

# MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR. "PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT." [SINGLE NO. FIVE CENTS.]

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

CHAS. D. BRADGON, 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.

### WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

#### LARGE FARMS.

[Concluded from first page of last number.]

#### SYSTEM.

As before intimated, is one of the features which impress the visitor here. Here is a large boarding house, with a dining hall and a cook—a "French cook," if you please,—whose duty it is to provide food for the men. It must be ready, promptly, at the hour stipulated—an abundance of it, too. And judging from some things I saw and what I heard, the wishes of the men govern, to a great extent, the kind of food served up to them. A certain amount is necessary to supply the demands of appetite. It requires less in the aggregate, if the appetite is not starved into craving something it cannot obtain. Mr. S. has learned that men work well where they eat well; and that they eat well when they have what they want to eat. He finds also that a generous providence in the kitchen has much to do in determining the stability of his help. Well-fed hands stay longer where the work is not oppressive. If they go away, they are glad to come back again; and they do come back.

Near the dining hall is a blacksmith shop, where the teams are shod, the plows sharpened and repaired, cleaves and chains mended, tools put in order—indeed, where all the repairing belonging to a blacksmith is provided for. Near by is the carpenter shop, where plows are new wooded, parts of machines replaced, or new ones constructed, adapted to the peculiar work to be done.

A large shed covers the drills, reapers, mowers, threshers, headers—an endless confusion of farm machinery—some of it in order for work, some in parts to be put together at the proper season, others sent hither for trial and waiting the test, still others that have been tested and condemned—a historical museum, monumental to the various geniuses who have aspired to revolutionize some branch of husbandry. It would be interesting to many, not very complimentary to some, and really unjust to others, were I to give the comments upon the different machines, made by Mr. S., as we passed the mass in review. I say "really unjust," because, while Mr. S.'s remarks may have been valid, so far as these machines related to himself and his needs, they could by no means apply to the small farmer with his needs. Hence I shall not report his opinions. In harvesting grain, headers are used exclusively almost.

We visited "the store," where are kept the supplies for the farm, boarding-house and family, including coarse articles of clothing, such as heavy boots, shoes, overalls, felt hats, &c., &c., adapted to the needs of working men. From this "store" the stores, &c., are distributed to the different parts of the farm and charged thereto, and the daily transactions reported at the office to the book-keeper, who makes the proper entries thereof.

Each department of labor is directly supervised by a foreman. The thirty or forty plows running at the time of our visit, were under the direction of a superintendent, who, constantly in the saddle, saw that each team had its proper place in the field, and did the work apportioned to it. Another man directs the harrowing; still another the planters; another the fence-makers;

and there is a head-gardener. To supervise the whole, is a head-farmer, whose directions are law, unless modified by the proprietor. Thus there is a military system of responsibility; and the commanders of departments are required to report the transactions of the day in their respective departments, at headquarters, to the commander-in-chief, whose adjutant makes a record of all these reports.

#### FARM ACCOUNTS.

There is no guess work about the conduct of this farm. Its operations are not slipshod adventures. There is a substantial business base to all transactions. And the success or otherwise of all enterprises is a matter of record; the degree of success is exhibited at a glance. The examination of the books of this farm was one of the prominent compensating features of our visit. And I am sorry to be compelled to say that it is the first time I have had the pleasure of examining the books of a farmer which gave an intelligent exhibit of the character, extent and results of farm transactions, embracing the operations, in detail, of each department of husbandry. An account is kept with each crop, working horse, ox, mule, man or woman on the farm. Each crop is charged with the preparation of the soil, seed, planting, culture, harvesting, thrashing, cleaning and marketing; and it is audited with the return. There is a farm improvement account with the farm and with each division of it. Each working ox and horse on the farm has an individuality—has a name by which he is known; and the foreman in the department in which he works is required to report his name and the time he has worked, at headquarters, each night. If he has not worked, a reason must be given. At the close of the year the farmer can tell which ox or horse has been of the most service to him. And charging him with his board, and the interest on his cost, and it is quickly determined whether he is worth keeping or not.

So with the dairy, which is under the supervision of a daughter of the farmer. The dairy-house is as cool and sweet a place as can be desired. The milk received at the dairy-house is credited the cows at each milking; then whatever goes from it is charged to the department which makes the requisition. A few quarts or gallons go to one or the other of the boarding houses; or a certain number of gallons are made into butter and distributed in that form to the family of the proprietor, or to the head-farmer's family, or to the workmen's dining rooms. Every pint of milk and pound or fraction of a pound of butter is accounted for and reported to the office. The labor expended in the management of the dairy is charged it, and the profit derived from it determined. As indicating where the milk goes, I noticed that during one of the summer months of 1862, there were charged to hands in the field, twelve hundred gallons of milk! Does any one suppose this to have been an unprofitable disposition of milk in the hot harvest season? No, sir, it was as profitable as it was refreshing and nourishing to the workmen.

An account is kept with the garden. Each day's work or fraction of a day's work is charged to it. Last year over four hundred days' work were done in the garden. The books proved the assertion. "Did it pay?" "Yes, sir," the proprietor promptly answered. And yet the rule is, the larger the farm, the smaller the garden. One single item credited to the garden will indicate what comes of it; for, credited to it, and charged to the boarding house, were the aggregate number of one hundred and sixty bushels of snap beans.

And I might continue to enumerate items; but, space would fail me. The books are kept by double-entry, as concisely, and yet elaborately, as those of any business firm in the land.

At the close of each month an exhibit is made, showing the departments in which labor has been employed, the kind of work done, the number of oxen, horses and hands employed, and the number of days' works done, in detail, and in the aggregate. Here is a sample of the headings of this monthly exhibit of labor accounts with the farm for a single month,—for November, 1862,—giving the number of days' works performed each day of the month, under the following heads:—Wheat—thrashing, cleaning, hauling; Timothy seed—thrashing, cleaning; Wheat—sowing; Stock—herding and feeding; Fences and fire guards; Oats—thrashing; Fuel—hauling; Permanent improvements; Stables—grooms and hay; Garden; Butcher shop—Curing meat; Implements and machinery; Store; Ho-

mer; Boarding house; M. L. S. House; Dairy; Smithy; Hauling lumber; Corn—Sec. 13, husking and cribbing; Number of men boarded; Herdsmen boarded. Whole number of days' labor performed that month, 888.

It will be seen that these headings, with the columns of figures indicating the number of days' works done each day, under each head, afford a comprehensive record of the transactions of the month. At a glance the farmer can tell, not only how many days' works were consumed in trips to Homer (R. R. station) during the month, but on what days the trips were made; and by reference to the farm journal of that date, the object of those trips may be learned. So the number of days devoted to repairing and constructing farm implements, and the time in the month when the work was done, may be learned.

This system of accounts is carried out in the minutest detail, so that the farmer knows accurately what each product costs him, where the labor applied pays best, what proportion of profits he can afford to invest in permanent improvements, what his improvements cost him, and how to go to work, if it is desirable, to diminish the cost of the same. The past is not all lost to him. The pages of his books give him the data upon which to determine his future course.

Will such a man succeed? Here are all the elements of success exhibited—great agricultural resources, requiring only capital, labor, system and skill to develop them. If farming may be made to pay at all on these prairies, it seems that Mr. S. will succeed. For he is doing it in a business way. He knows when he is able to sell his products; and he is able to hold them until he can realize more than they cost—or at least all that they cost. He can tell you to a fraction

#### THE COST OF AN ACRE OF CORN.

And a striking illustration of the intelligence and accuracy of guess-work farmers occurred on the day of our visit. We had been talking about corn culture and the various modes adopted of cultivating corn, &c., when I asked Mr. S. for the average cost of producing a bushel of corn. "Ah," said he, "that is a pertinent question. And yet it is sad; it is strange that so few men who have been growing corn all their lives know what it costs them to put in and cultivate a hundred acres of corn. Now," said he, turning to a gentleman who had but just come in, "here is an intelligent farmer—really a sensible man, fully equal to the average of farmers. He has been growing corn all his life; is somewhat noted hereabouts for growing a good crop; if anybody has corn, he has. Now tell us, if you please, how many days' works it costs you to plow, prepare the ground, plant and "lay by" (which includes all the culture,) a hundred acres of corn?"

The neighbor did not know—"had never reckoned up to see." Thought he could tell after a little.

"Well, now, to get at it quickly, how many days' works will it cost to put in and cultivate an acre of corn. Give us your best judgment."

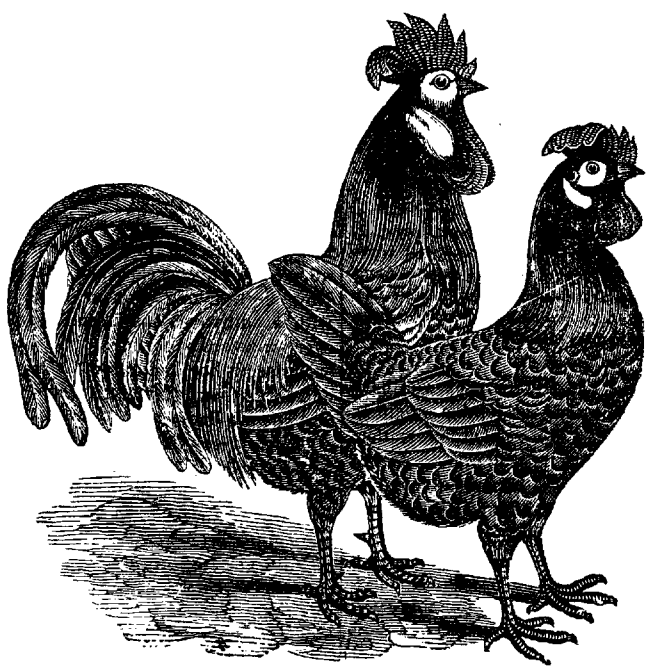
The man hesitated, when Mr. S. asked if four days' works would do it. The neighbor shook his head. "Five? Six? Eight?" asked Mr. S. successively. The man finally concluded it would take from six to eight days.

Mr. S. said it would require just 37½ days' works to "lay by" (including preparation, planting and cutting,) fifty acres of corn—or seventy-five days' works to "lay by" 100 acres.

"Impossible to do it," said the neighbor. "But I have tried it and know," said the figure farmer. "Now, G., take your pencil and a piece of paper and put down the items as this man gives them, and let us see where he puts the six or eight days' works on an acre."

Mr. S. proceeded to ask him how many acres of corn ground he would plow in a day on an average; ditto, harrow; ditto, plant; ditto, harrow again; ditto, cultivate, say, three times. Here was a getting at it direct. The items obtained, Mr. G. announced that, according to the gentleman's figures, it only cost eight-tenths of a day's work to prepare the ground, plant, cultivate and "lay by" an acre of corn in the manner in which it is usually done! The neighbor did not, even then, believe his own figures. He thought it could not be done.

But giving a day to the work and putting in and cultivating an acre of corn—allowing that it requires that time, see how my neighbor would wrong me if I paid for six or eight hundred days' works in a contract with him for putting in and cultivating 100 acres of corn; see how he would



BLACK SPANISH FOWLS.

wrong himself if he paid another man at the same rate; see how easy it would be for them to make four or five dollars per day out of me by such a contract, if I did not know better; see how easy I could have made that amount per day out of him, if he had been governed, in making the contract, by his own loose estimate. And that is the way business is done by very many farmers. They know nothing about their business until their debts and empty purses impress them with the fact that it has been "a bad year."

There is much more that might be written, suggested by our visit, but I add but an item or two.

#### AN ACRE OF HORSE-RADISH.

"What in the world do you do with so much horse-radish?" I asked, as we came upon a large patch of it.

"O, we eat a great deal in spring. It requires a good deal for so many men, and it is healthful. And this spring I found a new use for it. We dug up a good many barrels of it and sent it to the boys in the army, through the agency of the Sanitary Commission. I assure you it was a capital relish for them." Here is a hint worthy of general attention.

#### HOW TO SET POSTS.

Talking about the amount of fencing required on a large farm, the kind of posts, &c., Mr. D. asked, "Do you reverse the posts and set the top end in the ground, instead of the butt end?"

Ans.—"Oh, no."

Ques.—"Don't you think it would make a difference in their durability?"

Ans.—"Well, it might make as much as it did with the fellow's shoes. He greased one and didn't the other, in order to see which would last the longest; and he said the one that he greased lasted ten minutes longer! So with the posts, there may be that difference—probably not much more."

#### GROVES

Of peach, poplar, and other rapid-growing timber trees, are planted at various points on the farm. Mr. S. prefers groves to belts; and if he persists in this preference and continues to plant, he will soon render his beautiful prairie domain a pastoral picture of surpassing loveliness.

#### OSAGE ORANGE

Hedges he believes in. Their early history in this State discouraged him; but he is convinced these later years, that it is the fence material for the prairies. He proposes to plant it largely as soon as seed can be obtained. It is true, the hedge is liable to be burned; but no more so than a board fence; and it renews itself, while the board fence does not. That the Osage will succeed in his neighborhood I saw evidence in several very good hedges belonging to his neighbors. And I believe these live fences along the road sides and on farm boundaries, are likely to be the only practical solution of "the fence question" for some generations to come.

#### MOLE DRAINS.

While looking at some of the defunct machinery stored in the sheds, something suggested the question whether he had used the mole drainers. Whether he had or not, I do not re-

member, but he did say he wished he had five hundred miles of mole drain. He had seen them in operation, and learned their value, not only as a means of ridding the soil of surplus water, but as a source of supply of pure running water for stock.

It would give me pleasure to write of the flower garden, the flower pit, the flower parterres, the evidences of highly cultivated taste everywhere seen in the surroundings and internal arrangements of this farmer's home; but I have not the space. There are evidences enough of refinement, without ostentation—of acquaintance with the outside world, without cold conventionalities—of the practicability of being a farmer's wife and daughter without "slaving one's self to death." And there is no evidence that any one lives here without a place to fill in the machinery of this large farm establishment. I saw no one idle, and yet no one busting. There is something to be learned by such a visit, even though a man does not believe in "big farms."

#### QUERIES ABOUT FOWLS.

EDS. RURAL.—Will you please state in your paper what breeds of domestic fowls you would especially recommend to a person wishing a small, fancy and profitable poultry yard; where the eggs of such fowls can be obtained; whether transportation by railroad a considerable distance would injure the hatching qualities of said eggs, and any other items of information that would be valuable to a new beginner in the poultry business?—W. P. D., So. Dover, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

THE above, with several other inquiries on fowl subjects were handed to our chicken editor some time since, but he has been so industriously engaged in bringing his young flocks safely through the critical period of chickenhood, that he has only recently found time to furnish the required information, which we hasten to lay before our readers.

If we were to select a breed of fowls combining beauty and profit, it would be the *Black Spanish*. We would not make this selection, however, unless we had a good warm house, where, in the winter, they would not be likely to freeze their long, thin, beautiful combs. The *Black Spanish* fowl is very graceful in form, its color jet, glossy black, the feathers of the thighs and under part of the body being of a beautiful velvety appearance. The comb of both cock and hen is single, thin, very large, of a beautiful red, and contrasts most beautifully with the white fleshy cheek, which is a peculiar and charming mark of this breed. They are of fair size, a full grown male bird weighing from seven to eight pounds; and the hen only a pound or so less. A flock of these fowls in fine condition is a pretty sight, but when the combs are frozen down to the head, and other signs of hard usage are evinced, they are anything but beautiful. For rough usage there is nothing like a mixture of the *Shanghai* with our common barnyard fowls. The large Chinese fowls were, doubtless, wonderfully over-praised. The people of almost the whole civilized world became affected by the *Shanghai* excitement, and, therefore, it was not strange that the people of America, who are exceedingly susceptible to influence of this kind, should feel its effects rather severely. Now that this has



Rural Notes and Items.

EXPLANATORY.—It is more than probable that critical readers may discover some deficiencies in our present issue...

THE SEASON AND THE CROPS.—Reports of the condition of the crops throughout Western New York are generally favorable.

GOOD INCREASE OF SHEEP.—In a recent note to the RURAL, Mr. L. SEATUCK, of Cherry Creek, Chautauque County, N. Y., writes:—"I think I have some 'beats' for Mr. A. C. POWELL, of Illinois—such as he calls for in the RURAL of June 13th.

THAT HEAVY FLEECE OF WOOL.—Correction.—Mr. J. S. GOODRICH, of Lima, N. Y., writes—"In the RURAL of July 4th you published the weight of a fleece of wool sheared from a lamb owned by Mr. EDWARD BERMAN, of Livingstonia.

SOUTH-DOWNS AT PUBLIC SALE.—It will be seen, by reference to an advertisement in this paper, that SAMUEL THORNE, Esq., a celebrated importer and breeder of improved stock, proposes to offer one hundred of his choice WEBB South-Downs at public sale, without reserve, on the 2d of September ensuing.

FROM WISCONSIN.—Writing us from Dodge Co., Wis., July 13, Mr. J. C. BRAINERD says:—"The prospects of the husbandman are quite promising here at present, though the weather has been somewhat unfavorable for wheat, of late, it having been very hot and sultry, with heavy dews and fog, which hardly disappeared during the day.

CLARK'S SORGO JOURNAL.—This is the title of an octavo journal (16 pages, monthly), recently established at Cincinnati, O., by WM. H. CLARK, at \$1 per annum. It is mainly devoted to Sorghum Culture, or the "Northern Cane Enterprise," and the number before us (for July) contains much interesting matter on the subject.

NORTH-WESTERN OHIO.—Under date of Toledo, July 14, Mr. E. P. CHEEVER writes us:—"Weather dry, smoky; very little rain since May. Crops suffer for rain. Wheat rusted by heavy dews last week. Corn, potatoes, beans and tobacco look well. Grass light. Green hay \$15 per ton in Toledo."

NORTHERN PA.—A letter dated Ransom, Luzerne Co., Pa., July 19, says:—"It is very wet here at present, and has been for some time. There has been no good hay weather since clover has been fit to cut. Apples are quite knotty and not very plenty."

GENESSEE CO. FAIR.—The Annual Fair of the Genessee County Agricultural Society will be held on the Society's grounds, Batavia, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 30th day of September and the 1st day of October next, 1883.

USE OF MUCK.—Will not H. T. B., and other men of practical experience, give us a few chapters on the use of muck through the RURAL?—ALONZO BORDEN, Livingston Co., Mich., 1883.

more desirable qualities of power and substance, as teams for the road in this land of heavy grades, they cast about for something which should meet the demand. With a class of mares well up in the blood of the turf stock of Virginia, they had a tolerable foundation on which to engraft scions of freshness and vigor, which promised the desired result.

Grind the Tools. Keep the tools sharp or they will not cut. A dull tool wastes time, and he who permits it to work when in that condition, is a dull fellow. The best turners are those who have the sharpest tools; the most successful surgeons use the keenest knives, and the most enterprising and energetic men in civil life are those whose wits have been early ground sharp, and whose perceptive faculties have been whetted by sore experience in early life.

Cows in Honduras. A LADY correspondent of the Working Farmer, who had been nursing an invalid husband in Honduras, gives the following description of the management of cows in that part of the world:—"We were much disappointed in the quantity of milk given by our cow, but the quality was most excellent. The cows are managed here in a most miserable way, and never domesticated. The calf is tied near the house, and the cow allowed to wander at will, and often it is her will to quit a way from home.

Grain Aphid at the West. The last number of the Prairie Farmer says:—"This insect that caused so great destruction to the wheat and oat crop of New England, N. York and Pennsylvania, in 1861, and to some extent made its appearance last year there, and in this State and Wisconsin, has appeared the present season to a much greater extent in the same sections in the West. We have specimens sent us from several sources. Dr. Geo. Vasey, of McHenry county, brought in to-day several heads of wheat nearly covered with them. Robert Douglas, of Wauegan, says they are so thick on his wheat as to give it the appearance of being very rusty. We notice also that the Madison and Milwaukee papers speak of the ravages of an insect in their vicinities, and report it widely spread in Wisconsin.—From their remarks we conclude it the same insect. We hear nothing of it at the East this year."

Inquiries and Answers.

BATE FOR HUNTING BEES.—Will you or some of your bee-keeping subscribers inform me through your columns the best article for bee-bate for hunting bees in the woods and the manner of using it?—A NEW SUBSCRIBER, Vermillion Co., Ill., 1883.

INQUIRIES ABOUT TOBACCO CULTURE.—I have undertaken this year to grow a lot of tobacco. Most of the plants were out about the middle of June, and so far have done remarkably well and are growing very rapidly. But, being a novice in the business, I must confess ignorance as to the after-culture and cure of the "weed." I remember, when a boy, of hearing tobacco growers talk of "priming," "snuckering" and "tapping," "cutting," "curing," "gring," &c., &c.; but of the modus operandi I know nothing. Will Mr. GOODSELL, or some other gentleman conversant with the subject, please enlighten me, and probably many more of your readers in darkness on this branch?—LOUIS A. REESE, Lafayette, Ind.

on the condition of the colonies in which they were reared; and that small and discouraged nuclei, out of heart, produced a largely disproportionate number of poor queens. The year before he bred his queens in very small nuclei, and was perplexed to find so many of them of an inferior quality. Using, by my advice, a box holding nearly three times as many combs and bees as the one he had been using previously, and breeding his queens when forage was abundant, he obtained last summer the most gratifying results.

My experience this season, is thus far the same with that of last year—leading me to believe that I have discovered an important law upon this subject, and that queens require, for their perfect development in size and color, to be fed with all the royal jelly they can possibly consume. In queen cells, reared in large colonies during the swarming season, a large accumulation of the jelly is often found after the queen is hatched; while in those reared in small or discouraged colonies, there is seldom found any excess of it. This season I have examined, in swarming colonies, a number of uncommonly large queen cells, and in some of them have found nearly half an inch of jelly at the base of the cell. Soon after the queens creep out from such cells this jelly may often be found of the color and consistence of a rich quince jelly. It is very seldom that any jelly is found in the cells of queens reared in small colonies, after these queens have emerged.

As small colonies frequently attempt to rear a number of queens entirely disproportionate to the number reared in large colonies, it must often happen that some of those queens are scantily fed, and therefore imperfectly developed. I have not, however, been able to discover that queens of extra size and beauty are more prolific, or that they produce a handsomer progeny, than smaller and darker ones bred from the same mother.

L. L. LANGSTROTH, Oxford, Butler Co., Ohio, July 4, 1883.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Importance of our Sheep Husbandry. THE United States Economist contains an elaborate article on the importance of sheep husbandry to the loyal States, from which we condense some interesting ideas, which are worthy of the attention of all our farmers:

"For years past, the quantity of wool manufactured in the United States has averaged full 125 millions of pounds. Of this quantity not more than one-half has been grown here. While we have been exporting grain and provisions to an immense amount, we have imported wool from Australia, the Cape of Good Hope, South America, China, Russia, India, and in short from every other quarter of the globe, and are so doing to-day, though it is an indisputable fact that no country on earth is better adapted to sheep husbandry than the North-West. Should the agriculturist neglect to grow a sufficient quantity of wheat and corn to supply our home demand, it would be regarded as a most surprising evidence of a lack of enterprise, and yet facilities of soil and climate are no better for producing corn and wheat than they are for the growing of sheep. In Australia and the Cape of Good Hope, where sheep husbandry is carried on extensively and at a large profit, the climate is not so favorable, the soil is barren, and there is no market for mutton; while in the West the soil is rich, the climate dry and cool, and our large cities furnish a ready market for mutton, at higher prices than in London and Paris. For years past the people of the West have seen the wool-buyer running through the country, eager to contract for wool 'on the sheep's back.' How much more will they be in the future, when the consumption of wool has increased fifty per cent., as it is likely to be! Although the clip of wool will be larger this year than upon any former occasion, still our Western farmers do not realize the immense increase of the demand which will be created for this great staple by the cutting-short of the cotton supply. We have at present in the loyal States twenty-five millions of sheep, and we believe that this number could be doubled without producing a sufficient quantity of wool or mutton to supply the demand for the next five years. There is no mystery about sheep husbandry. All that is required to conduct the business successfully is the exercise of plain common sense, which dictates that all domestic animals (and sheep in particular,) to thrive well, require to be well fed, to have plenty of room, and to be protected from storms. The soil and climate of the North-Western States are admirably adapted to sheep husbandry, and the farmers of that section could not possibly turn their attention to a more profitable branch of agriculture. The sheep best adapted to the production of worsted are the Leicester and Cotswold breeds, and can be obtained in Canada to any extent and at reasonable prices. The carcasses are large and the fleeces of long staple, which makes these breeds more valuable both for the clip and mutton."

Roadster Horses in Ohio. COL. HARRIS, of the Ohio Farmer, who has lately examined the horse stock of WM. H. and JAMES D. LADD, of Richmond, Ohio, gives the following history of it:—"The father of the brothers Ladd emigrated to Ohio from near Richmond, Va., among the first settlers of this region, and at various times brought out some of the most famous blood horses of those days, by which the horse stock of Eastern Ohio and Western Virginia was largely infused by the best blood of the east; thus it will be seen that the family came honestly by their present tastes in the production of good horses. Finding the blood horses of the country lacking in the

he cuts his grass he hauls it in, mowing it away fresh and green, in alternate loads and alternate layers with straw, salting it as he puts it away.—The grass being fresh and green and the straw dry, the latter drains the dampness and flavor from the former; they both undergo a sweat together, and being salted cure well, and make as good, if not better, hay than all timothy cured and put away in the usual manner. Horses and cattle will feed on it freer and thrive better. I have thrown out the above suggestion as a hint towards agricultural economy, and hope that other farmers, older and more experienced than myself, will do the same for the benefit of all who read the RURAL. L. A. R. Lafayette, Ind., July, 1883.

HOW WE RAISE POTATOES.

THOUGH too late to practice this season, still many who have fresh in their memory the back-aching, shoulder-straining labor they have just endured in clearing their potatoe patches of weeds, will treasure this up in their memory also, and by putting it in practice next season save themselves much pain and sweat, and have a cleaner patch of potatoes by the method, than they ever before have raised.

We prefer corn stubble for potatoes. Plow it well, and drag it thoroughly. Mark it once in three feet with a shovel plow. This will leave the ridges even size. Cover thoroughly. The weeds will be up before the potatoes. Keep close watch and just as the potatoes prick through the ground, take a good stout horse and a shovel plow and split the ridges. Beam it deep and cover the coming potatoes up thoroughly. Put a good lot of brush under the drag, so that the teeth will not move the hills and brush the ridges down, going lengthwise. The weeds are dead; the lumps between the rows and the potatoes will be up in a few days, as clean and nice as you please. Now work among them as much as you like with a cultivator, and finish by going through each way with a shovel plow. Let a man shoulder his hoe and follow, falling a dock here and cutting a thistle there, fixing up the end hills and you are done.

Let those who like to see a clean patch of potatoes, but don't like to beam a hoe, try it, and my word, they will let the horse hoe their potatoes till they forget how hard it was to hoe. This method has been practiced for some years in this vicinity, and is growing in favor. FRANKLIN EWER, Mendon Center, July 13th.

The Bee-keeper.

On the Color of Italian Queen Bees. EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It is a fact well known to breeders of Italian Bees, that the color of the queens raised from a pure mother is far more variable than that of the workers. Some of the queen progeny of females brought from the districts in Italy where none but the pure race are found, have abdomens of a brilliant yellow, the tip alone being of a black or brownish color; others have only one or two yellow rings, while others again are even darker than common queens.

Various theories have been advanced to account for these facts. DIERZON and other Germans are of the opinion that none of the Italian bees are absolutely pure, but that all have a taint or dash of black blood, which can only be got rid of by a long course of careful breeding. After ten years of assiduous labor, he does not claim to have entirely overcome this taint, but thinks he has purer bees than can be found in Italy, and that in ten years more he will be able to breed out all traces of the black blood.

Some attribute the tendency to sport in color to a mysterious influence exerted upon the queen larva by the hybrid or black nurses by which they are often reared. Mr. KIRBY believes that their larva are fed with the semen of black or hybrid drones, and in this way obtain a taint of the black blood!—a theory which must be rejected, not merely because it appears contrary to all analogy, but because it is directly contrary to facts. The same tendency to sport has been noticed in districts where no common bees are found; and the queen-larva of black bees when entrusted to Italian workers, are not found to have any traces of the Italian blood. Moreover, those breeders who persist in rearing their queens in colonies of black or hybrid bees, are now, after an experience of four seasons, able to secure as large a proportion of beautiful queens, as when they first began the practice—a result which could not be obtained, if, according to Mr. KIRBY's theory, they had been getting further and further from the pure blood.

I shall communicate to your readers some facts which seem to me to throw considerable light upon this perplexing subject, if they do not fully account for all its difficulties.

In May, 1882, I reared a number of very beautiful queens from a brilliantly colored Italian mother, and for some time all her progeny were of this type. After a while some of her queens were small and poorly colored. I now began to suspect that the condition of the colonies in which the queens are reared might have a decided effect upon their color, as well as their size, and I subsequently obtained from the larva of the same mother, reared in the same colonies, few but handsome queens. The first lot were raised when the nuclei, or small colonies to which the Italian brood was given, were vigorously getting both honey and pollen; the inferior ones were reared when forage was so scarce that the nuclei had to be fed. Later in the season when forage was abundant, the young queens were nearly all of the beautiful type; while later still, when the colonies had to be fed again, the color and often the size of the queens again became indifferent. A year ago last spring I suggested to Prof. J. P. KIRTLAND, of Cleveland, that I believed the color of Italian queens depended very much

passed away there is danger of going to the other extreme. These large fowls accomplished a great deal of good for the poultry of the country. We had bred our stock in-and-in until it had become degenerated most sadly, and the ordinary fowls of our barnyards and for sale in our markets were not much larger than pigeons. By the infusion of the blood of this new race our fowls have become doubled in size, and whatever may be said of the Shanghai or Cochon Chinas as a pure breed, we think there can be no doubt as to the advantages of the cross, evidences of which we see in every flock. Eggs, if packed carefully in bran or something of the kind, may be kept for several weeks without injury, and carried any reasonable distance. Some years since, during the existence of the hen fever, we purchased in the upper part of New York city, somewhere near Harlem, two dozen eggs, packed them in a large segar box in bran, took them down town, forgot them on our return, and had them sent to Rochester by express, causing a delay of nearly two weeks, and hatched fourteen of the twenty-four eggs. We cannot say where eggs or fowls can be obtained. Those who have them for sale should let the fact be known in some way. On preceding page we give an engraving showing the form and style of the Black Spanish Fowls. They are excellent layers.

CARE OF POULTRY.—Since the business is being taken out of the hands of children, and not only men, but men of science and intelligence, are giving the subject their attention, I have concluded, (falling in with that spirit of progress your paper has contributed so much to arouse,) to give my chickens some better place to stay of nights and stormy days, than on the fences and trees. There is here an old "cave," (a substitute for a cellar,) with heavy stone walls, six feet high, and 22 by 17 feet; it has been covered with slabs and sods; these are about ready to fall in, and I intend to put a frame story on it, and make it snow-proof for a poultry house; and as the simple enclosure is the extent of my plan, as yet, I would be obliged to you, or any member of your numerous family, for any suggestions respecting the internal (or external) arrangement; any thing essential to a perfect home for poultry.—P., New Florence, Pa.

We have among our readers many who have given the care of Poultry considerable attention, and can no doubt give the needed information. We will at present make only a few suggestions. Poultry houses must be so arranged that while they secure warmth they can be well ventilated. Fowls will do better in an old shed without doors or windows and half filled with snow every storm, than in a warm, dirty, ill-ventilated house. Fowls, however, cannot be made profitable in the winter season without warm quarters, and it should be the object to produce as many eggs as possible at this season, when the price is high. Poultry houses should always be built convenient for cleaning, the roosts being separate from the feeding and laying apartments.—The nests should be retired, screened as far as possible from the other portions of the house. This suits the instinct of the hen, and if so accommodated she will not steal away to deposit her eggs. The nests should be so constructed that the straw or other material used can be changed frequently, and a coat of whitewash applied occasionally.

WHAT AILS THE FOWLS?—Can you or any of your correspondents tell me what ails my fowls? I have had two or three of both sexes die with an unknown disease to me. They are taken with dullness and stupidity, and after a few days they cannot support their weight naturally and walk erect like a person. Have a good appetite all the while, but move around with some difficulty, and therefore do not stir around a great deal. They live in that situation for four or five weeks and finally die.—O. B., Fond du Lac, Wis.

We had fowls affected in this way a few years since, but were unable to ascertain the cause or the remedy. With us it was confined to the large breeds. It passed away after one season, and we have observed nothing of the kind since.

EDS. RURAL:—I want to find out the best system of raising hens and chickens, and how to get the lice off, and as much more information as you can give without too much trouble.—SUBSCRIBER, Gates, 1883.

Keep the house well ventilated and scrupulously clean. Change the nests often, whitewash three or four times in the year, and give the fowls plenty of ashes and sand to work in. Grease the heads of fowls and the body under the wings occasionally and they will not be troubled with lice.

A HORSE MAY HAVE THE TOOTHACHE.

A proof of the assertion is as follows:—I own mare, which is a saddle beast for my little girl. Deeming that a bunch on her lower jaw, which continually discharged, needed an examination, I cast her; and in company with an experienced surgeon, used a knife, a saw, and chisel, until we found the cause of the disease. It proved to be an ulcerated tooth. Cutting the roots of the tooth away until we could get to sound bone, we drove the tooth into the mouth, and removed it. Cleaning away all evidence of disease, we sewed up the wound, and the mare is now doing well. I use nothing as yet but cold water, applied through a garden syringe, several times a day. She likes that operation.

If a similar case can be found upon record, I will be glad to be told who operated upon the animal. I can give a more detailed account of the whole affair, but fear I have already used too much space. D. R. BARBER, Versailles, N. Y., July, 1883.

ECONOMY IN SAVING HAY.

MR. MOORE:—During these "war times," while laborers are scarce, and agriculturists are aiming to put all their tillable land to profitable culture, it behooves farmers to economize in every particular. The plan of one of my neighbors in saving hay may be new to many of your readers, and afford a valuable hint towards economy in that line. Not having meadow enough to mow, he thrashes his wheat as soon as practicable, and as



Horticultural.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

ASPARAGUS.

From my note-book I take my report of Dr. SCHREIBER'S remarks on Asparagus culture, before the Ill. State Horticultural Society last winter. I do this for the benefit of F. L., Dexter, Mich.

The Doctor said, "Asparagus is a good, healthful vegetable. It goes right through the kidneys. It is diuretic. I make beds of it that last forever. I spade out the earth a space of five feet wide and one foot deep. In the bottom of this trench I put a few inches of well-rotted manure from the old hot-beds—say six inches deep. This manure is then thoroughly spaded into and mixed with the soil beneath. In this I then sow the seed of the Asparagus, and, as the plants grow, add soil and manure to the bed. In this space of five feet I plant three rows. I commence to cut when it is three years old. I cut it on the German plan, far beneath the surface—not as most Americans do, taking off the tender tops simply."

The Doctor is a practical man, and a successful horticulturist.

Let me say one word about the German mode of cutting Asparagus. I was talking with a German one day on the subject, and told him I did not think much of the German mode of marketing it. "Why not?" he asked. Because I cannot appreciate the long, white, tough, stringy stalks they bring in. I like better the green tender tops brought in market by the Americans. "Ah! you don't know how to cook it—you should peel it. Take off the long stringy fibres which form the outside of the blanched asparagus of the Germans and you will like it better. We Germans can teach you Americans how to cook as well as grow it."

I do not know but most American cooks prepare Asparagus as my German friend directed; but such is not my observation. At some of the best hotels in the country I have eaten, or tried to eat this long, tough, fibrous vegetable. It does make a difference whether it is peeled before cooking or not.

SONATHAN PERIAM, a practical market gardener, in an essay read before the Ill. Horticultural Society, says on the subject of asparagus culture: "The soil should be deeply trenched. If for home culture the rows may be two and a half feet apart, the plants one foot apart in the row; open the trenches eight inches deep; set the plants so that the crowns shall be five inches below the surface. When the land is trenched, it should have four to six inches of rotten manure incorporated with the soil. If the soil has been properly prepared, a little may be cut the second year, and at four years a full crop, extending to the 15th or 20th of June. Select two-year old plants to set. There are two kinds, the green, and the purple top. It is manure and good cultivation that make mammoth varieties. The plantation may be made in March or April. It may be raised from seed, or the two year old plants bought of some reliable nurseryman. In November, after the stalks are thoroughly dead, cut and remove them, and cover the plants or bed with about two inches of rotten manure, over which place straw or litter, which is to be raked off in the spring, when the bed is to be lightly dug with a fork, taking care not to injure the crowns or root. A little salt sown on the bed each year is beneficial. No after cultivation is needed only to keep down weeds, except the annual digging and manuring."

THE EARTH WORM.

The Scottish Farmer gives the following on the Earth Worm and its use. In pots and seed-beds this worm sometimes does mischief, but it is little trouble to the farmer:

Though the worm yields a considerable amount of food to the birds and fishes that grace the dinner table, it is much more beneficial to man as a fertilizer of the land. Subsisting on the earth through which it burrows, with an occasional meal from a decaying tuber or leaf, its excretions from the husbandman are of the smallest nature; whereas it lightens "the earth's surface" by its burrowings, and thereby aids the spreading of the roots of all cereals and bulbs; and the burrows also carry down water after heavy rains, that, but for them, would often gather in surface pools, and thereby injure the crops; they also admit the air to the soil to a depth which by natural means it could not reach. The earth ejected by them also tends to the improving of the soil; and instances are known whereby these droppings or "worm-casts" caused in a few years a considerable increase in the depth as well as in the quality of the soil. Mr. Darwin, the naturalist, gives an account of a case of this kind which he tested, and from experiments, he clearly proved that in an old pasture a layer of cinders and lime had been covered in a few years to the depth of an inch, by the castings of worms. "On carefully examining," he also wrote, "between the blades of grass in the field above described, I found scarcely a space of two inches square without a little heap of cylindrical castings of worms." Now, a week or two ago we chanced to walk through a very old pasture, and we were much struck by the number of worm-casts it showed. They were, we are certain, nearly, if not as numerous as those mentioned by Mr. Darwin, and they darkened the field so much, though the grass was growing, that they caused some parts of it to look as if newly top-dressed. And when the fine soil thus raised gets spread by the feet of sheep or cattle, we doubt not but a stimulating top-dressing it will make. We have since examined several old pastures where lime had been most used. This we set down to the hurtful effect that lime will be likely to have upon the wormlings.

The earth-worm is in more cases injurious to the gardener than the farmer. The giant lobworm occasionally carries the main leaf of a young plant boldly into its hole; and in gardens the barrenness of the soil enables the observer to notice that it is a common thing for a worm to drag straw, grass blades, plants, leaves, etc., into its hole; but for what purpose these are carried down nothing definite is known. The things taken down, however, pass into manure. The worm in the garden has its uses if it has its faults; and when it partakes of "green meat," which it never does extensively, the food selected is generally some vegetables or root rendered soft by decay.

They do not penetrate the soil to any great depth, because they require the air. In stiff soils they are not generally found much beyond a foot from the surface, but on lighter soils, through which they bore with much more ease, they may be found deeper. At all events, they go deep enough to penetrate the soil, and air, and drain it, at a depth to which the plow can not reach, and for which, we fear, they get but little credit. Indeed, their usefulness is seldom thought of, whereas by the many they are still ignorantly looked upon and loathed as the "wriggling tenants of the grave."

CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

"How can I obtain Picotees and Carnations, such as were common, very common, in my younger days, in Europe—flowers almost or quite as beautiful as the rose, and even more desirable, I think, for their fragrance?"—Such is the inquiry we now have before us, from a correspondent whose admiration of the Carnation and Picotee does not excel our own. There is nothing but the rose that can lay any claim to equality with the Carnation. As suggested, in most parts of Europe they are quite common, and we must admit that our climate is not the best for this flower. Old plants will suffer more or less by our severe winters, but young plants either grown from seed, or from layers will be found perfectly hardy. Last winter we had a hundred young seedlings, and about as many grown from layers of the best seedlings of the previous year and none were injured by the frost, though the vagrant cows that range our streets made sad havoc among them one night early in the spring.

In answer to the question how plants are to be obtained, we reply, some very good varieties may be obtained of the nurserymen and florists, though we must say that very inferior varieties have often been sold. These can be obtained in the spring or fall and will flower the first summer. The young shoots of the plant which do not throw up flower stems should be layered, and each one will produce a young plant, which will endure the winter without the least injury. The process of layering is as follows:

The proper season for layering is June or July. When the time arrives for performing the operation, procure a quantity of small hooked pegs; then take a trowel and remove the earth to the depth of an inch or so directly under the shoot to be layered. Take the shoot in one hand, and with the finger and thumb of the other hand remove the leaves from the body of the shoot, and shorten those at the top an inch or so. With a thin, sharp knife, cut through the strongest joint on the body of the shoot, cutting upwards until within a short distance of the next joint, and if the joints are close it may be necessary to cut through more than one. The slit may be from one to two inches in length. Then press the center of the shoot down to the earth, being at the same time careful to keep the slit open and the top in an upright position; take one of the pegs and secure it in this situation. A little clean sand placed around the cut, will aid in the formation of roots. In September or October the shoots thus layered will be rooted sufficiently to separate from the parent plant, when they may be cut away and removed to winter quarters. The operation is pretty plainly illustrated in the engraving.

Another way to procure plants, is by purchasing and planting seed. Get the best you can obtain, regardless of cost, for if you succeed in growing only one or two good Carnations or Picotees they are worth more than the highest price seed will cost, while a 'poor lot are worthless, and thus not only the first cost but a season or two of labor is lost, besides the disappointment.

The seeds may be sown in a hot-bed or cold-frame early in the spring with annuals, and they may then be transplanted the latter part of May or early in June—as soon as the plants are large enough to bear removal. They transplant quite readily, and unless the weather is hot and dry shading or watering will not be necessary. But, watch them and do all that is necessary to give them a good start.

If you have no hot-bed or frame, prepare a nice mellow bed in the garden, early in the spring and sow the seed. In about a month you will have young plants. If they come up thin, so as to allow plenty of room for each plant to grow, you can let them remain in the seed bed, keeping the soil well cultivated until September, when they should be removed to the beds where you design to have them flower the next season. If they come up thick in the seed-bed you can remove them in the spring to the flowering bed, or prick them out in another bed four or five inches apart, until September.

Nothing is needed for winter protection—a very few leaves scattered over the bed will do no harm,



PRIZE CARNATION.

but too much is worse than nothing as it keeps the plants too damp. Where it is particularly desirable to keep an old plant over the winter, draw the earth well up around it and cover any long straggling branches the same as for layering. In this manner they will generally pass safe through the winter.

If the best seed is obtained, and you have twenty-five plants, perhaps one-third will be single and worthless, another third semi-double, or with some other defects, but these will be very good for cutting. Of the remaining third perhaps two or three you will consider delightful specimens, and be willing to name them after your nearest friend. The others will be such as all your friends will praise, though they may not meet your ideas of a good flower.

As soon as the first flowers appear, pull up all that are single and other poor ones. Save the second class until they have nearly done blooming, as they make a fine show in the garden, and are very fragrant and therefore desirable for bouquets. But as soon as the flowers begin to fall pull them up also. Then layer three or four of the best and you will obtain the best flowers only the next season. Pursue this course a few years and a collection of very desirable seedlings will be secured.

In this connection we give an engraving of a good Carnation, taken from a colored plate in an English journal. It is named Emperor and obtained a prize at one of the leading shows. If any of our readers succeed in growing such a splendid flower from seed they will be exceedingly fortunate; but what has been done may be again. We know of few things more interesting and even exciting than watching the flowering of a bed of seedling Carnations. Every lover of flowers should have this experience.

FERTILITY IN STONE COAL ASHES.

The following we find in the *Gardener's Monthly*, written by WALTER ELDER. We have tried several experiments with coal ashes as a manure. When fresh their operation is mostly mechanical, but old coal ashes possess fertilizing qualities. A few years since we grew medium sized pumpkins on a pile of fresh coal ashes four feet deep:

I have always recommended the application of coal ashes to lands. I have frequently spread it entirely over stiff soils in fall after digging them, and found them more mellow and with fewer insects the following years; have mixed it with other materials and applied it as a manure, and always got good crops after it. I have put it two and three inches thick on beds, and set my pot plants upon it to discourage the roots going through the holes of the pots; but found out that it rather invited them; and when they got out, they grew so fast and made so many fibers in the ash, that they soon got matted as a grassy sod, and extended beyond the circumference of the pots, and held it so tightly that they could not be parted. These all told my mind that there was fertility in stone coal ash after it got wet and decomposed, and two years ago I got my eyes opened to its full virtue. While improving a part of the grounds attached to the famous seminary of the Rev. Mr. Meigs, in Pottstown, a heap of stone coal ash lay in the way and had to be moved. There was about ten cart loads, or a hundred and sixty bushels. The heap was tidy, and thirty inches high, and covered with tomato plants growing upon it, which had sprung up spontaneously. They had the strongest vines and largest fruit I ever saw; yes, much more so than any I ever saw upon good garden soil highly manured. There were also growing among them two plants of Lamb's Lettuce and a plant of a wild Amaranthus, and each of these was seven feet tall and as bushy, with branches as much extended as a Fir tree seven feet tall. They were all wholly growing in the ash. Their roots did not reach the soil beneath the heap, and the heap had been there

two years. The ash was partly decomposed, and although the soil was very dry, the ash was moist all through. There was nothing in it but, perhaps, house-sweepings, as all kitchen offal was put in the swill barrel for the hogs. I am now fully convinced that there is fertility in stone coal ash when decomposed.

FLOWERING BULBS IN WINTER.

Those who desire to do so can have a nice show of flowering bulbs in the winter, with very little trouble or expense. Fresh imported bulbs can be obtained of the seedmen and nurserymen in August and September. Most of these, and particularly Hyacinths, can be flowered in glasses, as is commonly done, the process having often been described in the *RURAL*, or they may be grown in pots. The early Tulips, Hyacinths and Crocuses are particularly desirable for this purpose. Fill the pots with mellow earth, containing a good deal of sand, insert the bulb, so that it is about two-thirds covered with earth.—Then place the pots away in a cool shady corner and cover them with about six inches of rather damp saw-dust or coal ashes, or sandy earth, and allow them to remain in this position for a month or more, when they can be taken up and put in the house for flowering. If desirable the pots may be taken up and put in the cellar when the weather begins to get pretty cool, and then they may be taken to the house for flowering at different times so as to secure a succession of flowers.

Horticultural Notes.

ELWANGER & BARRY'S NURSERY.—During a recent call at this celebrated nursery, I found the same perfect condition as in former years, in every part, kept up. Their home grounds are an admirable specimen of finished culture. They have purchased land so that their home nursery is now one continuous piece of ground of 400 acres; the rest of their grounds are in detached portions. Their specimen trees give promise of a large crop for the present season. They continue their former mode of destroying the curculio, namely, killing the insects (or beetles) by jarring them down on sheets, and also destroying the larvae by sweeping up from the smooth beaten ground all the punctured fruit that falls. This makes very thorough work with them, and the consequence is that the trees are every year loaded and overladen with plums. A few years since some account was published of their dwarf Virgalien orchard, which yielded for successive years at the rate of several hundred dollars per acre. Latterly this variety has become much liable to scab or cracking, and they have worked all the trees over to other sorts. This has been easily and quickly effected by inserting a graft into each of the limbs or branches. The second year these altered trees bore well; and the present or third season they promise a profuse crop. The proprietors see no necessity for always keeping the tree of the same sort that it is first grafted, and think it a very small matter to change the variety, whether on a large or small tree, as often as they like.—*Country Gentleman*.

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA'S BRIDAL BOUQUET.—It will doubtless interest your readers to learn that Mr. James Veitch, Jr., of the Royal Exotic Nursery, King's Road, Chelsea, had, by special permission of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the honor of presenting the wedding bouquet. It was one of the most beautiful description, being composed of Orange blossoms, White Rose buds, rare Orchideous flowers, and sprigs of Myrtle, with a trimming of Honiton lace. The Myrtle was, by express command of Her Majesty, sent from Osborne, and was taken from plants reared from the sprigs used in the bridal bouquet which Mr. Veitch had the honor to present to Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. It is, we understand, Her Majesty's desire to have Myrtle plants raised and kept in the gardens at Osborne from each of the bridal bouquets of the Royal family in remembrance of these auspicious events.—*London Times*

PRESERVING PEAS GREEN FOR WINTER USE.—This desirable result has certainly not yet arrived at the state of perfection we expect of it, and we have heard of many failures; but the following mode has been reported to us by a person well qualified to judge of such matters, as being very successful.—Carefully shell the peas—then put them in tin cans, not too large ones; put in a small piece of alum about the size of a horse-bean, to a pint of peas. When the canister is full of peas, fill up the interstices with water, and solder on the lid perfectly air-tight, and boil the canisters for about twenty minutes; then remove them to a cool place, and they will be found in January but little inferior to fresh, newly-gathered peas. Bottling is not so good—at least we have not found it so; the air gets in, the liquid turns sour, and the peas acquire a bad taste.

Inquiries and Answers.

PLANTS FOR NAME.—Is the flower enclosed a yellow daisy?—G. W. KENDALL, *Spring, July, 1863*.

The proper name is *Rudbeckia hirta*, a wild flower becoming common in our meadows. It is commonly called *Rough cone flower*.

HERE is a piece of a shrub that I wish you would name.—ALMIRA CHASE, *Wayland, N. Y.*

A spirea, but from the specimen sent we cannot give the variety.

MUCK LAND AND WILLOWS.—I have a piece of muck land that I hardly know what to do with, as it lays so that it is difficult to drain. I want to know what is the best that can be done with it? It is a very rich muck. It has been stated by some around here that the best I could do was to set it out to willows. Now, what I want to know is this, whether there is a steady market for them, how much can be raised on an acre, and the expense? Also, whether they are the common willow or not, and such other advice as you might suggest. If you could inform me of any one to write to that was in the business, that would be quite an advantage. Please answer through the *RURAL*, and oblige.—AN OLD SUBSCRIBER, *Cuba, N. Y.*

DWARF APPLES IN THE WEST.—I see that the Illinois Horticultural Society rather discourage the cultivation of dwarf apples. Why? Who in the West has tried them?—C. G., *Galesna, Ill.*

I have received the above. In reply to the first question I wish to say, that it is within my remembrance that the Society were virtuously down on dwarf pear culture; now some of those same men are planting dwarf pears largely. I do not remember to have seen a dwarf apple—not more than one or two—on the premises of any member of the Society.—but did see on the grounds of Dr. CHAFFER, Tolona, Ill., 100 dwarf apple trees on a small piece of ground. Dr. C. was asked the question—"Do you have an abiding confidence in these dwarf apples?" He replied, "Yes, if I can select my own trees and varieties." And the appearance of his trees warranted that answer. Standard apples were condemned for this country not many years since, because the trees planted were not properly grown, and were not of the right varieties.—C. D. B.

Domestic Economy.

VARIOUS RECIPES, INQUIRIES, &c.

TO ERASE IRON-RUST STAINS.—Seeing a request in the last *RURAL*, for taking out iron-rust stains, I send one which I know to be good. Take the juice of a lemon, and put on the spot that is stained. Lay a piece of brown paper over, and set a hot flat-iron on for a few minutes, or until the stain is removed.

CHERRY PUDDING.—Lay in a pudding dish cherries, pitted, three or four layers; sprinkle sugar over them; a little butter and water; make a batter as follows: two cups cream, two eggs, one teaspoonful soda, and a little salt; pour over the cherries; bake half an hour.

Will some of the *RURAL* readers please give other Pudding recipes?—A FARMER'S WIFE, *Newfane, N. Y.*

HOW TO PICKLE BLACKBERRIES.—I noticed in a late number of the *RURAL* a recipe for pickling blackberries. As my mode is different, and the berries are excellent pickled in this way, I thought I would send it. Take 12 pounds of berries, 3 pounds of sugar, 2 quarts of good vinegar, and 2 ounces of cloves. Put all together in a Porcelain kettle, and scald, but do not boil; let them stand 24 hours; then pour off the vinegar from the berries and scald; pour on the berries, and let stand another 24 hours. Then scald all together and they are done. They don't keep very well, because they are so good.

I noticed in the *RURAL* that a very good substitute for tea is being cultivated. Can any one tell what it is, where obtained, and will it grow as far north as Grand Traverse? An answer will very much oblige.—MRS. H. M. T., *Elk Rapids Mich.*

PICKLING MANGOES.—Will some of the numerous readers of the *RURAL* give a recipe for pickling Mangoes? Also, for chrystalizing grass? And oblige.—A. N. R., *Adrian, Mich.*

SORGHUM PIE—SPONGE CAKE.—As Sorghum Syrup is in such general use in the West, I will send my recipe for making a very nice pie of it. It is worth a trial; also a sample rule for Sponge-Cake, that I have used eight years:

SORGHUM PIE.—1 pint Sorghum, 1 tablespoonful butter, 4 eggs; when the eggs and butter are well beaten, add the sorghum, and 1 teaspoonful extract of lemon. This quantity is sufficient for two pies.

SPONGE CAKE.—Beat 9 egg yolks to a froth, then add 1 pint powdered sugar; beat 6 whites till you can turn the platter, and add with nearly a pint of flour; flavor with lemon or vanilla; bake 20 minutes in a quick oven.

I wish some housekeeper to give me a recipe for a good Lemon Pie.—S. W. KINGMAN, *Tazewell Co., Ill.*

BOTTLING CHERRIES.—In answer to "A Country Curate's" inquiry, I can assure him, if he try the following recipe, he cannot fail to have delicious fruit for tarts through the winter.—To every pound of fruit add six ounces of powdered lump sugar. Fill the jars with fruit; shake in the sugar over and tie each jar down with two bladders, as there is danger of one bursting during the boiling. Place the jars in a boiler of cold water, and after the water has boiled, let them remain three hours; take them out, and when cool, put them in a dry place, where they will keep over a year. We have tried this recipe for several years, and never found it fail.—*London Field*.

RASPBERRY WINE.—Bruise the finest ripe raspberries with the back of a spoon; strain them through a flannel bag into a stone jar; allow one pound of fine powdered loaf sugar to one quart of juice; stir these well together, and cover the jar closely. Let it stand three days, stirring up the mixture every day; then pour off the clear liquid, and put two quarts of sherry to each quart of juice or liquid. Bottle it off, and it will be fit for use in a fortnight. By adding Cognac brandy, instead of sherry, the mixture will be raspberry brandy.

ANOTHER WAY TO "HEAD" BED-BUGS.—If any of your readers need a sure remedy for Bed-bugs, they can have mine, and cleanse the foulest house of these troublesome vermin without expense. They have only to wash with *salt and water*, filling the cracks where they frequent with salt, and you may look in vain for them. Salt seems inimical to bed-bugs, and they will not trail through it. I think it preferable to all "ointments," and the buyer requires no certificate as to its genuineness.—MRS. L. C. C., *Pen Yan*.

REMEDY AGAINST MOTHS.—One ounce of gum camphor, and one ounce of powdered red pepper, macerated in eight ounces of strong alcohol for several days, then strained. With this tincture, the furs or cloths are sprinkled over, and then rolled up in sheets. This remedy is used in Russia under the name of the Chinese Tincture for Moths.

SALVE FOR CURING BURNS AND CUTS.—A piece of rosin the size of a hen's egg; the same quantity of bees-wax; three times the quantity of lard, with a small teaspoonful of turpentine. Melt all together and stir it well, then set it away to cool. Try it some one, and send in a report.—MARY, of *Illinois, 1863*.

MAKING TEA.—Water for making tea should be used the moment it boils. The reason assigned is that if it is boiled some time, that all the gas that is in it escapes with the steam and it will then not make tea of the best flavor. Clear pure soft water is the best.



Ladies' Department.

THE SOLDIER'S RETURN.

BY ANNIE M. BRACE.

The vine from the lattice is bending, As it bent in the days that are o'er; But the lips that I pressed in its shadow Are silent and cold evermore.

ASTONISHED.

LADIES and Gentlemen of the RURAL, we are astonished!—never were more so in our life—and we are becoming more and more astonished every day.

will drink liquor, and we might as well sell it as others; we must live." Not so absolutely necessary, in our opinion, unless we can live to some better purpose than filling the world and men's mouths with tobacco.

Choice Miscellany.

THE HOME GUARD.

Air.—AMERICA.

SING, Patriotic Bard, Sing of the gallant Guard Who needs a name, Who at the call to fight For Freedom and for Right, Stays home with all his might— Trumpet his fame!

THE OCEAN.

"THAT is the roar of the ocean you hear," said a lady to me, as I took a large sea-shell from the table and placed it to my ear.

Perhaps one of our stately ocean steamers is plowing her way through the water, freighted with the precious burden of human lives.

It is morning. The sun shines calmly down upon the waters, and but for yonder blackened wreck, there is naught to tell of the terrible disaster of the evening before.

PICTURES.—A room with pictures in it, and a room without pictures, differ about as much as a room with windows and a room without windows.

THE CHARMS OF THE MIND.—Personal attractions may for a time fascinate and dazzle the eye. Beauty may please, but beauty alone never captivates.

SCRAPS FROM MY PORT-FOLIO.

OUR griefs and sorrows are only the sharp instruments with which GOD turns up the furrows of our hearts and plants therein the seeds of forgetfulness.

It's a man's thought-estate that makes him rich; not splendid mansions, elegant equipages, or extended realms.

ONE of our leading authoresses styles the men of to-day, "brutes." Well, she has good grounds for the charge, for many of them are unquestionably "dogs of war."

THE Richmond Examiner complains that tracts are distributed among the Confederate troops. We don't see how they can complain consistently, for their whole army is just now making tracts.

THE Confederate government is calling for better men—the men are calling for a better government.

MANY a man keeps a "running account" with his grocer, and then runs himself.

It is not surprising that those folks who sometimes forget little things, should sometimes forget themselves.

An admirer of Jeff Davis' Proclamation calls it a "string of pearls." Watch out that it don't become his neck-lace.

A BIRD'S carol is made up of the fragments of a girl's singing, and a boy's whistling—colored with crushed roses and incensed with the aroma of tropical climes.

SABBATHS are pearls which Time drops at the terminus of every six days' pilgrimage, and bitter, bitter will it be for him who touches them with soiled fingers.

A REBEL Congressman says of the National arms, "they are great cry and no wool." You mean to say then the wool is all on your side.

A BALLOON DUEL.

PERHAPS the most remarkable duel ever fought took place in 1808. It was peculiarly French in its tone, and could have hardly occurred under any other than a French state of society.

THINK AGAIN.

The following beautiful incident, related of Queen Victoria, should teach us all a lesson. "Think again" is a rule of conduct that would save many an hour of regret did we but strive to practice it.

It is related that during the first few days of the reign of Queen Victoria, then a girl between nineteen and twenty years of age, some sentences of court martial were presented for signature.

ROGUES.—A man who cheats in short measure is a measureless rogue. If in whiskey, then he is a rogue in spirit. If he gives a bad title to land, then he is a rogue in deed.

Sabbath Musings.

LIFE AND DEATH.

BY ADELAIDE ANN PROCTOR.

"WHAT is life, father?" "A battle, my child, Where the strongest lance may fall; Where the weakest eyes may be beguiled, And the stoutest heart may quail.

JOY COMETH IN THE MORNING.

"WEeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." Life is changing; often it seems as a weary day, clouded over with sorrow; but the clouds soon fade before the glorious sunshine of the morning, and we rejoice again in the light of day.

A LESSON FROM THE BOOK OF NATURE.

HAST thou not read, my friend, upon each page of Nature's book, of things God loves? Behold, the tiny dew-drop,—what pearl can equal it in brilliancy?

NOTHING BUT LOVE.—Christ will not take sermons, prayers, fastings—no, nor the giving our goods, nor the burning our bodies—instead of love; and do we love Him, and yet care not how long we are from Him?

THAT the Gospel narratives admit of spiritual application is no accidental feature, nor is the application itself to be regarded as arbitrary and capricious.



Various Topics.

TOBACCO—IN REPLY TO W. B. P.

I must confess to a little disappointment to see that a journal like yours, professedly devoted to the best interests of mankind, should open its columns for such "old fogy," anti-reform, and, I think, pernicious notions as those advanced by one W. B. P. in your last issue.

I do not propose to enter into any argument with your correspondent upon this subject, for his last communication shows a narrowness of view ill-fitted to bear upon such a theme.

One question now for the sincere readers of the RURAL. Can a man be pure—pure, mentally, morally, physically, in the highest degree humanly attainable—who indulges in the use of tobacco? Are the tendencies of its use to render us impure? W. B. P., with a show of religious sentiment, avoids the direct question.

I did not intend to dwell upon this point, for so much has hitherto been said as to render it a thankless effort, yet I know so well the road down which multitudes of our young men are walking—I see so plainly the deadly work of those twin fiends, Rum and Tobacco, destructive alike to pure principle, sound health, and the "Sana mens in sano corpore" which it should be our earnest aim to attain—that I have ventured to express my honest convictions in the matter.

\*We published W. B. P.'s article at the request of a contributor (to whom we read it), who desired to respond—but E. A. W. and several others have anticipated our friend, and we fear want of space will compel us to decline a number of articles on the subject.—Ed.

THE IMPORTANCE OF VARIOUS EXERCISE.—"Strength is health," has become a favorite phrase. But, like many common saws, it is an error. Visit the first half dozen circuses that may come to town, and ask the managers whether the cannon-lifter or the general performer has the better health.

A MUSICAL BED.—Foreign journals speak of an invention just produced in Germany—namely, a musical bed, so constructed that, by means of a concealed piece of mechanism, the pressure of the body produces the softest harmony, which lasts long enough to lull one to sleep.

MEN TO BE HONORED.

Two men I honor, and no third. First, the toil-worn craftsman, that, with earth-made implement, laboriously conquers the earth, and makes her man's. Venerable to me is the hard hand; crooked, coarse; wherein, notwithstanding, lies a cunning virtue, indefeasibly royal, as of the scepter of this planet.

A second man I honor, and still more highly; him who is seen tolling for the spiritually indispensible; not daily bread, but the bread of life. Is not he too, in his duty; endeavoring toward inward harmony; revealing this by act or by word, through all his outward endeavors, be they high or low?

Unspeakingly touching is it, however, when I find both dignities united; and he that must toll outwardly for the lowest of man's wants, is also tolling inwardly for the highest. Sublimar in this world know I nothing than a peasant saint, could such now anywhere be met with.

THE FIRST PRINTED BOOK.

It is a remarkable and most interesting fact, says a secular paper, that the very first use to which the discovery of printing was applied, was the production of the Bible. This was accomplished at Mentz, between the years 1450 and 1455.

Of the first printed Bible, eighteen copies are now known to be in existence; four of which are printed on vellum. Two of these are in England, one of them being in the Grenville collection.

AN ANCIENT DEED.—A most venerable and interesting relic of the olden times is now exhibited in Providence, R. I. It is the original deed for six hundred and twenty-five acres of land, on which now stands the city of Philadelphia, executed by William Penn to Thomas Vernon, March 3, 1681, immediately upon the receipt of Penn's patent from King Charles the Second.

ENGLISH PALACES AND PARKS.

Few of us have any definite idea of the amount of wealth and splendor that surround many of the English nobles in their princely residences. An intelligent American writing from England, describes some of these things.

Earl Spencer's homestead, situated about sixty miles from London, comprises ten thousand acres tastefully divided into parks, meadows, pastures, woods and gardens. His library, called the finest in the world, contains fifty thousand volumes.

The Duke of Richmond's home farm at Goodwood, sixty miles from London, consists of twenty-three thousand acres, or over thirty-five square miles. And this is in crowded England, which has a population of 16,000,000, an area of only 50,000 square miles, or just 32,000,000 of acres, giving, were the land divided, but two acres to each inhabitant.

The Duke of Devonshire's palace, at Chatsworth, is said to excel in magnificence any other in the kingdom. The income of the Duke is one million of dollars a year, and he is said to spend it all. In the grounds about his house are four hundred head of cattle and fourteen hundred deer.

ADVANTAGE OF CHAPTERS.—The division of the Scriptures into chapters is a modern work, and has but little reference to the completeness of the narratives as to subjects. Bishop Morris, in a recent letter to the Northwestern, gives the following pleasing incident, illustrative of their use.

SPEED OF VESSELS.

AN experiment has just been made on the Seine with an instrument called a lochometre for measuring the speed of vessels. This instrument, which is intended to supersede the log now in use, is composed of a metal syphon, of which the extremities are immersed in the water.

CURIOUS FACTS.—A scientific journal, in the course of an able essay on "The Races," says:—The nature of the profession exercises a great influence on the longevity. Thus, out of 100 of each of the following professions, the number of those who attain their seventieth year is:—Among clergymen, 42; agriculturists, 40; traders and manufacturers, 33; soldiers, 32; clerks, 32; lawyers, 29; artists, 28; professors, 27, and physicians, 23—so that those who study the art of prolonging the lives of others are most likely to die early; probably on account of the effluvia to which they are constantly exposed.

The Educator.

THE NEWSPAPER.

HAVING just read the last number of the RURAL, I am constrained, while the rain is falling, to drop you a word of encouragement. I feel like making a speech to your readers in favor of it, and would do so, but for your dislike of puffs, the scattered nature of my auditory, and the fear that I might be taken for a member of Congress or the last Legislature.

Ride, if you please, in second class cars, but never take a second or third rate paper. Murders, sensation stories, assaults, accidents, elopements and suicides, ought to be, as a general thing, excluded from the family newspaper. Of course, there will be murders; of course, people will fall in love; of course, there will be accidents, and now and then a poor mortal gets tired of life; but what of all this? Why not imagine that so many of each will happen in a year and thus save all loss of time in reading, the shocking of nerves, and the demoralizing effects incident to the disgraceful recital?

WHAT TALENT IS.

WHAT is talent, and what is the connection between it and genius? Talent is a faculty of the mind which enables it to put forth useful effort. "It comprises general strength of intellect and a peculiar aptitude for being moulded to specific employments." Such is the definition the learned give us. Talent, too, is the result of training, in no such sense as genius is. We would call it an acquisition rather than an endowment.

BUCKEYE SCHOOLMASTERS.

The following are some of the "cases" reported by county examiners of candidates for the "high calling" of school teachers in Ohio. Examiner.—Parse the sentence, "How do you do."

Candidate answers in writing. "How is agitive and qualifys you do is an agitive and qualifys the pronoun you you is a pronoun personal third person plural no in the nominative case nominive to the do."

"An experienced teacher, thirty-two years old, bounded Ohio on the north by New York, east by Massachusetts, south by Tennessee, west by Illinois."

"New England and Canada comprise the Kingdom of Great Britain," evidently anticipating the proposed action of certain Maine politicians!

Another affirmed that the political divisions of North America are "Democracy and Republicans."

Another young "educator" entered the examination room, and expressed a wish to be examined. Many other ludicrous cases are given in the Report of Commissioner Smyth.—Maine Teacher.

NOT UNHEALTHY.—It is a great mistake to imagine that the pursuit of learning is injurious to health. We see that studious men live as long as persons of any other profession. History will confirm the truth of this observation. In fact, the regular, calm, and uniform life of a student conduces to health, and removes many inconveniences and dangers, which might otherwise assault it, provided that the superfluous heart of the constitution be assuaged by moderate exercise, and the habit of the body be not overcharged with a quantity of aliment incompatible with a sedentary life.

The man of one idea is like a man trying to walk with both his feet in one boot; each has narrowed his base till the centre of gravity falls far without, and his efforts at progress are but spasmodic caricatures of the thing he attempts, likely to end in nothing more glorious than his sprawling length prostrate.

Reading for the Young.

WILLIAM'S DREAM.

THERE are many doubtless among those who read the RURAL, whose hearts rejoice when they hear one say—"I was full of sin, but I went to Jesus and asked him to cleanse me from sin; He has done so, and now I am happy." Those readers will be glad to hear that in the Institution from which this communication is dated, there are some twenty boys who give good evidence that they have been "born again" of the Spirit and are now happy in the Lord.

Yesterday, one of the boys came to mein school and said, "I wish you would talk with WILLIAM M., he says he has been feeling bad all day and he would like to talk with you." I called WILLIAM to my desk and ascertained by a little conversation with him that he was laboring under deep conviction of sin. He said his sins appeared to him "like a great mountain." I told him when he went to his room at night to go to Jesus, just as he would go to his father or mother, and tell Him just how he felt, and ask Him to remove the burden from his heart, and then trust in Him to do it, and He surely would do it. This morning I saw him and asked him how he felt. He replied, "I feel happy." "But," said I, "you have felt happy before, haven't you?" "Yes, sir," he replied, "but not like this. When I got angry at a boy then, I didn't feel happy any longer, but it is not so now. A boy called me names this morning, but I didn't say anything. I forgot all about it till just now." "And how do you feel towards him now?" I asked. He replied, his countenance brightening up, "I love him better than I ever did before."

I then asked him when he first began to feel happy. He said, "when I went to my room last night I began to pray, and before I got through I began to feel better. Then I went to sleep and had such a good dream. I dreamt that I saw a high mountain full of precipices and slippery places. I saw Jesus standing on top of the mountain calling to the people below to come up to him, saying, 'Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.' I saw a great many men, and women and children going up the mountain and I was going along with them. At the foot of the mountain I saw a man asleep and another man picking fruit from a tree. A man came along to the first one and woke him up and said, 'Come, go up the mountain with me;' but he replied, 'I want to sleep a little longer.' Then he went to the other man and asked him to go up the mountain with him, but he said he wanted to stay a little longer and pick more fruit and enjoy the pleasures around him. When I was going up the mountain I slipped and went nearly to the bottom, but I got up and started towards the top again. At last I reached the top where Jesus was, and then I waked right up."

THE ACORN AND OAK.

My little daughter sat silent while busy at her play. Finally she said with a sober face: "Mamma, this morning when I was at Miss W's she offered me an acorn. Now if I had taken it, I should have had an oak tree some day, shouldn't I?" And after a moment's further reflection, she said, with a sigh, "But I didn't take the acorn."

"Ah, my darling, you are not the only one who has failed to have an oak for want of taking an acorn."

See, though it be an oft-told tale, how tiny circumstances affect great events; see the shadow of the magnificent forest-king, how delightful, how secure from the burning summer heat—not for a day nor a year merely, but for ages. Some hand planted that tree—one, perhaps a baby, took the acorn.

The things of beauty and strength which are or may be composed of its noble timber—the sturdy ship which defies the waves, is through this good gift of God made the thing she is; and even the cheerful firesides round which we so love to linger, are all proofs, each in their way, that somebody took the acorn.

This little lesson is in its application so wide, so various, that I hardly know where it begins or ends. Every good impulse, each word of kindly counsel, even our failures and mistakes, may be to us the acorns which, taken, planted and cultivated, may make us like the oak in a spiritual sense—trees mete for the garden of God.

There are in every human life times when little turning points occur. Acorns are offered; refuse them, pass them by, and in after years memory looks back, and says in bitterness of soul, "I did not take the acorn!"—National Banner.

ONLY those who have thoughts like lightning deserve to have a voice like thunder to utter them.

GRAVITATION is the outspread hand of God forcing all things into their places and keeping them there.

JESUS waited thirty years in a carpenter's shop before he began his work, to teach us to wait, hardest lesson of all.



Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



LEAVES fall, but lo, the young buds peep! Flowers die, but still their seed shall bloom! From death the quick young life will leap, When spring shall come and touch the tomb. The splendid shiver of brave blood Is thrilling through our country now, And the who in old times withstood The tyrant, lift again her brow. God's precious charge we sternly keep Unto the final victory; With freedom we will live, or sleep With our great dead who set us free, God forget us when we forget To keep the old flag flying yet.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JULY 25, 1863.

The Army in Virginia.

CONTRARY to the expectation of a large number of people, and the cherished hope of all well-wishers of their country, General Lee, the rebel commander of the late invading forces of Maryland and Pennsylvania has managed to slip his neck out of the snare laid for him and his army. There are ifs in the way of accomplishing many desirable ends, and we are constrained to the opinion that if the waters of the Potomac had not subsided sufficiently to allow a large number of Lee's army to ford that stream at the time they did, accommodations for many thousands of additional rebel prisoners would have been necessary before the present time. The fox has eluded his foes, but may we not reasonably hope and predict that the leader as well as his gang of whelps may never be permitted to enter their lair at Richmond? We give the particulars of this last heft of the rebels from an eyewitness, a Government detective. While out on a scout he was taken prisoner by the rebels and confined at Williamsport, from Friday, the 10th, until the arrival of our troops on Sunday. Though in close confinement he had full view of the river and the operations of the rebels.

On Sunday his guard went across the river, leaving him, and he then passed about as a citizen of Williamsport, and had the fullest opportunity for inquiry and observation.

The temper of the rebels, both officers and men, was despondent, and they were in momentary expectation of an attack from our forces, the result of which they admitted must be disastrous.

On the arrival of Lee's advance on Sunday week the most earnest efforts were made to cross the river. Seven scows were built. On these, light wagon trains were crossed, each scow taking one wagon and as many men as it could carry. On Tuesday and Wednesday the river fell so much that many of the infantry forded it, the water being breast high. A subsequent rain again swelled the river, and it became unfordable. The rebels then commenced the construction of a bridge at Falling Waters, using for it the parts they had built at Williamsport. This bridge was not finished till Monday noon, and then a grand rush took place to get across. Artillery and heavy trains, everything, was moved back to the river, except the lightest artillery, and a strong picket line which held the field works, thrown up along the front. On Monday night they were drawn in, and by daylight nothing was left this side but a rear guard of infantry, most of whom were captured by Buford's cavalry. The tone of the rebels was utterly despondent. Both officers and men regarded their position as desperate, and many of the latter expressed a wish that our forces would attack them so they might be captured.

On Monday they had not more than 40,000 or 50,000 men north of the Potomac, and had they been attacked their situation must have been precarious. Lee and his staff forded the river at 3.30 P. M., Monday. Stuart with his cavalry followed about two hours later.

Federal officers report that Lee lost at least 46,500 men during his late operations, 2,000 of whom were captured while the army were crossing the Potomac.

The last advices from the routed rebels is to the effect that they are retreating by way of Strasburg and Staunton, and that Meade's army were also south of the river.

The National Republican of the 16th, says:—A cavalry and artillery force was ordered, two days since, by Gen. Heintzleman to make a reconnaissance through the Shenandoah Valley. The commander, Col. Lovell, found very few rebels in the valley. He discovered that Ashby's Gap was held by between 300 and 400 rebels. He charged upon them and drove them out and held the place, capturing a rebel Adjutant General and several other officers and privates.

THE LATE REBEL MISSION.—The following is the correspondence relating to the mission of Alex. H. Stephens to Washington:

U. S. STEAMER MINNESOTA, } FORTRESS MONROE, July 4, 1863.—2 P. M. } Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:—The following communication is just received from Mr. Stephens, who is on a flag of truce boat, anchored above. I shall inform Mr. Stephens that I await your instructions before giving him an answer. S. H. LEE, Admiral. CONFEDERATE STATES STEAMER TORPEDO, } In James River, July 4, 1863. }

SIR: As Military Commander, I am the bearer of a communication, in writing, from Jefferson Davis, Commander-in-Chief of the Land and Naval forces of the Confederate States, to Abraham Lincoln, Commander-in-Chief of the Land and Naval forces of the United States.

Hon. Robert Ould, Confederate States Agent of Exchange, accompanies me as Secretary, for the purpose of delivering the communication in

person, and conferring upon the subject to which it relates.

I desire to proceed directly to Washington in the steamer Torpedo, commanded by Lieut. Hunter Davidson, of the Confederate States Navy, no person being on board but the Hon. Mr. Ould, myself, and the boat's officers and crew. Yours, most respectfully,

ALEX. H. STEPHENS. To S. H. LEE, Admiral, &c.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, July 4, 1863.

Acting Rear Admiral S. H. Lee, Hampton Roads: The request of Alexander H. Stephens is inadmissible. The customary agents and channels are adequate for all needful military communications and conferences between the United States forces and the insurgents.

GIDEON WELLES, Sec'y of the Navy.

The instructions of Jeff. Davis, to Alex. H. Stephens, are published in the Richmond papers of the 14th inst. The object of the mission appears to have been, according to the document, "to place this war on the footing of such as are waged by civilized people in modern times, and to divest it of its savage character." Possibly the "President" is fearful that the Northern Republic may take lessons from his way of conducting war, and act accordingly. The Commissioner is instructed also to call the attention of the "Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States" to the fact that the people in places occupied by Federal troops are not treated with the respect which he deems them entitled to, that the system of exchange of prisoners needs reformation, and that the execution of "officers of our army;" (for such causes as was the case recently by General Burnside,) would make it necessary for him to retaliate upon Federal prisoners.

The "President" gave two letters of instruction to his Commissioner—one directed to the Commander-in-Chief, &c., at Washington, and signed by himself Commander-in-Chief, &c., Richmond; the other to Abraham Lincoln, President, and signed by him as President. If the first document could not be received owing to its address, then the second one was to be presented. If objection was made on the ground that he had signed the document as President, then the diplomatist was to withdraw, as he considered himself Mr. Lincoln's equal. The "instructions" are dated Richmond, July 2, 1863.

Mr. Stephens gives the President, in his official of July 8, the result of his mission—his trip in the Torpedo down the James River—his being "headed" near Newport News, and his failure to accomplish the objects which the humane "head" of the Southern Confederacy had in view.

Department of the Gulf.

THE Navy Department has received a communication from Rear-Admiral Porter, dated the 2d instant, in which he says that on the 29th of June he received a communication from General Dennis, commanding the post at Young's Point, informing him that our black troops had been attacked at Goodrich's Landing, La., and that the rebels were getting the upper hand of them. A gunboat had already been dispatched to that point, but another was sent without delay.

General Ellet was directed to proceed at once with the Marine Brigade to the scene of action, and remain there until everything was quiet.—The hindmost vessel of the brigade, the John Haines, arrived there as the rebels were setting fire to the so-called government plantations; and supposing her to be an ordinary transport, they opened fire on her with field pieces, but were much surprised to have the fire returned with scrapnel, which fell among them and killed and wounded several. The result was a retreat on the part of the rebels, and the escape of a number of negroes whom they had imprisoned.

The gunboat Romeo also came up the river about this time, and hearing the fire hurried to the scene of action. The commander soon discovered the rebels setting fire to the plantations and commenced shelling them. This he kept up for a distance of fifteen miles, chasing them along the river bank, the rebels meantime setting fire to everything as they went along. The result was an almost total destruction of houses and property along the river front in that vicinity. The rebels carried off some 1,200 negroes, who were employed in working the Government plantations.

Gen. Ellet landed his forces, and, in company with a black brigade, proceeded to chase the rebels, who were making a hasty retreat when they found there was a force after them. It was no part of their system to fight. They only came to plunder and carry off negroes.

Gen. Ellet found the road strewn with broken carts and furniture which the rebels left in their haste to get away from our forces. He pursued them as far as the Texas river, where they had crossed, burned the bridge and entrenched themselves for a battle. This was soon offered. Our artillery opened upon them and soon put them to flight, although it was reported they had twenty field pieces.

General Ellet, not knowing the country very well, and having only a small force with him, deemed it proper not to pursue the rebels much farther. He sent two hundred infantry across the Bayou, and found that the rebels were retreating to Delbi, leaving all their plunder, splendid furniture, pianos, &c., strewn along the road. The unexpected re-enforcements of the brigade and gunboats saved the whole of the black troops. The blacks will always be in danger so long as they remain in such small numbers. The rebels who made this attack are the same that attacked Milliken's Bend. They are a half starved and naked set, and hope to capture transports with clothes and provisions.

On Thursday, the 16th, the country was again electrified by the annexed official dispatch: Vicksburg, Miss., July 11.—3 P. M.

To Major Gen. Halleck:—The following dispatch has been received from Gen. Banks:

"BEFORE PORT HUDSON, July 8. "GENERAL—The Mississippi is now open. I have the honor to inform you that the garrison of Port Hudson surrendered unconditionally this

P. M. We shall take formal possession at 7 o'clock this morning.

"N. P. BANKS, Maj. Gen. "U. S. GRANT, Maj. Gen."

The New Orleans Era of the 11th says:—On Wednesday, the 8th inst., at 2 P. M., General Gardner, the rebel commander of Port Hudson, surrendered unconditionally to Gen. Banks. The rebel army were drawn up in line, stacked arms, and General Banks took possession of the place. 10,000 prisoners, 70 pieces of artillery, small arms, &c., have fallen into our hands.

A dispatch to the Inquirer, dated the morning of the 8th, says at 2 o'clock a parley was sounded from the fort and, being replied to an inquiry was made about the news from Vicksburg. On being assured that it had fallen, Gen. Gardner promised to surrender to-day. We entered the place at noon. The glorious event has filled the army with the wildest enthusiasm. A subsequent account states that Gardner sent a flag of truce on the 8th, asking terms; Gen. Banks responding the unconditional surrender, with twenty-four hours to consider. At 7 A. M. on the 9th, Gardner unconditionally surrendered. The moment the surrender was completed, the rebels sent a request for six thousand rations, as the garrison had eaten its last mule. This was found to be literally the fact. The news was brought to New Orleans by the flag ship Tennessee. One hundred guns were immediately fired by order of Gen. Emory. The loyal citizens of New Orleans went to have a torch-light procession and illumination, and a general jubilation, the night the steamer sailed. The secess in that city are represented rather gloomy. Nathaniel Hobbs, gunner of the steamer Tennessee, died of apoplexy. He belongs to Boston. The news of the capture of Vicksburg reached Port Hudson on the 7th, occasioning the greatest enthusiasm.

Department of the South.

THERE has been an important movement inaugurated near Charleston, and though our forces had not been able to accomplish all they intended at the first onslaught, on the whole the result is considered far from a defeat. We look forward with strong hopes that Charleston will, ere long, share the fate of Vicksburg and Port Hudson. The subjoined official in reference to the affair, tells the story briefly and to the point:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, IN THE FIELD, MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., July 12, 1863.

To Major-General Halleck:—Sir—I have the honor to report that at five o'clock on the morning of the 10th inst., I made an attack on the enemy's fortifications on Morris Island, and after an engagement, which lasted three hours and a quarter, captured all his strongholds on that part of the island and pushed forward my infantry to within 600 yards of Fort Wagner.

We now hold all the island except one mile on the north end, which includes Fort Wagner and a battery on Cummings' Point, which at this time mounts 14 or 15 heavy guns in the aggregate. The assaulting columns were gallantly led by Brig.-Gen. Strong.

I landed in two small boats under cover of our batteries on Folly Island and four monitors, led by Rear Admiral Dahlgren, which entered the main channel abreast of Morris Island soon after our batteries opened. The monitors continued their fire during the day, mostly against Fort Wagner.

On the morning of the 11th inst., at daybreak, an attempt was made to carry Fort Wagner by assault. The parapet was gained, but the supporters recoiled under the fire to which they were exposed, and could not be got up.

Our losses in both actions will not vary much from 150 killed, wounded and missing. We have taken eleven pieces of heavy ordnance and a large quantity of camp equipage. The enemy's loss will not fall short of 250 killed and wounded. Very respectfully,

J. A. GILMORE, Maj.-Gen.

Further advices say that on the morning of the 11th of July, the 6th Connecticut and 9th Maine regiments made a furious attack upon the Cummings Point battery, got possession of it and hoisted the American flag. At daylight Fort Sumpter opened upon them, when a Pennsylvania regiment cowardly deserted them, refusing to stand by their comrades. The other regiments held the battery until they were badly cut up, and then abandoned it, when the rebels again took possession of it. These two regiments have shown themselves heroes in this campaign. At 10 a. m., the Monitor proceeded to attack Cummings Point Battery, and at 12 o'clock three of the wooden gunboats opened upon the battery at long range, and threw their 200-pound shots directly into the works. Fort Sumter has been throwing shell into Morris Island without doing any damage to our side. The cannonading ceased at 4 p. m. The Monitors have been supplied with fresh crews from the different ships. The iron-clad Montauk has just arrived from Port Royal, and Lieut. Boomer of the Housatonic will take command of her. She is over the bar, making, with the gunboats, 24 vessels in front of Morris Island and Sumter. We shall commence the attack to-morrow morning, when we are sure of silencing Cummings Point battery and Fort Johnson. Everything is working well. The ball has opened in earnest. The Memphis has just brought in a rebel side-wheel steamer, loaded with cotton, captured while trying to run out of Bull's Bay last night.

P. S.—Our troops will have their battery done in two days, and then they can shell Sumter.

Advices per steamer Fulton state the results of Gilmore's operations up to the morning of the 14th, and that he has possession of all the batteries on Morris Island, except Fort Wagner. It is reported that our iron-clads have made a breach on the south wall of Sumter. On the 13th 113 wounded rebels were brought into Folly Island, many of them stating that they were forced into the rebel service. They are Germans and will be sent North.

Gen. Gilmore had commenced mining Fort Wagner. The siege was favorably progressing. Nearly all the fortifications on James Island had been captured.

The Raleigh (N. C.) Standard is in favor of a re-construction of the Union. It thinks terms might be proposed in regard to the emancipation question which the people would accept.

Movements in the West and South-West.

TENNESSEE.—The N. Y. Commercial says Mr. Swinton, of the N. Y. Times, has arrived from Rosecrans' headquarters. The main body of Gen. Bragg's army retreated from Chattanooga to Atlanta. The presumption is that the bulk of his force has been sent to Richmond to garrison it. Rosecrans captured 5,000 prisoners during the late forward movement. Our army is in high spirits and splendid condition.

Col. Hatch has captured the artillery and train of Bliffies. Bliffies' men scattered in every direction, and most of them succeeded in crossing the Tennessee river, and joining Rodney.

MISSISSIPPI.—The Commercial has Vicksburg advices to the 8th. Grant had finished paroling rebel prisoners. They number 31,277. The general officers captured include Pemberton, Major Generals Stephenson, Forney, Bowen and Smith, Brig. Generals Lee, Taylor, Herbert, Cummings, Burton, Sharp, Harris, Moon, Baldwin and Vaughn. Immediately after the surrender of Vicksburg, Gen. Sherman moved in the direction of Big Black River with a large army. On the following day he met General Johnson drawn up in line of battle. A sanguinary engagement took place, resulting in Johnston's defeat and the capture of 2,000 prisoners. Advices to the 12th inst. report the army of Vicksburg all right. Sherman is pursuing Johnson with every prospect of destroying his entire army.

ARKANSAS.—The Cincinnati Gazette of the 16th says parties from Helena, Ark., represent that General Blunt had captured Little Rock, with a large number of prisoners.

MORGAN'S INVASION OF INDIANA.—Accounts up to Saturday morning, the 18th, are to the effect that Morgan's forces had been pretty effectually used up. Two thousand prisoners had been captured, 150 killed, and the balance broken up into squads and scattered. Six pieces of artillery had been captured. They will be very much troubled to get across the Ohio River. But 1,500 of them are left.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

The subjoined official will be read with profit by all those interested at the present time:

WAR DEPARTMENT, PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, July 17.

Circular, No. 47.

1. Drafted men become soldiers in the service of the United States by the fact of their names having been drawn in the draft. The notification served upon them by the Provost Marshal is merely an announcement of the fact and an order for them to report for duty at a designated time and place.

2. The following opinion of the Hon. Wm. Whiting, Solicitor of the War Department, is published for the information of all concerned: When a person has been drafted in pursuance of the enrollment act of March 3, 1863, notice of such draft must be served within 10 days thereafter, by a written or printed notice to be served on him personally or by leaving a copy at his last place of residence, requiring him to appear at a designated rendezvous to report for duty.

Any person failing to report for duty after notice is left at his last place of residence, or service on him personally, without furnishing a substitute or paying \$300, is pronounced by law to be a deserter.

He may be arrested and held for trial by a court martial and sentenced to death.

If a person, after being drafted and before receiving notice, deserts, notice may still be served by leaving it at his last place of residence, and if he does not appear in accordance with the notice or furnish a substitute or pay the \$300 he will be in law a deserter and must be treated accordingly.

There is no way or manner in which a person once enrolled can escape his public duties, and, when drafted, whether present or absent, whether he changes his residence or absconds, the rights of the United States against him are secure, and it is only by a performance of his duty to the country that he will escape the liability to be treated as a criminal.

WILLIAM WHITING, Solicitor of the War Department. JAMES B. FRY, Provost Marshal General.

The public having been informed through various unofficial sources that the draft had been suspended, the authorities at Washington set the matter at rest as follows:

WAR DEPT., PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE, } WASHINGTON, July 17, 1863. }

Circular, No. 48.

The operations of the draft lately ordered in the New England and Middle States, though in most instances completed, or now in progress without opposition, have in one or two cities temporarily been interrupted. Provost Marshals are informed that no orders have been issued countermanding the draft. Adequate force has been ordered to points where the proceedings have been interrupted.

The Provost Marshals will be sustained by the military forces of the country in enforcing the draft in accordance with the laws of the United States, and will proceed to execute the order heretofore given for the draft, as rapidly as shall be practical by aid of the military forces ordered to co-operate with and protect them.

JAS. D. FRY, Provost Marshal General.

General Dix has been appointed to the command of the Department of the East, and General Foster to that of the Department of Virginia.

THE GREAT RIOT IN NEW YORK.

THE New York City Riot, which was progressing when the RURAL went to press last week, proved to be of greater magnitude than we anticipated. No mob in the United States ever began to assume such proportions. It seemed as if Bedlam had been purged of all the master-spirits of iniquity, and they had united to hold a grand Bacchanalian Feast in the great metropolis of the State and Nation, upon the inauguration of the draft. At first, it would appear that the riot was set on foot to destroy the records of the Enrolling Board of the 9th Congressional District, and which, being accomplished, the evil-doers were re-enforced by hundreds and by thousands, when the "feast of blood and rapine" commenced in good earnest, and a pall of horror descended upon the whole city. The influence of His Satanic Majesty for revenge and conceived injustice, rankled in the hearts of more than five thousand

men, and drove them to all manner of crime and outrage. The draft was of secondary consideration, and murder, arson and plunder, became the ruling features of the outbreak. We have no space for details; but from published accounts, we are satisfied that the killed and wounded of all parties must be computed by hundreds.\* For four days and nights terror reigned supreme in that city, and only by the most strenuous efforts of the Governor of the State, and other civil and military authorities, was the effusion of blood and the pillage of property stayed. Arguments in the shape of six thousand armed soldiers plying at their avocation with musket, bayonet, grape and canister, convinced the satellites of "Old Nick" that the place was growing too hot even for the Arch-fiends.

The draft, we are informed, will be resumed at an early day, and in anticipation of it, the following important ordinance has been passed by the Common Council of New York city, and \$2,500,000 appropriated to carry it into effect:

SECTION 1. The Comptroller of the city of New York shall pay to the proper officers appointed to receive the same, a sum equal to three hundred dollars for each person who shall be drafted in accordance with the act of Congress entitled "an act for enrolling and calling out the National forces and for other purposes" and who shall be found to be unable to pay the said sum of three hundred dollars, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Common Council.

SECTION 2. In case any person drafted in accordance with the said conscription act shall volunteer to serve for three years or the war, the Comptroller is authorized to pay to such person or for the benefit of his family or relatives, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Common Council the sum of three hundred dollars, instead of paying the said amount to the officers of the General Government for exemption.

\* The City Inspector's report up to Monday, the 20th, gives the number killed at one hundred and six!

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A New Work on Cattle—John E. Potter. Auction Sale of South-Down Sheep—Saml. Thorne. Nurserymen Wanted—Elliott & Barry. Strawberry Plants—Francis Brill. Falley Seminary—J. P. Griffin. Improved Short Horns for Sale—T. C. Peters. Special Notices. Flax and Hemp Culture—D. D. T. Moore. The Practical Shepherd—D. D. T. Moore.

The News Condenser.

— Gen. Meade is a brother-in-law of Henry A. Wise, of Virginia. — The telegraph censorship is not abolished only "liberally modified." — Substitutes for drafted men in some places demand enormous prices. — Dr. Nott, President of Union College, has just completed his 97th year. — Twenty-five banks have been organized under the National Banking Law. — Upwards of \$14,000 have been raised in Baltimore for the wounded soldiers. — The Nova Scotia gold mines are reported to have turned out a complete failure. — The Connecticut legislature passed a two-mill tax bill, which will raise \$600,000. — The contrabands at Fort Royal submit with singular cheerfulness to the conscription. — The great Tredegar Iron Works of Richmond were destroyed by fire on the 17th ult. — The monitor Passaic is to remain in N. Y. harbor for the present for defensive purposes. — A law-suit is on trial at New Orleans, in which \$1,000,000 of property are involved. — Maj.-General Anderson, of Fort Sumpter, memory, is spending the season at Bridgeport, Conn. — Several hundred workmen are employed in perfecting the harbor defences of Portsmouth, N. H. — Gen. Hancock was wounded in the recent battle by a tenpenny nail, driven from a fence near by. — A Polish newspaper has been established in New York. It is called Echo[Polski], the Polish Echo. — The revenue cutter Agassiz, at Newbern, N. C., is ordered to New Bedford for duty on that station. — The largest item of State expenditure in Massachusetts, excepting war aid, is foreign-born paupers. — There are three "citizens of color" in Beverly, Mass., and all of them were conscripted on Friday week. — Edson & Co. of Albany, distillers, have paid since the first of January taxes, to the amount of \$45,732. — An extensive turpentine establishment in Montreal was burned on the 3d inst., causing a loss of \$8,000. — Hon. Sherrard Clemens of Virginia still suffers from the wound he received in his duel with young Wise. — An army train valued at over a million dollars arrived at Baltimore on Tuesday week from Martinsburg, Va. — All the fortifications in Boston harbor are to be put in telegraphic communication with the city without delay. — The front door of the old Hancock House, Boston, has been bought by Moses Kimball, of the Museum, for \$37. — A large double turreted armored gunboat, christened the "Winnebago," was launched at St. Louis on the 4th inst. — The U. S. Naval service has been supplied with 17,000 men from the ship Ohio, at Boston, since January 1st, 1861. — The Worcester Spy gives as the tune of the conscripts — we are coming Father Abraham three hundred dollars more. — General Banks has ordered that hereafter none but negroes shall be employed as Government teamsters in the Gulf. — Stewart, the dry goods king of New York, will lose at least \$2,000,000 by the purchases he made in goods last winter. — A number of influential Cubans of wealth and intelligence, are about to form an agricultural society in Havana. — A new opera house in Paris will cost four or five millions of dollars, and will not be completed for four years to come. — Between two and three hundred skeddaddlers celebrated the fourth of July at Hamilton, Canada, by a strawberry festival. — Martial law is proclaimed in Cincinnati, Covington and Newport. Business is suspended, and the military are concentrating. — President Lincoln has issued a proclamation for a national thanksgiving, in view of the recent victories, on Thursday, August 6th.



Special Notices

FLAX AND HEMP CULTURE.

A New Edition of A GOOD, USEFUL AND TIMELY WORK ON FLAX CULTURE, &c., has just been issued...

Hemp and Flax in the West,

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

The Manual is published in handsome style, pamphlet form. Price only 25 cents...

Address D. D. T. MOORE, Editor Rural New-Yorker, Rochester, N. Y.

What the Press Says.

From the Utica Morning Herald and Daily Gazette. A MANUAL OF FLAX CULTURE, by D. D. T. MOORE...

From the Rochester Democrat and American. MANUAL OF FLAX CULTURE. We understand that the Manual of Flax Culture and Manufacture...

From the New York Tribune. FLAX AND HEMP. A Manual of Flax Culture and Manufacture...

From the Prairie Farmer. A MANUAL OF FLAX CULTURE. The work on flax culture, announced several weeks ago...

From the Buffalo Courier. A MANUAL OF FLAX CULTURE. We have received from the publisher, D. D. T. Moore...

THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD.

AGENTS WANTED.

DR. RAMSALL'S NEW WORK ON SHEEP HUSBANDRY, recently announced as in preparation...

The Publisher to the Public.

ON THE 4TH OF JULY, 1863.



COMMENCED A NEW HALF VOLUME.

Affording a favorable opportunity for renewals and the commencement of new subscriptions...

TERMS OF THE RURAL, IN ADVANCE.

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR—\$1 for Six Months. Three Copies one year for only 3 years...

Now is the time to subscribe and form Clubs for the New Half Volume.

ABOUT CLUB TERMS, &c.—We endeavor to adhere strictly to our club rates...

RECEIPTS.—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market...

Table with columns: This week, Last week, last year. Rows: Bees, Sheep, Hogs.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, ROCHESTER, July 21, 1863.

OUR market is quiet, with limited transactions and prices still declining. FLOUR—From 25 to 50 per barrel lower.

Rochester Wholesale Prices.

Table listing prices for Flour and Grain, Eggs, Butter, and other commodities.

The Provision Markets.

NEW YORK, July 20.—FLOUR—The market is heavy and a shade lower, with rather more doing.

ALBANY, July 20.—FLOUR—The usual summer quietness pervades the market, and the transactions in flour are limited to a few orders.

BUFFALO, July 13.—The market for all kinds of produce has ruled dull for the week...

The Cattle Markets.

NEW YORK, July 14.—For Bees, Milch Cows, Veal Calves, and Sheep and Lambing...

Table listing prices for BEEF CATTLE, COWS AND CALVES, and YCAL CALVES.

REMARKS.

The market has been quiet for the riotous demonstrations which have been going on up-town during the past two days...

ALBANY, July 20.—BEES.—The market is active this week, at an advance of 10¢ to 15¢ per 100 lbs.

NEW WORK ON SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

ANNOUNCEMENT. "THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD."—The Editor of the RURAL NEW-YORKER in connection with J. B. LEPPINGOTT & Co., of Philadelphia...

The first six chapters of THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD will be devoted to a full description of the best breeds of sheep in the United States...

The Wool Markets.

NEW YORK, July 20.—The extraordinary state of affairs prevailing during the past week, together with the decline of gold, has tended to check the demand for wool...

BOSTON, July 20.—The transactions in domestic wool have been fair, but manufacturers are purchasing with great caution...

PHILADELPHIA, July 20.—The wool market has been devoid of spirit, manufacturers manifesting no disposition to purchase beyond their most necessities...

New Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance.—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion.

WANTED.—TWO OR THREE ASSISTANT NURSES. WANTED.—YOUNG, active, intelligent man, of good habits...

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.—TRIOMPHE DE GAND and all the old standard varieties, as well as the best new ones...

RAILY SEMINARY, FULTON, N. Y.—Fall Term, 15 weeks, opens August 13th.

AUCTION SALE OF SOUTH-DOWN SHEEP. On Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, 1863, I will offer at PUBLIC SALE, at Thordale, without any reserve...

One Hundred South-Down Ewes and Rams. They are all either imported or directly descended from recent importations from the flocks of the late JAMES WEBB...

A NEW WORK ON CATTLE. CATTLE AND THEIR DISEASES: INCLUDING THEIR HISTORY AND BREEDING, CROSSING AND BREEDING, AND FEEDING AND MANAGEMENT...

BY ROBERT JENNINGS, V. S., Professor of Pathology and Operative Surgery in the Veterinary College of Philadelphia...

Attention, Bee-keepers!! Having experimented with bees and hives for the past few years, for the purpose of revolutionizing the present loose system of bee-management...

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TO FARMERS, TO DAIRYMEN, TO COUNTRY MERCHANTS.

ALL WHO HAVE FOR SALE Sorghum Sugar and Sirup, Furs and Skins, Fruits, dry and green, Butter, Lard, Pork, Eggs, Game, Flour, Seeds, Cotton, Tallow, Starch, &c., &c.

Can have them sold at the highest prices in New York, with full cash returns promptly after their reaching the city, by forwarding them to the Commission House for Country Produce...

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance.—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion.

WANTED.—TWO OR THREE ASSISTANT NURSES. WANTED.—YOUNG, active, intelligent man, of good habits...

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Attention, Bee-keepers!! Having experimented with bees and hives for the past few years, for the purpose of revolutionizing the present loose system of bee-management...

ORAIQ MICROSCOPE!

\$60 A MONTH!—We want Agents at \$20 a month, expenses paid, to sell our Everlasting Pen, Oval Burner, and 13 other new articles...

This is the best and cheapest microscope in the world for general use. It requires no focal adjustment, magnifies about one hundred diameters, or ten thousand times...

C. B. MILLER, FOREIGN AND AMERICAN Horticultural Agent & Commission Merchant.

ALL kinds of new, rare, and Seedling Plants, Fruits, Flowers, Trees, Vines, Shrubs, &c., Iron, Wire and Rustic Work; French, English and American Glass; Patent Heat-Resisting and American Books, Magazines, Papers, Plates, Designs, Drawings, &c.

J. E. CHENEY, Ast. MANUFACTURER OF FILTERS, FOR PURIFYING Lake, Rain and River Water.

Send for Circular containing description, size and price list, directions for using, &c. Wm. RALPH & CO., 133 Genesee St., Utica, N. Y.

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

Was awarded the FIRST PREMIUM, after a thorough test, at the New York State Fair, 1852. Is the most simple, durable and effective Cheese-Making Apparatus in use.

"Factory" Cheese-Making.

More economical use than steam, and much less expensive in cost. Sizes varying from 8 to 35 gallons, and ready for delivery—larger sizes for Factory use made to order.

100,000 APPLE TREES, 5 to 8 feet high, at \$8 per hundred.

20,000 Standard Pear Trees, 5 to 8 feet high, at \$25 per 100. 10,000 Dwarf Pear Trees, 3 to 5 feet high, at \$15 per 100.

ROCHESTER COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.

This Institution provides the very best facilities for a thorough English and Classical Education. Boarding Department exclusively for young Ladies.

BOOKS FOR RURALISTS.

The following works on Agriculture, Horticulture, &c. may be obtained at the Office of the RURAL NEW-YORKER. We can also furnish other books on Rural Affairs...

Johnston's Elements of Agriculture, \$1.25. Chemistry & Geology, 1.00. All Diseases of Domestic Animals, .475.

Am. Architect, or Plans for Country Dwellings, 6.00. Am. Florist's Guide, .475. Am. Bird Farmer, .25.

Am. Kitchen Gardener, .25. Bright on Grass Culture, 1.25. Bright on Fruit Culture, 2d edition, .50.

Brown's Bird Fancier, .50. Do. Poultry Yard, .50. Do. Field Book Manures, 1.25. Bridgman's Gard. Ass't, 1.50.

Do. Florist's Guide, .475. Do. Kitchen Gardener's Instructor, .60. Do. Fruit Cult. Manual, .60.

Do. Colored Book of Flowers, .25. Do. Bulb's Flower Garden, 1.25. Do. Family Kitchen Gard. 75.

Do. Florist's Guide, .475. Do. Chinese Sugar Cane and Sugar Making, .25. Do. Orchard's Grape Grower, .25.

Do. Colored Book of Flowers, .25. Do. Cottage and Farm Bee-keeping, .50. Do. Am. Veterinarian, .50.

Do. Dadd's Modern Horse Doctor, 1.25. Do. Do. Am. Cattle Doctor, 1.25. Do. Anatomy and Physiology of the Horse, 2.00.

Do. Modern Farm Accounts, 1.00. Do. Dan's Muck Manual, 1.00. Do. Dan's Essay on Manures, 25.

Do. on the Horse, 25. Do. on the Dog, 25. Do. on the Pig, 25. Do. on the Sheep, 25.

Do. on the Hog, 25. Do. on the Poultry, 25. Do. on the Rabbit, 25. Do. on the Bee, 25.

Do. on the Cat, 25. Do. on the Dog, 25. Do. on the Pig, 25. Do. on the Sheep, 25.

Do. on the Hog, 25. Do. on the Poultry, 25. Do. on the Rabbit, 25. Do. on the Bee, 25.



THE RETURN.

JULY—what is the news they tell?
A battle won: our eyes are dim,
And sad forebodings press the heart...

The Story-Teller.

WHAT DID HE LEAVE.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

"That's a large funeral. I counted thirty-two carriages."
"Yes, sir. It's the funeral of Mr Ellis—He died very rich."
"How much did he leave?"

but two carriages, yet I see a long line of mourners on foot. Do you know who they are burying?
"Yes."
"Not a rich man?"

"What property has he left behind him?" But when one like our good rope-maker passes away, the angels ask, 'What good deeds has he sent before him?'
I turned from the cemetery with new impressions stirring in my mind, and the question, 'What kind of a legacy will you leave?' pressing itself home to my thoughts.

Wit and Humor.
A FELLOW without credit finds it harder to get into debt than others do to get out.
DEATH has consigned many a man to fame, when a longer life would have consigned him to infamy.

Advertisements.
AUCTION SALE OF SOUTH DOWNS.
100 HEAD OF SOUTH DOWNS,
Consisting of Sheep imported from the flock of the late JONAS WEBB, and those descending therefrom.



THE UNIVERSAL CLOTHES WRINGER.
This popular machine sells rapidly wherever offered.
Every Family will have one!

COG-WHEELS,
and are WARRANTED in every particular.
WILL NOT TWIST ON THE SHAFT,
and tear the clothing, as is the case with our No. 3 (\$3) and other wringers without Cog-WHEELS.

PURE ITALIAN QUEENS
FOR SALE.
For about one-half the former prices.
Circulars giving full particulars sent free.

BEST FAMILY SEWING MACHINE.
WHEELER & WILSON
MANUFACTURING CO. were awarded the First Premium at the Great International Exhibition, London, 1862.