

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

[SINGLE NO. FIVE CENTS.]

VOL. XIV. NO. 23.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1863.

{WHOLE NO. 699.

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.

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

For Terms and other particulars, see last page.

Agricultural.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

BROOM-CORN CULTURE IN ILLINOIS.

DURING the past week I have visited two large broom-corn farms; one located at Kankakee City, sixty miles south of Chicago, MCGREW & VAIL, proprietors; the other at Champaign, 128 miles south of Chicago, JOHNSON & BOGARDUS, proprietors. The first named gentlemen I found at home, and am indebted to them for their system of broom-corn husbandry, in detail; the latter firm I was not fortunate enough to meet, and have, consequently, few specific items concerning their operations. But what I learned at these two farms I propose to give the reader.

LOCATION OF A BROOM-CORN FARM.

This question of location is one of a good deal of importance to the broom-corn husbandman; for in its cultivation, but more especially during harvest and the process of preparation for market, a great deal of help is required. Hence it is found best, in the West, to locate near some railroad town, where plenty of help may be secured whenever wanted. Regard to this matter ruled in the location of the two farms named.

SOIL.

Any good corn soil is regarded good for broom-corn. The land cultivated in this crop at Kankakee is a low, level prairie, but rich soil. The soil of the Champaign farm contains less humus, and is located on high rolling prairie, well drained. The low lands are mole drained—on the Champaign farm—and there is little doubt that the elevation and character of the soil secures a greater uniformity in the amount and quality of the crop; though on this point I have no testimony. The low lands of Kankakee were not drained. Almost any of our prairie soils will grow good broom-corn. It is not easy to find any too rich to grow it. New land is the best.

PREPARATION OF SOIL.

In the case of the two farms named, broom-corn follows broom-corn. The lands are not plowed in the fall. The first thing necessary is to get rid of the stalks, or at least put them out of the way of the plow. MCGREW & VAIL use a long heavy T rail of railroad iron, hitching a team to each end of it and draw it lengthwise the rows to break the stalks down to the ground. This is usually done in winter, when the ground is frozen hard. When the stalks get dry, if the weather is such that they do, they are burned—sometimes raked up by hand, and, again, burned without raking. But Mr. VAIL has adopted a new mode of getting rid of them. He plows them under. He has constructed a section roller, consisting of six independent wooden drums, nine inches wide, and three feet and a half in diameter. These rollers are placed on the axle about four or five inches apart. Suspended from the frame which supports the axle of these rollers, is another frame, from which are suspended five rolling steel cutters similar to those used on plows, which revolve in the spaces between these roller sections. This secondary frame is suspended from the roller frame in front by iron eyes bolted through the two frames respectively, and in the rear by a standard and lever, so that the cutter frame may be raised or lowered at will by lifting the lever. This is necessary in turning, and is a convenience when

moving the roller from point to point. The coulters may be dropped so as to enter the ground about three inches, and raised entirely out of the ground. After the stalks have been leveled by the railroad iron, as above described, when the ground gets soft and dry, this roller, with its system of coulters, is drawn crosswise the rows. The rollers press and hold the stalks to the ground, while the coulters cut them in pieces about a foot long; and then the plow easily turns them under.

But JOHNSON & BOGARDUS have a still better way of getting rid of the stalks; and on the large corn farms in Central and Southern Illinois this implement may be useful. Their process is to rake up the stalks, and burn them just before plowing. Indeed, I saw two or three teams plowing and one raking stalks on the same field on their farm. The work is done very rapidly and effectively. All this breaking down the stalks with railroad iron is dispensed with. But this work of raking broom-corn stalks cannot be done with an ordinary rake. The one I saw in use may be described as follows:—A substantial axle twelve feet long, (I should think,) with a pole, is supported by two buggy wheels, or the fore wheels of a farm wagon. Two wooden arms, three or three and a half feet long, extend back from the axle at right-angles to it, and support a rake-head, made like an ordinary revolving rake, except that the teeth are wrought iron, an inch and a quarter or an inch and a half in diameter. A lever runs back from the center of the axle, from which is suspended a brake two and a half or three feet long. This brake drops down upon the head of the rake in front of the teeth, the lever projecting back of the rake a convenient distance. It will be seen, then, that this is a revolving wheel rake. The teeth are dragged along over the surface in a position nearly vertical to the earth. A single team draws it, and the driver drives his team lengthwise the rows; when the rake has accumulated a sufficient quantity of stalks to make a wind-row, he lifts the lever, thus lifting the brake, lets the rake revolve half round, emptying its load, and the brake drops in time to prevent a second revolution. Thus the ground is raked clean of stalks—many of the hills being torn out by the iron teeth, and the entire surface being completely scarified. What this implement cost I did not learn; but it could not have cost more than VAIL's roller, and is worth twice as much for the work they were designed to do. A boy, with a match, fires the windrows of stalks as a "load" is raked, and thus the stalks are disposed of.

The plows follow the roller and the rake. The ground, as I saw it, is not very deeply turned—not as deep as it should be, I think. Only the ordinary field plowing is done. On JOHNSON & BOGARDUS' place two gang plows were in operation. Each gang, consisting of two plows, is drawn by two span of horses. The advantage is the saving of one hand. One man drives, guides and controls each gang. The war, with its draft upon the working men of the country, has rendered these gang plows a necessity. A great many of them are being used in the West this year, and many more would be, could they have been obtained when wanted. The plows were followed by harrows. Then, on the Kankakee lands, the drill succeeds and the seed is put in. But at Champaign the roller followed the harrow before the drill. The ground at Kankakee was very cloddy. I asked if it would not have been better to have rolled it before drilling. The reply was—"No, because the weeds start quicker on rolled land than they do on land left rough and loose by the harrow; but a roller follows in the path of each drill, giving the broom-corn seed all the advantage of rolling, quickening its germination, but leaving the poor weeds behind." This is an important item where we have so much cultivating to do; and so much that needs to be done about the same time.

PLANTING.

This is done at the time of corn planting. I found this work as far advanced at Kankakee as at Champaign; and yet there is considerable difference in latitude. Quite large areas were yet to be put in at both places, at the time of my visit, 22d and 23d of May. Indeed, a good deal of land had yet to be plowed for this crop. The seed is put in at Kankakee in drills three feet apart, and from an inch and a half to three inches in the drill; at Champaign the drills are two feet nine inches apart, and about two or three inches in the drill, as an average. Mr. VAIL said they were apt to get it too thick. Thought it should be about three inches apart in the drill. As a guide, he said, where the seed is

good, a busbel should plant 16 to 20 acres. In this matter he is governed by the character of the seed. He sprouts it and determines what per cent will germinate before he fixes the amount per acre.

At Kankakee a drill is used which plants three rows at a time. It is a wheat-drill altered for this work. I do not know what patent it was. A small cast wheel or cylinder, with caps on the periphery, revolves in the bottom of the seed-box; the cups are emptied of the seed into cloth or rubber tubes connecting with hollow iron shoes, which run in the soil, opening a furrow or drill for the seed. Each of these shoes is followed by an iron roller, taken from three Utica corn-cultivators for the purpose. The seed is thus dropped in moist soil, and the same compressed close about it by the roller.

I said three rows are drilled at a time, each three feet from the other. The mode of operating is such as to secure uniformity in the width between the rows. Two men operate the drill—one driving the team, the other following the drill, watching its operation, keeping the shoes clear of clods and the tubes in the shoes, &c. He also sets over the guide sticks. These guide sticks are light, straight poles nine feet long. There are three of them—one at each side or end of the field, and the other at the center. The first three rows having been started, the man who follows the drill lays one end of his nine feet pole at the track of the center drill, and thrusts it into the ground at its other extremity, thus indicating where the next center drill shall be. The center drill of the machine being immediately in the rear of the pole, the driver guides his team so that the pole shall range with the guide stakes.

At Champaign a different drill is used. Only two rows are drilled at a time—2 feet 9 inches apart. The manner of guiding this is different. This drill is not supported on wheels, (I think;) but from each drill box project two arms, each 17 1/2 inches long, in each of which is inserted a shoe, or tooth. These teeth are the guides. The outside one makes a path in which it is the duty of the driver to see that the inside tooth runs. I did not see this drill in operation, but conclude one man operates it, and it certainly does its work well. The great importance of pressing the earth about the seed is here recognized also; for a roller with a concave periphery follows each drill, covering the seed and compressing the soil. Each of the above described implements do excellent work. I think I should prefer the one at Kankakee, all things considered; that it is a better one, I cannot aver, however.

[Culture, Harvesting, etc., will be given in next issue.]

EASTERN RURAL NOTES.

ACQUAINT YOURSELVES WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS IN YOUR VICINITY.

Do farmers, do agriculturists in general, know, by inspection or otherwise, as much about what others are doing in farm improvements, in stock raising, in sheep husbandry, in mechanics, in the construction of cisterns and other water supplying apparatus, in farm buildings, in repairing old ones, and, in short, in the movements of the day in their own vicinity as they ought?

Often it is the case we know something considerable about the improvements and advances made in the usefulness of implements, and the purchases of improved domestic animals at a distance, and so of other things which we are interested in, while equally as good stock is brought within a few miles of us and we know nothing of it, or the very implement is manufactured near home which is sought for at a much greater distance.

As an illustration, JOHN JOHNSTON, Esq., in a letter to Col. B. P. JOHNSON, Sec'y N. Y. State Ag. Society, in 1860, in giving an account of a fifteen mile ride, says:—"I found two tile works on my ride, that I had never heard of, and one of them had been doing a good business for four years; the other commenced a year ago, and found a ready market for all it could make." Here is a commendable example of honesty in not pretending to know all about what was going on around; but it is also not a little singular that one who was all the time underrating his own lands and advocating it to others should not know of these "tile works."

ANNUALS.

Not annual roses or annual flowers, but annual books. Of these, the number is annually increasing; some better, and some, in the even tenor of their way, about the same year after year.

There are Agricultural and Horticultural annuals, very good and scientific annuals, with encyclopedias that are good, but this year brings a new one, that is, somewhat new, viz.: *The National Almanac and Annual Record for 1863*, being a wide 12 mo., of some 700 pages. I do not remember seeing a notice in the RURAL of this work, and as it contains much of use to the farmer, to the general reader, to the professional man, a few words about it will not be amiss. The farmer who has few or many books will find the statistical tables of particular use in comparing the productions of one State with another when wishing to verify statements made by speakers or writers; political or agricultural. The Record of Important Events in the War up to December 31, 1862, contains a notice of every movement, almost, in a concise form, and had it been so arranged that any particular transaction could readily be turned to it would be more valuable. Probably it is to be obtained at any bookstore, if not, apply to Mr. GEORGE W. CHILDS, Philadelphia.

Valuable annuals increase in value as they increase in years or numbers, hence it is an object to obtain them as published. Had I commenced buying the *Scientific Annual* when it was first started, and added each volume yearly, the fourteen volumes would now be quite a valuable addition to a small library. But it was thought then, "I could not afford it," so none of them are in my possession; yet I have often regretted that decision. Gladly would I write a whole article upon these useful works; but even now more is here given than was intended.

FARMERS SHOULD INVEST MORE CAPITAL.

In these war times there are many farmers with money to let—glad to let it at four to six per centum—the legal rate is six per cent. in Maine. Why not invest your surplus money in farming appurtenances and thus increase the pleasures of your vocation? Why not enrich that field of yours, or increase your corn and root crops two or three-fold by the application of some concentrated manure to them in addition to the usual amount applied? And there are the surroundings of your home to beautify, the library to be replenished, and if a few more of our first class agricultural papers were received, they would leave no place for the slimy, ephemeral publications to obtain a foothold in the family circle,—and, beside, if any are so unfortunate as to already have the latter in their midst, from not supplying a better class of reading by making a beautiful addition of the high-toned agricultural literature, these spawns of evil will gradually give way to that which is good and wholesome.

The Hon. JOSIAH QUINCY, Jr., of Boston, in an address before the N. Y. State Ag. Society, says, that at the great Exhibition held in Paris, he met with an English farmer who had just leased an estate at \$8,000 per annum, to whom he put nearly this question:—"What was the first thing you did? He says that, with a smile, he replied:—"The first thing I did was to invest ten thousand pounds sterling (fifty thousand dollars,) in stock, utensils, seeds and manures." When eastern farmers act more upon this principle, suiting the investments to their tastes, capacity, situation and means, the epithet, meager farmers, meager farming, will be short of its barb to a great degree, and agriculture will begin to take her appropriate place by elevating her followers. Judiciously invest more of your capital and develop your intellect, develop your farm, and educate your children to their vocation.

Franklin Co., Me. O. W. TRUB.

COWS AND SHEEP, AGAIN.

In the RURAL of April 4th, T. C. P. makes a calculation in regard to which is the most profitable, under ordinary circumstances, dairy farming or sheep husbandry, and as he figures the case makes quite a difference in favor of dairy farming,—in fact, such a difference, if it exists, that all should heed. In conclusion, T. C. P. asks the question:—"Will somebody tell me where I have made a mistake? I think T. C. P. has probably made a fair estimate in regard to the number of sheep to be kept instead of cows, but the cost in each case would not compare in this vicinity in ordinary times, and here is where I think T. C. P. made his first mistake in favor of the cows. His second is in rating the average product of milk per cow at too great a quantity for the season. His third is in not allowing enough for the extra labor in taking care of the cow and her product.

At the ordinary average prices in this vicinity sheep would cost on the first of March \$3 per

head, and cows an average of \$28. Then, according to the best statistics we can get, the average produce of the cow would not be over 500 gallons milk for the year, at the highest figures. Probably the cows of this State do not nearly come up to that quantity. Then the extra labor would, in my estimation, be \$10 instead of \$5, as T. C. P. estimates. Some persons in this county are hiring their cows milked at one shilling a head per week, which, at forty weeks, would use up the \$5 extra in milking alone, to say nothing about any other care that would be necessary to have the products of the cow put in the best condition for the market.

In regard to sheep T. C. P. has put the price of wool less than fine wool sells for in this county, as an average. The number of lambs are less than any good shepherd should be contented to raise for the sheep, and, also, the price here would be at least \$2 as an average, instead of \$1.50. Then we should have, at that ratio, \$40 as product for the cow, less \$10 for extra care, with the addition of \$7 as extra cost. We should have \$14 for wool and for lambs, \$7 on the side of the sheep, which is less in value, both in wool and lambs, than T. C. P. has valued the milk in his estimate from which I have quoted. Seven cents per gallon is as high an estimate for the milk as 40 cents per pound is for wool, which would reduce the value of the cow's product to \$35, which, probably, is nearer the correct value of the average of the products of the cows in this State than a higher figure, especially for a period of ten years together. The past year it has been higher, and so has the products of the sheep, but T. C. P. takes the sheep at a low figure, except the yield of wool, which is fair. One of my neighbors told me a few days since he never sold his wool less than 50 cents per pound, had sold as high as 63 cents, and his crop the past year probably over 75 cents per pound. Now, I do not think 50 cents per pound for wool, and \$2 each for lambs, any more than a fair value for the sheep when a cow is rated at 500 gallons of milk per year at 7 cents per gallon, and I have no doubt that a careful shepherd should double his flock every year if they are kept for breeding purposes, because if the lambs are sold the ewe lambs only need be kept in such quantity as to keep the flock good. Then the twin lambs would, with careful attention, make up for all losses. They have done so with me, and more than that. Two years ago I raised 9 lambs from 7 ewes; last year I was still more successful, and I have not the celebrated Nankin China Sheep, either; but Merino grades. My account would stand thus:—Seven sheep at \$3 each, \$21; value of wool \$17.50; of lambs, at \$2.50, \$22.50; total, \$40, which would leave the cow, with her products, in the rear.

I wish to say that I would not advise any man to change his cows for sheep at present, but let the dairy farmer keep on in the even tenor of his way to prosperity; also let the shepherd stick to his flock and improve them. That there is, probably, not much difference in the prosperity of a well-conducted dairy farm or a sheep farm well managed, I am satisfied after an experience of 20 years. That the difference in favor of either is very slight, and that the difference as shown by T. C. P. is on paper only, and does not exist in fact, (probably even the last season, which was one of extra prices for the dairy farmer,) that the cows in the State of New York did not exceed \$30 each, taking them as a whole, perhaps the statistics which have been taken the past winter in this State will show.

Rome, N. Y., 1863. J. TALCOTT.

"ABOUT WOMEN FARMING?"

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I have read with interest the communication of your correspondent, J. TALCOTT, deprecating the idea of women becoming practical farmers as advocated by H. C. WRIGHT and others. The writer is evidently a believer in the "inalienable rights" of women to life, liberty, and the pursuit of money, but his objections are based upon the ground that "continued out-door labor on the farm by a young girl, or woman, tends to lower her position in social life, and he points to the degraded condition of women among savage nations as conclusive evidence in favor of his positions." He reasons substantially thus:—Women perform the out-door drudgery in barbarous and savage nations. Women are degraded in barbarous and savage nations. Therefore, performing out-door drudgery degrades women. This conclusion may appear very logical to the careless thinker; nevertheless, I cannot help thinking there is something wrong in the premises. This subject,

like every other which affects human happiness, should be considered carefully, and argued with candor and earnestness.

To begin at the beginning, why do men in the rudimentary states of society refuse to perform the necessary labor of tilling the soil? In the first place, because the idea that till is disgraceful is common to all savage and semi-civilized nations. In the second place, they know no law but the law of "might makes right," and so compel their women to bear the burdens of life. For themselves they prefer the more manly exercises of hunting, fishing or scalping and roasting their enemies. In time the world progressed far enough to see that labor was not disgraceful for commoners, but only for kings, priests and nobles. It was reserved for the "Indefatigable Yankee" to demonstrate to the world the fact that a man may labor with his hands, may be a "plow-jogger," yet, at the same time, a "country gentleman."

Now, can any man or woman give a good reason why any labor which is refining and elevating for a man, is at the same time coarse and degrading for a woman? Women have as many sets of muscles as men, and are commonly reported to possess an extra rib. Is it more degrading to exercise those muscles in plowing the soil or sowing grain where one's lungs are regaled with the pure air of heaven, than in washing, ironing or scrubbing, or, worse than all, in cooking indigestible compounds (commonly called food) where one is obliged to inhale the filthy odor of burning fat?

Your correspondent alludes to the degraded condition of woman in civilized countries, even, that are obliged to labor in the fields for a livelihood, and thinks that "even Mr. Wright himself would be disgusted with them." No doubt of it. Mr. Wright would be disgusted with a soulless and sensual woman, whether she was harnessed with an ox to plow the earth, or clad in silks and resplendent with jewels, the petted slave of a lustful master. It is slavery and not honest and virtuous labor, that degrades and debases woman, from the beautiful but soulless "Pride of the Harem" to the disgusting and filthy squaw among the savage Sioux. And here allow me to say, if there is one man who, more than another, has labored for the true elevation of woman, that man is HENRY C. WRIGHT. I know nothing more than your correspondent of Mrs. ROBERTS and her daughter, but I will venture to affirm that for real intelligence, for wealth of mind and heart, they would outweigh all the fashionable and charming ladies of Snobdom, with all their jewels, flowers, feathers and laces thrown into the scale.

About the girl of thirteen who plowed an acre and a half per day, taking care of her own team, does any one think it would be a severe or degrading task for a boy of that age? I do not. Then why should it be for a girl whose parents do not consider it a disgrace for girls to be healthy, and bring them up accordingly. Shall we look with contempt upon our grandmothers who so bravely bore their part in our first war for liberty? God forbid! Yet they did not pause to inquire what tasks were strictly feminine. "What their hands found to do they did with their might," and we, their granddaughters and great-granddaughters, before this second revolution has passed, may be compelled by stern necessity to perform duties far more onerous than "riding a horse with ease and elegance."

Your correspondent says with truth that men "monopolize most of the callings in which women are well qualified to act," and cites teaching in particular, justly observing that there should be no difference made in their salaries—that the woman who teaches as well as a man, should be paid the same wages, &c. All correct; but what course shall be pursued to bring about this "consummation so devoutly to be wished." Certainly not by increasing the number of teachers, and thus lessening the demand. Beside, many young women are not fitted by nature or education for teachers, while many young men are. How many young women, stout in body but weak in mind—or at least uncultivated and unfit for teachers of children—might earn good wages by raising wheat and corn when they can scarcely clothe themselves by sewing or doing housework. Men will defraud me of my rights if I teach their children, do their kitchen work, or make their clothes, but if I carry any wheat, corn or other produce to market, they will hardly inquire whether I, or my husband, or some other man, has grown it. Therefore, I say, girls, don't "lay down the shovel and the hoe," but rather take them up; for thus you may dig your way to a competency.

ANSWER TO "QUESTIONS FOR DAIRYMEN"

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Noticing in your journal of May 16th an inquiry from a "Young Farmer" of Crawford, Pa., I take the liberty to answer. I have been a constant reader of your invaluable paper for nine years, and have stored up some valuable information from its pages, finding in every number articles worth a year's subscription. But to the text. First, as to separating the milk of farrow cows from the rest of the dairy. Milk so separated, and cream taken off and treated in the same manner as the rest of the dairy, will produce butter in the same time; hence there can be nothing gained by separating. In cheese, also, it will make no difference.

As to size of packages:—For spring butter 50 to 60 pounds is the most salable size in market. During the summer it depends upon the size of dairy; for 20 cows and upward, 80 to 100 pounds is best. The reason why I mention size of dairy is, that 20 cows will fill a 100-pound tub as quick as 10 cows will fill a 50-pound tub. The object in using a size to correspond to the number of cows is, that the longer a tub is exposed to the air, or not sealed, the more danger of impair-

ing flavor of the butter. I would add that, to secure uniform sweetness to butter upon filling tub, take a cloth sufficiently large to a little more than cover top of tub, and melt butter enough to thoroughly saturate the cloth; then spread over the top of tub, take a knife or ladle and crowd it down on the inside of the tub, putting the cover on firmly. Butter so managed, properly made and stored in a dry, cool cellar, will not lose its freshness.

White ash, next to oak, is the best timber for butter tubs or firkins. All the butter, or nearly all, made in Northern New York, is packed in tubs made of white ash, and are known in market as "Welsh tubs." The tubs should be soaked in sour milk or water for two or three days previous to the filling, and then scalded by turning hot water inside. For tubs to put summer butter in, the heart of the timber only should be used. L. D. PLUMB, Martinsburg, N. Y., 1863.

WILL SALT PRESERVE FENCE POSTS?

YES,—and something else it will do! I like thoroughness in anything undertaken, and would not like to see an article in the RURAL squinting in the wrong direction. But, sometimes people "overdo the matter." A near neighbor of mine, who amassed a competence years ago, had occasion to build a dam across our creek, at his grist mill. Now, the General is a "thorough man." I presume he was maturing plans three years previous to his building it; some twenty years ago. Well, much to the surprise of practical men, the dam yielded last August to the pressure of water, and it went out. Now, for the reason. During the months of July, August, and a part of September, in each year, he could use all the water of the creek for his wheels, and he watched his dam, day and night, letting no water go to waste. Having made his dam so faithfully by planking, and packing with hard-pan clay, it was positively tight, and during the two months which no water was allowed to pass over the dam, the timbers got partly dry,—and, consequently, rotted. When he built that dam, he did not expect to live long enough to see it rot away. But the best laid plans "aft gang age." Had the timbers been wet every day in the year, the dam would have been sound to-day. My reason for writing the above is, that the reader must not cover a blind ditch with any kind of lumber, unless it is to be continually wet, and no mistake about it, else it will decay.

Now, about the salt in posts. Some eight years since, the person alluded to above wished to make a fence in front of his stone residence, and not being a person who likes to be continually patching up and fixing things, he went at that job in his usual thorough way. He got some red beech timber and made posts ten inches square, and bored a hole two inches in diameter from the top of each post down to a point level with the top of the ground, filled the hole with salt, capped them properly, and painted them white. Well, those posts, if permitted, would stand firm, for all that decay might do, during the next generation, under the rule that wood will not decay when wet, and not exposed to the air. But the salt, attracting moisture from the ground, and keeping the wood moist, will not allow the paint to stick to the wood. So it scales off in patches as large as my hand. And then, again, the salt acting on the nails causes red oxide of iron to permeate through the wood, and exude through the paint, forming ill-looking, rusty streaks down the posts. If the readers of the RURAL, or any one of them, like the notion of painting a front fence every year or two,—following the above plan, I suggest that the posts be painted the color of rusty nails. R. S. B. Camden, Oneida Co., N. Y., 1863.

POTATO PLANTING.

DEAR RURAL:—Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among farmers, it seemeth good to me also, not having had a perfect knowledge of all things pertaining thereto, to write unto thee, Oh RURAL, highly esteemed by Agriculturists generally. Though there are many subjects that I would like to say a word about, I will confine my remarks to potato planting.

Shall we cut our seed potatoes? That depends on several circumstances, some of which I will name. If your potatoes are rank and rapid growers, and the soil is rich and moist and to be planted early, you cannot cut them too small, unless you want them for early use,—but for early use they should seldom be cut at all, for the potato will help to give the young plant a vigorous growth when it is needed to hasten maturity. G. D. PHILLIPS' experience agrees with mine exactly, (see RURAL of April 25, page 134,) but very vigorous growers on rich soil would doubtless make some difference.

Farmers vary much about the depth of planting. Here, again, there are several things to be taken into the account. First, the dryness or moisture of the soil, and the habits of the potatoes to be planted. For instance, the Black Neshannock is much inclined to grow on the top of the ground,—hence, four or five inches deep would do no harm on an ordinary soil; while, for a Clinton or Western Red, two or three inches is ample. VULCAN, Darien Center, N. Y., May, 1863.

FEEDING ROTTEN POTATOES, &c.

SOME years the rot does not penetrate potatoes much beyond the rind. I have found profit in feeding such. Never knew stock injured by eating rotten potatoes, apples, &c., if not allowed to over-feed. This would injure, and sometimes kill, if the potatoes, apples, &c., were sound; or if allowed thus to gorge themselves on any kind of grain that they are fond of. I have noticed that the stock of those who feed them rotten

potatoes, &c., with judgment, are generally in better condition than those who neglect to do so. This is however less, perhaps, from the benefit derived, than from their closer personal attention and general economy in feeding, that it indicates in the farmer. My motto is to save all that has value, the saving of which will not cost as much or more than it is worth.

POTATO PLANTING.

Should potatoes be planted fresh from the pit or wilted? Let them wilt, by all means. I once overlooked a few rows dropped, which remained unnoticed and consequently uncovered during several days, and not only wilted but considerably dried. These had the advantage in the strong and healthy appearance of the tops throughout the season, and in the tubers at large, over those covered fresh from the pit. Cut the potatoes and scatter on a little plaster (a very little lime will do,) to prevent bleeding, and allow to wilt if time and circumstances will admit. A. W. T. Nay, Bradford Co., Pa., 1863.

ABOUT MUCK.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I am pleased to learn that Friend HOEHANDLE has turned a "secessionist," and wish there were many more of the same stripe. If he is certain that the hard-pan is not higher than the second rail, it may be some consolation to him to know that his farm can be rejuvenated by a compost made from muck. Now, I am willing to give Friend HOEHANDLE the benefit of my experience; having been raised in Massachusetts, where sterility compelled the farmer to resort to his muck bed for a fertilizer. The usual method was to have the barn-yard entirely clear by the end of harvest; as the muck bed was generally dry at that season of the year. The yard was then filled to the depth of six or eight inches with muck. Upon this the cattle were yarded through the season, and foddered during the ensuing winter. In the following spring, after the cattle went to grass, the manure and litter from foddering was thoroughly mixed with the muck; being forked, or pulled over with hooks. This process was repeated two or three times during the summer, the whole remaining spread over the yard, that the cattle might be herded on it nights, and by August a rich compost was formed. When used for corn and potatoes it was placed in the hill, but always as a top-dressing for grass, spread on in the fall; or if drawn out late, was left in heaps and spread early in the spring. By this process, I know that heavy grass can be raised on somewhat exhausted land. PETER KILLTHISTLE, Chili, Monroe Co., N. Y., 1863.

The Bee-keeper

Bees and Bee Culture.—Answers to Inquiries.

For the past year I have written but little for the press concerning bees and their culture. One reason of this is, that it has taken about all the time I could spare to answer private letters on these topics. It is now my design, Mr. Editor, with your permission, to answer such inquiries as I think may be of interest to your many readers, through the RURAL. By this means, many others, aside from the inquirers, may be benefited. In pursuing this course I will suppress the names of the inquirers, unless I have their permission to put them "in print." Meantime, I should be pleased to have bee-keepers generally send along their inquiries. The more inquiries sent the better. I shall reserve the right of selecting from them for publication. My post-office address will be found at the close of this article. All will please observe that my residence is now in the West. I state this, as letters are frequently sent to me at Middleport, N. Y., my former post-office address.

The following inquiries I have just received from a bee-keeper at Waupun, Fon du Lac Co., Wisconsin:

In perusing the RURALS for 1860, I find an article over your signature, headed "How to Secure Straight Combs." It is in the issue for April 25th. * * * I would be pleased to have you answer the following inquiries:

First—Do you still approve of the Langstroth hive?

Second—How wide should be the pieces of the comb-frame?

Third—Should the underside of the top piece of the comb-frame be level or triangular?

Fourth—How far apart should comb-frames be placed?

Fifth—Should the honey-board rest upon the frames? If not, what is the proper space between the frames and honey-board?

1st. I have now used the Langstroth hive five seasons. I use no other. It answers my purpose fully. I have yet to see the hive superior to it in any respect. I do not say this to advance any pecuniary interest in this hive, for I have no such interest.

2d. I prefer to have the pieces of the comb-frame each seven-eighths of an inch wide. Some prefer them wider. My friend LANGSTROTH uses them one inch wide. But I can see no good reason for having them wider than the comb made in them. The combs for work-brood, when made as they should be, are not far from seven-eighths of an inch thick. The combs can the more readily be taken out when the top piece of the frame is narrow. I refer to the first comb to be taken out of a full hive.

3d. The under side of the top piece of the comb-frame should not be level. Every comb-frame should have a suitable comb-guide. The comb-guide I now use is an excellent one. It is far better than the one in general use. Mr. LANGSTROTH uses it, and thinks it is a decided improvement on the old one. It is triangular, and very small,—say three-eighths of an inch on each side. The smaller any comb-guide is, the better, if not too small. The top-piece of

the comb-frame, and the comb-guide, are solid; that is, they are not made of separate pieces, as formerly. Bees follow this guide with very regular combs. Still we do not depend on the comb-guide alone. Guide-frames are used in connection with them when bees are building comb. We can, by the use of guide-frames, secure straight combs with very little trouble. The combs made between them are as uniform in thickness as a pane of glass! It is no longer my general practice to reverse the combs to secure them straight. Such was my practice at the time the article to which you refer was written.

4th. The frames, when seven-eighths of an inch wide, should be placed about one-half of an inch from each other. A hive fourteen inches wide, inside, is wide enough for ten frames. I have used eleven combs in a hive of that width. They were made, however, between guide-frames.

5th. The honey-board should not rest on the frames. The bees would fasten it to the frames with bee-glue! This would render its removal quite difficult. Besides, in replacing it, more or less bees would be killed.

The proper space between the frames and honey-board is precisely five-sixteenths of an inch. If the space be less than this, the bees will fill it with bee-glue! If more, with comb! But let the proper space be given, and the bees will almost invariably leave it open! The "chamber" at the ends of the frames should likewise be the same as above them. But more space should be given under the frames; one-half an inch is none too much.

M. M. BALDRIDGE.

Saint Charles, Kane Co., Ill., 1863.

Inquiries and Answers.

TOPPING OF SUGAR CANE.—Will some of your numerous readers inform me through the medium of your excellent paper what the topplings of an acre of cane are worth for feeding stock where Timothy hay is worth \$5 per ton?—N. McCALL, Lake City, Minn.

WILL CAR-SMOKES AFFECT BEES?—I would like to inquire, through your valuable paper, if the smoke of the cars will affect bees, and how, if passing about two rods from them? If any one who has had experience will answer, they will very much oblige—A. SUBSCRIBER, Illinois, April, 1863.

COLORING HAIR AND FUR OF SKINS, &c.—I am desirous of learning how to color the fur or hair on skins with different colors, especially black and brown. Also, how to tan the hides without injuring the fur or hair. I will be very much obliged to you if you will send me the above information, or direct where I can obtain it.—JOHN S. MILLER, Wyoming, N. Y.

SOILING.—Sometime since a gentleman asked through the RURAL for the Dr. and Cr. of soiling, and it has not been answered. I believe, if it possible that there are no readers capable of answering such a question? I felt much interested in that query, and have been waiting patiently to have it answered. I am obliged to soil my cows as I have no pasture, and have too much respect for myself to become a highway robber by pasturing the good. When I cut my clover for the cows, I cut it better, be fed green, or cured before feeding.—A. R. J., Shiob, Cumberland Co., N. J.

CULTURE OF THE OSIER WILLOW.—I wish to make some inquiries through the RURAL about the culture of the Osier Willow. 1st. What kind of soil is adapted to the Willow? 2d. Is there more than one variety? If so, which is the most profitable? 3d. Is it propagated by cuttings? 4th. When is the time to plant or set? 5th. Where can the cuttings be obtained, and at what price per thousand? 6th. Will the Willow culture pay with proper attention? Any other light bearing upon this subject (Willow culture) will be very gratefully received by the writer, who is much interested in the weekly perusal of your excellent paper.—A. SUBSCRIBER, Lima, N. Y.

OVERSTOCKING THE COUNTRY WITH BEES.—There is a difference of opinion on this subject among bee-men—some claiming that it is impossible. I do not believe it so. I believe there are localities in the West where the indifferent success with large apiaries is due to an overstock of bees and a want of honey-producing plants. It seems to me this subject of the forage capacity of the country in its relation to bee-culture, merits the attention of some of your accomplished bee correspondents. The honey-producing plants might be named, and a desirable location for a large apiary described or defined.—A. LEARNER.

CULTURE OF PEPPERMINT.—Can you, or some of your readers, give me some information in regard to cultivating Peppermint, and when and how to commence with it? Or do you know of any manual on the culture of Peppermint? If so, please inform me through the columns of your RURAL where I can obtain one, and thus much oblige—A. SUBSCRIBER, Orleans Co., N. Y.

There is no work on Peppermint culture to our knowledge, and but little has been published on the subject in this country. Peppermint is cultivated to a considerable extent in some parts of this State, especially in Wayne county, and we invite those of our readers posted to impart the desired information. BURR, in his "Family Kitchen Gardener," says Peppermint "may be increased with facility by young offset plants or shoots, or by planting the roots in spring, or by planting cuttings during any of the summer months in a moist soil."

SALT FOR POSTS.—In answer to J. W. N., on salt for posts in RURAL of April 18th, I give my experience. Thirty-eight years ago I selected thirty chestnut posts of equal size. Half of the number I bored with an inch auger just at the top of the ground, slopingly, eight inches deep, filled them with salt, and plugged them up. The first post set was salted, next not salted, and so on until all were set. The result was the posts all failed alike, proving to me that salt was lost labor. My mode of setting posts in sandy ground is this:—I dig two and a half feet, set the post, fill with the same dirt to within six or eight inches of the top of the ground, and fill the remainder with clay. Posts set in clay will last one-third longer than those set in sand. Where the ground heaves by frost I dig the hole large and set the post by filling in stone. I have a fence thus treated, set ten years since, not a post of which has moved; all erect.—J. W., Oaks Corners.

SHEEP AND COWS.—A NEW JERSEY VIEW.—In the RURAL of April 4th I noticed a communication from T. C. P. as to the relative value of sheep and cows. Your correspondent wants somebody to tell him where he has made a mistake. I think he has made a mistake in not valuing the yield of sheep high enough. I assume that a sheep on an average will yield 5 lbs. of wool, which is worth in this time of cotton famine 75 cents per lb., and every ewe a lamb, (which they will do if proper care is taken of them.) The lambs are worth here in New Jersey \$4 each. We have then from each sheep, in wool \$3.75; in lamb \$4—\$7.75. If seven sheep are equal to one cow in capital invested, and in expense of keeping, we have for the seven sheep, in wool \$26.25, in lambs \$28—which makes \$54.25. Where is the cow that will produce that amount in a year.—GIBSON E. LEDLOW, Westfield, Union Co., New Jersey.

Rural Notes and Items.

"THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD."—The Editor of the RURAL NEW-YORKER in connection with J. B. LIPPINCOTT & Co., of Philadelphia, will publish in a few weeks, a new and complete work on Sheep Husbandry, entitled THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD, by Hon. HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D., author of "Sheep Husbandry in the South," "Life of Jefferson," "Fine Wool Sheep Husbandry," etc.; also Editor of the American Edition of "Yonatt on the Horse," of which over thirty thousand copies have been sold. The author of THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD is well known as the ablest and most reliable writer on Sheep Husbandry in this country, and the work cannot fail of becoming the standard authority on the subjects discussed. It must prove indispensable to every American flock-master who wishes to be thoroughly posted in regard to the History and Descriptions of the popular breeds of Sheep, their Breeding, Management, Diseases and Remedies. The work is intended to give that full and minute practical information on all subjects connected with Sheep Husbandry which its author has derived from the direct personal experience of thirty-five years with large flocks, together with that knowledge of different modes and systems which has flowed from a very extensive correspondence during a long period with leading flock-masters in every part of the world.

The history, statistics, and what may be termed the literature of Sheep Husbandry, have already occupied many foreign and domestic pens—among others that of Dr. RANDALL. His "Sheep Husbandry in the South," embraced a vast amount of this kind of matter, and no other American work on Sheep has been received with more general favor. His Report on Fine Wool Husbandry, drawn up in 1862, at the request of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, contained some of the most valuable original facts of the above kinds, comparative statistics, etc. It has been received with high favor in England, and reviewed in the Agricultural periodicals of that country with a degree of respect rarely accorded to foreign writers. The object of THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD is different. Great changes and improvements have been made within a few years in the practical processes of Sheep Husbandry, especially in the United States. In some important particulars they have been essentially revolutionized. No work before the American public brings down information concerning these improvements to the present day. It is the object of THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD to do this. It is the author's aim to make it a hand book, or manual, to which every farmer can readily refer when he wishes to ascertain any facts connected with the management of Sheep under any variety of circumstances, or to ascertain the nature of any diseases which have attacked his flock, and their remedies. And such information will not be wrapped in learned circumlocutions or scientific technicalities, but so given that every man can readily understand it. Very special attention will be given to the Diseases of Sheep and their Remedies. Mr. RANDALL has probably written more on this subject from the results of his own experience and observation than any other American writer, and the general accuracy and soundness of his conclusions have never been questioned.

The first six chapters of THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD will be devoted to a full description of the best breeds of Sheep in the United States—including the different varieties of the Merino, and the various English mutton breeds, and these will be illustrated generally with engravings from original drawings from life. These will be followed by chapters on Cross-Breeding; on Breeding In-and-In; on the Qualities and Points to be sought in Sheep; on Yolk and its Uses; on the Theory and Practice of Breeding; on the Adaptation of Different Breeds to Different Soils and Circumstances; on the Profits of Wool and Mutton Production and their Prospects in the United States; on the Spring Management of Sheep; on Summer Management, (two chapters); on Fall Management; on Winter Management, Feed, &c. (two chapters); on Diseases and their Management, (several chapters.)

Many of the most important fixtures, implements, processes, &c., connected with sheep husbandry—such as plans of improved sheep barns and yards, feeding racks, the wool press, the modes of arranging fleeces for the press, the dipping box, instruments for shortening hocks, permanent metallic marks for sheep, etc., etc.—will be illustrated with cuts and clearly described. The portion of the work which treats of diseases will also be appropriately illustrated.

The Publishers promise to make the work creditable in externals—engravings, typography, binding, etc.—and will vie with the Author in efforts to render THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD in all respects superior to any book on Sheep Husbandry hitherto published in America. It will make a handsome duodecimo volume of between 800 and 400 pages, and at once supply a long-sought desideratum.

FLAX AND FLAX COTTON IN THE WEST.—According to information received from Western letters and papers, considerable attention is being given to Flax culture and the manufacture and "cottonizing" of flax fiber. One exchange states that flax is now used quite extensively in some parts of Wisconsin for manufacturing purposes. At Milwaukee there are exhibited specimens of flax white as snow, and also colored with the most brilliant hue; calico made of fifty per cent. of flax; cotton-flannel, one-half flax; felted cloths, and a variety of other manufactures of which flax is a component part. The market sales of these calicoes is six cents a yard. As handsome an article of broadcloth is manufactured from this cottonized flax as could be desired.

A NEW "STEEP" FOR SEED CORN.—A writer in the Co. Gentleman says he last year adopted the plan of wetting or oiling his seed corn with kerosene—using about a quart of oil to a bushel of corn. The corn was placed in a tub and the oil poured upon it—not enough to swell it, but to moisten or oil the outside of the kernels. It remained in this condition from six to twelve hours. It was then dried off with flour. Plaster, of course, would have been better. The object in view was to prevent the crows and birds from pulling the young corn. The experiment was successful so far as their eating the corn was concerned, for the strong and repulsive odor of the oil rendered it entirely unpalatable to the birds.

A RELIABLE COMMISSION HOUSE.—We refer those of our readers interested, and especially such as have lately inquired of us on the subject, to the Commission House of JOSIAH CARPENTER, New York, which has been advertised in the RURAL for several months. From what we know of Mr. C. as a business man, and his references, we have no doubt he is entirely responsible and reliable, and therefore commend his establishment to the attention of those sending produce to New York. Mr. C. issues a valuable Price Current, weekly, which any of our readers can obtain by addressing him as advertised.

VALUE OF HUNGARIAN GRASS.—Bro. HOYT, of the Wis. Farmer, expresses as his conviction that the Hungarian Grass, though answering a very good purpose for wintering cattle, has nevertheless been somewhat overrated. On a good soil it unquestionably yields largely, but it is equally true that it is correspondingly exhaustive of the fertility of the soil. Its chief advantage, in his opinion, is in its adaptability to soils and climates less favorable to clover and the ordinary grasses. Can any experienced Western correspondent of the RURAL convert the apparently sound opinion of our contemporary?

Horticultural.

AMERICAN TASTE IN GARDENING.

In no country in the world has there been such a general improvement in gardening taste, during the past ten or fifteen years, as in our own land. Trees, shrubs, plants and seeds of the rarest kinds, are purchased and planted freely, and nurserymen and seedsmen find it difficult to keep up with the popular demand. Many persons, however, who desire to do things well, do not possess the requisite knowledge, and discouragement to the less persevering is often the result of first horticultural experiments. Even those who read and take especial pains to become informed find that it is difficult to practice the lessons they learn. Practice is the great teacher, and those who have patience to persevere will soon become not only successful, but expert, and the instructors of their friends and neighbors.

A correspondent inquires how she can plant and care for her garden with the least amount of labor. This is, of course, desirable, but while lessening labor is the main consideration, we cannot hope for much success in gardening. Much labor, however, is wasted by want of system. In many gardens we observe a mixed mass of flowers, good and bad, shrubs, bedding plants, bulbs and annuals, all in promiscuous confusion. To keep such a garden looking at all respectable, requires a great amount of time, which few can afford, and which might much better be expended in some other way.

Shrubs should have a place by themselves, in clumps on the lawn, or around the borders. Bulbs should be in beds, and as soon as flowering is over these beds may be filled with bedding plants, such as Verbenas, Petunias, or with annuals. Asters, Ten-week-stocks, and other annuals, should each have its place, and not be intermixed. In selecting flowers for the garden you need those that will blossom a long time, and make a fine show during the whole season, and not those that are brilliant only for a few days. For bouquet making, varieties must be chosen that will flower freely, bear cutting, and that are fragrant. As a general rule, those of small size make the neatest bouquets. Some attention also must be paid to obtaining a variety of colors. It is not best for those who have no taste for gardening—no love for trees, and flowers, and fruits—to undertake to have one; for the labor will be irksome. But those who love to work in the garden need not fear the labor or the expense if they only manage prudently. From a quarter to half an acre will produce all the vegetables and fruits that an ordinary family will consume, with plenty of space for flowers. A small plot in front of the house and around it, should be grass, with groups of flowering shrubs and a few small trees, like the Mountain Ash. This will only require mowing three or four times in the season. A few beds may be cut in the grass for flowers, but not too many, as a border should be reserved in the garden for herbaceous flowers, annuals, &c. All the small fruits should be planted in abundance, as nothing gives a quicker or a better return. Then dwarf pears and apples, cherries, plums, &c., enough to supply the family and give a regular succession of fruits, and for preserving, should be set out. The vegetable department should be kept free of trees, dug deep, and made rich. Everything put in this department should be made to grow to perfection. In this way, commencing with pie plant in the early spring, a family may be supplied with all that is needed for the table the whole year, with, perhaps, the exception of a few barrels of winter apples, or possibly a few bushels of late potatoes. The cost of all this with the exception of the interest on purchase money, will be only a few days' labor of a working man occasionally, say to the amount of fifteen or twenty dollars in the season. This calculation, of course, supposes that the proprietor is active and intelligent, and willing to devote an hour or two every day to work in the garden. This may be considered tiresome by some, but have we not just discovered that our merchants, lawyers, &c., are dying off for want of the active employment necessary to the enjoyment of health and the development of muscle?

Those who have abundant means and can afford to keep a gardener, may cultivate more land, but the quantity we have mentioned is as much as any one engaged in other business should undertake without such aid.

WASH FOR TREES.

A thorough cleansing of the bark of the trunks and larger limbs of trees is of great advantage, especially where they have been neglected for a number of years. Sometimes a kind of scraping or rasping is necessary to remove the moss, as described by a correspondent recently, but a good scrubbing with a brush and soft soap is generally sufficient and better. The *Working Farmer* makes the following remarks on this subject:

The old style of whitewashing is not fair treatment, for although its immediate effects may be beneficial, the interstices of the bark become filled in degree with the insoluble carbonate of lime, and this interferes materially with the after-functions of growth, lessening the endosmose and exosmose actions, and the bark soon becomes again as badly in condition as before.

Tree washes should be soluble, so that they will eventually be removed by rains; thus oil soap, if free from rosin, may be used with advantage. Potash should never be used, as it frequently injures the cleaner and more delicate portions of the bark, and it changes so readily to a carbonate, as to be washed off before it decomposes the ova and cocoons of insects, lichens, mosses, etc., and it will not remove the scaly

insects from the surface of pear trees, unless used at so great a strength as to injure the surface of the bark itself.

The soda tread wash we have so frequently recommended is preferable to all others, and may be thus prepared:—Heat sal soda red hot in an iron vessel; to do this the vessel should be imbedded in, not over, a hard coal fire; this will drive off the water and carbonic acid which it contains, rendering the soda caustic. One pound of this caustic soda, added to one gallon of water, may be applied to the trunks and larger branches of trees without injuring them. It will remove the scaly insects from the bark of dwarf pear trees. Applying the wash one day, rub such as have this insect upon them the next day, with a woolen cloth, and the barks will be perfectly clear. This wash may be applied to all trees with a mop or brush, and if again applied at mid-summer to the larger portions, trunk, etc., the trees will be materially benefited. Where a portion only of the trunk of a plum tree is cleansed by this wash, it will increase in diameter more than the parts above and below the washed portions. This wash is worth all it costs as manure; it necessarily will find its way to the soil by the action of rains, dews, etc.

PREPARATION OF BOTANICAL SPECIMENS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In your issue of the 16th inst., is an inquiry for some instruction in the preparation of botanical specimens, with interesting remarks by the correspondent who makes the inquiry. Boys and girls of 12 to 15 years, are quite old enough to begin the observation of Nature; and if they would persevere in the collection and preservation of specimens, they might in a few years have possession of a valuable Herbarium. Having had many years experience in the preparation of specimens, I will endeavor to give a few plain rules for the benefit of such as may desire to engage in this pleasant exercise.

First—take two pieces of boards, twenty inches long, and fourteen inches wide. They may be planed and strengthened by two cleats across each board. Then get a few quires, or a ream, of common wrapping paper, of about the size, twelve by eighteen inches, and a few quires of soft manilla paper of the same size or a little smaller. Old newspapers cut to the proper size will do instead of the manilla paper. The boards with the paper constitutes your pressing apparatus. In making specimens of small plants like violets, and indeed of all plants under sixteen inches high, it is best to take the whole plant, even including the root or a portion of the root where it is not very bulky. Young botanists sometimes preserve only the flowers, these are of little value *abne* in a Herbarium. You want a good representation of the whole plant, or enough of it to show all its peculiarities. When possible, get specimens showing both flowers and fruit, — by fruit, I mean whatever arrangement there is for containing the seed, whether pod, capsule, or berry, &c. Where the fruit is too large to be dried with the specimen, it should be collected and preserved separately in boxes or bottles. In the case of grasses or sedges they should generally be collected when the seed is well formed, but not so ripe as to shell out. Specimens of grass, even if between two and three feet long, may be bent in the middle and preserved entire. So, also, may and should be preserved many other long and slender growing plants. In the case of shrubs and trees—for instance the locust—take a small twig, perhaps eight to twelve inches long, containing a bunch of flowers and a number of leaves. Then in the summer when the pods are nearly mature, get a small twig with a few pods and leaves. The maple, elm, and many other trees develop flowers earlier than the leaves. In that case get specimens of the flowers first, and of the fruit and leaves afterward, always naming or numbering the specimens, so that they be correctly brought together when they are all prepared. So much for what to collect.

An almost indispensable article for the Botanist is a collection book in which to place his specimens while in the field to prevent their being wilted. This is merely a large book cover filled with loose sheets of paper, in which to place the plants while on a walk or excursion, from which they are to be transferred to the press as soon as convenient. It may be made with two pieces of strong binder's board about twelve by eighteen inches, connected by a leather or muslin back, and some strings at the ends and front edge to tie with.

Now, supposing you have your specimens on hand, put them in press in the following manner: Lay down on the table or other convenient place, one of your boards—upon this spread, about four sheets of your wrapping paper—then take a sheet of the manilla or fine paper, and spread out your specimen, in it, laying out the leaves in as natural a manner as possible. Where the plants are small several may be put within the sheet together,—with each kind put in a ticket or label, stating the name, date and place of collection,—then place on this sheet of plants about four sheets of the wrapping paper, then another sheet of specimens, and another layer of wrapping paper, &c., until you have all your specimens included. Then put on your other board, and on the top a weight of from 50 to 100 pounds, according to the quantity you have in press. They may remain in that condition for twenty-four hours, when the weight must be taken off, and fresh wrapping paper be introduced. The moisture of the specimens is absorbed by the papers, and dry papers must be applied daily until the plants are quite dry. The time required will vary according to the kind of plants; some will dry in four or five days, others will require eight to ten. The sheet containing the specimens need not be changed, but merely transferred with its contents to new dryers. The dampened sheets must then be



THE CROCUS.

We are very happy to find increased attention is being given to that very interesting and beautiful class of plants, the *Flowering Bulbs*. It is upon these we must depend almost alone, for our early spring flowers, and even to the first of June. The first flower of spring, the earliest harbinger of that delightful season of buds and blossoms is the *Snow Drop*. By the first of March usually, its white bell-shaped flowers appear, and though they would be unnoticed by many at almost any other season, when flowers are abundant, their time is so well chosen that they reign without a rival.

Following these we have the bright *Crocus* delicate and tasteful in form and varied and gay in color. For at least a month, and until the flowering of the *Hyacinth*, through the most changeable and unpleasant of our spring weather the *Crocus* is the queen of the garden. They are

out of the way in time to fill the beds with other long blooming plants. There are many varieties, differing in color mainly.

We give our readers an engraving of this flower, and urge all who desire early spring flowers to plant the *Crocus*.

The *Hyacinth* succeeds the *Crocus*, and this is an old favorite with the lovers of flowers, as it deserves to be, on account of its beauty and delightful fragrance.

The *Tulips* are the most showy of all the bulbous plants, indeed, we know of nothing more gay and brilliant than a bed of good *Tulips*. The early varieties come into flower with the *Hyacinth*, but the later sorts continue in flower until June. In our next we will describe some of the best varieties of *Tulips*, and give some general directions for the planting and after culture of bulbs.

dried by the stove, or better, by being spread out for a little while in a warm sun, when they are ready to be used again. Better specimens with brighter colors, may be made by changing the driers every twelve hours instead of every twenty-four, especially for the first two or three days. It is best to prepare two or more specimens of each kind of plant, then you can send a specimen of each to some competent Botanist, who will give you the names. Extra specimens will also be found useful to exchange with other Botanists.

Kingwood, Ill., May, 1863.

Horticultural Notes.

FRUIT GROWER'S SOCIETY OF EASTERN PENN.—At the Annual meeting held in March the following officers were elected: President—EUBUS A. GRIDER, of Bethlehem. Vice Pres't—A. W. HARRISON, Philadelphia; T. BALDWIN, West Chester; D. ENGLE, Marietta. Rec. Sec.—W. HACKER, Cheltenham. Cor. Sec.—C. DINGEE, Avondale. Treas.—R. OTTO, West Chester.

CATERPILLARS.—Caterpillars are unusually thick on the trees this spring. Fruit trees in some of the orchards are almost entirely covered with their nests. The same is represented as being true in the eastern part of the State, in one locality more than a dozen nests being counted on one small tree. Unless they are got rid of, they will destroy the leaves on the trees and thus seriously injure them. If attended to when in their nests, when they first appear, or soon after, the evil is obviated, and tree owners should be wise in season.—*Springfield (Mass.) Rep.*

A FINE GARDEN.—There are many delightful places around Rochester where the lover of the beautiful may spend an hour with pleasure and profit, but none more inviting than the grounds of JAMES BUCHANAN, about a mile or so north of the central portion of the city. A few days since we made a visit to this place, and on entering found ourselves in a beautiful avenue some 50 feet in width, and 1,200 in length, both sides being thickly planted with evergreen and deciduous trees, many of them more than 30 feet in height, and affording a most grateful shade. This is the best avenue we have about our city. The fruit-garden contains about five acres in which we were delighted to find pear trees of all the popular kinds, and many of the new and rare varieties, all exhibiting remarkable vigor, and most will give an abundant crop this season. About one acre is devoted to apples, and here are some of the finest specimens of bearing standard apple trees we have ever seen, at the present time pyramids of foliage and flowers, the trunks of many being concealed by the pendant branches. About two acres are devoted to the production of vegetables, &c. We have before mentioned these grounds in connection with other delightful residences in our vicinity, and we regret to learn that in consequence of domestic affliction Mr. B. has determined to dispose of this place, where he has spent so many years with pleasure and profit. We hope if a purchaser is found he may exhibit the same good taste as his predecessor.

Inquiries and Answers.

A BEGINNER will find all the information he needs in *Berry's Fruit Book*, to be had of all enterprising booksellers. Price \$1.25.

SITUATION FOR AN ORCHARD IN MINNESOTA.—Can some one tell me whether a northern slope, one foot to the rod, with a clay loam soil, is a good situation for a pear, plum and cherry orchard.—N. McCall, Lake City, Minn.

FLOWER FOR NAME.—Will you be so kind as to tell me the name of this flower, for I never saw anything like it before. They call it Ragged Robin, but I think it deserves a better name.—J. A. H.

This is *Lycoris flots-cuculi*. Plants can be divided in the autumn and they will increase rapidly.

Domestic Economy.

SOFT-SOAP.

EDS. RURAL:—This is the month for soap-making, and how many weary hours will be passed by the farmers wife over that refractory "kettle" which will not "come to soap," though every art has been tried to bring it to terms. I do not know, my friend, as I can assist you with that particular kettle, unless by the suggestion that you throw it out, and not suffer it to try your patience longer. But I can give you a few hints which may prevent a recurrence of the difficulty.

1st. Be sure your lye is strong enough to well bear up an egg. 2d. Put your grease, (about three gallons, to a twelve gallon kettle,) over the fire to melt. When it is thoroughly hot, begin stirring in your lye slowly, not more than a pint at once, being careful to keep your grease boiling all the time, and you will have no trouble making soap. It sometimes comes before the kettle is filled up with lye, and never takes more than a few hours boiling.

When I have not ashes sufficient to make up all my grease, I get some boxes of the "Concentrated Lye," to mix with my other, after it becomes weak. But do not hope to produce useable soap by following the directions upon those boxes, for the result will be a compound so weak it will freeze in winter, smell offensively in summer, and never, by any chance, assist in the production of clean linen. F. Ripley, Bond Co., Ill., 1863.

THINGS THAT I HAVE SEEN.

I HAVE seen careless housekeepers leave the milk standing in the milk pails until the cream began to rise, thus causing a waste of cream.

I have seen those same housekeepers set the newly strained milk here and there, wherever it happened, instead of keeping each milking by itself, thereby making themselves the trouble of looking it all over when the time for skimming it came.

I have seen the ground around the kitchen door strewn with potato peelings which had been thrown out with the water in which the potatoes were washed.

I have seen thoughtless housekeepers set away in a pine cupboard, flat-irons so very warm that there was danger of the house taking fire by the means.

I have seen egg shells thrown into the fire, when the hens would have gladly made merry over them.

I have seen calico needlessly faded by being left standing in soap-suds, instead of being quickly washed and immediately put in some hard water to rinse.

I have seen sour, heavy bread brought on the table day after day, when the same pains understandingly bestowed upon it, would have made it both healthy and palatable.

Elkhorn, Wis., 1863. BETTY WRINKLE.

DISINFECTING AGENTS.

Now that the warm weather is upon us, our citizens should thoroughly cleanse their premises, rendering them as pure and healthy as possible. We are convinced that a great portion of the disease so prevalent during the hot months in summer, is attributable to the accumulation of filth in alleys and yards. There are a number of disinfecting agents which will be found efficient in removing offensive smells from damp, mouldy cellars, yards, pools of stagnant water, decaying vegetable matter, &c. Either of the following will answer the purpose, while they cost but a trifle:

1. One pint of the liquor of chloride of zinc, in one pailful of water, and one pound of chloride of lime in another pailful of water. This is perhaps the most effective of anything that can be used, and when thrown upon decayed vegetable matter of any description, will effectually destroy all offensive odors.

2. Three or four pounds of sulphate of iron (copperas) dissolved in a pailful of water will, in many cases, be sufficient to remove all offensive odors.

3. Chloride of lime is better to scatter about damp places, in yards, in damp cellars, and upon heaps of filth.—*Scientific American.*

MUSHROOM CATSUP.

FIRST clean the mushrooms from all extraneous matter, and use none that have the least appearance of decomposition. Now cut them in slices, and salted, place them upon a colander and squeeze out the juice gently. The juice is then left for a few hours, and after being decanted carefully from any sediment, placed in small bottles, room having been left for a little alcohol in which the proper spices have been previously steeped. This is said to keep admirably and to retain its full aroma, which is apt to pass off in the process of long-continued fermentation or boiling by which common catsup is made. The true mushroom of our pastures, and those varieties which afford a red juice when bruised, are far the best. The catsup merchants frequently keep the mushrooms salted down in casks for months before they are converted into catsup. In general, however, the more rapidly the juice is extracted, the better is the produce, and the more likely to keep.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

SUPPORT HOME MANUFACTURE.—There is a strong prejudice against articles of American manufacture, and justly too, in many cases, but not so with DeLland Co.'s Chemical Saleratus. This is the best article in existence for cooking purposes, yet many families are using English soda, when this saleratus is much better, and by using it you are patronizing home production. For sale everywhere.

JAPAN QUINCE.—Will you or some of your readers inform me through the columns of the RURAL, where cuttings of the Japan Quince can be had, and at what price per hundred?—F. A. D., White Deer Mills.

Young plants can be obtained at most of the nurseries, quite cheap by the quantity; but we do not know that cuttings are offered for sale.

SLIPPING BARK OF TREES.—In passing through quite an extensive orchard of young apple trees, I noticed the bark of the bodies of the trees had been cut, from the limbs to the ground, in from six to ten places. Not knowing upon what principle the trees had been mutilated, (I call it mutilation,) I wish you or some of your many correspondents who have had experience in this particular, would inform me if this is an advantage to the tree; and if so, in what it consists?—L. W. B., Hampton, Conn.

WHITE CEDAR FOR HEDGING.—Will you please inform me, through the RURAL, whether the White Cedar is suitable for a hedge, in a situation where it is required as a protection against stock, as well as for ornamental purposes? Will it bear to be thoroughly cut back? At what time should it be transplanted—and at what season?—J. W. L., Albion, N. Y.

The White Cedar or *Arbor Vitae*, makes a fine ornamental hedge, but will not assure protection against cattle. It is best to set out rather small plants in the spring, but not too early.

CHERRIES.—Seeing that you give some valuable information in the RURAL, I thought I would ask a question that some reader may be willing to answer. We have four nice, thrifty English cherry trees, which blossom full in the spring, and the cherries hang on till they are about as big as peas, and then drop off, leaving only two or three quarts on a tree, which are very nice, which makes me want more of them. They stand in the dooryard, so that some of the limbs touch the house. I have put ashes around them two years, but that does not prevent them falling off. If any one can tell me what to do with them, I shall be very much pleased.—MR. S. G. W.

ASPARAGUS.—Thinking that perhaps I could obtain the information I desire through the RURAL, I would say that I have set out this spring an Asparagus bed which appears to be doing well, and about which I wish to make the inquiry—Is it best or not to cut the tops this year? or what is the best treatment I can give it to make it productive? Will you or some of your readers experienced in the matter give me the information, and much oblige—W. P. R.

It should not be cut this season. If the bed has been well made you will have but little to do this season. As soon as the weeds appear give a good dressing of salt-enough to destroy them. In the fall give a good coating of well-rotted stable manure, and in the spring fork it in lightly so as not to injure the plants.

HOW TO TREAT THE ORCHARD.—I wish you to advise me as to what I shall do with my apple orchard? It is now ten years old, and has been to grass four years. I have been at school, and did not know what condition it was in till I was looking at it a few days ago, and I find that it is all in ridges. Now I wish to level it. Will it injure the trees to throw the furrow the other way? and how shall I treat it in our respects?—A. CONSTANT READER, Niles, Mich.

It is very likely that the roots being covered so deep have made an effort to get near the surface, and will be found near the old level of the surface, and perhaps above. Examine, and if this is found to be the case, plow the ridges, and make it a little more level this year, and the next spring you will be able to get it into the shape desired without injuring the roots materially. The above should have been answered before, but was mislaid.

ANGLE-WORMS.—Are these worms an injury in any garden? Some time since, in the English papers, this subject was discussed at considerable length. I do not remember the conclusion; but I see one of your correspondents asks what will destroy them. Allow me to ask why he desires to destroy them, and why you call them an "evil." I am sure you will not only enlighten but gratify, by doing so.—MANY READERS.

Whether a thing is an evil or not, depends upon circumstances. A fly upon your hat is not an evil, or if so, so small a one that you can bear it without wincing; but a fly upon your nose is an evil which no one can bear with composure. The angle-worm may not do mischief among large crops, but with small stuff, in the seed-beds, &c., the angle-worm is a nuisance, disturbing the roots, and drawing the young plants under ground. Abundance of angle-worms, as a general rule, shows that the soil needs drainage and tillage, because they will not increase rapidly in a dry, friable soil.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

E. V. A.

BY JANE E. HIGBY.

LITTLE one, each artless wife
Doth my aching heart beguile
To love thee;

For thy fond but radiant smile,
Thrilling all my soul the while,
I love thee.

One, my boyish hope destroyed,
But my manhood is decayed
Love, by thee,
Till affection, unalloyed,
Springs from out an aching void.
I love thee.

While my choicest treasures grew
'Round thy trusting heart so true,
I loved thee.

'Till, our one brief journey through,
Heaven shall our bliss renew,
I'll love thee.

Piffard, N. Y., 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MORAL EDUCATION OF CHILDREN.

ALTHOUGH I have never been in the habit of writing for publication, I have often been desirous to do so, but have hitherto declined, in consequence of limited acquirements. And now, having passed my 60th year, it seems a late period to offer anything; but finding the Editor of the RURAL somewhat indulgent to the ladies, and feeling my spirit stirring within me, I am inclined to offer a few hints, incoherent as they may be, on the subject of a more thorough moral education of children.

I have but recently become a reader of the RURAL, and from the little acquaintance I have had, am pleased with the moral tone of its productions and extracts. I find in it many instructions, and virtuous sayings, having a tendency to strengthen in the young mind a desire for improvement, a love of virtue, and a more diligent search after truth and the right,—such a desire as should be cultivated at the present time in the mind of every child, especially of our own native land.

On what does the future hope of our nation depend for the perpetuation of freedom and the establishment of right? Nothing short of a general mental cultivation,—of the moral together with the intellectual faculties. But with regret we are compelled to acknowledge that the moral faculties are most neglected; and the last to be attended to! No close observer will deny that the foundation of character, whether good or bad, is, in general, laid while the mind is in miniature; consequently, early impressions and instructions, which have a tendency to develop the moral faculties, should be given as soon as reason begins to dawn, if we would supersede the influence of evil, after which, the young mind is so easily drawn.

Now, we are aware of the lamentable fact that a majority of the children, even of this, our own enlightened country, do not have that moral, not to say religious training, which is requisite to make good, upright citizens. Thousands, and tens of thousands, of little immortal beings, each one capacitated for vast improvement in knowledge and goodness, are withheld from all means of good instruction, by wicked, indolent or neglectful parents, or guardians. For a few years past some of the benevolent have been waking up to the subject. Societies have been started here and there, and some measures have been taken to save, if possible, a few,—a remnant of that numerous host of helpless ones,—from infancy and utter destruction. But what has been effected is as a drop in the bucket, in comparison to the wants of those orphans, and worse than orphans, scattered throughout our land, and who are continually multiplying. The Sunday School is improving, and doing much to ameliorate, but multitudes are still left, who, according to public opinion, cannot be reached. And even those, who have little or no moral training at home, if they can be induced to come one hour in the Sabbath School, it seems insufficient to counteract the influences of a whole week. Children have little minds, and can receive but little at a time, and that little should be often. A few kind words and gentle precepts, calculated to create and cherish a love for truth, addressed to them often, will make deeper impressions and effect more than long and tedious harangues. Once beget in their young minds a love for truth, and a great object is attained.

Now, I would ask, cannot some systematical scheme be devised in which all philanthropists will agree to act in concert, so that one more forward and vigorous step may be taken towards the advancement of such an object? For instance, could not some little inducements be held out, some short address, or performance having a moral tendency, at the same time exciting enthusiasm; for the purpose of collecting the children in little groups, whereby little sentences conveying instruction might be imparted for them to treasure up. Could not some such plan be hit upon, that would be likely to take in every neighborhood, and become general, and frequent, not every quarter, or every month, but every week. It would require but little time, one-half or three-quarters of an hour would be preferable to a longer period. Something similar has been practiced in large towns and cities, but by far too infrequently, and in the country it is almost entirely neglected. Houses and lands must be adorned and beautified, the large flocks and herds must not be neglected, all the household duties must be performed with exactness and system, the physical wants of all the family must be supplied, and the wardrobe of every child must be especially cared for; but there

seems to be no regular set time, no, not even an hour, during the six working days, expressly for the advancement of that immortal and undying principle within.

Again, much has been said and written in favor of visiting our primary schools, but no regular system, so far as my knowledge extends, has ever been adopted. The teacher is hired and put into the school-house, and those priceless little house-plants are budgeted off, to be cared for and reared by Mr. or Miss —, and during the whole term scarcely a solitary parent or guardian enters the school-room to see whether they are properly cared for, and flourishing, or withering for lack of sustenance. What should we think of a man or woman who would hire servants, set them at work in the field or at household duties, and not even look after them for weeks, to ascertain how they were progressing. Should we not at once pronounce it insanity, or utter neglect of one's own interest? And what can we say in regard to the general apathy that prevails throughout the country in regard to our primary schools, which, of all others, are the most important, because here a foundation is laid on which to build in riper years.

Now, why could not visiting committees, or a select number, be appointed in every district, whose duty should be to drop in at stated periods, and address the school with a few cheering words or appropriate questions, and to encourage and sustain the teacher, whose spirits often droop under the arduous task. This may all be performed by females, and, I think, without any impropriety. Certainly we are not destitute of intelligent women. But few neighborhoods, not excepting the wild woodland settlements, are destitute of such.

Once more I ask, cannot something be done to further on this subject? Ladies of this Christian land, I appeal to you. Has Providence ever permitted an evil and not provided a remedy for the same that we might avail ourselves of, if we would? Think of the amount of evil arising from a wrong course of education,—and can no remedy be found to retard its progress, and prevent it from gnawing at our vitals. Do not late events tell us in tones of thunder that hitherto enough has not been done? That in too many instances, the object of education has been rather to make great intellectual men, to the neglect of the good. Look for a moment at the situation of our country, the condition of its morals. Does not the astonishing development of crime portray to us in language of the ancient hand-writing upon the wall—"weighed in the balance and found wanting?" And has not the deficiency been at the very foundation of our system of education? Too many have been reared for great, rather than good, honest-hearted and patriotic citizens.

There may have been a combination of circumstances that have led on to this state of things. But, mothers, does not at least a portion of this sin lie at our own door? Have we all used our influence for that cultivation of the young mind which would eventually produce right acts? If we have tarried too long in the back ground, can we not, by combining our feeble efforts, partially atone for past neglect? And while we see that efforts are already being made, shall we not, as consistent mothers and daughters of a Christian land, lend our aid in this work. A good, wise and patriotic generation must be reared ere the blight of this sweeping monsoon shall have passed away.

And now that our country can produce so many women whose talent and acquirements,—and may I not say, benevolent hearts,—render them competent to take the lead in some more vigorous efforts than have hitherto been put forth, shall not her loud calls at this time for such effort be heeded? Was ever a greater contest between good and evil, right and wrong, liberty and oppression, than at present? And as our fathers, husbands, brothers and sons, have gone forth by thousands to fight for the protection of those liberties guaranteed to us,—and while an attempt to sustain them without a virtuous nation would be fruitless,—can we, as Christian women, look on, and say, or feel, that we have no fighting to do? While those dear ones are battling the rebels far away from the sweet pleasures of home and all those loved little angel forms that were wont to cling around their necks and hang upon their manly arms, shall we not, at home, put forth all our energies against a deadlier foe, and by taking a united stand against the monster, vice, try not only to save the thousands left without their natural protection from its deadly grasp, but strive with all our ability to scatter everywhere the seeds of virtue in the path of the wayward child?

Ladies, will not some of you who can wield the pen look at this subject? If you have one talent your country needs it in this time of peril, driven, as she is, to the verge of destruction by wicked men. She has done much through the liberality of her institutions to fit you for the great work now spread out before you, therefore she has a just claim upon your ability, your generosity, and your labors of love.

A MOTHER.

OUR BEST PARLORS.—Don't keep a solitary parlor, into which you go but once a month, with your parson or sewing society. Hang around your walls pictures which shall tell stories of mercy, hope, courage, faith and charity. Make your living room the house. Let the place be such that when your boy has gone to distant lands, or even when, perhaps, he clings to a single plank in the waters of the wide ocean, the thought of the still homestead shall come to desolation, bringing always light, hope and love. Have no dungeon about your house—no room you never open—no blinds that are always shut.

A PLEASANT wife is a rainbow set in the sky when her husband's mind is tossed with storms.

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

A WALK.

The winding path leads up the rough hill-side,
By thorny chapparel and sharp green briar,
And broken rocks and chasms gaping wide
Dispute our passage as we climb still higher.

The warm spring sun is just above the hill,
His shadows fall beneath the old oak trees;
Here at our feet there flows a noisy rill,
And fragrance of wild flowers is on the breeze.

Touched by the genial, balmy breath of spring,
New buds are opening and new leaves expand,
Soon shall the sunny days their harvest bring,
To crown with plenty all the smiling land.

As onward now and upward still we go,
A strange wild contrast breaks upon the eye,
The sun-kissed valley stretches far below,
The snow-clad peaks rise up against the sky.

The mountain stream fed by the melting snows
Leaps bravely on toward the distant west,
The village nestling close in sweet repose
Between the hills in emerald beauty dressed.

But much is changed! 'Tis yet remembered well
When no church bell broke on the solitude,
And every school-boy of ten years can tell
Of uncouth "shanties" and log cabins rude.

But who shall say, life's lessons in his heart
And time's deep furrows on his aching brow,
That 'tis not hard with such old scenes to part,
For were we not far happier then than now?

Life's trail we've followed, too, for many a day,
O'er flinty points, forbidding, rough, uneven,
But may we still as we trudge up the way,
Reach high enough to get a glimpse of Heaven.

And now the hill grows cool, the sun sinks low,
The twilight shadows stretch across the plain;
Then cease, oh hark! thy sad, uneven flow
Till thou canst wake a merrier, happier strain.

Auburn, Placer Co., Cal., 1863. MARK.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

THE DOCTOR IN CAMP.—No. II.

THE MARCH.

ALTHOUGH the march might not be regarded as strictly a part of the camp, still the experiences of a soldier in the field are pretty largely mingled with recollections of the time he has spent in the *tramp, tramp* which always intervenes between the different halts. And if you would study the soldier you must not grumble that you must do much of it on the road.

Very different are the phases of feeling developed by "marching orders," from noisy joy to muttering grief. If the Camp has become monotonous from long occupation, or if it is badly located, any change is welcome, especially if it promise better fare or fresh adventures. If, however, we have just got ourselves comfortably located, and taken a long breath preparatory to enjoying ourselves to the very utmost, it is hard to think of the rough accommodations and Spartan fare of the road and the bivouac. However, there is no help for it, and with a muttered "No business to be a soldier," from nearly every man of the command, we begin our preparations.

I am sleeping on my fragrant bed of cedar boughs when I am awakened by our gruff Adjutant, doubly gruff now at being disturbed, "Doctor! Doctor!"

"What do you want?"
"Get up! Orders,—three day's rations—daylight!"

This is all I catch except a very emphatic string of gutturals gradually dying away in the distance. I turn out, growling, and proceed to wake up the various attendants and soon they are all busy from the steward to the cook, packing boxes, loading the bulkier medicines into the wagon, and cooking rations, all to the accompaniment of a polyglot medley of orders, songs, questions, answers and oaths. Much the same scene is going on all over the camp, and at daylight, when the bugle sounds the cheerful *reveille*, there is not likely to be any one in camp who needs waking up. A hasty breakfast, and the bugle from headquarters sounds "strike tents" or, as it is paraphrased by the soldiers,

"Don't you hear your General say,
Strike your tents and move away?"

and in less time than it takes to write it, the tents are down, wagons loaded, knapsacks packed, accoutrements donned, and we are waiting the call to "fall in." To the uninitiated observer it might seem that this confusion, and especially the growling, grumbling, and swearing, of which I have spoken, would portend anything but a satisfactory state of discipline, and might even bring doubts into his mind of the efficiency of those men when they should be called on to face the enemy. But a little reflection upon human nature, especially in its military phase, will convince him that such grumbling is not inconsistent with a high state of discipline and efficiency. I once made the remark (when I was a very young soldier,) in the presence of an excellent officer of the regular army, now a Brigadier-General, that a soldier should be a machine, when he corrected me by saying "A thinking machine, sir," and I have since learned that he was quite right. When the soldiers of an army begin to criticize their leaders and their government, when they begin to think themselves ill-used, and fancy they have grievances to be redressed, then they are getting demoralized, indeed, and you may hesitate to trust them, but in such case you will hear no frank, outspoken grumbling. They will mutter, and go to their duty with compressed lips and bent brows. Look at these men with whom we are about to march, (for I see they are ready and we must move on,) and you will see no traces of discontent in those open countenances. For however much they might disapprove of being ordered out, once in line all vexation vanishes before the new duty to be done. In short, men in camp, like men every where else, are never

exactly suited by their lot, and the soldier who never grumbles is either an exceedingly good, or exceedingly bad man. But HORACE, in his first satire, has discussed this question better than I can, so I must refer you to him while I resume the march.

We ride through the camp,—now deserted save by the wagons, and the men who are to accompany them,—and join the troops who come pouring into the road from every camp, and we find our regiment only a single unit in a large mass. We take our position in the rear of the regiment, and note the precision with which these hundreds of men move in unison to the time of the music which our band is making. But this only lasts until we are fairly started on the road, for to play a wind instrument, or to march with precision, will weary any man very soon. So the Colonel gives the order "route-step—march," and every man settles into the pace most comfortable for himself, and carries his musket "at will," only minding to keep his place in the ranks.

In about an hour we shall halt for five or ten minutes to enable the men to loosen their belts, draw long breaths and light their pipes. These halts, at intervals of about an hour, are very important, especially at the end of the first hour, as the men are thereby enabled to adjust their accoutrements, and to relieve their muscles from the pressure of the belts and straps which support those accoutrements.

You observe that ours is not the only regiment on the move, that, indeed, the whole army seems in motion, and it may not be uninteresting to beguile the tedium of our slow pace by some account of the organization of an army, and the machinery whereby so many men are moved from place to place.

The unit of organization is a regiment, which consists, in the volunteer service, of one Battalion, ranging from eight hundred to one thousand men, when its ranks are full. Four regiments are grouped together to form a Brigade, and under ordinary circumstances the Brigade moves as a whole, both on the march and in battle. Three Brigades form a Division, and two or three Divisions a *corps d'armee*, or, in good English, Army Corps. This is the manner in which the infantry is divided, the artillery is attached to the Divisions in the proportion of four batteries (one regular and three volunteer,) to each Division, and the cavalry is organized into a Corps with the light, or "mounted" batteries. Now, when a movement is undertaken the General commanding the army issues his orders to the commanders of the various Corps, indicating the road each is to take, and these in turn give the necessary orders to the Division commanders, and they communicate them to the Brigades. By this means an army is enabled to move with something like unison and precision, whereas were each regiment to be ordered separately by the General-in-Chief no reliance at all could be placed upon their movements, or their co-operation one with another. These subordinate Generals are for the purpose of making effective the orders of the common chief. At the same time, each Corps has within itself all the elements of an independent army, and maybe used as such if circumstances render it desirable.

About midday we halt for an hour,—unless we are marching in great haste,—to enable the men to eat their dinner from the cooked rations in the haversacks, and rest themselves for the remaining half day's journey. The marching order generally directs that three day's cooked rations be carried by the men, but I question very much the economy of the order, though of course it is often inevitable. More than enough for three days of what are called "small rations" (coffee, sugar, and salt,) may be easily carried, but bread and meat are bulkier as well as heavier, and the haversacks used will hardly contain enough of both for the period named, though an old soldier will generally manage to pack away enough to keep him from suffering, while the recruit is almost sure to be very hungry, both because he lacks the knowledge of economizing space, and because he is almost certain, under the stimulus of labor, to eat in two days what was intended to last three.

Dinner over and the inevitable pipe smoked, we resume our march, and by this time, if not long before, the idea strikes you that we, by riding in the rear of the column get more than our fair proportion of dust, and you naturally ask why we may not go the front. I will tell you. In military life every thing is done on a theory of action and in this case the theory being that doctors are to be carefully kept from danger, we must ride in rear of the fighting men, though, as we may see, the theory is not always applied to practice. In the next place there are always men leaving the ranks, who are, or profess to be sick, and we must determine the truth of their professions. If sick we order them to an ambulance and provide for them as best we can, if not they are left to the tender mercies of the rear guard, whose duty it is to pick up all such stragglers and scoundrels. I might say some very severe things upon this vice and its effect upon discipline, but I forbear.

As night approaches we look for a good field for our bivouac, but we are too tired with our march for me to say all I could upon its beauties and fascinations, so I will reserve the discourse for another occasion.

A BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATION.—It is said of the Icelanders that they scrupulously observe the usage of reading the Sacred Scriptures every morning, the whole family joining in the singing and prayers. When the Iclander awakes, he salutes no person until he has saluted God. He usually hastens to the door, adores the Author of Nature and Providence, and then steps back into the dwelling, saying to his family, "God grant you a good day!" What a beautiful illustration is this of the Christian obligation on the part of households to recognize and worship God.

Sabbath Musings.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

SABBATH ORISON.

To Thee, Almighty Parent, now we turn,
For every blessing life can e'er enjoy;
Thou helpest us each "gilded snare" to spurn,
From Thee comes pleasure pure without alloy.

O wilt Thou look upon our hearts this day,
And bless our inward strivings after good,
And lead us onward in the better way,
For thou our vain attempts hast understood.

Wilt thou direct us in the path of life,
Teach us our talents rightly to improve,
Our minds to raise above each petty strife,
And fill our hearts with warmest christian love.

And O, where'er our lot on earth is cast,
Withhold not from us Thy benignant smile,
Sustain us to prove constant to the last,
With eye upraised to Thee in faith the while.

Elkhorn, Wis., 1863.

B. C. D.

BUNYAN'S GRAVE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Reflector* gives the following description of the grave of BUNYAN: "Bunyan lies in Bunhill fields, a cemetery crowded with graves, and thick with monuments and slabs. Asking a lad, whom I met at the entrance, if he could point me to Bunyan's grave, 'Yes,' said he, 'there he lies, covered with a sheet.' Taking the direction pointed out, I soon stood by the grave and the monument of the inimitable allegorist. There, indeed, he did lie, wrapped in a cloak, with a book under his arm, sleeping and dreaming—hewn out of the white marble on the slab which covers his monument. On the monument is this simple, but sufficient, inscription:—'John Bunyan, the author of Pilgrim's Progress.' On one side, chiseled in the stone, is Pilgrim, with his burden, leaning on his staff, with a countenance of deepest anguish. On the opposite side is Pilgrim grasping the cross, his eyes gazing on it, his burden rolled off at his foot, and his countenance radiant with peace and joy. The whole is finely conceived and executed. Directly across the way I looked in on the graves of many of the early Methodists—John Wesley, Jabez Bunting, Richard Watson and Adam Clarke; men who toiled and prayed together on earth, whose bodies now sleep together, and whose souls rejoice together in the presence of Him whom they here preached. Noble men! I honor their memories."

THE "I WILL" OF PRAYER.

LET us here, first of all, observe that there is no disarming of malice by compromise. Had the Psalmist chosen to compromise, he might often, no doubt, have disarmed the enmity of his foes; had Jesus chosen to compromise, he also might have done the same. A half-and-half man, a half-and-half creed, will never meet with violent opposition or enmity from the world. Even what might be called a three-quarter man will escape without very much hurt. It is the out-and-out creed, that the world hates. Making compromises is an old trade of Satan's; it is one at which he shows consummate skill; he is willing to be large and liberal; he will concede far more than at first sight any one would suppose; in fact, he will go so far as to say, "You may be nine-tenths Christ's, if only as regards the remaining tenth you will agree to be mine."

The man of God must pray for grace, never even to listen to the smallest word on the subject of compromise. He ought to nail his colors to the mast, and not listen, even for a moment, to any terms upon which these colors are to be struck. "No surrender!" "No compromise!" These should be the mottoes and the watchwords under which he fights.—*The "I Wills" of the Psalms.*

GOD'S PROMISES.—Observe how carefully all the promises are gathered about one spot—the cross of Jesus. There they lie thick and sparkling as diamonds in the shining sands of Golconda. But elsewhere not one! Over all the broad universe not a single one! Troubled inquirer for salvation, thou wilt wear thine eyes out in a vain search for a solitary hint of hope for thee anywhere else. Calvary glitters with them. Every drop of sacred blood that stains its sod is a promise to your guilty soul. Every word of love that breaks from the dying Lamb of God, floats in promise to your ear. The air is loaded with mercy. The Cross itself—in its stupendous meaning—is one eternal, unchangeable promise, exceeding great and precious. But to have it you must go for it. And your going there in penitence and faith is your part toward the securing and enjoying God's great conditional promise.—*Evangelist.*

CHRISTIANS MINGLING WITH THE WORLD.—Christians who wish to preserve the spirituality of their religion should be very careful how they mingle with the world. He who is *pleased* with the company of ungodly men, no matter howsoever witty or learned, is either himself one with them or is drinking into their spirit. It is impossible to associate with such by *choice* without receiving a portion of the contagion. A man may be amused or delighted with such people, but he will return, even from the *festival of wit*, with a lean soul. Howsoever contiguous they may be, yet the Church and the world are separated by an impassable gulf.—*Dr. Adam Clarke.*

By Christian calmness we can protect ourselves from the heats that wither, and the storms that chill; thus being our own umbrellas and our own suns.

When doctrines mischievous in themselves are recommended, by the good life, of their author, it is like the arming of a depraved woman with beauty.

The Traveler.

TWO WEEKS AT PORT ROYAL.

FROM an article in the June issue of Harper's Monthly Magazine, we make the following interesting extracts. We would be glad to give it entire, but its length renders such a course impossible:

The bay of Port Royal is wide and deep. It has room and to spare for a thousand ships to swing at their anchors; it is not difficult of entrance; and those who know of the dangers which beset the mariner bound to Charleston or Savannah, wonder often why this noble piece of water did not secure a share of the Southern trade, and become more famous than either of the rival cities I have named. But when you come to see more nearly the islands which make the harbor, and study upon the map the intricate system of creeks and swamps by which alone connection can be had with the main land, it is not difficult to believe that neither Charleston nor Savannah is likely to be ruined by Port Royal.

The famous Sea Islands, in the midst of which you here find yourself, are low, sandy, and flat. Apparently old Ocean, who has been robbed to form them, has not yet given up his claim upon their site; for along the outer beach of Hilton Head Island I noticed, within the sweep of the tide, large stumps of live-oak sticking out above the sand, as though there had been, at some time not very remote, firm land where now the tide surged and tried to eat away still more of the loose sand.

The soil on which the famous long staple cotton was—and is—grown, instead of the rich black mold which I expected to find it, is a pale yellow sand, which seems to you useless for agricultural purposes, till you notice that it glistens with white particles, which are the pulverized shells, the lime of which gives the soil its strength and substance.

On every hand you see the marks of long settlement, in avenues of fine live-oaks, cedars and pines, leading up to the plantation houses and bounding the roads. Among these, as well as in the unreclaimed ground, of which there is a far greater area than I had supposed, you find the palmetto—a tree worthless for timber, unfit for fuel, and valuable, I believe, only to use in the shape of piles for wharves, because the marine worm refuses to touch it. One use the planters made of it; in the broad flat cotton-fields you see large palmettos standing at regular and wide distances, like sentinels. Beneath these the slave-mothers left their infants while they labored near by among the cotton; and hither they came, at appointed hours, to suckle their little ones. The planters exhibited a certain ingenuity in selecting this tree for the purpose. A pine or live-oak would in time have grown too large, and, spreading its branches, would have covered a considerable space of ground with its shadow. The palmetto is short, naked to the crown, and there bears but a narrow circumference of leafage. It is worthless as a shade-tree, except in these cotton-fields, where its narrow belt sufficed for the appointed use, and at the same time robbed the master of the very least portion of sun.

I was surprised to find few—if any—of those princely domains here, of which we heard so much in other days, when the "Southern gentleman's" voice resounded through the land singing his own praises. We saw none of those estates of 2,000 and 2,500 acres, which I looked for; these sea-island planters had the reputation of being enormously rich; but most of the "places" hereabouts are of moderate extent—from 200 to 300 acres; and the universal testimony of the negroes is to the effect that the masters were a "close" set. Perhaps, like the impoverished Venetian nobility in the last century, they spared and pinched at home in order to spend profusely abroad.

Coming from the blustering and bleak March winds of New York, the climate here was enchanting. The breezes are soft, the skies have a tropical radiance; the yellow jessamine was in full bloom on the 15th of March, and filled the air with its strong perfume, which is much like the delicious fragrance of our spring violets. This jessamine grows rankly in this loose sand, and overruns the trees by the road-side, covering them with its profuse canary-colored bloom. In the gardens roses were already in full flower; the orange trees were white with their odoriferous blossoms, and the splendid magnolia was preparing to flower.

Walking is impossible in these islands by reason of the soft sand; but many of the rides are enchanting. The landscape is, to be sure, somewhat monotonous; but on every hand you come upon magnificent trees; now and then you find a noble grove; and there are quiet nooks and corners on the roads, which speak of a peace which the surrounding war has not yet succeeded in disturbing. The air is full of the multitudinous song of birds, in which I suspect the mocking-bird plays a various part; you see him flitting from tree to tree, and find him screaming at you, now with the hoarse "caw, caw" of the crow, now with the cheery chirrup of the red-bird, and again with a full burst and prolonged trill, which must be his own.

With all these is a fresh, spicy, exhilarating breeze, sweeping from the water through the pines and cedars, which reminds you of the pleasant country-side of old Cape Cod in mid-summer, or the spicy gales of the Maine coast in September.

The village of Hilton Head is a place which has grown up since the capture of the forts in November, 1861. The houses are, for the most part, of the "shanty" order of architecture, familiar to Californians and other new settlers. The most prominent and ambitious building

was originally a plantation house, to which has been added a curious superstructure—a tower—which is used as a signal station. The quarters of General Hunter and his staff front upon the water, and are simple enough to satisfy the demands of the most exacting democrat. The Major-General commanding the Department of the South gives audience in a room so plainly furnished that citizen Jones of New York would think himself hardly used to occupy it as an office; the only ornaments I noticed were a fine military map over the fire-place, and a pair of well-worn pistol-holders, suspended from a peg in the wall.

Fourteen miles above Hilton Head lies Beaufort, a pretty village, made up of what in the South are called "mansions," square, comfortable-looking wooden houses, with verandas and large gardens. This was the summer and winter pleasure resort of many of the South Carolina conspirators and traitors. Here, in cool quiet, they hatched their treasonable plot—and I must say the nest seems a pleasant one. Beaufort—pronounced *Bufo*—stands on the bank of a broad river, where it gets a cool breeze in the hottest summer day. It is a retired nook of the world, where contemplative traitors might cozily chat and fear no sudden arrival of prying strangers. Negroes now live in many of the "mansions," and seem quite at home there. Doubtless, if it is true that the laborer is worthy of his reward, they have a better right to these places than the masters who fled from them in such terror, when the panic-struck soldiers from Hilton Head cried, "The Yankees are coming!"

As I walked under the generous shade of magnificent live-oaks which abound hereabouts, and drank in the quiet spirit of the scene, I caught with it a sense of the base use to which this piece of earth had been put. Here, beneath these live-oaks, in this grove of tall and spreading pines, by these budding orange-trees, in the portico of the rural church, the Rhett, the Barnwells, the Prescotts, the hundred other leading traitors, conferred together; here they deliberated; here they planned, in sober councils, the ruin of their country; here was nurtured that gigantic and inexcusable crime which has made so many children fatherless, so many homes desolate, that a few ambitious and unscrupulous aristocrats might have their fling against free government.

It is a pleasant spot, this Beaufort; but I hope whenever our soldiers leave it they will raze it to the ground, nor leave one stone standing on another of its foundations. The whole place is accursed.

VEGETATION ON THE AMAZON.

THE magical beauty of tropical vegetation reveals itself in all its glory to the traveler who steers his boat through the solitudes of these aquatic mazes. Here the forest forms a canopy over his head; there it opens, allowing the sunshine to disclose the secrets of the wilderness; while on either side the eye penetrates through beautiful vistas into the depths of the woods. Sometimes on a higher spot of ground a clump of trees forms an island worthy a Eden. A chaos of bush-ropes and creepers flings its gay flowers over the forest, and fills the air with the sweetest odor. Numerous birds, partly rivaling in beauty of color the passeriflora and bignonia of these hanging gardens, animate the banks of the lagune, while gaily macaws perch on the loftiest trees; and, as if to remind one that death is not banished from this scene of Paradise, a dark-robed vulture screeches through the woods, or an alligator rests, like a black log of wood, on a spongy rock, on the tranquil waters. Well he knows that food will not be wanting; for river tortoises and large fish are fond of retiring to these lagunes. * * * If the Nile—so remarkable for its historical recollections, which carry us far back into the bygone ages—and the Thames, unparalleled by the greatness of a commerce which far eclipses that of ancient Carthage and Tyre—may justly be called the rivers of the past and the present, the Amazon has equal claims to be called the stream of the future; for a more splendid field nowhere lies open to the enterprise of man.—The Tropical World.

PANICS.—The following Eastern story contains a moral well suited to the present time:—There is an old story in the East of a man journeying, who met a dark and dread apparition. "Who are you?" said the traveler, accosting the specter. "I am the plague," it replied. "And where are you going?" rejoined the traveler. "I am going to Damascus to kill 3,000 human beings," said the specter. Two months afterwards, the man returning, met the same apparition at the same point. "False spirit!" said he, "why dost thou deal with me in lies? Thou declaredst thou wert going to slay 3,000 at Damascus, and lo! thou hast slain nearly 30,000." "Friend," replied the plague, "be not over-hasty in thy judgment; I killed indeed but my 3,000, fear killed the rest."

FINE sensibilities are like woodbines, delightful luxuries of beauty to twine round a solid, upright stem of understanding; but very poor things if they are left to creep along the ground.

Scientific, Useful, &c.

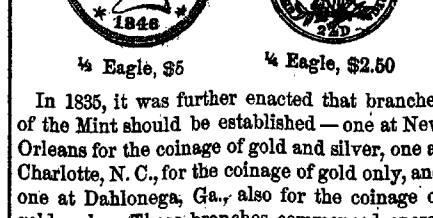
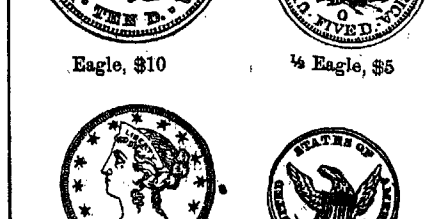
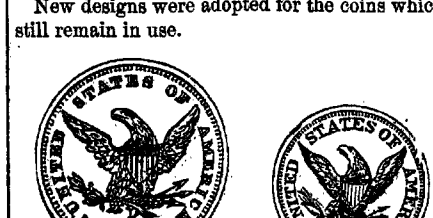
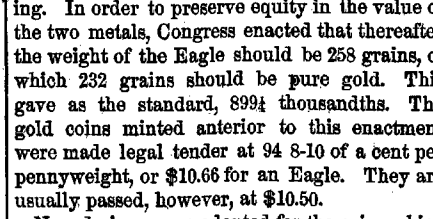
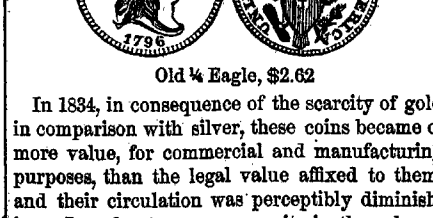
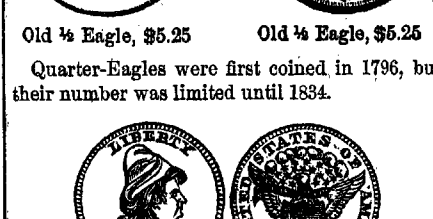
GOLD COINS OF THE UNITED STATES.

To remember with any degree of distinctness what is the appearance, feeling and ring of one of UNCLE SAM'S "yellow boys" requires a memory which would be classed as almost wonderful in the diary of a phrenologist. We can, however, call up reminiscences of the past by the aid of the illustrations given below, and sit and meditate upon the times which were before the "evil days came," and hope for the dawn of a period when "Currency," "Green-Backs," and "Postage Stamps" will make way for a "circulating medium" such as "OLD HICKORY" could approve.

The United States Mint was established and located at Philadelphia by the Act of Congress passed April 2d, 1792, but did not go into operation until the next year, when the Eagle and Half-Eagle were coined. The Eagle, in accordance with the provisions of the same act, was to weigh 270 grains, and "that eleven parts in twelve of the entire weight of each of the said coins shall consist of pure gold, and the remaining one-twelfth part of alloy; and the said alloy shall be composed of silver and copper, not exceeding one-half silver, as shall be found convenient." The legal value of the Eagle was fixed at ten dollars.

The whole number of Eagles struck previous to and including 1894, was 132,692. Their issue was then discontinued, and no more were coined until 1838.

Of the Half-Eagle, which was of the same degree of fineness, but only one-half the weight of the Eagle, three styles were produced previous to 1834:



In 1834, in consequence of the scarcity of gold in comparison with silver, these coins became of more value, for commercial and manufacturing purposes, than the legal value affixed to them, and their circulation was perceptibly diminishing. In order to preserve equity in the value of the two metals, Congress enacted that hereafter the weight of the Eagle should be 258 grains, of which 232 grains should be pure gold. This gave as the standard, 89 2/3 thousandths. The gold coins minted anterior to this enactment were made legal tender at 94 8/10 of a cent per pennyweight, or \$10.66 for an Eagle. They are usually passed, however, at \$10.50.

In January, 1837, the standard of fineness was changed to 900 thousandths, or nine parts of pure gold and one of alloy in every ten parts of standard metal, at which it now continues. The weight of the coins was not altered, and all gold coins made after July 31, 1834, are legal tenders according to their nominal value.

In 1852, a branch for the coinage of gold and silver was established at San Francisco, California. The issues from this branch bear the letter S on the reverse.

Gold Dollars, weighing 25 grains, were first coined in 1849. Much objection was made to these pieces on account of their minute size, and in 1854 another issue was made. The new pieces are larger and thinner than the old ones, and in general appearance resemble the Three Dollar pieces.

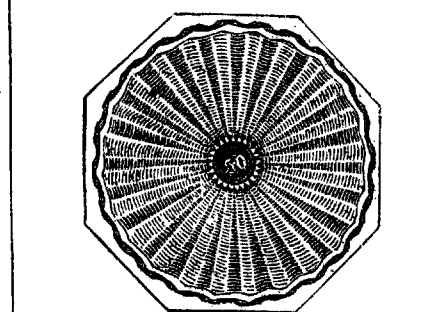
The Double Eagle (value \$20, weight 516 grs.) was first issued in 1850. Previous to Dec. 31,



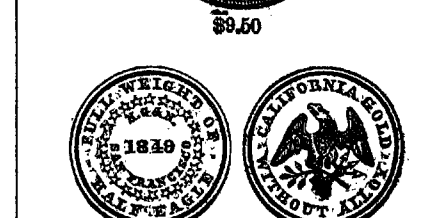
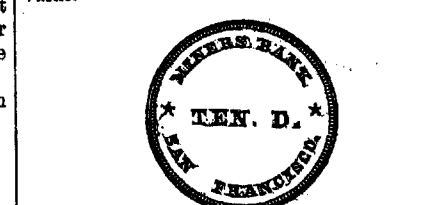
1853, 7,238,768 pieces, amounting to \$145,775,360, had been issued.



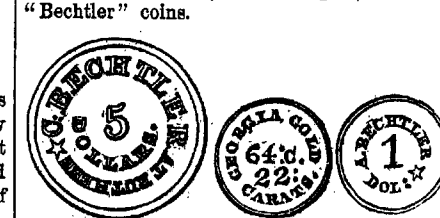
The Three Dollar pieces were first issued during the year 1854. The device adopted for the reverse of the coin, a wreath of corn and cotton, is exceedingly appropriate and beautiful. We are not so favorably impressed with that of the obverse, and hope some of our native artists will be able to suggest a design at once more appropriate and beautiful.



Previous to the existence of so perfect commercial arrangements as now exist between the Atlantic and Pacific States, the want of a circulating medium was severely felt; consequently, private bankers commenced the issue of coins bearing their own imprint. These coins, although containing as much pure gold as those they stand for, are not legal tender, and are usually subjected to a discount varying from one-half to five per cent. from their nominal value.



The cuts below represent a coinage from Georgia gold. They are designated as the "Bechtler" coins.



We take pleasure in this connection to acknowledge our indebtedness to Mr. James Snowdon, Esq., Director of the Mint, for documents containing much valuable information.—American Phrenological Journal.

Reading for the Young.

TO TOMMY TRUANT.

If you would not be a fool,
Go to school;
Learning helps to make the man;
Get instruction while you can;
Life is short—his but a span;
Go to school.

If you would not be a dunce,
Go at once;
There is danger in delay,
Do not stay at home to play,
Take your satchel and away;
Go at once.

If you wish to speak, take care—
Do not swear;
Swearing makes one seem so mean;
Always keep the conscience clean;
Let good morals reign supreme;
Do not swear.

If you would be happy here,
Persevere;
Straight and pleasant is the road
That leads to happiness and God;
Choose the path that Jesus trod;
Persevere;
Persevere;

[Juvenile Instructor.]

THE DISOBLIGING BOY.

"RUFUS, I want you to go and pull up the weeds round the currant bushes near the great honey-suckle," said Mr. Newton one morning to his son of ten years. "Can't I do it at noon, sir? I just want to finish this." Rufus was whittling out an arrow. "Well, noon, then, only don't forget it," said his father. Noon came; Rufus got home from school, and his father from the store. "Have you done the weeding I told you to do?" asked Mr. Newton.

"O, father, 'tis so awful hot," said Rufus in a fretful tone. "Can't you get old Doloff to do it?" What do you think of a boy that will say that to his father?

"Rufus, run up stairs and get my purse," said his mother. "Can't Carrie go? You never ask her to do things," answered the little boy, without offering to move. Carrie jumped up, went and brought the purse to her mother.

As Rufus took his cap, "Stop," said Mrs. Newton. "I want to give you a bundle to take to Mrs. Thorn."

"O, mother," said Rufus, with an unwilling twist of his shoulders, "won't it do just as well after school?" That's the way he treated his mother.

Dear old grandmother sat with her hands folded, for want of a skein of yarn. When Rufus came in, she took her knitting work, and unrolling it, "Rufus," said she, "I want some little boy to go down in town and buy me a skein of white yarn. Do you know of any little boy who would like to do so much for his old grandmother?" "I don't know as I do," answered he. "Well, don't you want to go?" finding a more direct application to meet her wants. "O, grandmother, it rains," cried the little boy. "Rains, does it? That alters the case, I did not know it rained;" and she turned to the window, looking over her spectacles. "It's just going to," said Rufus. "I'm so beat out of playing football." "O, well," said the old lady, patiently folding her hands again. That is a disobliging boy's way to his grandmother.

"Rufus, lend me your knife just one minute," asked his sister. "You are always wanting my knife," cried Rufus in a cross tone. "Why don't you have a knife yourself, and not forever keep asking for mine?" He handed it to her, but in a way that made her feel bad to take it.

On his way through the kitchen, "Rufus," said Bridget, "won't you split me up a few kindlings to make my pot boil?" "Split it yourself" was Rufus's crabbed reply.

Here is a picture of a disobliging boy. How do you like it? Possessed of a temper never willing, always making objections, how would such a child-like to be paid in his own coin—how like to be treated as he treats his best friends? When Rufus has outgrown his coat, and worn out his boots, and about used up his cap, and asks his father for new clothes, how would he feel to hear him say, "O, you cost me so much; go and ask somebody else for clothes!" or not finding a shirt to put on, and asking his mother for one, she should say, "won't it do just as well next year, Rufus?"

Suppose the sun should make objections to shine, or the clouds to rain, or the cow to give her milk, or the fire to burn. Suppose God had refused to allow his Son Jesus Christ to come and save us, or should be unwilling to open heaven and let us in. Ah, children, there is no room for disobliging spirits here. Everybody and everything is obliging to you and you should "do as you would be done by."—Child's Paper.

LITTLE KINDNESSES.—"Mother," said a little girl, "I gave a poor beggar child a drink of water and a slice of bread, and it made me so glad, I shall never forget it." Now children can do a great many things worth a "thank you." Kind offices are everywhere and at all times needed; for there are always sick ones, poor ones, besides dear ones, to make happy by kindness; and it goes further towards making home happy than almost anything else. Kind offices are within everybody's reach, like air and sunshine, and if anybody feels fretful, and wants a medicine to cure it, we would say, do a "thank you's" worth of kind offices every hour you live, and you will be cured. It is a wonderful sweetener of life.

THE evils from which a morbid man suffers most are those that don't happen.

A FALSE friend is like the shadow on the sundial, appearing in sunshine, but vanishing in shade.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



LEAVES fall, but lo, the young buds peep! Flowers die, but still their seed shall bloom!

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JUNE 6, 1863.

The Army in Virginia.

We cannot chronicle any movement of importance on the part of the Federal forces in this Department. During the week various statements of the display of activity on the part of the rebels under Lee, have come to hand, and the dispatches of this (Monday) morning would seem to give some coloring to the reports.

Gen. Hooker is said to have expressed his opinion that the enemy are bringing up all their forces at Charleston, and probably North Carolina, for a desperate aggressive movement. In view, however, of the publicity given these threats by the rebels themselves, it seems more likely that their design is to provide for the defence of Vicksburg, and by their usual bluster to deter Hooker from another immediate advance.

On the 28th a successful balloon reconnaissance was made by Capt. Paine. The atmosphere was clear and no indications of movements were discovered, though it is still believed that a portion of the forces have passed out from the Rappahannock. No communication is allowed between the pickets, and intelligence from the other side is very meager.

A Fairfax Court House despatch to the Herald, dated 30th, states that a detachment of Vermont cavalry had a skirmish the day previous near Thoroughfare Gap, with 40 rebel cavalry. The latter fled losing one killed, two wounded and one prisoner. We lost one man prisoner, and had five horses wounded. The rebels are being pursued.

On the 1st inst. a telegram was received from Gen. Stahl, dated Fairfax Court House, May 31, in which he says Mosby, with 200 men and one howitzer, attacked one train of cars near Catlett Station the day previous and burned it. Col. Moon, of the 7th Michigan, who had command in front hearing the firing took a portion of his men and followed them two miles from Greenwich, where they stormed a strong position. Col. Moon charged the rebels, who replied with grape and canister, but the Colonel reports that our men never faltered. They dashed on the rebels and took their guns. Col. Moon returned at dark to his camp bringing in the captured artillery, and our dead and wounded,—four of the former, and fifteen of the latter. Many prisoners were captured, including Capt. Haskins, an English officer in the Confederate service, and Lieut. Chapman, who had charge of the artillery. Both of these officers were so badly wounded that they could not be removed and were paroled. The enemy lost heavily in killed and wounded. After the enemy were dispersed in every direction darkness set in and precluded further pursuit.

Private advices from Gauley, Va., state that warm work is expected in that region before long, as the enemy have of late been making demonstrations which indicate that they are bent on mischief.

A Cincinnati dispatch of the 25th says our pickets on the road between Rolla and Fayetteville, Kanawha, were surrounded and attacked on the 17th. All but one escaped. Skirmishing continued till the 19th, when our pickets were driven in. The rebels then attacked our pickets under Col. White. The fight lasted until the following day, when the enemy fell back, believed to be a feint to cover operations elsewhere. We had one killed and nine wounded.

Twelve thousand rebels have crossed the Blackwater, and it is feared that Beauregard's forces are being brought up from Charleston, and an active campaign in this direction inaugurated by the rebels to offset their Vicksburg disaster.

The following is understood to be the verdict of the Court of Inquiry in the Corcoran-Kimball affair:

That Lieut.-Col. Kimball died on the morning of the 12th of April, 1863, from the effects of a wound in the neck produced by a pistol ball, said pistol ball having been fired by Brig.-Gen. Michael Corcoran. The Court further finds that Lieut.-Col. Kimball halted Brig.-Gen. Corcoran and demanded the countersign, refusing to allow him to pass until he should give it. That Brig.-Gen. Corcoran refused to give the countersign as ordered; that an altercation ensued, resulting in the death of Lieut.-Col. Kimball. The Court further finds that Lieut.-Col. E. A. Kimball was, at the time of halting Gen. Corcoran, intoxicated, and that he was not authorized in so halting him.

Movements in the West and South-West.

KENTUCKY.—A dispatch from Cincinnati, dated the 31st ult., says that on Thursday next Gen. Burnside will remove the Headquarters of the Department of Ohio to Hickman Bridge, Ky., about ten miles south of Nicholasville.

A dispatch from Burnside to Bragg, announcing his determination to hang all the rebel cavalry officers in his hands in case retaliation for the two spies tried and executed in accordance with the usages of war should be resorted to by the rebel government, has been conveyed from Murfreesboro under a flag of truce.

On the 31st, a cavalry reconnaissance was made within four miles of Monticello, Ky. There was sharp skirmishing all the way. At two fords 16 rebels with arms and horses were captured. Simultaneously with this, Colonel Adams, of the 1st cavalry, and 50 picked men, crossed the river in boats, and captured the rebel pickets at Mill Springs, consisting of one lieutenant and 16 privates with all their arms and 24 horses. No casualties on our side.

ARKANSAS.—An official dispatch to the War Department, received on the 29th ult., from Gen. Ellet, commanding the ram fleet, dated Helena, Ark., May 26th, says:

As my command was descending the river from Memphis, May 23d, a Commissary and Quartermaster's boat was fired into from the Mississippi side, by a band of the enemy, with two pieces of artillery, about six miles above Austin. I returned yesterday and landed my force. The enemy, a few hours before my arrival, captured a small trading steamer and burned her, taking her crew captive, and appropriating her freight. I could obtain no intelligence from the inhabitants, by which to guide my movements. My cavalry under Major Hubbard, 200 strong, came up with the enemy 1,000 strong, all mounted, eight miles out. The Major was compelled to take shelter in a favorable position, where he finally succeeded in repulsing the enemy, and drove them off before the infantry could come to his relief. Our loss was two killed, and nineteen wounded—most of them slightly. The enemy left five dead upon the field, one lieutenant mortally wounded, and twenty-two stand of arms. We captured three prisoners. I burned the town of Austin, having first searched every building. As the fire progressed, the discharge of loaded fire-arms was like volleys of musketry as the fire reached their hiding places, and two heavy explosions of powder also occurred.

Of Major Hubbard and his battalion, I cannot speak too highly. They are deserving all praise. Every officer and man of the little force is reported to have acted with the most distinguished bravery and prompt obedience to orders.

Col. Phillips, commanding in the Indian Territory, had a severe fight with a portion of Price's army on the 20th. The enemy crossed the Arkansas river near Fort Gibson. Col. Phillips drove them back. Our loss was thirty killed, and the enemy's much greater. The enemy were led by Generals Steele, Cooper and McIntosh. They are now massed in our front, 1,100 men and considerable artillery. We have only 3,000 and one battery, but are well fortified. This is evidently the advance of Price's main army.

Dispatches from Fort Larned advise us of the approach from the south-west of a large force of Texans and Indians, with a design to intercept trains for North Mexico. The guerrillas are more numerous on the border. The National force is inadequate. Gen. Blunt will make the best possible fight.

TENNESSEE.—Col. Wilder, with his mounted infantry, returned on the 25th ult. from a trip in the direction of McMinnville, whither he had gone in search of the rebel cavalry under Breckinridge. The enemy's pickets were encountered a short distance beyond Woodbury. The firing attracted the rebels in the vicinity, who collected in considerable numbers to annoy and impede our advance. A running skirmish was kept up for several miles. Twelve miles this side of McMinnville our forces came on the camp of Breckinridge's force, who hastily decamped. Pressing them closely, however, Wilder succeeded in capturing nine prisoners, twenty-five serviceable horses, and three head of beef cattle. Having secured the prisoners and burned the tents and baggage left by the rebel cavalry, our forces pushed rapidly forward, skirmishing with and driving the enemy till within seven miles of McMinnville, when our forces returned to Murfreesboro.

Among the papers captured was a general order, issued by Bragg on the 17th, directing that the sick and disabled Confederate soldiers and wagons and baggage calculated to retard the march, be removed to the rear. Prisoners also say that all the rebel cavalry under Wheeler and Morgan are ordered to report at Columbia within five days. Also, that the forces under Harrison, comprising five regiments, were preparing to move, and that Morgan is falling back to Sparta to join Wharton, who is also preparing to move. The opinion is that Bragg will soon evacuate.

A skirmish took place near Fort Donelson last week, in which the rebels were routed. Our forces brought in 7,000 pounds of bacon after the affair. Our loss was one lieutenant and two privates wounded.

A detachment of the 2d Wisconsin cavalry attacked guerrillas on the Fernandina road, on the 23d ult., killing four and capturing five.

A few days since detachments of the 5th Kansas and 3d Iowa cavalry fought with inferior forces of guerrillas, seven miles back from Galena, and finally drove them. Their reported loss is nine killed and twenty-one wounded—a Colonel among the latter. The Federal loss was four killed, twenty wounded, and several prisoners.

On the 24th, Col. Hatch had a fight with 200 of

Chalmer's men, near Seratobia, in which he captured sixty, killed ten, and wounded twenty.

MISSISSIPPI.—The following has been received at the Headquarters of the Army, at Washington: MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 25—11:30 A. M.

To Maj.-Gen. Halleck:—The Luminary is just up from Vicksburg. There are no official dispatches. Ordnance Officer Cyford writes under date of May 22d as follows:

Our loss is not very heavy for the position we hold. The rebels make a firm resistance. I think we shall have the place to-morrow. We completely encircle the town, and our men to-night have their colors planted on the enemy's works, and are lying on the exterior slope. The gun and mortar boats are in front, working away. Our captures thus far are about 6,000 prisoners and 74 pieces of artillery, some of which were destroyed. Gen. Grant is in good spirits. If we take Vicksburg, we shall take 15,000 prisoners, with Gen. Pemberton, and all his stores, &c. S. A. HURLBUR, Major-General.

The following telegram was received at the Navy Department on the 31st ult: FLAG SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, NEAR VICKSBURG, May 25, via CAIRO, May 30.

To Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of Navy:—I have the honor to inform you that the expedition under command of Lieutenant-Commander Walker, after taking possession of the forts at Haines' Bluff, was perfectly successful. Three powerful steamers and a ram were destroyed at Yazoo city. The ram was a monster, 310 feet long, 70 feet beam, to be covered with 4-inch iron plates. Also a fine navy yard, with machine shop of all kinds, saw-mill, blacksmith shops, &c. were burned up. The property destroyed and captured amounts to over \$2,000,000. Had the monster ram been finished, she would have given us some trouble. One battery was destroyed at Drury's Bluff. Our loss in the expedition was one killed and seven wounded. DAVID D. PORTER, Acting Rear-Admiral, Com. Mississippi Squadron.

Acting Rear-Admiral Porter, in a dispatch from Yazoo river, says:

A few days since the Mound City, Lieut.-Commanding Byron Wilson, came up as far as Warrenton to reconnoitre, and see what guns there were likely to annoy our transports. The rebels have been engaged for some months in building a strong casemated battery intended to mount ten eight-inch guns. This work was built with cotton bales and covered with logs, the logs covered with railroad iron, and the whole was to be covered with earth. On approaching the works, Lieut. Wilson sent a party on shore to reconnoitre. On climbing up the casemates to look in the party discovered a company of artillery, who had taken refuge there, supposing themselves perfectly secure. Our party fired into the crowd with their revolvers, and warned the vessel that the rebels were about. Lieut. Wilson then commenced shelling the fort, and in a short time it was all in a blaze. After burning some time, the whole work was destroyed. This ended in the space of an hour a fort which it had taken the rebels five months to build, working mostly day and night. I proceeded to Warrenton this morning to be certain that the work was thoroughly destroyed. It required nothing more done to it. The Mound City had finished it. The rebels set all the houses containing their stores on fire as the gunboats approached, and what they left I ordered to be destroyed. Warrenton has been a troublesome place, and merited its fate. DAVID D. PORTER.

Unofficial dispatches were received in Washington on the 31st ult., from the army of Gen. Grant, dated the 26th. They represent that there has been no material change of affairs since the 25th. They represent that there has been no material change of affairs since the 25th. On the evening of that day Gen. Pemberton asked for two hours and a half time to bury his dead. There is no truth in the report of the death of Gen. Steele.

Gen. Johnston is rapidly receiving re-enforcements in the vicinity of Jackson, with the intention of attacking Grant's rear. Gen. Johnston is reported to have said that if Vicksburg should hold out for fifteen days, he would throw 100,000 troops into the city, if it required the relinquishment of every foot of territory in his Department to effect it.

The latest intelligence received from Vicksburg is to the following effect:

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, NEAR VICKSBURG, May 28.

But little was effected during the last thirty-six hours. Over one hundred pieces of field artillery, and several siege guns, rained shot and shell on the enemy's works. Yesterday the mortar fleet took position behind De Soto Point, and bombarded the city the entire day.

On the right, Gen. Sherman has pushed Gen. Steele's division squarely to the foot of the parapet. Our men lay in a ditch and on the slope of a parapet on the side of one of the principal forts—unable to take it by storm, and determined not to retire. The Federals and rebels were not more than twenty-five feet apart, but powerless to inflict much harm. Each watches the other, and dozens of muskets are fired as soon as a soldier exposes himself above the works on either side. Nearly the same condition of things exist in McPherson's front. The sharpshooters prevent the working of the enemy's pieces in one or two forts.

A charge was made yesterday morning on one fort, by Stevenson's brigade, and repulsed. Two companies of one regiment got inside, and a few got out again, but most of them were captured. The forts are all filled with infantry.

Our artillery has dismounted a few guns and damaged the works in some places, but they are still very strong.

Gen. McClernand was hard pressed on the left yesterday, and sent for re-enforcements. Quincy's division went to his assistance at 4 o'clock. The contest continued till 7 o'clock. One of our flags was planted at the foot of each work on the outside. One rebel fort kept them several hours, but the fort was not taken. McClernand's loss is estimated at 1,000 killed and wounded yesterday. The fighting grows more desperate each day. The transports now bring supplies by water to within three miles of our right.

Gen. Joe Johnston is reported near Big Black river in our rear, with re-enforcements for the besieged. Grant can detail men enough from operations here to keep Johnston in check.

The telegraph this (Monday) afternoon gives us the following interesting item from Vicksburg: When our army advanced upon the city of Vicksburg it was confident of an easy conquest, but the ground in the rear of the city was found so broken, rugged and wild as to be almost impassable for artillery. The rebel fortifications were discovered to be very formidable, being grass grown, and showing that preparations had long since been made to stand a siege upon the land side. The main fortifications consist of a chain of forts about 800 yards apart, connected

by deep entrenchments and extending seven miles.

Three assaults had been made by our forces upon the rebel stronghold, in all of which we were repulsed. The last assault was made by Gen. Sherman with 20,000 men, in which we lost 600 killed and a large number wounded. Our outer line is within 100 yards of the rebel works. Our sharpshooters prevent the rebels from using their guns. The rebel works in the rear of the city are far more formidable than those in front.

Gen. Joe Johnston is in the neighborhood of Jackson with about 15,000 men, short of provisions and ammunition. No apprehensions are felt of any serious attack in our rear.

The staff officers say that Gen. Grant has taken upward of 8,000 prisoners, and 84 pieces of artillery.

The river batteries had been mostly silenced. Gen. Sherman is on the right two miles from Haines' Bluff, McClernand one and a half miles from the Court House, and McPherson at the lower end of Vicksburg.

The report that Pemberton offered to surrender Vicksburg on terms, and that Grant refused to accept of anything except the "unconditional," is confirmed.

Department of the South.

The steamer Emily arrived at Fortress Monroe on the 26th having left Newbern on the 24th ult. We gather the following interesting items for the budget of news:

Col. Jones, of the 58th Pennsylvania Regiment, made a reconnaissance from Newbern on the 22d inst., with Lee's brigade, and when within about 7 miles of Kinston, surprised and captured some 200 rebels belonging to the 5th North Carolina Regiment, with several officers, a field piece, arms, equipments &c. A rebel Captain and Lieutenant was killed. None were killed on our side.

The schooner Sea Bird, of Philadelphia, while aground at the mouth of the Neuse river on the 20th inst., was captured and burned by the rebels, who went off to her from the shore in small boats, and took her Captain and crew prisoners.

All the rebel troops in the State, including recent conscripts, have gone to Virginia.

Gen. Wile is making fine headway in recruiting his African Brigade.

Gen. Foster is now on a tour of inspection to the different military posts in this Department, which he is continually strengthening.

The Rolla Progress' Kinston correspondent, (rebel) under date of May 25th, says 3,000 Yankees attacked our force, consisting of three regiments at Gunswamp, surprised and routed them. We had several wounded, and lost from 50 to 100 prisoners. We took eight prisoners Gen. Hill forced the enemy back to within eight miles from Newbern. The Colonel commanding the Yankees is reported to be killed. The enemy burned the Court House and other buildings at Trenton, Jones Co., on Friday, and plundered the citizens as they went.

It appears on recent developments, that a million dollars worth of supplies had reached the enemy through division and regimental sutlers at Beaufort. The former have the exclusive right to open wholesale houses wherever they choose, and in many instances they have been established where we have no military jurisdiction, and where free access to the enemy is readily obtained.

On the 27th Gen. Foster visited the camps of the nine months men. He spoke of their many actions, and their heroic endurance, and their magnificent discipline, which brought cheers from the troops. Gen. Foster told the soldiers that they must not leave him and our sacred cause at this stage of the rebellion; that he would give them all the advantages accompanying a re-enlistment, and a furlough of thirty days to each regiment, and so arrange it that while one regiment departed another should be ready to return, which proposition appeared to meet with general favor. He then called upon the nine months men for a new artillery regiment of 12 companies, of 150 men each. This regiment was organized on the spot and officers appointed. Some regiments offered to furnish as high as three companies for their new command, which will be ready for service in a short time.

Port Royal advices per the Arago state that our forces on Folly Island were attacked on the 26th by the rebels, who were repulsed.

General Hunter has issued an order drafting all able bodied men not in the employ of the Government found in the department after the 16th of June.

It is stated an expedition has been sent into the interior of Florida.

A British blockade runner trying to get out of Charleston, was discovered, on the night of the 20th, and sunk before she could gain the bar on her return, by the Powhatan, and her officers and crew are supposed to have perished. It was a large steamship. On the 23d, another steamer was discovered and fired into. She re-crossed the bar under a heavy fire, and was sunk in the main channel off Morris Island. Both had large cargoes.

All furloughs have been stopped in Hunter's department.

It was reported that several regiments were ordered to Virginia, but Hunter refused to let them go, and sent a protest to the President.

The Monitors still lie off Edisto. The Ironsides opposite Fort Sumter.

The following letter from General Hunter to Jeff. Davis is printed in the Free South, dated May 30:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, HILTON HEAD, (P. R.) April 28, 1863.

Jefferson Davis, Richmond, Va.:—The United States flag must protect all its defenders—white, black, or yellow. Several negroes in the employ of the Government, in the Western Department, have been cruelly murdered by your authorities, and others sold into slavery. Every outrage of this kind, against the laws of humanity, which may take place in this department, shall be fol-

lowed by the immediate execution of the rebel of the highest rank in my possession, man for man. These executions will certainly take place for every one murdered or sold into slavery—worse than death. On your authorities will rest the responsibility of this barbarous policy, and you will be held responsible in this world for all the blood thus shed.

In the month of August last you declared all those engaged in arming the negroes to fight for their country to be felons, and directed the immediate execution of all such as should be captured. I have given you long enough to reflect on your folly. I now give you notice that unless this order is immediately revoked, I will at once cause the execution of every rebel officer and every slaveholder in my possession.

The poor negroes are fighting for liberty in its purest sense, and Mr. Jefferson has truly said, "In such a war there is no attribute of the Almighty which will induce him to fight on the side of the oppressor."

You say you are fighting for liberty. Yes, you are fighting for liberty; liberty to keep four millions of your fellow beings in ignorance and degradation; liberty to separate parents and children; husband and wife; brother and sister; liberty to steal the products of their labor, exacted with many a cruel lash and bitter tear; liberty to seduce their wives and daughters, and to sell your own children into bondage; liberty to kill these children with impunity when the murder cannot be proven by one of pure white blood. This is the kind of liberty—the liberty to do wrong—which Satan, chief of the fallen angels, was contending for when he was cast into hell.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, D. HUNTER, Maj.-Gen.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Railway Horse-Powers, &c., &c.—R & M Harder. A Fine Suburban Residence for Sale—Jas Buchanan. The Coming Man—T C Thorwald & Co. Canvassing Agents Wanted—H M Brown. Special Notices. Support Home Manufacture—D B De Land & Co.

The News Condenser.

- The Government 5.20 loan has reached the sum of \$105,000,000. - The shoeblacks of London made over \$31,000 last year, all in pennies. - Three hundred Lancashire operatives have left England for New Zealand. - Maine had eight regiments in the late battles, and Massachusetts eighteen. - In many parts of Pa. the people are growing an excellent substitute for tea. - The Irish in Massachusetts have contributed \$35,000 for the sufferers in Ireland. - At Springfield, Mass., on Thursday week, the mercury, in the shade, was up to 94. - The gold fields of New Zealand are now yielding at the rate of 20,000 ounces a week. - The amount subscribed in England for the memorial to Prince Albert is over \$272,000. - The pleuro-pneumonia has again appeared among a herd of cattle in Waltham, Mass. - Rear Admiral A. H. Foote has recovered from the wounds received at Fort Donelson. - Corcoran's Irish Legion send \$2,725 to the New York Committee for the relief of Ireland. - There is a great revival of religion among the soldiers at Camp Convalescent, Washington. - Rebel reports allege that three thousand negroes left Hinds Co., Miss., after Grierson's raid. - Gen. Banks, in his march, captured rebel orders for the enrollment of negroes into regiments. - "The Ancient and Honorable Artillery," of Boston, celebrated their 225 anniversary on Monday last. - Great complaint is made of the mortality among the rebel wounded in Richmond and Fredericksburg. - The Confederate debt will be \$1,000,000,000 at the close of the present campaign, the Richmond Journals say. - The people of Maine have called an "Unconditional Union" meeting for the 1st of July, to nominate State officers. - There are 40 prizes at Key West, vessels that meant to break the blockade, but are in the way to break their owners. - The largest casting ever made in England, an anvil weighing 100 tons, was recently "issued" from a Sheffield foundry. - An American company have secured the right to work an immense salt mine—a mountain of salt—in St. Domingo. - The total Pennsylvania coal trade thus far for 1863, is 2,115,212 tons against 1,606,480 tons last year for the same time. - Wm. G. Crippen, for the past nineteen years prominently connected with the Cincinnati Press, died on Saturday week. - Mr. Samuel Haskins of New Bedford, Mass., who is himself in the army, has six sons also in the land and naval service. - The contrabands in camp, at Washington, have commenced working the abandoned secess farms across the Potomac. - The population of Hinds county, Mississippi, in which Jackson is located, is 31,339, of whom less than 9,000 are free. - A new organ has been imported from Germany for the Boston Music Hall, which will cost about \$60,000 when finished. - The Richmond Sentinel says that the rebels propose to retaliate the execution of two men in Ohio by order of Gen. Burnside. - Russell, the war correspondent of the London Times, has gone to Poland to report the events of the revolution in that country. - Laborers are so scarce in Michigan that in some localities women have been obliged to labor in the fields. Wages are high. - The Rome (N. Y.) Sentinel says that steam navigation on the canal appears now to be a conceded failure in point of economy. - The flag carried through the Chancellorsville battles by the Second Massachusetts regiment was pierced by sixty-seven bullets. - From official documents the number of lunatics in France, which a few years since was 12,000, has at present increased to 60,000. - In Clark county, Ohio, last year, 14,444 gallons of sorghum syrup were produced by twenty five persons engaged in the manufacture. - Parties at Sandwich, Mass., have bought and hired several thousand pine trees, intending to tap them the present season for turpentine.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, ROCHESTER, June 2, 1883. THERE are no many changes observable in our market as business rules dull.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Flour and Grain. Flour, spring do. 6.00 @ 6.50. Flour, buckwheat. 2.50 @ 3.00.

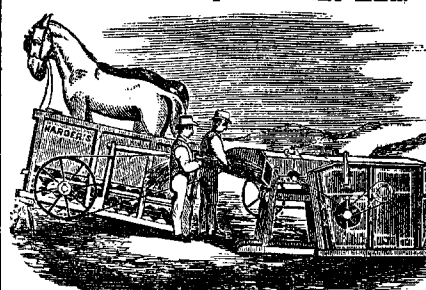
THE PROVISION MARKETS. NEW YORK, June 1.—FLOUR—Market opened quiet firm and closed quiet at Saturday's quotations.

TRADE. The New York buyers opened the trade early, and bidding actively, prices went up 1/4c @ 3/4c per lb. live weight.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Eggs, dozen. 12 @ 13. Hens, 10 @ 11. Candles, box. 1.25 @ 1.35.

THE WOOL MARKETS. NEW YORK, May 22.—The inquiry for all kinds of wool continues very limited and small sales are making at a material concession in prices.

BUY THE BEST! It is the Cheapest in the End.



THE RAILWAY HORSE-POWER WHICH TOOK THE FIRST PREMIUM AT THE NEW YORK STATE FAIRS OF 1860 & 1862.

Combined Threshers and Cleaners, Threshers, Separators, Wood Saws, &c. All of the best in market. Some of the advantages of these Powers are, low elevation, slow travel of team, and consequent ease of teaming.

FLAX AND HEMP CULTURE.

A GOOD, USEFUL AND TIMELY WORK ON FLAX CULTURE, &c., has just been issued, containing all requisite information relative to Preparing the Ground, Sowing the Seed, Culture, Harvesting, &c., &c.

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.

What the Press Says. From the Utica Morning Herald and Daily Gazette. A MANUAL OF FLAX CULTURE. ROCHESTER: D. D. T. MOORE.

THE BOARDMAN, GRAY & CO., PIANO FORTES.

The subscriber, late a member of this well-known firm, has established a WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEPOT, At 726 Broadway, New York City.

Purchasing and Information Agency. The subscriber, in connection with the Piano business, has established a GENERAL AGENCY.

TO FARMERS, TO DAIRYMEN, TO COUNTRY MERCHANTS. Sorghum Sugar and Sirup, Furs and Skins, Fruits, dry and green, Butter, Cheese, Hams, Eggs, Poultry, Game, Flour, Grain, Hops, Flax, Wool, &c., &c.

PURE ITALIAN QUEENS FOR SALE.

That have become fertilized by the Pure Italian Drones. Having experimented with, and cultivated the Italian Bee to some extent for three years past, and reared several hundred Queens in the time, and with extensive arrangements for rearing a large number of Queens the present season, I therefore offer myself that I can furnish the pure Italian Queen for about one half the former price.

PURE SHEEP WASH TOBACCO!

The manufacturers of this new and very important preparation, so long desired by all Wool Growers, now offer it for sale. They confidently recommend it to all Sheep Masters, as an effective REMEDY FOR SHEEP TICKS, and by dipping the animal two or three times a year, according to directions.

ATTENTION, BEE-KEEPERS!!

Having experimented with bees and hives for the past few years, for the purpose of revolutionizing the present loose system of bee-management, and bringing within the reach of all a hive that is well adapted to the wants of the Apiculturist, whereby bees can be controlled at all times, and at the same time fully overcome four of the greatest troubles in bee-management, viz: the loss of bees in swarming time; their flying to the forest, the ravages of the moth miller; the robbery of bees, and also the great loss of bees during winter; all of these difficulties I have successfully overcome.

\$75 A MONTH GUARANTEED.

ISAAC HALE JR., & CO., NEWBURYPORT, MASS. INVENTIONS AND THEIR RESULTS.—A new book just published. Send stamps (12 cts.) and procure a specimen copy. Agents wanted everywhere to solicit orders. Address HARRIS BROS., Box 322, Boston, Mass.

AIKEN'S PORTABLE KNITTING MACHINE.

From \$10 to \$15 per week can be earned with it by any one. Price, all complete, \$25. Send stamp for circular to W. BURT Newton, Iowa.

MORGAN HORSE "YOUNG HIGHLANDER."

Is a standard for fine horses, 16 miles north of Lockport, and 1 1/2 miles west of Somerset Corners. He is 15 1/2 hands high, weighs about 1,050 lbs., dark bay, 10 years old, and well broke double or single. Price for sale a span of best Cuban seed, sent me by a friend on the island. Perhaps it is worthy of trial.—JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

ORAI MICROSCOPE!

This is the best and cheapest Microscope in the world for general use. It requires no focal adjustment, magnifies about one hundred diameters, or ten thousand times, and is so simple that a child can use it. It will be sent by mail, postage paid, on the receipt of Two Dollars and Twenty-five cents, or with six beautiful mounted objects for Three Dollars, or with twenty-four objects for Five Dollars. Address HENRY CRAIG, 180 Centre Street, New York. A liberal discount to the trade.

CHEESE DAIRYMEN. RALPH'S PATENT IMPROVED "ONEIDA CHEESE VAT."

Was awarded the FIRST PREMIUM, after a thorough test, at the New York State Fair, 1882. It is the most simple, durable and effective Cheese-Making Apparatus in use. Used in dairies of 10 to 1,000 cows. The only VAT well adapted to.

"FACTORY" CHEESE-MAKING.

More economical in use than steam, and much less expensive in cost. Sizes vary from 34 to 365 gallons on hand and ready for delivery.—Larger sizes for Factory use made to order. Send for Circular containing description, size and price list, and full particulars. Address WM. RALPH & CO., 133 Genesee St., Utica, N. Y. Manufacturers and Dealers, wholesale and retail, in Dairyman's tools and Implements.

THE EXCELSIOR BEE-HIVE.

All who test HANNUM'S PATENT BEE-HIVE, agree that it is the best Hive ever invented. It is the only one that effectually gets rid of the moth-worm! It cleans itself perfectly of dead bees, and all foul matters! The most thoroughly ventilated Hive known! The cheapest and most simple in construction. It has all the advantages of other Hives, and is of an important and exclusive advantage, possessed by no other Hive! Send for Circular. Highly remunerative inducements offered to agents. See Rural of April, for full description and address. Address 67-1st St., HENRY A. HANNUM, Cazenovia, N. Y.

THE UNIVERSAL CLOTHES WRINGER.

"AMONG Improved Clothes Wringer without cog wheels, manufactured by Gunn, Amidon & Holland, Greenfield, Mass., has received the First and only premium given to Clothes Wringer by the N. Y. State Agricultural Society."



FRAUD! Caution!!

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the old, sweet story. She grew in six months from romping, reckless girlhood, to gentle, reticent, and most graceful womanhood. All the tenderness of her nature, which had waited so many years for its object, overflowed at last—

slight form at his bedside, and heard the voice, the well-known, well-loved voice. He put out his hand: "Child—love—Margery!" "Did you expect me, Nelson?" "To-morrow, not to-day. I had not thought you could be here so soon. I was waiting for your coming to die. I think I should have waited a week if need were. But the agony is horrible."

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WHY is ambition like a weathercock? Because it is a vane and glittering thing to a-spire. MANY a preacher complains of empty pews when they are really not much emptier than the pulpit.

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The Story-Teller.

ONE OF MANY.

Oh! how the music, the wild, war-music, rose and swelled as the company marched down the street of the little country town! How the banners shook and the bayonets glittered in the August sunshine!

But Margery's waiting did not last long. So soon, that it scarcely seemed as if the regiment could have reached its destination, the news of Antietam came. The Sixteenth were engaged in it, and she read among the wounded the name of Lieutenant Nelson Harding.

A NEW WAY OF MARRYING.

In New Hampshire they used to choose all their State, County and Town officers, from Governor down to hog reeves, at one town meeting, the annual March meeting.

Corner for the Young.

HISTORICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 42 letters. My 41, 8, 7, 13, 10 is a great General, spoken of in History.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 17 letters. My 7, 15, 14, 14, 2, 16 is a place of disgrace.

AN ANAGRAM.

Yx tevnai aby si lame dan girbht, Sa eer ti awf o roey, Nwsh, ni eth sayd fo phoe nad vole, I doost poum tis reshio.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 697.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigmas.—It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.

PARSELLS' PURCHASING AGENCY.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED Agricultural, Literary and Family Newspaper, IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

