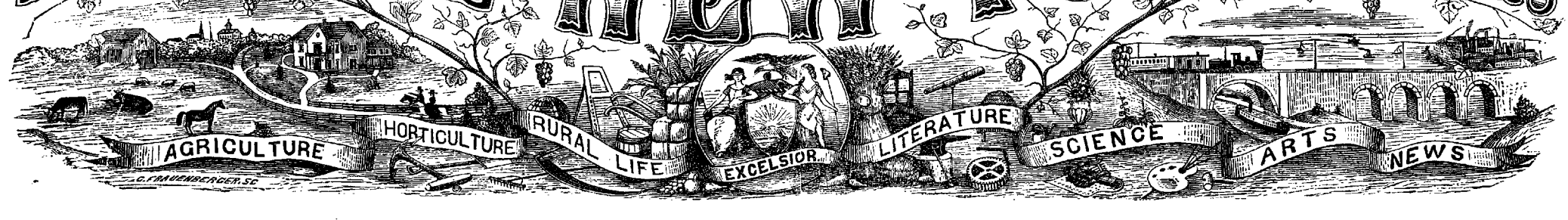


MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

[SINGLE NO. FIVE CENTS.]

VOL. XIV NO. 3.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1863.

[WHOLE NO. 679.]

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.
C. 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 whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the 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.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.*

BY A NEW CONTRIBUTOR.

We have recently been looking, so far as it is possible for an outsider to do, into the Department of Agriculture at Washington. Upon the creation of the Department as a separate organization by Congress, after eighty years of pleading from the Agricultural interest over the whole country, it was hoped and believed that such action would now be had in the conducting of affairs connected therewith that all must be satisfied. The installation of the present Commissioner brought out much personal feeling from the many disappointed applicants, and he was therefore represented as utterly incompetent for the duties of the office. We have kept still, and after looking the matter fairly in the face, have reason to think that as honest, politic and effective a course has been pursued by the Commissioner as could have been done. The office was established with all its old appurtenances and errors attached to its future, and every body knows that it is much more difficult to abandon a bad habit than it is to create one. The Commissioner, therefore, entered upon his duties, now some six months since, with the old programme of errors so established and fixed upon his Department, that it would have been both difficult and dangerous for him to at once inaugurate a new regime. Members of Congress have so long been accustomed to the receiving of seeds and cuttings to send their constituents, and in other ways received from it many favors, that it would be impolitic to change that arrangement.

Again, in the construction of the Department, Congress gave it but the paltry sum of \$60,000 for its entire expenditures one year. Under this condition of things, with, unfortunately, too many drawing silently counter to him, if not openly opposing him, let us see what the Commissioner has done and proposes to do, and then judge whether we could have any of us done better.—Let us take, first, the propagating garden, which, as we learn, had in it a considerable number of grape vines, greenhouse plants, evergreens, oaks, &c., &c., all without order or system; names to the vines lost or unknown, and we may say really valueless. This has been changed, and the garden is now in the hands of a practical man, who has an idea of system and correctness to names as valuable adjuncts in the growing of plants or fruits for dissemination.

Next, there was no laboratory connected with the Department, and as almost daily questions came up respecting analysis of various grains, &c., it seemed essential that such office should be a part and parcel of the Department. It has been done, and the chemist has made many experiments and analyses which will be submitted in the forthcoming report. Next, a system for gathering information from Conventions of Agriculturists or Pomologists for the use of the Department has been established, and much valuable information obtained. Next, the special appointment of clerks and separate duties has

* This article from the pen of a resident of Washington, who probably is fully advised in regard to the important matter discussed, though given a prominent position—the post of honor—is published simply as a contribution, and mainly for the information it contains relative to what is doing and proposed to be done by the Department of Agriculture. We are not prepared to indorse what is said concerning the ability and wisdom of the Commissioner.—[Ed. R. N. Y.]

been commenced, and will be continued as each subject of great interest to the farmer, gardener, or orchardist, seems to demand special care—thus eventuating in making everything, after a time, under such order that concise information can be had of it at any time. Next, circulars are being sent out to obtain information upon all the crops of the soil, their values, &c., some of which information will be probably used in the next report, and more be kept as a basis for future reports and comparisons. Next, while the old regime of distributing seeds of all sorts is going on, exertions are making to procure for special distribution, on which to gather reports, all such new seeds as give promise of great value to the Agricultural interest. The Cotton, Sorghum and other great interests are receiving special attention; and should Congress make an appropriation of an amount sufficient, it is proposed to establish a public experimental test garden at Washington, in which every fruit, grain, grass, &c., &c., shall be grown for the purpose of deciding on its nomenclature, and showing its general habits and probable nature. Afterward it is proposed that branch gardens, one or more in each State, be established; that as all plants are grown, notes, &c., of them shall be made by the Superintendent of each garden, and forwarded to the chief garden at Washington, where they shall be collated for publication. This will exhibit the value or worthlessness of things, and show what section is most adapted to certain sorts, &c., and the published reports will inform the farmer so that he can grow understandingly such new seeds, etc., as Government may have to give him. These gardens will also furnish fields of study to the young farmer and gardener, and being in all the States will be accessible to all.

Such are some of the acts doing and shadowed out for future action by the present Department of Agriculture, and while we should have been glad to have seen more of the old regime abandoned at once, we cannot but suppose the Commissioner has acted wisely and judiciously in gradually disposing of error as it may be shown by the introduction of more wise and beneficent plans.

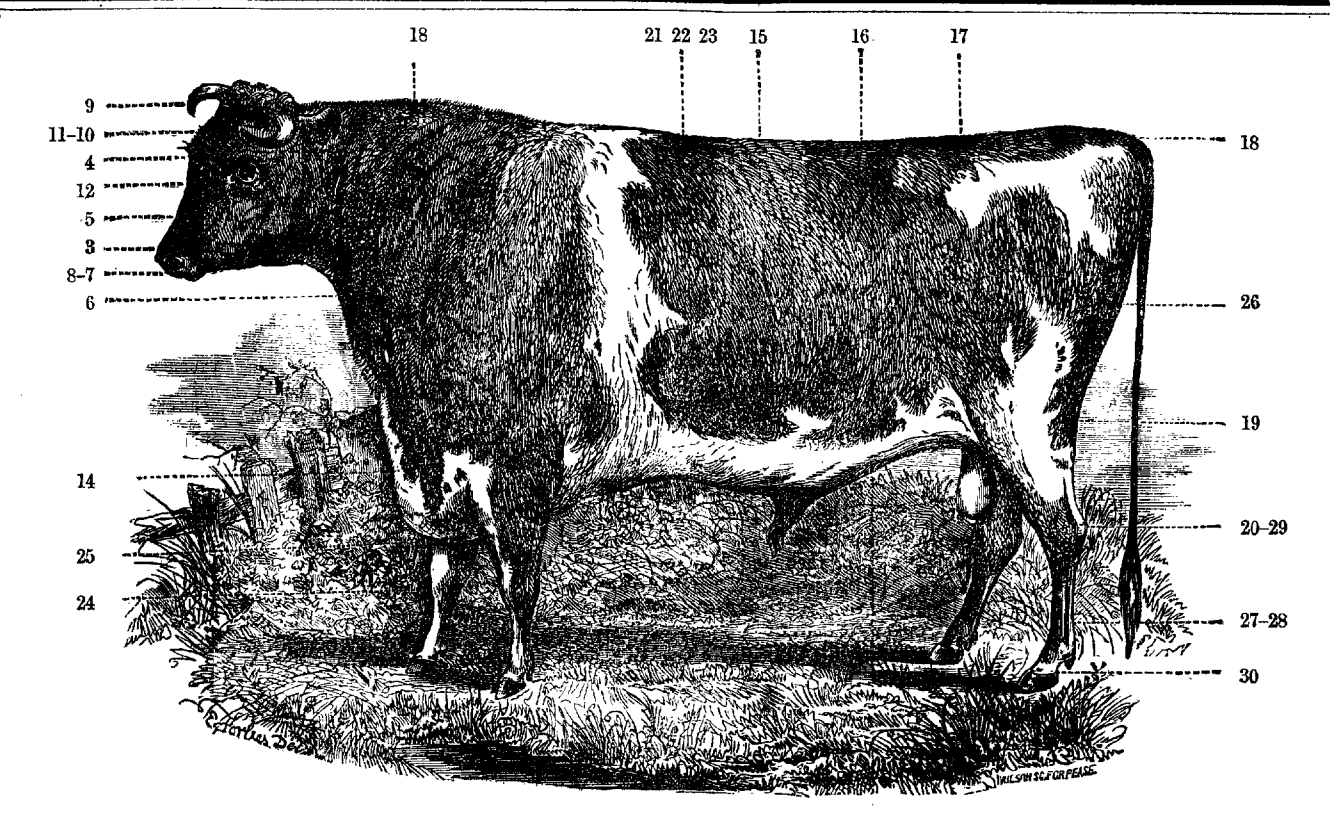
ANALYSIS.

To separate—to decompose—to take apart the farmer needs to learn how to analyse. Not simply soils. Soil analysis has its uses. It is well for all who manipulate soils to know their chief constituents. But analysis need not be confined to soils—ought not to be. There are insects, called humbugs, to be pulled to pieces—to be dissected, studied and used according to value. Theories require the analysis of a practical mind, with practical knowledge and facts to back it. There may be stray traces of truth in most theories. Analysis will discover it to the thoughtful investigator. Discovered, it may be used to develop a theory; or, combined with other truths, it may prove the key-stone of a beautiful and everlasting arch. Analysis enables the operator to discover truth where it exists, and to discover its absence when it is wanting. In our reading, we should apply this test to what we read. Then it will do us good to read; we shall profit by it. It is better to study and understand one article thoroughly, than to read a page idly and without analysis. Papers like the RURAL will be more thoroughly valued in proportion as this test is applied to them by their readers; and such readers make a paper better.

FIRE-WOOD AND TIMBER LOTS.

FIREWOOD, as I think I intimated in a former article, deserves more attention than it receives. Many other things bear remotely on human happiness, but fire-wood is the warmth, and retaining the fire-place, the light of the family circle. Coal is, at best, a half-civilized substitute for wood.

Wood requires attention.—first, by way of increasing the supply; second, by way of improving the quality. The supply would be increased if all the land that is now yielding no profit were planted with trees. Marshy places would grow something, and side hills and broken ridges that plowing would impoverish might bear timber. A bare, broken ridge is a deformity—covered with trees and shrubs it is beauty and profit. Before a man clears a piece of land, let him always inquire if he has not already got more land under what is charitably denominated "cultivation" than he properly attends to. Had men followed this hint, I can imagine a very woody country. Be sure, always, that you have the right number of trees to the acre. They should



POINTS OF JERSEY CATTLE, ILLUSTRATED—NO. I.

In an early volume of the RURAL we gave the Scale of Points of Excellence, as adopted by the Royal Jersey Agricultural Society, for the government of judges in all the shows of that Society. This scale has been continued nearly twenty years, with scarcely any alteration, and as increased attention is being given to the Jersey breed of cattle in this country, especially for the dairy, many of our readers will be interested in learning the established points. We therefore give the above fine portrait of a Jersey bull, with illustrations showing the Scale of Points for Bulls—and will, in a future number, publish the portrait of a Jersey cow with the Scale of Points for Cows and Heifers. By reference to the corresponding figures above the reader will readily understand the following

SCALE OF POINTS FOR BULLS:

Article	Points
1. Pedigree on male side	1
2. Pedigree on female side	1

3. Head fine and tapering	1
4. Forehead broad	1
5. Cheek small	1
6. Throat clean	1
7. Muzzle fine and encircled with a light color	1
8. Nostrils high and open	1
9. Horns smooth, not too thick at the base, and tapering, tipped with black	1
10. Ears small and thin	1
11. Ears of a deep orange color within	1
12. Eye full and lively	1
13. Neck arched, powerful, but not too coarse and heavy	1
14. Chest broad and deep	1
15. Barrel-hooped, broad and deep	1
16. Well-ribbed home, having but little space between the last rib and the hip	1
17. Back straight from the withers to the top of the hip	1
18. Back straight from the top of the hips to the setting on of the tail; and the tail at right angles with the back	1
19. Tail fine	1

20. Tail hanging down to the hocks	1
21. Hide mellow and movable, but not too loose	1
22. Hide covered with fine and short hair	1
23. Hide of a good color	1
24. Fore legs short and straight	1
25. Fore-arm large and powerful, swelling and full above the knee, and fine below it	1
26. Hind-quarters, from the hock to the point of the rump, long and well filled up	1
27. Hind legs short and straight (below the hocks) and bones rather fine	1
28. Hind legs squarely placed, and not too close together when viewed from behind	1
29. Hind legs not to cross in walking	1
30. Hoofs small	1
31. Growth	1
32. General appearance	1
33. Condition	1
Perfection	33
No prize shall be awarded to a bull having less than	27 points.

be thick enough to occupy the whole ground and force the trees to a tall growth, from being obliged to look up for light, and thin enough for healthy development.

Not one acre in a thousand is in a condition to produce timber to good advantage. Either scattering trees with large tops keep down the young shoots, or else we have a perfect thicket of small trees, retarding each other's growth. The true way is take off the timber clean, as you need it, keep out the cattle, &c., and after three or four years thin out with a bush scythe to the requisite number, selecting in some cases desirable varieties. Depend upon it timber is a necessity, and must be made to pay.

Fire-wood, after being dried sufficiently under cover, should be sold by weight rather than measure, weight being the better indication of its value. The common practice of cutting wood and leaving it to season out doors is most pernicious,—especially when the sticks are not split, and when they are in a shaded place and not exposed to the free course of the winds. Trees that are suffered to lie on the ground till decay commences lose more than is generally supposed. The true way to prepare wood is to cut it when not very full of sap, as in fall and winter, split it at once to the required size, and "without fraud or other delay," place it under a cover, from which the wind is not to be excluded, till the seasoning process has considerably advanced; otherwise fermentation and decay work serious mischief—as is often the case in tight wood-houses. But wood can be too dry, so that it will pass off in flame, carrying the heat up the chimney by the strong current of air set in motion by the too rapid combustion. This will, in a measure, be guarded against by burning the wood as large as may be.

Prepare wood at the right time, season it under cover, and never let it depreciate by bad management. Thus we shall add much, very much, to our comfort and our resources. H. T. B.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

COMMENCE SAVING.

LET the New Year be inaugurated by the adoption of a practice of systematic saving. It is a matter of serious importance to the farmer, that his husbandry embraces a thorough husbanding of his resources, and their employment in the processes of production. Tools should be saved. The importance of this matter has been frequently alluded to in the RURAL. Whatever will make or mend a tool should be saved. In cutting the winter's wood, husband the timber you may come across that will make an ax-helve, an ox-bow, a fork-handle, a rake-tooth, or that can be sawed into any sort of timber and made available in the erection and furnishing of stables, out-buildings, &c., &c. It is well, indeed it is almost indispensable, to have a supply of this kind of stock on hand. The tops of trees, partially decayed and fallen timber, will serve for fuel.

Save the chips that are made in the cutting of timber and wood. They form a species of fuel easier saved and stored than made to order when wanted. Save, also, the small pieces of boards, of rails, timber that may be made available for fuel, and which is often piled up in the street and never used for any purpose, except as a harbor for weeds.

But there is a greater chance to pile up an account with profit, in the saving of manures. There are many things go to waste that are of more importance as fertilizers than much that is saved, and used. Night soil is almost universally lost to the farmer. Bones bleach in the fields, or are buried in trenches where the last ox or cow or horse that died, was buried. The chicken manure, the horns from the beeves, the ashes, hair, suds from the house, &c., &c., are as often wasted as saved.

Time is lost—too much of it—by not having it systematically employed—by working without

design—by setting about the accomplishment of objects without having first planned how the work should be accomplished. It should be the object to study how a thing may be best done in the shortest possible time. Such study often develops new modes of doing things which are ever after an advantage to the originator.

Commence saving by employing every moment in the doing of duties that need to be done now.

THE CANADA THISTLE—HOW TO DESTROY IT.

DR. WARDER, of Cincinnati, recently, in a public lecture, said that there was a way of surely and quickly destroying this plant, and without great labor. Gentlemen who are hesitating about attacking these pests, because the more they are rooted out the better they grow, should try this mode. It is to pile straw thickly on the surface where they are found, and let it remain there. They will die for want of light and air.

It is but a few days since I heard an Illinoisian say that there were more patches of this plant growing in the West than there would be if people knew the Canada thistle when they saw it. There are plenty of men in the West who never saw a Canada thistle. Happy fellows! May they never learn what it is by experience! But thistles do and will continue to be imported to our prairies in packages of goods, of plants, trees, by travelers, by the exchange of stock, &c., &c., and the duty is an important one that all men who know this weed when they see it, should enlighten such as may have it and not know it.

PARSNIPS AS A FIELD CROP.

I AM more and more impressed with the superiority of parsnips over carrots as a field crop, and as a forage crop for stock of whatever kind. On prairie soils they are quite as productive; they are sweeter, relished better by all kinds of stock; and the additional advantage that they are not injured, but rather improved by frost, is no inconsiderable item. This 29th day of December,

after the ground has been frozen a considerable depth, the crop of parsnips may be easily dug.

ECONOMY IN COMPOSTING MANURES.

To employ all the resources of the farm in production is the aim of all thorough farmers.

In the decomposition of manures, heat is generated. In very many cases this heat may be profitably used, where it is not now made available for any purpose.

TOBACCO CULTURE IN THE WEST.

A good deal of tobacco has been grown in the West the past season, and with much profit to the producer.

As there is a fair prospect that seed leaf tobacco will command a good price the ensuing year, and as many of our western farmers are about to enter into the business who have had little or no experience in cultivating the crop, I beg the privilege of suggesting a few ideas to them, derived from my own experience, through your wide spread journal.

In raising the crop west it is important to protect it as far as possible from the strong prairie winds that prevail, as its value depends much upon the integrity of the leaf, therefore timber openings and a southern and eastern slope should be selected, as far as practicable.

In commencing the cultivation of tobacco, it is of vital importance to have good seed and a bed of early plants, in order to have them transplanted in season to mature before the appearance of frost.

One tablespoonful of seed to a rod square of ground, evenly sowed upon the surface and rolled or trod in, as early in the season as possible, will be what is required.

When the plant has arrived at a certain height before blossoming, it requires topping. If of good growth top it

two and a half or three feet from the ground, leaving 12 or 13 leaves on a stalk. As the suckers appear they should be broken off, and before the plant is cut should be entirely stripped from the stalk.

WORN OUT LAND—EXHAUSTED SOIL.

THE above are terms with which agricultural readers are very familiar, yet in relation to them, if I mistake not, our periodical press has furnished but few facts.

Many years ago an observant and intelligent farmer was speaking to me about worn out land. I requested him to give me an example.

Thirty-eight years ago, a large tract of rather level, sandy soil, situated a few miles from my present residence, was scantily covered with a stunted and gnarled growth of timber, with underbrush largely of poplar—and in wet times large ponds of water.

A gentleman visitor at my house, said that he formerly resided in the city of Washington.

While he resided there a Virginia plantation of 500 acres, with a brick house, large and commodious, except that no arrangements for cooking were in it, was offered for sale.

We have all read some about what MECHI has done in England with a large outlay of capital, obtaining remunerative returns; and some of us have read what Judge BUEL accomplished with a sand plain.

But my chief object in putting pen to paper was to call for facts. Readers of the RURAL, tell us all you know about worn out land—about exhausted soil. How came it so?—and if cured, what was the remedy? PETER HATHAWAY. Milan, Erie Co., Ohio, Jan., 1863.

FROM AN ILLINOIS FARMER.

THE WEATHER, SEASON, AND OTHER MATTERS.

THE weather during the past autumn and present winter has been very extraordinary. With the exception of a very slight frost in September, no frost occurred until the 12th of October, when it froze quite hard, and continued cold, with frost and ice every night, without intermission, till the 23d.

Owing to the scarcity of farm hands last fall, and the large amount of sugar cane to be harvested and worked up, far less than the usual amount of fall plowing was done; as a consequence, unless spring opens very early, a portion of the wheat sowing will be late, which will increase the risk of obtaining a good crop.

The Sorghum Sirup crop is fast getting to be an important one in this State. About one-half the farmers raised a small patch the past year, and much more is to be raised next season.

The existence of the war, and the obstacles thrown thereby in the way of commerce, have

tended largely to develop the Agricultural resources of the West. It is believed that cotton and tobacco can be made profitable crops. There is no State in the Union (or out of it) where so many of the great staples of commerce can be so successfully, cheaply and abundantly produced as in Illinois; and if the productions of the soil are to make a people rich, the inhabitants of this State will soon be so.

There are many farms to let at present. If any eastern farmers have a desire to emigrate, now is a good time, for unless more help comes, much land will lie waste next summer for want of hands to till it.

RURAL EXPERIENCES—NO. VI.

MORE ABOUT TOOLS.

WE find it very convenient and profitable to have a work-bench and a set of tools, consisting of three planes, three saws, (one cross-cut hand-saw, one slitting saw, and one panel saw, for trimming, &c.) a bit-stock with a set of bits to fit, five chisels, a square and scratch-awl, a drawing-knife, one pair of small pliers, a hammer and nail-box, a drawer in work-bench, with partitions, to put an assortment of bolts, screws, wrought nails, tacks, files, whet-stones, chalk and line, &c.

The above bench tools and all will cost about thirty dollars, and if well taken care of, will last a farmer's life-time. Now, if he has much ingenuity, he can save enough by doing his own repairing odd spells to pay for them in two years, and in some cases in one year.

Near Brewerton, Onondaga Co., N. Y., 1863.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Turnips for Milk Cows.

MILLO SMITH, of Northampton, in a communication to the Homestead, made the following statement:—We tried one of our best cows in milk recently, that was fed half a bushel of turnips a day in addition to her other feed, by weighing her milk carefully for one week.

Pure Water for Horses.

A CORRESPONDENT of the American Veterinary Journal writes:—It is highly necessary that horses should be supplied with pure water; for impure water, like damaged food, is more or less operative as an indirect cause, in inducing an unhealthy condition of the digestive organs.

Give the Cattle Good Beds.

THE N. H. Journal of Agriculture asks:—Would you save all that can profitably be saved in fodder?—and as answer to its own query replies, then be sure and bed your cattle well.

defend the fortress against the cold. Consequently, to bring animals through winter in good condition, it is requisite that they should be well fed and clothed.

One can see by the eye, and the expression of countenance in stock, the condition of their stomachs. To some cattle an entrance to the barn is the signal for a struggle and strain about the cribs which threaten to demolish all before them; the protruded tongue and strained eyeballs ask for food.

Preservation of Wood by Charring.

M. LAPPARENT, of France, who has published a most interesting essay on the preservation of ship timber, proposes to char its surface as the most effectual way of securing it from rot for a long period. He says:

By charring timber, the surface is subjected to a considerable heat, the primary effect of which is to exhaust the sap of the epidermis, and to dry up the fermenting principles; in the second place, below the outside layer, completely carbonized, a scorched surface is found—that is to say, partly distilled, and impregnated with the products of that distillation, which are creosoted and empyreumatic, the antiseptic properties of which are well known!

Inquiries and Answers.

BUTTER-WORKER.—Can you inform me where the best premium Butter-Worker is made, or can be obtained, and the price of same? If so, will you please to do so, and oblige—A SUBSCRIBER, East Avon, N. Y.

WE cannot answer; but if it is a good thing the manufacturer should advertise in the agricultural journals.

HUNGARIAN GRASS FOR SHEEP.—I wish to inquire through the columns of the RURAL if any of its readers have tried to perfect the quality of Hungarian hay for feeding sheep; as to the profit, and the health of the sheep? An early answer is desired. Many think that Hungarian hay is not healthier for some kinds of stock—E. L. S., Out West.

RECIPE FOR CURING HAMS WANTED.—I would like to inquire through the RURAL for a good recipe for curing hams without sugar or molasses, if such a thing is possible. The high price of sugar makes it very expensive to cure hams in the usual way, and people should be as economical as possible in these times. An answer by yourself or some of your able correspondents would oblige—M., Wayne Co.

ABOUT APPLYING MANURE.—I should like to see a discussion in your columns, by farmers of experience, as to the relative profit of applying fresh animal manures direct to the soil, incorporating them after they have fermented and partially or wholly decomposed, as compost or otherwise. Should unfermented manures be applied to the soil at all? It is a subject that merits attention, and may profitably be discussed.—AN ATTENTIVE READER.

LARD OIL.—If you or some of the RURAL readers would please give the mode of operation by which lard is converted into oil, (the common lard oil for burning, &c.) you would be greatly obliged to the RURAL readers. Burning fluid has long been very high in price, and now Kerosene is rapidly rising; hence if it was generally known how to prepare lard oil, most farmers would be able to get light enough from their lard and tallow.—H., Thaco, N. Y.

HOW MANY SHEEP CAN BE KEPT PER ACRE?—Will some experienced sheep husbandman tell us through the RURAL how many sheep can be summered on an acre, and how many on fifty or a hundred acres? Of course much depends upon the quality of the soil and pasturage, but what is the average? An answer or shrewd guess, will oblige. The writer kept fifty good Spanish Merinos on ten acres, last summer, and they were in fine condition when taken from the pasture in October.—FARMER, Genesee Co., N. Y.

Doings of Agricultural Societies.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the New Jersey State Agricultural Society will be held in Trenton, on Tuesday, January 20th.

CATTARAUGUS CO. AG. SOCIETY.—At its annual meeting of this Society, held in Little Valley on the 3d inst., the following persons were elected officers for the ensuing year: President—SAMUEL W. JOHNSON, Ellicottville. Vice President—Lorenzo Stratton, Little Valley. Secretary—Horace S. Huntley, Little Valley. Treasurer—C. V. B. Beorse, Olean.

LIVINGSTON CO. AG. SOCIETY.—The Annual meeting of this Society was held in Genesee, on Tuesday, Jan. 6, and the following officers were elected: President—Hon. C. H. CARROLL, Groveland. Vice President—Richard Peck, Lima. Secretary—George J. Davis, Genesee. Treasurer—Hezekiah Allen, Genesee. Directors—S. K. Winnegar, Mt. Morris, and Aaron Barber Jr., Avon.

BROOKPORT UNION AG. SOCIETY.—The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows: President—F. P. ROOT. Vice President—Hiram Mordoff. Secretary—H. N. Beach. Treasurer—Geo. B. Whiteside. Directors—R. J. Cook, Thaddeus Terrill, L. Babcock, H. W. Moore, German Elliott and Charles Thrall. Acting Rec. Secretary Geo. Burroughs.

SUGAR MAKING IN THE WINTER.—The Wyoming county (N. Y.) Mirror says the farmers of the southern part of that county and the northern part of Allegany, are busy at work making maple sugar. Several hundred trees have been tapped, and the flow of sap is said to be abundant. Who ever heard before of maple sugar being made in this region, in December and January?

Rural Notes and Items.

THE AGRICULTURAL PRESS.—Though the rebellion and paper famine combined have caused a number of Agricultural Journals to suspend, and most of those which survive to shorten sail—by reducing their dimensions, etc.—we are glad to observe that most of our exchanges enter upon the new year in good style and under favorable auspices.

- Maine Farmer, (weekly), Augusta, Maine, \$2. New England Farmer, do., Boston, Mass., \$2. Boston Cultivator, do., Boston, Mass., \$2. Mass. Ploughman, do., Boston Mass., \$2. Hovey's Mag. of Horticulture, (monthly), Boston, \$2. N. H. Journal of Agriculture, (weekly), Manchester, N. H., \$1.50. American Agriculturist, do., New York, \$1. Working Farmer, do., New York, \$1. Horticulturist, do., New York, \$2. Farmer and Gardener, do., Philadelphia, Pa., \$1. The Gardener's Monthly, Philadelphia, Pa., \$1. Country Gentleman, (weekly), Albany, N. Y., \$2. Genesee Farmer, (monthly), Rochester, N. Y., \$2. Ohio Farmer, (weekly), Cleveland, Ohio, \$2. Michigan Farmer, (monthly), Detroit, Mich., \$1. Prairie Farmer, (weekly), Chicago, Ill., \$2. Illinois Farmer, (monthly), Springfield, Ill., \$1. Journal of Ill. State Ag. Society, (monthly), Springfield, Ill., 50c. Wisconsin Farmer, (monthly), Madison, Wis., \$1. Valley Farmer, do., St. Louis, Mo., \$1. Iowa Homestead, (weekly), Des Moines, Iowa, \$2. California Farmer, do., San Francisco, Cal., \$4. Canadian Agriculturist, (monthly), Toronto, C. W., \$1.

The Ohio Farmer, which has been suspended for some months, reappears in its former handsome style, under the auspices of Col. L. D. HARRIS, former editor of Field Notes, and the Ohio Cultivator, (which latter is to be continued as a monthly), and W. B. FAIRCHILD. Its former editor, THO. BROWN, is now in California, we believe. We hope the Farmer will have fair sailing in future, for it is well commended and freighted.

The American Stock Journal has succumbed to the storm, the editor, in a handsome valedictory (given in Dec. number, which closed fourth volume,) announcing its discontinuance for the present.

CANTASSING FOR THE RURAL BRIGADE.—Is going on very spiritedly and successfully from Canada to California, and Maine to Minnesota. We have hosts of new recruits every day. For example—and to show the popularity of the Brigade—we quote from a recent "return" made by Capt. NELSON McCALL, of Lake City Minn.:—"As the term of those three months men that I enlisted in October for your Brigade was about expiring, I started out on Saturday eve to get up a company for 12 months, and before I returned home I obtained nine good soldiers, and another one who was anxious to be one of the Company came early this morning and gave me his name, and now I am enabled to send you their fee of admission, amounting to \$15. I expect to add some to this list the present week, and another year I think I can get a full Regiment. All of those three months (trial) men liked their Captain first rate, but some of them did not feel able to enlist for a full term, and so I took others in their stead. I think this little company will be able the coming year to conquer and drive out of this town a host of error and old fogyism in farming; but if they do not I shall not lay the blame to the Captain or Colonel. Some get an idea that some of the officers should be Western men, and so I tell them that Lt. BRADDOCK is a Western man, and formerly commanded a Western Company, and this satisfies them."—By the last mail we also received "squads" (clubs) of recruits from almost every loyal State and Territory in the Union, and both the Canadas. A friend in Canada West sends \$30 in Canada money, saying he could have sold it and bought American money, thus clearing several dollars, but prefers helping the RURAL. A Michigan letter, by the same mail from a gentleman who subscribed in a club, just before the paper famine, brings us the change to make the price right. And another from the same State, thus acknowledges the receipt of one of our premiums, and speaks of RURAL prospects:—"Your favor of the 27th Dec., enclosing \$5 Treasury Note, has been safely received, for which I accept my thanks. I think that before the close of Jan. I can get a club of 100 or 120. The rise of your paper does not hurt the circulation of it as I can see. I have a larger club now than I had last year at this time."

RARRY'S REPORT ON THE ARMY HORSES.—The celebrated horse-tamer, J. S. RARRY, recently sent to the Rappahannock by Gen. HALLECK to look into the condition of the army horses, reports that he found it better than he expected. He says:—"The cavalry horses suffer most, and many of them were then scarcely fit for service. The duties that they had to perform—excursions that sometimes require from twenty-four to thirty-six hours without food or rest—the heavy weight they have to carry, and the unskillful manner in which they are ridden, makes it almost impossible to be otherwise, except they were treated with the greatest care. The artillery horses suffer much, but are a grade better than the cavalry. The greatest abuse and destruction of the horses in the army is, I believe, in the want of skill, judgment and care of the individual man to his individual horse. A more diligent looking after of this detail by the officers in charge, would be highly beneficial; the good effects of which has been seen, in some instances, where diligence has been exercised with judgment by officers attending to this important but much neglected duty. Every man who is permitted to ride a horse, should be compelled by duty, if he has not the humanity and moral principle, to see that the horse has every care in his power to give, that he is properly groomed, watered and fed."

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, a prospectus of which will be found in our advertising department, is the leading and ablest American journal devoted to practical information in Art, Science, Mechanics, Chemistry, Manufactures, &c. The New York Chronicle, also advertised in this number, is an able and well conducted Religious and Family Newspaper. Its principal editor, Rev. Dr. CURCH, was for many years a resident of Rochester, and has a host of personal friends in Western New York who ought to continue his acquaintance through the Chronicle.

A HOP JOURNAL.—In answer to an inquiry in a late RURAL, "whether there is any journal devoted to the culture of hops," an Otsego Co., N. Y., correspondent writes that there is one published in New York City. He says "it comes weekly in summer and monthly in winter—is a very correct paper, and one that has all the quotations of the hop market," &c. We infer that it is not devoted to the culture of hops, but a sort of price current issued by dealers. Will some one favor us with a number?

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—During the past week we have been favored with a goodly number of practical articles, which shall receive reasonable attention. A number of inquiries, answers, etc., are necessarily deferred. Those expecting letters in answer to inquiries are advised that it is impossible for us to comply at this season of the year, other duties occupying all the time we can command.

Horticultural.

ILLINOIS STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

OUR Western Editor has furnished us copious notes of the proceedings of the Illinois State Horticultural Society, at its recent meeting in Bloomington. We are compelled to condense these a good deal; for as received, they would crowd two pages of the RURAL. Fortunately, or otherwise, this is not difficult; for the first part of the session seems to have been devoted to a rambling discussion on the flow of sap, the difference in hardness between trees making "short jointed" and "long-jointed" wood, and whether or not the hardness of the tree was sacrificed in obtaining improved fruit. On these questions the members did not agree, and certainly did not throw much light on the abstruse subjects chosen for discussion. After a time the members settled down to work in real earnest, gave up vague theorizing, and began to tell the results of their experience in growing trees and fruit in the Great West.

PLANTING AND CULTURE.

DR. SCHROEDER—I believe in standards. I like them best. I have planted two hundred dwarfs, but I would plant a greater proportion of standards again.

DR. WARDER—Old men have to live too long to get fruit, if they commence when old to plant standards. The old, white-headed fellows should plant dwarfs. There are a few varieties that we might get fruit from if we were to plant standards—such as Passe Colmar, Bartlett, Flemish Beauty, and a few others. I would plant both dwarfs and standards. My friend SPENCER, here, whose pears were planted five years ago, had a Roussellet Hatet that bore one bushel of pears the present season—a dwarf. It is a very late bearer as a standard.

J. G. HOFFMAN—Cannot a late-bearing standard be made to bear earlier by summer pinching in?

DR. WARDER—Yes, sir, and you get a harder tree.

HOFFMAN—Then we had better plant standards.

DR. SCHROEDER—I'm down on these little dwarfs. A neighbor of mine has a tree which bears ten bushels of fruit and occupies less space than three dwarfs that bear scarcely one-third as much.

DR. WARDER—There is an old saying that is a true one in many cases—"He who plants standard pears is planting for his heirs."

N. J. COLMAN—I recommend planting standards as far apart as is necessary, and dwarfs between them. The dwarfs bear first, and when the standards are full grown, and begin to bear, if crowded, the dwarfs may be removed.

SMILEY SHEPHERD—As far as my experience goes, taking the range of varieties, standards bear two years later than dwarfs. I plant standards 16 feet apart and dwarfs between in a quincunx.

COLMAN—I think that is too close. I would plant the standards 20 or 25 feet apart and dwarfs between. The tree must have sunlight.

DR. WARDER—You should remember that you recommend that the dwarfs may be removed when the growth renders them too thick. Dwarfs can be removed at any age. I would plant the standards 16 feet apart. I recommend close planting.

ARTHUR BRYANT, Sr.—I would plant close, also—especially on the prairies. The protection trees afford each other is an important item.

DR. WARDER—The mulching which the shade of the tree affords, is the best that can be put on the ground. I recommend close planting, with a view to secure this, in the case of a dwarf orchard, say at the age of 5 years, and of a standard at the age of 15 years. You all understand the effect of the forest mulch upon the soil. You can kick up the ground anywhere there.

COLMAN—I recommend mulching with hay or straw for small trees. Mulch at any time.

SHEPHERD—I cultivate thoroughly with the plow and get good fruit. I give my orchard the same culture I do my corn. I suppress the weeds.

O. B. GALUSHA—Did cultivation have anything to do with your pears blighting?

SHEPHERD—I don't know. It may be that it did. A few trees in sod did not winter-kill so badly, and are not so much blighted, perhaps.

DR. WARDER—I endorse all my friend SHEPHERD says of the importance of cultivating the growing orchard, but the mulch is to be used and relied upon when the tree is grown. If the tree is grown in the conical form, it will be difficult to plow about it, if planted closely as the gentleman plants his trees, after a few years.

LLOYD SHAW—I mulch my orchards with small fruits. I grow raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries, strawberries, &c., &c., in my orchard, under the trees. No trees grow better than mine do.

COLMAN—What sort of a crop do you get from your small fruits when they are in the shade of orchard trees?

SHAW—Not so good as from those exposed to the sun; but I have sold hundreds of bushels of fruit from them.

CURRENT CULTURE.

A paper on this subject was read by J. C. LITTLE, of Dixon, and an interesting discussion followed.

The importance and advantage of mulching the currant was urged, especially in the South and Central portions of the State. It being a native of a cooler and moister climate, these conditions must be secured to it by mulching. But it was urged that the more manure there is in the mulch, the better; and that sawdust—especially unfertilized oak sawdust—is a very dangerous mulch.

The varieties named for the Central and South were the large Red Dutch (most profitable) and the Cherry and White Grape. A Central Illinoisan recommended Red and White Dutch Victoria and Leo Versailles. Plant 4 by 4 feet apart.

THE BLACK CURRANTS.—The bulk of the discussion, however, was given to the black currants, their varieties and uses. Dr. SCHROEDER, of Bloomington, grows the Black Naples and Black English (which sundry gentlemen claimed were identical), and others were equally certain they were distinct varieties, for profit and his family, he said. He makes jelly and wine from it. The first pressure of juice is used to make jelly; then water is added to the lees and again pressed, and the resulting juice is made into a pleasant wine by adding one pound of refined sugar to each gallon of the juice. The writer hereof had the pleasure of tasting a sample of this wine, which was entirely void of the offensive flavor and aroma so common with black currant wine, and peculiar to this fruit. Indeed, I would never have suspected it of being related to the black currant. This wine is excellent for bowel complaints and diseases of children. Dr. S. says it saves him physicians' services.

DR. ANDREWS, of Rockford, testified that he thought the black currant made the most wholesome wine of any of the small fruits, after the grape.

Mr. BRYANT said the jelly is much used by physicians in their treatment of bronchial diseases. It was also recommended as being, as a dried fruit, equal to Zante currants for pies and fruit cake; and it was asserted that it made quite as good a pie as the grape. The mode of drying this fruit, given by those who make the most use of it as a dried fruit, is to spread on tins, an inch thick, and sprinkle on sugar, and heat, say 100 degrees, which partially cooks it, and the sugar is absorbed. This makes a fine substitute for the dried fruits of commerce, for cakes, and puddings, &c.

GRAPES—DISCUSSION OF VARIETIES.

DELAWARE.—A paper was read before the Society by Dr. C. N. ANDREWS, of Rockford, in which the Delaware was particularly commended. The following discussion of its merits followed the reading of the paper:

M. L. DUNLAP, Champaign Co.—I take exception to the recommendation of the Delaware as the first in the list of grapes. It is an excellent fruit, but it don't "walk up to the Captain's office and settle." It is the least valuable of any of the native grapes. The Concord, Catawba and Isabella are better. The Delaware may do on limestone soil, but off of it, it does nothing that I can learn. I recommend that it be stricken from the list for general culture. I make a motion to that effect.

SHERMAN, of Rockford—I have had better success with the Delaware than with any other vine. I have seen nothing that grows as rapid and strong as the Delaware, except the White Willow [Laughter.] Vines planted last fall, a year, fruited the past summer, and many of them made fourteen feet of good ripe wood.

DUNLAP—You are located on the Trenton limestone.

DR. MEEKER, of Dongola—it does not grow nor produce well on the sandstone soils of South Illinois.

DR. ANDREWS, of Rockford—I think soil may have some effect in the productivity of the Delaware, but that it is not material to its productivity. Our soil is naturally drained by a gravel bed three or four feet deep. The Delaware fruits all around Champaign county—at Cincinnati, St. Louis, &c., &c.

DUNLAP—The soil of the Rock River Valley is favorable to the production of this fruit in its perfection. But in all this prairie drift, it will not grow well. It is a good grape for limestone soils; not for freestone.

SMILEY SHEPHERD, of Hennepin—I have had the Delaware grape ten or twelve years on a variety of soil—sandy, rocky, and neither. I gave it the best location I could give it. Have never had nor seen a slower grower. It did not fruit until the fourth year. It has repeatedly fruited, and this year I failed with this grape alone.

SHERMAN—Many vines have been destroyed by being over-propagated. I got mine of Dr. Kennicott, who has the oldest vine in the State. It had not been injured, and the result is, vines of good strong growth.

SHEPHERD—Mine had not been over-propagated.

SHERMAN—The Delaware mildewed and rotted the least of any grape with me.

DR. SCHROEDER—I think the trouble is often in propagation. I got vines three years ago, two years old, with five eyes. They have grown but very little. But there is a vine near the Western Depot, in this city, on which I saw fifty bunches of grapes this season. Louis Koch, of Golconda, Ill., one of, if not the best grape authority in the West, recommends: 1, Norton's Virginia; 2, Heribmont; 3, Rulonder; 4, Delaware. You must have ripe wood for the Delaware—good plants, and then, good children.

BALDWIN, of La Salle Co.—I have also grown the Delaware. I had a two-year old grafted vine that bore twenty-two clusters the present year. My soil is the common black prairie soil, resting on the coal measures. I took from the same vine eighteen layers beside. I did not pinch it back. It made a growth of eight or ten feet beyond the fruit. The first eyes I obtained did not grow strongly; but the two vines I propagated from eyes myself, have made good growth. I layer the new wood. Such layers have ripened their wood finely. These vines are on under-drained soils.

DR. WARDER—I do not think it politic to condemn a grape because it does not succeed with me. I have had the Delaware twelve years. Got it from the original vine, and have not yet been able to present any of my guests with a dish of Delawares of my own growing. My friends get fruit from it, however. I do not find anything faulty in this grape, apparently. It has always been a slight grower with me—never grew ten feet with me until this year. But the Delaware grows on Kelly's Island, on the stiff clays near the water surface. Tons of them have been grown there and shipped to New York the present season, at the biggest kind of prices, too. But, sir, dahlias were in bloom on Kelly's Island in the beginning of November, when I was there. It is a very good plan to graft grapes, especially varieties that are not strong growers. But I don't believe propagation has injured the Delaware. I shall be sorry to see it expelled from the list.

HUGGINS, of Macoupin Co.—I got a half-dozen varieties of grapes a half-dozen years since. I expect more from the Delaware than from all the rest of them. The result is a weak growth and no grapes.

PRIGNIX, of Bloomington—I believe in the Delaware grape. It has produced fruit for me the present year, without much care. I know of no variety I would plant sooner. Last season was a bad one for feeble growers.

DUNLAP withdrew his motion.

LIST OF TABLE GRAPES.

Concord.—Dr. SCHROEDER moved to recommend the Concord. It seldom mildews, is hardy and a good bearer—will bear enough if wood enough is left upon it. It is a rampant grower; the eyes break equally. It is early, and brings a good price. And it is a big fruit, and suits you Americans. If it is laid away a day or two after it is gathered, it is good flavor.

DR. ANDREWS—It has a good flavor but a very short time. Its season of perfection is very short.

HUGGINS—Such is my impression of it. It is not liable to attacks from insects nor diseases. It is not in eating condition so long as some varieties.

DR. ANDREWS—It is a good grape and worthy of cultivation, but its season is very short compared with the Catawba and other grapes. This grape ripens the last of August with us at Rockford. I cannot keep it in good order four weeks. The Clinton is good from the first of September until freezing weather.

COLMAN, of St. Louis—It will bear the most shiftless cultivation, hence it is just the thing for the farmer.

Voices—No! No! No!

COLMAN—The Concord will bear fruit whether it is pruned or unpruned. In the south part of this State, and in Missouri, we would take the Concord, if we were going to adopt only one grape. There is a great difference in its quality in different locations. It is a much better grape for the south than for the north. It keeps well in the south, and the farther south it is grown, the better its quality.

BUBACH, Princeton, Ill.—I have tried many

new grapes, and found none equal to the Concord. This year, while all other varieties have dropped their leaves, it has ripened and borne well. The fruit does not last long with us, because we use it too freely.

COLMAN, of Bloomington—The Concord is the grape for the million. It does not blight. I layer it exclusively the present season, and it bore fruit abundantly lying right on the ground. I would rather have it than any other of the native grapes.

Voted to be placed on the list.

Hartford Prolific.—K. H. FELL, of Bloomington—I have fruited it two years, and it has proved more satisfactory than any other variety I have, both in the quality and quantity of its fruit. It fruits early—the earliest of any I have except Northern Muscadine. It does not drop its fruit.

DR. ANDREWS—I have fruited it but one year, and am not prepared to give an opinion concerning it based on my own experience; but from observation elsewhere think it a good grape.

DR. SCHROEDER—It is an early and good grape—hardy, and don't need so much pruning as many others. It is not so good a flavor as the Concord, but I would recommend it.

DUNLAP—It holds such a place in the season that it cannot be dismissed from the list. (In answer to a question.) It only blisters when I cannot get it. A attention has been sufficiently drawn to it. It ripens the last of August and first of September. It grows everywhere well. It is a very desirable early grape.

COLMAN, of St. Louis—in Missouri the Hartford Prolific stands "A. No. 1." It ripens the first of August. It hangs on the vines a long time, and is one of the most profitable of market grapes. It is soxy, and inferior to the Concord in point of flavor, but very palatable, and acceptable at the season at which it matures.

SHERMAN—Ripen them first rate, and we can eat them, provided we have the Diana or Delaware to follow soon after.

Voted to adopt the Hartford Prolific as a table grape.

Delaware was also adopted.

Heribmont.—COLMAN, of St. Louis—It is a good bearer, delicious, better than the Delaware for eating. It blossoms late, and it only needs protection in winter. It is among grapes what the Juneating is among apples. At St. Louis it ripens with the Catawba.

DR. SCHROEDER—It eats like an apple. Flowers very late, and escapes frosts.

SHERMAN, of Rockford—it grows well with us. We protect it like other grapes. It must be covered.

PRIGNIX, of Bloomington—it grows so rank and late, it must have protection here.

Voted to recommend it as a table grape, worthy general cultivation.

Taylor's Bulletin.—N. J. COLMAN, St. Louis—I recommend this as a white grape for the table. It is a free grower, hardy, good quality, medium sized berry, thin skinned. It is a very good grape—productive, and ripens a little after the Concord. It was obtained in the Cumberland Mountains in Tennessee.

DR. SCHROEDER—I have fruited it. Its fruit is the size of the Diana. It is hardy, and a free grower. It ripened with the Isabella the past season.

PRIGNIX—I think it ahead of all grapes to grow here; believe it hardy on established vines. I think it better west than east. It is not regarded so highly west as east as to quality. It has been called the White Clinton in flavor. If it is productive—which is doubted—it is one of the most desirable of white grapes.

COLMAN—It is perfectly hardy with us at St. Louis, and we have the most trying climate to be found anywhere. I have had it five or six years, and never have protected it.

SHERMAN—I have not fruited it, but the vine grows well with us. I have covered it. With our present knowledge of it, I do not think the Society prepared to recommend it for general cultivation as a table grape.

Its name was withdrawn by Mr. COLMAN.

Diana.—SHERMAN—It has grown and fruited well. And it keeps well—will keep a long time. It is more tender than the Concord and Isabella. I am in favor of commending it.

DR. ANDREWS—It is as hardy as the Isabella, propagates readily from cuttings, grows rampant, next to the Delaware in flavor, but is not so handsome. It does not ripen its berries evenly on the same bunch; but this difference is more apparent than real. You can keep the fruit a long time without deteriorating in quality. Even when not ripe it is a pleasant fruit. Its season is as long as any grape.

DR. SCHROEDER—The Diana rots with us some.

SHERMAN—With me it hung on the vines until it dried, and rot appeared.

PRIGNIX—It is an enormous bearer and good flavor. The vine acted badly with me this year—mildewed. The only objection to the fruit is its miserably tough skin.

BUBACH—In our region it did not ripen its fruit. I never saw a ripe bunch of it.

It was voted not to recommend it; twelve affirmative votes being necessary to recommend it.

EVERGREENS ON THE PRAIRIES.

SAMUEL EDWARDS, who has probably devoted more attention to Evergreens than any other Western man, read a paper on Evergreens before the Society, from which I make the following extracts:

Of the adaptation of the prairies to the growth of this class of trees, he says—In many parts of our prairie region, about one-half the native plants, except the grasses, are matured by resinous sap, similar to that of evergreens, and the latter have been, by experience, found to thrive as well here as the former. The White Pine has in some instances made a growth of nearly or quite four feet in a season, in very grounds.

The man of capital need ask for no better investment than can be made by planting in the middle of a large prairie, the White and other rapid growing Pines, Red Cedar and Norway Spruce for timber. Had the means requisite, at least one-quarter section would be planted as a memento of my estimation of their value.

And it may be mentioned that screens of White Pines, when timber, shelter and fence combined, are required, will prove quite as effective and decidedly more valuable for timber purposes than *salix alba* (Gray).

HOW TO GROW EVERGREENS.

Evergreens can be readily grown in a small way by planting the latter part of April, near the surface, barely covering the smaller varieties, the largest ones not over half an inch, in boxes six inches deep, nearly filled with sandy soil, placed on the north side of a hedge or other effectual screen from direct rays of the sun. A slight covering of moss to retain moisture until the seeds are sprouted, is beneficial; care must be taken to remove it before the young plants prick through the moss, as they are very easily broken. If the weather is not moist and cloudy, they should be watered slightly each evening. The greatest difficulty to be guarded against, is what the gardeners term "damping off"—the rotting or scalding of the stem of the young plant as it is affected by the ground. This can be obviated by sowing over the young plants a liberal sprinkling of dry sand as soon as any are seen affected in the manner described.

ROBERT DOUGLAS, of Wankegan, was, I believe, the first Western nurseryman who made use of this method, which after two years trial I can

pronounce a perfect success. The boxes can be removed to a cellar for protection the first winter.

When it is desirable to grow them in large quantities, beds four feet wide, shaded by screens made with lath nailed one-third of an inch apart to cross-pieces, which can be laid off at sunset and replaced at sunrise, is as good a plan as I am conversant with—the invention too, I believe, of Mr. DOUGLAS. This plan is also applicable to small plants from the forest or importations from foreign nurseries. They have also succeeded well when planted north and northeast sides of large evergreens. It has been my practice to protect two year plants through the winter by placing pine leaves to the depth of one to two inches among them. At two years, transplant to nursery rows, two to two and a half feet apart, rows running north and south, six to eight inches apart in the row. After remaining two years, alternate plants, and the following or the fourth year in nursery alternate rows, should be removed. Evergreens in nursery should be transplanted or thoroughly root-pruned as often as once in two years until planted in the final location. By observing this course, I have within the last two years transplanted over two hundred specimens, ten to seventeen feet in height; very few (not five per cent.) failed to grow. Great care must be taken to prevent the roots from drying in the least whilst out of the ground, as the sap soon hardens and is then impervious to moisture. Grouting the roots in a mortar, made by mixing clay with water to a proper consistency for adhering, should always be practiced when trees are to be packed for transportation, or when transplanting is done late in the season. In packing for shipment, aim to keep tops dry and roots moist.

Mulching thoroughly to a foot or more beyond the ends of the roots, as soon as planted, is certain protection against drouth and, except in settled wet weather, should never be omitted. If the ground is very dry, water at time of planting, never after mulching. I have known trees killed by too frequent use of water.

AN EVERGREEN PLANTATION.

The ground designed for an evergreen nursery, or for their permanent location, should be deeply pulverized, and where a better mode of draining is not practicable, it is advisable in plowing to throw the land in ridges, say, thirty feet in width. The after-culture should be shallow, except at sufficient distance from the body of the tree to not disturb the roots. Their vigor of growth is frequently retarded by deep culture too near the trees. In producing a rapid growth, it has been found advantageous to dig deeply each spring, just outside the termination of the roots. A top-dressing each winter or spring, of wood soil or leached ashes, well repays its cost in increased growth.

Mulching thoroughly early in June each season, until well established, will answer all the ends attained by good cultivation,—many men of experience deem it preferable. Never use rank animal manure for this purpose.

TIME TO TRANSPLANT.

At any time from opening of the ground in spring to bursting of the buds, is generally the best time for transplanting most varieties. If the buds are started much, great care is requisite in handling them to guard against breaking them off, and thus destroy the future symmetry of the tree. Arbor Vites, Junipers and Hemlock, I prefer to set early.

If the weather is cloudy and moist, evergreens can be safely transplanted in June and July. The last half of August and first of September is a good time—if set after tenth of the latter month, thorough mulching is indispensable to protect the tender young rootlets from injury by sudden freezing and thawing the following winter.

ADAPTATION OF VARIETIES TO SOIL AND CLIMATE.

The different varieties of Juniper seem especially adapted to high, dry localities, Arbor Vites, American Spruces to low moist one; whilst the hardy Pines, Firs, and Norway Spruce succeed, I may almost say equally well, in dry or rather wet soil.

Since the last report of a committee to your Society, on hardness of varieties, I have proved to be hardy a new variety of Spruce from Pike's Peak, Pice Nordmanniana and Pichta, Pinus Pumilus and the beautiful profuse flowering shrub Andromeda Floribunda, and as tender, Cryptomeria Nana, Retinospora Ericoides, Pinus Benthamiana and Sabiniana.

Horticultural Notes.

DEATH OF DR. WILLIAM D. BRINCKLE.

THE name of Dr. BRINCKLE is familiar to every lover of fine fruits in the country. A physician of extensive practice, he devoted his leisure time to the culture of choice fruits, but more especially to the production of new varieties, and originated several of great excellence. Prominent among these are the Cushing Strawberry, and the Wilder, President Cope, and Orange Raspberries, the latter a great favorite, and in some respects superior to all others. For several years the doctor has been in feeble health, and when we last saw him, at the session of the American Pomological Society in Philadelphia, in 1866, he remarked, with evident feeling, that it was the last time he would meet us. He died at Groveville, New Jersey, on the 16th of December. ROBERT BUIST, an old friend, furnishes the following obituary to the *Gardener's Monthly*:

"Dr. BRINCKLE stood at the very head of the pomological fraternity, and had done more for the science than any other person whether American or European. His name is familiar to every lover of fruits, and is known as that of one who has originated some of the finest varieties now in existence. These, his love for the science and his generous spirit, led him to distribute freely at his own cost and free of reward.

"His office was ever open to Pomologists, Nurserymen and Amateurs of fruits, with whom he was always cheerful and ready to exchange sentiments. He was a prominent member of the American Pomological Society, and took a leading part in all its proceedings. For many years he was Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and repeatedly declined the honor of being its President.

"For the last twenty-five years he has daily spent the few hours that were left at his disposal, by an extensive medical practice, in carrying on a system of impregnating and crossing different varieties of fruit, so as to produce grander and finer results. Beginning with the Strawberry, he originated many fine varieties; among these the Cushing still holds a prominent position. He turned his attention next to the Raspberry, producing the varieties known as Wilder, President Cope, Cushing, and Orange; these have been in cultivation for at least ten years. No other four varieties are at present equal to these in merit, nor do we believe that they will soon be rivaled. We find him next experimenting with the Pears, crossing the finest sorts with scientific patience. Several of the trees thus produced, have fruited, and have proved to be of the first excellence. Among these we may mention the Wilmington and the Catherine Gardette. But a few weeks ago he sent the writer a drawing and a description of another kind of equal merit. Dr. BRINCKLE's system was to sow the seeds, and after the second or third year's growth, to graft and re-graft year till fruit was obtained. In this way he found that a fine pear can be produced in a few years. VAN MONS, the celebrated European Pomologist, thought it a great achievement to produce fruit in twenty years; our

modest friend arrived at more splendid results in half the period.

"For a few of his latest years, Dr. B. was obliged, by physical affliction, to retire from active life; yet his love of the science remained; and at the ripe age of 64, he has departed, leaving a large circle to mourn his loss."

FRUIT GROWER'S ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA.—

The annual meeting of the Fruit Grower's Association of Upper Canada will be held at the Mechanic's Institute, Hamilton, on Wednesday, the 21st day of January. The committee to which was referred the answers to the Society's questions will make their report, and a paper on Grape Culture will be read by C. ARNOLD, Esq., of Paris. As the enterprising and gentlemanly Secretary, Dr. W. BEADLE, Esq., is a member of the Fruit Grower's Society of Western New York, always present and active, we hope a good many of our Western New York fruit growers will return the compliment and attend the meeting at Hamilton. Perhaps the Society at its meeting on the 15th inst. will think it best to be represented by regularly appointed delegates. We hope the newspapers of Canada will give more prominence to the action of this Association than they have done heretofore.

ILLNESS OF MR. LONGWORTH.—

The Cincinnati Commercial announces the serious illness of NICHOLAS LONGWORTH, Esq., of that city, the famous "Catawba" grower. His left side is paralyzed, and his condition considered very precarious. Mr. L. is about eighty years of age.

FRUIT-GROWERS' SOCIETY OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA.—

The annual meeting of this Society will be held on Wednesday, February 4th, at Brant's Hotel, in the city of Harrisburg.

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Domestic Economy.

HOW TO MAKE CRACKERS.

DEAR RURAL.—I noticed an inquiry in one of your late papers for a recipe for making crackers. I will send two which we use and think excellent; but I will not warrant any one success the first time trying, for in the art of making crackers practice will be found necessary to attain perfection.

CREAM TARTAR CRACKERS.—Take 1 cup of shortening, 2 1/2 of water, 1 teaspoon of soda, 1 1/2 of cream tartar and a little salt. Work the flour in till the dough is smooth; then roll out thin and cut in squares. The quicker they bake the better.

ROUND CRACKERS.—Take 1 cup of shortening, 2 of water, 1 teaspoon of soda, and a little salt. Make them quite stiff and pound about 15 minutes. Make them out by kneading small pieces of the dough into the shape desired. Bake quick.

ELLA G. Tecumseh, Mich, 1868.

THE TOMATO AS FOOD.—Dr. BENNETT, a professor of some celebrity, considers the tomato an invaluable article of diet, and ascribes to it very important properties:

"First, that the tomato is one of the most powerful aperients of the liver and other organs; where calomel is indicated, it is probably one of the most effective and least harmful remedial agents known to the profession. Second, that a chemical extract will be obtained from it that will supersede the use of calomel in the cure of disease. Third, that he has successfully treated diarrhoea with this article alone. Fourth, that when used as an article of diet it is almost sovereign for dyspepsia and indigestion. Fifth, that it should be constantly used for daily food; either cooked, raw, or in form of catsup. It is the most healthy article now in use."

COLORING.—When the farmer's wife wants to color a bright red, she must wash her yarn clean and nice, boil in strong alum water; then dry in the sun a day—but don't rinse it out. Next day boil in good madder, and soak over night; then dry again, after which wash it and you will have a brilliant bright red. When you want to color a bright green, you must boil in alum water the same way, having everything very clean; then boil in the kettle some good, strong, black hickory bark; take out the bark and put in the yarn; boil thirty minutes; after drying, wash the yarn; then make some blue dye in the usual way from indigo and a small bit of madder.—Selected.

TO MEND CROCKERY, WARE.—One of the strongest cements, and easiest applied, for this purpose, is lime and the white of an egg. To use it, take a sufficient quantity of the egg to mend one article at a time, shave off a quantity of lime and mix thoroughly. Apply quickly to the edges and place firmly together, when it will very soon become set and strong. You will mix but a small quantity at once, as it hardens very soon so it cannot be used. Calcined plaster of Paris would answer the same purpose.

WASHING CALICOES.—Make flour-starch, thick and boiled nicely; let it nearly cool; then put in the dress, and rub it as you would in soapuds, using no soap, unless very much soiled; then rinse thoroughly in rain water; after which let the article washed soak ten minutes in hard water. When dried the colors will be well preserved, and the calico of the same stiffness as when new. If more stiffness is required, add starch to the last water.

HOW TO CLEAN SOILED CARPETS.—Soiled carpets may be cleaned (after beating) with the following mixture:—Two gallons of water, with half a pound of soft soap dissolved in it, to which add four ounces of liquid ammonia; this may be rubbed on with a flannel, and the carpet rubbed dry with a coarse cloth.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
FOREVER.

BY JENNY A. STONE.

WHAT is it to die and be buried away,
Shut out from the light of the beautiful day,
To pass like a dream from the haunts I have known,
And go out in the shadowy future alone?
The places that know me shall know me no more
When the toiling and striving of life shall be o'er.

We said when we laid our fair blossom to rest,
That life would be weary henceforward at best,
But we took up its burdens and pleasures once more,
And trod in the path that was beaten before.
O, bitter the tears that my spirit has shed,
To think I could smile when my darling was dead.

When the green turf is risen to make me a bed,
The tears of my loved one will fall o'er his dead.
Then morn after morn will dawn over the lake
And never a footstep the silence shall break.
No touch but the wild bird's will brush off the dew
He would weep if I told him, and yet it is true.

He will think of me out in the graveyard, I know,
When the lips he has kissed shall be colder than snow,
When the arms that have wooed him to slumberous rest
Forever are crossed on a passionless breast.
When he wears of flattery, sighing for truth,
Will dream of me fondly, the bride of his youth,
O, sweet are the visions that round him will crowd,
My faults and my follies hid under the shroud.

But when the frail body shall yield its control,
Ah, what will become of this questioning soul?
I know the dear feet that could never be still,
Are roaming the Paradise meadows at will.
O, might I but gaze on thy beauty afar
And know thee in heaven, my lily, my star,
I could sit on the lowliest step of the Throne,
Enraptured forever His mercy to own.
Grand Rapids, Mich., 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
RES GESTE.—DIDACTICALLY DISCUSSED.

How easily we train our fancy to suit our surroundings. I am led into this train of thought from hearing a conversation this morning on marriage. The discussion was between a kind matron of forty-five and a school miss of fifteen. Neatness in housekeeping was the theme at first, then it gradually came down to *housekeepers*, lastly to *wives* and the various characteristics and qualities necessary in a woman to fit her for the responsible position of *mater-familias*. The matron remarked that neatness was indispensable in a wife, if she would be respected by her husband. This must be one of the first attributes. The school-miss thought that if a man *loved* his wife he would get along if she was not *perfect*—i. e., he would like what she *did* because he liked *her*.

What self-deception. Just carry it out, my dear Miss, and see what you come to. Why, you expect more from mere human passion than even the Divine Spirit can accomplish without great self-denial. Do you think that *love* will change the whole aesthetic and moral nature of a man or woman? Do you think, because a man is married he cannot be disgusted with filthy habits or despise base actions? Do you suppose he can bear a scolding, fretful, disagreeable creature, and never notice it, never show his disapprobation in looks or words? Or do you think that a man who has been so unfortunate as to marry a silly, simpering, novel-reading girl cannot, when he finds it out, feel ashamed of his silliness in marrying her? On the other hand, do you think a noble, educated, virtuous woman could admire a silly, foppish, tipping debauchee, simply because he was her *husband*? Would not her sorrow be the keener for it, and on that account sink deeper into her soul, so that she would see the sin in a more hateful light, since it had been such a source of sorrow to her? Surely it would, and one has only to look around to see broken hearts every day. Love for a man or woman does not in its natural state overcome all the instincts of human nature. Will a woman like tobacco or whisky because the man she likes uses it? No, but she may so accustom herself as to bear them, but she never likes them. The school-miss said, the other day, she liked to see men *smoke*! Why does she say so? Not because she likes it, I assure you, but here is the secret. She has perhaps her bean-ideal of a man whom she hopes to win into the noose of matrimony, and she smokes, so of course, silly girl, she must love every thing that he *does*, for his sake. It may do very well in theory, but when practice shall develop it in *nice spots* on the floor, or when this little habit is extended to a glass of old Bourbon, then she will change her sentiments materially. Cannot women see that habits increase as age comes on—that even a youth, with no personal bad habits, sometimes acquires them afterward, while those who *smoke* are very certain to *cheer* in after years, and the slight wine-taster too often becomes the common drunkard.

Here is another point. Women are too apt to trust to the good nature of man, and so *vice versa*. How many are thus sadly disappointed. Men are, after all, only human, and but very few of them have the conjugal patience of SOCRATES. We all admit they do not use what they have, but this does not at all help the matter of fact. We wish all the world were better, but it is not, so we have to adapt ourselves to it as it is. Too often quite a sweet temper can be so changed by evil forebodings, and sad experience, that naught is left but bitterness. This is a law of frail human nature. Let the young have truer ideas of manhood and womanhood, and then there will be less of this sickly, sentimentalism, now so very prevalent among them. Not that we would make children jump to men and women, but that as they do develop they may have a *natural* not an *artificial* growth. *Young women*, be something more than mere *figures* in the household economy, something more noble than the various ornaments which fill parlors and drawing-rooms.

Have ideas and be not fearful to express them plainly. We have too many SOPHRONISBA SCRIBBLEWELLS, now; let us have some of the more solid style. I verily believe it would be a good thing for society, if there were quite an admixture of the Quaker element in it. We need very much some such a discipline as the horticulturalists give their evergreens—cut off the top and develop more in breadth. Excuse this plain expression, but there is a kind of upward tendency in our mental growth, which is *upward* only for its own destruction, whenever the slightest adverse wind sweeps against it, *this* is what we mean. True growth is upward, and remains there despite the buffings of the world.

IK. IOPAS.

Villa Cottage, Seville, Ohio, Jan., 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
AN EMBLEM OF LIFE.

THEY sat together on the shore. There was a slight ripple on the water. The moon, which was ascending the east before them in unclouded majesty, shed a long flood of light on the surface of the water, commencing at their feet and extending as far as the eye could reach. It looked, on that silent summer evening, like the sea of glass mingled with fire, like the path of the just, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day; or like one of the golden streets of the New Jerusalem.

Said he—"Sweet one, see here an emblem of your life. Here, where the water lies unmoved by any disturbing influence, it is a narrow line of light, unbroken and beautiful. 'This is your childhood, when human passions yet slumbered in your bosom, and brought no interruption to the sunshine of your life. A little farther on, where the breath of the summer breaks the calm and agitates the surface, the golden light is broken, and is only reflected from the summits of the tiny waves. This is your present. You have begun to come in contact with the world. Your soul has begun to feel the aspirations and impulses of humanity, and the sunshine is disturbed and broken. Yet it is not lost. Every wave of trouble is gilded as it passes by a gleam of light; for you have learned to look forward, and to look to Him whose presence will harmonize all the discordant elements, and whose smile will dispel all darkness for ever."

"Still farther on, though the water is still agitated by the wind, the light appears perfect and unbroken, and grows wider and brighter till it emerges in the infinite sky, where the source of all this light shines on in deathless glory. This is an emblem of your future life. You must not expect to be free from human feelings, and the sorrows and trials ever attendant on human life; but, looking always to the Sun of Righteousness, the light of His countenance will brighten your pathway, so that all your sorrows will appear as nothing when contrasted with your joys, and your life will grow brighter and more beautiful, till you arrive in that city whose foundations are eternal, where God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and we shall enjoy the light of the glory of God and the Lamb for ever."

Then they were silent, and their thoughts dwelt on the beautiful scene before them, till a little cloud passed over the shining orb and dispelled the glorious vision. They looked once more on each other. Her hand rested in his, and the angels in glory were happier when they witnessed their kiss.
J. A. McM.
Murray, N. Y., 1863.

THE LITTLE CHAIR.

THERE is a little chair that occupies a silent nook in the corner of a lonely room. It is never removed out of its place, and is only occasionally touched by reverent hands which softly wipe from its arms and little cane seat the atoms of dust, tears dropping fast meanwhile, but wholly unheeded. The little chair has not always occupied its corner so still and solemnly; only a few short weeks, and it was the constant companion, the sharer in all restless fancies, of a bright and busy child. Untiringly up and down the little feet patted all day long, and only at night the blue eyes dropped wearily, and the loving little hands rested from their eager work or play. But, alas, the blue eyes are closed now; the lashes lie tenderly upon the white cheek; the sunny hair curls lightly over a smooth, placid brow; and the little hands lie peacefully at rest over the heart whose quick pulsations have been suddenly and ruthlessly checked in the very beginning of his sweet, young life. Death has been there—that fearful, unrelenting destroyer, who shows no mercy; who annihilates even hope with one icy glance, and leaves to tender pity only the poor consolation of tears.

SWEDISH WOMEN.—The bedding everywhere along the road, is of home-made linen, and I do not recollect an instance where it has not been brought out fresh and sweet from the press for us. In this, as in all other household arrangements, the people are very tidy and cleanly, though a little deficient as regards their own persons. Their clothing, however, is of a healthy, substantial character, and the women consult comfort rather than ornament. I have not seen a low-necked dress or thin shoes north of Stockholm. I protest, I lose all patience when I think of the habits of our American women, especially our country girls. If ever the Saxon race does deteriorate on the American side of the Atlantic, as some ethnologists anticipate, it will be wholly their fault.—*Bayard Taylor*.

A MOTHER'S AFFECTION.—A writer beautifully remarks that a man's mother is the representative to his Maker. Misfortune and mere crime set no barriers between her and her son. While his mother lives a man has a friend on earth who will not desert him when he is needy. Her affection flows from a pure fountain, and ceases only at the ocean of eternity.

Choice Miscellany.

THE END OF THE RAINBOW.

"COME, NELLY," I cried, on a soft summer day,
When the sunbeams were chasing the rainbows away.
"The rainbow has lit on yon hill, and you know
There are bags full of gold at the end of the bow."

We were young thoughtless children, sweet NELLY and I,
And we thought that the hill-top was close to the sky,
We thought too, (our brothers had said it was so),
We should find heaps of gold at the end of the bow.

So onward we trudged over meadows of green,
Where violets modest, and daisies were seen:
Nor paused till we stood in the valley below,
And gazed all around for the end of the bow.

"Not here," I said sadly; but NELLY replied
"It is hid in the moss by the waterfall's side;
Run fast; if you move o'er the pebbles so slow;
I'm sure I'll be first at the end of the bow."

We found not the treasure we searched for till night;
But NELLY, the sweet fragile blossom, was right,
From this valley of tears she was first called to go,
To the spot where is resting the end of the bow.

Where rainbows of glory unceasingly play,
Dear NELLY is singing with angels to-day;
And her light snowy pinions are folded, I trow,
In the fullness of joy at the end of the bow.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
OUR FIRST CONSTITUTION.

COULD we have been at Plymouth harbor, England, on the 6th of September, 1620, we might have seen a ship of 180 tons burthen, spread her white sails to the gentle breeze, and float majestically toward the stormy Atlantic. Many a tear was shed, numbers of parting kisses exchanged and farewells proclaimed upon that eventful morning, and as that vessel moved proudly out, long looks and deep sighs followed her.

Little did England suspect that within that ship was material sufficient to lay the foundations of a mighty Republic. She counted them *heretics*, and sneeringly denominated them *Puritans*. They cared not for this; their *promised land* was ahead; for this they looked—for this they hoped—for this they prayed. Onward they sailed until safely anchored within Cape Cod, where they offered up praises and thanksgivings for being permitted to see a land where they would be free from a tyrannical king. Before setting foot upon that sacred soil they bound themselves in a writing to *live in union*, to which every man subscribed his name—"the first Constitution subscribed to by a whole body,"—a copy of which I here present:

"In the name of God, Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign Lord, King JAMES, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, etc., having undertaken, for the glory of God, and the advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia: do by these presents, solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God and of one another, *covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic*, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof, to enact, constitute, and frame just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices from time to time as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof, we have hereto subscribed our names, at Cape Cod, the eleventh of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign Lord, King JAMES of England, France, and Ireland, the Eighteenth, and of Scotland the Fifty-fourth, Anno Domini, 1620."

Pause, kind reader, and reflect for one moment, how this little band of Puritans laid broad and deep the foundations of our once happy and prosperous Republic. That ship, "the May Flower," must ever be considered the cradle of American Liberties, rocked by the free waves of the ocean." This people left their homes, their native land, their *mother country*, to seek liberty and freedom in an unknown land—in the forests of America. With this people began the conflict of 1776. We conquered; we rose, and have grown to be a mighty people, known to every nation. But now our liberties are assailed; our Constitution put to naught, and our country fast going to ruin. Pause, I say, and ask thy Monitor in whom shall we put our trust? Shall it be in mighty armies and great Generals—with heavy artillery and numerous horse—or in that same *Unseen Hand* that guided our Puritan Fathers to the land of liberty?
BUCKEYE.
Hebron, Ohio, 1863.

THE EYES OF CHILDREN.

EVERY one who has been much among children and young people, ought to have learned one thing about them: that they are keenly observant. Few things escape their notice. They are something like that mystic being spoken of by the Hebrew seer, and described by him as being "full of eyes." They watch us when we little think of it. People sometimes fancy it is an easy thing to deceive the young. Alas! they make a fearful blunder. It is easier to hoodwink adults than juveniles. One sometimes hears folk talk in an exceedingly "knowing" and confident style about "getting on the blind side of children." But the fact is that it is not, after all, a very easy thing to find the said "blind side," and often when we are deluding ourselves with the notion that we have found it, lo! there are a pair of large watchful eyes fixed on us all the while! Rest assured, it is a dangerous thing to presume too much on the ignorance of the young.

It is a paradox that loose habits generally stick tighter to a man than any other kind.

AUTOGRAPHS.

THE following truthful article is worthy of a place at the side of ten thousand ink-bottles:

A fruitful source of perplexity to the printer, and indeed to every body else, is the obscure manner in which many persons write their names. A proper name is the most difficult thing in the world to decipher if badly written. A common word in a paragraph may be known, generally, from its necessary connection with the rest of the sentence in which it stands. But there is no such help in this case. It often happens that business men receive orders which they cannot respond to for this reason, and instances are numerous of goods being lost where they were consigned to names so obscurely written to an order as to be mistaken. A most remarkable instance of fair autographs, considering the number, are those attached to the Declaration of Independence of the United States. It is seldom so many occur in a single document, in which so few unreadable ones appear. Scarcely anything can be more important than an unmistakable signature. Was there ever a specimen to surpass John Hancock on the document above referred to? It stands there to challenge the admiration of the world in all coming time. In the autographs of public men, not excepting those of bank officers appended to bills, we frequently meet with such as are utterly unreadable. They would seem to have been written for puzzles, and they serve that purpose most effectually. It has been our lot to meet with more than one which did not contain a single character resembling a letter of the English alphabet. If they were written in crotchets, with a view to defy the skill of the counterfeiters, the idea was a mistaken one, for they subserve no such end; a plain, bold, manly hand-writing much more embarrasses attempts at fraud.

THE CHEERFUL VOICE.

THE comfort and happiness of home and home intercourse, let us here say, depend very much upon the kindly and affectionate training of the voice. Trouble, and care, and vexation will and must, of course, come; but let them not creep into our voices. Let only our kindly and happier feelings be vocal in our homes. Let them be so, if for no other reason, for the little children's sake. Those sensitive little beings are exceedingly susceptible to the tones. Let us have consideration for them. They hear so much that we have forgotten to hear. For, as we advance in years, our life becomes more interior. We are abstracted from outward scenes and sounds. We think, we reflect, we begin gradually to deal with the past, as we have formerly vividly lived in the present. Our ear grows dull to external sound; it is turned inward, and listens chiefly to the echoes of past voices. We catch no more the merry laughter of children. We hear no more the note of the morning bird. The brook that used to prattle so gayly to us, rushes by unheeded—we have forgotten to hear such things. But little children, remember, sensitively hear them all. Mark how, at every sound, the young child starts, and turns, and listens! And thus, with equal sensitiveness, does it catch the tones of human voices. How were it possible, therefore, that the sharp and hasty word, the fretful and complaining tone, should not startle and pain, even depress the sensitive little being whose harp of life is so newly and delicately strung, vibrating even to the gentle breeze, and thrilling sensitively ever to the tones of such voices as sweep across it? Let us be kind and cheerful spoken, then, in our homes.—*Once a Month*.

FROZEN KINDNESS.—The world is full of kindness that never was spoken, and that is not much better than no kindness at all. The fuel in the stove makes the room warm, but there are great piles of fallen trees lying among rocks on the top of hills, where nobody can get them; these do not make anybody warm. You might freeze to death for want of wood in plain sight of all these fallen trees, if you had no means of getting the wood home and making a fire with it. Just so in a family, love is what makes the parents and children, the brothers and sisters happy; but if they take care never to say a word about it, if they keep it a profound secret, as if it were a crime, they will not be much happier than if there was not any love among them; the house will seem cold even in summer, and if you live there, you will envy the dog, when any one calls him "poor fellow."—*Dr. Holland*.

BEAUTIFUL SENTIMENT.—"I would frown on vice; I would favor virtue—favor whatever would elevate, would exalt, would adorn character, alleviate the miseries of my own species, or contribute to render the world I inhabited, like the heavens to which I looked, a place of innocence and felicity. Though I were to exist no longer than those ephemera that sport in the beams of the summer's morn, during that short hour I would rather soar with the eagle, and leave the record of my flight and my fall among the stars, than to creep in the gutter with the reptile, and bed my memory and my body together in the dunghill. However short my part, I would act it well, that I might surrender my existence without disgrace and without compunction."—*Not!*

EXAMPLE is a living lesson. The life speaks. Every action has a tongue. Words are but articulate breath. Deeds are but *fac similes* of the soul; they proclaim the life within. The child notices the life. It should be in harmony with goodness. Keen is the vision of youth; every mark is transparent. If a word is thrown into one balance, a deed is thrown into the other. Nothing is more important than that parents should be consistent. A sincere word is never lost; but advice, counter to example, is always suspected. Both cannot be true; one is false.

Sabbath Musings.

"THEY SHALL BE MINE."

"THEY shall be mine." O! lay them down to slumber,
Calm in the strong assurance that He gives;
He calls them by their names, He knows their number,
And they shall live as surely as He lives.

"They shall be mine." Uprised from earthly pillows,
Gathered from desert sand, from mountains cold,
Called from the graves beneath old ocean's billows,
Called from each distant land, each scattered fold.

Well might the soul, that wondrous spark of being,
Lit by His breath, who claims it for His own,
Shine in the circle which His love, foreseeing,
Destined to glitter brightest round His throne.

But shall the dust, from earthly dust first taken,
And now long mingled with its native earth,
To life, to beauty, once again awaken?
Thrill with the rapture of a second birth?

"They shall be mine." They, as on earth we knew them,
The lips we kissed, the hands we loved to press,
Only a fuller life be circling through them,
Unfading youth, unchanging holiness.

"They shall be mine." Children of sin and sorrow,
Giv'st thou, O Lord, heaven's utmost verge to them?
No! from each ruffled grave thy crown shall borrow
An added light, a prized and costly gem!

"They shall be mine." Thought fails, and fancy falters,
Striving to sound, to fathom Love Divine,
All that we know—no time Thy promise alters,
All that we trust—our loved one shall be Thine.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
NO NIGHT THERE.

BEAUTIFULLY, indeed, has the Divine Revelator characterized to us some of the glories, and briefly given us a foretaste of the heavenly world. *No night there*, no shades of darkness ever to mar the light and glory of that beautiful land. No moon nor stars, which now we cherish with a fond delight, will there be known, for the "glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."

Reader, have you never tenderly guarded the sick couch of some dear loved one through many wearisome days and nights—watching, if mayhap, the death-angel may tarry yet longer—that the dear footsteps may tread in unison with thine again upon the shores of time? Yet, when the freed spirit soared back to its home in glory, were not those tears, tears of joy? Thy loved one shall never know more of pain, sickness or death. No clouds of darkness, or tempests of earth, shall ever disturb the pure devotion of that celestial sanctuary. *No night there*—no lost traveler ever wandering out in the darkness to perish,—no lamb escapes from the fold to waken us with its midnight cries; for they are safely housed who belong to our "Great Shepherd's fold."

Truly, earth is the harvest-field and heaven the garner-house, where the faithful of earth assemble to spend a long eternity within those mansions which He has gone to prepare for us, and is it not indeed a blessed thought that soon we may join our loved ones, to "go no more out forever," close by the banks of the river of life.

"There shall be no more night,
No scorching noontide heat,
There shall no tempests blow,
No weary, wandering feet."

ANNIE GILMORE.

Huntsburgh, Granger Co., Ohio, 1863.

INFLUENCE OF A HOLY LIFE.

THERE is an energy of moral suasion in a good man's life passing the highest efforts of the orator's genius. The seen but silent beauty of holiness speaks more eloquently of God and duty than the tongues of men and angels. Let parents remember this. The best inheritance a parent can bequeath to a child is a virtuous example, a legacy of hallowed remembrances and associations. The beauty of holiness beaming through the life of a loved relative or friend, is more effectual to strengthen such as do stand in virtue's ways and raise up those that are bowed down, than precept, command, entreaty, or warning. Christianity itself, I believe, owes by far the greater part of its moral power, not to the precepts and parables of Jesus Christ, but to His own character. The beauty of that holiness which is enshrined in the four biographies of the Man of Nazareth, has done more and will do more, to regenerate the world, than all other agencies put together. It has done more to spread His religion in the world, than all that has ever been preached or written on the evidences of Christianity.—*Chalmers*.

GUILT NOT DISTRIBUTED.—Men come to think that the guilt of sins committed in concert is distributed; and that if there be a thousand men banded and handed together in wickedness, each shall have but the one-thousandth part of guilt. If a firm succeeds, the gain is distributed to each partner. But if it fails, each one may be held for the whole loss. Whoever commits a sin will bear the sin, whether alone or with a thousand. Whoever commits or connives at a public sin, will bear the blame, as if he alone did it. Public guilt always has private indorsement, and each man is liable for the whole note.

DELIGHTFUL PICTURES OF CHRIST.—We, who are saved by grace, have room enough in our Redeemer's character for eternal love and wonder. His characters are so varied, and all of them so precious, that we may still gaze and adore. The Shepherd folding the lambs in his bosom, the Breaker dashing into pieces the opposing gates of brass, the Brother born for adversity, and a thousand other delightful pictures of Jesus, are all calculated to stir the affections of the thoughtful Christian.

NEGLECTANCE is the rust of the soul that corrodes her best resolutions.

Scientific, Useful, &c.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
THE LACUSTRIANS,
OR PRIMITIVE INHABITANTS OF SWITZERLAND.

[Concluded from page 17 of our last No.]

ONE of the most surprising considerations suggested by the Lacustrian remains is the vast amount of labor accomplished by men who had at their disposal no other implements than flint-stones and the brands of their fires. For felling and trimming the trees, for pointing and hewing the logs for their dwellings and their canoes—for the pursuits of war, agriculture, the fishery, and the chase—they had no other instruments but those of stone and of bronze. Some villages, of which we still see the remains, were reared on more than 40,000 piles! It was the work, no doubt, of several successive generations; but for each of these, an incessant labor is none the less implied.

The hatchet, most frequently hewn from a block of serpentine, was their principal implement. It is found by hundreds on the sites of the ancient villages. Other arms, of less importance, were arrows of flint or of bone; rough stones, or pebbles with sharp corners, used for projectiles, found lying heaped together in the mud at the side of the piles; and incendiary balls and bullets formed of charcoal kneaded with clay. These were generally pierced with a hole, that they might be the better thrown; were ignited, and then tossed on the roofs of the hostile huts. It was thus that the Nervii fired the camp of CÆSAR.

Among the instruments of labor manufactured by the Lacustrian people, may be cited blades of silex, edged or toothed, which served as knives and saws, hammers, anvils, awls of bone or of deer's horn, paring-knives and needles, which were destined, no doubt, for cutting or sewing leather or skins. The fragments of pottery which occur are formed of a coarse clay, the paste of which is usually intermingled with small grains of quartz. Mats of hemp and of flax, and even reed cloth, have been discovered, as well as small baskets, in all respects like those of ancient Egyptian tombs.

The Lacustrians manufactured, likewise, cords and cables from textile fibres, and the bark of various trees. Vain, like all savages, of their corporeal beauty, they tucked up their hair with pins of bone, decorated their fingers with rings, and their wrists with heavy bracelets, and loaded their shoulders with collars formed of balls of deer's horn, mingled with bits of stone. On their breasts they wore the teeth of bears, doubtless to endue them with the force of the wild beast, and preserve them from mischances. The large disks of stone found at the bottom of their lakes served as quoits to amuse them after the arduous labors of the day. The pierced nuts now scattered in the mud, were, no doubt, toys with which, as rattles, the mothers amused their nurslings.

Agriculture, also, is shown to have been somewhat advanced among the Lacustrians of this first period. While hunting and fishing, doubtless, supplied the greater part of their food, and wild fruits also furnished a portion of their aliment; they at the same time reared herds of beavers, sheep, goats, swine, and employed the dog as a substitute in the care of their domestic animals. They manufactured a kind of cheese in vessels pierced with holes; cultivated the apple, pear, and plum tree, and stored away their fruit for the winter. They sowed barley and different sorts of grain of excellent quality. Among the ruins of a Lacustrian village, on the Lake of Constance, M. LOHLE discovered an ancient store-house, containing about a hundred measures of barley and wheat, both shelled and in the ear. He found, likewise, a portion of real bread, which had been preserved by its carbonization, and consisted of crushed grains, to which the bran still adhered. Thus, with the exception of poultry and eggs, the food of the primitive inhabitants of Helvetia, in all respects resembled our own.

That the tribes of the Age of Stone carried on no unimportant commerce with distant countries, is proved by the fact that there have been found, on the Lacustrian sites, a great number of substances foreign to Switzerland. The projectile arms, made of silex, could have come only from Gaul or Germany. They received coral from the tribes of the Mediterranean, purchased yellow amber from the dwellers on the Baltic, and imported the valuable nephrite from the countries of the East.

Like the Celts, the Lacustrians seem to have adored the Divinity in open nature, on the summit of hills, under the mysterious shades of the woods, on the bosom of the waves, or more especially at the foot of the erratic blocks, which they doubtless regarded as stones fallen from heaven.

The ancient tumuli of Switzerland, by their remarkable elevation, seem to prove that the men of the Age of Stone cherished a profound respect for their dead. These were deposited in the sepulchral cavity, with the arms folded across one another on the breast, and the knees drawn up beneath the chin, as if to testify by this attitude—which is that of the infant before birth—that man in dying enters into the womb of the universal mother. In no instance has there been found any vestige, in the tumuli of this era, which would authorize us to suppose that the aborigines of Switzerland ever sacrificed human victims to the manes of their dead. Those ferocious rites, which the Helvetians of the Age of Iron celebrated at a later period, were completely unknown to the Lacustrians.

To what periods of history must we refer that Age of Stone revealed to us in the deposit of archaeological remains in the lakes of Switzerland? By the examination of the alluvial deposits in the marshy valley of the Orbe, and by calculating the rate of progress of the alluvium, M. TROYON was led to fix the construction of the Lacustrian habitations of Chamblon, by the primitive colonists of Helvetia, at 2,000 years

before the Christian era. Thanks to his researches, the history of man, in the countries of Western Europe, is removed backward two thousand years. Henceforth it is a fact assured to science, that a race of hunters, of agriculturists, and of artisans, lived in Helvetia eight or ten centuries before the war of Troy, and commenced with the tribes established in Germany and on the coasts of the Baltic. We learn, moreover, a fact of the greatest importance for the history of the globe itself, namely, that the climate of Helvetia has not sensibly varied since four thousand years ago.

The end of the first age must have been marked by terrible events. The Bronze abruptly follows the Stone. It was because two races had come into collision. In almost all the Lacustrian villages, the verge of the two epochs is sharply indicated by the burning of dwellings and the murder of the people. The greater part of the pile-work settlements, both of Eastern and Western Switzerland, were completely abandoned, and since that epoch their remains have been buried beneath the waters. The intruders were probably of the Celtic stock, and were a more civilized race. The villages of the Age of Bronze much surpass in number those of the preceding period; but the constructions, in general, underwent no change of form, doubtless because the customs of the people remained the same.

As to the choice of sites, there is apparent, in the second age as well as the first, a rare sagacity. The points of the shore over against the places colonized by these old Lacustrian tribes have, for the most part, not ceased to be occupied, even to our own day, by cities and important villages. The city of Zurich covers a Lacustrian settlement of the Age of Stone. During the Age of Bronze a village on piles might have been seen on the site of the present city of Geneva.

The duration of the Age of Bronze was very long; but the destruction of the Lacustrian settlements of this era was as violent as was that of the aquatic habitations of the preceding age. The conquerors of the Lacustrian colonies of this era were the Helvetians, a people armed with iron, superior in the material part of civilization, but professing a barbarous religion. The conquest was complete. The primitive people disappeared, and history has not even recorded their ruin.

Who were these aborigines whom archaeology has, as it were, resuscitated by an examination of the remains found in the mud of the lakes of Switzerland? Nothing, as yet, authorizes the learned to give a definite answer. Let us hope that in the near future the methodic exploration of the antiquities of Europe, and the comparison of all the testimonies furnished by the still buried remains, will enable science to class the Lacustrians, to follow their migrations, and mark their halting places. We shall, doubtless, succeed in ascertaining what was the extent of their domains at different ante-historic epochs; and, what is even more important, their intimate life; their moral civilization will be elucidated by a thorough study of the tribes which have sustained a development under parallel conditions, in different points of the globe, and which still exist in an Age of Stone and of Lacustrian habitations. It is then that we may attempt to write the comparative history of adolescent races—one of the most interesting chapters of the great book of man.

NAKED ARMS AND NECK.

A DISTINGUISHED physician who died some years since in Paris, declared, "I believe that during the twenty-six years I have practiced my profession in this city, twenty thousand children have been carried to the cemeteries, a sacrifice to the absurd custom of exposing their arms naked."

I have often thought if a mother were anxious to show the soft white skin of her baby, and would cut a round hole in the little thing's dress, just over the heart, and then carry it about for observation by the company, it would do very little harm. But to expose the baby's arms, members so far removed from the heart, and with such feeble circulation at best, is a most pernicious practice.

Put the bulb of a thermometer in a baby's mouth, and the mercury rises to 99 degrees. Now carry the same to its little hand; if the arms be bare and the evening cool, the mercury will sink to 40 degrees. Of course all the blood which flows through those arms must fall from 20 to 40 degrees below the temperature of the heart.

Need I say, when these currents of blood flow back into the chest, the child's general vitality must be more or less compromised? And need I add that we ought not to be surprised at its frequent-recurring affections of the tongue, throat, or stomach? I have seen more than one child with habitual cough and hoarseness, or choking with mucus, entirely and permanently relieved by simply keeping its arms and hands warm. Every observing and progressive physician has daily opportunity to witness the same cure.—*Lewis' Gymnastics.*

PEAS CHEESE.—There is a very close resemblance between several animal and vegetable substances. Thus animal milk contains a large quantity of caseine, which is the principal substance in cheese; and peas also contain a large amount of the same substance. The Chinese, who have exhibited such an aptitude for domestic economies, that they even make soup of birds' nests, have also found out that cheese can be made of peas. For this purpose peas are boiled into a thin paste, then passed through a sieve, and an acid added to the pea solution, which becomes curdled like sweet milk by the action of the common rennet upon the latter. The solid part is then salted, pressed in cheese molds, and it gradually acquires the taste and smell of cheese. It is sold in the streets of Canton under the name of "Taofoo," and when fresh it is a favorite article of Chinese food.

The Educator.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
BOOK AGENTS, TEXT-BOOKS, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I have felt a good deal of interest in the Educational Column of your most excellent paper, but more especially in two recent articles, the former by "JOPAS," and the latter by "SENEX." I think both of these articles are a little extreme, both in language and logic, and I propose to offer a few thoughts *per contra*, notwithstanding JOPAS enjoys your editorial indorsement. He doubtless was somewhat irritated at the time of his writing, and actually felt better after freeing his mind. But SENEX seems to have considered the question calmly, and deliberately assumed the responsibility of whatever of good or evil may result from his acts. It seems to me that some of his allegations deserve a passing notice, not for the sake of controversy, but of justice and truth. He says:—"Of all the nuisances that ever pervaded a community, that of school-book agency is the worst," &c. Are the great body of teachers prepared to admit that such agency is a greater nuisance than rum, tobacco, licentiousness, ignorance, pauperism, crime, &c.? Allow me to enter my individual protest. The fact is that every business and every profession has its nuisances; but I do not believe that the facts will justify the assertion that there are more of them among school-book agents than the average among other classes of business men. During my limited experience as a teacher, I have enjoyed some opportunities for observation in regard to these agents, and truth compels me to say that I have found them very much like other men. Is it right, then, or excusable in one penning an article for the public eye, which claims to be based upon facts, to indulge in this style of hyperbole? It seems to me that it is very bad taste, to say the least.

In the same paragraph he refers to the books, "many of which," he says, "are well printed and highly illustrated with engravings, but whose reading matter is no improvement on, but far inferior to the books now in use." If SENEX is a practical teacher, he knows what every other teacher of any experience knows, that there is far less depending upon the reading matter of text-books than upon their arrangement and adaptation. Probably no reading book ever used in America is superior in reading matter to MURRAY'S English Reader; but does any one claim that it is, therefore, the best class book? COBB'S Juvenile Readers were fully equal, if not superior, in reading matter, to any now in use; but they were long since discarded for want of adaptation. The same is true, to a greater or less extent, of all the text-books which have been discarded by common consent, and their places have been supplied by others better adapted to the times and the wants of pupils. The paper of which a text-book is made is just as good a standard by which to judge of its merits, as the reading matter alone. Nor do I flatter myself that I am enlightening SENEX upon this point. If he is a teacher, he knew all about it long ago, and deliberately presents a false issue. And if he is not a teacher, I have yet to learn by what authority he assumes the right to decide for teachers and school officers, what text-books are best adapted to the wants of the various schools in our land. Doubtless he is actuated only by a laudable desire to benefit teachers, and put them on their guard against imposition; but if his plea and argument for stand-stillism were dictated by some other motive, it might read very much as it does. It is well known that the competition between several rival publishing houses has resulted in the production of as many rival series of text-books, the merits of which have not yet been fully tested, and therefore remain undecided. But it is evident that each series has its merits; and if a friend of any one series (as "those now in use") chooses to act as an agent, by recommending them in the Educational Column, doubtless, with your permission, he has a right so to do; but it is hardly generous to denounce every body else who may entertain a different opinion, and have a different preference.

I cannot dismiss this subject without calling the attention of all interested to the mischievous effects to result from such innuendoes against teachers, and wholesale denunciation of school officers, as are contained in the article under consideration. The two greatest draw-backs on our schools in this State, are a lack of competent ("favorite") teachers, and a want of confidence in the integrity of school officers. If I believed community at large had as little confidence in the integrity of School Commissioners, Superintendents, and Boards of Education, as SENEX professes, I should despair for our government, and for free institutions. If there is not honesty and good sense enough in a community of enlightened freemen, from which to select a suitable number of faithful school officers, in whom the people may and ought to place full confidence; if those persons who enjoy the fullest confidence of their fellow citizens, as business men, and as town, county, State, and United States officers, are to be regarded as a horde of thieves and swindlers, confederated together to rob the people, the moment they have the misfortune to be elected school officers, the experiment of a free government, based on universal education, and the integrity and intelligence of the people, is a stupendous failure; and the sooner the costly bauble is abandoned, and we return to original savagism, the better. I can conceive of no greater calamity to any individual or community, than to be cursed with intelligence without integrity. But I cannot suppose for a moment that I have been the most fortunate of teachers, or that my own experience is, in any sense an exceptional one; and yet in the nine different localities in which I have been employed, during a period of sixteen years, it has not been my fortune to meet with a single school officer, whom I would be willing to accuse,

in public print, and over my own proper signature, of prostituting his office, or using his official position to swindle the people in any such manner as described by SENEX, or, indeed, in any other manner. Nor do I believe SENEX is ready to assume the responsibility of making the same statement, with names and dates, over his real signature, which he has already made in regard to the City Superintendent to whom he refers. Doubtless, a thorough investigation of all the circumstances would result in a very different version of the matter. But, be this as it may, it is evidently a very rare exception, and not the rule. For what is there in the nature of this case, to merit the prominence given it by its publication in the RURAL? Similar cases are occurring almost daily, in other departments of business. Why, then, does this single, isolated case, so insignificant in itself, stand out in such bold relief, amid all its compeers? The legitimate inference is, that in educational circles it is an *alba avis*.
Wellsville, Alleg. Co., N. Y., 1863. JUSTUS.

CHEATING IN SCHOOL.

FROM an admirable address by Prof. John S. HART, delivered at the opening of the New Jersey State Model School, we make the following extract:

There is a practice, common to school life everywhere, known by the not very dignified name of *cheating*. There is, I fear, among young people generally, while at school, an erroneous and mischievous state of opinion on this subject. Deception in regard to your lessons is not viewed, as it should be, in the light of a serious moral delinquency. An ingenious youth, who would scorn to steal, and scorn to lie anywhere else than at school, makes no scruple to deceive a teacher. Is honesty a thing of place and time? I do not say I would not trust at my money drawer the boy who had been cheating at his lessons, because a boy may have been led into the latter delinquency by a false notion of right, which as yet has not affected his integrity in matters of business. But this I do say. Cheating at school blunts the moral sense; it impairs the sense of personal honor; it breaks down the outworks of integrity; it leads by direct and easy steps to that grosser cheating which ends in the penitentiary.

On this subject, I once had a most painful experience. A boy left school with as fair a character for honesty as many others against whom nothing can be said, except that they do sometimes practice deceit in regard to their lessons. I really believed him to be an honest boy, and recommended him as such. By means of the recommendation, he obtained in a large store a responsible post connected with the receipt and payment of money. His employer was pleased with his abilities, and disposed to give him rapid promotion. After a few months I inquired after him, and found that he had been detected in forging his balances! I do verily believe, the dishonest purpose which led to this pecuniary fraud, grew directly out of a facility at deception acquired at school. He had cheated his teacher; he had cheated his father; he had obtained a fictitious average; he had gained a standing and credit in school not justly his due;—why should he not exercise the same ingenuity in improving his pecuniary resources?

Independently of the moral effect of these deceptive practices upon your own character, is there not in the acts themselves an inherent meanness and baseness, from which a pure-minded youth would instinctively recoil? Is there not something false and rotten in the prevailing sentiment on this subject among young persons at school? When, by some convenient fiction, you reach a higher standard than your merits entitle you to, is it not so far forth at the expense of some more conscientious competitor? And, after all, when you deceive a teacher into the belief that you are studying when you are not; that you know a thing when you do not know it; that you wrote a composition, or executed a drawing, which was done by some one else,—whom do you cheat but yourself? You may deceive the teacher, but the loss is yours.

VICTOR HUGO ON EDUCATION.

VICTOR HUGO has written a letter to the Social Science Congress at Brussels, in which he speaks as follows of education:

"The child—this is the supreme question—the child has in his cradle the peace or war of the future. It is from that cradle we must chase away darkness. Let us cause light to arise in the soul of infancy. Twenty-five years of gratuitous and obligatory instruction would change the face of the world. The child, I repeat it, is the future. The soil there is generous; it gives more than an ear for the grain of wheat. Apply a spark there it will become a blaze of light. To make a citizen let us begin by making a man. Let us open schools everywhere. Where there is not in an individual the interior light which instruction gives, then he is no man. He is no better than the head of a beast as compared with the multitude—one which exists in idleness, and which the master will take by-and-by to the pasture, and afterwards to the abattoir. In the human creature that which resists slavery is not matter—it is intelligence. Freedom commences when ignorance is dispersed. I had wished to say these things to you, and other things also. I cannot renounce the opportunity of doing so without much regret; but you will not want eloquent voices and generous spirits. These councils of intelligence convoked from time to time are efficacious. The problems of the age are pressing us—they come—they are here. The moment is come when we should be prepared to receive them, and to raise the old warning cry of the Romans—*Ad portas!* I pray you, gentlemen, to be my interpreter to the Congress, and to receive the assurance of my warm cordiality."

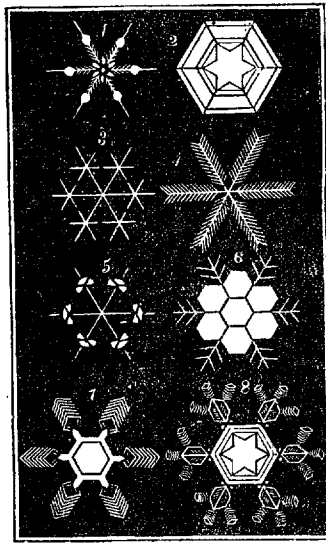
It often happens to genius as to spoons; the plated article takes the place of the real metal.

Reading for the Young.

ABOUT SNOW-FLAKES.

THOUGH we have had but little snow the present winter, our subject is a sensible one, and the following illustration and description will interest young people who delight in sporting with or upon the pure white mantle, which usually covers the earth at this season:

The size of the snow-flakes depends upon two causes: when the atmosphere abounds in vapor and the temperature is near 32 deg. Fah., the flakes are large; and as the moisture diminishes and the cold increases, the snow becomes finer. In the former condition of the atmosphere it is not uncommon to see flakes that are an inch in diameter. The lower the temperature the less the diameter of the flakes. At 10 deg. Fah., snow-flakes rarely exceed seven-hundredths of an inch in diameter. Snow has been known to fall with a temperature that caused the mercury to fall 12 deg. and even to 20 deg. below zero. But this is not common.



FORMS OF SNOW-FLAKES.

The snow-flakes have a great diversity of form, which, as every accurate observer will testify, constitute beautiful and regular crystals; and it is the copious reflection of light caused by these, that gives snow its brilliant whiteness.

The bulk of snow, just fallen, is ten or twelve times greater, (more or less, depending upon the temperature and moisture of the atmosphere,) than that of the water produced by melting it.

Isolated crystals unite under angles of 30, 60, and 120 degrees. These, by their different modes of union, form several hundred distinct varieties of snow-flakes. SCORESBY, an Arctic navigator of great celebrity, has enumerated six hundred; and these are all comprised under five classes. According to SCORESBY, the star figure (fig. 4) in the diagram given above, is observed when the thermometer is near the freezing point. The hexagon (fig. 2) is seen both in moderate and very low temperature. The diagram given above presents only eight of the ninety-six figures delineated by SCORESBY. From it, however, the reader may be led to observe for himself, the great variety of forms which Infinite Wisdom has given bodies of so small a bulk as snow-flakes.

The uses of snow are well known to the intelligent farmer. It has been properly styled, "the poor man's manure." It forms a warm covering for the soil, and thus defends vegetation from the severity of the winter. It also diminishes the intensity of the darkness during the long winter nights, and furnishes a favorable opportunity for the farmer to replenish his wood-pile, to move his fencing materials, and to carry his surplus produce to market. To the young folks we need not speak of the uses of snow. Indeed, the boys, and girls, too, we think, could enlighten us on this point; for it is a long time since we went "coasting," or took long rides of winter evenings behind fast steeds and jingling bells, and beside the girl that we thought the best in the whole town.

AN IRON EGG.—In Dresden there is an iron egg, the history of which is something like this:—A young prince sent this iron egg to a lady to whom he was betrothed. She received it in her hand and looked at it with disdain. In her indignation that he should send her such a gift, she cast it to the earth. When it touched the ground a spring, cunningly hidden in the egg, opened and a silver yolk rolled out. She touched a secret spring in the yolk and a golden chicken was revealed; she touched a spring in the chicken and a crown was found within; she touched a spring in the crown and within it was a diamond marriage ring. There is a moral to the story.

LITTLE WILLIE, having hunted in all the corners for his shoes, at last appears to give them up, and climbing on a chair, betakes himself to a big book lying on the side-table. Mother says to him, "What is darling doing with the book?"—"I'm looking for things, and I'm looking to see if I can find my shoes."

TILLOSTAN says it is hard to personate and act a long part, for where truth is not at the bottom, nature will always be endeavoring to return, and will peep out and betray herself one time or another.

A CELEBRATED philosopher used to say, "The favors of fortune are like steep rocks; only eagles and creeping things mount to the summit."

ONE hour lost in the morning will put back all the business of the day; one hour gained by rising early will make one month in the year.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



RAISE aloft our starry banner, Let her float in azure sky, Let the heavenly zephyrs fan her, Nerve our hearts to do, or die? GOD, our shield, our battle-brand, Will protect our native land! This our union battle cry!

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 17, 1863.

The Army in Virginia.

THE latest news from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac is to the 10th inst., and is as follows:

Everything is quiet. A thorough inspection of the light-pounder ammunition, excepting the solid shot, shows that the greater portion of it is worthless, from the hasty and unworkmanlike manner in which the fuses were fitted and set. Several casualties occurred to our men from its use during the recent battle. Gen. Hunt, chief of artillery for Gen. Burnside, caused all this ammunition to be turned in, and that of a more substantial character substituted for it. The defect was partially ascertained last July. The defective construction has been remedied in all parts since that time.

A dispatch from Washington to the N. Y. World says: It is asserted by those who claim to know, that Gen. Hooker will very soon take command of the Army of the Potomac, Gen. Burnside having again asked to be relieved of it. The following was received at headquarters on the 10th:

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 9, 1863.

To Maj.-Gen. Halleck:—A party of cavalry and infantry was sent out from Yorktown by Maj.-Gen. Keyes, and landed at West Point night before last. They started this morning with a large number of animals and eight loaded wagons. They destroyed the depot and rolling stock at White House, burned a steamer and several sloops, boats and barges, loaded with grain, and sustained no loss whatever.

JOHN A. DIX, Maj.-Gen. Command'g.

Brig.-Gen. Corcoran has moved from Suffolk, and is ready to give the rebel Gen. Pryor a chance to fight if he desires an engagement.

The Wheeling Intelligencer of the 6th says:—Senator Carlisle, who has arrived from New Creek, reports that the rebels attacked our forces under Col. Washburne on Saturday morning, and the fighting was going on during Saturday and Sunday. During the whole of Saturday, cannonading was distinctly heard up New Creek. We have a small force stationed at Petersburg, north of Moorfield. This force was sent to the latter place, and the baggage train came by way of a mountain road, and reached New Creek on Sunday. On Sunday night Col. Mulligan, at the head of his brigade, left New Creek for Moorfield, reaching that place on Monday evening.

It was reported that the Union forces had driven the rebels four miles, and were still pursuing them. The rebels are commanded by Colonels Imboden and Jenkins.

There was considerable excitement at New Creek Sunday night. The soldiers there slept on their arms, and skirmishers were sent out. This precaution was taken in consequence of a report brought by those in charge of a wagon train, that had been pursued from Petersburg by a large body of rebel cavalry.

Col. Ludlow, of Dix's staff, has returned from City Point, having exchanged prisoners, which will restore to immediate active service about 20,000 of our paroled men:

1st. All officers and men delivered at City Point from Nov. 11th, 1862, to January 1st, 1863. 2d. All officers and men captured at Harper's Ferry. 3d. And all paroled at Winchester Nov. 15th and 26th, 1862, and Dec. 1st, 1862. 4th. All officers and men paroled by Col. Imboden, C. S. A., November 9, 1862. 5th. All officers and men paroled at Goldsboro, N. C., May 22d, 1862, and delivered at Washington, N. C. 6th. All captures in Missouri, Arkansas, New Mexico, Texas, Orizaba, up to January 11th, 1863, are duly exchanged. 7th. All captures in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida, up to Dec. 10th, 1862. 8th. All captures on the sea and Gulf coasts and waters flowing into the same, up to Dec. 10th, 1862, are duly exchanged.

Col. Ludlow says that it is highly probable that the Confederate State Government will rescind the order relating to United States officers, and also that of citizens, and prisoners will soon be released.

Department of the South.

ALTHOUGH but little of a stirring nature was transpiring in this Department at last advices. It is evident that lively times were anticipated. We gather the following intelligence from rebel sources:

The Richmond Examiner of the 8th, says:—It was reported yesterday in Petersburg that a great expedition of gunboats and transports, under command of Gen. Negley, had left Fortress Monroe on the 1st inst., for some Southern port. From indications deemed unmistakable, the enemy is preparing to make a grand demonstration upon Goldsboro or Wilmington, and there is little doubt that the first clash of arms will come to our ears from that quarter.

The Raleigh N. C. papers of the 7th, state that the Federals have been largely re-enforced at Newbern, and that a movement has commenced.

The movement is thought to be against Wilmington.

Yankee re-enforcements marched from Norfolk through Gates county, and thence down the Chowan River to Newbern.

Kingston, N. C., papers of the 8th, say the enemy are making immediate preparations for an advance. Re-enforcements are daily arriving from Suffolk. The Yankees at Morehead City and Newbern are about 50,000, under Gen. Foster. They will probably attack Manchester, Wilmington and Goldsboro simultaneously. It is reported that they are now cooking the marching rations.

In the 18th Army Corps, Gen. Foster's, the following appointments have been made:

Col. Potter, North Carolina Volunteers, Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff; Col. Ledlie, 3d New York Artillery, Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery; Col. Stevenson, 24th Massachusetts; Col. Hunt and Col. Hackman, 9th New Jersey Volunteers, Brigadier-Generals. Dispatches from Newbern to January 6th report 40,000 rebels at Goldsboro and Kingston.

Department of the Gulf.

ADVICES from New Orleans and other points in this Department, are to the 2d inst. We condense from the mass of matter received the following intelligence:

Purser Cook reports, by the arrival of the gunboat Clifton at Southwest Pass on the evening of the 3d, that early on the morning of the 1st, the rebels attacked, by land and water, the Federals at Galveston. Our gunboats were attacked by five rebel steamers, protected with double rows of bales of cotton, and loaded with troops, armed with rifles, muskets, &c. The Harriet Lane was captured by boarding, after about all her officers, including Capt. Wainwright and Lieut. Lee and crew, 130 all told, had been killed.

The Clifton and Owasco were engaged and escaped, the former losing no men, and but one wounded. The Owasco lost one killed and thirteen wounded. Two barques loaded with coal, fell into rebel hands.

The Westfield, the flag ship of Com. Renshaw, was not engaged, being ashore in another channel. Her crew were transferred to transports, and Renshaw, fearing she would fall into rebel hands, blew her up. By some mismanagement or accident, the explosion occurred before the boat, containing Com. Renshaw, Lieut. Zimmerman and the boat's crew got away, and they were consequently blown up with the ship. The crew of the Westfield arrived at New Orleans in transports, and the remaining troops are on their way back, but did not arrive until the place had been evacuated.

The rebel force is estimated at about 5,000, under Gen. Magruder.

Our land force, under Col. Burrill, of Mass., probably did not exceed 300, the residue not having been disembarked in time to fight. Our loss was estimated to be 150 or 160 killed and 200 prisoners. The navy suffered the most. It is thought that the rebel loss was much more than ours, as our guns were firing grape and canister continually in their midst.

The rebels had several batteries on shore. The Federals were on one of the long wharves, and it is said repulsed the charges of rebels before surrendering.

Rumors are current at New Orleans that Jeff. Davis is preparing an expedition to retake the Crescent City.

Three negro regiments are to do garrison duty in Forts Jackson, St. Phillip and Pike.

Farragut was about to attack Port Hudson. He is probably waiting for Banks to make a land attack in conjunction with him.

The prize schooners Troy, Reindeer, Rambler and Montebello had arrived safely at New Orleans.

The steamer J. M. Bankhead had been attacked by guerrillas in Bayou Bonafanca. One negro was killed, and private Hoyt of the Massachusetts battery, and a negro, were wounded. A detachment of the 31st Mass. who were aboard, put the rebels to flight. The guerrillas having been re-enforced, attacked her again, and she passed out of gun-shot reach. Capt. Darling was wounded slightly in the knee.

It is stated that the rebels have 10,000 men and 30 guns at Port Hudson. The earthworks are said to be 17 miles in extent.

The Capitol at Baton Rouge was recently destroyed by fire, with many thousand rare and valuable books, papers, &c. Loss \$70,000.

Movements in the West and South-West.

KENTUCKY.—General Carter's expedition reached Manchester, Ky., on the 6th inst., on its return from East Tennessee. It left Loudon, Ky., on the 28th ult. It comprised 1,000 cavalry. The results of this expedition are the destruction of two important bridges, the killing, wounding and capturing of 550 rebels, the taking of 700 stand of arms and a large amount of flour, salt and other rebel stores. A locomotive and two cars were also destroyed. A brisk skirmish took place at the Wantaga bridge, and another at Jonesville. This raid was one of the most hazardous of the war, and attended with great hardships and privations. We lost but ten men.

MISSOURI.—Advices from Springfield state that a rebel force reported to be 6,000 strong, under Burbridge and Marmaduke, with six pieces of artillery, were within two miles and a half of that place, and opened on the town without giving notice to remove the women and children. One thousand rebel cavalry, in line of battle, were visible from the town. Gen. Brown has loop-hole houses for musketry, and will make a vigorous resistance.

Telegrams were received in St. Louis on the 12th inst., to the following effect:

The rebels were repulsed at every advance on Springfield, and our forces held the town. Our loss is 17 killed. The number of wounded is not yet ascertained. We buried 35 rebels, and many

more were taken off the field. They left a large number of wounded in our hands. But little of the town of Springfield was destroyed, and this was done by our own troops. The rebels have almost wholly destroyed the telegraph line between Springfield and Sand Spring. Gen. Curtis has three columns of troops marching after the enemy.

A dispatch has been forwarded to Washington which reads thus:

St. Louis, Jan. 11, 1863.

To Major-General Halleck:—I have good news from Springfield. Our troops have repulsed the rebels and we hold the place. The rebels are retreating. I have three columns going toward them. Gen. Brown lost an arm. Col. Crabbs, of the 19th Iowa, succeeds him in command. The troops, including the enrolled militia, behaved nobly. S. R. CURTIS, Maj.-Gen.

TENNESSEE.—Our dispatches from Murfreesboro are to the 6th inst., and of the following effect:

The rebels evacuated in haste during Saturday night. It is reported that they were terribly demoralized from losses, but they left no property behind. Gen. Negley pursued them with an infantry force. A cavalry force also followed to-day. Spear's 1st Tennessee brigade attacked and dispersed their rear guard of cavalry.

Their loss in Wednesday's battle was 5,000; several hundred on Thursday; over 1,200 on Friday, and 100 on Saturday night, including wounded and captured. We have 1,500 of them prisoners, two Colonels and several majors. The bodies of Brig.-Gens. Raines and Hanson are here. Gen. Breckinridge was severely wounded, and Gen. Adams had an arm broken. Major Clarence Prentice was severely wounded in the thigh. The 1st Louisiana regiment was destroyed.

Our own losses, in all the engagements, were 1,100 killed, about 6,000 wounded and several thousand prisoners. One-third of the wounded will soon be able to resume duty. The army was considerably depreciated by stragglers, including a number of officers, who will be disgracefully dismissed, and several for desertion.

A dispatch from Nashville on the 7th inst., says: Our whole loss at Murfreesboro, in killed, wounded and missing, is not over 7,000. The rebel loss was from 12,000 to 15,000. Our army is pursuing the rebels. Our rear yesterday was eight miles beyond Murfreesboro. It was reported that a rebel train had been captured eighteen miles beyond Murfreesboro yesterday.

The rebel Gen. Raines was buried to-day. No demonstration was allowed. The bodies of Gen. Hanson, Captain Tod, of the 6th Kentucky, and Captain Ferguson, of the Louisville Legion, were brought in to-day.

Considerable quantities of contraband goods were captured by our pickets.

The following dispatch has been received at headquarters:

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND, } January 5, 1863.

To H. W. Halleck, Commander-in-Chief:—We have fought one of the greatest battles of the war, and are victorious. Our entire success on the 31st was prevented by a surprise on the left flank, but we have nevertheless beaten the enemy, after a three days' fight. They fled with great precipitation on Saturday night. The last of the columns of their cavalry left this morning. Their loss has been very heavy. Generals Raines and Hanson are killed. Gens. Gladsen, Adams and Breckinridge are wounded. W. S. ROSECRANS, Maj.-Gen.

The following is the rebel General Bragg's dispatch to Richmond on the 5th:

TULLAHOMA, Jan. 5. Being unable to dislodge the enemy from his entrenchments, and hearing of re-enforcements being sent to him, I withdrew from his front night before last. He is not following. My cavalry are close on his front. BRAXTON BRAGG.

The Dispatch characterizes the Murfreesboro fight as a mysterious affair, and cannot reconcile Gen. Bragg's first with his last dispatch.

The Examiner says it was a disappointment, but not a disaster, and finds consolation in the fact that the Union army was horribly crippled.

Other Richmond papers received by Gen. Dix at Fortress Monroe, admit the defeat sustained by Bragg at Murfreesboro, and lament that the Yankees would now obtain possession of East Tennessee, from which an army of 200,000 men could not drive them.

A special from Murfreesboro on the 8th, states that the loss of the rebels increases daily. Two thousand of their wounded had been sent to Laverne. Many more are left there but cannot be moved, as their wounds are frightful, and most of them will die. Laverne was accidentally burned, so that these wounded, who had got started, will have to be sent to Nashville, and thence to Louisville for treatment.

MISSISSIPPI.—At last we have definite news from Vicksburg. Gen. Sherman has been forced back, has re-embarked on his transports, and is probably by this time at Napoleon, Ark. This movement was made by Gen. McClelland, who took command on his arrival on the 9th inst. Nothing definite had been heard of the Banks' assisting force. The principal fighting of Sherman was by his center under Gens. Smith and Blair. Our losses are put at 600 killed, 1,500 wounded, and 1,000 missing—in all, 3,100. The rebels pursued our forces to the gunboats, but were unable to do serious damage within range of the guns.

The report of the fighting, which is up to and including the 7th inst., is as follows:

The rebels concentrated all their forces from Jackson and Grenada and along the line of the road, amounting to 65,000 men, at Vicksburg. This overwhelming force attacked Sherman on Monday, and caused him to fall back to the first line of defense. The rebel entrenchments and fortifications extend six miles in rear of the city. Sherman's force had fought to within two miles of the city, when he was attacked by a superior force of rebels.

The fighting on Sunday is represented as desperate in the extreme. Batteries and fortifications were taken and retaken. Whole regiments, and even brigades, fought hand to hand over

guns for the possession of the defenses. The 4th Iowa lost 600 men killed, wounded and missing. Gen. Hovey, with 1,500 men, was sent out to execute a special order, but since then has not been heard from. Fears are entertained for his safety.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

The following is a synopsis of the bill reported from the Committee of Ways and Means, to provide for the support of the Government:

Sec. 1 provides for the issue of \$900,000,000 in 20 years 6 per cent. bonds, interest payable half-yearly in coin; may be sold for lawful money, certificates of indebtedness or interest-bearing Treasury notes, provided that the whole amount of bonds and notes issued under this act shall not exceed \$900,000,000, except that \$140,000,000 of 7.3 notes may be funded in 20 years' bonds, and a further issue for that purpose may be made. Sec. 2 provides for \$300,000,000 in three years' Treasury notes, bearing interest at 5.47 1/2 per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually in coin to the creditors of the Government, and receivable for all dues to the Government except customs. Sec. 3 provides for the issue of \$300,000,000 of legal tender notes of the usual form. Sec. 4 provides for fractional notes in place of postal currency, to be engraved and printed in the Treasury building, not to exceed \$50,000,000 of notes. Sec. 5 provides for deposits of coin in the Sub-Treasury, receipts to be given which may be used to pay custom duties. Sec. 6 provides the form of the bonds and notes to have the seal of the Treasury Department. Sec. 7 taxes bank circulation one per cent. on a graduated scale, according to capital stock. Sec. 8 modifies the Sub-Treasury Act so as to allow money obtained from loans or internal revenue to be deposited in banks, on their giving bonds as security. Sec. 9 provides against counterfeiting, and appropriates \$600,000 to carry the act into effect.

The Tribune has the text of the memorial presented by the Republican Senators to the President on the 18th of last December. Its four propositions declare:

1. That a vigorous prosecution of the war is necessary. 2. That the Cabinet, which ought to be harmonious, is not, and therefore should be made so. 3. That the Cabinet should be composed of men who certainly support the policy of the Government. 4. That Generals in command should be heartily for the war.

It is stated in Washington that private letters have been received from England announcing that there are now at sea forty vessels that have been fitted out and loaded in British ports with a view to break the blockade of the Southern American ports. These vessels are laden with arms, ammunition, clothing, shoes, medicines, &c. It is also asserted that a large amount of Confederate bonds, secured by the pledge of cotton at seven cents per pound, have been sold in England at the rate of five shillings to the pound sterling, and that by these sales £750,000 sterling have been realized by the agents of the Confederate government.

President Lincoln has signed the bill for the admission of Western Virginia, and gives his reasons therefor, as follows:

1, That it was the correct policy of the Administration to secure as much free territory as possible, and with as little trouble. 2, That as the Wheeling Legislature had been recognized by Congress as the Legislature of the State of Virginia, that body had the authority to adopt measures looking to a division of the State; that the responsibility did not lie with those who did not vote against it—namely the inhabitants of the eastern section of the State. 3, And the principal reason, that he was bound to take care of his friends.

The opinions of the President were in writing, and were read in the Cabinet meeting. Half of the Cabinet were opposed to the measure.

Desertions of late have become so numerous that the Secretary of War has determined to adopt most stringent measures to secure the return of delinquents. He has become convinced that the system adopted some time ago is entirely inadequate, and has decided to remove Mr. Draper, and place the business in the hands of Gen. Wool, with full power for its execution.

BRIEF PARAGRAPHS.

THE Emperor of Austria wants \$650,000 more the next year for his civil list (private income) than he had before. This he probably thinks is a fair increase of salary, considering his valuable services and increasing family. Last year he only had \$3,750,000, or over \$10,000 a day; and finds such close economy, doubtless, hurtful to his constitution.

THERE is a prospect that the famous cut off in the Mississippi, around Vicksburg, may yet amount to something. The rise in the river is widening and deepening the artificial channel made by Gen. Williams, to such an extent as to alarm the citizens of Vicksburg, lest they should find themselves in an inland town before next spring. It is thought that the course of the Mississippi will be so changed at this point within a few months that vessels of the largest class can go through the new channel, and navigate the river without passing Vicksburg at all.

THE 37th regiment of Iowa volunteers (known as the "Greybeard Regiment") left St. Louis last Monday, for the South. A striking peculiarity of this regiment is, that nearly all its members, officers and men, are over 45 years of age. Three-fourths of them are grey-headed, and many have long white beards, giving them a venerable appearance. Many have sent their sons to the field, and are now following them.

LORD PALMERSTON, the English Prime Minister, has completed his seventy-eighth year. He is the "father of the House of Commons," having been a member of that body for the long period of fifty-five years.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Scientific American—Munn & Co. New York Chronicle—P. Church & Co. Flower Seeds for 1863—Jas. Vick The Soldiers Guide to Health—G. G. Evans. History of the Southern Rebellion—Bradley & Co. A Rare Chance—R. Thompson & Co. American Sharp-Shooter—Daniel Wood. The Best Selling History of the Rebellion—E. G. Storke. The Barbary—E. C. Frost. Special Notices. Colored Fruit Plates—E. Darrow & Bro. Reader, Stop and Think—D. B. DeLand & Co.

The News Condenser.

- Garibaldi was improving at last accounts. — Friction matches sold at Richmond recently at \$16.50 per gross. — One thousand deserters from Connecticut regiments are at home. — It is stated that there are 400 of Gen. Pillow's slaves in St. Louis. — There are in Bavaria six crowned heads, fugitives, most of them. — The wool clip of Michigan for 1863 is estimated at 5,500,000 pounds. — During 1863 there will be two eclipses of the sun and two of the moon. — The wolves are making sad havoc among the sheep in Pembroke, Maine. — Sharp's Rifle Company of Hartford, is making monthly dividends of 12 per cent. — The Empress Eugenie has named her favorite saddle-horse "Stonewall Jackson." — In Sacramento city \$1,000,000 have been subscribed towards the Pacific Railroad. — There are 640 charitable institutions in London, having an income of \$2,500,000. — Several recruiting offices for colored regiments have been opened in New Orleans. — A Maine paper says there is more silver change in that State than in New York or Boston! — The Oberlin Evangelist has been suspended. It had been published about twenty-four years. — J. M. Porter, Secretary of War under Tyler, died at Easton, Pa., on the 15th ult., aged 69 years. — The amount of treasury notes now issued does not exceed three-fourths of a million of dollars a day. — The Emancipationists of the Missouri Legislature have nominated B. Gratz Brown for U. S. Senator. — Inundations of the Rhone have taken place, and have caused great devastation at Marseilles and Avignon. — A fire in Fulton Street, New York, on the night of the first, destroyed property to the amount of \$150,000. — The New York State Newspaper Association will hold their annual meeting at Albany on the 23d inst. — A percussion cap factory was destroyed in New York by an explosion on Tuesday week, and one man killed. — All the troops in North Carolina are made the Eighteenth Army Corps, under command of General Foster. — Joseph A. Gilmore has been nominated for Governor of New Hampshire by the Republican State Convention. — Gen. Grant's order against the Jews in his Department has been promptly rescinded by direction of the President. — Jeff Davis visited Mobile in his late tour, was serenaded and made a speech. He has returned to Richmond. — Over one thousand wood choppers are called for at Washington, for the purpose of furnishing wood to the army. — The N. Y. Evening Post estimates that the amount of specie in the United States at the present time is \$716,000,000. — Heavy shipments of artillery and ammunition are being made to Rosecrans from Cincinnati and Indianapolis. — The number of slaves who are proclaimed free by the President's proclamation is estimated at a little over three millions. — One Richard Yeadon, of Charleston, seeks a little notoriety at the South, by offering \$10,000 for Gen. Butler's head. — The day after the emancipation proclamation was received at New York, Missouri stocks advanced from 10 to 14 per cent. — Five of the new Ericsson iron-clad batteries are now in service. Three more will be out in two weeks, and another soon. — Mrs. John C. Breckinridge, wife of the Confederate General, passed through Cincinnati last week on her way to Kentucky. — The Connecticut Legislature are considering a bill allowing one million dollars bounty money to 20,000 enlisted soldiers. — Gen. Rosecrans' headquarters after entering Murfreesboro were in the house in which Morgan, the guerilla leader, was married. — Queen Victoria has officially given her consent to the marriage of the Prince of Wales to the Princess Alexandra, of Denmark. — Black silk robes have been abolished in the United States Supreme Court at Washington, the new members being averse to them. — Letters from the fleet off Mobile represent that city as most desolate, hardly worth taking. The pirate Oreto is still in the harbor. — Brig. Gen. Gorman, commanding at Helena, Arkansas, requires all cotton traders to have a license, at a cost of one hundred dollars. — The Hon. Zachariah Chandler has been re-elected United States Senator from Michigan for six years from the 4th of March next. — A private letter received in Washington states that Admiral Wilkes' flag-ship on the 27th ult. captured the rebel Steamer Virginia. — The Chicago Tribune is printed on paper which is one-quarter sorghum. Two sorghum paper mills are already running in Illinois. — The Spanish steamer Noc Doqui has, it is reported, run ashore a cargo of negroes near Cienfuegos; 1,180 are said to have been landed. — The debt of New York city is \$27,000,000. The Mayor in his message recommends an appropriation of one million dollars for city defenses. — The Richmond Examiner states that brown sugar is that city has gone up from \$1 to \$1.10 at retail, and molasses to \$7.50 and \$8 per gallon. — The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Times says there are twenty-one Major Generals in the city, beside a large assortment of Brigadiers. — The Great Eastern has at length sailed for Europe, having been some months in Flushing Bay, undergoing repairs. She took 114 cabin passengers. — The death of Hon. Elihu Whittlesey, First Comptroller of the Treasury under every administration since Taylor's, is announced from Washington. — The Congressional Journal, published forty-four years at Concord, N. H. suspended with the old year, in view of the great advance in the price of paper.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

THE RURAL BUREAU is fast filling up, but there is yet room for new recruits. Please send along your Company rolls, gentlemen. We can still supply rations (numbers) from January 1st. It is not too late, therefore, to start new lists or to add to those already forwarded.

DON'T REMIT "SHINPLASTERS," CHECKS, &c.—Agents and others remitting for the RURAL will please bear in mind that fractional notes or "shinplasters," issued either by corporations or individuals (except the checks of the Treasurer of Rochester on the Monroe Co. Bank), are nearly worthless in this city.

THE RURAL is sent to the wives and families of soldiers in the Union service at the lowest club rate (\$1.50)—the same as to clerical men and teachers. We publish this in answer to several recent inquiries, and for the benefit of all others interested.

EARLY NUMBERS OF THIS VOLUME.—The rush of subscriptions for this volume induced us to add an extra edition of seven thousand, after printing the first edition of No. 1, and hence we shall be able to furnish the early numbers of the present volume for some days or weeks. As long as we have the early numbers to spare we shall send them to new subscribers, unless otherwise directed.

ABOUT CLUB TERMS, &c.—We endeavor to adhere strictly to our club rates, which require a certain number of subscribers to get the paper at a specified price—say ten to get it at \$1.50 per copy, &c. But, in answer to frequent inquiries, we would state that, in cases where from four to six copies are ordered at \$1.50 each, with a reasonable prospect of filling up a club of ten, we will send them—and when the club is completed shall send extra copy, &c. This will accommodate those who do not wish to wait for others.

CLIPPING WITH THE MAGAZINES.—We will furnish the RURAL NEW-YORKER for 1863, (or one year), and either The Horticulturalist, (price \$2), or Arthur's Home Magazine, (25) the same period, for \$2, and either Harper's Magazine, Atlantic Monthly, or Godey's Lady's Book, one year, for \$4.

Special Notices

COLORED PLATES.—E. DARROW & BRO.'S collection of Colored Plates of FRUITS, FLOWERS, SHRUBS, EVERGREEN and WEEPING TREES, DWARF FRUIT TREES, &c., are unequalled by anything of the kind offered, and are so acknowledged by Horticulturists, Nurserymen, and dealers in trees here and everywhere.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, ROCHESTER, JAN. 13, 1863. THERE has been quite a number of changes in our market during the week, all of which are noted below.

Table with columns for Flour and Grain, Eggs, Butter, Lard, and various meats. Includes prices for different grades and quantities.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, JAN. 12.—FLOUR.—Market less active and 5c lower, with only a very moderate business doing for export and home consumption. Sales at \$1.00 for superfine State; \$1.00 for extra State; \$1.00 for superfine Western; \$1.00 for common to medium extra Western; \$1.00 for shipping brands extra round and chop.

Died

On the fifth of December, of typhoid fever, in the town of Vermont, PHILIP F. wife of CORNELIUS JOHNSON and youngest daughter of JOHN JACKSON, Esq., of Horseheads, N. Y.

At Suspension Bridge, N. Y., on the evening of the 4th inst., HATTIE L., wife of GEO. BARNARD, aged 26 years.

In East Carlton, N. Y., Nov. 4th, of typhoid fever, TRUMAN N. LUTENTAN, aged 21 years, 3 months and 7 days.

In Emory Hospital, Washington, D. C., Dec. 20th, 1862, of a wound received at the battle of Fredericksburg, ROBERT J. COLLINS, 103th (Rochester) N. Y. V., aged 20 years.

On the 11th inst., GEORGE THOMAS, son of JOHN C. and MARY A. MOORE, aged 4 years and 23 days.

On the 6th inst., PHILIP HENRY, only son of Wm. H. and SARAH W. GORSLINE, aged 2 years and 7 months.

New Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance.—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 82 1/2 cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES (following reading matter, leaded,) 60 cents a line.

WE GROW THE BARBERRY FROM SEED, and can furnish Wm. HEDGECOCK or any one else, the seed in large quantities, at 25 cents per bushel, and a well paying business, to E. G. STORCK, Auburn, N. Y.

THE BEST SELLING HISTORY OF THE REBELLION, is issued by THE AUBURN PUBLISHING CO. 27-Book Agents should send at once for full particulars, on easy terms, and a well paying business, to E. G. STORCK, Auburn, N. Y.

A BARE CHANCE for enterprising Young Men with small capital. Agents wanted in all the States to establish an Agency for the sale of THOMPSON & CO.'S Patent Sewing Machines. A Machine unequalled by any other in the market.

NOV READY.—THE FIRST PART OF DR. SMUCKER'S History of the Southern Rebellion, from its origin, giving a full and reliable account of all the Battles, Sieges, Engagements, &c., &c.

THE SOLDIERS' GUIDE TO HEALTH, EMBRACING RULES FOR PRESERVING THE HEALTH OF THE SOLDIER, AND HINTS ON CAMP LIFE, TO WHICH ARE ADDED INSTRUCTIONS FOR GETTING FURLOUGHS AND DISCHARGES, COMPILLED FROM THE REVISED "ARMY REGULATIONS," HALL'S JOURNAL OF HEALTH, AND OTHER EMINENT SOURCES.

Agents Wanted.—Address the Publisher, G. G. EVANS, Philadelphia, Pa. 679-7

FLOWER SEEDS FOR 1863. MY NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SEEDS.

FOR SINGERS AND MUSICIANS.—THE CHORIST.—A Monthly Musical Journal.—Contains interesting musical news, original and instructive articles on the Science of Music; New Anthems, Chants, Glee, &c. Published Monthly at 60 cents per annum.

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ON THE FIFTH OF DECEMBER, of typhoid fever, in the town of Vermont, PHILIP F. wife of CORNELIUS JOHNSON and youngest daughter of JOHN JACKSON, Esq., of Horseheads, N. Y.

AT SUSPENSION BRIDGE, N. Y., on the evening of the 4th inst., HATTIE L., wife of GEO. BARNARD, aged 26 years.

IN EAST CARLTON, N. Y., Nov. 4th, of typhoid fever, TRUMAN N. LUTENTAN, aged 21 years, 3 months and 7 days.

IN EMORY HOSPITAL, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20th, 1862, of a wound received at the battle of Fredericksburg, ROBERT J. COLLINS, 103th (Rochester) N. Y. V., aged 20 years.

ON THE 11TH INST., GEORGE THOMAS, son of JOHN C. and MARY A. MOORE, aged 4 years and 23 days.

ON THE 6TH INST., PHILIP HENRY, only son of Wm. H. and SARAH W. GORSLINE, aged 2 years and 7 months.

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THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE.

RED was the lightning's flashing,
And down through the driving rain,
We saw the red eyes dashing...

The Story-Teller.

MARRYING A BEAUTY.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

CHAPTER III.

It was a warm October day, which, coming after a cold spell of weather, was an invitation to the open air.
"Shall we ride out this afternoon, JULIA?" I said, as we sat at the dinner table.

yond. For married partners to be intimate with men and women of the other sex; to accept, or give, flattering attentions; to associate as freely as before—was, in my view, wrong.
I, therefore, not only blamed my wife, but, faithful and true myself, in thought as well as deed, my nature rose in antagonism and disgust against her.

mote—I resolved not to visit my wife at her aunt's unless she sent for me. The decision looks hard, wrong, cruel, seen only from the outside; but it was not the dictate of either hardness or cruelty.
Right or wrong, I believed the decision right and best. In fact, except through the humiliation of that true manhood which none can violate without self-hurt, it was impossible for me to follow my wife in what I felt to be her voluntary departure from the home of her husband.

The word I had not at first intended speaking was beyond recall. The hard decision, not clearly made in my own judgment, was precipitated under the power of excitement, and so fixed in a strong will.
Having spoken I would endure.

Corner for the Young.



ILLUSTRATED CHARADE.

He talked of daggers and of darts,
Of passions and of wounds,
Of weeping eyes and wounded hearts,
Of kisses and of chains...

ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

The sum of three numbers in arithmetical progression is 27. The square of the mean exceeds the product of the extremes by 16. Required the three numbers.

AN ANAGRAM.

RUDEN a presiding ctheusent reet
Ent valieg misty snads,
Hts mihgt a mihgt nam si eh...

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 677.

Answer to Biblical Enigma.—Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
Answer to Geographical Enigma.—The way of the transgressor is hard.

Wit and Humor.

LITTLE JOKERS.

THE celebrated portrait painter, Stuart, once met a lady in the street in Boston, who saluted him with—"Oh, Mr. Stuart, I have just seen your miniature, and I kissed it, because it was so much like you."
"AND did it kiss you in return?"
"Why, no." "Then," said Stuart, "'twas not like me."