agents and currency mongers, has resulted, or is resulting, in a total "change of base," and we are going to turn our attention to growing a greater diversity of products.

The West will not long import sugars. Her sirups are fast becoming an important article of commerce; and with the aid of the Imphee and Sugar Beet, she will soon raise her own sugar. The magnitude which this sugar and sirup interest is attaining, is almost startling—pleasurably so. It is not difficult at all to secure pledges for from five hundred to one thousand acres of cane, providing mills are pledged of adequate capacity to manufacture it. And men of experience and capital are making such pledges.

Cotton will be planted where it has never before grown. And the success of the past year is stimulating the investment of intelligence and skill and capital in its production.

Flax, for its fiber and the oil of its seed, is found profitable. With the improved processes of preparing the fiber for manufacture, the culture of flax promises to be a steadily increasing branch of Western husbandry.

And the West will soon compete with the East in the production of sheep and wool. It will soon be found unnecessary to pay freights on even this raw product, to the seaboard and back, besides sundry commissions, in order to get it manufactured into cloth. We have ample water-power, and an abundance of coal with which to generate steam. Our prairies are underlaid with it. We have enterprise, and

capital is fast seeking Western investment here, at low rates of interest.

These are hopeful signs of the times. For while a greater variety of products is grown, the prices to be paid for corn and wheat will be largely appreciated by this diversion of labor in the production of staples for manufacture. The few bushels of grain will sell for as much as the many did last year; and our dependence upon imports will be greatly diminished. Let Western farmers take courage.

THE SEED-BED.

THE SOIL is the seed-bed. The harvest depends largely upon the condition of the soil at the time of seeding. The success of the husbandman depends much upon the skill with which he prepares the soil for the reception of the seed—upon the condition of the soil when it is worked, and upon the modes of preparation adopted. The time of working and the mode should be such as to secure the most thorough pulverization and complete comminution.

We have fruitful years. The products of a single season have been marvelous. They have given evidence of the capacity of our soils when properly worked. The harvest of 1860 will not soon be forgotten, especially in the West, where the granaries are not yet altogether relieved of the surplus corn of that season. And the condition of soil at the time of seeding had much to do with this harvest. The spring was a most favorable one for farm labor. Crops were got in early, and when the soil was in the best possible condition to work. The winter had left the ground dry and pulverized. The action of the frost had been such as to aid comminution. The spring rains were not so copious as to fill the soil with water. And the growth of grain was marvelous.

But we are not always favored with such natural aids. We are assured of seed-time and harvest. Such seasons teach us the condition the soil should be in at seeding to insure prompt germination and continuous growth. We must use such artificial aids as lie in our reach, to give the seed-bed this desirable condition. The more nearly to realize this condition should be the aim of the grain-grower. Drainage, the right tools to work with, and working the soil at the right time, with the feed that the plants need added, is a compend of the work to be done. Briefly, farmers, prepare the seed-bed properly and put in the seed, and you may safely trust Nature and Nature's God to do the rest.

ABOUT FLAX.—NO. V.

HAVING given my views with regard to the cultivation and manufacture of flax in other countries, founded on my own observations, and information derived from respectable sources, and also as to the benefits already received, and those anticipated, let us now turn our attention to our own country, as to what has already been done in this branch of business, and what might be done provided our Government looked as well to the interests of the laboring classes as does the Government of England. But, I would ask, when has our Government manifested the protecting care over our manufactures that England does toward hers? Not only has that protecting care been withheld, but the vacillating course of legislation which has characterized our National Legislature has been such as to prevent free investment in manufactures by our own capitalists. And, in addition, it entirely prevented foreign capitalists investing in this country when they were so flooded with money in England that Consols, which is ever their standard, gave but three and one-third per cent., while in this country they were sought after at from six to seven per cent. I was often told by capitalists, while in England, that were it not for this vacillating course of legislation, growing out of party strife, we could be furnished with all the capital we could employ in manufacturing, at a smaller interest than was current in this country. So much for the rancorous party feeling in this country, which has now brought us to the verge of ruin. It has served to keep us in the rear of other nations, when, had it been otherwise, we might, in many branches of manufacturing, with our boundless resources, be far in advance of them. It has had a tendency to keep us a consuming people, depending upon foreign manufactures for many articles which could, under a different policy, be produced at home at a cheaper rate. It has made us buyers and consumers of many important articles, of

which we should have been the manufacturers and exporters. As a case in point, I recollect to have heard Governor SEWARD,—who, I believe, is looked upon as one of the few remaining statesmen living at this day,—at a public speech which he made in New York, say that "he had known of instances where iron for our railroads was purchased in England, the cost of transportation of which, from the place where it was made to the place where it was to be used, was greater than would have been the cost of manufacturing it upon the line of road where it was to be laid."

It is not exactly so with linen, because that is of easy transport; but when we consider the vast extent of country we have calculated to produce as fine flax as any in the world, with water-power enough to drive all the machinery in the universe, is it not mortifying to think we depend upon England for most of the linen cloth we make use of, when the same money which we have paid to them, had it been properly employed at home, would have produced more cloth than we imported? Let us look at some of our imports.

In 1842 we imported linen to the amount of \$3,659,184; in 1844, \$4,492,726; in 1848, \$6,644,648; total, \$14,796,558,—equal to \$4,932,186 per year. Who will pretend that had this amount of money been judiciously expended in this country in machinery, material and labor, it would not have produced as much linen as we imported? Then Cotton was King. We exported cotton and imported linen.

I believe that it is now generally admitted by those most conversant with the cultivation of cotton at the South, and flax at the North, that all things being equal, an acre of flax at the North properly managed, will give as great a percentage net profit, as an acre of cotton at the South. If this is so, what prevents our farmers at the North from going into the cultivation of flax, as we see there is already an unlimited market abroad for the raw material, and there will, undoubtedly, be a home market as soon as it is seen that the quantity produced will justify erecting machinery for its manufacture.

As the season is approaching when farmers are preparing for their crops for the coming summer, we would recommend that every farmer should prepare for sowing at least one acre of flax. Many may think that flax seed is too high to begin this year. The very circumstance of flax seed being so high is encouraging for producing it. Both seed and oil produced from it are high in this country and in Europe, which is proof that the produce is not equal to the demand, and as there are no indications of a decrease in the demand, either in this country or Europe, we think the increase of one year's crop will not alter the price materially. Farmers should not wait for any encouragement from Government before they begin in this culture,—it never has done anything, as yet, to encourage the growth and manufacture of flax, and, in all probability, it never will. I was in Washington in 1830, at the time the last report of the Committee on the Manufacture of Linen and Hemp was made, which I have heretofore referred to, of which Committee Judge SPENCER, of Wayne county, N. Y., was Chairman, who told me that he did not think Government intended to do anything more than publish their report for the gratification of the farming community. I think Gen. TALLMADGE, of the American Institute, did more to encourage the manufacture of cloth from flax, by offering his gold medal, than ever our Government has done; and foreign croakers have so long declared that "this Government was better calculated to raise up swindling politicians than patriotic statesmen," that I think many begin to believe it. Yet I hope for better things. Although our Government has done some things, apparently for the benefit of the farmers, yet their execution, being entrusted to men either incompetent to carry out the wishes of the public, or too dishonest to expend the money for what it was appropriated, has proved most decided failures. For instance, the \$75,000 a year for the purchase of choice seeds for free distribution in this country, proved a decided imposition, for never since the celebrated Wm. COBBET came to this country, more than forty years ago, with the refuse and condemned seeds from the house of TURNER & Co., Regent street, London, has there been such an assortment of worthless seeds distributed, as of late, and I think CHARLWOOD, of London, could tell a similar story, if he pleased, to that told by TURNER & Co., respecting the outfit of WILLIAM COBBET. I will admit that I received a large number of packages of seeds from the Patent Office, free of postage, all marked, "Selected by our Special

Agent in Europe," or labels to that effect; among which the only package I received that was of any value was half a pint of "Red-Eyed China Beans," which were worth seventy-five cents per bushel in this market, and I had good reason to suppose that they were not imported, from the slovenly manner in which they were put up.

I have thus digressed from the subject of the cultivation and manufacture of flax, in order to show farmers the fallacy of their looking to Government for any aid in the cultivation or manufacture of flax, and that they must depend upon their own individual exertions for success; but from present appearances there can be little doubt that those who sow upon good ground, well prepared, and properly managed in all the after manipulations, will make flax a profitable crop. Land that produced a good crop of corn last year, and the ground kept clear of weeds is, very suitable for flax; so also are grounds that were cropped with potatoes, and well tilled.

Particular reference should be had at the time of sowing as to the use for which the crop is designed. If for seed only, from one bushel to one bushel and a half will be found sufficient; if for lint, from two to four bushels per acre should be sown, according to the nature of the soil.

Flax should be pulled as soon as the stalks turn yellow and the leaves fall freely from the stem and two-thirds of the bolls have turned brown, tied in small handfuls, and set upon the butts to dry. The next process is the rippling, or separating the seed from the stalk. This is done in several ways in this country, by passing through strong hatchels, whipping upon stones, or by the flail. N. GOODELL, New Haven, Oswego Co., N. Y., 1863.

WASH THE SHEEP!

THE world moves. Take the expression separate, and the inference is, we are going forward; but whoever lives to see the honored custom above referred to exchanged for a non-washing system, will see a retrograde movement. In giving my views on this question I am not counting a future discussion with H. T. B., or any other man. I have an opinion of my own on this question, that is founded on facts and experience; and after I have had a hearing, whoever sees fit to differ with me can go their own road and I'll go mine.

I am now thirty-nine years of age, have been a wool-grower on "my own hook" for fourteen years, and public wool-shearer ever since I was fifteen. I am what may be termed an adept at shearing. From past experience I am forced to the conclusion that no man should ever attempt to shear his sheep without washing, and that it should be done at a proper time, when the water is warm and the weather also. My opinion is that it is a decided benefit instead of injury to the sheep. What sane man will say that dirt and filth will improve the health of the animal? What effect does soap and water have upon our poor, returning soldiers from Southern prisons? I imagine H. T. B. says it improves them, of course. Nature has provided a substance (oil) which has the same effect while washing that common soap does when applied with water to the hands. Every shearer knows, or may know that fact. H. T. B. will say it is still in the wool to aid the manufacturer in cleansing. Granted. That is only one argument against two. The benefit to the shearer of washed over unwashed wool ought to outweigh many other considerations.

I should like to be present as a spectator when H. T. B., or any other man, who is trying to change an honored custom, was compelled to shear about ten French Merinos of the real wrinkly, gummy sort. It would do me good—I know it would. I am quite sure they would "dry up" on that question after one lesson of such wholesome teaching. If another is needed I would take them a little further—require them to shear the above mentioned Merinos with an additional appendage of difficulties. What are they? Simply have them over-salted when turned out to grass. Frequently in two weeks or less, they are loaded from their tails to their hoofs with dung balls, and a great deal that is not balls—ingots of the largest size. Yes, let them shear ten unwashed sheep of that stamp, and my word for it they are converted. "But," says one, "isn't that set up a little steep?" Not a bit of it. I have sheared many of just that stripe which had passed through the form of washing with but very little benefit, from the fact that the work was not half done.

Now, may I not ask, how shall we do such work? Here is the answer. Go to the pool and wash. Go with an old pair of shears and help enough to divest every sheep of the tag-heads and other filth, put him in, and wash his head, neck, legs and belly; yes, wash him all over. Then keep your flock on sod ground till shearing, and you have a lot of wool that you could stand by and see the manufacturer open without a blush. I, for one, ask no license (not already granted) to sell dirt. When I take a notion to sell that, I shall try to sell all I own in a lump, and give a warrantee. Until then, my practice will be to keep the manure at home for the benefit of crops. Warren's Corners, N. Y., 1863.

SHEEP AND COWS—VALUE OF MILK.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In your paper of April 4th, T. C. P. closes an article on sheep and cows, by asking, "Will somebody tell me where I have made a mistake?" This certainly justifies your readers in asking questions, so I venture to inquire, by what authority does T. C. P. assume that milk is worth, on an average, eight cents per gallon? To sell for consumption as milk, in a few favored localities this assumption is true; but where milk must be made into butter or cheese to sell it, four cents a gallon is much nearer the value.

The Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society for 1861, page 90, give the results of Col. Z. PRATT'S butter dairy for five years, viz.: from 1857 to 1861 inclusive, by which it appears that it requires 14.45 quarts of milk to make a pound of butter. If the Colonel had purchased his milk at T. C. P.'s price, he would have paid nearly 29 cents per pound for the material for his butter. In the Country Gentleman of this week, page 258, is an account of a Scotch dairy, by which it appears that a gallon of milk does not make a pound of cheese. In one case 95-100, in the other 94-100 of a pound is given as the product. Therefore, cheese must sell for more than eight cents per pound to pay for milk at the price assumed by T. C. P.

If milk is really worth, to make into butter and cheese, (to sell at the average market prices of the last ten years,) not far from four cents a gallon, then T. C. P. must revise his calculations of the value of the annual yield of milk of a cow, by cutting the sum total square through the middle, and leave his cow credited with \$22.00, and all her products that will sell for more than that sum had better be passed over to the credit of interest and labor. The average annual value of the butter and pork sold by Col. PRATT, he gives at \$48.55 per cow for five years; the butter alone averaged \$40.74 per cow. T. C. P. assumes Col. PRATT'S milk to have been worth nearly ten per cent more than his butter sold for. Col. PRATT is a butter producer of high reputation, and is quite likely to be as successful as most men can reasonably hope for in the best dairy districts.

I think T. C. P. is open to quite as important corrections in his estimates of the products of sheep as of cows; but I will not now take up room with that branch of the subject. Fairmount, N. Y., April, 1863. G. G.

TOBACCO CULTURE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I have been requested by some of the readers of your paper to send you an article on the cultivation of tobacco. The extravagant prices charged for the different qualities of tobacco, by the vendors at this time, has induced many in this section, who are unacquainted with the cultivation of the plant, or the species, or varieties most suitable for cultivation in this latitude, to attempt to raise sufficient for their own use, rather than raising for market; and as the season has so far advanced, my remarks may be considered as intended for those living so far at the North as not to be familiar with the different species or varieties cultivated, or the manner of cultivation, rather than those further South, who have long been familiar with its cultivation and manufacture.

The tobacco plant belongs to the fifth class of the Linnæan artificial arrangement, *Pentandria*, and order *Monogynia*, and genus *Nicotiana*. This genus contains fourteen different species, about one-half of which have, at different times, and by different nations, been cultivated for uses to which it is generally applied. Some of the species of this genus are of such humble, diminutive growth as hardly to attract the attention of any but a botanist, and one of the species, the *Nana*, which has long been used by the natives of the Rocky Mountains, grows close upon the ground, rising no higher than the common primrose. The species in common cultivation in this section are *N. tabacum* and *N. macrophylla*. Of the former species, that variety known as the "Connecticut Seed Leaf," seems at present in highest repute; it is the kind I would recommend new beginners to obtain. One thimble-full of seed, if properly sown, will produce plants enough to set half an acre.

As my object in this is simply to direct about sowing the seed, I shall omit all after management for a future article. As it is not to be supposed that every farmer has made a hot-bed, I shall describe what I consider the best method for raising plants in open culture.

SOWING.—As soon as the earth has become sufficiently dry, select a suitable place. Make a brush-heap upon it of sufficient size to contain as many plants as needed. Burn the brush, and when the fire is extinguished, rake the ground thoroughly, and as soon as it becomes cool enough to bear your hand in it sow your seed, and press the ground smooth with the back of your shovel. Cover the whole bed with brush, and the task is done. If done by the first of May, you may expect plants large enough to set as soon as the ground is ready and the weather will permit.

The object in burning a brush-heap is twofold,—it destroys all other seeds that are upon the face of the ground, and warms the ground so that the seeds germinate sooner, and a slight covering of brush prevents animals treading upon the plants, and also protects them greatly from winds and frosts. More anon. New Haven, Osw. Co., N. Y., 1863. N. GOODELL.

HOW TO GET RID OF THE STUMPS.

MR. RURAL.—Please don't be surprised on hearing a voice from the army. We are a long way from the scene of our domestic operations, yet we read the RURAL, and be assured it comes the nearest to a furlough of anything we have (short of a visit to our homes) in shortening time and distance.

But to the point. "A Subscriber, Dansville, N. Y.," wishes to know how to get rid of stumps; and Mr. G. JAMES, of Illinois, advises him to "emigrate to the prairies," or, in other words, dig out, and leave them. Now, this sounds harsh to a soldier's ears; for, if he should act upon such advice when rebel stumps came in his way, it might not be long before the said Mr. JAMES would have to dig out and leave the prairie after the mode he recommends in regard to the stumps; and further, it is doubtful whether the plan satisfies Mr. Subscriber of Dansville.

The following plan may be better calculated to enhance the value of your subscriber's farm:—First—If the trees are standing, cut off the roots on the sides opposite the direction the tree is likely to fall, taking care, as far as possible, to have the trees fall across a log, three or four feet from the root. The weight of the top and a little breeze will aid greatly in rooting them out. The fall will shake out the dirt, and by the time the trunk will burn the root will also. This is more trouble than to chop them down, but it saves trouble in the end. By burning a heap of brush or logs on the spot where the tree stood it will raise as good a crop as any place. Second.—If the timber is already cut down, procure a lever about twenty-five feet long, or less, and if it is dry, soft maple, (which is best,) it should be about ten inches thick at the large end. Hitch your team to the small end; place the but against one stump; then fasten a heavy chain to the lever about five feet from the large end, and hitch the chain to another stump, which is to be drawn. Now, start up your team, and if the chain don't break, the stump will surely come. This plan is not new, yet many overlook it, thinking there may be a better machine; but from personal experience I know there is none more effective and available, however well it may be ironed off—which comes within the reach of a majority of farmers. Every one may have such. Third—If the stumps are hard wood, or large pine, it is better to burn them off, which may be done by placing a log of hard wood on the top or by the side of the stump. The ashes and rotten wood will, as manure, compensate for loss of space. E. CHEBLEY, Virginia, March, 1863.

The Bee-Keeper.

A Few Remarks on Honey Comb.

MATERIAL USED.—There were a few words in a late issue of the RURAL with regard to the material bees use for making honey comb. By what the writer says, it is inferred that somebody has been seriously discussing the question, and that the opinion prevails, to some extent, that bees do not make their comb from honey. The question may be readily settled by a few simple experiments.

HOW TO EXPERIMENT.—Confine a swarm of bees in an empty hive, and feed them plentifully with honey, slightly diluted with water, for several days. Ten days will be sufficient. At the close of this period there will be a quantity of honey comb in proportion to the size of the colony, the amount of honey fed, and the capacity of the hive. Then, if it be desired, remove the combs that have been made, and let the bees start anew. Those using frame hives,—no economizing bee-keeper will use any other,—can readily remove the combs, and without loss. A good swarm of bees will fill a hive of 2,000 cubic inches with comb in ten or twelve days, from honey alone, if they be supplied with enough of it, and are properly attended to.

WATER IS NECESSARY.—The honey thus fed to the bees should be diluted with water. The nursing bees need both water and honey for preparing proper feed for the brood. It is likewise necessary for aiding the bees in elaborating wax.

AMOUNT OF HONEY REQUIRED.—Perhaps some reader would like to know about how much honey is necessary to enable the bees to build combs sufficient to hold, say fifty pounds of honey. The exact amount is not known, but should judge that fifty pounds would not be too much!

BEE-BREAD IS USED.—It is thought that bees build comb with greater rapidity when they have access to bee-bread. This is probably true. The experimenters in comb-building will please bear in mind that young bees cannot be produced unless the nursing bees have access to bee-bread, or its substitute.

COMB MADE OF SUGAR.—Bees can build comb when supplied with sugar dissolved in water. What they need for this purpose is simply something having a large supply of saccharine matter.

HOW WAX IS PRODUCED.—Comb or wax is simply the fat of the bee. The bees can convert the honey fed to them into fat, chiefly, when they desire. The fat or wax comes from them between the lower rings of the abdomen, in thin, white scales. These are removed by other bees and made into comb. There are usually six flakes of wax attached to each wax-producing bee. M. M. BALDRIDGE, St. Charles, Kans. Co., Ill., 1863.

The Apiary in April.

STRONG stocks of bees need little attention now, except to destroy any moths that may have found their way into the inclosure. The moth worms may be found curled up on the floor of the hives on cold mornings, whence they are easily removed on raising the hive. Clean out all filth, and clusters of dead bees about the combs. The bees collect pollen, and but very little honey at this season. If the store of honey in any hive has fallen short, put a supply in shallow dishes under the boxes, with shavings or chips in it for the bees to alight on. When short of home rations at this season, bees are prone to rob others. Watch for unusual excitement toward evening. A strong hive attacked will usually defend itself, especially if the entrance be contracted so that they can meet the intruders one at a time. Weak colonies should be removed at once to a cellar or a dark room, until after a few warm days, when the poachers will have turned to honest pursuits. Stop depredations as early as possible; a successful robbery emboldens them to further freebooting. It is seldom advisable to disturb bees already doing well. If changes are to be made to movable frame hives, or otherwise, let it be done now. Look out now for any more hives needed at the swarming season. So says the American Agriculturist.

Inquiries and Answers.

MANURING CORN IN THE HILL.—Will you, or some one, through your columns, give the best mode of manuring corn in the hill with well rotted barnyard manure?—C. P., Oak Corners, N. Y.

HOW TO START COTTON.—Having had some cotton seed sent me from the Patent Office, I would like some directions how to prepare the ground and seed. Must it be started in a hot bed? Will you, or some of your readers, please give me the desired information?—A SUBSCRIBER.

The article on "Cultivation of Cotton," in RURAL of March 28, 1863, answers the above inquiry.

LAMBS PULLING THEIR WOOL.—Please inform me through the columns of your paper, what I shall do for some lambs that have commenced pulling their wool from off their hind legs. Where the wool is off I find a small yellowish spot. Will you or some of your readers inform me how to treat them, and much obliged.—T. B., J. R., Geneva, N. Y.

As already stated in our answer to "Reader," we are not apprised that any remedy has been discovered to prevent sheep from pulling out their wool.

SCRATCHES.—In answer to an inquiry I noticed in your paper for cure for scratches in horses, I would say Kerosene Oil is the most effectual remedy I have ever used after trying many kinds.—G. N. K.

W. D., New Hartford.—If desirable to keep the clover in your meadow, top-dress with well rotted manure and some ten bushels of wood ashes. Go over the meadow in the fall with a light harrow having sharp teeth, and roll and plaster in the spring.

WATER FILTER.—Being in want of a filter, and not finding any on sale—not even in Detroit—I thought to apply to you for instructions. Now, if you will publish in the RURAL, (the model paper,) the best manner of constructing such an article, both as to materials, and manner of putting together, you will greatly oblige an old subscriber. I want one large enough for a family of from three to five persons, and to be used separate from the cistern. Also, please state how often they should be cleaned, and how.—F. G. HOAG, Marquette, Mich.

Will some one answer the above? We have used Kozzin's filter some ten years, and consider it an indispensable domestic institution, especially where good water is not easily obtainable.

FLAX CULTURE.—Believing it to be a duty to attempt the revival of Flax Culture in this vicinity, I would earnestly request you (if convenient) to answer the following questions for the benefit of the farming community:—1st, The quantity of seed required per acre. 2d, Time for sowing. 3d, The average yield of seed per acre. 4th, The average yield of lint or fiber per acre. 5th, Is it more exhaustive to the soil than ordinary grain crops? 6th, The best mode of harvesting.—R. L. BATES, Troy, N. Y.

Several of the questions propounded by our correspondent have been answered in late numbers of the RURAL, and all of them are fully met in the Manual of Flax Culture, advertised in this paper. Indeed, we sent a copy of Mr. B.'s inquiries to the author of the leading Essay in the Manual. (Wm. Naxson, Esq., of Rensselaer Co.) in order to elicit the desired information from a reliable source. Mr. N.'s Essay also fully answers various inquiries we have recently received concerning Flax Culture.

NEW ENGLAND HARVESTER.—I see an inquiry in the RURAL about the New England Harvester. I am willing to say, and can prove it to be an imposition on the farmer. It was built two years ago in Norway. There were about thirty of them built here, and none sold except to men who bought territory to sell in, and they lost all they invested. It is a worthless machine.—A SUBSCRIBER, Norwalk, April, 1863.

PRESERVING EGGS.—J. W. ROWE is informed that the best mode of preserving eggs I have yet discovered, is to pack them in salt, the small end of the egg down, so that no egg shall touch its neighbor. There are other ways in which the egg is well preserved, but this is the best, because the egg seems to be kept in its normal condition,—perfectly sweet, and without any foreign flavor, such as results from liming and greasing.—C. D. B.

The above will answer two three other inquiries we have lately received relative to preserving eggs.

TO REMOVE LICE FROM COLTS.—In looking over your columns I saw an inquiry for a way to remove lice from colts, and will give an unfailing remedy:—Take one pint of lamp oil and apply to the animal from the top of the head to the roots of the tail, along the back bone, and on each side of the back. This remedy I never knew to fail. It is harmless to the animal, and after effecting a cure can be removed by using soap suds.—W. W. EARNEST, Wayne, N. Y.

ANOTHER REMEDY FOR LICE ON COLTS.—For the benefit of R. W. SLOPER, and others interested, I wish you to publish this recipe for killing lice on horses and cattle:—Take two quarts of soft soap, (it must be a good article,) three quarts of strong vinegar, and five quarts of rain water. Heat as warm as you can hold your hand in it, and stir well together. This quantity will be sufficient for two colts coming a year old. Put it on with a cloth where there is any lice or nits; I will warrant it to kill both, while tobacco only kills the lice. The vinegar prevents the soap from taking the hair off. I know by experience that this is a sure remedy.—J. CARRY, Castile, N. Y.

SMALL OR LARGE POTATOES FOR SEED.—I saw in one of your March numbers an inquiry in regard to planting small potatoes, and the difference between planting large and small ones. I have found out by many years experience, that if planted on rich ground small potatoes will yield as good an assortment of potatoes as large ones, but on poor ground large potatoes yield the best. Of small potatoes from two to three the size of a butternut is sufficient for a hill.—H. L. C., Crawford Co., Pa.

SMALL POTATOES FOR SEED.—Lest a mistake should be made in planting small potatoes grown from small potatoes, I will give my experience. Several years ago, potatoes being scarce, I had planted all I had saved for seed, (large ones, of course, for I always believed that all seeds sown or planted should be the best and plumpest,) and sent to a neighbor to get three or four bushels more. They were got, and before discovered about half had been dropped and covered. I was disgusted that any one would sell such small potatoes. I ordered the rest sent back. In digging, the result surprised me. I could see no difference. I adopted then, as a rule, to plant small potatoes. This was continued for several years until the crop entirely ran out of large ones, and was worthless.—G. D. PHILLIPS, Coventry, N. Y.

CURE FOR HOOP ROT IN SHEEP.—Take of white and blue vitriol, alum, verdigris and copperas, each three ounces. Pulverize and add one quart of vinegar. Stir and add one half pint each of Alcohol and spirits of turpentine. Let it stand twelve hours. Fare the hoof off, all that is loose or shelly; then apply the liquid with a swab. Repeat the application two or three times at intervals of two or three days, and a perfect cure will be effected. The sheep should be kept on a dry floor for two or three hours after each application. Feeding two teaspoonfuls of sulphur with salt twice a week, is also useful to cleanse the blood of sheep.—T. P. B., Greigsville, N. Y.

TOBACCO CULTURE.—The article on this subject in a preceding column, will answer several inquiries relative to varieties of seed, time and mode of sowing, etc.

ABOUT SPRING WHEAT—Varieties, &c.—I wish to inquire through the medium of your valuable paper about Spring Wheat. Are there varieties within reach better than the Tea Wheat? Are they, from early sowing, liable to injury by weevil, or from late sowing, by rust? Is it a profitable crop in Western New York, and what are the prospects of the crop being injured by the plant aphid?—A. N. Y., Groveland, N. Y.

The "Canada Club" wheat is considerably sown in some localities, but we are not advised that it is any better than the Tea, though preferred by some. The "Fife" can be sown two or three weeks later than other varieties, as it grows and matures rapidly—ripening about as early as the Tea and Club, though sown later. The Black Sea is a very hardy variety—not so much affected by frost and cold as others—but it is of inferior quality, making dark flour. It is mostly grown in the cold sections of Northern New York. We are not advised that spring wheat is liable to injury from the midge on account of early sowing, or from rust by late sowing. The crop is becoming more profitable in Western New York. We cannot say as to the prospect of injury from the plant aphid. Will some experienced grower of spring wheat give us light on this and other points—correcting us if astray in replying to above queries.

SUGAR FROM THE IMPHEE.—I notice the inquiry of L. T. HURCHISON in reference to sugar from the Imphee. There are two valuable varieties—the *Oom-se-a-na* and the *Nee-a-na-na*. The former crystallizes the most quickly, and the latter makes the best sugar and syrup. J. A. FERRISS, of Fairfield Co., O., and the Messrs. COXY, of La Grange Co., Ind., succeeded well with the former. The COXYS planted four heads of it, and from the butts pressed out 720 lbs. of juice, which, upon being reduced to 90 gallons of syrup, yielded 72 lbs. of dry sugar. C. D. ROBERTS, J. H. SMITH, H. K. SMITH, J. CRISMAN, of Ill., and others I could name, prefer the *Nee-a-na-na*. The two SMITHS claim to have made *five tons* last fall. The mode of manufacture has much to do with success with any variety, and the above gentlemen, in their published statements, given at the Borgho Conventions, give credit to the COOK Evaporator. I notice that both varieties of the above seed are advertised in the RURAL by BLYMYERS, BATES & DAY. The *Oom-se-a-na* ripens in 90 days, and the *Nee-a-na-na* in 70 days.—EXPERIMENTER.

SHOING HORSES.—Don't you think that the correspondent that gave us such an excellent chapter on driving, ought to give us one equally as good on shoeing a horse, telling us all the particulars about the matter, paring the hoof, making the shoe, and setting? At least I think he should, so that when we employ a shoer that don't more than half understand his business, we may tell him a little.—INQUIRITIVENESS, Canada.

We shall be glad to hear from the writer referred to, or any one else who will impart the desired information. The matter is important and merits attention.

REMEDY FOR SCOURS.—In the RURAL of March 28th, JAMES R. TODD, Brampton, C. W., wishes to know what he shall do with his pigs that have commenced to scour. Here is a very simple remedy, which has always proved good with us, and is alike applicable to all domestic animals:—Boil a few oats and feed them to the sow, if the pigs have not been weaned; if they have, feed them to the pigs.—W. G. ARMSTRONG, Bellisle, N. Y.

MOULDY, MUSTY AND VERY POOR HAY, if cut up and steamed, will be eaten gladly by cows. It will come out from the steam box as fresh as when it was made in the meadow, with all its fragrance. Was obliged to try it two years ago for two days in feeding seventy head.—M., Buffalo, N. Y.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The recent weather has been favorable for the wheat crop, the rains giving the young plants a good growth and fine appearance in this region. Reports from different sections are quite favorable as to the prospects of the crop, it being generally regarded as unusually promising. Col. MURDOCK, of Wheatland, (one of the best wheat growing towns in the State,) informs us that he has not seen the wheat crop look so well at this season since he became a resident of the county (sixteen years ago), as it does at present. We have some reports, however, of the crop being winter-killed, to some extent, in one or two localities, but hear of no serious injury from that cause. A large breadth of land was sown to wheat in Western New York last fall, and we trust growers of the valuable cereal will be amply remunerated.

SEEDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—The Commissioner, Hon. ISAAC NEWTON, has forwarded us a package of Garden Seeds, such as are being distributed by the Department of Agriculture. Mr. NEWTON writes us that it is his intention to distribute the seeds hereafter, as far as possible, through Agricultural Societies and Clubs. He hopes such associations will be generally organized through the country, and particularly requests that every such organization now existing, or which may be formed, should at once forward to the Department the name of its President and Secretary, that may be promptly supplied with Seeds and Agricultural Reports. The plan of distribution is a good one, but if the seeds and reports of the new Department are no better than those which have for years emanated from the Patent Office, the country will not be specially benefited by its adoption. But let us hope and pray for improvement where there is such a splendid opportunity.

MINOR RURAL ITEMS.—The Best Flax Seed used in Ireland is that obtained from Riga, in Russia, according to the statement of a large grower at a late meeting of the Munster Flax Improvement Society.—Flax should be sown in April or May, when the ground is warm and dry. All high or elevated dry lands, if not sandy, will produce good flax with proper cultivation. Flax does best after a hoed crop of the previous year.—A Cheese Factory just starting in Herkimer, has facilities for the manufacturing of 300,000 pounds of cheese annually. The Spring business is expected to open with the milking of five or six hundred cows; and is to be under the direction and supervision of Mr. HARVEY FARRINGTON, of Hion, the celebrated Herkimer County cheese buyer.—The Pork Packed in Cincinnati the past season is stated (by the Price Current, of that city,) to be 4,069,000—an increase over last year of 1,300,000. There is a net increase in pounds of meat of 32 1/2 per cent., and in pounds of lard 27 1/2 per cent.—The Bashaw Stallion, offered for sale in our advertising columns, is, we are assured by a friend, a superior animal.—The Cattaraugus Co. Fair for 1863 is to be held in Olean, on the 22d, 23d and 24th of September.—The Tobacco and Corn Crops of Wm. MOLMAN, of Henderson Co., Ky., have just been sold for \$70,000. The tobacco crop embraced 380,000 lbs., and brought \$63,000. This is said to be the most valuable yield ever produced on a single plantation in Kentucky.—The Universal Clothes Wringer, advertised in this paper, is declared by those who know it, to be a decidedly valuable domestic institution. Read the testimony in advertisement.

FISCIOLTURE.—The article on "Growing Brook or Speckled Trout, Artificially," published in our present number, will attract the attention of those interested in the subject, and repay a careful perusal. Mr. AINSWORTH has been remarkably successful in growing the speckled beauties, and is the right man to give information on the subject. Trout farmers who have visited Mr. A.'s place, speak in glowing terms of his success and genius.

Horticultural.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

CHEERRIES.

[By the Missouri Horticultural Society.]

Early Richmond—HOPPER. I have such a named cherry. It has been in bearing four years. It is good for market because of its earliness, and is sure to produce. It is hardy. Season from 25th of May to June 1st. It is an excellent fruit for canning. PETTINGILL—I think it soft for shipment. It was recommended by vote for general cultivation.

Common Morello.—Some one said it was better for canning than the Early Richmond, and it was added to the list by vote.

Belle de Choisy—DR. WARDER. If you want a sweet Morello, you have got it in this cherry. It is better than the other. The Society did not recommend it.

The May Duke was added to the list; while the Reine Hortense was rejected—or, rather, there were not votes enough to recommend it. The Elton did not get votes enough, although several members testified as to its great productiveness, and their belief that it will succeed.

Mr. HEAVER, of Cincinnati, said:—The Black Eagle is really a superior cherry. The Elton ought to be counted in every list of three cherries for quality, hardiness, and great bearing qualities. Reine Hortense was passed by the Society; but it is excellent, nevertheless. Gov. Wood is an admirable cherry. Yellow Spanish is good. I have fruited the Ocoola, which is superior to the Black Tartarian. Black Hawk is another variety of superior quality. Black Tartarian is tender as a tree—good as a fruit.

Dr. MORSE says of the last named fruit:—This tree grows well in the poor uplands of Missouri, and I think it will succeed there, together with sweet cherries.

MUR.—When planted on the uplands, these sweet cherries have succeeded well.

GARDEN TOOLS.

As the season for making gardens is now approaching, every farmer should see that he has tools in readiness to do his work in the best manner, with the least expense in time and labor. There are but few tools required for working the garden but such as are required for other farming purposes, but these few should be in readiness. The spade, shovel, hoe, iron rake, potato rake, garden line and reel, and dibber stick. These constitute a very good kit for working a garden.

Among these, the common potato rake is one of the most useful. The tines should be six in number, round, and from six to eight inches long. With this instrument, ground can be made fine and loose to the depth of six or eight inches, where spading would prove injurious, as among roots and plants of various kinds, as beets, carrots, &c. For dressing cabbage after they are set, I know of no instrument so useful; the ground can be stirred to the depth of six inches with the same care that it could be gone over on the surface with the hoe. Where there are any grass-roots, sticks, or small stones in the ground, they are easily taken out by this instrument.

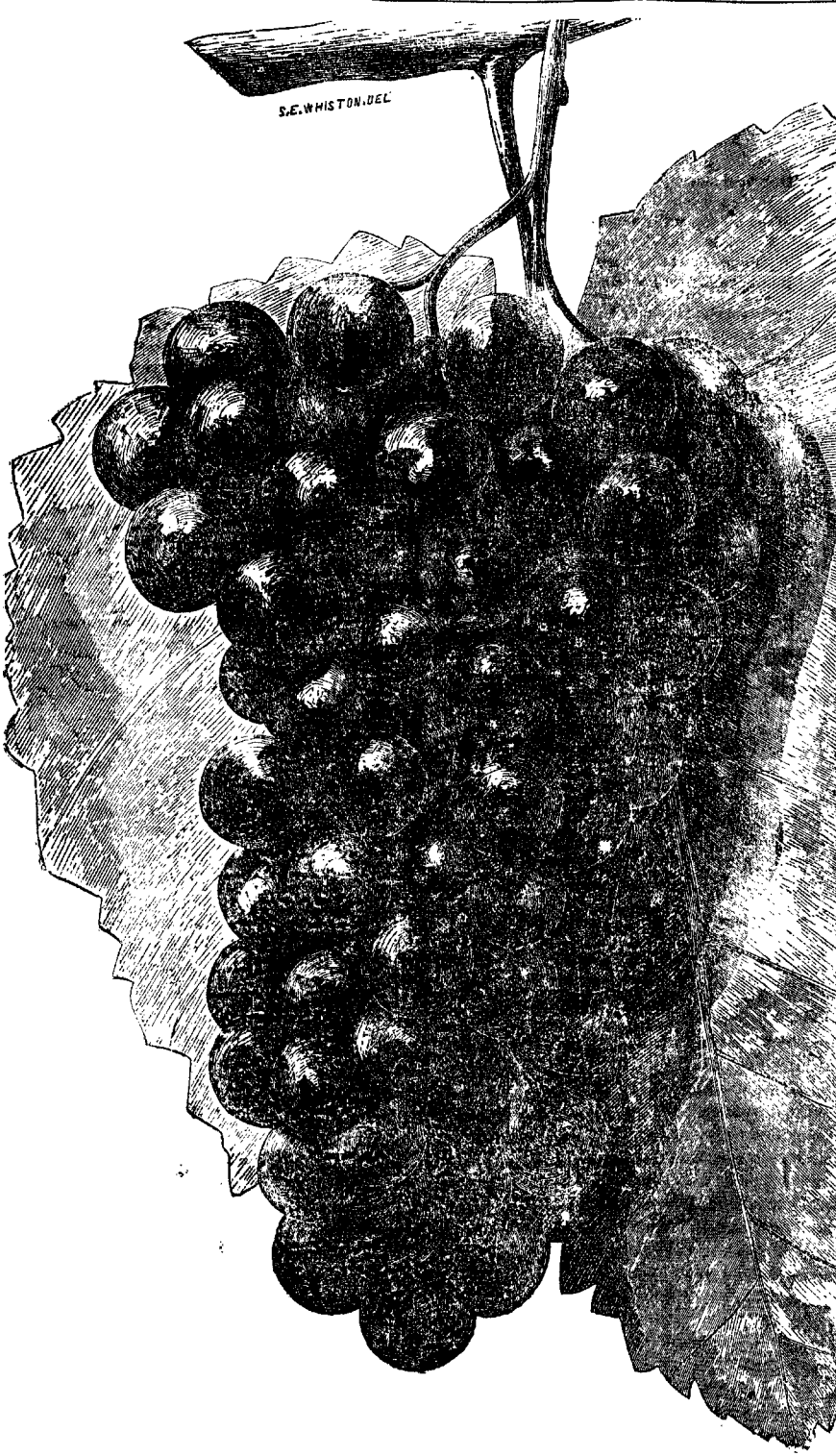
A cheap and durable garden reel may be made by taking a piece of pine board, six inches wide, thirteen inches long, and an inch and a quarter thick, boring a half-inch hole through the center edgewise, then cutting about one inch off from each end, with the exception of half an inch at each corner, to confine the line when wound upon it. The ends should be worked down so that it will be two feet round it. A hard piece of wood should be selected for passing through the hole in the center; the lower end, for about one foot, should be made flat and pointed, for sticking in the ground, a square shoulder cut, and above this made proper size to pass through the hole in the reel, and secured by a small peg through the top, to keep the reel from sliding off. A small pin should be inserted near one corner of the reel, to turn for winding up the line. A strong cotton line is preferable to linen, as damp will not alter its length as much as linen. The line should be marked by passing yarn through it, two feet apart, first red and then blue, alternately. By having the line thus marked, it enables the workman to put his hills or plants in rows both ways, which is a great convenience where smaller crops are to be set between larger, as turnips between corn or potatoes. No hills should ever be planted, or plants set, without the line, and when one is wound upon a stick, the distance between the marks is often altered.

The dibber is best made by taking an apple tree limb, about two inches in diameter, with a limb turning off at an obtuse angle. The end below the limb should be left about one foot long, and tapered to a point, the limb cut a little more than the width of the hand, and made smooth. Where many plants are to be set, a straight dibber-stick often blisters the inside of the hand, but with one thus made there is no danger.

GARDENER.

CONFUSION IN NAMES OF SWEET CORN.

FRIEND RURAL.—There has long been known to the farmers and gardeners of the Eastern States three distinct varieties of Sweet Corn. The first, the small eight-rowed, with white cob, and flat kernel, this used to be called Early Sweet Corn. Another variety was known as the "Old Colony" Sweet Corn. This is a taller-growing variety, with large ears, having from twelve to twenty rows, but more commonly from twelve to sixteen rows, of gourd-shaped kernels, with white cob, and purple colored silk, when pure, and often producing two or three



THE ADIRONDAC GRAPE.

We present our readers with a fine engraving representing a bunch of the Adirondac Grape of the natural size. So many admirable qualities were credited to this grape when first announced, that we received the statements with some doubt. It was claimed to be superior in flavor to the Delaware, fifteen days earlier, and far more hardy; and thus suited to the portions of our country where no good grape had previously succeeded.

Last autumn we saw the fruit, and can speak favorably of its quality, though under what conditions it was produced, of course we could not say. It was exhibited at the meeting of the American Pomological Society in Boston, on the 18th of September last, and Mr. ELLIOTT, from the Committee on New Fruits, described it as follows:—"Bunch large, compact; berries large, round; color dark purplish red, with a blue bloom; seeds large; flesh greenish white, soft, not perfectly ripe, but produces excellently well." It was also shown at the New York State Fair

held in Rochester, last October; and CHARLES DOWNING, Chairman of the Committee on Native Grapes, made the following report:—"Before closing their labors, the undersigned would call attention to a new Native Grape named the Adirondac, and exhibited by John W. Bailey, of Plattsburgh. Accepting Mr. Bailey's statement, that the Adirondac ripens two weeks earlier than the Delaware, we think it presents claims to the favorable notice of fruit-growers in the Northern States and the Canadas. In color, it resembles the Isabella, but is somewhat larger. In quality, it is sweet and pleasant, with little or no hardness of pulp. Those who prefer an earlier grape than the Delaware, will welcome the Adirondac. The undersigned cheerfully indorse the opinion of the American Pomological Society, that 'the Adirondac promises excellently well.'"

We all need more experience before we can recommend this grape for general culture, but it certainly promises to meet a want which all feel, a very early, hardy, good grape.

Brande Cottage, Wis., 1863. BARBARA BRANDE.

against everything green, possibly for the reason that we have no particular attachment for aught that resembles ourselves. How I have piled such as I have passed their dwellings, around which flowers never bloom, no comfortable shrubbery or blossoming fruit trees appear—where every tiny blade of grass seems to feel itself an intruder—standing beneath the burning sun of summer and bleak winds of winter, gloomy, cheerless and desolate.

I cannot see how men can have the heart to destroy these beautiful objects. Why, a tree is one of God's masterpiece. Strong, brave and self-reliant,—heeding not the wailing south wind,—the pitiless sunshine,—the bitter rain or pelting hail,—in summer breathing forth a sweet welcome to the merry song of birds, and in the winter divested, as it is, of its gay robe, still faithful and dauntless, pointing solemnly upward to the blest haven called "Peace," where all our storm-tossed life-ships shall anchor. No man with a true, tender, noble heart will destroy one unless it be from stern necessity.

Brande Cottage, Wis., 1863. BARBARA BRANDE.

ears upon a stalk. This we consider the most valuable of all the varieties of sweet corn. By planting it about the middle of May in this locality, it comes into use about the time the Early Sweet Corn is becoming too old, and continues in good eating condition until the leaves are killed by the frost; and by picking the ears before they are injured by frost, tying a string tight round the husks at the tip of the ear, and hanging them in a cold, damp place, they may be kept in good boiling condition until the first of January.

About fifteen years since, Prof. MAPES, of New Jersey, distributed a variety through the country, to which he gave the name of "Ever-Green Sweet Corn." This is of a later growth than the "Old Colony," an eight-rowed variety, with large flat kernels, ears longer than those of last-named, with white cob, rarely producing but one ear upon the stalk, and will not produce more than half as much shelled corn to the acre. It does not keep any better for winter than the "Old Colony."

As the names of these last varieties have become confounded, I give this description, to enable farmers to select the best, which they can do when it is shelled, as the "Old Colony" kernels are of the gourd-seed shape, while the "Ever Green" are broad and flat. OSWEGO.

A FLEA FOR TREES.

I PROTEST in the name of all that is just, merciful, and honorable, against this wholesale murder men are constantly committing upon trees. Forests have disappeared from the face of the country like magic. The stately monarchs of the wood have bowed their haughty heads and bit the dust; and this has been, in a measure, necessary. From the ruins of forests have arisen cities, towns and villages; but when the war has been carried far enough, for humanity's sake let it cease.

Some persons seem possessed with a mania

HOPE-RADISH.—Please state what is the best method of cultivating horse-radish, and what kind of soil is best adapted to it?—G. R. HART, St. Paul, Minnesota.

The horse radish will thrive in almost any soil, but the deeper and richer, the more luxuriant the growth. The roots may be set out in the spring, and after this it is only necessary to keep down the weeds.

FRUIT TREES.—I set out a young orchard two years ago. My trees are all doing well, except the Maiden Bush, and these do not seem to be so thrifty as some of the rest. I found they had cracked through the bark, and the bark cleaved from the wood. These places are four or five inches above the ground, and it was done some time in the latter part of October. I could not discover any cause of the bark cracking, and if any person can tell me, through the columns of the RURAL, I will be obliged. These places are all on the east side of the trees, except in one or two cases.—A. SCHUBERT, Northern Indiana, April 18, 1863.

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Ladies' Department.

MY MOTHER'S PRAYER.

BY MINNIE HOPE.

I WAS a little, tiny child
When first I knelt beside her knee.
She taught me how to clasp my hands,

[Examiner.]

A GOOD WIFE'S QUALIFICATIONS.

I WOULD like to answer the inquiries of "C. N. W.," which I find in a late number of the RURAL.

1st, A thorough knowledge of housekeeping in all its departments. My good father did not realize the truth of this, but kept me in school the greater part of my youthful days, and my consequent deficiency in this respect has been a great trouble to me ever since;

2d, A good wife will be industrious. A wife, especially a farmer's wife, always has enough to do; and through weariness of body and disadvantageous circumstances her motto should ever be, "Perseverance will accomplish all things."

3d, A good wife must be economical. I do not mean stingy, but prudent, saving, seeing that nothing is wasted, and no needless expense incurred.

4th, I think it very seldom necessary for a wife to do more work out of doors than to take care of her flowers. As a general thing she will find enough to do in the house.

5th, A good wife will have an agreeable temper. Then will she cast a continual sunshine around her, and her presence will be a constant delight in her household.

6th, A good wife must sympathize with her husband in his successes and his failures, his joys and his sorrows. She must be the kind sympathizer, the faithful counsellor and confidant, the loving companion and the true helpmeet.

These are some of the requisites of a good wife. There are a good many more which I will leave for "Aunt BETSEY" to tell you while I get supper, or I shall be wanting in one of them, called punctuality.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS.

"In Eastern Lands they talk in flowers,
And they tell in a garden their loves and cares;
Each blossom that blooms in their garden bowers,
On its leaves a mystic language bears."

Do you seek for an emblem of innocence and purity,—go, search out the beautiful Lily in its woodland nook, where, all unconscious of its loveliness, it reigns Queen of the Forest, and learn from its modest and unpretending merit not to place too high a value upon your own attainments.

GOD, for then with a smile can you say, "He doeth all things well." Have you a decided preference for any of your companions,—let your sentiments speak forth in the delicate blossom of the Peach.

Is jealousy the predominant feature of your character,—know that the bright-hued but despised Marigold is your representative. Have the golden arrows of Cupid entered your heart, and entangled you in Love's silken net,—entwine that love in the Myrtle wreath, to deck the fair one's brow.

The Columbine speaks of the life of man. Its simple language,—"Hopes and Fears,"—is the summary of our existence, and reveals to us more of the strange mystery of life than whole volumes of the most carefully selected thoughts.

WIVES AND CARPETS.

THE Chicago Journal thus learnedly philosophizes on these themes. There is a large streak of sense in the reflections:

In the selection of a carpet, you should always prefer one with small figures, for the two webs of which the fabric consists are always more closely interwoven than in carpetings where large figures are wrought.

There is a good deal of true philosophy in this that will apply to matters widely different from the selection of carpets. A man commits a sad mistake when he selects a wife that cuts too large a figure on the great carpet of life,—in other words, makes much display.

Look out, then, for the large figures; and there are those now stowed away in the garret of the world, awaiting their final consignment to the cellar, who, had they practiced this bit of carpet philosophy, would to-day be firm and bright as Brussels fresh from the loom, and everybody exclaiming, "It is wonderful how they do wear."

THE GOOD WOMAN.—A good woman is one of the greatest glories of the creation. How do the duties of a good wife, a good mother, and a worthy matron, well performed, dignify a woman! A good woman reflects honor on all those who had any hand in her education, and on the company she has kept.

A BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT.—Leigh Hunt says: "Those who have lost an infant are never, as it were, without an infant child. They are the only persons who, in one sense, retain it always, and they furnish other parents with the same idea.

SPREADING of babies—did you ever think, when you saw a very little one, dressed up in its long, Sunday clothes, that it was like a sixpence tied up in the corner of a pocket handkerchief?

Choice Miscellany.

SUNSET MUSINGS.

Off from memory's garnished chambers,
While the golden sunbeams die,
Wander back, with swelling cadence,
Echoes sweet of days gone by.

Yet, one by one I've seen them vanish!
Star by star their glories die!
Fleeting years have wrought sad changes!
Tender ties now sundered lie!

Texas, 1863.

LABOR.

LABOR degrading? Idleness ennobling? Never! Such terms are suited only to slave-holding confederates, and nations sunk in barbarism. The Bible doctrine which holds that if a man will not work neither shall he eat, is eminently a wise one, and ought to be promulgated everywhere.

And happiness! Some people, young and foolish ones, mostly, seem to think that idleness is a state of perfect bliss; that the word is a synonym of enjoyment. But it's all a delusion; and if you ever, my friend, expect to reach the pleasant bowers of Content, and sit there, along with Mistress Happiness, you have got to take the homely, old-fashioned, dusty, rugged highway of daily labor—doing whatsoever your hand findeth to do with your might.

Speaking of Eden leads me to think of the curse pronounced there—that men should eat bread by the sweat of their brow. What a curse that was. Maledictions, as a usual thing, bring forth a crop of thorns and thistles, but this one, unlike all others, has resulted in a harvest of enduring sweets,—is clustered all over with fragrant blossoms.

GOD did not make a world like this for idlers,—a world with mountains to be leveled, rough places to be made smooth, crooked places to be straightened, rivers to be spanned, and deserts and wildernesses to be made to blossom like the rose,—he did not make such a place for do-nothings.

talk about retiring from business, be they ever so rich. No person, in my opinion, with a clear head and a stalwart arm, has a right to wash his hands of work, and selfishly leave the world to get on without him.

Surely, then, there is work enough, and more than enough, for every one of us. Much land remains to be possessed,—multitudes of noxious weeds are choking the good seed in the great field of the world, and so long as there is one left, we have no time to be idle.

Fayetteville, N. Y., 1863.

STYLE.

THERE is no model style. What is pleasing in the diction of one author disgusts us in a copyist. Every writer is his own standard. The law by which we judge of his sentences, must be deduced from his sentences.

The tread of Johnson's style is heavy and sonorous, resembling that of an elephant or a mailed warrior. He is fond of levelling an obstacle by a polysyllabic battering-ram. Burke's words are continually practicing the broadsword exercise, and sweeping down adversaries with every stroke.

Words are not, when used by a master mind, the mere dress of thought. They are, as Wordsworth has happily said, the incarnation of thought.

MENTAL ACTIVITY.—God offers to every mind its choice between truth and repose. Take which you please—you can never have both. Between these, as a pendulum, man oscillates ever. He in whom the love of repose predominates will accept the first creed, the first philosophy, the first political party he meets—most likely his father's.

GENIUS, like reason, (though perhaps not so entirely,) is rather a presence vouchsafed, like a guardian spirit, to an individual, which departs whenever the evil self becomes decisively predominant, and not, like talent or the powers of the understanding, a personal property.

Sabbath Musings.

NEVER DESPAIR.

BY AUGUSTA C. NEWMAN.

NEVER despair, though thy bark may be driven,
At the mercy of rude wind and wave;
Forget not the One whose promise is given
He will "e'en to the uttermost save."

Though on thy bared head the great drops are splashing
While the lightning makes deeper the gloom,
And 'round thy frail boat wild breakers are dashing,
With a knell in their dull, sullen boom.

Cast thy fear to the winds—whatever betide,
Still rely on God's mercy and grace;
And thy bark shall safely the tempest outside,
Mooring in the blest Harbor of Peace.

Grand Rapids, Mich., 1863.

GALILEE.

How much of bible history does this name suggest! How rich a theme for the imagination, since sacred writers have only given us outlines of those scenes and events which make Galilee a hallowed spot.

It has been called a sea; and such it was eighteen hundred years ago to those untalented fishermen in their rude boats. It is, however, only a lake, about fourteen miles long and six in breadth, deeply set between rounded and beautiful hills. Galilee, in its quiet beauty, must be interesting to him who has never heard the story of the Cross.

But we cannot stand long upon these shores, hallowed with miracles and holy teaching, or by these waves once stilled by a word; so let us hasten to another and more impressive feature of the picture. It is evening of the Day of Miraculous Breaking of Bread; the well-feasted multitude are returning to their homes, and Jesus is in the mountains of Bethsaida, at prayer.

Frantic Nature sees the Champion come, and with blacker scowl and "lengthened javelins" prepares to meet him. The foaming waves are soft locks to His feet—the howling wind sweet music to His ears. Now he meets the crested battalions as the shepherd meets his flocks from distant hills; now wide and deep yawns a billowy grave before Him, but not for Him.

Ah! a form! there where the darkness cleaves with lightning. O, a Spirit! Spirit of chaos upon the deep again! But a voice! human words. "Be of good cheer." Well-known voice. "It is I: be not afraid." 'Tis Jesus! The SAVIOR is nigh—his loved ones are safe. The bonds of fear begin to break, and bold PRAYER returns the words of Faith. "LORD, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water."

Would you, O sinner, desire to be saved? Go to the Savior. Would you desire to be delivered? Look to that great Deliverer, and though you should be so overwhelmed with guilt, and shame, and fear, and horror, that you should be incapable of speaking to Him, fall down in this speechless confusion at His feet, and behold Him as the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world.

CHRISTIAN CONTENTION.—God grant that we may contend with other churches as the vine with the olive, which of us shall bear the best fruit; but not as the briar with the thistle, which of us shall be the most unprofitable.—Lord Bacon.

To all men the best friend is virtue; the best companions are high endeavors and honorable sentiments.

Rural New Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



LEAVES fall, but lo, the young buds peep!

The Army in Virginia.

ABOUT 4 o'clock A. M., of the 15th inst the rebels attacked Suffolk some 5,000 strong.

On the 16th the rebels drove back our skirmishers on the Somerton road, which is Gen. Corcoran's front.

Sergeant Hall, captured by the rebels a few days since while coming down the Nansemond, has returned.

The division which remained at Elk Run left there before daylight on the same morning and proceeded to Bealeton, on the railroad leading to Gordonsville.

The division remaining near Morrisville moved down to Kelly's Ford. Here was discovered the first organized body of the enemy.

The remaining division on leaving their encampment at Grove Church traveled on to the junction at Eastham's and Hedgeman's Creek.

Acting Rear Admiral Lee telegraphs to the Secretary, off Newport News:

Reports from Lieutenants Cushing and Lawson just received. The enemy have not crossed the river.

We have two killed and eleven wounded, making in all five killed and eighteen wounded in our little flotilla, to which, from what I can learn, the fight has been pretty much confined.

Suffolk letters report that our forces hold Nansemond River for 16 miles, and have defeated every attempt of the rebels to get in our rear.

Later intelligence says Gen. Longstreet has expressed the opinion that Suffolk is too well fortified to risk a direct assault with his present force.

Norfolk letters express the opinion that there will be no great battle at Suffolk. We outnumber the enemy there, and have the advantage of strong intrenchments.

The Tribune's special learns through private channels that the rebels under Gen. Wise attacked our forces under Keyes, near Yorktown on Saturday.

A later account says that Gen. Wise has commenced entrenching the other side of Williamsburg. He has orders to take Fort McGruder at all hazards, and being afraid to make an assault; he has resorted to digging.

Rebel prisoners say there was to have been a simultaneous attack on Washington, N. C., Suffolk, Virginia, Gloucester Point and Williamsburg or Fort McGruder.

An official dispatch has been received from Gen. Peck, dated Saturday evening, 8 o'clock, saying that Gen. Getty, in conjunction with the gunboats, has just stormed the heavy battery at the west branch and captured six guns and two hundred of the 4th Alabama regiment.

Three detachments from three regiments of infantry, with a small force of cavalry and artillery, went out on the Edenton road on the 17th at daylight, and attacked the rebels in their position.

On the 13th the expedition under Gen. Stoneman, consisting of cavalry, infantry and artillery, left their old encampment. One portion of cavalry alone, proceeded to Bristerburg and there encamped.

Before daylight that portion encamped at Bristerburg, sent out two squadrons, the 8th Illinois and 9th N. Y., under Capt. Farnsworth, with instructions to proceed to Warrenton, thence to Sulphur Springs, and there await orders.

The division which remained at Elk Run left there before daylight on the same morning and proceeded to Bealeton, on the railroad leading to Gordonsville.

The division remaining near Morrisville moved down to Kelly's Ford. Here was discovered the first organized body of the enemy.

The remaining division on leaving their encampment at Grove Church traveled on to the junction at Eastham's and Hedgeman's Creek.

The telegraph this (Tuesday) A. M., gives the following report from that portion of the army sent out under Gen. Stoneman:

An officer that left the army of the Potomac on Saturday, says that Gen. Stoneman was heard from Saturday afternoon. He had reached Culpepper Court House, where 3,000 rebels were surprised and captured.

Department of the South.

A DISPATCH from Gen. Palmer to Gen. Dix, received on the 16th, states that Gen. Foster has been relieved. A river steamer, with a regiment and supplies of provisions and ammunition, succeeded in running the batteries on Tar river, and reached the wharf at Warrenton on the 14th.

Letters to the N. Y. Herald, received on the 18th, from Morehead City, announce that Gen. Foster has succeeded in passing the rebel blockade in the steamer Escort, with the loss of the pilot killed and several wounded.

A letter from an officer of the Forty-fourth Massachusetts regiment gives a connected account of affairs at Washington, North Carolina, up to the 10th inst. The first intimation of an intended rebel attack was received March 30th, when a negro, who had been into the interior, reported that he had seen seven thousand rebels, with forty pieces of artillery, marching upon the place, and that other forces were coming by different routes.

On the night of the 3d, the gunboat Ceres ran the blockade, bringing ammunition for the fort and gunboats. On the 4th, a small battery in front of the fort opened fire, and the fort replied, dismounting one of their guns, when the firing ceased.

On the 5th, provender for the horses gave out, and the families of the town were declared to be destitute. On the 7th, the rebels opened fire on the gunboats, and also fired fifty-three discharges at the town, but without doing any injury.

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with unflagging spirit. On the 9th, another vessel ran the blockade, with ammunition, and on the 10th the rebels again opened a fire upon the fort, and kept it up for half an hour.

The gunboat Washington ran aground on the 8th inst., in Broad river, near Port Royal ferry. The E. B. Hall went to her assistance, but to no purpose. The rebels brought down a light battery and fired on her.

The sloop Ranger, of Clay's Landing, Sawnee river, was captured off Chrystal river. Her cargo consisted of salt, dry goods, gunpowder, &c. Also the schooner Anna, of Nassau, was captured while endeavoring to evade the blockade off the mouth of the Sawnee river.

On the 11th the steamer Stonewall Jackson, formerly the Leopard, while attempting to run into Charleston, was hotly chased by half a dozen blockaders, which fired at her, and she received several shots through her hull.

Movements in the West and South-West.

KENTUCKY.—The Richmond Dispatch of the 10th inst. admits a bad defeat of Gen. Pegram in Kentucky, and says the rebel loss was heavy, and that after a severe hand-to-hand fight of several hours, the Confederates gave up the unequal contest and fell back, the enemy not pursuing.

The Dispatch also says Gen. Rosecrans has sent five regiments of infantry to Kentucky, and has ordered all the cavalry from that State to his cavalry at Murfreesboro, and is moving his troops on his left to his right, doubtless to prevent any movement on our part in that State.

TENNESSEE.—The rebels in the vicinity of Fort Donaldson have been gathering all the horses fit for service.

Seventy men, on the 17th, met about the same number of rebel cavalry in a skirmish, in which twenty of the latter were taken prisoners, among whom were Major Blandin and two Captains.

A special dispatch to the Memphis Appeal, says that 30 boats and 12 gunboats have gone up from Memphis to operate on the Cumberland.

Col. Graham, on the 18th, attacked the rebels near Celina, Tennessee, killing seven and destroying their camp. On Sunday he crossed the Cumberland and attacked the rebels there, killing thirty and routing the remainder, and is now in hot pursuit. The Federal loss is one killed.

ARKANSAS.—A telegram from Col. Phillips, dated Park Hill, Cherokee Nation, April 11th, says he has swept the north side of Arkansas river clear of rebels. Part of his command hold Fort Gibson. He has had overtures from Col. Drew, Capt. Vaughan, and the Creek Indians. The rebels are gathering on the south side of the Arkansas river, and hold all the fords, which are now deep.

Telegrams received at headquarters say that Fayetteville, Ark., was attacked before daylight on Saturday, the 18th inst., by about 3,000 armed rebels, with four pieces of artillery. Our forces were less than 2,000, part of whom were unarmed. The rebels were repulsed with considerable loss. Our loss was 5 killed and 17 wounded.

Additional advices from Fayetteville say the fight there of Saturday lasted about four hours. The rebels were commanded by Gen. Cabell, and retreated in disorder toward Ozark. Our troops were all Arkansas recruits, under Col. Harrison. They were poorly armed and equipped, and without artillery.

MISSISSIPPI.—A rebel dispatch says:—The enemy in the Black Bayou are retreating toward the river, and laying waste the whole country as they move along. Our river patrolmen report that two Yankee gunboats, conveying five cavalry transports, passed up the river on the 7th inst. Also nineteen transports, with infantry, and forty-eight freight boats loaded down. The enemy are re-enforcing all the depots on the Memphis and Ohio Railroad.

AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

THOSE who are in possession of all there is known on the subject of our relations with Great Britain, feel that they have reason to be more hopeful of a pacific solution of pending questions than they were a few days ago.

The action of the Nicaragua government in interfering with the Central American Transit Company's steamer, having been brought to the

attention of the proper authorities, it has been decided that there has been no violation of the contract on the part of the company, and therefore, under the treaty existing between the two governments, ample protection will be given in case of any future interference by that government.

Hon. R. J. Walker has gone to Europe, partially in behalf of a Quicksilver Mining Company to assert its claims in a suit against Baron Forbes, who represents a company now in possession of the mines. He will also act as agent of the Government for the purpose of effecting an arrangement to secure uniform measures of coin so far as to equalize measures between the United States and Great Britain, and thus equalize exchanges, for the convenience of commerce, as recommended in the annual report of the Secretary of Treasury.

Gov. Curtin, of Penn., in view of the exigency of the public service, suggested to the President a plan of garrisoning the defenses of Washington with militia, that the veteran soldiers now in that department might be spared for more important and pressing duties in the field. To this end he offered to forward here 20,000 militia, and that about 1,000 volunteers who have had the necessary experience, be distributed among the militia, to render the latter force equivalent, for all practicable purposes, to the same number of volunteers sent to the field.

Gen. Jerry T. Boyle, of Kentucky, was ordered here by the Sec. of War, with whom he had a conference in reference to the condition of affairs in Kentucky. He returned immediately to his command under Gen. Burnside. It is understood that the 20,000 soldiers offered by Kentucky are accepted, and orders for them will be issued without delay.

The case of the Anglo-rebel steamer Peterhoff, continues to engage attention in the administration, as well as in diplomatic circles. It is understood that Lord Lyons has requested that the British mail found on board be returned to him unopened, and that the State Department is ready to accede to his wishes. The Navy Department, on the other hand, inclines to the opinion that, by the correct principles of international law, the mail in question should be disposed of in the same way as other papers found on board, especially as it is presumed that it contains proofs sufficient to condemn the Peterhoff and her cargo.

It is thought that the Government will retaliate for the hanging of Detective Sherman by the rebels near Drainesville on Friday, by summarily executing Capt. Power and a civilian in the Old Capitol prison, against whom evidence is said to be conclusive of their being spies.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

BUFFALOES have been lately shot within sixty miles of St. Paul, Minn. The Indian massacres have rendered the region so uninhabited that bison, wolves, &c., roam freely where they have not before been seen for years.

The Navy Department has received information of the capture of five more blockade runners—the British steamer Surprise, by the Huntsville, from St. Marks, Fla., bound to Havana; the rebel schooner Five Brothers, and the English schooner John Williams, by the Octovora, and the English schooners Florence Nightingale and Brothers, by the Tioga.

It is said the order directing the attack on Charleston was countermanded from Washington; but the countermand did not reach Admiral Dupont until it was too late to prevent the assault.

At the General Term of the Supreme Court of this District, held in this city, it was decided that the U. S. legal tender notes were constitutional and valid as to debts contracted before the passage of the law making such notes a legal tender. All the four Judges concurred.

A CALIFORNIA paper says that commander Bissell, of the United States sloop of war Cyane, has brought into that State, from Peru, a male lama, a male alpaca, and a male and female vicuna, which he intends to domesticate.

The new naval register just issued shows that in addition to sixty-nine persons employed in the naval department and its bureaus, there are as follows in the service:

Table with 2 columns: Rank and On the Retired List. Rows include Rear Admirals, Commanders, Captains, etc.

These take up the first one hundred pages of the register, while the Marine Corps and the volunteer officers of the navy occupy the remaining one hundred and forty-eight pages of the blue book.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Harper's New Monthly Magazine—Harper & Brothers. The Universal Clothes Warehouse—Julius Ives & Co. The New York Chronicle—P. Church & Co.

The best Magazine, Atlantic Monthly—Ticknor & Fields. Concha's Gold—Brown's Brochural Triches. Farwell's—H. B. Land & Co. A Manual of Flax Culture, &c.—D. D. Moore.

The News Condenser.

- The French in Mexico are getting on badly. The Massachusetts colored regiment is about half full. Gerrit Smith has donated \$1,000 to the Irish Relief Fund.

Special Notices.

THE BEST ESSAYS, THE BEST STORIES, THE BEST POEMS. WHICH AMERICAN TALENT CAN FURNISH, may be found each month in the

Atlantic Monthly

To which the leading writers of America are regular contributors. Subscription price \$3 a year, postage paid by the Publishers. Specimen Number gratis. Send for a circular.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

From the Medical Director of the General Hospital, Benton Barracks, near St. Louis, March 8, 1862. Messrs. J. W. BROWN & SON, Boston, Mass.—"Use of your far famed and most serviceable 'Troches' is being made in the hospital of which I have charge, and with very beneficial and decided results in allaying Bronchial irritation and morbid sensitiveness of mucous membrane of glottis and parts adjacent."

A MANUAL OF FLAX CULTURE, &c.

A GOOD, USEFUL AND TIMELY WORK ON FLAX CULTURE, &c., will be issued this week—containing all requisite information relative to Preparing the Ground, Sowing the Seed, Culture, Harvesting, &c., &c. It is mainly by men of long experience in Flax Growing, who know whereof they affirm, and how to impart their knowledge. The aim is to furnish a COMPLETE AND PRACTICAL

MANUAL OF FLAX CULTURE,

Such a work as will enable new beginners to grow Flax successfully, on the first trial. It will contain Essays from Practical Men of much experience—the opening one by a gentleman who has cultivated Flax over thirty years, and understands the modus operandi thoroughly. The work will also embrace an able Essay on

Hemp and Flax in the West,

From the pen of a Western gentleman who is well posted, and capable of imparting the information he possesses on the subject.

The Manual will be issued in handsome style, pamphlet form. Price only 25 cents—for which a copy will be sent to any point reached by the U. S. or Canada mails. Liberal discount to Agents and the Trade. Address D. D. T. MOORE, Editor Rural New-Yorker, Rochester, N. Y. April, 1863.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Flour is as last quoted. GRAIN.—There is considerable movement in grain and prices have generally advanced.

MEATS are without important change. DAIRY, &c.—Butter and Eggs are plenty and falling off in price.

Table with market prices for various goods including Flour, Wheat, Corn, and other commodities.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, April 25.—Flour—Market for lower, with a moderate demand. Sales at \$6.10 for superfine.

GRAIN.—Wheat dull, heavy and entirely a minimal sale. Corn a little lower, with a moderate business.

ALBANY, April 25.—Flour and Meal.—There is no movement in flour beyond supplying the immediate wants of the trade at the closing prices of last week.

BUFFALO, April 25.—Flour.—An increasing rain storm has prevailed during the entire forenoon, and the market rules dull.

THE CATTLE MARKETS. NEW YORK, April 25.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

Table with cattle market prices for different grades of beef, veal, and other livestock.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, April 18.—The market for wool is dull and prices nominal. The auction sales in Boston have not had the effect of changing the figures here.

Table with wool market prices for various types of wool including Saxony, American, and other grades.

BOSTON, April 18.—The following are the quotations of wool for the week:

Table with wool market prices for Boston, including Saxony and American wool.

Married.

In Little Valley, N. Y., on the 8th inst., by the Rev. G. W. H. ...

Died.

In Union, Iowa, on the 9th inst., ADELIN T., wife of H. R. DAWKIN, and daughter of JAMES H. and SUSAN M. CURTIS.

New Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance.—Thirty-Five CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 50% cents per line of space.

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INVENTIONS AND THEIR RESULTS.—A new book, just published. Send 4 stamps (12 cts.) and procure a specimen copy.

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6,000 AGENTS WANTED TO SELL SIX NEW ORINO CO TOBACCO.—R. O. Thompson & Co. at the subject is a few c's of a d's of this early and reliable...

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STAMMERING. Cured by Bates' Patent scientific appliances, the only known means for the rapid and permanent cure of Stammering.

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The Christian Graces, designed for Concerts, Anniversaries, &c. Price 20 cents. Mailed, on receipt of price.

THE UNIVERSAL. NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, ROCHESTER, FAIR, 1882.

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THE UNIVERSAL. received the DIPLOMA and SILVER MEDAL, and the highest award.

The Universal Clothes Wringer with Cog Wheels was also pronounced superior to all others in the World.

Face Curtains can be "done up" Beautifully. No twisting and tearing in washing, and no mending thereafter.

Back-Breaking, Wrist-Straining, and Clothes-Destroying Process. We are often asked "HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?"

Universal Clothes Wringer: "From several years' experience with it in our own family, and the testimony of hundreds who have used it, and from the construction of the implement itself, we feel certain that it is worthy a place in every family where the washing is done at home."

WITH COG WHEELS—WARRANTED! Canvasers wanted in every town. For Particulars and Circulars, address: JULIUS IVES & CO., P. O. Box 310, 945 Broadway, New York.

\$30 A MONTH AND EXPENSES PAID.—We want Book Canvasers to canvass for a book that meets with rapid sale and pays great profits.

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A SPLENDID FARM FOR SALE.—A Farm of about 35 acres of land located on the Lansing Road, sixteen miles from Jackson, in the center of an old farming country.

A Book that Every Piano Player should have! THE WELCOME GUEST, A Choice Collection (24 large quarto pages) of Music arranged for the Piano...

TWO HUNDRED PIECES OF MUSIC, which, in sheet form, would cost not less than \$50. Price in boards, \$2; cloth, \$3; gilt, \$3. Sent per mail, post-paid, on receipt of the price.

CLOSE OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH VOLUME. Harper's NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR MAY, 1883.

CONTENTS: SCENES IN THE WAR OF 1812.—I. HULL'S CAMPAIGN. Illustrations.—Portrait of William Hull...

NETTIE'S SHELLS. Illustrations.—Nettie's Shells.—Nettie Enslaved.—Notte Enfranchised.

ROBERTS AS A SCIENCE. Illustrations.—Garroting in London.—False Key and Picklock.—Jack-in-the-Box.—The Original Safe.—The Improved Safe-Drill.—The Panel-Cutter.—The Lock-Nipper.—The Key-Nipper.

FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE.—IN THREE PARTS.—PART III. ROMOLA. By the Author of "ADAM BEDE".

THE SMALL HOUSE AT ALLINGTON. Illustrations.—The Squire makes a Visit to the Small House. Dr. Crofts.

HOUSELESS. Illustrations.—I. West End; Portraits and Domestic Sketches.—II. South Side: Originals by American Artists. Never on Exhibition.

A TRIP TO THE CAUCASUS. ROSEMARY.—IN THREE PARTS.—PART I. THE DRIFT OF AMERICAN SOCIETY.

THROUGH SUFFERING. A THEORY WORKED OUT. INSECTS INJURIOUS TO FRUIT.

A TALK WITH JEFFERSON. WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUMS. OUTWARD BOUND. MONTHLY RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

EDITOR'S EASY CHAIR. EDITOR'S DRAWER. MR. PIGG'S PICTURE GALLERY.

Illustrations.—I. West End; Portraits and Domestic Sketches.—II. South Side: Originals by American Artists. Never on Exhibition.

FASHIONS FOR MAY. Illustrations.—Street Dress.—Home Toilet.

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Every Department of the Magazine will continue to be conducted upon the same general principles as heretofore, with such additions and improvements as may be suggested by a constantly increasing experience; and the Publishers confidently look for a continuance of the liberal support and cordial favor which have from the first been accorded to their efforts. They pledge themselves that the Twenty-Sixth Volume, which commences with the next Number, shall be in no wise inferior to any which have preceded it. The next Number will contain a full account, abundantly illustrated, of the late Indian Massacres in Minnesota, written by one who was a participant in many of the scenes which he describes.

The present Number contains contributions from HARRIET E. PRESCOTT, SAMUEL OSGOOD, LOUIS PALMER, A. H. GUERNSEY, LOUIS FURNISS, D. P. THOMPSON, MARY E. BRADLEY, GEO. WILLIAM CURTIS, DINAH MARY MULLOCK, N. G. SHEPHERD, CHARLOTTE TAYLOR, J. W. DE FOREST, CAROLINE CHESTER, EUGENE T. WATSON, MARIAN C. EVANS, JOSEPH E. MILLER, B. J. LOSSING, ANTHONY TROLOPE, and H. M. ALDEN.

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OUR SHIP OF STATE.

BY WM. D. GALLAGHER.

In the brave old days of "Eighty-Seven," One heart—one hope—one fate, We fashioned the model, and laid the keel, And bulldozed our Ship of State,— 'Twas oak of our Northern mountains, And pine of our Southern hills, And our Midland's cedar and iron, And our whole land's linking wills. Britannia ruled the waves then, Mistress of many a sea, And the Red-Cross flag was the signal For other flags to flee— But over the broad Atlantic, As strong, as calm as fate, Rode a gallant barque that fled from none, And that was our Ship of State.

The Story-Teller.

THE POISONED CUP: AN INCIDENT IN THE LIFE OF HENRY VII.

BY MARY GRACE HALPINE.

THE silken arras of King Henry's apartment was suddenly thrust aside. The monarch started, and placed his hand upon his sword, for his life had been attempted more than once. But he smiled at this causeless fear, as his eyes fell upon the slight form of the intruder, with its sweet, youthful face. The young girl advanced with a timid yet graceful step, and sank down upon one knee. "What do you seek, my child?" said the king, looking with paternal kindness upon the face, which, with all its softness and delicacy of contour, had a high and daring look. "I crave no boon, sire," returned the maiden, obeying the motion of his hand, and rising to her feet—"at least, not now. I have come to warn you of a plot against your life." "Ha! what mean you?" exclaimed Henry, in alarm, his countenance darkening with the suspicions that were ever ready to spring up in his heart. "I will tell you. But first swear by the cross upon your sword, that if you find the words true you will give me the life I shall ask of you." "I swear," said the king, hurriedly, raising the jeweled hilt of his sword to his lips as he spoke. "Now go on." "You dinâ in state to-morrow, with the Duke of Bedford?" "That was our intention. But surely his grace, our good uncle, has not turned traitor to his king?" "Not to my knowledge, sire, yet it is there that death lies in wait for you! Listen to me, and mark my words well. In the banquet-hall you will observe among the servitors a man, tall, broad-chested, and strong of limb, and with look and bearing ill-befitting his garb and station. Unless weary of life, drink not of the cup he will present you! Neither forget the promise you made to her who has risked more than life in saving yours." And before the king could recover from his astonishment, she was gone.

"By'r lady! but he looks more used to handling the lance than that bit of gilded metal!" "I know not, your majesty," returned the duke. "He is a stranger, who, for the day, takes the place of my faithful butler, Hubert, who is sick." Just at this instant the man approached them. According to custom, he presented the cup he bore, and which was filled with a compound of milk, honey, wine and spices, then held in much repute, to the duke, who gave it with his own hands to the king. Henry took the cup, and keeping his eyes fixed steadily upon the man's countenance raised it slowly to his lips. Only a keen observer could have detected the gleam of triumph that shot from beneath the drooping lashes, but it was not unnoticed by him. Removing the cup, he turned his eyes full upon his host, saying: "Will it please your grace to receive this from our hand, as a token of our gratitude for the faithful and zealous service you have rendered us?" The duke's face flushed with gratified pride; for, to be thus publicly served by his sovereign, and with such kind and gracious words, was a high distinction. "With many thanks, my liege," he said, taking the cup, as he spoke. "God save King Henry!" Unsuspecting of evil, he would have drained it at a draught, had not the king, whose countenance instantly cleared, laid his hand upon his arm. "Nay, my good uncle," he said, "your willingness to oblige us is enough." "It is our royal pleasure," he added, "that the bearer of this cup shall drink of it to the confusion of the enemies of our crown and person!" As Henry said this, he fixed his eyes keenly upon the countenance of the servitor, who, during this conversation, had been vainly striving to conceal his increasing agitation. He turned slightly pale as the king pushed the cup toward him. Nevertheless, he said in a clear, steady voice: "I pray your majesty to excuse me. I have made a vow that no wine shall pass my lips until my own wrongs be righted." "Is that thy reason?" said the king, with a significant smile. "We shall see. Here, Errio," he added, offering the cup to a large greyhound that was crouched at his feet. The long, smooth tongue of the noble animal had scarcely lapped the last drop, when, staggering, he fell lifeless upon the floor. King Henry sprang to his feet. "Treason!" he shouted, bringing his clenched hand down heavily upon the table, and glancing with flashing eyes around upon the astonished courtiers, who, following his example, arose, and stood looking at each other in terror and dismay. "I trust that your majesty will bear witness," said the duke, in an agitated voice, "that I would have drank of the cup, had you permitted me." "I would that the hearts of all present were as loyal as thine," said Henry, laying his hand upon the duke's shoulder. "Yet well do I know," he added, glancing darkly around, "that yonder knave has a master at whose bidding he has done this. Away with him! If he reveals the name of his instigator, he may find mercy at our hands. If he refuses, he dies at the break of day." During this scene, a slight female figure had been vainly striving to force her way through the body of armed men, who, fearful of further treachery, had gathered around the king. As soon as Henry observed her, he bade them stand back, and beckoned her to approach. With pale cheek and unsteady step the young girl obeyed, and throwing herself at his feet, clasped his knees. "Rise, fair maiden," exclaimed Henry; "this posture ill befits the preserver of England's king!" "I will not rise, sire," returned the suppliant, "until you have pardoned that unhappy man, my wretched, misguided father, whose wrongs and sufferings have nearly bereft him of reason. It is his life that I ask at your hands!" "What!" exclaimed Henry, with a frown, "the life of my attempted murderer? Methinks that is a strange request, lady!" "My liege," said the maiden, imploringly, "remember thine oath! Break not thy kingly word. Let me not feel that in saving my sovereign's life, I have become a parricide!" "There is some strange mystery here," said the king, addressing those around him. "Let the man be brought before me." The criminal's brow did not blench, as he stood before the king, who, regarding him sternly, said: "What prompted you to this deed of guilt and madness?" "The wrongs and insults heaped upon me by your own hand!" returned the accused, giving a look as stern and haughty as his own. "Now, by the holy rood, thou liest, knave!" exclaimed Henry, angrily. "I knew not, until now, that there was such a person as thyself in merrie England." "Thou shouldst have known it. The son of Sir Philip Darcy, who fell at Bosworth, fighting for his king, should not have lingered all these years in poverty and obscurity." "Sir Philip left no son. He was an impostor who claimed his estate and title." "I am that impostor," said the man, raising his head haughtily, as he spoke. "And yet, nevertheless, his son and rightful heir." "Thy look and bearing show thee speaker truly," said the king, in a gentler tone, for he still held in grateful remembrance the brave knight who fell at his right hand on the victorious field of Bosworth. "But why didst thou not present the proofs of thy birthright?" "I did, your majesty, but was unable to obtain a hearing. I thrice sought a personal interview, and was thrust from your gate with indignities that nearly maddened me. I then went to France, my mother's birthplace and mine. Collecting the most conclusive evidence of the validity of my claims, I transmitted it to you by the

hand of a trusty friend; but that evidence was rejected, and a price set upon my head. I returned in disguise to find myself an outlaw in the land, whose peace my father purchased with his life. The rest you know." "Who is the trusty friend of whom thou speakest?" "Sir John Trevit, who is now present, and who will bear witness that what I say is true." The king turned a dark look upon Sir John, who stood pale and trembling, the very picture of guilt and terror. "Ha, I understand," he said. "It is upon him that I conferred the Darcy lands, supposing there to be no heir. He has dealt treacherously by us both. But I will attend to that anon." "On account of the wrong we have unwittingly done thee," he added, turning to Darcy, "and the debt we owe thy daughter, we not only accord thee a free pardon, reinstating thee in thy rightful inheritance, but make thee peer of the realm, an honor which we should have conferred upon thy gallant father, had he lived to receive it, and which, we trust, will be worthily borne by his son." "You have made me more than that," said the grateful man, kneeling at the king's feet, as he spoke, every vestige of the pride gone that naught but kindness could subdue; "you have made me a true friend and a loyal subject!" "Amen!" responded Henry. "Now, go; and forget not all thou owest to the gentle daughter, whose loyalty and filial devotion have saved thy life and mine."—Home Journal.

Wit and Humor.

THE CAUSE OF THE WAR.

SEPOYS—see thieves— C. Bonds—see slaves— See seizures made in every kind of way; See debts sequestered— See island frustrated; Segars—seditionists—and C. S. A., Seduced from honor bright— Secluded from serene Wisdom's light; Sea-pent by ships of war— Selected planters for the world no more; Severely snubbed by all— Secure to fall; Sedately left alone by all who see Seed poisonous sown in sectional retrogression; See-saw diplomacy, sedition foul per se; Sequel—that serio comic scene— SEBESSION!

LITTLE JOKERS.

MR. JENKINS remarked to his wife that in her he possessed four fulls. "Name them, my love." "You are beautiful, dutiful, youthful, and an armful." "You have the advantage of me, my dear." "How so, my precious?" "I have but one fool." Mr. Jenkins made no further inquiries. AN unmannerly wag being asked by the landlady of his boarding house why, being so tall a man he ate so little, replied, "Madam, a little goes a great way with me!" "PATRIOTISM" depends upon how you spell it, whether you can praise the article or not! Pay-tri-otism is the way that a majority of men should write the word. The experience of many a life:—"What a fool I've been!" The experience of many a wife:—"What a fool I've got!"

Corner for the Young.

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

I AM composed of 24 letters. My 1, 13, 6, 7 is a well known vegetable. My 3, 16, 13, 15, 12, 23, 19, 20, 22, 2, 23, 19 is what we should always do. My 9, 5, 13, 20, 17 is a very useful animal. My 4, 11, 22, 8 is a measure. My 1, 22, 6, 7, 8, 13 is a kind of liquor. My 14, 21, 4 is raised by all farmers. My 16, 20, 15, 22 is a kind of fruit. My 4, 11, 22, 7 is an indispensable article. My 1, 2, 23, 13, 22 is made by farmer's wives. My 5, 11, 10 is a kind of meat. My 3, 7, 6, 12, 13 is an ugly reptile. My 24, 6, 16 is the juice of plants. My whole is a familiar saying. JERE M. C. Glendale, Ohio, 1863.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. AN ANAGRAM.

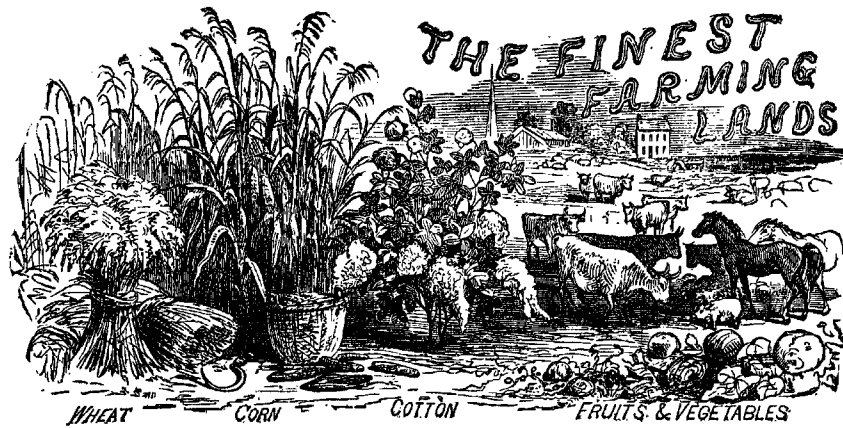
SHEERET a mrcba ni eth dvro lod msiot, Emor wetes hnat het nistrea fo nofs, Nda rat wond eth enoc fo myremo, Eht twilfay achr en nolas; Till i meco of eth sreho hewr gamtenfs eil, Fo fyso atit ewre kwdeocer ni syad enog yb. Millport, N. Y., 1863. E.M.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. MECHANICAL QUESTION.

A SECOND pendulum, being transported to the highest peak of the Rocky mountains, was observed to lose 55½ vibrations per day (24 hours.) Required the height of the peak, allowing the earth's radius to be 4,000 miles. Gouverneur, N. Y., 1862. E. A. DODDS.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 691.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States. Answer to Geometrical Problem:—The required radius is 0 ft. 1.922267 in. Answer to Anagram: I have not wealth, or power, or skill, To broadcast all around; The world's wide field I may not till, Nor sow its fallow ground, But little spots are here and there, Which I may weed of grief or care. Answer to Riddle:—Glass.



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AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. The Agricultural products of Illinois are greater than those of any other State. The wheat crop of 1861 was estimated at 35,000,000 bushels, while the Corn crop yielded not less than 140,000,000 bushels besides the crops of Oats, Barley, Rye, Buckwheat, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Pumpkins, Squashes, Flax, Hemp, Peas, Clover, Cabbage, Beets, Tobacco, Sorghum, Grapes, Peaches, Apples, &c., which go to swell the vast aggregate of production in this fertile region. Over Four Million tons of produce were sent out the State of Illinois during the past year.

STOCK RAISING. In Central and Southern Illinois uncommon advantages are presented for the extension of Stock raising. All kinds of Cattle, Horses, Mules, Sheep, Hogs, &c., of the best breeds, yield handsome profits; large fortunes have already been made, and the field is open for others to enter with the fairest prospects of like results. DAIRY FARMING also presents its inducements to many.

CULTIVATION OF COTTON. The experiments in Cotton culture are of very great promise. Commencing in latitude 39 deg. 30 min. (see Map on the Branch, and Assumption on the Main Line), the Company owns thousands of acres well adapted to the perfection of this fibre. A settler having a family of young children, can turn their youthful labor to a most profitable account in the growth and perfection of this plant.

MINING AND MANUFACTURES. The great resources of the State, in Coal, Iron, Lead, Zinc, Potter's Clay, Limestone, Sandstone, &c., &c., are almost untouched; they await the arrival of enterprising and energetic men accustomed to convert them into gold.

RAILROAD SYSTEM OF ILLINOIS. Railroads intersect the whole State. \$115,000,000 has been invested in completing the great network that links every part of the State into immediate connection with the surrounding States and the directest thoroughfares of commerce.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD Traverses the whole length of the State, from the banks of the Mississippi and Lake Michigan to the Ohio.—As its name imports, the Railroad runs through the centre of the State, and on either side of the road along its whole length lie the lands offered for sale.

TO ACTUAL SETTLERS. From the unprecedented advantages this Company offers, it is not surprising that it should have already disposed 1,200,000 acres of land. It is now selling at the rate of 5,000 acres per week. The population along the line has trebled in ten years, and is now 814,891.—The Company sell to actual cultivators, and every contract contains an agreement to cultivate.

CITIES, TOWNS, MARKETS, DEPOTS. There are Ninety-eight Depots on the Company's Railway, giving about every seven miles. Cities, Towns and Villages are situated at convenient distances throughout the whole route, where every desirable commodity may be found as readily as in the oldest cities of the Union, and where buyers are to be met for all kinds of farm produce.

EDUCATION. Mechanics and working-men will find the free school system encouraged by the State, and endowed with a large revenue for the support of the schools. Children can live in sight of the school, the college, the church, and grow up with the prosperity of the leading State in the Great Western Empire.

No one who has visited this splendid region of country can doubt that it equals the most favored descriptions that have ever been given of it; but let any careful observer visit it, and he will inform you that the half has not been told of the advantages it offers for immediate occupation and immediate returns, and it is believed, that if these surpassing advantages were made known to the farmers, mechanics, manufacturers and working population of over-crowded Europe, they would promptly avail themselves of the knowledge.

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