

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. T. MOORE,
With a Corps of Able Assistants and Contributors.
CHAS. D. BRAGDON, Western Corresponding Editor.

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Agricultural.

A SEASONABLE TOPIC.

THE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS to be held during the ensuing four weeks are now very properly attracting general attention, and a few remarks on their management, and the duty of officers and exhibitors, are submitted for the consideration of the large number of our readers interested.

In order to secure success every Society must have live, wide-awake, efficient and honest managers—men who are in earnest and work for the cause rather than personal gain or popularity. And, by the way, it is the duty of the members of our Societies to attend the annual meetings promptly and regularly, and see that, by the aid of their voices and votes, such men are selected. Those who neglect this duty have no just cause of complaint if matters are not properly managed. And it is not only necessary to select good officers, but to second their efforts to further the objects in view. A member's duty does not cease when he has aided in electing an efficient board; he is bound, though only a "high private," to aid in enhancing the prosperity of the organization in every proper manner. His presence and personal influence are especially important at the Annual Fair of his Society—after having induced as many of his neighbors to join him as possible. Too many of our Societies and Fairs are "run" by a few men—from three to six—while the great mass of members stand aloof, and often complain of sins of omission or commission which would have been avoided had their own duties been properly discharged.

But the Fairs are to be held soon, and now is the time to talk and act in regard to them. Reader, what are you doing for the success of the one to be held in your locality? Have you talked with your neighbors and townsmen on the subject, and resolved to unite with them (or induced them to unite with you) in contributing to the exhibition, thus materially enhancing the interest and value of the general displays. If not, there is no time to lose in creating a laudable spirit of rivalry and emulation. Stir up your friends to enter upon the good work—to join you in becoming exhibitors at the Town, County or State Fair. Prepare your best articles and animals—not those which are wonderful by chance, but such as depend for their merit upon your knowledge, skill and careful attention—and see that they are properly exhibited in competition. Don't hesitate because others may show larger or better, but do your best, and, if you do not take a premium, you will manifest the right spirit and aid in promoting improvement—indeed may be materially benefited personally by the competition and comparison of products with others. If the judges are honest and capable men—and great pains should be taken to select such in all cases—you will receive credit for endeavors in the right direction.

And right here, having alluded to judges, let us say that it is of the utmost importance to the permanent usefulness and prosperity of our Agricultural Societies and their Fairs that none but good men—such as are most capable and conscientious—should be appointed on awarding committees. Neglect in this matter—a lack of judgment and discrimination in selecting judges—is a serious hindrance to the pros-

perity of many organizations, and has caused more dissatisfaction and prejudice, perhaps, than all other causes combined. It is perhaps too late to remedy the matter, in many instances, this year—yet in filling vacancies when the judges are called to enter upon the discharge of their duties, you should make it your business to be present and see that every appointment is one "fit to be made." In too many instances the lists of judges are made out in a hurry, without sufficient time to canvass the qualifications of the persons appointed, or by persons who are not acquainted with those selected—and sometimes the whole business is done by two or three members of a board of managers, in the absence of their associates. The best way to rectify any errors of this kind is to see that all vacancies are properly filled at the time of the Fair.

Having resolved to attend your Fair, and to become an exhibitor thereat, see that the various members of your family have an opportunity to do likewise. Your wife, sons and daughters should have the privilege and pleasure of contributing to the display, and of witnessing the general exhibition. Make the Fair day or days a holiday season—an occasion for both benefit and recreation—and the time devoted to it will be well spent.

—Since writing the preceding we have read a very sensible and timely article on the same subject in the September number of the *Stock Journal*. We subjoin the substance of our contemporary's suggestions:

"Much of the usefulness of Agricultural Fairs and Cattle Shows depends upon their management, which should be in the hands of honest, intelligent men, whose only motive of action is the good of their brother farmers, instead of those whose motive is pecuniary or political gain to themselves. Judges should be selected to examine stock and implements for their knowledge of the articles in hand, and who are honest enough to give premiums for meritorious articles instead of to designing and unscrupulous men who exhibit them.

"When crops are exhibited for premium, a statement of the kind of soil on which they are grown, the kind and quantity of manure used, the previous crop, and the mode and cost of cultivation and harvesting should be required by the judges, that their brother farmers may have the benefit of it. Stock should be accompanied by well established pedigrees and the mode of breeding, feeding and management. The object of Agricultural Fairs is the dissemination of information among farmers, rather than the paying or receiving of large premiums on live stock, crops or farm implements. A vast deal of information may be obtained through published reports of judges and committees, if they but take the pains to gather material facts and lay them before the public in an intelligible and concise form.

"Heretofore it has been the practice to feed certain animals and fit them expressly for exhibition, and present them in an unnatural and unhealthy state, though looking sleek and smooth, but we are happy in the belief that judges understand all such tricks and devices, and judge of animals by their good points rather than for their superabundance of flesh. In judging of horses, cattle, sheep, and other animals, their blood, keeping and management should be known and taken into account. It has been remarked and complained that a few men carry off the premiums awarded to stock, to the exclusion of the mass of exhibitors, which may be true, and justly so, for the reason that there are but few men, comparatively, in each county or State who appreciate the difference in breeds, or who thoroughly understand the management of horses, cattle, sheep and swine, or who take the pains necessary to the full development of their desirable and useful qualities. Those men who do understand all these important things in stock husbandry, and who practice them for their own and their neighbor's benefit, deserve premiums rather than those who have by accident or chance a good animal, without being able to explain how it was produced or how its like can be produced again. Premiums are given for the very purpose of encouraging all men to enter into an honorable competition in knowledge, skill and care in the various useful branches of husbandry and the mechanic arts, and we believe that the day is not far distant when farmers, in order to compete with their neighbors, will see and feel the necessity of an education to their calling, as well as the lawyer, doctor or minister. Without this the resources of this country will never be fully developed."

SELLING PRODUCE—SUGGESTIONS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Under this head, "Coalition," in your paper of August 29th, proposes an association of farmers for the purpose of obtaining the highest prices for farm produce, giving as a reason, that individuals among them—himself included—annually suffer by selling at prices lower than the highest prices for the year have sometimes reached for given articles.

This is an old story with ever so many people of all trades and occupations, praiseworthy in itself, and all very well, if it could only be brought about. But, has it never occurred to "Coalition" that if farmers sometimes lose by selling at low prices, the purchasers of the produce quite as often lose in the high prices they frequently pay? In these actively commercial times there is a class of middle-men, or speculators, if you please, who range all through the country, purchasing grain, butter, cheese, fruit, pigs, sheep—in short, all that a farmer has to sell, and the competition among them is such that they frequently pay more for articles, than they can get for them in the large markets, after paying charges, losses on perishable articles, interest on money, and various risks and chances, always incident to speculation. When the farmer sells his produce and gets his pay for it, as he should always be sure to do, his risks are at an end. He need spend no more time or trouble about it, and can go to work at something else. If he wants good prices, it is his first business to take a good agricultural paper, and read the quotations of weekly prices, which are quite as reliable as any he would get from his own "reporter," and at much less expense. Add to this, if he read diligently, and think of what he reads, he can form a tolerably accurate opinion of the annual production of the country in articles which he has to sell, and the prospects of the coming markets; or, he can talk with his intelligent neighbors, and gather their opinions on which to form his judgment, and govern himself accordingly.

In the course of my business experience, I have seen repeated trials of associations for "Farmers' Stores," "Farmers' Produce Warehouses," where the whole neighborhood produce was brought to be sold by an "associate agent," or some such like arrangement, or combination; and I never knew any such affair to last over one season, or year. The whole thing turned out a failure, either from the want of knowledge or tact in the managers, or by the agent's turning sharper or some other difficulties, ending in the thorough disgust of the partners, who had to make a general assessment to foot up the losses. "Every man to his trade," says the adage, and it is a good one.

As to prices ranging high, or low, it is oftentimes a matter of accident or chance which the sagacity of no man can always foresee or determine. Probability is the nearest point to which any one can arrive. No business in our country is so fluctuating as that of the produce-dealer, nor is there any business in which larger sums of money are lost than in his. They occasionally make fortunes, it is true; but after watching them for thirty years at the great produce mart of Buffalo, I can scarce count twenty out of several hundreds who have retired from that business rich, but scores after scores of them who went out bankrupt.

I have known sundry farmers, too; and they, I find, sometimes turn speculators in their own or their neighbors' products—who could never get enough for their stuff. When prices were fabulously high, they would still hold on for higher—weeks, months, or years, as the perishable quality of their articles might admit,—and then sell for half what they once could have realized, had they sold in time. For instance, two years ago, wool was worth only 25 to 40 cents a pound, according to grade or quality. Since then it has been worth 75 to 90, or 100 cents' and as cotton cheapens—and it will all the while be going down as the rebellion becomes subdued, as it surely will—wool will still get lower instead of higher. Yet, when it is now worth near or quite 100 per cent. more than the average price has been for the last ten years, many of our farmers are holding on and grumbling because prices are no higher. I predict that the price of wool will be lower, rather than higher, like those of most other kinds of farming produce. I am not a produce buyer, and only wish I had more to sell.

Black Rock, N. Y., Aug. 31, 1863.

L. F. ALLEN.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

FARMERS AND THE MARKETS.

In the past there has been a great deal of complaint among the farmers of the West, because of their relations to grain dealers. And there has been cause for complaint. Probably the cause or causes are not yet entirely removed; nor have the complaints ceased. And it is likely to be so until the producer and the shipper and dealer recognize the fact that their interests are mutual, and that conference, conciliation and co-operation will promote the best interests of all—that the prosperity of one is, in a degree, dependent upon the success of the other.

The farmer will hardly make his power and influence felt without organization. In matters relating to traffic—to the disposal of produce, communities of farmers should be organized, so as to secure concert of action when there is a wrong to be righted, or a desirable and valid object to be secured. But of this subject, more in detail hereafter. My present object is to furnish your readers who grow produce for the Chicago market, with some matters of personal interest to them. For, after knowing how to produce an article for market, it is important to know in what shape it will bring the most money and yield the largest profit. The grain grower, then, will be interested to know something about the system of

GRAIN INSPECTION

Obtaining here. This system is faulty yet, notwithstanding the efforts that have been made to perfect it. For one man cannot inspect all the grain. There must be a dozen, more or less, grain inspectors. Each one of these inspectors is governed by certain rules. But these rules are not altogether arbitrary, and the inspector is compelled to act at discretion—to exercise his judgment. He may be misled, deceived, or his judgment may be at fault, or he may construe a rule liberally at one time and too rigidly at another, or he may be dishonest, and allow himself to be used by dishonest men for dishonest purposes. Hence the inspection is not always uniform nor just. But it is the effort of the Board of Trade of this city to make it as nearly uniform as possible, and secure honest men for inspectors, who combine with honesty, good judgment and skill in the prosecution of their labors.

On the first of day of August last, the rules and grades of inspection were revised. It is proper they should be published in the RURAL, as hitherto, for the benefit of Western producers.

WHEAT.—No. 1 *White Winter*.—To be pure White Winter wheat, sound, plump, and well cleaned.

No. 2 *White Winter*.—To be pure White Winter wheat, reasonably clean; and such as will make "sound" flour.

No. 1 *Red Winter*.—To be pure Red Winter wheat, sound, plump, and clean.

No. 2 *Red Winter*.—To be pure Red Winter, or Red and White Winter wheat mixed, reasonably clean, and such as will make "sound" flour.

Rejected Winter.—To include dirty and inferior wheat, but not so badly damaged as to render it unfit for flouring.

No *Grade*.—All Winter wheat so badly damaged as to render it unfit for flouring, is to be passed "No Grade."

All Winter wheat is to be weighed, and the weights to be entered on the inspection books and cards, as is done in the inspection of Spring wheat.

Extra Club.—To be sound, well cleaned, and to consist of pure club wheat, weighing not less than sixty pounds to the measured bushel.

Amber Iowa.—To be sound, well cleaned, and to comprise all kinds of bright, amber-colored Spring wheat, weighing not less than fifty-eight pounds to the measured bushel.

No. 1 *Spring*.—The berry to be plump, well cleaned, free from other grains, and to weigh not less than fifty-eight pounds to the measured bushel.

No. 2 *Spring*.—To be sound, but not clean enough for No. 1, and weigh not less than fifty-five pounds to the measured bushel. All Black Sea wheat inspects No. 2 Spring.

Rejected Spring.—All unsound, unmerchantable Spring wheat, and to weigh not less than fifty pounds to the measured bushel.

Condemned Wheat.—Mixed with screenings, rye, or any refuse whatever. Condemned wheat is not received into the warehouses, and must be

taken from the cars on the track by the owner or consignee.

CORN.—Is divided first into two classes—"New" and "Old," according to crop. New and Old together inspects and is classed as "New." It is again subdivided into four classes or grades—"Pure White," "Pure Yellow," "Mixed"—which must be sound, good berry and well cleaned—and "Rejected," which embraces unsound, damp, or very dirty corn.

OATS.—No. 1 *Oats*.—To be round, free from other grains, and well cleaned.

No. 2 *Oats*.—All other oats not unmerchantable.

Rejected Oats.—All oats, dirty, unsound, or from any cause unmerchantable in the judgment of the inspector.

Old Oats to be inspected as heretofore, "No. 1" and "Rejected Old," and so to be entered on inspector's books and cards.

BARLEY.—No. 1 *Barley*.—To be plump, bright, clean, sound.

No. 2 *Barley*.—To be sound and reasonably clean.

Rejected Barley.—Unsound or very dirty.

RYE.—No. 1 *Rye*.—To be plump, sound and clean.

No. 2 *Rye*.—All rye not included in No. 1 that is not, in the judgment of the inspector, unmerchantable.

Rejected Rye.—All Rye that from any cause shall be deemed unmerchantable.

About Weight.—The inspector is instructed to use discretion in inspecting the different grades of wheat, and not confine himself strictly to the standard of weight, where it is a manifest wrong or injury to do so.

CLEAN YOUR GRAIN.

Here is an item of interest which I extract from a circular issued by Chief Inspector J. J. RICHARDS, Aug. 8th, 1863. It interests every farmer who has grain to send to this market: "The new crop is now coming in, and, so far, is a great improvement in quality and condition over last year's crop. Much of it, however, is going a grade below what it would if it were properly cleaned—particularly spring wheat and oats. A large portion of the spring wheat, if cleaned, would grade No. 1, and at least two-thirds of the oats now arriving would, if cleaned, grade No. 1."

And here is an additional item for shippers, in which farmers are likewise interested, and which they should see brought to the notice of this class, who have much to do with determining the reputation of the wheat of a locality. It is this:—"More care should be taken by shippers in cleaning cars before loading them; for much grain is graded lower than it would be owing to dirt and mixtures of grain."

The fact is, a buyer and shipper who mixes grain, and who does not distinguish in purchasing between the plump, well cleaned lots, and that which is uncleaned and mixed, should be invited by producers to leave town on the first train; and, if necessary, helped to go. Some of these rascals make a business of mixing grain. Some of them sell large quantities of oats and chaff as No. 2 wheat, getting better prices therefor than they could get for the grain separate. That is, the difference in price between oats and wheat is greater than the difference in the price of the two grades of wheat. This villainy should meet with summary punishment at the hands of the producer. He ought not to be able to buy a bushel of grain in any community of farmers. But he should have *feathers* cheap, with an administration of *tar*!

FLOUR INSPECTION.

It will not be inappropriate to explain what is meant above by the phrase "sound" flour. This will be understood when it is known that all flour is classed as "Sound," "Weedy" and "Unsound."

Sound.—This must be strictly sound, free from any and every defect or fault, causing either smell or taste.

Weedy.—Flour made from wheat that has come in contact with a noxious weed, imparting an unpleasant smell which it is supposed will cook out.

Unsound.—All flour not "sound" or "weedy," whether the unsoundness is derived from the condition of the wheat, or has originated in the flour. The Inspectors are required to note on their certificate the character of the unsoundness, such as "musty," "hard," "sour," "soft sour" or "slightly unsound"—the latter explanation of unsoundness being intended to indicate that the

flour will probably work "sound" for immediate use, and is but slightly depreciated in value.

There are other minutiae governing the details of inspection of no general public interest whatever.

GRAIN STORAGE.

The rates of storage here affect the price of grain the farmer obtains. And the length of time it is in store has much to do in determining his profit, if it is held in store by himself or his agent. It is best then these rates should be generally known, that how much they may affect the price of grain may be estimated. I copy what follows from the organ of the commercial interests here—*Wells' Commercial Express*—under date of Aug. 19th:

"Buyers are all discriminating closely, now, on the date of warehouse receipts of grain, and will probably do so for some time, which gives more range to prices of the same grades of grain on the same day, according to the amount likely to be due for storage when shipped.

"Warehouse charges on grain here are divided into summer and winter storage. Summer storage commences February 15th, and all grain stored on and after that date can lie until April 15th for four cents per bushel; or, if withdrawn within sixty days after date of receipt, will be charged only summer storage rates. After April 15th, one-half cent is added to winter storage for every ten days. Grain stored previous to November 15th, and lying in store after that date, is charged summer storage until sixty days after date of receipt, when, if it lies long enough, it has the advantage of winter storage, except that to winter storage is added one-half cent for each ten days previous to November 15th. In general terms, storage is reckoned at summer rates all the year round, except that grain in store after November 15th cannot be charged more than four cents per bushel until after April 15th. Canal grain is charged one cent for the first fifteen days, and one-half cent for each ten days thereafter; but is transferred to vessels with the privilege of lying in warehouse for five days for one-half cent per bushel.

"The first regular storage follows the grain, and is paid by the buyer; all additional or extra storage is paid by the seller, unless stipulated to the contrary. Grain withdrawn from the warehouse and bagged, one cent additional for bagging. Grain sold on track in bulk must go into warehouse to be bagged, for which it is charged two cents."

So that the farmer will see that it costs something to get his grain through this city. Add to this the heavy freight tariffs, and it must either be grown and sold by the farmer cheap, or cost the consumer heavily. All are interested, therefore, in increasing the home consumption by developing our manufacturing resources. And to this end, and that of diminishing the cost of handling and transportation, every friend of the Western producer and home progress is at work.

CULTIVATION OF THE OSIER WILLOW.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—As I am receiving many inquiries by mail, I wish through your excellent paper to answer, that the public may be posted as to the cultivation of the Osier or Basket Willow. And first, the kind for cultivation is the French Osier or Basket Willow, (*Salix viminalis*.) I am well aware that there are other varieties which can be grown with success, but an experience of eight or ten years in our country has proven that the *viminalis* is the best. Among some of the species which may be grown are the Red or Purplish-twigg'd Osiers, (*Salix rubra*;) Fine Basket Osier, (*Salix forbyana*;) White Welch Willow, (*Salix decipiens*;) the Purple-twigg'd Willow, (*Salix purpurea*;) grown by Mr. BRAMAN, Macedon Center, N. Y. The very idea of *viminalis* is tough, pliable, wiry; therefore Mr. B. must be mistaken in saying his brings the best price in market.

Second—*Soil*.—"The soil for Basket Willow should be of a deep sandy loam, well drained and thoroughly prepared; the situation ought to be low, level and naturally moist, and if there is a command of water for irrigation, so much the better." In fact, there are many soils in which the Osier will flourish; in a yellow loam with clay subsoil on some of our hills they have done finely. I have seen them grow ten to eleven feet in such situations; but what I should call a perfect situation would be a black-ash swamp, deep black muck, which could be flowed at pleasure; but the ultimatum is richness and dampness.

Third—*Propagation*. All willows are, or may be, propagated by cuttings; at least there are but a few that will not take root readily. The sets should be eight or twelve inches in length, the lower ends cut square, the top in a sloping direction. They can be set as one's fancy dictates, from twelve to eighteen inches in the rows, the rows being three feet apart, or so as to have room to use a cultivator. The best time to set in well drained soils is late in autumn, for it will give the buds a chance to swell during winter—giving a more vigorous growth in the spring. But on heavy soils the frost will throw out the sets; on such soils they must be set in the spring, the earlier the better. The sets are obtained by taking a year's growth and cutting in pieces the length you choose. The sets should be set perpendicular in the ground, top end up, leaving two buds above ground.

Fourth—*Management*. Osier plantations must be carefully cleaned and hoed for three years, at least; some keep them hoed every year.

Fifth—*Cutting and Disposing of the Crop*. The proper season for cutting the Basket Willow is in autumn, directly after the fall of the leaf. The reason for cutting thus is, it gives the buds

a chance to swell during the winter, giving them an earlier start in the spring. As soon as the rods are cut, they are generally tied up in bundles, six to eight inches in diameter. If not intended to be used green or unpeeled they should be set in water, thick ends down, to the depth of three or four inches, where they remain during winter and spring, until the shoots begin to sprout, when they are ready to be peeled. They should not be bound in bundles if they have leaves on, for the leaves cause a fermentation injurious to the willow; therefore they should be set up thinly, with something to lean their tops against.

Sixth—*Market*. Some of the best markets are the following, viz.: for the Eastern States, Boston is, perhaps, the best. For the Western States New Orleans, in which willows have sold for \$200 per ton. Among other places are St. Louis, Baltimore and Buffalo, in which they have sold for \$180 per ton the past year; New York, Albany, Cincinnati, Chicago, &c. Wm. McCULLY & Co., proprietors of the Empire Glass Works, Pittsburgh, Pa., worked from sixty to seventy hands in 1850, and used ten to twelve thousand dollars worth of willows, all of which were imported. Prattsburgh, N. Y., 1863. Wm. A. WALDO.

THRASHING BY STEAM POWER.

A LARGE thrashing machine, operated by steam power, which has been in operation in this vicinity, has attracted much attention, and given very good satisfaction to those who have employed it. The portable steam-engine is of eight horsepower. It consumes eighteen or twenty barrels of water, and about one and a half cords of two foot wood per day. Sparks in the smoke-pipe are arrested in their ascent by wire sieves, and the escape steam passes through the smoke-pipe as a further precaution. The engine is placed at a considerable distance from the barn or grain stack, and the draught of the furnace rests on the ground when the engine is in position for service. With reasonable care it appears safe. It is set in a very few minutes after it arrives on the ground, and has a very even and continuous motion,—just such speed, in fact, as the thrasher wishes.

The machine moved to the spot on my farm in the morning, was in full operation by twenty minutes past eight o'clock, and thrashed and nicely cleaned five hundred bushels of wheat by dusk in the evening. From my farm it moved to a neighbor's, where, in one hour over a day and a half, it thrashed six hundred and eighty bushels of wheat and three hundred bushels of oats, setting twice. At the next neighbor's it thrashed one thousand four hundred and fifty bushels of wheat and eight acres of oats in three and one-fourth days, setting three times. The proprietor informed me that his greatest performance had been five hundred bushels of wheat thrashed between noon and late in the evening. All who have had grain thrashed by it, as far as I have heard, are much pleased with its performance, and are inclined to the opinion that steam will supersede horse-power for thrashing where water can be readily obtained.

Milan, Erie Co., O., 1863. PETER HATHAWAY.

SHEEP SHEDS, BARN AND RACKS.

FRIEND RURAL:—Some time since I saw a request for a plan of a sheep shed in your columns, and as no one answered it I thought I would.

In the first place I would never build a shed, but a barn; for it costs no more for a roof to a barn than it does a shed—the only difference is in the siding and the length of the posts. The barn I have used for the last two winters is built 28 by 48 feet, with 12 feet posts. We use it in the summer for a milking barn. It has two rows of stanchions running lengthwise, 8 feet apart, and in the fall I take out the stanchions and put up feed racks for sheep. I put them the same distance apart as the stanchions were, with a passage across one end from one stable to the other.

The best racks I know of are made by putting one board ten inches wide at the bottom and another six inches wide at the top. Put them 18 inches apart, with a piece of board nailed on once in 8 or 10 inches, according to the kind of sheep you have. For fine wool sheep six inches is far enough apart. The boards should be about a foot wide. Then for a manger set a wide board with the bottom four inches from the rack slanting in towards the alley, and a narrow one from the bottom of that against the side of the rack, and you have a manger which is suitable for grain or hay. A barn built in this style will accommodate sixty sheep, giving to each one 16 square feet. I would advise any one to build with posts 16 feet high, as it makes so much more room for hay overhead.

M. M. Charlotte, Chataqua Co., N. Y., Aug. 1863.

MORE ABOUT FLAX CULTURE.

In the RURAL of June 27, '63, I noticed S. EDSON's experience in pulling and rotting flax. His way is very good. I have tried it in part. In thrashing off the seed and rotting I differ a little. After it is hauled on the barn floor and stood round a few days, be sure and get a nice sunshiny day to get the seed out. Open your barn doors wide, and on the sunshiny side get up your flax on the root ends to take the sun; then get a heavy pork or cider barrel, turn it over on the side, make it lay firm on the floor, take up one of the flax bundles, pull the band which it is tied up by down to the root ends, grasp the root ends tight by both hands, then whip the seed end over the side of the barrel. Put five or eight little bundles together and tie all up in a large bundle.

I prefer the month of March to dew-rot my flax when the sign is in the head. I believe in signs. Lay your flax down to rot at that time and it will not be hard to pull up out of the grass. It will lay on the top of the grass as it grows and be

easier to turn over. A rake handle is a good thing to turn it with. I believe by rotting flax in March the lint is stronger, and it whitens better and makes whiter linen. The dews in September and hot sun weaken and black the lint so it never becomes so white as dew-rotting in March. RURAL readers, try my plan before you condemn it, and if any one can give us more light on dew-rotting flax I for one shall be glad to hear from you.

JAS. WELCH.

Harlem, Delaware Co., O.

CORN STALK RAKE.—Take a piece of timber 6x6 and 12 feet long, or long enough to cover the width of three rows. Into this bore twelve 2 inch holes and insert teeth made of strong timber, and about two feet long; at right angles to the teeth insert two strong poles, 12 feet long, and as far enough apart to just pass between the stakes of the wagon, resting on the hind bolster. Put two pins into the poles to draw against the bolster; get on the fore end of the wagon and drive astride of the middle row, and when the rake is full bear on the ends of the poles, which will lift the rakehead and discharge the corn-stalks. The stalks should be previously cut either with a corn-cutter, scythe, hoe, or a reaper, or in any other way most convenient.—S. W. ARNOLD, Cortland, Ill.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Harvesting Corn.

THE Corn crop is harvested by three modes,—by hogging down, by cutting up, and by gathering in the ear alone. The old mode of the Middle States, by topping, may be regarded as out of date and general practice, as may also the Southern one, of pulling the blades.

A vast portion of the corn crop in Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky, is consumed by turning hogs upon it as soon as the grain begins to harden, or about the middle of September. It keeps the stalks, leaves, shucks and cobs on the ground, together with the rich manure of the hogs. Nothing but the increased fat on them is taken away. This mode has sustained the soil in producing the great crops of alluvial lands, as much as their occasional overflowing, as the expense of gathering and feeding out makes it a matter of great importance where labor is scarce and its wages high.

A second mode is by cutting up. This is much practiced on our Western prairies, especially where a large number of cattle are raised. The time of cutting up is important, and is always designated by the ear. When the shuck on it has turned brown, and is loose and open on the end of it, then is the only proper time to cut up corn. Nature then indicates that the ear is perfectly matured, and that the whole plant is prepared to dry speedily. But many farmers, instead of looking to the condition of the plant, consult their leisure time, or their desire to put a crop of wheat in the ground, or rely on the weather to dry up the stalks and blades, and so commence cutting too soon. The shuck being very tight, the grain cannot dry sufficiently to prevent moulding, and not infrequently, especially in dry weather, the blades and stalks also mould. In irregular seasons the corn ripens very irregularly, and then it should not be cut up until most of the latest ripening are in the condition I have mentioned. At that time the most forward stalks will be entirely dried up, but they still make excellent fodder.

The best mode of cutting is with a heavy corn-knife, and striking with the point up—by an understroke, as it is called. If the knife is raised and the stroke downward, the weight of the knife tires the muscles of the arm and shoulder, and weakens the wrist. The point of the knife, too, is always entering the ground, and is soon dulled. But in the understroke the knife is turned upward as it passes through the hill, and escapes the ground. But its greatest advantage is in the fact that the knife is swung, but not raised, thus enabling the cutter to use a heavier knife.

Two rows are cut at the same time, and six hills are thrown together, for, when carried to a sufficient armful, two of these bunches usually make a sufficient armful.

The best and most expeditious mode of setting up the shocks is the following:—A shock should contain twelve to sixteen hills square, according to the size of the corn. The stalks of four hills, in the center of this number of hills, should be bent and lapped together. The two rows in which these four hills are should be cut down, and set up in each of the four divisions made by the bending of the four center hills. The stalks should then be tied together with the inner bark of the linn or basswood tree. The rest of the hills may then be cut down and set up around these. They should be set up as straight as they will conveniently stand, and immediately tied with a band of the same bark, or of the grape vine, or of broom corn. In about ten days, when the stalks are seasoned or shrunk, these bands should be tightened; if not, the stalks are liable to slip around each other and fall down in a cork-screw twist, when the fodder is easily and rapidly spoiled. But if properly set up and tied, they will remain uninjured during the winter.

The time when corn is cut up is one of comparative leisure, and in no other way can so much feed be saved in the same length of time. But when farmers sell the corn, they gather the ears from the stalks in wagons, usually husking it in the field. It is then cribbed, generally in covered rail pens, where it is kept until sold. But to retain the sweet and fine flavor of corn for bread and mush, it should be gathered with the husk on, and not husked until used. This method keeps it from the air, and what is much worse than air, the rats and mice, which not only waste much of it, but give an unpleasant flavor to the corn when ground into meal.

An evil of no little magnitude follows this mode of harvesting. In order to get some return from the stalks besides their return to the soil, cattle and horses are turned into the field to eat them. If this were done when the ground is hard and frozen, it would not be objectionable, but when once in, they are suffered to have access to the field until spring, when the soil is trampled into clods that cannot be pulverized until frozen in the ensuing winter. The loss is ten-fold greater than the expense of cutting up and hauling out the fodder.—LEWIS BOLLMAN, Bloomington, Ind.

Mowing Pastures.

WE have often spoken of the advantage of keeping pastures free from the dead grass, which, where the crop is not fed off, will accumulate. After grass has gone to seed, it is refused by stock, and the patches where it lies will be left, even after a new growth is started. The old grass makes the new sour and unpalatable. To keep the grass sweet, the pasture should be cleared off at least once a year. On a late visit to the farm of the Rev. C. C. Sewall, of Medfield, he called the attention of the writer and other persons to some hay which he had cut in the pastures. Finding, after many years' experience, that during the flush of feed in the fore part of the season, his cows would leave certain places almost untouched, and which were, consequently, about lost so far as to yielding any return, he mowed them, obtaining a considerable quantity of hay. This was done last year; and finding a decided advantage from the operation, he has repeated it the present season. The hay obtained in the pasture is of good quality, consisting in a great degree of the Kentucky bluegrass, (*Poa pratensis*), with a mixture of other early species. Mr. Sewall finds that by mowing the grass, the cows feed off the succeeding growth and all the pasture is kept smooth and clean. By this means the cows actually get more feed than they would otherwise, as the rejected spots would have remained untouched if the growth, had not been cleared off. The same thing might be done with the same advantage in thousands of other cases.—BOSTON CULTIVATOR.

Farming in New Mexico.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Wisconsin Farmer*, writing at Barclay's Fort, New Mexico, gives an interesting statement of facts in relation to this portion of the country, from which we copy the following:

"The lands which are cultivated are productive to a degree perfectly astounding to a stranger, when the mode of cultivation they have undergone, and exposure-suffered for all past time, are taken into the account. Some time in the month of April, May or June, and the people are not very particular about the time, all the weeds and vegetables on the land are burned up, and the water is let out of the ditch upon the piece of land to be cultivated, and is made to run over every part of it. Without this the land is too hard for plowing. The seed, if wheat, oats, barley or peas, is then sown over the land, and plowed in, generally, with a Mexican plow, never more than three inches deep; after which a log is drawn sideways over the land and the small ditches cut for future waterings, and the work is done till watering time arrives. Corn is planted in the same manner, except the seed is placed in the bottom of the furrow at proper distances apart, and is covered by the next furrow. Crops require about two waterings to perfect them. The yield exceeds belief. Wheat, which excels all other crops, not unfrequently gives fifty times the amount sown, and is of a superior quality. A hundred to one has been known.

Medicine to Horses.

I CONSIDER the usual method of giving medicine to horses, by drenching, as it is called, highly objectionable. In this process the horse's head is raised and held up, a bottle introduced into his mouth, his tongue pulled out, and the liquid poured down. In his struggle some of the medicine is quite likely to be drawn into his wind-pipe and lungs, and inflammation and fatal results sometimes follow. A better way is to mix the medicine with meal, or rye bran; make it into balls, pull out the horse's tongue and place a ball as far back in his mouth as possible, then release his tongue; he will almost certainly swallow the ball. Or, the dose may be mixed with meal and honey, or any other substance that will form a kind of jelly, placed upon a small wooden blade made of a shingle, and thrust into the back part of his mouth, when he will very easily swallow it.—*Patent Office Agricultural Report*.

WHAT A WOMAN CAN DO.—J. B. Bardwell, Worcester Co., Mass., writes to the *American Agriculturist*, that an unmarried woman of that place, now over eighty years old, a few years since bought a farm for \$5,300, and recently added to it a pasture lot costing \$500 more. She had accumulated the whole by doing housework at \$1.50 per week, and putting her savings at interest. She formerly let the farm to tenants, but not liking their doings, last year she assumed the management, and with the help of one man, carried on the business. She kept sixteen cows, attended personally to the dairy, and attended her own housework, besides doing the marketing, etc. A large class of young men who are idly "waiting for something to turn up," should take lessons from this old lady.

THE CULTIVATION OF WOOL has taken a long stride ahead in the past two years. The home consumption, it is said, reaches one hundred and twenty-six millions of pounds, of which fifty millions go to clothe the army, and one million the navy. Many portions of the North-West are very favorable to sheep culture, and in due time wool must be a staple production.—*Wool Grower and Manufacturer*.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE WEATHER.—FROST, &c.—The weather of last week was remarkably cool for the season. Fires and overcoats were in demand for several days, especially evenings and mornings, in this region, and there were frosts in some localities. We hear of no material damage to crops in Western New York. Accounts from the West, however, first represented the damage from frost as very severe—though later dates are more favorable, and lead us to infer the facts were exaggerated. Recent Chicago papers represent the calamity as much less severe than was at first represented, and the *Tribune* "confidently hopes that when the harvest begins, we shall have only occasional reminders that the yield, particularly of corn, is materially less than the country had reason to expect." [See item from our Western Aid, of Chicago, below.]

WHAT OF THE FROST IN THE WEST?—The tidings that come to us from a very large area tell us of disaster to corn, buckwheat, vine crops, tobacco, broom corn, sorghum and cotton. The damage is enormous, no doubt of it. Yet we hope it will not prove to be so bad as the first reports make it. But if it should, no one can help it. There is no use putting on sackcloth and creaking over it the next six months. Let us see if the loss may not be made to yield us some gain. Where has the frost done the most mischief? On the low lands? Is there any difference in the amount of damage done there? Has the best drained land escaped? Have you noticed? On the uplands considerable corn has been injured—so the reports come to us. But "singular freaks of the frost" are talked about. What about those "singular freaks"? What are the causes? There are causes. Is it difference in elevation, in exposure, or in drainage? How about the warm surfaces and currents of air of higher temperature? Close under your timber belts and groves, if you have looked, tell us whether the corn is cut, and the buckwheat killed; and if in the same vicinity, though exposed to the wind from a stretch of prairie, the grain has marvelously escaped? Let the frost learn us something. Let there be some gain to us of a better knowledge of the laws governing such phenomena, out of the great loss which the ravages of the Frost-King has entailed. Let us spend little time in idle regrets, but set about mending the matter so far as it is in our power, and learning how to prevent such disasters so far as it may be in the power of man to prevent them.

There is another view of the case which farmers should take. Their loss, in the aggregate, belongs to the whole country. For whatever diminishes the supply of food appreciates the price to the consumer. The consumer, therefore, feels these afflictions as sensitively as the farmer can, unless he loses all that he has produced. Farmers, as a class, then, do not suffer as much in consequence as do consumers—for compensation comes to them in enhanced prices. Pray tell us what you learn.—C. D. B.

ADVERTISE THE FAIRS.—Though it may be at the eleventh hour we have a suggestion to make to the officers of Agricultural Societies which are to hold Fairs this fall. It is this—*Advertise the time and place of Fair*, and also publish premium list, rules and regulations, etc., as fully as possible, in local papers, bills, &c. Printer's ink, judiciously distributed, is the best investment you can make, and, with proper personal effort, will generally secure a successful result. There is little or no use in offering handsome premiums unless you make the fact patent to the public. The people are entitled to your programme, and no Society, however successful in former years, can afford to ignore advertising. The officers of some organizations seem to think their machines will run without turning the cranks, but they will ere long discover that "eternal vigilance is the price of" success. And when you have your bills and premium lists printed don't neglect to circulate them until "a day after the Fair." It is poor policy to say the least. Another thing—it is important to notify Superintendents and Judges of their appointment, and secure their acceptance, before announcing them officially.

THE RURAL IN THE ARMY.—During the past few weeks we have received an unusual number of remittances from members of the Union Army, including several clubs from Virginia and the South-west. As a specimen of the letters we are receiving, we give this from Warrenton Junction, Va., under date of Sept. 3:—"Dear old Friend RURAL,—doubtless that you find me away down here in the woods of 'Old Virginia.' I have known you for twelve years, and I love you better and better. When, time after time, I am disappointed in hearing from my dear little ones at home, along comes my true old friend, the RURAL, with his pleasant face and words of good cheer and love, to shorten the time to the next mail. And not to me only, for it finds many admirers here. I have introduced it into a rank secesh family of marked intelligence, with whom I have become acquainted. Long live the RURAL, and may it be borne with the flight of our cherished bird (the American Eagle) to the Gulf of Mexico.—L. B."

CASHMERE GOATS IN SOUTHERN NEW YORK.—Mr. Wm. A. WALDO, of Prattsburgh, Steuben County, writes to us as follows:—"As you expressed a wish, I will give you a short sketch of my Cashmere Goats. I have just started in this new enterprise. Last May I purchased of the flock in Mr. CHERNEY'S hands, three animals, two grades and one pure bred. I have also sent through Mr. CHERNEY as an importer, for a small flock from their native country, which I expect in October ensuing. Have also purchased of Mr. WILLIAMS five of his grade ewes, which will give me the cross of three importations, of which expected in October arrive safely. I have seen Mr. SPENCER'S flock, near Geneseo, also a notice of the sale in RURAL 22d ult. In it it was said that they were the first pure Cashmères in our State. [They are high grades, not pure bred, but are perhaps equal in most respects to pure bred goats; the prices would not warrant them pure bloods.] Mr. S. has, however, an excellent start in breeding Cashmères. I was quite anxious to secure mine in time for the Fair at Utica, but shall only be able to have one pure blood kid, with some grades, which I intend to exhibit at the Fair. I have watched the progress of breeding of Cashmères in our country for three or four years with much interest."

PERSONAL.—Hon. JOHN WENTWORTH has been selected and solicited to deliver the annual address before the State Agricultural Society of Minnesota, at Fort Snelling, September 30th.

Gen. COLLAMORE, Mayor of Lawrence, who lost his life during the late burning and sacking of that city, occupied a prominent position as an agriculturist—especially as a stock man. He had made large purchases of fine stock in Illinois sometime ago; and about a month before his death engaged of Hon. JOHN WENTWORTH every sheep he had to spare. He was enthusiastic in his attention to this department of husbandry.—C. D. B.

HOW TO "HRAD" FLAS.—In answer to our fair friend of Harrisonville, Pa., who complains of the annoyance of fleas distributed about house by a favorite dog,—In the first place kill the dog; and next, if that is objectionable, thoroughly drench him all over with the worst whiskey you can find, and keep him away from the source whence he procures them. Take up your carpets, dust and sun them—for when once fleas get possession of a house they breed spontaneously.

Horticultural.

"VARIOUS HUMBUGS."

In the miscellaneous department of the RURAL for Aug. 1st, was published a communication written by Wm. R. PRINCE, describing several medicinal plants, and among others, Veronica quinquefolia, which is declared to be a sovereign remedy for scrofulous diseases. This has called out the following from our friend of the American Agriculturist, under the significant head "Various Humbugs:"

"Some weeks ago we saw a long article in the N. Y. Tribune, recommending the root of Veronica quinquefolia as a grand panacea for scrofula in all its forms. We felt grieved to see such a quackish article in so widely circulated a paper, but let it pass unnoticed. Now that we see in our esteemed cotemporary, the RURAL NEW-YORKER, another article by the author of the one which appeared in the Tribune, we feel called upon to expose the thing. On reading these articles we, of course, suspected that there was a cat hidden under the meal, and upon making an inquiry, we ascertained that the writer of the articles was selling the root at three dollars an ounce, or two ounces for five dollars. The price of the article in the New York drug and herb stores, is less than one dollar a pound! The editors of the Tribune and RURAL NEW-YORKER have unwittingly allowed the use of their columns to aid in a private and extortionate speculation. It is a sort of spasmodic revival of an old thing which has been before the public in one way or another for the past twenty years. The medicine in question is the root of a plant, the proper botanical name of which is Veronica Virginica, and has been called Leptandra Virginica, and Veronica quinquefolia. The common name is Culver's Root, and it is sometimes called Indian physic. Though not very common around New York, it is abundant enough through the West.

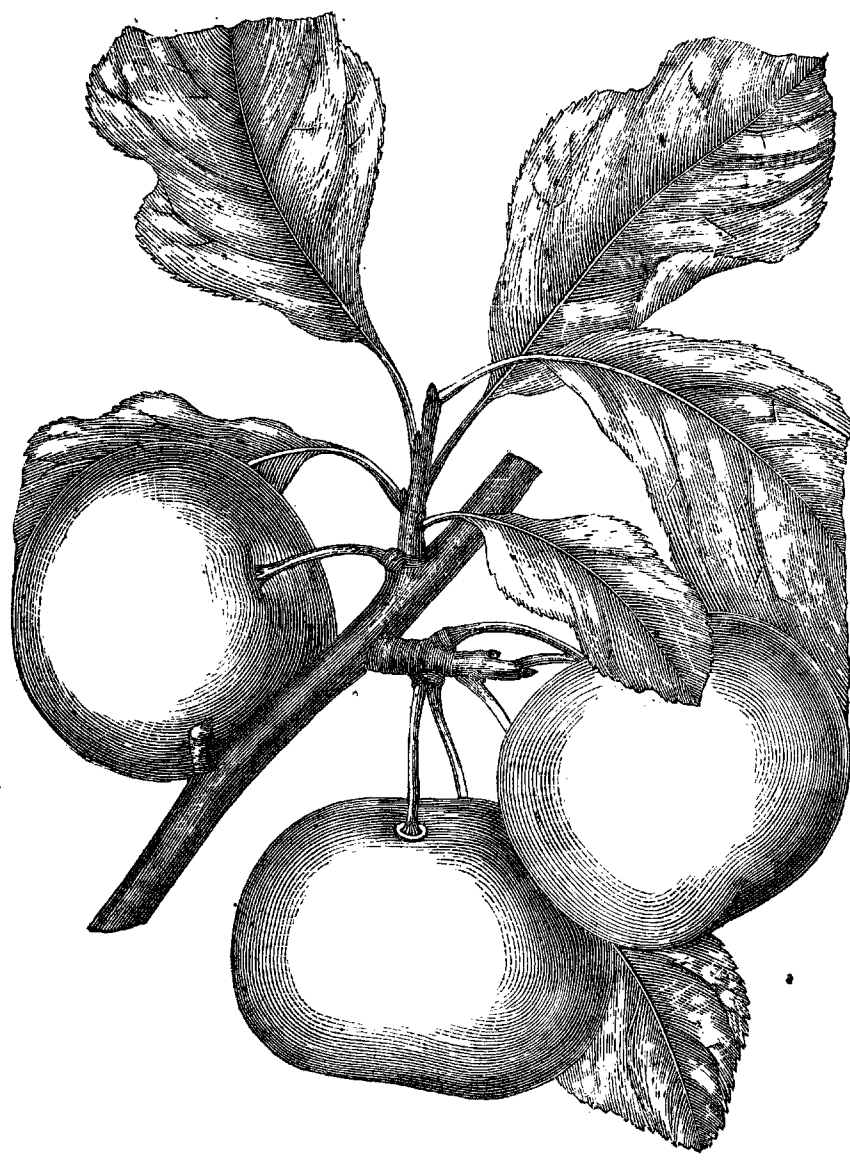
"In regard to the medicinal qualities of the plant, we have only to say, that it is much used by the so-called 'herb-doctors,' and it possesses powerful cathartic and emetic properties. We judge it to be altogether too active an agent to be used unadvisedly. If one is ill enough to require a medicine of this kind, he is in a condition to need the advice of an intelligent physician."

We are perfectly willing the Agriculturist should do the world some service in fighting humbugs, but at the same time a little care is necessary, or our contemporary may find himself among the humbugged class. We have obtained plants of Mr. PRINCE of what he calls Veronica quinquefolia, and it is not, as stated by the Agriculturist, Veronica Virginica, nor can we find that V. Virginica is ever known by that name; indeed, it would be quite inappropriate. The capsule of V. Virginica is oblong-ovate, two-celled, opening by four teeth at the apex, many-seeded; that of V. quinquefolia is globose, membranaceous, one-celled when ripe, (perhaps by obliteration,) opening by five teeth, and few-seeded—about five—though but two or three appear to be perfect. The flowers of V. Virginica are borne in spiked racemes, terminal and axillary; those of V. quinquefolia in axillary whorls, or clusters, and each flower on a separate peduncle half to three-fourths of an inch long. V. quinquefolia has always five leaves together; the other three or four, and sometimes more. The flowers are also different, though the plants were not in such condition as to enable us to analyze the flowers. We doubt whether the plant sent us as Veronica quinquefolia is really a Veronica, or that it can be properly classed in the same Natural Order—SCROFULARIACEAE.

We have nothing to say of the virtues of this plant, but if the one sent us by Mr. PRINCE is the one he propagates, and which the Agriculturist undertook to describe, that paper is certainly very wide of the mark. In the same number of the Agriculturist from which we cut the above extract about "Various Humbugs," we find a column or so about a new grape from Japan, called the Yeddo Grape, containing remarks by the editor, and Mr. PARSONS, the nurseryman of Flushing—the precise locality of Wm. R. PRINCE. Knowing that hundreds of foreign grapes have been tried in this country, and all have failed, while many thousands of dollars have been lost in the experiments, we began to fear that this was one of the "various" humbugs with which we are troubled. A look at the advertising columns of the Agriculturist, where we found that PARSONS & Co. were willing to "dispose of a few plants to the first who apply—the plants cut down to two eyes, and their price ten dollars each," had a tendency to confirm rather than dispel our fears. While our friend of the Agriculturist is keeping such a sharp look out for the notes abroad, he should pay a little attention to the beams at home.

THE PLUM.

The ravages of the Curculio, which destroyed the fruit, and the disease known as Black Knot, which killed the trees, for many years discouraged the cultivation of the plum. For the past fifteen years few trees have been planted, except for the garden, few cultivators being bold enough to put out trees for market culture. The result has been that most of the old trees throughout the country have died, while the few young ones that have been planted have been well cared for and produced good fruit. The Curculio has thus been much curtailed in its range, and hosts of them have been destroyed by careful cultivators. The disease has also been checked and is not now a serious detriment to cultivation. This state of things for a year or two past has encouraged the more general planting of plum trees; and our markets will soon be supplied with plums of the best quality. Where the peach



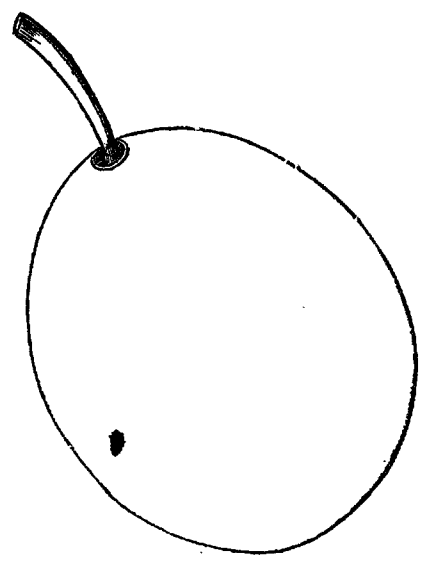
THE MCLAUGHLIN PLUM.

will not thrive no substitute is as good as the plum. Through all the discouragements we have mentioned a few cultivators have persevered, and success has usually crowned their efforts. We can remember but one season in ten or twelve years in which ELLWANGER & BARRY did not have a magnificent show of plums, and to many of us their plum orchard has been a most interesting feature of their grounds. We have several letters before us inquiring the best plums to grow for market. As a general rule the large, rather firm, and high-colored varieties are the most sought for shipping, but the Damson is a great favorite for preserving, and finds a ready sale.

Among the varieties that we have noticed ripe up to this time, and of which we have taken notes, is the Mamelone, a curious and distinct fruit, with a prominent neck. It is about as large as the Green Gage, with a good flavor; greenish yellow, with a tinge of red on the sunny side. It has borne fine crops for several years past, and seems to be a very valuable variety.

Prince Englebert is a Belgian variety, the tree a free grower and productive. Large, very deep purple, with a very thick bloom. Rich and fine. Early Orleans is of medium size, round, purple. Flesh sweet and good. It is a great bearer.

Royal de Tour is a large, round, purple plum, of the finest quality, and productive here. Tree spreading and makes but a slow growth. In other places we hear complaints that it is not productive.



BRADSHAW.

Bradshaw is one of the best of the very large plums, larger than the egg, of a dark violet red, with blue bloom. The flesh is yellowish green, rather coarse, but juicy, sweet and pleasant. The tree is vigorous and a great bearer.

Diapree Rouge, or Red Diaper, is a large and handsome reddish purple plum, which we consider first-rate in all respects. Tree grows rather slow, branches smooth. Skin of a reddish purple, with a few golden specks, and a light blue bloom easily rubbed off. Stalk three-fourths of an inch long, slender, hairy, slightly inserted. Flesh pale-green, juicy, very melting, rich, and delicious; separating from the stone, which is quite small.

Nelson's Victory is a beautiful, rich, juicy plum, of medium size. Skin yellowish russet, with a light bloom.

Nectarine is a fine, showy fruit and of fair quality. Some would call it first-rate. Skin purple, with a blue bloom. Flesh, greenish yellow,

tinged with red, with a rich, lively flavor. A first-rate bearer.

Goliath, larger than the preceding, which it resembles, but distinguished from it by its gray, downy shoots. It is also a few days later in ripening.

McLaughlin is one of the best and most beautiful of plums. In quality it is nearly or quite equal to Green Gage, while it is large and more beautiful. The tree is hardy, and vigorous, and productive; branches smooth, fruit large, and nearly round, as shown in the engraving, and flattened at both ends. The suture is barely perceptible. Stalk, three-fourths of an inch long, inserted in a small cavity with a ring. Skin, thin and yellow, and dotted and marked with red on the sunny side, and covered with a thin bloom. Flesh dull yellow, rather firm, juicy, sweet, and luscious, and adheres to the stone. It ripens the latter part of August. We give a fine engraving of this plum.

Lawrence's Favorite, and other fine varieties, which we have not sufficient space to describe, are also now in fruit.

DEEP DIGGING.

WILLIAM BACON, Esq., describes an interesting experiment in deep digging, which we give below. We have also a letter from an old gardener, stating that he came in possession of an old garden, tried to grow onions, but failed two seasons, although pretty liberal with manure. The third season dug it two spades, mixed the subsoil with the surface earth, gave no manure, and raised a "big" crop:

Last spring we took a corner of an old garden spot,—it had always been liberally manured and plowed as well as such a piece of ground could be,—and to put it in a condition for fruit trees, we gave a good dressing of manure and a thorough spading to the full depth of an unworm spade, the longest we could find in the market. In this spading operation, we often came in contact with a subsoil so stiff that it offered a strong resistance to the spade; still the spade was put in, at the cost of much physical exertion. The old soil and manure were laid in the bottom of the trench, and the heterogeneous and apparently sterile matter on which it had reposed, were placed upon the surface. This new earth, upon much of which the sun had never shone, and the dew had never fertilized, was, in due time, planted with garden vegetables—not, however, in expectation of much crop, for the very surface gave almost positive assurance that such things would never grow there. They were sown and planted to furnish a motive for a continued tillage through the season, and, in addition, the ground was planted out with dwarf pear trees. The season in our region, as in many other sections of country, was one of distressing drouth—but very little rain from May to October—and, in consequence, the ground on this patch was probably oftener and more thoroughly hoed than it would have been had the dews and rains fulfilled their labors as usual.

We now speak of the result. Our Pear trees (some twenty) on this patch, not only lived but made a desirable growth; and as for the vegetables—melons, cucumbers, tomatoes, &c., &c., to the end of the catalogue—they gave us a crop superior to any we had raised for years.

From this operation, we infer, in the first place, that deep and thorough tillage, and frequent stirring of the earth, are good preventives of the effect of drouth. The deeper and better pulverized the soil, the greater its power of absorption; consequently, whenever there is moisture in the atmosphere, such lands are certain to attract

their full share of it. It is so, also, with the vegetable-nourishing gases which the air from time to time contains. Such lands also suffer less in rainy seasons from excessive moisture, for the same qualities which enable them to absorb when there is a scarcity, enable them to throw off when there is a superabundance.

In the second place, deep and thorough tillage proves, to us, conclusively, that the productive powers of earth are not always as nearly exhausted as many strive to imagine, but that the vile skinning, skimming system—the plowing three, four, and five inches deep—is what induces the sterility so many lament. Any clayey soil—and they are among the best for many purposes—may be made as barren as the desert of Sahara by such a system. Plow shallow, and the earth under the furrow will lose the influence of the two essentials of fertility, sunshine and air, and will, of course, become cold, compact, and barren. Roots will avoid such earth; or, if they make an effort to penetrate it, it will be like attempting to extend themselves into a rock to meet the invigorating influences of an iceberg.

In tree-culture—especially in growing fruit trees—even a tolerable degree of success cannot be realized unless this shallow stirring of the earth is given up and the earth stirred deep. Trees may, as we have seen, sometimes live in such shallow soils, but they will always be stunted, sickly, and produce but ordinary fruit; but it is more often the case that they die in the effort to live, and then comes the bitter denunciations on the nurseryman who reared them, the adverse climate, and sometimes the locality, and even the soil, which, under favorable culture, would be just the thing for them, is blamed for the lack of those qualities which man, in his indolence, or grasping after present gain, has taken from it.

Inquiries and Answers.

DWARF AND STANDARD PEARS.—Intending in the fall to plant 2,000 pear trees—dwarfs and standards, on the same ground, will some of your horticultural readers please advise me on the best plan to adopt as respects distance apart and the arranging of the two sorts. Also, the best varieties to plant for the New York Market. Intending to plant the same land with strawberries, please advise the best market varieties.—A. P., New York.

SEED OF WILD CONVULVULUS.—Will you permit a soldier and a subscriber to ask through your columns whether the wild Convulvulus or Morning-glory is a seed-bearing plant, and if not how it can be propagated. There are in this neighborhood some varieties of this plant which are very beautiful, and I have repeatedly searched the vines for seed with a view of domesticating them at home when this cruel war is over, but have thus far been unsuccessful. Will some of your numerous readers enlighten me?—LEWIS BAILEY, in Camp near Warrenton Junction, Va.

The plant to which you refer is not probably a true Convulvulus, though commonly called such. It is doubtless perennial, and does not perfect its seed, therefore you will have to depend upon the roots for propagation. If we had a specimen we could give its name, and perhaps more information respecting its habits.

ONIONS.—I would like to inquire through your valuable paper for a preventive to the ravages of the onion maggot. I did not think the maggot commenced so early in the season. They work into the middle of the stalk and eat it all out. Also, I would like to learn if onion raisers ever sow seed in the fall so as to have onions up earlier than it is possible to get them by spring sowing. I have observed where seed of carrots and parsnips had fallen in autumn plants would be up as soon, or before seed could be sown in spring, and I came to the conclusion that onions as well as carrots and parsnips might, upon a porous soil, be sown in the fall, and be more sure to come up, and be forwarded from two to four weeks, as well as get the start of weeds which are not so hardy, and start later in the season.—M. MILLER, Richmond Station, N. Y.

Onion seed planted in the autumn will rot before spring. Sow the seed in the June, thick, and you get small onions that may be taken up and dried in the fall, and if these are set out early in the spring they will give an early and large crop.

Horticultural Notes.

FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK.—The Autumn Meeting of the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York will be held in the Court House in the City of Rochester, on Tuesday, the 28th day of September inst. The session will commence at 11 o'clock A. M. Members are invited to bring Specimens of Fruit for exhibition.

COFFEE AGAIN.—Our Massachusetts friends seem annoyed that Illinois should have all the glory of coffee growing. A Newburyport paper says that a citizen grows it as successfully as the tomato or Lima bean. They are above the Illinoisians in this, that while they are satisfied with "Australian" coffee, the Bay State men are going to raptures over their success with the real thing; for of course it is a success; has not Mr. Somebody raised a crop? With Pennsylvania tea and Massachusetts coffee, cannot Maine furnish us with bananas, and New Hampshire and Vermont all the other luxuries of the tropics?—Gardener's Chronicle.

RUSSELL'S PROLIFIC STRAWBERRY.—A correspondent under the cognomen of "Fair-Play," writes us from Auburn, that the statement made by several persons that Russell's Prolific Strawberry sells for twice as much as Triomphe de Gand, in that city, is incorrect. We always had some doubts of the reliability of that statement, for we could see no reason why it should be so. The fruit is not larger, and we doubt if it is superior in quality. The fact that it is thought to be much more productive should not make the fruit higher priced. It is a rule which we cannot violate, to insist on the names of all correspondents who give us statements of facts. The names of correspondents may not be published, but we desire them as an evidence of good faith, and for future reference.

ROOT PRUNING.—This is best performed in autumn, when the roots are comparatively inactive. The object in view is to check over-luxuriance by depriving the trees of superfluous food; and to encourage the production of blossom buds instead of leaf buds. The amount of roots to be cut away must be in proportion to the vigor of the trees; in my opinion more than a fourth part should never be removed, and that should consist of the extremities only, carefully preserving the surface roots, which should be encouraged by every possible means. My attention was recently directed to a wall of peach trees, which had been root pruned early in the spring; a trench had been dug perpendicularly to the flag flooring at a distance of 4 feet from the wall, completely divesting the trees of all roots beyond that distance; the result evidently is the destruction of the trees, and young ones have been planted to replace them. This was accomplished in a first-class garden, which shows that care is as necessary in root pruning as it is in the preparation of borders.—George Westland.

Advertisements.

MAPLEWOOD YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE, Pittsfield, Mass., commences its 40th semi-annual session October 1, 1883. Address Rev. C. V. SPEAR, the Principal, for Circulars.

PATENTS.—In the UNITED STATES, ENGLAND, and FRANCE, obtained on the most favorable terms at Western N. Y. Patent Agency at Rochester and Buffalo, N. Y. J. FRASER & CO. [711-41]

THE AMERICAN HOG TAMEE.—This instrument, of such practical importance to all Pork growers, from the fact that its operation entirely prevents the animal from rooting gate-fencing, &c.,—may be had by remitting \$3 to the subscriber. County rights also for sale. [711-131] L. STEEDMAN, AGENT, Batavia, Genesee Co., N. Y.

RULES FOR FALL PLANTING. MY ILLUSTRATED DESCRIPTIVE BULB CATALOGUE for the Autumn of 1883, as usual published and will be sent free to all who apply by mail. It contains a list of the best HYACINTHS, CROCUSES, TULIPS, CROWN IMPERIALS, SNOW BALSAMS, LILIES, &c., with prices. [711-11] Address, JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

FRUIT TREES, GRAPE VINES, &c.—Will be found at the Seneca Co. Nurseries a choice lot of Fruit Trees, which will be sold cheap. I have on hand 100,000 Apple Trees, 3 and 4 years old; 20,000 Plum Trees; 20,000 Standard and Dwarf Pear Trees. All of which are in the order. Also, 10,000 2 year old Delaware Grape Vines; 20,000 1 year old do. Ruffled Strawberry plants, 25 for \$2.50; 50 for \$4.00; 100 for \$6.00. Put up in good order and sent by express. I have a good assortment of Trees, Grape Vines and Flowers, such as are usually kept by nurserymen, which I would invite those wishing to purchase to call and examine for themselves. Located a short distance North of the Depot, in Waterbury, N. Y. [711-34] E. FAYLOR, Proprietor.

ORANGE PLANTS.—For this Fall only at \$5 per 1,000. The usual discount to the trade. THOMAS MEEHAN, Nurserman, Germantown, Pa. [710-61]

CIDER MILL SCREWS.—We are making the CHEAPEST AND BEST CIDER MILL SCREWS in the world. Whole length, 4 feet. Length of thread, 35 feet. Diameter of screw, 4 inches. Weight, including nut, 125 pounds. Price, \$8.00 each. Address, COWING & CO., Seneca Falls, N. Y. [710-17]

NURSERY STOCK FOR SALE. 10,000 STANDARD PEARS, approved varieties. 20,000 Dwarf do. 10,000 Cherries. 2,000 Peaches. 10,000 Apples, 4 years. Also, Grape Vines and small Fruits. This stock will be sold low to close, and there never has been a tree selected from it. Please send for choice imported stock. E. KETCHAM, AGENT. [710-41] Tompkins Hotel, Geneva, N. Y.

THE ILLINOIS STATE FAIR FOR 1883, WILL BE HELD AT DECATUR, MACON COUNTY, Commencing on Monday, September 28th, AND CONTINUING ONE WEEK.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE are gratified in being able to announce to the people of the Northwest that the general arrangements for holding the Annual Exhibition have never been more entirely complete and satisfactory than at present.

The central and accessible location—the beauty and convenience of the grounds for both Fair and camping purposes—the local pride and energy of the citizens of Macon County—who are erecting buildings and fixtures of tasteful and permanent character—the liberality and hearty cooperation of railroad companies throughout the State, together with the interest felt and manifested on all hands in the improvement of labor-saving machinery, modes of farm culture, and so on—all combine to give assurance that this Fair will be successful not only in attracting large numbers of our people to witness and engage in its operations, but eminently so in point of substantial usefulness to the cause of AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, and the MECHANIC and HOUSEHOLD ARTS.

THE FIELD TRIAL OF Plows, Cultivators, Harrows, Ditching Machines, &c.,

Will commence near Decatur on Monday, Sept. 21st, the week preceding the Fair. Manufacturers will confer favor and enable the Board to make the best possible preparations for this Trial by notifying the Corresponding Secretary as early as possible of their intention to compete.

Wool Growers' Convention. It is thought best by many friends that a WOOL GROWERS' CONVENTION be held during the Fair—the precise time to be announced in the paper and by circulars. A day, after consultation among those representing this particular interest.

Evening Meetings. The Society's Tent will be erected on the Public Square in the city for the accommodation of such Convention, and Farmers' Meetings for discussion.

Time for Entries. Entries for the Fair may be made at any time on or before Tuesday, Sept. 25th. Entries for the TRIAL OF IMPLEMENTS may be made at any time before Tuesday, Sept. 16th.

Premium Lists containing the Rules and Regulations will be sent to all applicants. Address JOHN P. REYNOLDS, Cor. Sec'y Ill. State Agr'l Society, Springfield, Illinois. [710-51]

BRIDGEWATER PAINT.—ESTABLISHED 1828.—Fire and Water Proof, for roofs, outside work, decks of vessels, iron work, brick, tin, railroad bridges, depots, &c. Depot 74 Maiden Lane, New York. [708-281] ROBERT REYNOLDS, Agent.

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. If possible, made better than ever before, and well worthy the attention of all farmers wanting such machines. It is the most superior in the market, and is the only mill that will properly grind grapes. For sale by all respectable dealers. 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, Bagle Works, Harrisburg, Pa. [709-91]

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. Is the most simple, durable and efficient.

Cheese-Making Apparatus in use. Used in dairies of 10 to 1,000 cows. The only VAT well adapted to "Factory" Cheese-Making.

More economical in use than steam, and much less expensive in cost. Sizes varying from 24 to 355 gallons on hand and ready for delivery,—larger sizes for Factory use made to order. Send for Circular containing description, size and price list, directions for running, &c., to the manufacturer, Wm. RALPH & Co., 135 Genesee St., Utica, N. Y., Manufacturers and Dealers, wholesale and retail, in Dairymen's Tools, and Implements. [709-91] Vats carefully packed for shipment. 638-ft

100,000 APPLE TREES, 5 to 8 feet high, at \$3 per hundred. 20,000 Standard Pear Trees, 5 to 7 feet high, at \$25 to \$30. 10,000 Dwarf Pear Trees, 3 to 5 feet high, at \$15 to \$20. 20,000 White Grape and Cherry Cuttings, 5,000 Diana Grape Vines. A large stock of Peach trees, Cherry trees, Plum trees, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Strawberries, most of the new varieties of Native Grapes, &c., &c. All of the best Western varieties grown extensively. Local and Traveling Agents Wanted.

Wholesale and Descriptive Catalogues sent to all applicants who inclose stamps to pre-pay postage. Address, NIAGARA NURSERY, Lockport, N. Y. [711-11]

C. B. MILLER, FOREIGN AND AMERICAN Horticultural Agent & Commission Merchant EXHIBITION AND SALES ROOMS, No. 634 Broadway, near Bleeker St., New York. All kinds of new, rare, and Seedling Plants, Fruits, flowers, Trees, Vines, Shrubs, &c.; Iron, Wire, and Rustic Work; Foreign and American Glass; Patent Heating; Foreign and American Books, Magazines, Papers, Plates, Designs, Drawings, &c. All Horticultural Novelties, as well as instructed. All orders, &c., will receive the personal attention of the Proprietor.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MR. MOORE.—I wish your five hundred thousand readers to enjoy the following little gem of a song. It was written by a young lady who deems it unworthy of publication, yet gives a more perfect and beautiful expression to a common sentiment than any poem I have read of its length.

JAMES G. CLARK.

SUNBEAMS 'MONG THE SHADOWS.

BY JENNIE.

THERE are sunbeams 'mong the shadows,
There are diamonds in the sky,
There are flowers in the darkest wild,
And a hope in every sigh;
And they say each cloud has a sunny side,
A noon the darkest night,
And the angel guides to heaven
Are never out of sight.

Then why should fainting heart despond
Or lose its wonted calm,
When, if it were but sought aright,
Each grief might have its balm?
Let us seek to find the sunbeams
When shades about us crowd,
And look, when blows the tempest,
For the rainbow in the cloud.

Let us learn to follow meekly,
Where the angel-guide shall lead,
And strive to shun all error
Of practice or of creed,—
Then the spirit of Contentment
Will be ever near to bless,
And on earth's sunny side we'll find
Our heaven of happiness.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

FRETFULNESS.

WHAT can blight the joy, the peace, the happiness of the domestic circle more effectually than fretfulness? How soon it obscures the beautiful light of affection which should radiate the spirit of home. It matters not what may be the cause of fretfulness, (if cause there is,) or by whom it is indulged, its effects vary but little. It produces wretchedness and gloom wherever its voice or influence reaches. We speak of the home of the drunkard as being wretched, of the abode of the poor as cheerless, yet if the members of either maintain cheerfulness, and look at their afflictions with patience and trust, their homes would be pleasanter than the one of elegance and taste, where we could hear nothing but fret, fret, fret, from dawn till dark.

How many homes there are despoiled of all pleasure and peace by the fretfulness of some or all its members. It were vain for us to give a sketch even of what we hear in such homes, yet we would for a moment follow that weary husband as he goes slowly home to dinner. Listen to the first words that greet him. "Well, JAMES, I declare I'm out of all patience waiting for you to come to dinner. Why didn't you come when I called? There, now, don't put all the sugar there is in the house in your tea, its enormous high. How much butter you put on your bread, I shall never get a pound to sell. The children have almost worried the life out of me,—there, FREDDY has woke up, when shall I get a moment to rest?" The husband takes his exit, or tries to, but is followed by the impatient wife, who don't forget to mention every imaginary or real grievance of her home for a week.

Or the husband may come home with this spirit of fretfulness stimulating him. "Why is not dinner ready,—how miserable the steak is broiled,—the tea is cold,—the children are so noisy,—and, wife, where is my morning paper and slippers,—should think you might put them where I could find them,"—when, undoubtedly, they were just where he left them, or put up in their places. No wonder there's a hush while father stays, or that the little ones seek their mother to get one peep into her cheerful though sad face,—and, at last, when the door closes, and the peevish, fretful one is gone, what a relief.

There are few homes without trials, few parents who are not called to encounter many annoyances, to bear many burdens, to get very, very weary; but with all the perplexities that may crowd into domestic life it should be the sweetest, happiest spot on earth,—a place where our weary feet may turn with delight, and our hearts, saddened by life's ills, beat joyfully as we think of home. If our fancied picture of bliss is marred by outbursts of passion from father or mother, husband or wife, brother or sister, how sadly we turn homeward for comfort. If, as we cross the threshold where love should welcome us, we are only the recipients of fretful words and unkind looks, where shall we turn for enjoyment and sympathy? O, how many children rush into the vortex of sin and dissipation for this one cause—always being fretted at. Can we wonder they seek companionship elsewhere, or that at last the dreary prison cell is their home—the gallows their end?

Is there no remedy, no method of reform? Shall those just starting in life begin thus, and carry into old age the accumulations of bitterness and strife, of remorse and guilt? Shall the poison work through the heart and soul until ruin in this life and the one to come are pending? For all our afflictions, our sorrows, our trials, there is a remedy. They are not beyond the skill and power of the Great Physician to heal. If we foolishly venture upon our own strength we shall fall; but if our dependence is CHRIST, He hath said, "we shall not be tempted above that we are able."

How cheering the assurance if we go to Him for patience He will impart it if we do as He has commanded us. Lamentable as it is, this sin is the bane of many Christian homes, where only paroxysms of reform seize the members, where only occasional prayers are offered for meek and patient hearts. But why forget ourselves so much as to waste this transient existence in fretting? It will surely be our ruin if no other sin

we have, for if we obey not the whole law we have no promise of Eternal Life.

Just now we remember a sweet little boy, very dear to us, who being kindly reproved for scolding, looked up sadly, the tears gathering in his mild blue eyes as he said:—"They all scold here, how can I help it." Sweet child! We rejoice to know thy spirit has soared away to a holy, happy home, where unkind words can never grieve thee again.

Earnestly let us seek to overcome this and all other sins that mar the brightness of our homes, that we may live approved of CHRIST, make our companions blest, our children happy; then, as we turn anxiously homeward, we can exclaim, "home, sweet home," and at last, when life's journey is ended, turn to our heavenly home, and CHRIST will exclaim, "It is enough, come up higher." MRS. MATTIE D. LINCOLN. Canandaigua, N. Y., 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

RURAL LETTERS.—NO. III.

THE sun has gone down in a bank of mist, and the quail, that knowing little philosopher, tosses his head on one side, and pompously fote-tells, "more wet." Far away, over the hills at the right, comes the melancholy cry of the prairie birds, and the night-hawk adds his glorious anthem to the general chorus.

Twilight on the prairie! Twilight, with the fragrant breath of flowers, the songs of birds, and the surpassing glory of summer clouds! Slowly the light fades away from the distant forest and dimly seen hills, from the rushing river and quiet hamlet, and night settles gently down upon the landscape.

'Tis the hour of meditation, when the soul, casting aside all earthly aspirations, prostrates itself before the throne of the All-Father in silent adoration,—the hour when, viewing God's gifts with trustful hearts, our faith is strengthened and new courage given to our doubting souls. All thanks to the Creator for the twilight hour,—the hour dearest to our hearts!

Did you ever see one of our broad Western prairies in its glory of perfume and blossom, Mr. RURAL? If not, you have lost one of the most lovely sights which this world can give. A waving sea of grass, dotted with the crimson, purple, blue and gold of wild flowers—alive with the humming of bees and numerous bands of bright-hued insects,—undisturbed by the turmoil of the great world,—this is the prairie as it was in days gone by.

Now how different! Cozy farm-houses nestle amid trees which give promise of a glorious wealth of fruit when the clear autumnal days shall come,—waving fields of grain, rich gardens, the noisy hum arising from the myriad villages and cities scattered throughout the length and breadth of this emerald sea,—such is the picture that the prairies present to-day to the eye of the traveler. Not a vestige remains to remind us of the dusky lords, who, for so long, reigned undisputed monarchs over this Western Eden, but who, in spite of their struggles, have fallen, at last, before the all-conquering power of their white brothers! BARBARA BRANDE. Brande Cottage, Col. Co., Wis., 1863.

PERSONAL INFLUENCE.

EVERY one is endowed, each for himself, with a special gift of salutary influence, a peculiar, benign power, which he can no more get another to employ for him than one flower can get another to breathe forth its fragrance, or one star depute to another star its shining. Your individual character, the special mould and temper of your being, is different from that of all other beings, and God, in creating it, designed it for a special use in His Church. Your relations to your fellow men are peculiar to yourself, and over some minds,—some little group or circle of moral beings—you can wield an influence which it is given to no other man to wield. Your place and lot in life, too, is one which has been assigned to you alone. For no other has the same part been cast. On your particular path no other footsteps shall ever leave their print. Through that one course, winding or straight, rapid or slow, brief or long protracted, in no other course shall the stream of life flow on to the great ocean. And so to you it is given to shed blessings around you, to do good to others, to communicate, as you pass through life, to those whose moral history borders or crosses yours, a heavenly influence, which is all your own. If this power be not used by you, it will never be used. There is work in God's Church which if not done by you will be left undone.

WASHINGTON'S WIFE.—A guest at Mount Vernon happened to sleep in a room next to that occupied by the President and his lady. Late in the evening, when the people had retired to their various chambers, he heard the amiable lady delivering a very animated lecture to her lord and master upon something he had done which she thought had ought to be done differently. To all this he listened in the profoundest silence; and when she too was silent, he opened his lips and spoke: "Now good sleep to you—my dear." Portraits and descriptions of her, show her to have been a pretty, agreeable, kind, little woman, from whom it could not have been so disagreeable to have a curtain lecture.

A SENSIBLE MOTHER.—In the 117th Illinois Regiment, stationed at Memphis, there is a Captain over sixty years of age. His name is Jacob Kinder, and he resided in Madison county, Illinois. A correspondent with the regiment states that Mrs. Kinder writes to her husband, informing him that she permits no able-bodied young man to visit her daughters. She bases her opposition to such visits upon the ground that the proper place for young men is in the army, and if they are not there, they are cowardly, shirking their duty to their country.

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

DEEDS OF DEATH.

HE comes! he comes!—the king of the grave
Is scattering mildew and blight;
The young and the lovely, the fair and the brave,
The prince and the peasant, the master and slave,
Must bow to the stroke of his might.

He comes! he comes!—and his sable plume
Is worn to the work of decay;
He watches the roses of health that bloom
On beauty's cheek, and away to the tomb
Triumphantly hies with his prey.

On destruction he smiles as he wends
His way through the whirlwind and flood;
In the paths of the living he silently stands,
And his quiver of arrows and sinewless hands
Forever are reeking with blood.

'Mid cloisters decaying, and grave-yards among,
He stalks in the stillness of night;
And he inwardly laughs as his terrible song,
By the wild winds of heaven is hurried along,
Recounting the deeds of his might.

"I come from the couch of the young and the fair,
And solemn and sad are the visages there;
The singers are mute and the dancers are pale,
And mournful and loud is the widower's wail.
For there was the maiden, whose covenant truth
Was recently sealed to the choice of her youth.
And in the high hall was heard the song
Of the fair-haired beauty, the life of the throng;
And felt by all was the glow and the trance
Of her who led in the mazy dance:—
But soon the brightness that shone in the hall
Was robed in a dark and mournful pall—
For I was there!—and the life that gushed,
From the heart of the maiden forever is hushed,
The singers are mute and the dancers are pale,
And mournful and loud is the widower's wail.

"I have been to the sea—and the storm king's breath
I bade to the wrecking sweep;
And he has gone forth in my terrible wrath
To madden the winds in the mariner's path,
On the wide and trackless deep."

"To sorrow, fond mothers, for those who have died,
And widows have doffed their charms;
And maidens are mourning the ocean beside,
For lovers to them by affection allied,
No more to return to their arms.
"No more shall grief, with the grasp of the hand
In rapture be scattered away;
For some are now laid on the deep sea's sand,
And some are cast upon the wild desert strand,
To the shrieking hyena a prey.

"I have been to the field, and the carnage of war
Has wrought desolation around and afar;
I've feasted on thousands and thousands of slain,
Whose bones are strewn o'er the red, grey plain;
Tho' the blast of the bugle in silence is hushed,
And ceased is the life-side that rapidly gushed—
Tho' the gleaming of spears and neighing of steeds,
No longer give note of such terrible deeds;
One gash of the sabre in one noble heart,
In many a bosom has fastened my dart—
And many are dying devoid of fear,
For grief is completing the carnage of war."

La Grange, N. Y., 1863.

KATIE.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

CHOICE OF PURSUITS.

THOSE who are about to enter upon the duties of mature life, should exercise much care and consideration in the selection of pursuits, and bring to their assistance the best light attainable, in order that they may arrive at wise and just conclusions. We are endowed by nature with a wide diversity of powers, both mental and physical, and those who wish to succeed in life should engage in those callings for which they are qualified by nature, if, when viewed in the light of intelligence, they prove to be honorable ones.

It is true that too many are naturally inclined to choose evil rather than good, and hence we observe the importance of early cultivation and education. If our minds are naturally prone to evil, our characters may be greatly improved if we are fortunate enough to have watchful parents or guardians who will look to our interests during the period of our minority, and early guide our feet in the paths of rectitude. On the other hand, if we naturally possess the most amiable and virtuous traits of character, our flattering prospects and cheerful anticipations may all be wrecked, and our characters utterly ruined in early life, by long continued evil associations and influences. The best start in life that a young man or woman can have is a good moral character, and this will be found to be of great utility in every laudable pursuit.

Those who have attained the proper age and are about to act for themselves, have a broad and inviting field before them. Our country needs the services of young men and women who are qualified for the practical duties of life, and who consider it no disgrace to be found at labor in any useful or honorable employment. As we assume our stations in life we but little know what the future has in reserve for us, and we should be as strongly fortified as possible for whatever may assail us. Integrity of character, mounted with energy and perseverance, is a good defense at all times, and we should enter upon our respective duties with a firm determination to surmount what is surmountable, and when compelled to succumb to reverses and afflictions, we should submit with a becoming spirit and rise or overcome as we have opportunity. We should treat with respect and civility those engaged in other vocations, who are striving to gain a livelihood by honest industry. Diversity of pursuits fosters a spirit of emulation that is beneficially felt far and wide. Some succeed by frequent changes in business, while others confine their energies to some favorite pursuit, and move steadily forward in spite of opposing obstacles. Those enjoy the blessings of life with the sweetest relish, if they do not accomplish as much, whose minds glide in their natural element, and who are favored in their daily walk and conversation with the smiles of an approving conscience. FARMER. Monroe Co., N. Y., 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A RAIN-DROP.

I SCARCELY know at what period I became conscious of an existence. I have an indistinct recollection of being borne along through the higher regions of the atmosphere by some unknown power, in an easy, passive state of equilibrium. At this early period in my history, while my form was so insignificant as to require the aid of the microscope to bring it to view, I remember I was fearful of losing my identity in the midst of the myriads of like forms that were floating above, below, and around me. It might have been similar fears on the part of my fellows, or the love of individuality, or possibly the law of affinity, that led to the policy of the gradual enlargement of our spheres. For myself, I suddenly felt my growing importance, as, by the power of cohesive attraction, kindred drops were being drawn to my side and blending their being with mine. "United we fall, divided we stand," is a maxim that attains in the clouds, the truth of which I was but too happy to see demonstrated in my own case and my kindred around.

My rotund form had now acquired its mature size, which brought me within the scope of the great central law of gravitation, the first impulse of which I obeyed and commenced my descent to the earth—that beautiful earth which the clouds had hitherto shut out from my view. I soon emerged from their dark drapery, and a flood of golden light revealed the earth in all its beauty beneath. Grateful for the great law that was drawing me to her bosom, I seized a sunbeam, reduced it to its primitive colors, painted each distinct and clear, and hung the picture on my oval walls, for the admiration of the sons of earth. This feat retarded not my motion earthward in the least, and I was thinking what excellent time I was making, with a regularly accelerated speed, when suddenly a fearful collision took place, and I found myself, with thousands of my fellows, mangled, torn, and disfigured, clinging to the eaves of a house. But the faithful conductor was there, by which we were received and piloted down a narrow passage with many abrupt turns, and at last cast unceremoniously, with millions of my fellows, into a dark and deep reservoir. How long I remained here, it is impossible to tell. I was calculating the chances of escape from my dark and dreary prison, when our fraternity were set in wild commotion by the powerful strokes of a lever directly above. I now felt myself drawn irresistibly up through a passage, till now unobserved, into daylight, and safely deposited in a burnished dipper.

After a moment's rest here, during which I discovered there were preparations for some nice investigations, a person approached, and with a steady hand selected me from my fellows and placed me beneath some magic instrument, through which he would send his searching glances at me as if I were no better than the veriest drop thief that infests Broadway. I have since learned that by the aid of his detector he read me through and through—that I am not a pure rain-drop, but sailing under false colors, and that all my life I have been cruising with myriads of willing captives on board, which but for the microscope would never have been found in my possession. After this searching investigation was concluded I was deemed of no further use, and cast out through the lattice into the open air. There was a blushing rose 'neath the window, upon whose soft bosom I fell. This reception was so unlike that I received upon the house-top, that I congratulated myself on finding so good a place for repose. Here I rested, and the dew drops of the night nestled around me, and the morning light revealed a deeper blush, a lovelier tint on the cheek of the rose. Its beauty was coveted, a rude hand severed it from the parent stem, and I was cast from its embrace upon the earth. Here again I resumed my downward course, but my progress was at first slow and difficult, by reason of the imperious nature of the soil. Bye-and-bye I joined a tiny rivulet that was gliding downward through a fissure in the rocks, and thenceforward I proceeded with greater speed along our dark and devious way. At this point I became conscious of a radical change in my entire system. An agreeable coolness came over me, and I discovered in my passage Mother Earth had retained in her different strata thousands of animalcules, about which the man with the microscope made so much ado. Soon the direction of my course seemed to change, ascending instead of descending, and I was forced up through a channel that seemed to contract, jostled and crowded on, till at last I emerged from the bowels of the earth into a bubbling community—a fountain pure and clear on the hill-side. C. G. S. Stockbridge, N. Y., 1863.

HOW IT HAPPENS.—One fruitful source of discontent and one great bar of enjoyment in this world, is the practice of comparing one's life with the life of others; utterly ignoring the fact that every person has an inner as well as an outer life; or, in the old-fashioned words of the Bible, "that every heart knoweth its own bitterness." How often is the remark made by superficial observers; "How happy such and such persons must be! if I were only they!" when, ten to one, these very persons, oblivious of their wealth and position, are weary and heart-sore with the din and battle of life.

In families well-ordered there is always one firm and sweet temper, which controls without seeming to dictate. The essence of all fine breeding is in the gift of conciliation. A man who possesses every other title to our respect except that of courtesy, is in danger of forfeiting them all. A rude manner renders its owner always liable to affront. He is never without dignity who avoids wounding the dignity of others.

Sabbath Musings.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

CONSOLATION.

THERE is one solace, let what will befall,
One comfort sweet when darkest glooms appall,
One ray of joy that lights the troubled breast,
And lulls the tumults of the heart to rest.
'Tis that whate'er in life be our success,
God will the good intention surely bless,
Will bless the worthy thought, and still uphold,
If we in virtue's ways are true and bold.
Be such sweet consolation mine, and still
Teach us submission to our Maker's will,
O, may He look into my heart, and bless
Whate'er is there of any worthiness.

Elkhorn, Wis., 1863.

B. C. D.

"TILL HE COME."

"Till He come"—O! let the winds
Linger on the trembling chords;
Let the little while between
In their golden light be seen;
Let us think how heaven and home
Lie beyond that—"Till He come."

When the weary ones we love
Enter on their rest above,
Seems the earth so poor and vast,
All our life joy overcast?
Hush, be every murmur dumb;
It is only—"Till He come."

Clouds and conflicts round us press:
Would we have one sorrow less?
All the sharpness of the cross,
All that tells the world is loss,
Death, and darkness, and the tomb,
Only whisper—"Till He come."

See, the feast of love is spread,
Drink the wine and break the bread:
Sweet memorials—fill the Lord
Call us round His heavenly board:
Some from earth, from glory some,
Severed only—"Till He come."

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

SABBATH EVE.

BLESSED HOUR! Stillness reigns supreme o'er
The green-clad earth. Cankering care and labor
Are alike forgotten, and our thoughts turn from
this life to the immortal life beyond. 'Tis an
hour for solemn, retrospective thought; for self-
investigation; for heart-study and soul-refresh-
ing.

To pious hearts it is a sweet season of reflection, as they return to the time when, low bowed at the foot of Sovereign Mercy, the dews of pardoning peace descended making them to shout for joy. It carries the aged pilgrim back to the sunny days of childhood when, a rosy, bounding boy, he leaned his curly head upon a loved mother's knee, and listened to her musical voice as she sought to impress upon his young mind life's great coming duties. How carefully she pointed out to him the path of virtue,—how wisely bid him shun pleasure's giddy road; till his bright eyes sparkled with animation as he told her, in boyish delight, of high resolves. Again he feels her pure kiss of love on his brow, again hears the loving good-night. The boy, the mother's pride, is now the aged pilgrim; and the mother passed on before to her blissful home, where Sabbath, eternal Sabbath reigns. A crown of rejoicing decks her spirit-brow; fitting reward of the faithful mother's mission.

Sabbath! It comes to us with refreshing power, stilling the world-tossed spirit, strengthening us for coming conflict. It comes to the wanderer fraught with many tender associations speaking (in the still small voice borne upon the evening breeze,) of home, of loved ones, of a mother's grave, a father's prayers—of noble brothers in whose love we reposed so confidently, who now rest from the war's dread alarms in lonely southern graves. We recall the tender images of the dear departed; muse till the whispers of the evening zephyr steal upon our ear like spirit-whispers from white-robed bands.

Thank God! for Sabbath evenings;
They calm the troubled breast,
Their zephyr's gentle breathings
Speak of sweet, eternal rest.

August, 1863.

CORNELIA M. EARLE.

WITNESSES THREE.—Shortly before he died, Patrick Henry, laying his hand on the Bible, said:

"Here is a book worth more than all others, yet it is my sad misfortune never to have read it, until lately, with proper attention."

With voice and gesture pertinent, and all his own, John Randolph said:
"A terrible proof of our deep depravity is, that we can relish and remember anything better than the Book."

When the shadows of death were gathering around Sir Walter Scott, he said to the watcher:
"Bring the book."

"What book?" asked Lockhart, his son-in-law.
"There is but one Book," said the dying man.

THE DARKENED CAGE.—It is a curious fact, that while some birds refuse to sing when the cage is darkened, others have softer, sweeter notes of song. And so it is in human existence. When the soul of one comes under "the shadow of a great affliction," it has no longer the voice of melody. The resources and the heart of joy are gone. But another sits in shadow, and sends up to God the purest tones of music—the loftiest strains of praise from the chastened spirit. It was thus with David, whose harpings are never so heavenly as when they rise from "the depths" of his sorrow. It is not strange that those are dumb when "the days of darkness come," whose song of delight lived only in the glare of earth's fitful, transient splendor.—*Congregationalist*.

REVENGE is a more punctual paymaster than gratitude.

[Republished from an early volume of the RURAL, by Request.]

NATURE'S LESSONS.

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

POETRY BY ALFRED B. STREET, Esq.

MUSIC BY PROF. T. H. BOWEN

ALLEGRO.

First musical score with lyrics: 1. Nature is full of wisdom high, If we would but mark her plan; Ocean and mountain, forest and sky, Are talking for - ever to man.

Second musical score with lyrics: For the first part of 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th stanzas, see Recitatives, below; after the 5th stanza, pass to Final Chorus. Talking for - ever of lofty themes That el - e - vate heart and soul, Showing our life no round of dreams, That earth holds not our goal.

* I thought that thus should the heart be strong, And tower a - bove its care, And though the wild tempest should dash along, Its trials it calmly should bear. † I thought that thus should life progress; That action its rule should be; That object on object should forward press, From the sleep of the sluggard free. ‡ I thought that thus is our changeful life By light and by darkness shared I farther thought that for calm or strife, We ever should be pre - pared. § I thought that thus by death's cold hand Our race in the dust are strewed: But summoned forth from the "better land," We rise to a life re - newed.

* RECITATIVE, TENOR OR SOPRANO. In a bold, speaking style, without regard to time. (The letters show the chords to be struck at the rests.)

Third musical score with lyrics: 2. I marked the mountain— sub - lime its form— 6 Its head was above the cloud; On its stern bosom was dashing the storm, But its look was unmoved and proud; 4. I marked the sky— it was smiling bright; The clouds were all smooth and fair; Again I looked, it was black with night, And the storm was resounding there.

RECITATIVE, BASS OR ALTO.

Fourth musical score with lyrics: 1. I marked the ocean— its mighty breast 6 Was heaving in ceaseless play; Hear - ing— Heaving— ne - ver at rest, Though peacefully smiled the day. 5. I marked the forest— November's blast Was strewing the leaves a - round; But I knew when spring should come at last, New leaves would again be found.

FINAL CHORUS. With great energy and force.

Fifth musical score with lyrics: We rise we rise we rise to a life re - newed. We rise we rise we rise to a life re - newed. We rise we rise we rise to a life re - newed. We rise we rise we rise to a life re - newed.

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1854, by D. D. T. MOORE, in the clerk's office of the district court of the Northern District of New York.

Various Topics.

REFORMS—AGAIN.

H. T. B., in a defense of the "isms" in the RURAL of August 29th, is "ready to fight, bleed, and so forth,"—meaning, we suppose, that he would die for them if necessary. If so, he is decidedly plucky. When he actually bleeds in the cause, should we in an honorable way become the possessor of a few drops of the life current, we should label them as a memento for future times, and store the vial in a secure place. Devotion such as that would be ought certainly to be commemorated.

While it is admitted by him that the motives of all "reformers" are "mixed," all having more or less an eye to their own aggrandizement, yet he claims that some are influenced mainly by impulses "as pure as anything can be." We think it will be noted that each "reformer" claims for himself the most worthy motives. He is honest, pure, and all that sort of thing, however it may be with others—possibly forgetting that if a man "shall say he is perfect, it shall prove him perverse." We have heard the thing well illustrated in connection with what are

called "national sins," by a colloquy something like the following:

Reformer.—I deeply bewail the sins of our nation, and am right glad that our "honest ABRAHAM" has appointed a Fast, for confession and repentance.

Fogy.—What do you mean by national sins—what are they? Please state them.

Reformer.—Why, Sabbath desecration, licentiousness, intemperance, and slavery, to be sure.

Fogy.—Then those are the sins of the nation which, in your judgment, incur the displeasure of Heaven, and for which you are glad of an opportunity to humble yourself, are they?

Reformer.—Yes, sir, mainly.

Fogy.—Let me ask you further, of which one or more of them you are guilty, that I may test the nature and the sincerity of your fasting?

Reformer.—Of which one am I guilty, do you ask? I am chargeable with none of them! I early was taught a Puritan reverence for the Sabbath and all its observances; which I shall always entertain. The charge of licentiousness cannot be brought against me. In the matter of temperance, I have signed every pledge that has been offered to me for the last twenty-five years. More than that. I do not patronize liquor-selling establishments, nor so much as sell grain in the market, lest it may be perverted to an improper

use. And as for holding slaves, "is thy servant a dog, that he should do this thing?" As the Lord liveth, no man can accuse me of any willing complicity with the "sum of all villainies." Nay, verily!

Fogy.—"All these things have I kept from my youth up." It is your neighbor's, not your own sins, that you so much lament, it seems; and it is for them you propose to "fast." Allow me to say that you have proved yourself a tip-top Pharisee—a character that the Son of Man had a great deal of trouble with, and to whom he never offered salvation so much as once. So far from it, he told them that publicans, and even "harlots," would go into the Kingdom of God before them. Your proposed confession of other people's sins will do neither you nor them any good—there has been too much of that already; and your "fasting" for them will be but a stench in the nostrils of the Holy One.

The spirit of "Reformer" in this dialogue is his spirit everywhere. Imagining himself "more holy than thou," he sets himself to work to make you as good as he is, to bring you up to his standard of practice, seemingly oblivious to the fact that in just the proportion that we as a people labor for his ends with his means, do we sink down, down, deeper and deeper in that dreadful condition of public and private corruption, dis-

honesty and debauchery, which all of us see and know.

The allusion of H. T. B. to ST. PAUL is not fortunate. If we mistake not, in the outset of his Christian course, that eminent Apostle described himself as "not worthy to be an Apostle." Later, he was "less than the least of all Saints." And near the close of his career, he was "the chief of sinners,"—showing a constantly decreasing estimate of himself. But is that the spirit of "Reforms" and "Reformers?" Look through the colloquy quoted, and detect the smallest trace of it, if you can. Listen to the conversation of any one of them, at any time, anywhere, and tell us if you do not plainly discover quite the opposite spirit. ST. PAUL was a reformer, it is true, but unlike the bogus "reformers" of our day, he employed means and preached doctrines that tended to human abasement rather than to creature exaltation. More of the one sort and less of the other would probably benefit us all. One kind will ever command the energies and the plaudits of both the world and the devil; while for the other kind—ST. PAUL'S—that distinguished Apostle lost his head. W. B. P.

If you have nothing of the Divinity within, you will vainly essay to worship the Divinity without.

ROSA BONHEUR'S RESIDENCE IN PARIS.

MADAME BONHEUR (so famous for her paintings of animals) has chosen as her residence in Paris the old-fashioned house in the Rue d'Assas, with a large court-yard attached. Entering this you find a farm yard in the heart of the city; round it are stables and cattle-sheds; in the middle a good-sized piece of pasture is inclosed, where sheep, goats, and heifers browse together on the best of terms. Here a peacock airs his trains in the sun; there a lot of pigeons coo and beckon, cocks crow, guinea-fowls call, hens clamor over their brood. At intervals, over the strident din of poultry, booms the deep hollow of a Highland steer, or one long bay from a favorite English hound. Cross the threshold of the painting-room, and there are these living models multiplied on the walls by studies more or less finished, but all portrait-like in their faithfulness, all instinct with that subtle charm which has been well called the painter's magic. Presently in comes a goat, evidently free of the sanctum; trots round with a critical air which is irresistibly comic; wags his venerable beard over sundry sketches of himself, and away clatters Capricornus again. Next appears Margot, a beautiful mare, coming straight up to her owner's easel with those affectionate whinnies which beg for some tokens of recognition quite as plainly as human utterance. The figure in loose costume, something between a blouse and a paletot, seated before the easel, appears somewhat insignificant; but now, as the artist looks up with a smile at her favorite, one glance at her face, which most of us know by Dabufe's portrait, at the massive forehead, the fine, intent eyes, the physiognomy, in which strength and simplicity are so rarely blended, impresses you with the presence of genius.

THE BEGGARS OF MOSCOW.

IN Moscow there exists about forty thousand beggars by profession—rather a strong proportion in a total of three hundred and eighty thousand inhabitants—who chiefly ply their trade in the shops and galleries of the Ghostly Dhor, a kind of Oriental bazaar. On every step you fall in with women carrying their children with them, with burned out people from the neighborhood, and that particular species of the Russian beggar who appeals to your generosity on behalf of recruits and starving families they have left behind them. The most impudent of all are discharged officials and soldiers, who are generally drunkards, in rags, and decorated with orders and clasps. Then again you meet old women carrying open coffins with them, and begging alms to defray the cost of burial. Other women, of the same stamp, apply to you in the name of a bride who would like to be married, but wants a dowry. Peasants will stop you to enable them to buy a new horse, the old one having gone to the wall by some accident or other; soldiers in full uniform, who have broken a glass in the barracks, clamor for a trifle to replace the departed one. With the secular members of the fraternity is admixed a strong proportion of monks and nuns, walking in the sombre garments of their order, and asking a mite for the erection of a new church, the restoration of a chapel, or such like purpose. All point imperatively to the boxes, plates, coffins, prayer books and altar covers, which they present to you with an entreating look.

A BIRD'S EGG.

I THINK that, if required, on pain of death, to name instantly the most perfect thing in the universe, I should risk my fate on a bird's egg. There is, first, its exquisite fragility of material, strong only by the mathematical precision of that form so daintily moulded. There is its absolute purity from external stain, since that thin barrier remains impassable till the whole is in ruins—a purity recognized in the household proverb of "an apple, an egg, and a nut." Then its range of tints, so varied, so subdued and so beautiful—whether of the pure white, like the martin's, or pure green, like the robin's, or dotted and mottled into the loveliest of browns, like the red thrush's, or aqua marine, with stains of moss-agate, like the chipping sparrow's, or blotched with long weird ink-marks on a pale ground, like the oriole's, as if it bore inscribed some magic clew to the bird's darting flight and penile nest. Above all, the associations and predictions of this little wonder—that one may bear home between his finger all that winged splendor, all that celestial melody, coiled in mystery within these tiny walls! Even the chrysalis is less amazing, for its form always preserves some trace, however fantastic, of the perfect insect, and it is but moulding a skin; but this egg appears to the eye like a separate unit from some other kingdom of Nature, claiming more kindred with the very stones than with feathered existence, and it is as if a pearl opened and an angel sang.—Higginson's Out-Door Papers.

STRENGTH OF THE TIGER.—The strength of the tiger is prodigious. By a single cuff of his great fore-paw he will break the skull of an ox as you or I could smash a gooseberry; and then, taking his prey by the neck, will straighten his muscles and march off at a half trot, with only the hoofs and tail of the defunct animal trailing on the ground. An eminent traveler relates that a buffalo having got helplessly fixed in a swamp, its owner went to seek assistance of his neighbors to drag it out. While he was gone, however, a tiger visited the spot, and unconsciously slow and drew the buffalo out of the mire, and had just got it comfortably over his shoulders, preparatory to trotting home, when the herdsman and his friends approached. The buffalo, which weighed more than a thousand pounds, had his skull fractured, and its body nearly emptied of blood.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



FLING 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 crumpled down,
Let it still be the banner that covers the brave,
The star spangled banner, with glory we own,
'Tis too noble a banner for tyrant and slave.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., SEPTEMBER 12, 1863.

The Army in Virginia.

The best obtainable information locates Gen. Lee in Richmond, and his army scattered on the line of the Blue Ridge, on the west to Port Royal, Rappahannock on the east, and south as far as the line of the Virginia Central railroad. His troops are widely scattered, so as to facilitate subsisting. Gen. Ewell has the left A. P. Hill the centre, lying on the railroad from Culpepper to Orange Court House, while Longstreet holds the extreme right, occupying the line of the Richmond and Fredericksburg railroad. Cook's brigade of North Carolina troops occupy Fredericksburg. Jones' brigade of cavalry is said to have gone back to the Shenandoah Valley and Robinson to Richmond. Stuart is still in command, but growing more and more unpopular. It is expected that he will be relieved by Wade Hampton.

Deserters now in report Lee's army generally discussing another raid across the Potomac. There must be certain indications of expressions dropped by those in high command, to warrant the assumption. The reported demoralization of Lee's army is much exaggerated. It is again in excellent fighting condition. Deserters are far less numerous than stated, both to the mountains and to our lines.

A N. Y. Times dispatch says:—A distinguished officer in the Army of the Potomac has sent in word that Gen. Lee has not given the slightest evidence of a purpose to move his forces. On the other hand, he is waiting for the result of the operations of Rosecrans, Gilmore and Burnside. The opinion prevails among the most intelligent of our officers at headquarters that if these operations are successful, Lee will propose terms of surrender and endeavor to bring the war to a close.

Guerrilla operations in our rear continue, though the last depredations are reported from the vicinity of Hartwood Church, Stafford Store and Dumfries. A mail party of eight was attacked on the road between Warrenton Junction and Hartwood one day last week, and four of them, including the mail, captured.

Information having been received that a cavalry expedition was to be sent up the Rappahannock to retake the gunboats Satellite and Reliance, captured by the rebels nine days ago, Gen. Kilpatrick was directed to move down with his cavalry division and co-operate in such manner as circumstances would require. In accordance with these instructions General Kilpatrick moved on the 2d to the vicinity of Corby's Neck, where the captured gunboats were lying, causing the rebel cavalry in that neighborhood to precipitate down the river. Finding that no gunboats appeared to engage the Reliance and Satellite, he ordered the batteries of Elder and Fuller to open upon them. The boats were moored to the shore opposite Corby's Neck, and having no steam up they were unable to escape. They were thoroughly riddled and disabled and can never be again used by the enemy. The enemy played upon our forces for a short time with a few field pieces without damage, but were speedily quieted. These boats were mere tugs altered for navy business.

Notwithstanding the vigilance of the Potomac flotilla smuggling is still carried on to a considerable extent. A flat boat has been engaged for some time in transporting contraband goods across the river at Deep Hole Farm, between Occoquan and Dumfries, from which point the articles are removed into the interior and sold at exorbitant prices. At Dumfries, the landing place of many of the carriers, common salt is sold for \$12 per bbl.

Department of the South.

The latest intelligence from before Charleston is contained in a Morris Island letter to the N. Y. Herald on the 1st inst., the contents of which are as follows:

For two or three days past a new rebel battery on Sullivan's Island has been making fruitless efforts to annoy our men in the advance trenches. The calibre of the gun employed is not certainly known, but it is supposed to be one of the eleven-inch guns taken from the Keokuk. The firing of the gun is very good, except in one rather important particular, its range being short, and only at long intervals a shot from it reaches the island. Those thrown in thus far have been solid shots and have done no damage other than to the sand hills which have been hit. The ma-

majority fall into the water outside of the beach, and expend their force upon the curling surf.

Four monitors, the Passaic, Patapsco, Nahant and Montauk came in yesterday afternoon, engaged Fort Moultrie and the batteries on Sullivan's Island, firing occasional shots at Fort Sumter and Wagner. The engagement opened about half-past 3 o'clock, and about two hours' fire was maintained with great intensity, particularly on the rebel side. The firing from Moultrie and Battery Bee was terrific. Their heavy guns rattled off like a snare drum in tattoo, and the water about the monitors was thrown up in all directions. Several shots threw tons of water in cascades over their turrets and decks, shaking them with the concussion. Many shots struck the monitors, but did little damage. The heavy rifle and 15-inch shell of the ironclads burst with effect over and in Moultrie, and sent the earth whirling in all directions. Fort Wagner was repeatedly struck by the exploding shells and somewhat damaged. It fired but few shots during the contest at the monitors. Battery Gregg was exceedingly active. Her heavy guns were in play from the first to the last of the engagement and made some excellent shots. The monitors' shells went widely on all sides, and had no effect in silencing her guns. Sumter was struck several times by rifled shells from the Passaic and Patapsco, but besides detaching masses of loose masonry, it did no further damage to the fort. No guns were dismantled, if they exist, and no further reduction accomplished. After two or three hours' fighting, the monitors responded to the general signal from the Ironsides to cease firing and withdraw. What the object of the attack was has not been developed.

Some days ago the enemy made a systematic effort to blow up and destroy the gunboats and transports in Stono Inlet by means of torpedoes. Fortunately, no serious damage was inflicted on any of the vessels by these infernal machines, but the escape was quite narrow enough for comfort. One torpedo exploded a little astern of the Pawnee, and blew her launch, which was towing astern, to fragments. A few moments later a tremendous explosion occurred on Bird Key, a few rods below the Pawnee, occasioned by another torpedo sent down at the same time.

From facts since developed, it is certain that the rebels sent down that night at least ten of these inventions, three or four of which were picked up. One drifted through a fleet of transports and up the Falls river and exploded under the bows of the mortar schooner C. P. Williams, but occasioned no damage.

The N. Y. Tribune's Morris Island letter states:

Wagner will be held to the last moment, and nothing, it is said, but want of water will compel her to surrender. The dead lie so thickly around her walls that the water from her shallow wells cannot be drunk. If compelled by thirst, some of the soldiers are so imprudent as to swallow it, the next day they are in the hospital, and before the close of the week many of them are in their graves. Brave attempts have been made to supply the garrison from Charleston, but thus far a small quantity only has been furnished. Only at midnight, or under cover of some dense fog in the morning, have any vessels been known to reach them for the past eight days. If the monitors would only cut off communication for one week longer, the fort would be in our possession; and with Fort Wagner, Fort Gregg and the whole of Morris Island once ours, the stars and stripes in a few hours would wave over Sumter. We are now within 100 yards of Fort Wagner. By to-morrow our heaviest Parrotts will be able to deliver at the distance of 200 yards into every embrasure commanding the beach and an enflanking fire upon every gun looking seaward.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning informs us that Gen. Gilmore has succeeded in running a parallel against the walls of Fort Wagner.

The following is Gen. Gilmore's reply to Gen. Beauregard's communication, published in RURAL last week.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
MORRIS ISLAND, 9 P. M., August 22, 1863.

SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication to-day, complaining that one of my batteries had opened upon the city of Charleston, and thrown a number of rifled shells in the city, the inhabitants of which were asleep, and unarmed. My letter to you demanding the surrender of Fort Sumter and Morris Island, and threatening in default thereof, was delivered near Fort Wagner at 11:15 A. M. on the 21st inst., and should have arrived at your headquarters in time to have permitted your answer to reach me within the limit assigned, viz., four hours.

The fact that you were absent from your headquarters at the time may be regarded as an unfortunate circumstance for the city of Charleston, but it is one for which I am clearly not responsible.

This letter bore date at my headquarters and was delivered by an officer of my staff. The inadvertence of the omission of my signature doubtless affords ground for special pleading, but it is not the argument of a commander solicitous only for the safety of sleeping innocent children and unarmed men.

Your threats of retaliation for acts of mine which you do not allege to be in violation of the usages of civilized warfare, except as regards the length of time allowed as notice of my intention, are passed without comment.

I will, however, call your attention to the well established principle that the commander of the place attacked, but not invested, having its avenues of escape open and practicable, has no right of a notice of an intention of bombardment, other than that which is given by the threatening attitude of his adversary. Even if this letter had not been written, the city of Charleston has had forty days' notice of her danger. During that time my attack against her defences has steadily progressed. The ultimate result has at no time been doubtful. If, under the circumstances, the life of a single non-combatant is exposed to peril by the bombardment of the city, the responsibility rests with those who have first failed to remove the non-combatants, or to secure the safety of the city, after having held control of all its approaches for nearly two and a half years in the presence of a threatening force, and to afterward refuse to accept the terms upon which the bombardment might have been postponed.

From various sources, official and otherwise, I am led to believe that most of the women and

children of Charleston were long since removed from that city, but upon your assurance that the city is still full of them, I shall suspend bombardment until 10 P. M. to-morrow, thus giving you two days from the time you acknowledged you received my communication on the 21st inst.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Q. A. GILMORE,
Brig. Gen. Commanding
Confederate Forces, Charleston, S. C.

It appears that the Spanish and British Consuls respectively addressed Gen. Gilmore in behalf of the subjects of their countries in Charleston, and he cheerfully suspended the bombardment for 24 hours to give them time to leave the city. Nothing was further, he says, from his wish than to endanger their lives and property.

Lieut. Cushing communicates to the naval authorities an account of the gallant conduct of a squad of the crew of the steamer Schockalou, of which he is commander, in putting to flight three times their number of rebels. They took a number of prisoners, captured horses, &c., in New Topsail Inlet, N. C., and destroyed the blockade running schooner Alexander Cooper. This vessel he said cleared from New York to Port Royal, N. C., with an assorted cargo, and was once towed outside the line of blockaders by a gunboat. The Lieutenant adds:—I shall try to learn the names of the patriotic citizens of my State who entered into this little speculation.

Department of the Gulf.

The steamship Morning Star, from New Orleans Aug. 27th, arrived at New York on the 5th. She brings 670 bales of cotton.

A movement was on foot in New Orleans to present the 26th Massachusetts regiment a stand of colors for good behavior while in the city, that regiment having been ordered to active duty in the field.

Many vessels are advertised to leave for St. Louis and other ports up the river.

All vessels of war engaged in recent operations on the Mississippi are to be surveyed, and such of them as need repairs be sent home.

Three hundred bales of cotton were sold on government account on the 25th, bringing prices from 67 to 68 cents per lb.

An order has been issued to regulate the employment and education of people of color.

A New Orleans letter of the 23th to the World describes the military and political situation in the Department of the South.

The movement on Mobile had undoubtedly been abandoned. There were no indications of such a movement, and the situation of affairs in the army and navy seemed to preclude the possibility of it. Preparations were, however, going forward, suggesting a new and interesting campaign.

The Confederate forces, ever since the evacuation of Brashear City, had not been idle on the other side of the bay, and along the Teche were understood to be concentrated for an offensive raid or invasion through that part of Louisiana supposed to be held by our forces. Rebel forces were gathering at St. Martinville, New Iberia, Franklin and Camp Bristand. The plan of the rebel campaign, as stated by deserters, contemplates a march into the Lafourche, once conquered by Weitzel, and again recently in the hands of Gen. Banks.

Generals Grant and Thomas have gone to New Orleans. It is rumored that Gen. Banks will go to Texas. Gen. Grant will command all the Mississippi region.

Gen. Joe Johnston's army has removed from the vicinity of Enterprise, but in what direction is not known.

Movements in the West and South-West.

TENNESSEE.—A special to the N. Y. Tribune from Cincinnati says:

Burnside is supposed to be at Clinch river. His march across Cumberland mountains was very exhausting. His column, mostly artillery and mounted infantry. A strong body of infantry from Rosecrans was to have joined him in Clinch river valley.

Gen. Burnside telegraphed that he took Kingston on the 2d instant.

Part of Gen. Ministry's brigades of Rosecrans' army, went simultaneously to Gen. Burnside's aid. He met with no serious opposition. All Eastern Tennessee, except the Chattanooga region, has been evacuated and is free. Everything is working splendidly, both in Rosecrans' army and in Burnside's. The great obstacle of this region, the Lookout Mountains, will be surmounted in a day or two.

A dispatch received in Cincinnati on the 6th announces that Gen. Burnside entered Knoxville on the 4th. No particulars.

The headquarters of the army of the Cumberland is still at Stephenson, Alabama. Only a portion of the army crossed the Tennessee. The forces on the south side will shortly destroy the railroad bridges on the line of communication. All movable public and private property is being carried out of Chattanooga.

A dispatch to Washington on the 7th inst says:—"It is represented that when Gen. Burnside arrived before Kingston the enemy fell back and retreated. At this point a cavalry force was sent from Gen. Rosecrans' army at Chattanooga, eighty miles to the south, to join Gen. Burnside's forces. The latter pushed on his columns to London, where a sharp fight took place, but the enemy was completely routed with considerable loss. Our casualties in all skirmishes were trifling. Gen. Burnside met with but slight resistance.

ARKANSAS.—The Memphis Bulletin, of the 30th ult., learns from Mr. Ray, lately a prisoner at Little Rock, that the rebel force at that place was 40,000 strong, many of whom were conscripts from 16 to 60 years of age, only half armed, and commanded by Gens. Ferguson and Price. The rebels are erecting fortifications on the opposite side of the river, and fourteen miles below Little

Rock. It is reported that Gen. Blunt is marching on Archadelphia. Mr. Ray says that the people of Arkansas are tired of the war, and would gladly come under the protection of the Federal Government.

A special dispatch from Memphis to the St. Louis Republican says:

The steamer Progress, from White river, brings the news that Gen. Davidson, with cavalry and artillery, constituting the advance guard of Gen. Steele's army, on the 27th of August drove the enemy, seven thousand strong, across Bayou Mitare bridge, killing and wounding about one hundred, and capturing two hundred prisoners. Our loss was thirty. The rebels burned the bridge after crossing. Gen. Steele was at Duval's Bluff on the 31st ultimo.

AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

THE President has ordered that the Executive order, dated Nov. 21st, 1862, prohibiting the exportations from the United States of arms and ammunition as munitions of war, under which the commandants of departments were, by order of the Secretary of War, dated May 12, 1863, ordered to prohibit the purchase and sale, for exportation, all horses and mules within their respective commands, and to take and appropriate to the use of the United States any horses, mules and live stock designed for exportation, be so far modified that any arms heretofore imported into the United States may be re-imported to the place of original shipment, and that any live stock raised in any State or Territory of the United States, bordering on the Pacific Ocean, may be exported from any such State or Territory.

The Secretary of the Treasury has, for some time past, been engaged in preparation of new regulations for trade with rebel States, suited to the altered condition of affairs occasioned by the opening of the Mississippi river. They will be completed in a few days, but may have to be submitted for approval of Generals commanding Departments in the South, before they will be ready for publication.

An investigation is being prosecuted in regard to the character of the liquors and wines furnished for hospital purposes. Instances of gross frauds by adulteration have already been discovered. Much of the liquor analyzed is badly drugged and totally unfit for use.

The largest number of applications, for land under the Homestead Law, are in Wisconsin, Michigan, Kansas and Washington. The revenue from the public domain is scarcely more than nominal. No additional land will be immediately advertised for sale.

The statement that Commissioner Ould has terminated the negotiations for exchange of prisoners by a positive declaration that the white officers of colored regiments will not be released or exchanged, is premature. The negotiations are still in progress, and no definite result has yet been reached. Meantime, no exchange of enlisted men has taken place; but both parties continue to release or parole small numbers of this class of prisoners.

Quartermaster-General Meigs has not yet completed his inspection of the Quartermaster's Department of the Army of the Potomac. He is directed, when this is done, to travel upon a tour of inspection through the armies of the South-west. It is probable that he, as well as the Adjutant-General and Surgeon-General will be continuously employed in peripatetic field duties away from Washington.

The Indian Bureau has received information of the peaceable removal of 1,500 Sioux Indians and 1,800 Winnebagos from Minnesota, and their location in Dacotah Territory. Under Supt. Thompson, arrangements are being made for the erection of stockades for their defence, together with improvements, in order to carry out in good faith the pledges of the Government.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

In Chicago (says the Tribune) there are over four thousand children of school ages in the streets, running wild, and probably double that number from five to six years old are either worrying their parents or learning vice in the streets.

OVER 2,000 chimney sweep boys in England are flogged to make them do that odious work. Many thousands from the age of five to ten years are working fifteen hours a day in a temperature of 150 degrees in the potteries.

RECRUITING for the Union army is being prosecuted with great success among the rebel prisoners at Fort Delaware. Already six hundred recruits for the Third Maryland cavalry have been obtained from prisoners who have taken the oath of allegiance, most of them Southern born.

ENSIGN PORTER, whose bravery at Charleston was telegraphed last week is a New Yorker, his father living in Lockport. He entered the Naval School from the Lockport district in 1858, and is now only 19. A correspondent gives another instance of his gallantry as follows:—"At the battle of Roanoke Island, he commanded a launch of six Dahlgren howitzers from his vessel, in the advance of the centre, which he dragged through a swamp, the mud up to the 'hubs' of the wheels, took his position 'under a gallant fire from the enemy,' which he maintained, returning fire until most of his men had fallen, when one of the guns exploded, and one man alone remained with him, of whom he thus wrote (boy-like, of seventeen years,) to his mother: 'He alone remained, when a slug passed into his throat, from which the blood streamed out; he looked in my face, choked, fell down and died. This made me madder than ever, and I then went in on my muscle.' He bravely remained alone with his battery, cleaning, loading and firing his guns himself, until, with Hawkins' Zouaves, they won the day."

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Universal Clothes Wringer—Julius Ives & Co.
To Whom it may Concern—George E. Pomeroy.
Wonderful Cure of Cancer.
Bullard's Patent Hay Spreader and Turner.
The Eureka Feed Cutter—H. K. Parsons, Agt.
Fremont Square School for Young Ladies—George Gannett, Principal.
Five Quires—George K. Snow & Hapgood.
A Young Lady—Teacher.
Farm for Sale.

The News Condenser.

- There were last week at Cape May, it is stated, about 6,000 visitors.
- Shoe-making is done extensively in Haverhill, Mass., by the women.
- Senator Rice of Minnesota lies seriously ill at his home in St. Paul.
- A blue heron, 6 feet from tip to tip of wing, was lately shot in Vermont.
- The Mobile Register states that Alexander H. Stephens has gone to Nassau.
- The amount of gas consumed at the Grand Hotel in Paris costs annually 130,000.
- Smuggling between Maryland and Virginia is still carried out to a considerable extent.
- The Miss. papers are predicting an extensive Federal raid along the Mississippi Central railroad.
- The latest advices from New Orleans speak of a movement of our army in Louisiana as imminent.
- A severe snow storm occurred on Lake Superior on Friday and Saturday, the last week in August.
- A Washington special to the Tribune states that the report there is to be no draft in Ohio is untrue.
- The Cincinnati Gazette says that Gen. Rosecrans had a narrow escape from being shot a few days ago.
- The mortality rate in New York during the present season has been three times as great as in London.
- The Catholics of Liverpool, England, are organizing a Reformatory School to reclaim neglected children.
- The draft in Utica took seven men in the Herald office, four in the Observer and four in the Telegraph.
- Col. B. L. Bell, the oldest cavalry colonel in the regular service, died in Baltimore on Saturday night week.
- As an interesting statistic, the Springfield Republican says there are 113 marriageable ladies in Lee, Mass.
- Thirty-two Sergeants and Corporals in the regular army have just been promoted to be second Lieutenants.
- They tell of a Cuban lady at a ball in Saratoga last week whose dress and diamonds were valued at \$70,000!
- The Richmond Enquirer urges the immediate increase of the rebel practical fleet by purchase in England.
- There are three fathers in East Nottingham township Chester county, Pa., who have fourteen sons in the Union army.
- A pioneer company of emigrants to the state of Delaware will go thither from the North in the course of a month.
- The New York Sun estimates the cost of conscription in that city at \$11,000,000; yet only 1,000 men will be gained.
- The War Department has organized up to this time 75 companies of invalids, who are to do garrison and other duties.
- Frederick Douglas is to accompany Adjutant-General Thomas to the West to assist in organizing colored regiments.
- There is a large tobacco field at Hatfield, Mass., for the crop of which New York speculators have offered \$40,000.
- Additional rolls of the rebels taken at Vicksburg swell the list to 33,000—5,000 in excess of the published reports.
- There are 88 banks in Rhode Island, with a capital of twenty-one million, on a specie basis of a trifle over half a million.
- The Army and Navy Journal says that Gen. Wadsworth has been assigned to the duty of organizing negro regiments.
- A negro in Rhode Island, who was drafted in two towns, sent a substitute from one and represented the other himself.
- A slight shock of an earthquake occurred in the lower part of St. Louis about eight o'clock on Friday evening week.
- Our wounded at Gettysburg are getting along admirably. Only 1,500 still remain in hospital. Of these some 600 are rebels.
- In Tippecanoe county, Indiana, there is a man living who is 130 years old. It is supposed he is the oldest man in the world.
- More than half of the young men who have applied as candidates for the Naval Academy at Newport have been rejected.
- Thad. Stevens has given as his opinion that the payment of the \$300 and the furnishing of a substitute have the same effect.
- A splendid entertainment was given in the city of Memphis the evening of the 26th ult., in honor of Major General Grant.
- Archbishop Hughes is the richest clergyman in this country. His private property is said to be worth a million of dollars.
- The receipts for internal revenue for the month of August amount to \$5,604,201 35, an increase over the receipts for July.
- The office of the United Express Company, in St. Louis, was robbed of nearly fifty thousand dollars Monday night week.
- A mail came through to New York city last week from New Orleans by way of Cairo, the first since the rebellion broke out.
- The prize steamer Cronstadt with 600 bales of cotton, 200 barrels of turpentine and 200 barrels of rosin, arrived at Boston last week.
- Americans in Germany, to the number of about 100, recently assembled at a banquet at Hamburg, to celebrate the Federal victories.
- The Federal vessels destroyed or bonded by Confederate cruisers is in all 160, measuring 61,429 tons, and valued at \$11,060,000.
- The official vote of Kentucky foots up as follows:—Bramlette, Union, 67,598; Wickliffe, Dem., 17,344. 50,242 majority for Bramlette.
- Reports to the Provost Marshal Gen. in Washington indicate that the product of the draft in all the States will not exceed 150,000 men.
- The miners in the coal regions of Pa. are receiving the extraordinary pay of \$90 to \$125 per month, working not over eight hours a day.
- Agents of the Government are now employed in Canada picking up horses for the Federal Army, but the supply is nearly exhausted.
- Orders have been received by the Government sent from citizens of Nashville, Tenn., and Vicksburg, Miss., for the Government 5-20 bonds.

A GREAT BOOK FOR AGENTS!

DR. RANDALL'S NEW WORK ON SHEEP HUSBANDRY, recently announced as in preparation, is now in press, and will be published early in Sept. It is entitled THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD, and must prove the BEST and MOST COMPLETE practical work on the subject ever published in America. The demand for a good Sheep Book is great, and this one is designed to supply it fully. Its sale must be immense in all parts of the country where sheep are kept. The book will be furnished to Agents on such terms that they cannot fail to make money rapidly by its sale. Entertaining canvassers wanted in Every County—such as will attend to the business thoroughly.

THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD will contain over Four Hundred large duodecimo pages, and embrace numerous fine and costly engravings. The work will be much larger and more comprehensive than originally intended, several chapters and illustrations having been added since it was first announced. Its retail price will be \$1.50. Sample copies sent (post-paid) to applicants for agencies on the receipt of price. For Circulars containing the terms to Agents, &c., address

D. D. T. MOORE,
EDITOR RURAL NEW-YORKER, Rochester, N. Y.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office,
Rochester, September 8, 1883.

This market is without change and business is dull. No transactions are observable except to retailers.

Rochester Wholesale Prices.

Table of market prices for various goods including Flour, Wheat, Corn, and other commodities. Columns list item names and their corresponding prices.

The Provision Markets.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—Wool—Foreign Wool continues in moderate demand, and sales have been made of Donkai at \$7.00; Cape at \$6.00; fine African at \$5.00; and Rio Grande and African on private terms. In domestic not much has been done; the range for fleece is \$2.00. Fullest quiet; sales of Lambs at \$5.00. The market is unsettled by the sudden fluctuations in gold and exchange during the past two or three days.—Shipping and Com. List.

bs. Lambs without change. Hogs—The weather and a light supply, combined with a peculiar demand that started in New York last week, has caused an extraordinary spring in prices. It is being freely bid for good corn-fed, while for extra heavy do. 65c less in some instances. Asked and obtained as follows:

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—For Beesves, Milch Cows, Veal Calves, and Sheep and Lambs, at the Washington Drive Yard, corner of Fourth and Broadway, foot of Robinson street; at Chamberlain's, Hudson River, Bull's Head, foot of Robinson street; at Browning's in Sixth street, near Third avenue; and also at O'Brien's Central Bull-Head, Sixth street. For Swine, at Allerton's Yard, foot of 37th street, N. E. The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

Table of prices for different types of livestock including BEEF CATTLE, COWS AND CALVES, VEAL CALVES, SHEEP AND LAMBS, and SWINE. Lists item names and prices.

CAMBRIDGE, Sept. 2.—Whole number of cattle at market 10,000. 800 Beesves, and 220 Stores, consisting of Working Oxen, Cows and Calves, two and three year olds, not suitable for beef.

MARKET BEEF.—Prices, Extra \$3.00, first quality \$2.50, second do. \$2.00, third do. \$1.50, fourth do. \$1.00. Working Oxen, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00. Cows and Calves, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50. Stores—Yearlings, \$1.00; two years old, \$1.10; three years old, \$1.25.

SWINE.—Prices, Extra \$3.00, first quality \$2.50, second do. \$2.00, third do. \$1.50, fourth do. \$1.00. Working Oxen, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00. Cows and Calves, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50. Stores—Yearlings, \$1.00; two years old, \$1.10; three years old, \$1.25.

BRITTON, Sept. 2.—At market, 1,711 Beesves; 500 Stores; 7,500 Sheep and Lambs, and 400 Swine.

MARKET BEEF.—Prices, Extra \$3.00, first quality \$2.50, second do. \$2.00, third do. \$1.50, fourth do. \$1.00. Working Oxen, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00. Cows and Calves, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50. Stores—Yearlings, \$1.00; two years old, \$1.10; three years old, \$1.25.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—Wool—Foreign Wool continues in moderate demand, and sales have been made of Donkai at \$7.00; Cape at \$6.00; fine African at \$5.00; and Rio Grande and African on private terms.

Table of wool prices for various types of wool including Saxony, Merino, and other breeds. Lists item names and prices.

BOSTON, Sept. 9.—Wool—The demand for fleece wool has been moderate during the week, but prices remain about the same and holders are pretty firm. The receipts continue quite small for the season and the stock of new fleece is very light. Sales of fleece and pulled at prices ranging from \$2.00 to \$2.50 for fleece, and \$2.50 to \$3.00 for super and extra pulled. The bulk of the sales of new fleece were for 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 year olds and fine to medium. The whole farm is a valuable land and well watered, six miles from the Railroad Station on the M. & N. R., 35 miles from Toledo, in one of the most beautiful sections of the State. The owner claims this as a model farm, and will pay any gentleman's expenses to see it, if it is not up to our standard.

ALBANY, Sept. 5.—Wool—The stagnation in this market has been continued, and at from 60c to 70c per lb. has been paid for fair to good parcels.—J.M.W.

BUFFALO, Sept. 7.—Wool—The market quiet, with only a moderate business. Quoted at \$2.00 for fine, \$1.50 for medium and \$1.00 for Canada fleece.—C.M.W.

TORONTO, Sept. 2.—Wool—Scarcely at \$2.00 per lb. with a deduction of one-third of the weight for matted and unwashed.—Globe.

ALBANY, Sept. 7.—Wool—The supply, taking quality and weight into consideration, is much greater than last week. Chiefly owing to this fact, notwithstanding the New Yorkers had a moderate profitable trade last week, and are here in full numbers now, but they are not so numerous as they were then. The difference in quality is equal to 1/2c per lb. live weight, and the market is thus much lower.

ROCHESTER.—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market for the Central railroad, estimating sixteen to the car:

Table comparing wool receipts at Rochester for different years. Columns show year, last week, and last year.

At the U. S. General Hospital, West Philadelphia, Pa. on Wednesday, Aug. 19th, AUGUSTUS KENDRICKS, private of Co. C, 140th (Rochester) Regiment N. Y. S. V., died at 24 years of age.

In this city, on the 18th ult., by Rev. S. VAN BENSCHOTEN, Lieut. FRED. MAXWELL, of Lockport, to Miss LOUISE W. HART, of Rochester.

From the Prairie Farmer. A MANUAL OF FLAX CULTURE.—We have received from the publisher, D. D. T. MOORE, Rochester, N. Y., Rural Manual, No. 1, being a collection of valuable information on the culture and manufacture of flax and linen, with illustrations. The wants of a large number of persons who are experimenting with these crops for the first time will be filled with this book. It is information that can be had by addressing the publisher, including 25 cents.

On the morning of the 26th ult., by the Rev. J. VAN BENSCHOTEN, Mr. GEORGE J. MAJOR, of Three Rivers, Mich., to Miss EMILY G. GEDDIE, of this city.

In this city, at the residence of the bride, by F. F. Eganwood, JOSEPH W. BUCK, U. S. N., and LOLA M. LEE, of this city.

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New Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance.—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 62 1/2 cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES (following reading matter, leaded), 60 cents a line.

A YOUNG LADY of experience wishes a situation, in a family, to teach Music, Latin and Higher English. 713-21 Address, TEACHER, Manlius, N. Y.

FARM FOR SALE.—Containing 150 acres, one mile from Seneca Falls. Address, Box 315, Seneca Falls, N. Y.

FIVE QUIRES (120 sheets,) nice commercial note paper for 50 cents; single quires, for a sample, 10 fine white envelopes, 50 cts.; 100 Buff do., 40 cts. All the above sent post-paid. Address, GEO. L. SNOW & HARGOOD, 713-21, Fairbairn Office, Boston, Mass.

PERMERTON SQUARE ENGLISH AND FRENCH BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES, Boston, Mass., Rev. Geo. GANNETT, Principal. For Catalogues, including Circulars, application may be made personally or by letter to the Principal, 28 Pemberton Square, Boston, Mass. 71-4t

THE EUREKA FEED CUTTER. A Cutter Adapted to the Wants of Farmers. This Machine has important improvements. It CRUSHES and CUTS the heaviest corn stalks and hay and great rapidity, by hand or horse power. Knives are cylindrical with shear cut, and one can be easily ground and kept in complete cutting order by ordinary farm help. It is well made, easily operated, simple, durable and effective. Hundreds are in operation to the perfect satisfaction of the owners. Orders promptly attended to. Send for a Circular. Manufactured only by H. K. PARSONS, N. E. 712-2t Novelty Works, Harrisburg, Pa.

BULLARD'S PATENT HAY SPREADER AND TURNER. This machine, so successfully used in some sections of New England, for two years past, will be exhibited, in operation, at the coming State Fair at Utica. The attention of New York farmers is called to this new invention; second only to the Mower, in practical usefulness on the farm. It is simple in its construction, effectual in its operation and wonderfully labor-saving. It has been thoroughly tested and has never failed to give satisfaction. No farmer who wishes to have well-cured hay, can afford to do without it. The arrangements for its manufacture and sale, will hereafter be made known through the Agricultural Journals.

WONDERFUL CURE OF CANCER.—We would call the attention of those of our readers who may be afflicted with Cancer to the following card. It is from the wife of one of the most successful manufacturers of New Haven, and we know it to be truthful in every respect: NEW HAVEN, Aug. 11, 1883.

Mr. George E. Pomeroy, I would call the attention of those of our readers who may be afflicted with Cancer to the following card. It is from the wife of one of the most successful manufacturers of New Haven, and we know it to be truthful in every respect: NEW HAVEN, Aug. 11, 1883.

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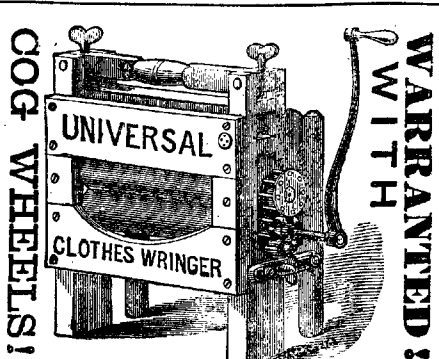
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This popular machine sells rapidly wherever offered. Every Family will have one!

It is only a question of time. Thousands of families every month are being relieved in their hardest of all household washing. Thousands of dollars are daily saved by pressing the wash and dirt out of the clothes, instead of twisting and wrenching the fabric and destroying the garments.

Cotton is Expensive, Save by using the Universal Clothes Winger. "Time is Money."

Ladies who have long used them and know their value speak in the highest terms in their praise. One says—"I would as soon be without my wash-wringer as without my wash-day." Another—"I had to pay fifty cents for a wash-woman before and now we do it ourselves." Another—"The risk may afford to do without them, but I could not." &c. &c. These are but a few among thousands. Every one using them will report likewise.

We have seven sizes, from \$5 to \$30. Those suitable for ordinary family use are No. 1, \$10, and No. 2, \$7. These have

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 (20) and other wringers without COG WHEELS.

In our sales of over 5,000, only 27 were of the No. 3, \$5 size, without COG. In our retail sales we have not sold one over \$5. This shows which style is appreciated by the public. This is the only wringer with the

PATENT COG-WHEEL REGULATOR, and though other wringer makers are licensed to use our rubber rolls, yet none are ever licensed to use the COG WHEELS. Therefore, for cheapness and durability, buy only the

Universal Clothes Winger. On receipt of the price, from places where no one is selling, we will send the U. C. W. free of expense. What we especially want is a good

CANVASSER in every town. We offer liberal inducements and guarantee the exclusive sale. Apply at once to

JULIUS IVES & CO., 245 Broadway, New York.

ALBANY, October 16th, 1882. To Whom it may Concern.

Mr. GEORGE E. POMEROY was formerly a resident of this city, and in 1842 was one of the originators of the Express business, and the success which has attended his efforts for many years, and the satisfaction which he has derived therefrom, which they have reposed in the integrity of his character and in his business habits and qualifications.

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OPENING OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

BY CAPTAIN CHITTENDEN.

HAIL, Father of waters! again thou art free! And miscrant treason hath vainly enchain'd thee; Roll on mighty river, and bear to the sea The praises of those who so gallantly gained thee!

into her master's bedroom, and pointed out the coffer in which his money was secured. "Here," she said, wrench it open at once; and while you are tying the money up, I shall just step up-stairs to my own apartment, and get a few things ready for our flight, as well as my own little hard savings for the last five years."

The Story-Teller.

THE MAID OF THE MILL.

THERE is a lonely mill close beside the little hamlet of Udorf, near the Rhine shore, between the villages of Hersel and Ursel, on the left bank, below Bonn. This mill is said to have been the scene of the following story:

"Fly! fly!" she shrieked to the child, her master's little boy, an infant five years old, the only being within sight or sound of her. "Fly, fly to thy father! fly on your life. Tell him we shall all be murdered an' he haste not back. Fly! fly!"

with the great wheel and the machinery of the mill, and was a point entirely unprotected, for the reason that the simple occupants had never supposed it feasible for any one to seek admission through such a dangerous inlet.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA. I AM composed of 46 letters. My 21, 11, 32, 29, 20, 38, 15, 12, 29, 85, 25, 19 is one of the United States.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. AN ANAGRAM. I VLEH ofr ohtso ohw elov em, Rof hteoo how okwn em ufer, Fro he neavne tth mlxiss brvoo em,

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. ARITHMETICAL QUESTION. REQUIRED the distance apart that two wheels, one 8 feet, the other 2 feet in diameter, must be placed that a band 34 3024-10000 feet will just reach around.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 711. Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Work while the day lasts. Answer to Arithmetical Question:—A \$31 1/2; B \$28; C \$17 1/2.

Advertisements.

MALE AND FEMALE AGENTS WANTED.—Rapid sale and large profits. CHALLEN, Philadelphia, Pa. RUSSELL'S STRAWBERRY PLANTS.—At \$1.00 per dozen, or \$5.00 per hundred. Warranted genuine, by J. K. BUCH, Waterloo, Seneca Co., N. Y.

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, by the dozen, hundred or thousand, from four to eight feet in height.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1863. ELLWANGER & BARRY have the pleasure to announce that they have prepared to offer for the Fall Trade the largest and most complete stock of well-grown Fruit and Ornamental Trees in the United States.

PLANTERS, NURSERYMEN AND DEALERS ARE invited to inspect the stock, and consult the Catalogues which give prices and terms. The following Catalogues will be sent to applicants, prepaid, upon the receipt of postage stamps, as follows, viz: No. 1—A Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue of Fruit Trees.

DORCHESTER NURSERIES. STANDARD PEAR TREES.—The stock is unequalled of extra size trees, and we invite the attention of the trade to our wholesale prices list.

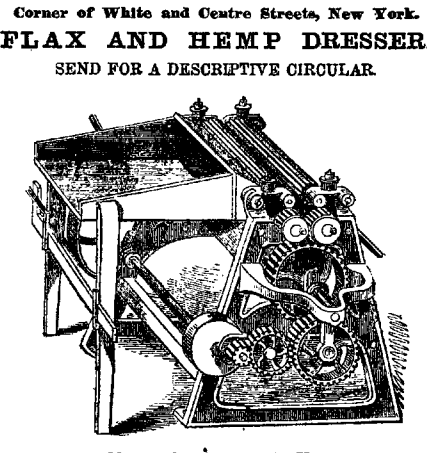
PARSELL'S PURCHASING AGENCY, ESTABLISHED 1858. Persons who wish to buy any articles in New York that can be forwarded by Mail or Express, can save all risk of trusting their money to Investors by sending orders to PARSELL'S BRO. General Purchasing Agents, N. B.—Their Circular, one of the most complete of its kind in the U. S., you would do well to send for, as it may contain the prices of Goods or Books that you may want, and they can give you the best of references, when required. Office, 176 Washington St., N. Y. City. Please address: PARSELL'S BRO., Box 2865 P. O., New York.

To Business Men.

THE BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM OF ITS CLASS, IS MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER, the leading and largest circulated Agricultural, Business and Family Newspaper in America. Business Men who wish to reach, at once, TENS OF THOUSANDS of the most enterprising Farmers, Horticulturists, &c., and thousands of Merchants, Mechanics, Manufacturers and Professional Men, throughout the loyal States, should give the RURAL a trial.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.—It is hardly necessary to inform our readers that this is a Weekly Agricultural and Family Paper, published at Rochester. It has a circulation in Western New York, Pennsylvania, and in all the Western States, of over fifty thousand copies. It is read by a greater number of farmers and residents of villages, than any paper of its class, and is unquestionably one of the best advertising mediums in the State.

MAILLORY & SANFORD, Corner of White and Centre Streets, New York. FLAX AND HEMP DRESSER. SEND FOR A DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULAR.



MALTA, Saratoga Co., N. Y., Aug. 10, 1863. Messrs. MAILLORY & SANFORD: Gentlemen:—On the 19th day of March we drew to the mill of W. G. Akin, this village, one hundred and thirty (330) pounds of flax straw, which he dressed through the Old Brakes, and we received four hundred and eighty-one (481) pounds dressed flax.

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

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER, THE LARGEST CIRCULATED Agricultural, Literary and Family Newspaper, IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY B. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y. Office, Union Buildings, Opposite the Court House, Buffalo 84.

TERMS, IN ADVANCE: Two Dollars a Year.—To Clubs and Agents as follows: Three Copies one year, for \$5; Six, and one free to club agent, for \$10; Ten, and one free, for \$15; and any greater number at same rate—only \$1.50 per copy. Club papers directed to individuals and sent to as many different Post-Offices as desired. As we pre-pay American postage on copies sent abroad, \$1.50 is the lowest Club rate for Canada, and \$2.50 to Europe, but during the present rate of exchange, Canada Agents or Subscribers remitting for the RURAL in bills of their own specie-paying banks will not be charged postage.

ADHERS TO TERMS.—No person is authorized to offer the RURAL as cheaply than published rates. Agents and friends are at liberty to give away as many copies of the RURAL as they are disposed to pay for at club rate, but we do not wish the paper offered, in any case, below price. THE POSTAGE ON THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is only 5 cts per copy for any part of this State, (except Monroe county, where it goes free,) and the same to any other Loyal State, if paid quarterly in advance where received. DIRECT TO ROCHESTER, N. Y.—All persons having occasion to address the RURAL NEW-YORKER, will please direct to Rochester, N. Y., and not, as many do, to New York, Albany, Buffalo, &c. Money Letters intended for us are frequently directed and mailed to the above places.