

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

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

FARMER GARRULOUS TALKS
ABOUT AGRICULTURAL FAIRS, PREMIUMS, &c.

DID you say PETER PINCHPENNY is going to the Fair, JOHN? He is, eh? Well I'm glad of it; and yet I must say there are too many of that class of people that do go to Fairs.—Why, did you ask? I'll tell you! They don't go to give; they go to receive. They are not willing to tell how they grow a big, crisp, juicy, sweet turnip, but simply to show that they do it and take the prize. If they do get any ideas that might benefit anybody else without in the least affecting their own interests, they are too supremely selfish to make them current.

Now there's PINCHPENNY. What do you suppose he is going to the Fair for? To take the premium on that sow and pigs, is he? Well, they are worthy a premium, but they are not the result of his skill in breeding. And he don't go to show them because he has any pride in the matter; but because he is morally certain that he can win the twenty-five dollars. Now there is justice for you! Here is my neighbor STRUGGLEHARD, a hard-working, thinking, reading chap, who has skillfully bred his stock until they are nearly perfect. And his theories of breeding have been repeated again and again to his neighbors, and the stock of the whole neighborhood is better because of his study, practice and teachings. But here is PINCHPENNY who never bred a good hog in his life; but finding he could buy, at an administrator's sale, a sow with pig at half her value, he purchased, and now he proposes to take the purchase money out of the treasury of the Agricultural Society by exhibiting her.

JOHN, I think there ought to be some distinction made in such cases. Why should I be allowed to go into another State and purchase an animal to compete with one that is the result of skillful breeding at home. It seems to me that there ought to be distinct classes made, and premiums given to animals bred by the person exhibiting the same; and then, if you choose, a sweep-stakes for the best animal, no matter where bred. I believe in crowding out these perambulating prize animals that take advantage of some little pretensions County Agricultural Society, that throws its premium list "open to the world," thinking thereby to impress the world with its greatness, its magnitude. I am half inclined to think that such a Society distrusts its ability to make any show at all from its own county. At any rate it is the right way to prevent there being a fair representation of its industrial resources. There should be a little effort made to foster county pride and encourage home productions.

But most of all, JOHN, we want to go to these Fairs with the right spirit—willing to learn what others know, and impart what our experience has taught us. We should not go and commence laying pipe to secure the premium. What is a premium worth to an honest, conscientious man, when he knows it was unworthily bestowed? Of what use is it? A real friend of progress would rather see the premium go to his rival, if he merits it, ten thousand times, than take it himself. And then he would like to know why it was so given. And the Committee ought to let him and all his competitors know. An award is good for nothing, it seems to me, unless some reason is given for the disposition of it other than that it

is given to the best animal. A comparison should be made on paper. How is the animal best? What are the points of superior merit? How were they obtained? If my animal is inferior, I want to be told in what respect; for my partiality may prevent my seeing it.

In short, JOHN, this Fair business needs elaborate study. We go to the Fair and rush around, and gaze at the mass of objects with mouth open, when we ought to study thoroughly the features that most affect our interest. We go away bewildered with the thousand objects that have passed before our vision, when we should have certain well developed ideas and aims clearly diffused in our minds, ready to be incorporated in practice the moment we get home. I remember I asked SARAH JANE, the first time she attended a Fair, what she saw there? She replied, "O, I can't tell, I saw so many things; I really don't know what I did see!" And the thoughtless Miss told the truth. And many older people might have said the same thing with equal truth after attending a Fair. Now it is better for child and adult to see only one thing, and get one new and practical idea, and enjoy the pleasure of its acquisition, than to see a thousand things, and know nothing about any of them when one gets home.

But I see those fence-corners need cleaning out. You bring the scythes, and we will spend a half-day tidying up a little. It is a capital time to kill weeds—especially thistles—by cutting them. See that the scythes are sharp, JOHN.

THE ROLLER.

THERE is no better pulverizer to follow the plow than the roller. We have evidence enough of this fact. No matter how cloddy the ground lifts, if the roller follows, crushing the clods as they are freshly turned, the action of the sun and air will do more towards completely pulverizing these clods than a thorough harrowing and cross harrowing. This is of importance to farmers who may have occasion to turn dry stubble land the present and next month with a view to seeding it with fall grain. Let the roller follow the plow before seeding. It will scarcely be necessary to touch it with the harrow, if the rolling is done the same day the soil is turned. The soil is left with a smooth surface on which the grain falls and which is likely to insure its being covered to an uniform depth; or if to be drilled in, this work is better done; but more important than all, an excellent seed bed is secured in which the seed will germinate and grow quickly and continuously without the aid of a shower. For a packed surface secures moisture generally.

If the clods are allowed to get thoroughly dry, the good effect resulting from the use of the roller is much diminished thereafter. It cannot be too strongly urged that this work of rolling be done as soon after the ground is turned as possible.

And talking of the roller, it should be here asserted that a farmer can just as profitably put in crops and cultivate his soil without a harrow as without a roller. It is gratifying to know that very many farmers have learned this fact; but there is still a large per centum who are either ignorant or indifferent respecting it. It should be impressed upon them.

THE VAGARIES OF INSECT-LIFE.

THERE are some strange anomalies in insect production for which it is impossible to assume any cause or philosophical rationale. One of the most remarkable instances is the sudden appearance of the Aphid, or Plant Louse, that attacked the spring wheat and oats during the summer of 1862—their name was legion. A hap-hazard head taken from a large field counted 151, another 137, and thousands of acres were equally infected, reducing the crop in many cases to five or six bushels per acre, and oats, in weight, to twenty pounds per bushel.

It is difficult even to imagine any reasonable source of their appearance in such innumerable hordes of strangers, so suddenly and without any known or apparent system or source of production. Spontaneous extra existence and creation cannot, in the present state of our knowledge, be hardly tolerated, yet there are many facts that render any other cause one of the mooted points of speculative philosophy.

A few years since a creature, vulgarly called the measuring worm, which only attacked the ripe berry of winter wheat, was so numerous that the threshing machines and fanning mills

were completely covered with an innumerable army of crawlers, and it was feared that they were to become a destructive agent of the wheat crop ever after; but they were never seen again, and the Aphid of '62 has not in this region made its appearance in a single instance, as can be discovered.

The Grasshopper occasionally appears over large districts of country so numerous as to pass in swarms before any moving object, committing enormous depredations on grass and grain, and even stopping the all-powerful engine of the crushing of their unctuous bodies on the rails, and it was a fair deduction from their number that their location would be again doubly overrun, by the laws of the animal economy causing all vitality to increase and multiply, and yet those situations are entirely devoid of their existence for years, without any fixed period for their return, as far as the observations of naturalists have as yet determined.

It is by many persons thought that the Wheat Midge, or Weevil, is leaving this region and passing to the prolific wheat fields of the West, an assumption that may be accounted for, if a fact, from the almost universal subsidence of wheat production in Eastern countries, and by the use of early varieties and early sowing, thereby anticipating their period and ability for destructiveness.

Let farmers think of and observe these suggestions to assist in coming to some rational conclusions on the subject, which is as legitimate and less abstruse a matter of inquiry as the transmutation of species, and the turning of wheat into chess.

HARVESTING CORN.

CORN, next to grass, is the most important of American crops. In every latitude and every longitude of the American Union, including Richmond and South Carolina, corn is a staple article—it is at home North, South, East and West. Let genial France have her grasses, and foggy England her turnips; America boasts a nobler product—Indian Corn. That's permanently our forte.

"Immemorial usage" has done a great many mean things to be ashamed of, and among the rest encouraged the American people in a loose, slovenly and wasteful management of corn. In the first place, the fodder (stalks and husks,) if well saved, is worth as much per acre as hay, and yet as a general rule from half to the whole of its substance is wasted by improvident management.

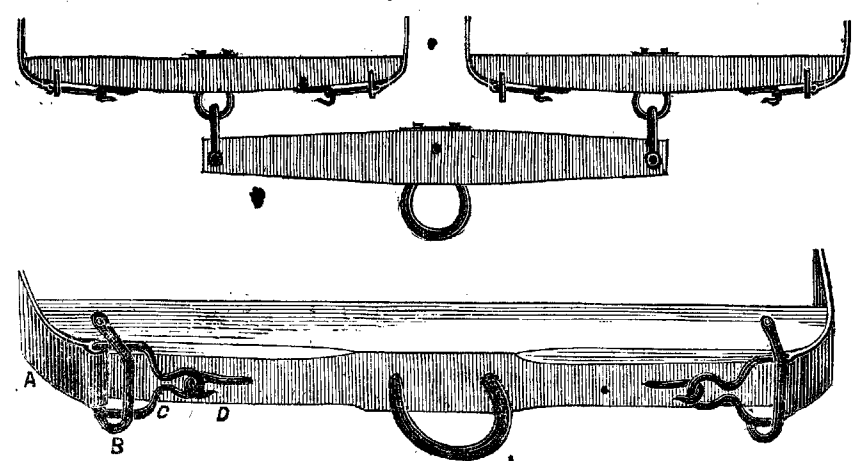
The way to save corn fodder, and the corn too, is to cut up the corn at the roots before the first frost hard enough to injure the fodder. No matter whether the corn is ripe or not, cut it before a hard frost, for it will make no improvement after the leaves are killed, but grow rapidly worse; and in all cases cut it when three-fourths of the ears are hard, and, if properly put up, the soft ears will harden.

If you prefer binding into bundles, lay the corn even at the butts, bind tight and strong, and immediately set it up in small stooks, and bind firm round the tops. Or, you may set up round a hill, without binding into bundles—but set it snug and true and bind the tops strong.

Husk early, putting three or four stooks into one, set it up in good order, and keep it up; till cured sufficiently to be stacked or mowed. Remember that the butts are more juicy, and from their position in the stook not as well cured as the tops;—so put them to the outside of the mow as far as possible, and if you have a shed loft, or hay loft, you may put in a tier of stalks quite green with the butts up at an angle of 45 degrees; the great object being to expose the fodder as little to the wet as possible and save it fresh and green. Sheds may be made available to husk corn under, drawing the corn in when it is dry, and husking in wet weather, but there is danger of packing too close as there is little circulation of air.

Corn, too, is very often injured by laying in heaps on the ground, getting wet, and being cribbed in a damp and mouldy condition. The width of the crib should be adjusted to the dryness of the corn—if damp and immature, the crib should be narrow and the cracks large. In all cases put your crib in a windy place, and never in a close or damp one.

If you esteem yourselves, somewhat, select a few bushels of your choicest corn and trace it up and dry it as you would for seed, or spread it thin on a scaffold, or save it very carefully in a crib, and when dry have it made into meal, and



WEAVERS' IMPROVED ORCHARD WHIFFLETREE.

OFTEN have we urged upon our readers the importance of culture to fruit trees, from the time they are planted until they become of bearing age. On this point we believe all orchardists are united, though there is some difference of opinion as to the best course to be pursued with well established orchards. Tens of thousands of trees are annually destroyed by neglect of culture, and many who feel its importance are deterred from giving their trees the needed care in this respect by the fact that it is almost impossible to entrust this work to the ordinary hired help of the farm. Scores of trees are found barked, broken, or otherwise mutilated, and in many cases it is found the lesser evil to allow the ground to remain untilled. Many have been the rude contrivances constructed to avoid this evil, such as covering the ends of the whiffletree with pieces of carpet, leather, &c. We have before us a model of a whiffletree invented by J. D. WEAVER, of Penfield, N. Y., designed for use among orchard and nursery trees, which seems well adapted to the purpose, and is worthy the attention of all fruit-growers. It is short,

strong, the attachment is simple, and the trace passing around the rounded end of the whiffletree, seems to afford all needed protection. We understand it has been in use constantly since the opening of spring, and has not "barked" or injured a single tree. Its construction is shown in the engraving. One advantage claimed for this improvement in ordinary farm use, is that it will allow the operator to plow much nearer the fences than with the ordinary whiffletree, thus causing a saving of land, and materially curtailing the harbor for weeds so common around our fences. Farmers, and especially all who grow fruit, should at least give it an examination.

The construction of this whiffletree, and the manner of attaching the trace thereto, may readily be seen from the engraving. A, represents a section of an ordinary trace, passing around the end of the whiffletree, to the rear side, and through the clasp, B, and attached, (by means of the cock-eye, C,) to the hook, D. Further information relative to this apparently valuable invention may be obtained by addressing the Patentee, as above.

thence into johnny-cake or mush, and you have the greatest luxury that any age, or country, or climate can boast of, provided always that the mush and johnny-cake aforesaid are well made.
—H. T. B.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

"DELIVER US FROM FIGURES."
HUGH T. BROOKS' facetious article under the above head, seems to demand attention.

1. The second and third paragraphs of that article, being based upon a mistake of the printer, and not upon any calculation or figures of Mr. SULLIVAN'S nor mine, need no further notice. The error is corrected in the same paper in which Mr. B.'s article appears.

2d. "Mr. BRAGDON'S friend," who keeps books by double entry, and makes money by doing so, does not ignore labor. On the contrary, he is enabled to apply it economically in the right direction, because he learns to a demonstration where it may most profitably be applied. And I will venture to assert that his corn-fields—1,800 acres—will be found to be as free from weeds to-day as any equal number of acres in Mr. BROOKS' vicinity.

3. We can grow more and bigger weeds on the same area of land in Illinois, and with less labor, than can be grown in New York, or any State east of that Empire; and we can clean the same area of weeds in less time and with less labor, and do it better than it can be done by our Eastern brethren; and we do it!

4. "But this keeping accounts with every horse, and cow, and pig, and field, and crop, won't do for the majority of mankind." So says Mr. BROOKS. Perhaps it will not. Doubtless it will not with the present generation; for not one in one hundred knows how to do it. But it does not follow, by any means, that because Mr. BROOKS cannot keep accounts with each crop, each class of animals on his farm, so as to be able to know to a fraction what each crop, animal, or class of animals cost him, that it cannot be done, and profitably, too. I know the science of guessing has been inherited by many farmers; but it does not follow that it is the best educational inheritance the father can give his son. It is true an empty pocket may be felt, and will certainly be an index of something wanting; but I cannot believe that Mr. B. would recommend farmers to "go it blind" until their empty pockets indicate that "it has been a bad year."

Neither do I believe that "the future is all guess work and cannot be anything else," as Mr. B. asserts it is. If it is, the lessons of life are of no value at all. It is folly to learn, or try to learn them. Indeed, I can see no sort of use for "close habits of observation," which Mr. B. deems so indispensable, if it is all guess work after all. Analogically, it is unfortunate that we have any school systems at all—that the child is taught by anything but its necessities. Now, I don't believe that Mr. B. would have this analogy extended so far; but I think him very unfortunate in making that assertion. If I had made it, I would take it back in the next issue of the RURAL.

5. It hardly seems to me to be necessary that I should defend my orthodoxy in the RURAL. I hope no one supposes that I am a "one idea" character—that I believe a good knowledge of figures is a good knowledge of farming and all other kinds of business under the sun. But I do believe that the same system essential to success in other kinds of business, is equally essential to the success of the farmer. That it alone is essential, I have never believed nor written. Figures must aid the judgment, direct and stimulate observation and teach discretion. I am no advocate of any educational system which disciplines all the elasticity out of the pupil. I do not believe it at all essential that a boy should study Latin and Greek three or four of the best years of his life in order to discharge the duties of his maturer years faithfully and successfully. Neither would I educate the child's brain at the expense of the physical nature. But I do believe in the value and power of BRAINS. I believe they were given us to use, and that while they may and should be educated to be sensitive to all the beauties, lessons, and laws of Nature, they should receive such direction as will result in the application of these lessons and laws to their own best uses. Experience is education; but education, while it is not always experience, should render the latter available for use—should teach the man how best to apply his experiences to the development of future success.

Finally, I have nothing to alter in what I have heretofore written of the value and importance of a business education to the farmer. And I have lost no faith in the practical value of figures in farm operations.

ROBIN WEED FOR HORSES.

DR. DADD, Veterinary Surgeon, came into my office the other day to recommend to gentlemen who employ a large number of horses on the

street cars, an extract of, or preparation from, the rosin weed, which some Western correspondent says cures heaves. He recommended it for lung diseases—such as colds, influenza, &c. And one gentleman, troubled with the Asthma, purchased a bottle of it, on the Doctor's recommendation, with the hope of getting relief from this annoying affliction. The Doctor recommended it very highly for the relief of afflicted horses.

CORN GROWING ON THE PRAIRIES.

MR. MOORE:—There has been some discussion in late numbers of the RURAL in regard to the labor necessary to raise an acre of corn on the prairies of Illinois. As that has been my home for the last three years, and as I am somewhat acquainted with the system of farming pursued by Mr. SULLIVANT, and other large Illinois farmers, perhaps you will permit me to explain how corn is raised ready to harvest, with about three-fourths per day of manual labor per acre.

His plow land is fenced into fields one mile square, containing 640 acres each. The rows are one mile in length, and but little time is lost in turning. The soil is a light black loam, in which are no stones or stumps, or hard clay-banks, and an acre can be plowed, or cultivated, with much less labor than in Western New York.

The ground is usually plowed with a gang-plow, consisting of two plows, each cutting 14 inches, drawn by three yoke of oxen. One man will easily plow five acres in a day. In other words, it takes one-fifth of a day to plow one acre. In harrowing one man drives ten yoke of oxen abreast, attached to a long beam, in the rear of which are fastened ten harrows. In this manner one man harrows forty acres in a day. Thus, it takes one-fourth of a day to harrow one acre.

One man, with Brown's corn-planter, plants two rows as fast as a team can walk, completing from 10 to 15 acres per day. Hence, it takes one-tenth of a day to plant one acre.

In cultivating a man drives a span of horses astride of a row, and cultivates two rows at a time, riding on the cultivator. He can cultivate 6 to 8 acres per day, twice in a row. The corn is usually cultivated three times, twice in a row, which would be equivalent to six times once in a row. Thus to cultivate corn three times, it takes three-sixths of a day. Now add:

Table with 2 columns: Activity and Time. Plowing, 1-5 = 8-40; Harrowing, 1-40 = 1-40; Planting, 1-10 = 4-40; Cultivating three times, 3-6 = 1-2 = 20-40.

34-20

This is a little more than three-fourths of a day, though it could easily be done in that time. My estimate is nearer the fact. Mr. SULLIVANT last year raised 1,800 acres of corn, with 1,500 days work of manual labor. In the mellow land of the prairie the weeds are all destroyed by thorough cultivation, and it is not necessary to hoe the corn there.

Some of your correspondents do not appear to understand the signification of the term, so common in the West, to "lay-by" corn. It is a Virginia and Kentucky term, and means to plow or cultivate corn for the third or last time. It is very much more work to harvest the corn than to raise it, as we have, as yet, no practicable machine for cutting and shocking. It is a good day's work for one man to cut and put in the shock one acre of Illinois corn, and it takes a good hand to pick and put into the crib from 50 to 70 bushels, the usual yield of an acre.

But very little of the corn put in shock is ever husked. It is drawn from the field each day during the winter, and scattered in the "feed lot," where the cattle, or sheep, or mules, or young horses, or hogs, husk and shell it for themselves. E. R. PAGE. Bethany, N. Y., Aug., 1863.

FARMING NORTH AND SOUTH.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In looking over a plan for a barn in one of your numbers, which had strayed down this way, I was forcibly struck with the great difference which exists between the farms of the North and South. The barn was built for a 160-acre farm, and was ahead of anything in design, and larger than any barn or all the barns on a plantation together, that I ever saw in the South, although many are of over 2,000 acres. This want of suitable barns, stables for cattle, and all the other usual outbuildings of a Northern farm, is the first thing that strikes a Northern man in a trip through the South. Having lived most of my life in the State of New York and traveled through most of the Northwest, and having scouted through the whole of West Tennessee, North Mississippi and Alabama, and Eastern Missouri, I have had some opportunity of seeing the farms of both sections.

Of course war has made sad havoc with the plantations of the South, but it is easy to see what they have been and how they have been carried on. The plantations here are mostly quite large—from 1,000 to 2,000 acres, and larger, although there are many small farms which are worked without negroes;—but on the largest farms there appears to be less of genuine comfort, fewer marks of a thrifty farmer, than on a 160-acre farm of the North.

The culture of cotton, though quite profitable, does but little to improve a farm, nay, it deadens every improvement—every dollar earned is expended in more niggers. The lands of the South are never improved; no fertilizer is ever used. The land is used without any judgment as long as it will raise a crop, and is then thrown aside. Everything on a plantation is done in a shiftless manner. The plows are left in the furrow where last used until wanted the next season. Our boys make a good deal of fun of the plows and other farming implements of the South, which show them to be a half century behind the North. They seldom plow more than three or four inches deep, and work their ground but little.

Quite an amount of corn, wheat and rye have been planted this season. I was through quite a portion of Mississippi when the wheat and rye were ready for cutting, and found it spoiling for the want of hands to cut it. As we had, immediately after, a heavy rain for several days, it must all have been rendered worthless. I was much amused by seeing the negroes cradle. A lazy cut is made; then with one hand the cradle is held up while the grain is raked off and thrown behind by the other. The corn looks splendid everywhere.

The large planters of the South are getting heartily sick of the war, while the small farmers, who have borne the brunt of the war and furnished most of the men for the army, bitterly curse the leaders of the rebellion.

THEODORE RUSSELL, Capt. 3d Mich. Cavalry. LaGrange, Tenn., Aug. 17, 1863.

The Bee-Keeper

The Honey Season of Illinois.

I HAVE information from several points in this State, that this season has thus far been most excellent for honey. Such is the case in this county—Kane. We have had, however, very few swarms—a less number, perhaps, in proportion to the number of colonies in the country, than ever was known before. There are probably not less than 5,000 colonies in this county, and not less than 1,000 in this township—St. Charles. From what I can learn, there has not been, on an average, one swarm to ten colonies! Full one-half of the swarms that have issued have gone to the woods!

JAMES MARVIN, of this village, who has 300 strong colonies has had but one natural swarm! Since the swarming season he has divided a few colonies—perhaps 25 in all. These are in the new style of the Langstroth hive. The reader will please observe that these facts are evidence that but little dependence can be placed on natural swarms!

ARTIFICIAL SWARMING.—This season being better than the average for honey, it has been a good time to increase an apiary rapidly by dividing, or what is termed "artificial swarming." It is thought by the majority of bee-keepers that it is nonsense to talk of dividing bees with any degree of success. Some even assert that it cannot be done! Even the author (?) of a certain work on bees, which he says is of "respectable size," has claimed, and perhaps still claims, that dividing bees is a "humbug," and that it was exploded years ago. I presume he "exploded" the "humbug;" if so, he probably knows whether it did any damage. Be that as it may, it has become a settled fact among our best bee-keepers, that dividing bees is the only sure method of securing a liberal increase of swarms. M. M. BALDRIDGE. St. Charles, Kane Co., Ill., July, 1863.

Hunting Wild Bees.

EDS. RURAL:—For the information of the "New Subscriber, Vermillion, Ill.," I will give my method of hunting wild bees, which I practiced with great success in the early settlement of this country. Provide a staff as high as you can reach; sharpen one end, on the other place a board eight or ten inches square; have a basket of comb—some large pieces clean and nice, the rest finely pulverized—and a tin kettle of hardwood coals. Now for the bait:—Fill a pint flask one-third full of new honey fresh from the hive. If the honey is very thick add about the same quantity of water. The bees will fill and empty themselves quick if their bait is thin; add five or six drops of oil of anise and a few drops of whiskey or pure rum. Thus equipped go to the woods or prairies out of the range of tame bees; set the staff in the ground; fill a few cells of the dry comb with the bait and place it on the top. Sprinkle a little dry comb on the coals and the smudge will soon attract the attention of some stray bee. Lay down on the ground and keep very still, for a wild bee is as timid and shy as a wild turkey. As soon as one lights upon the bait watch it close; when it leaves for home it will make a number of circles in the air before it makes a bee-line. It will communicate its good luck to its friends at home, and return with two or three companions. You will be able to get the course after a half dozen have left the bait. Then take the traps and move 80 or 100 rods and set again. In three sets you will find the tree. The time to operate is after the frost has killed vegetation in the fall or before the opening of flowers in the spring.

N. B.—Be careful of the whiskey. If the operator gets too much he will not see strat, and if the bees get too much they will get so "cock-coosey" they can't get home. OLD BEE-HUNTER. Bowling Green, Wood Co., Ohio, 1863.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

The Best Time to Sow Grass Seed.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Boston Cultivator gives the following useful information upon this subject:

I have an impression that experimental knowledge is the most valuable for the farmer. For more than half a century I have been experimenting to find the best time to sow grass seed. For more than thirty of the first years of my farming, I did as my neighbors did; we supposed that the spring months were the only proper ones for that purpose. But later in life, by reading agricultural papers, I discovered that some enterprising farmers were successful in sowing their grass seed in August or September, I tried the experiment with complete success; that being the season it would naturally fall, it appeared evident to my mind that it was the right one. But still later I have not been particular, and have sowed grass seed at any season when

my ground was prepared to receive it, and if the seed was good it has uniformly vegetated and done well.

Last fall we (my son and myself) after harvesting our potatoes from low, wet soil, which would not admit of seeding down in early spring, sowed herds grass and red-top seed on the 14th and 15th of October upon said potato field, doubting, but still hoping for the best; and now, the 8th of July, it bids fair to give us the best crop of hay produced upon any of my farm lots. This grass probably will require two weeks longer time to grow than that which has been seeded down longer. I think I never saw seed vegetate any better at any season. Grass seed will vegetate a long time after being sowed. In the spring of 1826, I seeded down a lot of good ground, but rather dry, with red-top seed; the months of June and July were uncommonly dry, and at the middle of August there was no appearance of a grass sprout on the piece. On the 10th of August, the same year, it began to rain profusely and continued raining for several weeks till the ground was saturated. In September, more than four months after the seed was sown, every seed seemed to vegetate, and the ground appeared like a beautiful lawn. And on the whole, I have concluded that any time when our land is in a good state of preparation to receive the seed, is the best time to sow it.

How to Raise Potatoes Cheaply.

T. HUDSON, LaGrange Co., Ind., writes to the American Agriculturist:—"My venerated father used to advise the application of team power in farming, whenever it could be done advantageously. Following his counsel, I use my team in planting and digging potatoes—almost in hoeing them. My method is this:—When the ground is mellow, with a single shovel plow I run furrows about 3 or 4 inches deep, and 3 or 3½ feet apart, one way. I cut the potatoes, if large, and drop them 12 or 15 inches apart in these furrows. Then, with a two-horse plow, turn a deep furrow over them. Let them remain in this condition until the young weeds show themselves, and before the potatoes make their appearance—usually in about 8 or 10 days—and harrow the ground level. A warm, pleasant day is best. This destroys an army of weeds. On sod ground, I usually take every third furrow, and where there are no openings between the furrows, punch holes with a pointed stick about the size of a handspike, and drop the potatoes in these holes and openings, being careful to get them the proper depth. This is soon accomplished. Then harrow thoroughly. If weeds appear before the potatoes come up, harrow again. Afterward plow and hoe as usual. Hoeing will be a light task. The last plowing can be done with a single shovel plow, one furrow in a row, which will form about all the hilling necessary, without the use of the hoe, except to destroy the few weeds that remain.

"In digging, plow one furrow through each row, spending no time to pull tops, pick up all that show themselves, and take out the remainder with the hoe. I estimate the raising and harvesting at about one-half the labor required in planting in hills, and digging with the hoe."

Sheep and Wool.

THE prospect for the hay crop having been changed for the better, many farmers are no doubt thinking of getting a supply of sheep. The wool market being still good, there is a strong inducement for an extra effort in the direction of wool growing. There may be a change, and the price may fall, when gold gets down to par, for then large importations will be likely to come in, but not enough to kill the business. Wool at from 30 to 50 cents per pound pays, but when it figures up from 60 to 90 cents, it takes but a few figures to show the result. With wool at 60 cents, about the lowest price now paid, sheep that shear from 4 to 16 pounds are worth having. But many are deterred from buying, because they say sheep are high. Let us figure. Cost of keeping one year and the care, \$2. Wool, 4 lbs., at 60 cents per lb., \$2.40. Lamb, \$2.60. Total, \$5. Leaving a balance of \$3 besides the manure, and that will make up for all losses, except by dogs, and all interest, as sheep are now selling. The sum of \$50 in bank pays only \$3, just what one sheep will pay above all expenses. This is 12 per cent on \$25, or 25 per cent on \$12.50. Does any one object to investing money in other kinds of business at 25 per cent profit? When sheep get up to \$12 per head, then it will do to say sheep are high. The above figures are made in reference to the common grade of sheep.—Jour. of Agriculture.

BIRDS AND INSECTS.—An English paper says:—"In the county of York there is a rookery belonging to W. Vavasour, Esq., of Weston-in-Wharfedale, in which it is estimated that there are 10,000 rooks. One pound of insect food a week is a very moderate allowance for each bird, nine-tenths of their food consisting of worms, insects and their larvae. Here, then, there is the enormous quantity of 468,000 pounds, or 209 tons of worms, insects and their larvae, destroyed by rooks of a single rookery in one year. Each rook in this calculation is given to have picked up 1 pound of food per week, nine-tenths of which was of insect matter, the wire-worm and larvae. I have kept rooks tame, and to my certain knowledge they will consume more than the quantity above stated.—Etc.

DEATH OF A FAMOUS BUCK.—We learn from the California Farmer that the famous French Merino Buck, "Crystal Palace," is dead. He won the great prize at the World's Fair in Paris in 1856, and numerous first prizes in the State of New York, and was afterwards sent by J. D. Patterson, Esq., to California, where he was sold in 1859 for \$1,500. His weight was 300 pounds, and his clip of magnificent wool was from 24 to 32½ pounds for several years. When he died he was twelve years old.—Stock Journal.

Agricultural Societies.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS FOR 1863.

BELOW we give a list of the State, Provincial, County and Local Agricultural Fairs for 1863, so far as ascertained from the sources within our reach—letters and pamphlets received, exchanges, etc. The list has been carefully compiled, and will, we doubt not, prove the largest and most complete yet published. It is not, however, as full as we desire, or as it would be were the Secretaries of the various Societies to advise the Agricultural Press in regard to the times and places of holding their respective exhibitions.

NATIONAL, PROVINCIAL AND STATE FAIRS.

Table listing National, Provincial and State Fairs with dates and locations. Includes American Grape Show, New York; American Inst., New York; California, Sacramento; Colorado, Denver City; Canada East, Montreal; Canada West, Kingston; International Wheat Show, Rochester, N. Y.; Illinois (Hort.), Rockford; Illinois, Decatur; Indiana, Indianapolis; Iowa, Dubuque; Kentucky, Louisville; Kansas, Levanworth; Michigan, Kalamazoo; National Horse Fair, Hartford, Conn.; New York, Utica; New Jersey, Paterson; Ohio, Cleveland; Pennsylvania Hort. Society, Philadelphia; Pennsylvania, Norristown; Vermont, Rutland.

COUNTY FAIRS.—NEW YORK.

Table listing County Fairs in New York with dates and locations. Includes Albany, Albany; Broome, Binghamton; Cattaraugus, Olean; Cayuga, Auburn; Chautauque, Panama; Chenango, Norwich; Columbia, Hudson; Cortland, Homer; Delaware, Delhi; Dutchess, Washington Hollow; Erie, Elmira; Genesee, Batavia; Herkimer, Ilion; Jefferson, Watertown; Lewis, Lowville; Livingston, Geneseo; Madison, Binghamton; Oneida, Rome; Orleans, Albion; Oswego, Oswego; Otsego, Cooperstown; Seneca, Hempstead; Sullivan, Troy; Saratoga, Saratoga Springs; Schuyler, Watkins; Seneca, Ovid; St. Lawrence, Canton; Ulster, Kingston; Warren, Binghamton; Washington, Balem; Wyoming, Warsaw; Yates, Penn Yan.

TOWN AND UNION FAIRS.—NEW YORK.

Table listing Town and Union Fairs in New York with dates and locations. Includes Afton, Afton; Brookfield, Clockville; Canaseraga, Danville; Coneswago Valley, East Randolph; Covert Union, Trumansburg; Ellsburgh and Adams, Ellsburgh; Elmira, Elmira; Hamilton, East Hamilton; Harpersville, Harpersville; Kirkland, Clinton; Lodi, Lodi; Oxford, Oxford; Seneca Falls, Seneca Falls; Susquehanna Valley, Unadilla; Tonawanda Valley, Attica; Trenton Union, Trenton Falls; Vienna, North Bay; Westfield, Chautauque.

MAINE FAIRS.

Table listing Maine Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Franklin, Farmington; Cumberland and Portland, Portland.

MASSACHUSETTS FAIRS.

Table listing Massachusetts Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Highland, Middlefield; Middlesex, Concord; Worcester, Worcester; Middlesex South, Farmington; Hoosac Valley, North Adams; Bristol Central, Myrickville; Middlesex North, Lowell; Worcester East, Haverhill; Franklin, Greenfield; Norfolk, Dedham; Essex, Andover; Worcester North, Fitchburg; Worcester South, Milford; Nantucket, Nantucket; Housatonic, Great Barrington; Worcester South, Sturbridge; Hampshire Union, Northampton; Plymouth, Bridgewater; Hampden, Springfield; Bristol, Taunton; Barnstable, Barnstable; Berkshire, Pittsfield; Hampshire, Amherst; Hampshire, Falmouth; Martha's Vineyard, West Tisbury.

CONNECTICUT FAIRS.

Table listing Connecticut Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Windham, Brooklyn; New London, Norwich.

NEW JERSEY FAIRS.

Table listing New Jersey Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Glenwood, (Susq. Co.) Glenwood; Burlington, Mt. Holly.

PENNSYLVANIA FAIRS.

Table listing Pennsylvania Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Susquehanna, Montrose; Wyoming, Wyoming.

MICHIGAN FAIRS.

Table listing Michigan Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Hillsdale and Lenawee, Hudson; Jackson, Jackson; Oakland, Pontiac.

OHIO COUNTY FAIRS.

Table listing Ohio County Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Ashtabula, Jefferson; Ashland, Ashland; Columbiana, New Lisbon; Cuyahoga, Cleveland; Delaware, Delaware; Fayette, Washington; Franklin, Columbus; Geauga, Burton; Harrison, Cadiz; Highland, Hillsboro; Huron, Norwalk; Licking, Newark; Lorain, Elyria; Lake, Painesville; Mahoning, Youngstown; Madison, London; Marion, Marion; Medina, Medina; Miami, Troy; Montgomery, Dayton; Muskingum, Zanesville; Paulding, Antwerp; Pickaway, Circleville; Putnam, Ottawa; Richland, Mansfield; Summit, Akron; Seneca, Tiffin; Stark, Canton; Trumbull, Warren; Warren, Lebanon; Van Wert, Van Wert.

OHIO.—INDEPENDENT FAIRS.

Table listing Independent Fairs in Ohio with dates and locations. Includes Conneaut, Conneaut; Geauga Free, Claridon; Madison Tp., Groveport, Franklin Co.; Orwell District, Orwell; Tuscarawas Valley, Massillon; Twinsburg, Twinsburg; Union, Garrettsville; Union, Blanchester, Clinton County.

WISCONSIN FAIRS.

Table listing Wisconsin Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Vernon, Verocqua; Sheboygan, Sheboygan Falls; Green Lake, Berlin; Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac; Monroe, Sparta.

INDIANA FAIRS.

Table listing Indiana Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Fayette, Connersville; Harrison, Corydon; Morgan, Centerton; Hendricks, Nashville; Posey, New Harmony; Elkhart, Goshen; LaGrange, LaGrange.

ILLINOIS COUNTY FAIRS.

Table listing Illinois County Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Vermillion, Catlin; McLean, Bloomington; La Salle, Ottawa; De Kalb, De Kalb; Carroll, Mt. Carroll; Kankakee, Kankakee; Stark, Toulon; Whiteside, Sterling; Ogle, Ogle; Hancock, Carthage; Mercer, Millersburg; Madison, Edwardsville; McHenry, Woodstock; Tremont, Tremont; Lee, Dixon; Kane, Geneva; Winnebago, Rockford; Douglas, Tuscola; Marion, Salem; Marshall, Henry; Union, Warren; Morgan, Jacksonville; Macoupin, Carlinville; St. Clair, Belleville; Warren, Monmouth; Bureau, Princeton; Schuyler, Rushville; Pike, Pittsfield; De Witt, Clinton; Sangamon, Springfield; Livingston, Pontiac; Cass, Virgins; Stephenson, Freeport; De Kalb, Sycamore; Champaign, Urbana; McDonough, Macomb; Montgomery, Hillsboro.

KENTUCKY FAIRS.

Table listing Kentucky Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Harrison, Cynthiana.

IOWA FAIRS.

Table listing Iowa Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Des Moines, Burlington; Scott, Davenport; Taylor, Des Moines; Linn, Marion; Polk, Des Moines; Central Iowa, Des Moines; Muscatine, Muscatine; Warren, Indianola; Pottawattamie, Pottawattamie; Cedar, Tipton; Chickasaw, New Hampton; Fayette, West Union; Van Buren, Keosauqua; Guthrie, Guthrie; Pauline, Pauline; Pottawattamie, Council Bluffs; Clayton, National; Marshall, Marshalltown; Union, Wheatland; Jackson, Maquoketa.

CALIFORNIA FAIRS.

Table listing California Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Santa Clara Valley, San Jose; Contra Costa, Pacheco; San Joaquin, Stockton.

SUNDRY COUNTY FAIRS.

Table listing Sundry County Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Champlain Valley, Vergennes, Vt.; Newcastle, Wilmington, Del.; Gasconade, Herman, Mo.; King's County, Springfield, N. B.; Davis, Farmington, Utah.

CANADA WEST FAIRS.

Table listing Canada West Fairs with dates and locations. Includes Lanark, Almonte; South Lanark, Perth; West Middlesex, Strathroy; Toronto, Toronto; Huron, (Cant. Branch), Clinton; Durham, West Newcastle.

Rural Notes, Inquiries, &c.

GO TO THE FAIRS.—Yes, go to the Fairs—Town, Union, County and State, if you can—and not only go, but take some article or animal to add to the interest and value of each exhibition; such an one as you have cultivated or bred upon your own premises. Vide Farmer GARRULOUS' talk on this subject, on first page. If you cannot attend more than one Fair, let that be your own—the one nearest your home, whether Town or County. It is important to promote improvement in your own locality, and if that is attended to in all sections, the large Fairs—State, Provincial and National—will not lack for support of the right character. If every family is "well-regulated," the community will not be lacking in morality, law or order—and so in regard to Rural Improvement, if the School Districts, Towns, etc., are on the right track, the Counties and States will soon exhibit marked evidences of progress in the right direction. Yes, go to the Fairs, exhibit at the Fairs, and, moreover, don't "forget to remember" to take your family along, that all may enjoy the holiday.

THE STATE FAIR.—ADDRESS, &c.—We learn from Col. JOHNSON, Secretary of the Society, that the prospects are very favorable for a fine exhibition at the approaching State Fair, and the Utica papers speak in high terms of the arrangements for the occasion. From all we can gather, a good display and large attendance are anticipated,—and so note it be! The Annual Address is to be delivered by the Rev. Dr. FISHER, President of Hamilton College. Dr. F. is a celebrated scholar, familiar with rural topics, and will no doubt give an able and appropriate dissertation.

MAYBERRY'S IMPROVED HARVESTER.—Correction.—Messrs. J. C. & C. N. MAYBERRY, of Rockford, Ill., write us as follows:—"In perusing your excellent paper, Vol. 14, No. 33, I discovered an error in your report upon 'Mayberry's Improved Harvester,' at the DeKalb Reaper Trial, July 16th and 16th, 1863. You state that it is propelled by six horses. There are only four horses used on the machine, the draft being very light for them, which you will discover from the fact that the draft of the machine is only 375 lbs. You will also discover in table No. 4, in the Committee's regular Report of the Dixon Fair, in determining the points of merit in the machine, they gave us perfection in draft. Please make the above corrections, and oblige."

POTATO DIGGER WANTED.—A subscriber to the RURAL desires to inquire if there can be had a compact, efficient and cheap potato digger, suited to the wants of moderate farmers. As far as he is able to learn, the machines advertised are large and expensive, costing fifty dollars or over. His wants should be supplied at a cost not much if any over the cost of a good plow.—W., Buffalo, N. Y.

DEFERRED.—In order to make room for list of Fairs, we are compelled to defer several Inquiries and Answers, Notices, etc.

WHAT IS THE MATTER OF MY COLT.—I have a valuable colt which has lost the use of both lips and the control of his nostrils. No swelling and no irritation. His hanging loose and flabby. I had a colt, last season, which lost the use of one side of the under lip, but she recovered its use as soon as cold weather came on. Any light upon the above will be thankfully received.—J. S. CHANDLER, Florence.

PRESERVING INSECTS, &c.—Will you, or some of your subscribers, tell us how to kill and preserve butterflies and other insects?—A. C. M. We have some articles on the subject of preserving birds, insects, etc., from an experienced taxidermist, which will be given as soon as our engraver can prepare the requisite illustrations.

Horticultural.

A VISIT TO THE METROPOLIS.

We have just returned from a very pleasant visit to the city of New York, or rather its surroundings, for it is little love we have for a large city in the summer season. At PARSONS & Co.'s establishment, at Flushing, we hoped to see the new Japan Lily, *Auratum*, but was a few days too early. We were well rewarded, however, by a sight of many other interesting objects. At Mr. CADNESS' place we saw a very fine collection of Japan Lilies, including many seedlings, differing but little from the old popular sorts. CHRISTOPHER BRILL, of Newark, has the finest lot we have ever seen—not much less than an acre in full bloom at the time of our visit. PETER HENDERSON, of Jersey City, has a most superb show of Verbenas, and many fine seedlings not yet sent out. Col. VAN VOORST, also of Jersey City, conducted us through his orchid houses. He has one of the best private collections in the country, to which he is constantly adding rare and costly plants from all quarters of the world. The *Petunias* of ISAAC BUCHANAN, of Astoria, were exceedingly fine, as we expected to find them, having most of the varieties now in flower in our own garden.

THE ASTER.

The Aster is one of the most showy and superb of all our fall flowers. If we except the Double Zinnia, nothing in our garden at the present time equals this flower for a brilliant display of colors, and nothing excites more general admiration. For the past few weeks the weather has been quite cool, the showers frequent—just suited for the full development of the Aster, and we have never seen a more magnificent display. Those who have only the old single and semi-double varieties, know but little of the character and beauty of a good Aster.

The Aster was for a long time called the China Aster, then the German Aster was the most common name, and all of the best varieties were called German, while those that had not been improved retained the old name. Of late years the best sorts are known as French. The French name for the Aster is *La Reine Marguerite*. China Asters were introduced to Europe by a missionary in 1730, who sent seeds to Paris, and the next year they were grown in England. The Aster, when introduced, was single, red and white, with a large yellow disk, specimens of which are even now to be met with occasionally. A blue variety was soon produced. They were showy but ragged-looking flowers. The Germans were the first to give special attention to the Aster, and they made the first step in the work of improvement. First was produced flowers with striped rays, called *striatum*, mostly blue, edged with white, and many can remember when this was one of our most popular garden flowers. These were commonly called German Asters, to distinguish them from the common China Aster. Both French and Germans now enlisted heartily in the improvement of the Aster, and the result was the production of Quilled Asters, by the enlargement of the disk flowers, and a corresponding change of color. Thus was produced the well-known Quilled Asters, which, though far inferior to the best sorts of the present day, were quite an improvement on the old China and German Aster. Semi-double varieties, with several courses of ligulate or flat rays, were obtained, by the partial change of the disk into ray flowers.

Within the past fifteen years the character of this flower has been changed entirely, and it is now grown as double, as beautiful, and as large as the finest Dahlia. It is in all respects the finest flower we have, and being of easy culture, it is destined to become popular, as soon as people become acquainted with its beauty and value, and are able to obtain seeds of the newest and best sorts. Unfortunately, much of the seed sold in this country is cheap and inferior, and not one in a thousand ever saw a really good Aster.

Of late years the Asters known as French are those produced by TRUFFAUT, a celebrated French grower, who has raised some of the most perfect and beautiful varieties yet introduced, although many of the German productions of the last year or two are very little, if at all, inferior. Indeed, some of the last German varieties are most magnificent flowers. We will describe a few of the best varieties, principally from notes taken in our garden the past season:

DWARF PYRAMIDAL BOUQUET.—This variety well deserves its name, for the flowers are fine and perfect, and so numerous that the plant, when in blossom, has the appearance of a bouquet of flowers, the green leaves only just peeping through, as flowers and leaves are arranged in a bouquet by a tasteful florist. The usual height is about one foot.

FRONT FLOWERED.—A large, showy and beautiful flower. The petals are incurved, giving the blooms a globular form. Like the preceding, they present almost every variety of color. Plants from eighteen inches to two feet in height. *Perfection* resembles this, but is of a little larger growth.

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUM FLOWERED.—This is a new and very desirable variety. The plants only a foot or so in height, and is a little later than most other varieties in flowering. The flowers are quite large. A new pure white variety imported last year is superb.

IMBRICATE POMPONE.—Flowers rather small, round, the petals finely imbricated. This is the most perfect aster grown—a perfect gem.

NEW CROWNED OR TWO COLORED.—This is one of the most delicate and beautiful Asters we have ever cultivated. Each flower is of two distinct colors, a few of the outside rows of petals being carmine, scarlet, violet, or blue, and the center a clear, transparent white.



LARGE AND PERFECT ASTER.

LARGE ROSE FLOWERED OR LA SUPERBE.—We have flowered this variety for three years, and it is a very large, magnificent variety, of good form, in color bright rose. Many specimens are over five inches in diameter.

NEW GIANT EMPEROR.—This variety came to us from Europe with a good European reputation, but it has not quite equalled our expectations. It has always proved large, but the flowers were imperfect. This season it has done much better than before. Most of our plants of this variety are rather late, but we have been pleased with the few that have bloomed. A new variety called *Snowy White* flowered the first time with us this year. It is clear white, slightly tinged with purple. Flower perfect.

VICTORIA.—A new variety, said to be larger and better than Emperor, is not yet in flower.

RANUNCULUS FLOWERED.—This is a very small variety, fine for cutting when good, but it is apt to come imperfect.

STRAWBERRIES IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

EVERY meeting of the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York, if it does no other good, furnishes Mr. HOVEY with an opportunity of showing how much he thinks of his own wisdom, and how little of the wisdom of others—an opportunity, too, that is seldom neglected. The following are the comments of the editor in the August number of the *Magazine of Horticulture*:

"We are certainly much surprised at the opinions expressed at the meeting in regard to strawberries. Mr. Barry and Mr. Langworthy recommended the Early Scarlet and Longworth's Prolific. Dr. Sylvester, Burr's New Pine, and Mr. Downing, Longworth's Prolific. Mr. C. M. Hooker had discarded everything but Early Scarlet and Wilson. Certainly, strawberry culture is falling off wonderfully in and around Rochester. We are surprised, too, at the remark of Mr. Barry, that 'Wilson seemed to be the most profitable berry, for it is large, and people would pay twice as much for it as for better, though smaller varieties. This may be so in Rochester, but certainly not in a neighboring city, for Mr. Todd says that in Auburn, where Wilson and Triomphe de Gand are selling for ten cents, the Great Russell's Prolific sells for twenty cents a quart. We fear our Rochester friends are as variable in their opinion of strawberries as they are of grapes."

How does this show that Mr. BARRY's statement was incorrect, even in regard to Auburn, unless it is taken for granted that Russell's Prolific is a small berry, which is not the fact? Then it should be remembered that the varieties named by Mr. DOWNING, and other gentlemen, were in connection with other varieties. For instance, Mr. DOWNING recommended as the best four varieties, Jenny Lind, Longworth's Prolific, Triomphe de Gand and Russell's Prolific; and Mr. BARRY, Early Scarlet, Hooker, Longworth's Prolific and Triomphe de Gand. Mr. B. also spoke favorably of La Constante and Russell's Prolific.

THE OSAGE ORANGE FOR HEDGING.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Being about to plant 12,000 or 15,000 Osage Orange for a hedge, can you inform me where I can get the plants, and at what price per thousand?

The remarks of GEORGE ADAMS, in your issue of the 15th inst., in no way deter me. I maintain that the Osage Orange is destined to become the hedge plant of America; it possesses every essential that can be desired,—rapid in growth, obedient to the training hand of man, and so armed by nature that not any animal that ranges the pastures will dare to face it—when properly cultivated in its early growth; nor is it deficient in longevity, and at the same time it thrives alike in the cold latitudes of the North or under the scorching heat of the further South. What more can be desired? No doubt the Willow, the Locust, and many others, will find their advocates, but I challenge them all. Though the Osage is so eminently adapted for the purpose desired, still, unless proper care is taken in planting, and in attending to it for the first few years afterward, what else than disappointment can be expected. How many of our choicest plants and trees, lacking ordinary care, have I seen cast aside, condemned as worthless, "played out."

The failure of the Osage, of which Mr. ADAMS complains, I strongly suspect, rests rather with the cultivator than with the plant. Had he condescended to have told the history of the treatment that the unfortunate Osage had received in "their part of the country," it is more than prob-

able that the true verdict would have exonerated the plant from all blame. It was a falling with the Athenians that they were always seeking after something new, and this spirit, though in some respects commendable, I fear is working mischievously in this country. The cry of something new is fostered by the designing peddler, who is at all times ready to cry up the most worthless trash, (and "the public" appear to be delighted with the chance of being gulled,) that he may induce the sale of his rubbish, laughing in his sleeve at the dupes he daily makes.

To all desiring to raise a fence,—a fence in the true meaning of the term,—I would say, "take the Osage Orange," plant it well, and care for it properly during the few years of its early growth, and they will raise a barrier with which no other plant on the broad continent of America can vie.

New York, Aug. 24, 1863.

PENNSYLVANIA TEA PLANT.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I here send a few brief lines respecting a specimen of the tea plant of Pennsylvania, which I have inclosed. You may have seen it before; this I gathered August 3d in the town of Pike, Potter Co., Pa., on Pine Creek, thirty-five miles from this place, and one hundred and eighteen (teamster's measurement) directly south of your city. It grows in a belt along the side of what is called Whortleberry Hill, which is said to be five hundred feet high, and the belt is something like one hundred deep midway from top to bottom. The only mode of curing the herb known there is to steam them in a common stove boiler by putting a false bottom in bored full of holes, then drying the leaves. There is some sort of a black tea taste to it when you get at it, but it wants boiling in the teapot for half an hour or more. It is a bush from one to two feet in height, which appears to be winter-killed, and shoots up new from the root in the spring. It is gathered in common grain bags very fast. I counted fifteen teams returning loaded with whortleberries, boys and girls, and bags of tea. Now, if this is of any account as tea, please give your views upon it. If any of your gardeners, having a lot hung up by one edge two hundred feet high, wishes a little seed to plant, they are welcome to what I have by saying so.

M. LIVERMORE.
Independence, Allegany Co., N. Y.

The plant accompanying the above is *Ceanothus Americanus*—New Jersey Tea. The leaves were used as a substitute for tea during the American Revolution. It grows abundantly on the banks of the Genesee here, and in many sections of the country.

THE DATE.

THERE is no fruit that can be eaten so constantly, or with so much impunity, as the date. It is like bread, and is bread to whole nations of Orientals. And what a delicious bread, baked by the sun, and showered in profusion upon the earth, to be gathered and laid up for the future, either dry in huge corbels, or pressed into a conserve, which, when cut into slices, looks and eats like plum-pudding. We have often been present while this dainty was in preparation; first, with a little brush made of fine palm-leaves, the particles of sand are whisked away from the fruit, which, having then been laid open with a sharp flint, the stone is taken out, and if large and fine, is laid aside for planting; next, the dates are thrown into a clean, strong, square vessel like a tub, and having been closely pressed by heavy weights laid upon a thick board made to fit, the whole process is completed. Immense quantities of this conserve are exported from Egypt and Arabia into all the neighboring countries, where it is much prized, especially in the harems, where the women and children may almost be said to eat it incessantly.

No man can starve in a date-country during the three months of the year in which the fruit is eatable, since he has but to throw up a stone in the tree to bring down his breakfast or his dinner. For this reason chiefly, tents are pitched and villages built in palm-groves; and as hogs are turned into the woods in acorn-time, so children are let loose in the palm-woods through the whole period of the date-harvest to collect their own provisions, and feed as they list. You may often, as you journey along, observe troops of the little gourmands, who, having eaten to repletion, have fallen asleep amid the remains of their meal; while the generous tree of whose bounty they have partaken, waves and rustles over their heads, letting down occasionally glints of sunshine, which, glancing over their dingy red caps and many-colored rags, convert them into a curious picture.

Inquiries and Answers.

PLANT FOR NAME.—Will the RURAL please give information as to the name and original locality of the plant of which the inclosed is a specimen, and thereby greatly oblige—A RURAL READER, Lima, N. Y.

Medicago maculata—Spotted Medick. Adventitious from Europe. This and other species of the genus are sometimes cultivated on account of their curious seed pods.

DAHLIAS—THE WORM.—While perusing your last number, I met with an article describing a way to destroy the dahlia worm. I have a fine collection of dahlias, but have been dreadfully disappointed this year in consequence of the ravages of this troublesome pest. Your correspondent has discovered a way to destroy them; but alas! it is too late—the mischief is done, past redemption, before the worm is discovered, and my poor dahlia is a withered stem, nothing but an unsightly stump. If any of your correspondents know of any preventive, which is far better than a cure, and if you will publish it in your columns you will greatly oblige many of your lady readers.—A SUBSCRIBER, Bellevue, Ohio.

STOCK AND ZINNIA SEEDS.—I wish to ask through the RURAL about flower seeds. Last spring I purchased a collection of annual flower seeds of JAMES VICK, which are doing nicely. Of the Ten Week Stock I have a splendid show, about half double, but the single ones only have seeds. I want to know whether they will produce double flowers next year? Also the proper time to save the seed of the Double Zinnia.—MRS. MCLURE, Waterford, Pa.

No doubt some of the seed from your single stocks would produce double flowers, but you will find it far inferior to the imported seed. It is hardly worth while to lose a fine show of Stocks next season in an effort to save the few cents that good seed will cost. Double Zinnia seed saved here is as good as the imported. Let the flowers remain on the plant until they begin to fade and become dry. Then cut and put them away in an open box or paper bag until they are well dried, when the seeds can be secured and saved until planting time.

GRAPES—CRANBERRIES.—Will you or some one who has had experience in raising grapes, tell us, through the RURAL, whether it is best to take off all the laterals to the end of the vines all through the season, or whether the ends themselves should be pinched back, and if so, what of the second set of laterals or sprouts that bear blossoms and sometimes grapes, full size, before frost comes? Will not this pulling off the laterals, as well as the sprouts that come out in their places afterward, injure the prospect for a crop next year, or will they sprout out again in the same place next spring? Should all the vines that bear grapes be pinched off a few joints beyond the last bunch? If this pinching off is necessary, when should it be done—soon after the grapes are set, or not until after they are full grown? Will it do to pull off the laterals when they are from one to two feet long?

CRANBERRIES.—Last spring, a year ago, I bought twenty-five cranberry plants of the "Upland Bell" variety, (tho' they had the appearance of having been pulled out of a swamp.) I planted them one foot apart each way on dry, sandy soil, without manure. Sixteen of them lived through the season, and at present appear rather thrifty, some of them having put out runners over a foot long. I keep them well dressed, can I do anything more? What am I to expect, will it pay to plant on a larger scale? Who can answer correctly?—M. L. HOLL, East Cleveland, Ohio.

When a new growth of vine bearing flowers and fruit is produced in large quantity, it shows that the pruning has been too severe. If four or five joints are left beyond the last bunch of fruit, and the laterals, instead of being broken out are cut away, leaving one leaf of each, there will be little trouble of the kind. Late in the season, when rampant growth is over, the laterals may be allowed to remain, or if they seem to crowd the vine too much a portion can be removed. Perhaps some of our readers can give the desired information respecting upland cranberries. We have never heard of any very marked success.

Horticultural Notes.

PROPER TIME AND MODE FOR CUTTING FLOWERS.—Never cut your flowers during intense sunshine, nor keep them exposed to the sun or wind; do not collect them in large bundles, nor tie them tightly together, as this hastens their decay. Do not pull them, but cut them cleanly off the plant with a sharp knife, not with a pair of scissors. When taken in-doors, place them in the shade, and reduce them to the required length of stalk with a sharp knife, by which means the tubes through which they draw up the water are left open, and the water is permitted to ascend freely, whereas if the stems are bruised or lacerated, these pores are closed up. Use pure water to set them in, or pure white sand in a state of saturation, sticking the ends of the stalks in it, but not in a crowded manner. If in water alone, it ought to be changed daily, and a thin slice should be cut off the ends of the stalks at every change of water. Water about milk-warm, or containing a small quantity of camphor dissolved in spirits of wine, will often revive flowers that have begun to fade. Place a glass shade over them during the night, or indeed at all such times as they are not purposely exhibited. Shade them from very bright sunshine, and when uncovered, set them where they may not be exposed to a draught of air. A cool temperature during summer is favorable for them and the removal of the slightest symptoms of decay is necessary. When carried to a distance, carry them in a shallow air-tight tin case, or cover them with paper to exclude them from air and light. Charcoal saturated with water is also a good media to stick them in, and the thinner they are kept the better.

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL FAIR OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE.—The Annual Fair of the Institute—omitted last year—will be held in New York next September, commencing on the 2d, and will continue three weeks. The Institute has rented the spacious and commodious building known as the Academy of Music, corner Fourteenth street and Irving Place.

The Fair, as heretofore, will be restricted to American productions; it will be general in its character, embracing manufactures of all kinds, new inventions, improvements in agricultural implements, &c.

A Horticultural Exhibition will be held the last week of the Fair, in connection with the General Exhibition. Flowers, fruits and vegetables sent for competition for premiums, must be deposited on Wednesday morning, September 16.

Further information respecting the Exhibition may be obtained by addressing JOHN W. CHAMBERS, Secretary of the Managers, at the rooms of the American Institute, Cooper Union Building.

CATALOGUES.—The following Catalogues have been received the past week:

ELLWANGER & BARRY'S Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Flowering Plants, &c. This is a beautifully printed pamphlet of 74 pages, illustrated with 20 fine new wood-cuts, mostly full page, and portraits of some of the finest ornamental trees on the grounds of the proprietors.

Wholesale Catalogue or Trade List of the same, for autumn of 1863, from ELLWANGER & BARRY, Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Vines, Bulbs, Garden Seeds, &c., from FRANCIS BRILL, Newark, New Jersey.

Catalogue of the Rochester Nurseries, from MARSHALL P. WILDER & BAKER, Rochester, Mass.

WANT OF SMALL BIRDS.—The want of small birds is felt in England, as well as elsewhere, caused by a wanton and wicked destruction of them. An effort is now being made to encourage their increase, and to this work the leading agricultural as well as political papers are lending their influence.

Domestic Economy.

PICKLE MAKING.

RED PICKLES.—Divide your cabbage in quarters, sprinkle it well with salt, and pack it in a jar; let it stand 24 hours; take it out and wash off all the salt; lay it in a sifter to drain the water from it, and wipe as dry as you can; to one gallon vinegar, put one quart of poke-berry juice, (which you can get by scalding the berries and squeezing them,) one pound of brown sugar, one pint of onions, two oz. of cinnamon, two oz. of pepper, two oz. of allspice; boil all (except onions) a few minutes; pour over the cabbage, while boiling; cover closely, and it will be ready for use in a few days.

YELLOW PICKLES.—Half a pound of bruised black mustard; half a pound of ginger, sliced; half a pound of garlic soaked in brine one week and bleached; half a pound of horse-radish, soaked in brine one week and dried; two oz. of turmeric; two oz. cayenne pepper, or four oz. black pepper. Put in one gallon best apple vinegar, and let it remain in the sun three weeks; then put in your pickles.

TOMATO PICKLES.—One peck of green tomatoes sliced, one dozen sliced onions, sprinkled with salt and let them stand till next day, then drain them; one box mustard; half an oz. black pepper; one oz. whole cloves; one oz. yellow mustard seed; one oz. allspice. Put into the kettle a layer of tomatoes and onions, and one of spices, alternately, covered with vinegar, and boil half an hour.

GREEN PICKLES.—To a jar containing four gallons, put half an oz. of turmeric; three oz. brown sugar; two handfuls horse-radish; two of garlic; two of bruised mustard seed; three oz. broken cinnamon; two oz. cloves; two of allspice; four of broken ginger; two of black pepper. Put them in as much good cider vinegar as will cover your pickles; put them on the fire, and as soon as it comes to a boil, pour it on your pickles; add a little vinegar now and then, so as to keep them covered.

QUICK PICKLES.—Take a head of cabbage, slice it up or chop it, sprinkle salt through it; let it remain all night; chop up an onion with the cabbage, drain it through a colander, season it highly with pepper and celery seed, cover it with strong vinegar, and it will be fit for use the third day.

PICKLED DAMSONS.—To one peck damsons allow seven pounds brown sugar, half a pint vinegar, two tablespoonfuls ground allspice, the same of cloves; let the vinegar and sugar boil, and to the mixture add the damsons and spice. They should boil 2 1/2 hours, being constantly stirred; when cold, they are fit for use.

PICAILLI.—Picailli is a mixture of all kinds of pickles. Select pickles, from the salt brine, of a uniform size and of various colors; as small cucumbers, button onions, small bunches of cauliflower, carrots cut in fanciful shape, radishes, radish-pods, bean-pods, cayenne-pods, rice ginger, olives, limes, grapes, strips of horse-radish, &c. Arrange your selections tastefully in glass jars, and pour over them a liquor prepared in the following manner:—To one gallon of white wine vinegar add eight tablespoonfuls of salt, eight of mustard-flour, four of ground ginger, two of pepper, two of allspice, two of turmeric, and boil all together one minute; the mustard and turmeric must be mixed together by vinegar before they are put into the liquor; when the liquor has boiled, pour it into a pan, cover it closely, and when it has become cold, pour it into the jars containing the pickles; cover the jars with cork and bladder and let them stand six months, when they will contain good pickles. Picailli is an excellent accompaniment to many highly seasoned dishes; if well put up, it will keep for years. If you like oil in the picailli, it should be braided with the vinegar, and added with them to the boiling liquor. —*Germantown Telegraph.*

GREEN TOMATO PICKLE.—Slice the tomatoes, with one-eighth to one-sixth as many onions; lay them down in jars, sprinkling in fine salt at the rate of about an ordinary teacupful to 8 gallons of sliced fruit. Let them stand over night, drain; add a few green cayenne pepper pods and nasturtiums. Chop until not larger than grains of corn; drain thoroughly, pack in jars, adding white mustard seed, unground cinnamon, and bruised (not ground) cloves. Pour on cold vinegar, cover with a plate within the jar, to keep the pickle under the vinegar.

TOMATO PUDDING.—Slice the tomatoes, place a layer of them in the bottom of an earthen dish, cover with bread crumbs, profusely seasoned; add another layer of tomatoes and cover with bread crumbs as before; and when the dish is filled, place on the top a piece of butter. Put the dish into a moderate oven, and if two layers of tomatoes fill it, twenty minutes will be long enough for them to be sufficiently cooked.

BROILED TOMATOES.—In order to have tomatoes nice, cooked in this manner, the largest ones must be selected. Cut them into rather thick slices, seasoning each piece with pepper and salt. Use an oyster gridiron to broil them on—a common one will answer—and cook them but a few moments. When sent to the table butter should be added.

TO TAKE OUT FRUIT SPOTS.—Let the spotted part of the cloth imbibe a little water, without dipping, and hold the part over a lighted common brimstone match at a proper distance. The sulphurous gas which is discharged soon causes the spot to disappear.

CURE FOR POISONING BY IVY.—Plunge the part affected in hot water—as hot as can be borne—holding it there some time.

Ladies' Department.

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

BY FRANK VOLTUS.

THE South wind is heavy with sweets to-night,
As it steals over moorland and lea,
And it brings on its pinions, from valley and height,
From dewy fields bathed in the moon's tender light,
The fragrance of clover to me.

Sweeter than perfume from Araby's shore
Comes its odorless breath, and I dream
Of those halcyon days which will come nevermore—
Those days when I childishly studied the lore
Of meadow, and forest, and stream.

When our darling wee MANNIE and I gathered flowers
In the fields where the grass leaves play;
And crowned ourselves queens, in those bright summer
hours,
With daisies and clover-blossoms, plucked from the bowers
Where tinnier monarchs held sway.

When with laughter we followed the butterflies gay
In their wavering flight o'er the lawn;
Or pursued the cloud phantoms that rushed on their way,
Neath cloudlets, that, bathed in the glorious day,
Seemed sent from an infinite dawn.

Oh, memories of childhood, how swiftly ye throng
With your hallowed scenes round me to-night,
Making me weak who should strive to be strong,
That the journey of life seem not weary or long,
That its dark hours be merged into light.

Like a child I look out on the meadow bloom
With eyes overflowing with tears,
And see, faintly gleaming through distance and gloom,
The tiny stones marking our lost MANNIE'S tomb,
Now gray with the tempests of years.

In a happier region a chaplet she wears,
Of flowers which immortally bloom,
A child-angel, called ere life's noontide of cares
Had vexed or oppressed; and a mansion she shares
Where sainted ones ever find room.

Alone in the clover, a garland I weave
And crown me again as of old,
But where is the childhood which could not believe,
That life, with its pleasures, had sought to deceive,
That its babbles were other than gold.

Departed its golden hours ne'er to return,
Destroyed its fond trust,—but to live
In striving the dim goals of truth to discern
Will calm darkest doubts in the bosom that burn
And peace to the weary heart give.
Orange, N. Y., 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MEMORY AND I.

"We love to dwell on days of youth
Deep buried in the past,
As men do love the autumn leaves
Because they are the last;
And as we cast a backward glance,
Toward the scenes of yore,
We feel, alas! their blissful joys
Can come to us no more."

MEMORY has taken me by the hand this morning
and led me along the path of Time, grown
thick with thorns of grief and flowers of joy,
into the shadowy country of the "Long Ago."
Even as my mind wanders back so far, do I
pause and linger at many a well remembered
scene—landmarks along the weary march of life.

Far, far away in the dim distance I behold my
native city with its busy throng of mortals,—each
one bearing his own life-burden—bravely, or
with weak and fainting hearts according to their
different natures; its dens of indigence and vice,
and its palaces of wealth and splendor side by
side; its institutes of learning and its noble
churches with their tall spires pointing upward
toward heaven's blue dome; and the bright bay
with its fleet of ships laden with rich burdens
from beyond the sea. Then, leaving all the fond
associations and dear friends of early childhood,
and a father's grave in beautiful Greenwood,
"The city of the dead," new scenes and strange
faces greet me. Away in the distant West do I
next linger among the grand old forests of the
Wolverine State, whose dim aisles were our
church, and the half decayed trunk of some
fallen monarch of the woods our cushioned pew,
Nature the minister, whose never changing text
is "From Nature turn aloft to Nature's God,"—
the sermon our own thoughts, and the choir the
wild birds whose sweet warblings of praise ever
rise from that vast cathedral to the great "God
of Love."

Fain would I pause and linger amid these
sweet memories, and dwell long in thought on
those silent communions with Nature, when with
no remembrance of the turbulent world, its mis-
ery and sin, my soul would swell with unutter-
able joy, and gladness, and gratitude to the great
"Dispenser of all good;" but Time points onward
and Memory follows at his bidding.

Many a happy school-day is passed swiftly by
in our onward flight, and we only pause when,
the school-days ended, with many a tear and
fond regret we bid adieu to the dear school-mates
who have trod with us along the path of science.
Doubly sad was the parting when many from
that happy band threw aside their books—weap-
ons of the mind—and girded on the sword and
shouldered the musket for their country's sake,
and went forth with pale, sad faces, but firm,
brave hearts, to subdue their unnatural foe.
Here we turn aside and drop a tear in memorial
of those who have fallen; those whom, though
Time in his flight may bring us many changes,
will never bring back again. And there was
one, can I write of him—

"With wavy locks of sunny gold,
And eyes the reflection of heaven's own blue,
He crossed in the twilight gray and cold,
And the pale mists hid him from mortal view."

Ah! H—, could you have known when you
lay dying far away in the Southland, of the bitter
tears which were being shed for you, it would
have been as balm to your soul in your death-
struggle. But when the thundering engine bore
your unconscious form back to your home and

friends, you were heedless of our tears, our bitter
grief. And we laid you away in the cold earth
where the spring breeze whispers many a sad re-
quiem through the oak trees bending above your
grave. There will you rest in peace until "The
trump shall sound and the dead shall rise."

There are others whom memory disposes before
my mental vision. One who away toward the
sunset, beyond rolling rivers and boundless prair-
ies, is seeking a fortune and a home in the
"Land of gold." Another in an Eastern State
is laying up "Treasures which waxeth not old."
To her, if these lines should meet her eye, will a
thrill of remembrance waken for a moment the
memory of her early friend.

But I must close. Memory is leading me along
strange pathways. Sad scenes only I now wit-
ness while the bright ones are hidden by a mys-
tic veil.

"Dark clouds of threatening somber hues
Their shadows o'er me cast,
And only now pervades my soul
Sad memories of the past."

Greenville, Mich., 1863. GERTIE GORDON.

WORKING GIRLS.

HAPPY GIRLS—who cannot love them? What
cheeks like the rose, bright eyes and elastic step,
how carefully they go to work. Our word for it,
such girls will make excellent wives. Blessed in-
deed will men be who secure such prizes. Con-
trast those who do nothing but sigh all day, and
live to follow the fashions; who never earn the
bread they eat, or the shoes they wear; who are
languid and lazy from one week's end to another.
Who but a simpleton and a popinjay would pre-
fer one of the latter, if he were looking for a com-
panion? Give us the working girls. They are
worth their weight in gold. You never see them
mincing along, or jumping a dozen feet to steer
clear of a spider or a fly. They have no affectation,
no silly airs about them. When they meet you,
they speak without putting on a half dozen airs,
or trying to show off to better advantage, and you
feel as if you were talking to a human being, and
not to a painted or fallen angel.

If girls knew how sadly they miss it, while they
endeavor to show off their delicate hands and un-
soiled skin, and put on a thousand airs, they would
give worlds for the situation of the working ladies,
who are above them in intelligence, in honor,
in everything, as the heavens are above the earth.

Be wise, then. You have made fools of your-
selves through life. Turn over a new leaf, and
begin to live and act as human beings: as com-
panions to immortal man. In no other way can
you be happy, and subservise the delights of your
existence.

ALWAYS HAPPY, ALWAYS CHEERFUL.—
"Why this constant, happy flow of spirits?"
"No secret, doctor," replied the mechanic, "I
have one of the best of wives; and when I go to
work she always has a kind word of encourage-
ment for me, and when I go home, she meets me
with a smile and a kiss, and she is sure to be
ready; and she has been doing many things dur-
ing the day to please me, and I can not find it
in my heart to speak unkind to anybody." What
an influence, then, hath woman over the heart
of man, to soften it, and make it the fountain
of cheerful and pure emotion! Speak gently, then;
a happy smile and a kind word of greeting, after
the toils of the day are over, costs nothing, and
goes far towards making a home happy and
peaceful.

THE GOOD AND HAPPY WIFE.—The deep hap-
piness in her heart shines out in her face. She is
a ray of sunlight in the house. She gleams all
over it. It is airy, and gay, and graceful, and
warm, and welcoming with her presence. She is
full of devices, and plots, and sweet surprises
for her husband and family. She has never done
with the romance and poetry of life. She is her-
self a lyric poem setting herself to all pure and
gracious melodies. Humble household ways and
duties make for her a golden significance. The
prize makes the calling high, and the end dignifies
the means. Her home is a paradise, not sinless,
not painless, but still a paradise; for "Love is
Heaven, and Heaven is Love."

Oh, the love of woman—the love of woman!
How high will it not rise! and to what lowly
depths will it not stoop! How many injuries
will it not forgive! What obstacles will it not
overcome, and what sacrifices will it not make,
rather than give up the being upon whom it has
been once wholly and truthfully fixed! Perennial
of life, which grows up under every climate,
how small would be the sum of man's happiness
without it! No coldness, no neglect, no harsh-
ness, can extinguish thee! Like the fabled lamp
in the sepulchre, thou sheddest thy pure light in
the human heart, when everything around thee
there is dead forever.—Carleton.

LIFT ME HIGHER.—A girl, thirteen years old,
was dying. Lifting her eyes toward the ceiling,
she said, softly,
"Lift me higher! lift me higher!"
Her parents raised her up with pillows, but she
faintly said,
"No, not that! but there!" again looking ear-
nestly toward Heaven, where her happy soul flew
a few moments later. On her gravestone these
words are carved:

"Jane B—, aged thirteen. LIFTED HIGHER."
A beautiful idea of dying, was it not? Lifted
higher!

It is only by labor that thought can be made
healthy, and only by thought that labor can be
made happy.

We cannot well dispense with the respect of
others unless we are possessed of our own.

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
SADNESS AMID MIRTH.

In halls of Mirth we seek to hide
Our hearts from grief and care,
While from the lips soft accents glide,
But born of anguish there,
The heart may veil its bitter grief,
And seem to know no ill;
But scenes of mirth bring no relief,
Nor can its throbbings still.

Soft music's then a mournful wail,
A soul's deep agony;
It seems but clearer to unveil
The torn heart's misery.
And merry feet swift flying round
To music's flowing rhyme,
Seem but to tread and crush the wound,
The heart-throbs keeping time.

Could one but truly read each heart
In such assembled mirth,
He'd pale to find how small a part
Unfilled joy gave birth.
How grief and care sit rioting,
In glowing cheek and eye;
How many hearts are battling
With pain that will not die.

Each soul must bear its grief alone,
And hide, as best it may,
The torturing care, the sighing moan,
That wears its life away.
Then, weary mortal, suffering soul,
Enduring grief and wrong,
Learn to look forward to the goal,—
"To suffer and be strong."

Mountain Springs, Placer Co., Cal., 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
GENIUS AS DISPLAYED IN POETRY,
ORATORY, FINE ARTS, MUSIC AND INVENTION.

It is undoubtedly a fact that, whilst traits of
character and other talents may be, and are,
often cultivated and made subservient to the
will, Genius and Beauty are Heaven's direct
gifts, bestowed upon the few only, and to be
abused or ennobled as the fortunate possessor
may determine. Blessed with a talent which
renders him superior to those of mediocrity, the
man of genius possesses an extended social in-
fluence for good or evil, especially the Poet, or
Author, who also controls the minds of millions
who have never heard his voice or felt his magic
presence, but in spirit have felt as he feels; and
when he has inspired kindred minds with the
echo of his own bright thoughts, he assumes to
them the character of an old, tried friend, who
has seemed to take a personal interest in their
feelings and emotions without the desire to ridi-
cule or judge harshly their follies. Thus, when
death deprives his country, nay, the world, of
his seer-searching intellect, those sister spirits
who were unable to weep at the interment of his
earthly and coarser nature, have felt deep regret
at the loss of the brilliant mind or sympathetic
soul, whose life they feel will never be replaced.
Therefore, the Poet, more highly favored than
other mortals, if we except the noble Philan-
thropist, is unlike the merely rich man, whose
admiring friends, during his brief life, are so
numerous that the possessor often fondly
imagines disinterestedness is the one virtue left
after the great fall. In many instances he wakes
from his brief dream to find that not only riches
but friends take wings, or if so fortunate as to go
to the grave in blissful ignorance, few are the
sincere tears shed, or regrets felt, for one who
can no longer minister to their pleasure.

Another talent, more brilliant in its character
and more fascinating, but less enduring and less
extensive in its influence, is Oratory, in its truest
sense not a mere form of words, delivered in
set gestures, with studied effect, but the impu-
sive thoughts leaping forth with energy and
power; best displayed in the flashing eye and
varied expression of an highly intellectual face.
Perhaps there is no other talent that so controls
the hearts, nay, the very senses of men. This is
seen in courts of justice, where brilliant, pathetic
addresses produce the effect of blinding the
honest but more simple judgments of the jury.
In serious cases, where correct decisions are
vitaly necessary, it would seem rather that such
might be gained by a jury composed of profes-
sional or intellectual men, who would discern
between the truth and its shadow. But if pro-
ductive of wrong, it has also, by charming the
ear, inculcated sentiments of strength and beauty
in the hearts of many to whom abstruse reading
is a sealed mystery. But if Oratory is appre-
ciated by the multitude, comparatively few have
true taste for Painting and Sculpture. How
many, as in their libraries, ornament their man-
sions with these classic elegancies merely because
their wealth will allow of the fashionable nec-
essity of the age. This low ebb of true taste is
evident from the fact that years, nay, centuries
ago, the few who proved the elevation of their
minds and spirits above the grosser elements of
our being were considered vile visionaries by the
masses, who prided themselves on their common-
sense and practical views, not considering the
necessity of the union of the real and ideal to
produce perfection. This union is seen in the
creations of the Deity. Contrasted with the
useful fields of grain and magnificent forests are
the lofty mountains and sublime cataracts—even
the tiny flower, intended only to please the taste
and eye of man, will bear competition with its
neighbor the spear of grass. Can there be more
conclusive logic to the opponent of the Idealist
than these beautiful lines—"Consider the lilies
of the field how they grow; they toil not, neither
do they spin; and yet I say unto you that even
SOLOMON, in all his glory, was not arrayed like
one of these."

It is thus apparent that beauty and usefulness
are not inseparable, but, linked together, form a
beautiful whole. Perhaps the cold but grand
forms of the Sculptor may be compared to lofty

peaks, or caverns, with their innumerable stal-
actite chambers, furnished with wonderful rep-
resentations of actual life, truly classic and beau-
tiful, exciting feelings rather of awe and wonder
than warm enthusiasm. On the contrary, the
pencil of the Artist gives form and expression to
stolid canvas, and produces life, as it were, from
crude ideas. Music is the embodiment of feeling
and soul, and of all the accomplishments the
most cultivated and best understood. Love and
Music seem to be the only foretaste of a world of
perfect happiness allowed mortals since the great
fall. The latter elevates and inspires the mind
with feelings of piety and peace. The Bible may
be said to be the principle of Religion, and Music
its emotional feeling; but like all emotions not
the criterion of life. Different from this is Music
which causes the blood to tingle through the
veins with joyous exultation, and if not as
heavenly and pure in its effects, yet fills the
heart for the time being with the innocent feel-
ings of childhood; or, under the influence of still
another kind, sadly recalling the reminiscences
of by-gone days. Thus, Proteus-like, it is con-
stantly changing its forms, and never wearies.
A celebrated and splendid writer utters the fol-
lowing rhapsody:

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said,
'This is my own, my native land?'"

With equal propriety, methinks, this sentiment
may apply to those whose sensibility is so ex-
tinct that to them music is an unmeaning sound,
and as the deaf and dumb, so are they to be in-
tensely pitied. The well-worn expression that
"music hath charms to soothe the savage ear,"
admits of great latitude; that he is delighted
with his own style of music is evident from the
quantity they are guilty of, although the quality
is execrable to enlightened ears. To those primi-
tive people the piano is an object of wonder and
amusement for a few moments, when they weary
of it and return with pleasure to sounds as
monotonous and barbarous as their untaught
natures. If those people who dislike the sound
of a single gong were to reside in China for a
short time, where that instrument is the principal
medium of praise or petition to the gods on ship,
in temples, in processions on the land, and in
their hands of music the grand feature, they
would return so hardened as not to heed that
horrid slam-bang, or be no more affected by it
than by a street organ. So true is it, the nearer
we are to God the nearer we are to perfection in
all things. The greatest clearness and cultiva-
tion of voice is attained by the angels in their
hosannas to the only true and living God.

As we have given the Ideal more than her share
of attention perhaps, we can only glance at the
ingenious and most useful of all things—begging
pardon of "the deep ones," as Madam FLINT-
WINCH would say, for even daring to glance at
what we know so little about. Beauty can exist
in the practical—for, dull reality as the result
may seem to be, when we consider the deep
thought, the mighty intellect embodied in the
mechanism of many creations, we must admire
the inner workings of a mind capable of forming
from nothing, or from crude materials, or what
is more generally the case, discover a hidden
meaning to work out a principle which shall
conduce to man's comfort, therefore, to a great
degree his happiness. ESERALDA.

VICE-PRESIDENT STEPHENS' WARNING.

GOLDEN words did ALEX. H. STEPHENS, now
Vice-President of the Confederacy, utter in the
Georgia Convention of January, 1864, pending the
question of secession. He said:

"This step, once taken, could never be recalled,
and all the baleful and withering consequences
that must follow, as they would see, will rest on
the convention for all coming time. When we and
our posterity shall see our lovely South desolated
by the demon of war, which this act of yours will
inevitably invite and call forth; when our green
fields of waving harvests shall be trodden down
by the murderous soldiery and fiery car of war
sweeping over our land, our temples of justice laid
in ashes, all the horrors and desolation of war upon
us, who but this convention will be held respon-
sible for it? and who but he who shall have given
his vote for this unwise and ill-timed measure, as I
honestly think and believe, shall be held to strict
account for this suicidal act by the present gener-
ation, and probably be cursed and execrated by
posterity for all coming time, for the wide and
desolating ruin that will inevitably follow this act
you now propose to perpetrate?"

"Pause, I entreat you, and consider for a mo-
ment what reasons you can give that will satisfac-
torily yourselves in calmer moments, what reasons
you can give to your fellow sufferers in the calamity
that it will bring upon us. What reasons can you
give to the nations of the earth to justify it? And
to what cause or one overt act can you name or
point on which to rest the plea of justification?
What right has the North assailed, what interest
of the South has been invaded, what justice has
been denied, and what claim, founded in justice
and right, has been withheld? Can either of you
to-day name one governmental act of wrong deli-
berately and purposely done by the Govern-
ment of Washington of which the South has the
right to complain? I challenge the answer.

"Now for you to attempt to overthrow such a
Government as this, under which we have lived
for more than three quarters of a century, in which
we have gained our wealth, our standing as a na-
tion, our domestic safety while the elements of
peril are around us, with peace and tranquility,
accompanied with unbounded prosperity and
rights unassailed, is the height of madness, folly
and wickedness, to which I can neither lend my
sanction nor my vote."

He who troubles himself more than he needs,
grieves also more than is necessary, for the same
weakness which makes him anticipate his misery,
makes him enlarge it too.

Sabbath Musings.

THE CHRISTIAN'S PATH.

BY H. BONAR.

I WALK as one who knows that he is treading
A stranger soil;
As one round whom the world is spreading
Its subtle coil.

I walk as one but yesterday delivered
From a sharp chain;
Who trembles lest the bonds so newly severed
Be bound again.

I walk as one who feels that he is breathing
Ungodly air;
For whom as wiles the tempter still is wreathing
The bright and fair.

My steps, I know, are on the plains of danger,
For sin is near;
But looking up, I pass along, a stranger,
In haste and fear.

This earth has lost its power to drag me downward,
Its spell is gone;
My course is now right upward and right onward,
To yonder throne.

Hour after hour of time's dark night is stealing
In gloom away;
Speed Thy fair dawn of light, and joy, and healing,
Thou Star of Day!

For Thee, its God, its King, the long-rejected,
Earth groans and cries;
For Thee, the long-beloved, the long-expected,
Thy bride still sighs!

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

SUNDAY CHRISTIANS.

I HAVE but little or no sympathy for "Sunday
Christians;" those, I mean, who in some way
seem to be possessed of the unfortunate idea
that if they are somewhat religious upon the
Sabbath, attending church faithfully, reading
their bibles, and abstaining as far as possible
from worldly thoughts and employments, that it
is not required of them to be very religious
through the six days following. Now, if Revela-
tion did not teach the utter fallibility of such a
religion, as connected with the great truths of
Christianity, it almost seems as if common sense
ought to teach it to every heart. In treading
thus far the path in life which destiny has allot-
ted me, I have met and studied many Christians,
among whom have been no small number of
those who seem to have in the granary of their
souls an abundant store of piety upon the Sab-
bath day, from which flow heaping measures of
zeal, and "good works," but becoming, from
some unaccountable process, so changed by
Monday morning as to produce daily from the
same store-house equal measures of envy, jeal-
ousies, hatred, and worldliness; manifesting, in
all the transactions of the week, anything but
a true Christian spirit. Eager for gain, striving,
apparently with their whole heart, for worldly
emoluments, they appear, to mere "lookers on,"
as of the "world," instead of humble disciples
and followers of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. We
have no account in Revelation of any such man-
ner of proceeding by our Savior, or any of his
disciples. The Sabbath was with them as with
all true Christians in any age, a day of holy
rest; but through each day of the week did they
go about doing good; the Son of Man doing the
will of his Father, and the disciples the will of
their Master. Theirs was no "Sunday religion,"
but a religion that was made manifest in all of
their "goings out and comings in;" be it upon
whatsoever day it might. Though we are not to
judge our fellow creatures, yet we may be safe
in deciding that those who do not each day and
hour in their life manifest a spirit of devotion,
and a heart willing to do the service of God,
are not, at least, following the instruction of Him
who said, "By their fruits shall ye know them,"
I find no place in my Bible, where CHRIST says,
"By the fruits of their Sabbaths shall ye know
them;" but many commandments to "watch and
pray always." "Be diligent in business, serving
the Lord," &c., &c. How beautiful is the life of
a consistent Christian; one who, though doing
with his might all that his hands find to do, yet
doing all to the glory of God; and oh! how per-
nicious the influence of those who, professing
CHRIST, give him so small a portion of their
heart as to serve him upon the Sabbath, and the
devil all the other days of their life. "Verily,
ye cannot serve God and Mammon."
Monroe County, N. Y., 1863. "YUNO."

THE SAVIOR'S PREACHING.

OUR Lord found many a topic of discourse in
the scenes around him. Even the humblest ob-
jects shone in his hands as I have seen a fragment
of broken glass or earthen ware, as it caught
a sunbeam, light up, flashing like a diamond.
With the stone of Jacob's well for a pulpit, and
its water for a text, he preached salvation to the
Samaritan woman. A little child which he takes
from its mother's side, and holds up blushing in
his arms before the astonished audience, is the
text for a sermon on humility. A husbandman
on a neighboring height, between him and the
sky, who strides with long and measured steps
over the field he sows, supplies a text from which
he discourses on the Gospel and its effects on
different classes of hearers. In a woman baking;
in two women who sit by some cottage door,
grinding at the mill; in an old, crony fortalice,
perched on a rock, whence it looks across the
brawling torrent to the ruined and roofless gable
of a house swept away by mountain floods—
Jesus found texts. From the birds that sung
above his head, and the lilies that blossomed at
his feet, he discoursed on the care of God—these
his text, and providence his theme.—Dr. Guthrie.

THE degrees shorten as we proceed from the
lower to the higher latitude; the years shorten
in like manner as we pass onward through life.

The Educator.

FEMALE TEACHERS.

THE practice of employing female teachers for consecutive terms is yearly gaining ground in our rural districts. In a majority of the districts of the State, it would be far better to employ lady teachers, term after term, than to have the frequent changes now so common. We believe that our best female teachers are fully competent to instruct and govern a large proportion of the schools of the State, and we see no good reason why they should not be employed and liberally compensated for their services. These schools do not offer sufficient inducement for male teachers, as permanent situations, — and therefore we would urge upon such districts to give more of permanence to their schools by employing female teachers for consecutive terms. We fully concur in the following views contained in a late report of Rev. B. G. NORRIS, Agent of the Mass. Board of Education:

"The leading objection to the policy of employing permanent female teachers in our common district schools, is founded on the supposition that delicate and timid women will not succeed so well in the government of schools in which rough and refractory boys are gathered together. This is a very common and plausible objection, and is worthy of respectful consideration. It was formerly supposed that physical strength was the prime characteristic of a good disciplinarian, and that brute force was the chief agency in school government. The objection under consideration bears a near affinity to this antiquated notion. During the past winter a competent teacher was rejected, on examination in one of our towns, because the committee judged, from his smallness of stature, that 'he would not be able to whip the larger boys.' A tall and stalwart man was therefore secured, who, relying on his physical strength and seeking only to govern, failed at once in everything else, and after two short weeks, even in that, gave up in despair. Horace Mann well said:— 'A man may keep a difficult school by means of authority and physical force; a woman can do it only by dignity of character, affection, such a superiority in attainment as is too conspicuous to be questioned.'

"A silent moral power ought to reign in the school room, rather than ostentatious and merely coercive measures. Its influence is more happy, effective, and permanent. Corporal punishment may be used as a dernier resort in extreme cases. But true wisdom and skill in school government consists in the prevention rather than in the punishment of offenses, — in cultivating the better feelings of our nature, truthfulness, generosity, kindness and self-respect, love of study and a sense of duty. Such influences women are pre-eminently fitted to wield. Refined and lady-like manners, with a mellow and winning voice, will exert a peculiar sway, even upon the rudest and most unmanly youth. A striking illustration of this influence over the most turbulent elements, I witnessed in one of our State Reformatory institutions, a few weeks since. A division of these rough boys, unmanageable in the hands of their former teacher, and often needing the sternest discipline, under a new teacher of great skill, patience, and genuine kindness, was soon won to obedience and attracted to order and studiousness; interest was awakened, ambition excited, and hearts all unused to love, and still more, to be loved, were strangely inspired with respect and affection for their teacher. Even upon these rough boys there was a silent power in the very face of their teacher, beaming with love for them and enthusiasm in her truly noble work.

"Females seem to be better adapted by nature to teaching little children. Male teachers seldom leave their impress clearly marked upon young pupils. They lack the requisite gentleness, the patience and perseverance in little things, the quick discernment of character, the instinctive power to inspire the youthful spirit and arouse its latent powers. Above all, they are destitute of those delicate arts which are so requisite to win the affections of children, to call forth and direct their earliest aspirations, and to impart the needful impulse to their minds. Cheerfulness and enthusiasm, courtesy and kindness, and the power of easy, quiet, unconscious influence, are requisites indispensable to the attractiveness, order and efficiency of the school. Females are endowed with a more bountiful share of these desirable qualities.

"Facts on this point may be more satisfactory than arguments. In a certain school which I visited under both administrations, the last male teacher utterly failed in the maintenance of order, although highly favored with the old essentials of a good disciplinarian, 'tall and stout,' and although he used the rod with merciless freedom and severity, his authority was nevertheless openly resisted. A female teacher has since, without difficulty, governed the same school, numbering over fifty pupils, of whom fourteen were over fifteen years of age, five over seventeen, and one over twenty. Her government was easy and persuasive, yet dignified and firm. Her intelligence, skill, tact and kindness made the school a model of good order. A single case, I am well aware, proves little, but the instance I have related is only a fair illustration of a multitude that have come under my observation. Great care, of course, must be taken in the selection of teachers. Unless they are competent, the experiment will be likely to fail."

TEACH the ignorant as much as you can; — society is culpable for not providing instruction for all, and it must answer for the sight it produces. If the soul is left in darkness, sins will be committed. The guilty one is not he who commits the sin, but he who causes or permits the darkness.

THE PROGRESS OF COMMON SCHOOLS.

If a Rip Van Winkle was to awake now from a forty years' sleep, he would find greater sources of astonishment than did the remarkable Van Winkle who opened his eyes after his long nap in Sleepy Hollow, some sixty or eighty years ago. He would be no less astonished than his illustrious ancestor, that so much change could have been crowded into forty years — that the young nation which he left trying its strength on the Atlantic coast, when he lay down to his nap, had strode to the Pacific — having scattered cities on its way in the grandest profusion, and woven the whole country over with a net work of railways, so that it were as if enchantment and not growth had wrought the change. He would be no less confounded to learn that many ideas and plans, which forty years ago were pronounced absurd, impossible, and heretical, are fixed, majestic, and holy facts of to-day. We may imagine the venerable gentleman's hair standing apart, his eyes opening to an astonishing wideness, and his eyebrows assuming a wonderful altitude, when some friend tells how the giant nation has cared for its children, and explains to him the grand system of Public Schools, through all the Northern States, from Maine to Iowa.

We can see the conservative old gentleman start with an expression of incredulity, if not of fear of impending destruction, when told that New York State alone spends annually four and a half million of dollars for the support of her schools. We may see Mr. Van Winkle's astonishment increase, when — remembering the little lowly school-house where he sat on the backless bench fifty years before — he learns that those splendid buildings which he supposed were castles or monasteries are public school buildings. We may pardon Mr. Van Winkle if he thinks the nation is mad and he is the only sensible man left.

The condition of schools in our Northern States is a wonderful and beautiful evidence of the growth of free people. Our schools of to-day contrasted with the schools even thirty years ago, look somewhat as if Aladdin's Lamp might belong to this era. That such order could have been brought out of such disorder, such comfort and elegance out of such discomfort and shabbiness, that what was so small and mean and rare and insufficient as our schools then were, could have become so grand, numerous and so perfectly adequate to the most extensive needs, is one of the grandest facts of the nineteenth century. — *New York Teacher.*

THE SCHOOL-HOUSE. — It is the duty of teachers, as well as parents and school committees, to see that the circumstances under which children study are such as shall leave a happy impression upon their minds; for whatever is brought under the frequent observation of the young must have its influence upon their susceptible natures for good or evil. Shabby school-houses induce slovenly habits. Ill-constructed benches may not only distort the body, but by reflex influence, the mind as well. Conditions like these seldom fail to disgust the learner with his school, and neutralize the best efforts of his teachers. On the other hand, neat, comfortable places for study may help to awaken the association, enchain the mind and the heart to learning and virtuous instruction with links of gold brightening forever.

EDUCATION. — Make home an institution of learning. Provide books for the centre-table, and for the library of the family. See that all the younger children attend the best schools, and interest yourself in their studies. If they have the taste for thorough cultivation, but not the means to pursue it, if possible provide for a higher education. Daniel Webster taught at the intervals of his college course to aid an elder brother in the pursuit of a classical education, and a volume of his works is dedicated to the daughter of that brother, who early closed a brilliant career. Feel that an ignorant brother or sister will be a disgrace to your family, and trust not the prevention of such a reproach to the casual influence of the press, existing institutions, and the kind offices of strangers. If the family becomes, as it may be, an institution of learning, the whole land will be educated.

Scientific, Useful, &c.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
DRAINAGE OF THE BODY.

A GREAT deal is said about drainage of the soil, and not a word about the drainage of the system. Now, there is continually going on a drainage of the waste products of the body, in the form of insensible perspiration. The perspiratory apparatus consists of minute cylindrical tubes, which pass inward through the cuticle, and terminate in the true skin, or *cutis vera*. In their course each little tube forms a beautiful spiral coil, and upon arriving at its destination, coils upon itself in such a way as to constitute an oval-shaped or globular ball, called the perspiratory gland. The openings of the perspiratory tubes on the surface of the cuticle, namely, "the pores," are also deserving of notice. In consequence of its upper extremity being a part of a spirally twisted tube, the opening is oblique in direction, and also has a valvular opening preventing the ingress of foreign injurious substances to the interior of the tube and gland.

To arrive at something like an estimate of the value of the perspiratory system, in relation to the rest of the organism, let us exercise a little mathematical calculation. The perspiratory pores on the palm of the hand, in number are found to be 3,523 in a square inch. Now, as each of these pores is the aperture of a little tube about a quarter of an inch long, it follows that

in a square inch of skin on the palm of the hand there exists a length of tube equal to 882 inches, or 73½ feet. Certainly such an amount of drainage as 73 feet in every square inch of skin, — taking that to be the average of the whole body, — is something more wonderful than all the "file draining" in America; and the thought intrudes itself, What if this drainage be obstructed?

How could we need a stronger argument for enforcing attention to cleanliness? In the pulp of the fingers, where the sensitive layers of the *cutis vera* are somewhat finer than in the palm of the hand, the number of pores a little exceeded that of the palm; and on the heels, where the ridges are coarser, the number on the square inch were not as many. To obtain an estimate of the length of tube of the perspiratory system, 2,800 it is calculated may be taken as a fair average of the number of pores in the square inch, and, therefore, 700 the number of inches in length. Now, the number of square inches on the surface of a man of ordinary height and bulk is 2,500, — the number of pores, therefore, 7,000,000, and the number of inches of perspiratory tube 1,750,000, that is, 145,833 feet, or nearly 28 miles. — *East Wilson, N. Y., 1863. OREG.*

CHEAP LINENS.

An article of mine appeared in the Patent Office Agricultural Report for 1861, on "The culture and manufacture of flax and hemp," containing proofs (not opinions) that linens can be made in this country from unrotted flax as cheaply as cotton goods have ever been made with cotton at the average of former years, say ten cents per pound. The demonstrations have been made, the necessary inventions are complete, and the obstacles to success by previous attempts in this direction, surmounted. The article referred to will enable almost any person to make the necessary tests, without expense, of the correctness of the facts or theories there presented, for himself, especially if he has had much manufacturing experience.

By the new method, the flax is broken out and pressed in a manner similar to that used for making flax cotton, except that it is parted to a greater length. By a process and machinery not much unlike those of wool combing, the short fibres, not long enough for linen, are removed and used as flax cotton for combination with wool, or for wool filling for coarse linens, the longer fibres being retained in the roving or silva form, as "line" for linen yarn.

As so many ignorant writers and talkers in this country have assumed that it is impossible to produce linen so cheaply as to compete with cotton goods, and as so many have believed their assumption without investigation, a few words on the subject may not be amiss.

A very natural question at the outset is this: — Why may not linens be produced as cheaply as cotton goods, when the raw material for linens costs only about half as much as raw cotton? To say that it cannot be done because it never has been done, is an argument that has little force in these latter days of marvelous improvement. At the commencement of Arkwright's efforts to spin cotton by machinery, the knowing ones used similar arguments to prove that cotton goods could never be produced so cheaply as to compete with linens.

It has been proved, over and over again, that flax cotton can be made for eight to ten cents per pound. Now, supposing the flax, instead of being parted short like cotton, should be parted from six to eight inches long, the length to which flax is always cut or parted to make linen by machinery in the modern way, is there any reason in supposing that the cost would be increased? It is known that the cost of spinning, weaving by power looms, and bleaching or dyeing of yarns or fabrics made of flax, refined and purified of gluten and coloring matter as flax is when converted into flax cotton, is no more than the same operations are with cotton. The extra expense, then, in working flax lies in the preparation before spinning. Now, since ten tons of unrotted flax straw will make a ton of linen goods, and the straw can be had in any quantity at ten dollars per ton, it is plain that the cost of the raw material for linen is but five cents per pound. It may cost then five cents more per pound to get it in as good readiness for spinning as raw cotton is, or a sum equal to the first cost of the raw material, to bring the cost of producing linens up to that for cotton goods. It has been proved that even less expense is sufficient, and who can assert, with all the wonderful improvements and labor-saving machinery before him, and without a trial or investigation, that such a thing is impossible?

To say that such a result could not be attained because, by a certain old process it costs more, is no better logic than it would be to say that a man having Blanchard's lathe for turning irregular forms could not make gun stocks for ten cents each, because by the old process of shaving and whittling it costs three dollars.

Some time ago, a periodical, claiming to be "Scientific," and specially well informed in reference to manufacturing matters, very organically announced that linens could never be produced so as to compete with cotton goods in price, because flax must go through a certain old and expensive mode of preparation. The most obvious reply to this objection is that linens might possibly be cheaply made by avoiding the said process. It was also said that linens could not be cheaply produced "in the present state of the arts," as though vast improvements were not daily made by improvements in the arts. Beside, it is hardly possible that the sapient editor or "any other man" can know with any great precision at any one time what the present state of the arts is. Some things may be done that some old folks may not be informed of.

But I fear I am making this communication too long, and will close with the remark that I would like to correspond with any parties who

may have read the article referred to, with the view of carrying out practically, East or West, an object of so much material importance as the manufacture of cheap linens. O. S. LEAVITT. Louisville, Ky., May 6, 1863.

IS THE SUN INHABITED?

SIR JOHN HERSCHEL concludes that the sun is a planet abundantly stored with inhabitants; his inference being drawn from the following arguments: — On the top of mountains of sufficient height, at an altitude where clouds seldom reach to shelter them from the direct rays of the sun, are always found regions of ice and snow. Now, if the solar rays themselves convey all the heat on this globe, it ought to be the hottest where their course is least interrupted. Again — aeronauts all confirm the coldness of the upper regions of the atmosphere. Since, therefore, even on our earth, the heat of any situation depends upon the aptness of the medium to yield to the impression of solar rays, we have only to admit that, on the sun itself, the elastic fluids composing its atmosphere, and the matter on its surface, are of such a nature as not to be capable of any affection from its own rays. Indeed, this seems to be proved from the copious emission of them; for, if the elastic fluids of the atmosphere, or the matter on the surface of the sun, were of such a nature as to admit of any easy chemical combination with its rays, their emission would be much impeded. Another well known fact is, that the solar focus of the largest lens thrown into the air will occasion no sensible heat in the place where it has been kept for a considerable time, although its power of exciting combustion, when proper bodies are exposed, should be sufficient to fuse the most refractory substances. Thus, from arguments based solely upon the supposed physical constitution of that luminary, he deduces the somewhat astonishing idea that the sun is inhabited. — *Scientific American.*

ENGLISH WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

THE senselessness and inconvenience of the English systems of weights and measures are well exhibited by the following:

SENSELESS WEIGHTS AND MADDENING MEASURES. — A gallon isn't a gallon. It's a wine gallon, or one of three different sorts of ale gallon, or a corn gallon, or a gallon of oil; and the gallon of oil means 7½ lb. for train oil, and 8 lb. for some other oils. If you buy a pipe of wine, how much do you get? 93 gallons if the wine be Marsala, 92 if Madeira, 117 if Bucellas, 103 if Port, 100 if Tenserriffe. What is a stone? 14 lb. if a man, 8 if a slaughtered bullock, 16 of cheese, 5 of glass, 32 of hemp, 16½ of flax at Belfast, 24 of flax at Downpatrick; it is 14 lb. of wool as sold by the growers, 15 lb. of wool as sold by the woolstaplers to each other. There are seven measures in use to define an acre. A hundred weight may contain 100 lb., 112 lb., or 120 lb. A hundred weight of pork is 8 lbs. heavier at Belfast than at Cork. A man might live by selling coal at a less price per ton than he paid for it at the pit mouth. A ton of coal at the pit mouth varies from 22 cwt. to 26 cwt. of 120 lb. each; a ton to the householder means 20 cwt. of 112 lb. each. Of cheese, 32 cloves (of 8 lb. each) make a wey in Essex, 42 in Suffolk. We walk in this United Kingdom by the measure of four sorts of miles, an English mile, being 217 yards shorter than a Scotch mile, 480 yards shorter than an Irish mile, and the geographical mile being another measure differing from all three. Our very sailors do not mean the same thing when they talk of fathoms. On board a man-of-war it means 6 feet, on board a merchantman 5½ feet, on board a fishing vessel 5 feet. — *All the Year Round.*

CONCERNING MILK.

A CURIOUS custom prevails among the milkmen of Mexico, it is said, of driving their herds about the streets, and milking them to order, "in large or small lots to suit purchasers." The live animals themselves are driven from door to door of the different regular customers, where they are milked, and there is a regular stand where the transient patrons are supplied, by milking into the vessel in which they take it home. Besides a drove of calves, with the cows all muzzled, running and bleating after them, there is a gang of goats and asses driven along, that people may always suit themselves as to quality and price, as also their different tastes — for which there is no accounting. It is impossible to derive the reason or origin of this mode of vending milk; unless it arose from the natural villainy of the people, and their distrust of each other — it being a preventive against adulteration, and of their disposing of a quality of milk inferior to that represented. This plan has at least the merit which attaches to honesty and fair dealing. We should not like to see the cows from which city milk is obtained driven about the streets. Such a sorry lot of lean kin as would be exhibited, would create an unpleasant sensation in the customer. We are credibly informed that the swill milk trade still exists, and that large quantities of it are sold. — *Scientific American.*

THE PEN, in the hand that knows how to use it, is one of the most powerful weapons known. As the tongue of the absent, how charming? When self-respect gives it a new vigor, how pleasing? When virtue guides it, how beautiful? When honor directs it, how respected? When wit sharpens it, how fatal? When scurrility wields it, how contemptible? 'Tis the weapon of the soul.

SELF-IMPOSED MARTYRDOM. — The martyrs to vice far exceed the martyrs to virtue, both in endurance and in number. So blinded are we by passions that we suffer more to be damned than to be saved.

Reading for the Young.

ABOUT A PARTRIDGE.

WHEN I was a boy my father had a piece of "new land" which he burned, I think in the latter part of May. A few days after the fire had gone through it, I was walking over a portion of it where the original growth had been very light, in fact consisted almost entirely of shrubbery, not more than twenty or thirty feet high, when, to my astonishment, I discovered a partridge (Ruffed Grouse) sitting on her nest, burned to death. Her head and neck were burned to a crisp, and the feathers were burned from her body, and the latter considerably charred, especially on the back. I removed the body, and beneath it were the eggs, baked hard, but not burned. One or two adhered to the body when I raised it up.

This I consider a very remarkable instance in a bird usually so timid, when we consider that the fire that destroyed her did not come upon her suddenly or unexpectedly, but that it approached slowly, having been kindled on the opposite side of the lot. She deliberately accepted her death to protect her nest. F. H. G. Aroca, N. Y., Aug., 1863.

IMPOLITE THINGS.

1. Loud and boisterous laughter.
2. Reading when others are talking.
3. Reading aloud in company without being asked.
4. Talking when others are reading.
5. Spitting about the house, smoking or chewing.
6. Putting finger nails in company.
7. Leaving a church before public worship is closed.
8. Whispering or laughing in the house of God.
9. Gazing rudely at strangers.
10. Leaving a stranger without a seat.
11. A want of respect and reverence for seniors.
12. Correcting older persons than yourselves, especially parents.
13. Receiving a present without an expression of gratitude.
14. Making yourself the hero of your own story.
15. Laughing at the mistakes of others.
16. Joking of all others in company.
17. Commencing talking before others have finished speaking.
18. Answering questions that have been put to others.
19. Commencing to eat as soon as you get to the table; and
20. In not listening to what one is saying in company — unless you desire to show open contempt for the speaker.

BACKBITING.

WHAT a coward he is who will bite you in the back; and yet it is often done. And what long, sharp, crooked teeth one must have to bite another in the back. No one but a dog can easily do it.

There is a little fellow who is going home from school. He has been good and obedient, and has done no one any harm. A little envious boy says, "What a sneak!" and lo! he left a gash in his back. There goes another; he would not quarrel with that *bully*, and as he left to see after the cows, some one said, "He's a coward!" There was a deep cut right in his back. "What a lie that fellow told on me!" said the boy, who, instead of going to school, went to the circus. Here was another bite right in the back. There goes a little girl to school. She is well-behaved, and holds by the hand her little brother. Some bad boys at the corner as she passes, laugh, and say, "She is not as good as she seems." And her back is wounded by their cruel teeth.

You may know all such backbiters. They have long teeth, and their lips are bloody. The poison of asps is under their tongues. God has set on their brow a red, flaming mark. Read — look close — it is "slander."

"Believe not each accusive tongue,
As some weak people do;
But ever hope that story wrong,
Which ought not to be true."

A STRING OF PEARLS.

HAPPY is the hearing man; unhappy is the speaking man.

THE greatest misfortune of all is not to be able to bear misfortune.

MEN cannot make satisfaction for sin, though they seem to find great satisfaction in it.

TREACHERY. — There is no greater treachery than first to raise a confidence and then to betray it.

GOOD BREEDING. — A man's own good breeding is the best security against other people's ill manners.

AFFLICTIONS are but as a dark entry into our Father's house; they are but as a dirty lane to a royal palace.

PRaise is sometimes as hurtful as censure. It is as bad to be blown into the air as to be cast into a pit.

PERHAPS the infant, when he sighs and weeps, hears as in a sea-shell the moan and roar of the ocean of life.

A MAN is apt to think that his personal freedom involves the right to make his fellow-men do just as he pleases.

THE grief of some men vents itself in ferocity and not in tears. The clouds of their hearts contain lightning but not rain.

PEOPLE, neither acute nor profound, often say the thing without effort which we want and have long been hunting for in vain.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



Flung out the old banner, let fold after fold,
Enshrine a new glory as each is unfurled;
Let it speak to our hearts still as sweet as of old,
The herald of Freedom all over the world.
Let it float out in triumph, let it wave over head,
The noble old ensign, its stripes and its stars;
It gave us our freedom, o'er shadows our dead,
Gave might to our heroes, made sacred their scars.
Let it wave in the sunbeam, unfurl in the storm,
Our guardian at morning, our beacon at night,
When peace shines in splendor athwart her bright form,
Or war's bloody hand holds the standard of might.
Unfurl the old banner, its traitors crush down,
Let it still be the banner that covers the grave,
The star spangled banner, with glory we own,
'Tis too noble a banner for tyrant and slave.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., SEPTEMBER 5, 1863.

The Army in Virginia.

The rebels made a daring raid on the Rappahannock on the 27th, capturing two gunboats of the Potomac flotilla and the revenue cutter Putnam. The rebels came off in small boats and seized the Satellite, killing the Captain. They then dashed on the Leslie, which they succeeded in taking. A signal was then made to the Putnam, which came into their clutches. Each gunboat carried one 8-inch Dahlgren gun.

The mouth of the Rappahannock is blockaded, and it is not believed that the rebels will get the boats out of the river, otherwise they might come up the Potomac and do much damage.

Advices from the army state that nothing of interest has transpired for a few days past.

It seems quite plain that Lee has no intention of crossing the Rapidan, most of his army being on the southern bank, and even deserters reporting that it will fall back still further.

The positions of the rebel army are now somewhat thus:—Ewell lies near Orange Court House; A. P. Hill near Rapidan Station; Longstreet stretches from U. S. Ford to Fredericksburg, and his pickets on the Rappahannock down to Port Royal; Lee's headquarters lie about two miles beyond Orange Court House, on the Gordonsville road.

A cavalry force, under Fitzhugh Lee, crossed the Rappahannock on the 28th, near Corbin's Neck, six miles below Fredericksburg, but was speedily routed by the brigade of Gen. Custis, with a loss in prisoners of three engineer officers, and a number of privates, yet unspecified, in killed and wounded, before recrossing the river. Our loss was slight, and no officers injured.

At noon of the 28th a party of guerrillas attacked a party who were conveying the mail from a cavalry division at Harwood Church, killing one man and capturing four others. They took the mail and made their escape.

Early on the same morning three rebel surgeons, with their instruments, were captured this side of the Rappahannock by our troops. They did not deny their connection with the rebel army. They will be tried immediately as spies.

The guerrillas who infest the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, again made their appearance on the 29th, on the towpath, about 25 miles above Georgetown. They appeared in squads of 15 or 20, but as they were told by the boats they halted that other boats were near at hand with troops, they did no damage. An active pursuit of the guerrilla bands who infest the country in the vicinity of our lines, is constantly kept up by our cavalry, and more or less of them are daily captured.

Maj. John S. Stephenson, Lieut. Chambers, and sixty men of Roberts' 3d Pennsylvania, left Fortress Monroe on the 23d, on the armed steamboat C. P. Smith, and reached Chickahominy river Sunday morning. They proceeded ten miles up the river, landing scouting parties along the banks, and destroyed a number of small boats. When about nine miles from the mouth of the river, they met and attacked thirty of Roberson's rebel cavalry, and repulsed them. No one was injured on our side. They then shelled and destroyed the buildings used as headquarters by Col. Roberson. Two men were captured, and after all the information desired was obtained from them, they were released. Having succeeded in all the objects of the reconnaissance, the expedition returned on the 28th.

Department of the South.

The following important dispatches—from Gen. Gilmore to Gen. Halleck, and from Chief of Artillery John N. Turner, to Gen. Gilmore—have been received in Washington:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
MORRIS ISLAND, August 24th, 1863.
To H. W. Halleck, Washington:—SIR:—I have the honor to report the practical demolition of Fort Sumter as the result of our seven days bombardment of that work, two days of which a powerful north-east storm, most seriously diminished the accuracy and effect of our fire. Fort Sumter is to-day a shapeless and harmless mass of ruins. My Chief of Artillery, Col. J. N. Turner, reports its destruction so far complete that it is no longer of any avail in the defense of Charleston. He also says that by a longer fire it could be made completely a ruin and a mass of broken masonry, but could scarcely be more powerless as a defense to the harbor.

My breaching batteries were located at distances of 3,350 and 4,240 yards from the fort, and now remain as efficient as ever. I deem it un-

necessary at present to continue their fire upon the ruins of Sumter.

I have, also, at great labor and under a heavy fire from James Island, established heavy batteries on my left within effective range of Charleston, and have opened with them after giving Gen. Beauregard due notice of my intention to do so. My notification to Gen. Beauregard and his reply thereto, together with his threat of retaliation and my rejoinder, have been transmitted to the army headquarters. The projectiles from my batteries entered the city, and Gen. Beauregard himself designates them as the most destructive missiles ever used in war.

The report of my Chief of Artillery, and an accurate sketch of the ruins of Sumter, taken at 12 o'clock, noon, yesterday, six hours before we ceased firing, are herewith transmitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Q. A. GILMORE,
Brig. Gen. Commanding.

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., August 23.

GENERAL:—I have the honor to report the effect our breaching batteries have had on Fort Sumter, and the condition of that work to-night. At the close of the seven days' bombardment the gorge wall of the fort is almost a complete mass of ruins for the distance of several casements, and midway on this face ramparts are removed nearly, and in places quite to the arches, and but for the sand bags with which the casements were filled, and which has served to sustain the broken arches and masses of masonry, it would have long since been entirely cut away, and with it the arches to the floor of the second tier of casements. The debris on this front now forms a rampart, reaching as high as the floor of these casements. The parapet wall of the two north-easterly faces is completely carried away. A small portion only has been left in the angle made with the gorge wall, and the ramparts of these faces are also a total ruin.

Quite one-half of our projectiles seem to have struck the parade and parapet of these two faces, and judging from the ruin, extends around, taking in the north-east face as far as can be seen. A portion of this face, adjoining the angle it makes with the south-east face, is concealed but from the great number of missiles which have struck in this angle during the last two days, it cannot be otherwise than greatly damaged, and I do not think any guns can be left on this face in a serviceable condition. The ramparts in this angle, as well as in this easterly face, must be plowed up and greatly shattered. The parapet of this latter face is torn off in many places, as we can see, and I hardly think the platforms of the remaining guns on this face could have escaped.

With the aid of a powerful glass, I can't determine that more than one of these guns can be used, and it has been dismantled once. The carriages of the latter are more or less shattered, and such is the parapet and parade in the immediate vicinity of this gun that it probably could not be served any length of time. In fine, the destruction of the fort is so far complete that it is to-day of no avail in defense of the harbor of Charleston.

By a longer fire it could be made more completely a ruin and a mass of broken masonry, but could scarcely be more powerless in defense of the harbor. I therefore respectfully submit my opinion that a continuance of our fire is no longer necessary as giving us no end adequate for the consumption of our resources.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN N. TURNER,
Col. and Chief of Artillery.

The following is the communication from Beauregard to Gen. Gilmore protesting against the bombardment of Charleston:

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
GEORGIA AND FLORIDA,
CHARLESTON, Aug. 20.

SIR:—Last night at fifteen minutes to 11 o'clock, during my absence on a reconnaissance of my fortifications, a communication was received at these headquarters, dated headquarters of the Department of the South, Morris Island, South Carolina, August 21st, 1863, demanding the immediate evacuation of Morris Island and Fort Sumter by the Confederate forces, on the alleged ground "that the condition of Fort Sumter, the rapid progressive destruction which it is undergoing from my batteries seem to render its demolition in a few hours a matter of certainty, and that if this letter was not complied with, or no reply thereto was received within four hours from the time it was delivered into the hands of my subordinate officers at Fort Wagner, a fire would be opened from batteries established within easy and effective range of the heart of the city." This communication to my address was without signature, and was of course returned.

About 14 o'clock your batteries did actually open fire and threw a number of heavy shells into the city, the inhabitants of which were asleep unwarmed. The communication was returned to these headquarters bearing your official signature, and it can now be noticed as your deliberate official act.

Among nations not barbarous, the usages of war prescribe that when a city is about to be attacked, timely notice shall be given, in order that non-combatants shall have an opportunity to withdraw from beyond its limits. Usually the time allowed is from one to three days, giving time for the withdrawal at least, of the women and children. You, sir, gave but four hours, knowing from existing circumstances that your notice could not reach me in less than two hours, and that it would take two hours for a communication in reply to reach Fort Wagner. With this knowledge, you threaten to open fire on this city, not to oblige it to surrender, but to force me to evacuate those works which you, assisted by great naval force, have been attacking 40 days. Batteries Wagner, Gregg and Fort Sumter are nearly due north from your works on Morris Island, and distant therefrom from one-half a mile to two and a half miles. This city, on the other hand, is to the northwest and five miles distant from the battery opened on it this forenoon. It would appear, therefore, that despairing of reducing those works, you resort to the novel measure of turning your guns against the old men, women and children, and hospitals of a sleeping city, an act of inexcusable barbarity, from your own point of view, inasmuch as you allege that the complete demolition of Fort Sumter from your guns in a few minutes seems to be a matter of certainty.

Your omission to attach your signature to such a grave paper must show the recklessness of the course upon which you have ventured, while the facts which you have knowingly fixed a limit to receive an answer to your demand, which made it almost beyond the possibility of receiving any reply within that time, and that you did actually open fire and threw a number of the most destructive missiles ever used in war into the midst of a city, taken unawares and filled with sleeping women and children, will give you a bad eminence in history—even in the history of the war.

I am only surprised, sir, at the limits you have set to your demands. If, in order to obtain the abandonment of Morris Island and Fort Sumter, you feel authorized to fire into this city, why did you not include the works on Sullivan and James Islands—nay, even the city of Charleston—in the same demand?

Since you have felt warranted in inaugurating

this method of reducing batteries in your immediate front, which were otherwise found impregnable, and a mode of warfare which I confidently declare to be atrocious and unworthy of any soldier, I now solemnly warn you that if you fire again on this city without giving timely warning, I shall feel impelled to employ such stringent means of retaliation as shall be available during this attack.

Finally, I reply that neither the works on Morris Island nor Fort Sumter will be evacuated on the demand you have been pleased to make. However, I am taking measures to remove all the non-combatants who are fully aware of what they may expect at your hands.

Respectfully yours,
G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General Commanding.

The Charleston papers of Monday last refer to Gen. Gilmore's fire on Saturday night:

Between 1 and 2 o'clock on Saturday A. M., the enemy commenced firing on the city, arousing our people from their slumbers. Twelve 8-inch shells fell into the city, thirteen in all being fired. Fortunately no persons were injured. Several shells fell in the direction of St. Michael's steeple, and fell either in the vacant lots in the burnt district on King street or more generally fell in the middle of the streets, as exhibited on the corner of Queen and Rutledge, where an 8-inch shell tore up the plank road and dug a large hole in the ground, and another shell entered the warehouse of Y. W. Williams & Co., corner of Paine and Church streets. It entered the roof and exploded in the upper story, making a large opening in the brick wall of the Medical Purveyor's storehouse, scattering things in great confusion. Some loose straw for packing, which caused the fire alarm bell to ring, bringing out the firemen, was extinguished before it had made any progress. Four large shells fell in this locality. One large piece was picked up and exhibited in the guard-house, where it was the subject of much curiosity.

Rebel papers of the 29th announce the death of John B. Floyd, of Abingdon, Virginia.

A meeting of citizens of North Carolina, representing every county in the 1st and 2d Congressional Districts, and a part of the 3d, was held in Washington, N. C., on the 11th ultimo. The 1st North Carolina Union regiment stationed at that point participated in the meeting. Addresses were made and resolutions adopted expressing sympathy with the great conservative party of North Carolina; declaring an energetic prosecution of the war in this Department to be the only means by which the Union sentiment in the interior of the State can be made practically useful in restoring her to the national protection; asking the government for re-enforcements for this purpose; accusing the Confederate government of perfidy and cruelty towards North Carolina; declaring that her people are therefore absolved from any further obligation to sustain it, placing the responsibility for the destruction of slavery upon Jeff. Davis and his co-conspirators against the Union—expressing the belief that North Carolina will, notwithstanding, find ample compensation in the blessings of free labor for the present inconvenience of emancipation; rejoicing in the last victory at the Kentucky elections; denouncing copperheadism at the North, and commending the ability and patriotism of the administration in the conduct of the war.

The steamer C. N. Thomas arrived at Fortress Monroe on the 28th from Newbern, with Lieut. Sterling, of General Peck's staff, as bearer of dispatches.

A dispatch from the blockading fleet says that on the A. M. of the 26th inst., a sloop of war of 10 guns, with the British flag flying, swept past the blockaders, and immediately hoisted the rebel flag and passed into Wilmington. This is the fourth armed vessel that has run into Wilmington within the past six weeks.

Rebel papers received from Morehead City say that Jeff Davis has decided, after a conference with the Governors of the Confederate States, to call out 500,000 black troops, who are to receive their freedom and fifty acres of land at the close of the war.

Movements in the West and South-West.

KENTUCKY.—Gen. Burnside has notified that all ferries on the Ohio and other streams within the limits of the Department of Ohio, the military highways, and where the interests of the service require it, will be subject to military authority.

KANSAS.—Quantrell's force reached the headquarters of Grand river, Cass county, about noon on the day after the burning of Lawrence, and then divided into squads of forty or fifty, and scattered in various directions. Our troops were half an hour behind, and were also divided and continued the pursuit.

A detachment ordered from Lexington met part of the rebel force near Pleasant Hill—killed seven, and recovered a considerable amount of the goods taken from Lawrence.

Major Plumb and Major Thatcher overtook a company in Lafayette county, and killed 30 of them. The total number of guerrillas killed, according to last reports, was between 60 and 70. Our detachments are still in pursuit.

It is ascertained that Quantrell's whole force consisted of 300 selected men, who assembled from Lafayette, Saline, Clay, Johnson and the border counties, on Thursday noon, at the head of Middle Fork, Grand river, fifteen miles from the Kansas line, and on the same day started for Kansas. Scouts brought word that afternoon to the military station at Aubrey, six miles north of the place where they crossed the line of their assembling—on Grand river, and an hour after their entrance into Kansas, other scouts brought word to that effect. The information was communicated at once to all the stations on the border, and to the district headquarters at Kansas City, 35 miles north of Aubrey. A delay of three or four hours occurred at each station, in gathering the patrolling and scouting parties, when the pursuit began from each station separately, leaving a portion of the troops to watch

the border and endeavor to prevent Quantrell's return to Missouri. Quantrell's men told many persons before reaching Lawrence that they were going to destroy the town, but by some strange fatality the people along the route who might easily have got word to Lawrence did not try.

A dispatch dated the 28th ult., says that Quantrell's men are scattered in their fastnesses throughout the border counties, and are still being hunted by all the available troops from all parts of the district. Many of them have abandoned their worn out horses, and gone into the bush afoot. They were all remounted at Lawrence on horses captured, and went off leading their own horses laden with plunder, nearly all of which they abandoned in the chase before they got far into Missouri. Over 300 horses have already been taken by our troops, including some of those taken at Lawrence. Most of the goods and money stolen have been recovered, and will, as far as possible, be restored.

Reports that 20 more men have been killed have been received since yesterday morning, making a total of about 80, which will probably be largely increased before any considerable part of our troops withdraw from the pursuit. No prisoners have been taken and none will be. All houses in which stolen goods have been found have been destroyed, as well as the houses of known guerrillas, wherever our troops have gone. Gen. Ewing intends to destroy the houses of all persons in the border counties outside of our military stations, who do not remove previous to the 9th of September, in accordance with an order.

MISSOURI.—The steamer Live Oak was captured on the 26th ult., at Berlin, by a small gang of guerrillas, who, after robbing the boat and passengers of \$700, allowed them to proceed.

TENNESSEE.—Col. Winslow's command arrived at Memphis on the 24th inst., from Vicksburg, via Grenada. At the latter place they met Col. Phillips' force, which recently destroyed so much railroad property. Col. Winslow brought in 100 prisoners.

ARKANSAS.—Gen. Steele and the Arkansas expedition are progressing finely. There has been no battle yet, but one is in prospect.

MISSISSIPPI.—The cavalry expeditions sent from Vicksburg and Memphis met on the 18th at Grenada. The object was to capture or destroy the cars and locomotives run there from Jackson by the rebels. The rebels were on the lookout, and the cars were filled with fence rails, ready to be fired on the approach of our troops. The train was run over the bridge across the Yallobusha river, and the bridge burned. Fifty-seven locomotives and four hundred cars were destroyed by the rebels. This makes seventy-seven locomotives captured or destroyed, as the direct result of the Vicksburg campaign.

The Cincinnati Gazette has a special dispatch from Cairo, which says that Gen. Pemberton was shot at Selma, Ala., last week.

Gen. Grant and staff and Adj't-Gen. Thomas left Cairo on the 24th for Memphis.

Over 100,000 bales of Confederate cotton have been captured near Natchez.

Gen. Herron is on an expedition up the Red river. There are 8,000 rebel troops at Monroe, 65 miles west of Vicksburg. Gen. Walker, and Heber are in command. Gen. Kirby Smith is in Texas. Gen. Joe Johnston's forces are scattered in the Chunkey river country.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

The Memphis correspondent of the St. Louis Republican says that most of the people in Tennessee "are decidedly opposed to either being conscripted or drafted, and are getting into the Federal lines as fast as possible. They leave their wives and families behind them, in a great many instances, hoping that they will get through the lines and join them. In Monroe county, up to the 5th ult., the number of men conscripted was only ninety-five, and about as many more drafted. The difference between a conscript and a drafted man is, the conscript is subject to the will of the War Department, while the drafted man cannot be taken out of his State."

DR. WRIGHT, the secessionist whose unprovoked and deliberate murder of Lieut. A. L. Sanborn in Norfolk some time since created so much excitement, has been convicted. Certain rebel sympathizers are trying to procure a pardon for the murderer.

The best fed, best treated and most comfortable portion of the lower classes in England, are those who are sent to prison. Eight thousand were sentenced last year to what is much more a luxury than a punishment to the greater portion of them. So common has it become for the lower classes to break the laws merely for the sake of enjoying the luxuries of the penalty, that the old punishment of whipping has been extensively revived. Good steady meals and clean comfortable lodgings are what the convicts get, and honesty is frequently not so well off as to enjoy those blessings.

COMMANDER GEORGE W. ROGERS, acting fleet captain to Admiral Dahlgren, who lost his life in Charleston harbor, August 17, was born in New York State, but was appointed from Connecticut in 1836. He was successively attached to the U. S. Coast Survey and to the African squadron, and in 1861 was given the command of the gunboat Tioga. Subsequently he commanded the Kaatskill, on which vessel he was killed.

An instance of the display of a chivalric spirit and honesty on the part of the South took place after the battle on Morris Island, when various sums of money, private papers, pocket books and mementoes, belonging to the Union soldiers who had died while prisoners in their hands, were sent into our lines under a flag of truce. Those articles had been carefully labeled and had been well preserved. Some of the sums of money were as high as \$222 and the total amount of cash returned was \$4,090.06.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Boardman, Gray & Co. Piano Fortes—Siberia Ott. Gostar's Vermin Exterminator—Henry R. Costar. Dorchester Nurseries—Marshall P. Wilder & Baker. Fruit and Ornamental Trees—Ellienger & Barry. Nursery for Sale or Partner Wanted—E. M. Crittenden. Weaver's Improved Orchard Whiffletree. Plax Machinery—R. P. Johnson. Magnolia Acuminata—Ellienger & Barry. Good Farm For Sale—John C. Hopper. 500,000 two year old Apple Stocks—P. Bowen & Co. Nursery Stock for Sale for Cash—Amos A. Newson. Dissolution of Co-Partnership—John C. Birdsell. Triomphe de Gander—George L. Carrington. Russell's Strawberry Plants—J. Keech. Male and Female Agents Wanted—Challen.

Special Notices.

The Best Magazine—Tinknor & Fields. Dr. Randall's "Practical Shepherd."

The News Condenser.

- All negroes in the army of the Potomac are being enrolled.
- There is considerable cotton coming into Memphis by wagon.
- An Indian has been drafted and accepted in the 2d Maine district.
- Ex-President Day, of Yale College, has just completed his 90th year.
- All accounts represent Russia as making tremendous preparations for war.
- A couple were lately married in Lynn, Mass., whose united ages were 162 years.
- Eleven dollars in rebel currency were recently paid for a gold dollar in Macon, Ga.
- The Western papers continue to complain of scarcity of laborers, especially field hands.
- It is understood that Gen. Hooker is to have active command at some point in the South.
- There are 10,000 rebel prisoners at point Lookout, Md., who have the same rations as our soldiers.
- Seven hundred deserters have within two days been sent from Washington to join their respective regiments.
- It is stated that in all sections except Southern Kentucky the drouth has cut the tobacco crop short one-half.
- Major Philip Kearney, nephew of Gen. Phil. Kearney, died a few days since of wounds received at Gettysburg.
- Mrs. P. Baker, of Brooklyn, Ct., lately killed in her door-yard a rattlesnake four feet long, and having eleven rattles.
- The Senate of Alabama have resolved that the people have "lost confidence in Generals Pemberton and Holmes."
- The U. S. sloop Bainbridge had a crew of 71 besides officers when she foundered, only one of whom is reported saved.
- The health of the troops at Port Hudson is very bad over fifty per cent. of some regiments being sick with ague and fever.
- In London the friends of the rebels have lately paid \$4,000,000 for their friendship, the rebel loan being almost worthless.
- A mountain-ash tree in Portland, Ct., was a year ago grafted with a pear scion, and this year bears an abundance of pears.
- The Springfield Republican tells of a growing tobacco leaf in Hancock, thirty-nine inches long and nineteen inches wide.
- The Government has realized sixty thousand dollars from the sale of horses left by Morgan along his route through Indiana.
- The rebels say that operations at the Pensacola navy yard look as if "the Yankees" were contemplating a movement on Mobile.
- Gen. Halleck has ordered the suspension of the proposed harbor defenses at San Francisco, having concluded to adopt another plan.
- Over \$43,000 have already been subscribed at Boston for the purpose of organizing colored regiments in the South and South-west.
- There was a tornado in Buena Vista, Wis., on Friday week. Every house was blown down, three persons killed and fourteen wounded.
- The 100,000 bales of Confederate Cotton recently seized near Natchez, are worth \$26,000,000. This will help to foot the war bill.
- The Savannah Republican pitches into the Raleigh (N. C.) Standard strong, and urges the banishment of the editor as a submissionist.
- The Richmond Examiner denies Parson Brownlow's report that Ex-Gov. Aiken of South Carolina is a prisoner of the Southern Confederacy.
- The total wealth of Boston, as valued by the city assessors, is three hundred and two million five hundred and twenty-seven thousand dollars.
- The Washington Star says we have between 70,000 and 80,000 rebel prisoners, and Jeff. Davis has about 30,000 of our men, awaiting exchange.
- Henry Noyes speared a sturgeon near the dam in Lawrence, Mass., lately, which measured 7 feet 1 inch in length, and weighed 164 pounds.
- The steamer Nellie Rogers, belonging to the Choctaw Fur Company, has arrived at St. Louis with 20,000 buffalo robes and 450 bales of mixed furs.
- The last London News announces the failure of a member of the Stock Exchange apparently from his "connection with the Confederate loan."
- Silver coin of small denomination is beginning to peep out. When a man passes one the papers speak of him as "achieving a daring exploit."
- A Georgia paper complains that upward of 47,000 citizens in that State are exempted from draft, comprising clergymen, teachers, physicians, &c.
- The Lancaster (Pa.) Intelligence says that out of the draft of three thousand in that county, only about two hundred soldiers was the product.
- The largest bakery in the world is said to be the Government bakery near Alexandria. It is a one story building and covers over an acre of ground.
- Two petrified men have been found near Castlemaine in Australia. They were in a sitting posture—veins, muscles, finger-nails, teeth, &c., all perfect.
- The Republican State Convention of Minnesota have nominated Col. Stephen A. Miller for Governor, and C. D. Sherwood for Lieutenant-Governor.
- At a late sale of autographs in Paris, a rag of yellow paper was sold for 500 francs. It was a note written and signed by Martin Luther, and dated 1581.
- The master-builders at Washington find great difficulty in obtaining competent help. Bricklayers are especially scarce, and command good wages.
- A Washington correspondent states that the forces ordered to re-enforce Gen. Gilmore will make his army larger than that with which Grant took Vicksburg.
- The female prison in Kansas city fell in Tuesday week, burying in the ruins eleven women. Four were killed, one mortally wounded and six slightly injured.

Special Notices

THE BEST MAGAZINE

Ever published in America, to judge from the concurrent testimony of the best American and English journals, is the

Atlantic Monthly

It numbers among its contributors THE LEADING WRITERS OF AMERICA. Subscription price \$3 a year, postage paid by the Publishers.

DR. RANDALL'S "PRACTICAL SHEPHERD."

Some time ago we noticed that Mr. D. T. Moore, of this city, and Lippincott & Co., of Philadelphia, were soon to publish a new work on Sheep Husbandry, by Hon. H. S. Randall, LL.D., a shepherd of sheep husbandry in the South.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, ROCHESTER, September 1, 1883. We do not note any material increase in business during the week.

Table with columns for Flour and Grain, Eggs, and other market items with prices.

The Provision Markets.

NEW YORK, August 29. - ASSES - Steady. Sales at \$7.00 for pots, and \$9.00 for pearls. FLOUR - Market dull and heavy for old, while fresh-ground continues without any decided change.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance - THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 25% cents per line of space.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. - For Bees, Milk Cows, Veal Calves, and Sheep and Lambs, at the Washington Drive Yard, corner of Fourth avenue and Forty-fourth street.

The Cattle Markets.

Table with columns for Beef Cattle, Cows and Calves, and Sheep and Lambs with prices.

ALBANY, Aug. 31. - BEEVES - The opening of the trade, this week, was marked by considerable animation.

Table with columns for Premium (per 100 lbs), Extra, and other market items with prices.

The Wool Markets.

NEW YORK, Aug. 27. - WOOL - The demand has improved since our last issue. Prices, however, remain about the same, except in some cases where slight concessions have been made.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance - THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 25% cents per line of space.

500,000 TWO YEAR OLD APPLE STOCKS.

For sale at 1,000 Apple Trees, 5 to 7 feet and 1,000 First Class Peach, 1 year, 4 to 6 feet, stock \$300 per 1,000.

MAGNOLIA ACUMINATA.

Having been fortunate in raising a very large stock of this noble and beautiful tree - the finest of all American forest trees - we are able to offer it at very low rates.

WEAVER'S IMPROVED ORCHARD WHIFFLE-TREES.

Frequent mention among Fruit Trees increases their growth and their production of fruit. By using Weaver's Orchard Whiffletrees this can be accomplished without danger of baking or injuring either Nursery or Orchard Trees.

NURSERY FOR SALE, OR PARTNER WANTED.

The Proprietor of the well-known and reliable PENINSULAR NURSERIES, situated in the city of Battle Creek, Michigan, offers for sale the entire stock, consisting of all the best varieties and kinds of Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

FLAX MACHINERY.

The New York State Agricultural Society offer a Premium of \$100 for the best Flax or Flax Dressing Machine of the kind now in use.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1883.

ELLWANGER & BARRY have the pleasure to announce that they are, as usual, prepared to offer for the Fall Trade the largest and most complete stock of well-grown Fruit and Ornamental Trees in the United States.

DORCHESTER NURSERIES.

STANDARD PEAR TREES - The stock is unparalleled of extra size trees, and we invite the attention of the trade to our wholesale price list.

COSTAR'S VERMIN EXTERMINATORS.



For Rats, Mice, Roaches, Ants, Bed Bugs, Moths in Furs, Woolens, &c., Insects on Plants, Fowls, Animals, &c., &c.

THE BOARDMAN, GRAY & CO. PIANO FORTES.

The subscriber, late a member of this firm, has located his office at 726 Broadway, New York City, with full arrangements to supply the best pianos to the public and trade at the very lowest prices.

PIANO-FORTE TUNING SCALES.

BOOTMAN'S TUNING SCALES enable persons to tune their Pianos correctly; is simple in construction and operation. PRICES, FROM \$5 TO \$10.

CHRONOMETER WATCHES.

FASOLDT'S PATENT ISOCHRONAL POCKET CHRONOMETERS - The best time-keepers in the world. \$125 per year a minute in a year. Sole Agent. Trade supplied.

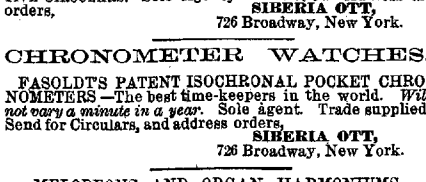
MELODEONS AND ORGAN HARMONIONS.

The best made in this country. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, at lowest prices. Send for Circular, and address orders.

Purchasing and Information Agency.

Articles of every description purchased. Information given on any business matter. Circulars sent on application, giving full information relative to the Agency, and ready to purchase goods that are inducements of said patent.

BIRDSSELL'S PATENT COMBINED.



CLOVER THRASHER & HULLER.

Patented May 18th, 1868; Dec. 13th, 1869; April 8th, 1872, and May 18th, 1882. MANUFACTURED BY JOHN C. BIRDSSELL, WEST HENRIETTA, MONROE COUNTY, N. Y.

TO CHEESE DAIRYMEN.

RALPH'S PATENT IMPROVED "ONEIDA CHEESE VAT" was awarded the FIRST PREMIUM, after a thorough test, at the New York State Fair, 1882.

Cheese-Making Apparatus.

More economical in use than steam, and much less expensive in cost. Sizes varying from 24 to 355 gallons in use made to order.

DISSOLUTION OF CO-PARTNERSHIP.

JOHN C. BIRDSSELL and ISAAC H. BROOK have expired by limitation. The business of the firm will be continued by the undersigned.

BRIDGEWATER PAINT.

Established 1830. - Fire and Water Proof, for roofs, outside work, decks of vessels, iron work, brick, tin, railroad bridges, depots, &c.

ELECTION NOTICE - SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

COUNTY OF MONROE - Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Statute in this behalf made, of the annexed notice from the Secretary of State, that the GENERAL ELECTION will be held in this county on the TUESDAY SUCCEEDING THE FIRST MONDAY OF NOVEMBER, 1883.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, August 1st, 1883. To the Sheriff of the County of Monroe: Sir - Notice is hereby given, that at the General Election to be held in this county on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November next, the following officers are to be elected, to wit:

A Secretary of State, in the place of Horatio Ballard; A Comptroller, in the place of Lucius Robinson; A Treasurer, in the place of William B. Lewis; An Attorney General, in the place of Daniel S. Dickinson; A State Engineer and Surveyor, in the place of William B. Taylor; An Assessor, in the place of William W. Wright; An Inspector of State Prisons, in the place of James K. Deat.

All whose terms of office will expire on the last day of December next. Also, a Judge of the Court of Appeals, in the place of Henry B. Selden, who was appointed to the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Samuel L. Selden, whose term (for which he was elected) expires on the 31st day of December, 1883.

Also, a Justice of the Supreme Court, for the Seventh Judicial District, in the place of E. Darwin Smith, whose term of office will expire on the last day of December next. Also, a Justice of the Supreme Court, in the place of James C. Smith, who was appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Addison T. Knox, whose term (for which he was elected) expires on the 31st day of December, 1887.

COUNTY OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED.

Three Members of Assembly; Two School Commissioners; A County Judge, in the place of John C. Chummasero; A Surrogate, in the place of Alfred G. Mudge; A Justice of the Peace, in the place of John Borst and Daniel Holmes; All whose terms of office will expire on the last day of December, 1884.

IMPROVED SHORT HORNS FOR SALE.

1 yearling Bull, 3 Heifers, and 2 Bull Calves, for sale cheap. The yearling bulls are Jersey Bull animals, and all are thorough-bred.

CANCERS CURED.

All persons afflicted with Cancers, Tumors, Swellings, or old sores, no matter of how long standing, can be cured by the use of the Circular, describing the mode of treatment used for many years by the subscribers at their Cancer Hospital, in New York City.

PORTABLE PRINTING OFFICES.

For sale by the Adams Press Co., 31 Park Row, N. Y. Circular sent free. Specimen Sheets of Type, Cuts, &c., six cents.

FARM FOR SALE.

One of the best in Western New York. Location beautiful and near RR. and market. Address Box 388, Batavia, N. Y.

EMPLOYMENT AT A LIBERAL SALARY.

The Franklin Sewing Machine Company want a limited number of active Agents to travel and solicit orders for machines, at a salary of \$40 per month and expenses paid. Permanent employment given to the right kind of Agents.

TO FARMERS, TO DAIRYMEN, TO COUNTRY MERCHANTS.

ALL WHO HAVE FOR SALE Sorghum Sugar and Sirup, Furs and Skins, Butter, Cheese, Hams, Pork, Beef, Eggs, Game, Flour, Seeds, Cotton, Tallow, Starch, &c., &c.

USEFUL AND VALUABLE DISCOVERY!

HILTON'S INSOLUBLE CEMENT! Is of more general practical utility than any invention now before the public. It has been thoroughly tested during the last two years by the most eminent and pronounced by all to be SUPERIOR TO ANY Adhesive Preparation known.

IT IS ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO LEATHER.

And we claim as an especial merit, that it cures Patches and Linings in Boots and Shoes sufficiently strong without delay, is not affected by any change of temperature.

IT IS THE ONLY LIQUID CEMENT EXTANT.

That is a sure thing for mending Furniture, Crockery, Toys, Bones, Ivory, and articles of Household use. Remember Hilton's Insoluble Cement is applied as paste. Hilton's Insoluble Cement is insoluble in water or oil. Hilton's Insoluble Cement is supplied in Family or Manufacturers' Packages from 2 ounces to 100 lbs.

ORAI MICROSCOPE!

This is the best and cheapest Microscope in the world for general use. It requires no focal adjustment, magnifies about one hundred diameters, or ten thousand times, and is so simple that a child can use it. It will be sent by mail, postage paid, on the receipt of Two Dollars and Twenty-five cents, or with six beautiful mounted objects for Three Dollars. Address HENRY CRAIG, 150 Centre Street, New York.

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THE CHAMPION

HICKOK'S PATENT PORTABLE KEYSTONE CIDER AND WINE MILL. 10,000 IN USE AND APPROVED.

This admirable machine is now ready for the fruit harvest of 1883. It is, if possible, made better than ever before, and well worthy the attention of all farmers wanting such machines.

If your merchant does not keep them, tell him to send for one for you, or write to the manufacturer yourself. Address the manufacturer, W. O. HICKOK, Eagle Works, Harrisburg, Pa.

THE UNIVERSAL CLOTHES WRINGER.



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This popular machine sells rapidly wherever offered. Every Family will have one! It is only a question of time. Thousands of families every where are being relieved in that hardest of all household washings.

Cotton is Expensive. Save it by using the Universal Clothes Wringer. "Time is Money."

COG-WHEELS.

and are WARRANTED in every particular. This means especially, that after a few months use, the lower roll WILL NOT TWIST ON THE SHAFT, and tear the clothing, as is the case with our No. 3 (85) and other wringers without COG-WHEELS.

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

BY ZENOBIA HOLLINGSWORTH.

Written on the 12th Anniversary of my Mother's Death.

There's a glimmer of gold on the lake, There's a soft purple sheen on the hills, And the notes of the birds seem to blend...

The Story-Teller.

A HOSPITAL PICTURE.

HOW OUR SOLDIERS LIVE AND DIE.

In a recent number of the Boston Commonwealth we find the following sketch of a scene in one of the army hospitals at Washington...

women have a way of doing such things comfortably, so I leave it to you. He won't last more than a day or two at furthest. I could have sat down on the spot and cried heartily...

ache as it did then, since my mother called me to watch the departure of a spirit skin to this, in its gentleness and patient strength. As I went in, John stretched out both hands. "I knew you'd come! I guess I'm moving on, ma'am."

Wit and Humor.

A SUBSTITUTE'S OFFER. Mr. Pilkinson, a small farmer in Pennsylvania, was some time ago drafted for the service of his country. His wife, though she possessed but a small stock of general information...

PRENTICEANA. We have got the rebel Confederacy down, but we must not think that the danger is past. We should remember that a shark bites best when he is flat on his back.

Corner for the Young.

CHEMICAL ENIGMA. I AM composed of 46 letters. My 27, 2, 26, 4 is air in motion. My 3, 18, 17, 37, 38, 39 is one of the precious metals.

POETICAL ENIGMA.

I AM in the men, but not in the boys. I am in the playthings, but not in the toys. I am in the north, but not in the south.

AN ANAGRAM.

Nurjs to-ayd has nebe hinndbug Lal het byaetu fo bre rail; Teh ure crafregna fo reh asseert...

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 710.

Answer to ornithological Enigma: "An eagle, towering in his pride of place, Was, by a mousing owl, hawked at and killed."

Advertisements.

MAPLEWOOD YOUNG LADIES INSTITUTE, Pittsfield, Mass., commences its 45th semi-annual session October 1, 1883. PATENTS—In the UNITED STATES, ENGLAND, and FRANCE...