

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

(SINGLE NO. FIVE CENTS.)

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{WHOLE NO. 727.

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

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

In addition to the usual variety heretofore given in the Practical Departments, the RURAL for 1864 will comprise a NEW AND IMPORTANT FEATURE—a Department exclusively devoted to

SHEEP HUSBANDRY,

Conducted by Hon. HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D., author of "The Practical Shepherd" and other valuable works. Dr. R. is conceded to be the best authority on the subject in this country, and cannot fall of rendering its Department of great interest and value to all engaged or interested in any branch of Sheep Husbandry.

Agricultural.

THE CLOSING YEAR.

The year 1863 is wasting away. Its days are numbered. The work of the year ends with it. But the influence of that work will not end—ought not to do so. Now, let not the reader get impatient, anticipating a stale homily on the retrospect, introspect and prospect. Let us look at "the position" boldly, and honestly try to "master it."

Another year is nearly gone. What has been done cannot be recalled. It may be amended, perhaps improved upon. And it is just this subject which is of importance to us all now. There is no man, probably, but daily discovers errors of action by his retrospections. Now is the time to sum them up, and, from the result, work out a better system—a wiser plan of action.

Practically, what has the farmer learned? If he has kept a farm diary, as he ought to have done, the records of his observations and experiences must yield him some conclusions. These conclusions, negative and affirmative, should be summed up, arrayed against each other, compared, and incorporated in the government of his future practice. This work of retrospection is important now. It will the better enable us to prepare for the future. And a well-defined plan of action is important and profitable to the farmer, entering upon the work of a new year. It is true these plans, however well laid, "gang aft aglee." But however much modified in detail, the skeleton of the system will remain. It is better to think ahead than not to think at all. The process of planning—the effort to plan will beget ideas, will revive old ones suggested by past practices. And this is the work of the winter evenings at the close of the year. Condense the work of the past into formulas. Study these, and apply them in practice.

Preparation for the coming season's work should commence now. The winter months should not close before a well developed plan of farm operations for 1864 should have been made. There is as much good sense manifest in a builder who undertakes to build a house without a plan, as in a farmer who works without a well defined aim. If a field is to be plowed, the wherefore and what for is important. If for corn, or wheat, or tobacco, the preparation should be adapted to the wants and character of the crop. "Any fool knows that," says the impatient reader. Perhaps so; but some men, called wise, do not practice it. If ground is plowed, it is plowed. If it is stirred three, four, six, eight, twelve or eighteen inches, it is still plowed—nothing more nor less. And yet the relative depth determines the success of the crop. All men agree that ground must be plowed—"O yes, I would plow my ground for a crop, of course." But all men do not agree as to the amount of plowing, nor the depth of plowing necessary to get the largest crop of a specific character from the soil—the largest crop in proportion to the amount of money and labor expended. Nor is

the best time for plowing always regarded. Different people think differently on this subject—at least their practice indicates a difference.

Such practical questions as these can only be settled by experiment. The experience of the past years should have enabled us to come to some conclusion, or taught us to modify a former one, with reference to our farm policies. It is this work of determining these questions, preparing past experience for future use, to which it is the object of this article to call the RURAL reader's attention. There are a thousand practical questions that might be suggested, but space permits only this general allusion to them.

"THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD" ON BREEDING AND BREEDING IN-AND-IN.

BY PROF. C. DEWEY, LL. D.

I BEGAN to read the "Practical Shepherd" soon after its publication, and more reading unfolds more and more its importance. The work seems to be as nearly a complete treatise as is to be expected. Indeed, though the more learned in sheep husbandry may find something deficient, this has not been a discovery of mine. It is concise, and yet full; and the conciseness of its neat style renders its fullness admirable. It does not tire, one in the reading of it. Its details are lucid, and yet thoroughly practical. Two instances of the practical possess much philosophical value, to which I direct attention.

It is the great law of the vegetable and the animal worlds, that they produce "after their kind," or that "species and varieties continue to reproduce themselves." In the Chapter on Breeding, page 101, this maxim, "like produces like," is held to imply "that the special individual characteristics of parents are also transmitted to progeny." So that the finest specimens of two excellent varieties may be expected to produce a finer or more desirable breed. The author remarks that "this is the prevailing rule, but it has a broad margin of exceptions and variations," while the real specific distinctions are not altered. The exceptions are thus stated—"Animals are oftentimes more or less like their (immediate) parents, yet inherit a very distinct resemblance to remote ancestors—sometimes to those several generations back." Such result is termed "breeding back," and thus very undesirable properties often recur, which were thought to have been eradicated. It is also called "atavism," from the Latin word which means remote ancestors, which may be defined *descent of ancestral characters or properties*. This is a well known fact in the breeding of cattle, horses, hogs, as well as of sheep. This result can be only partially controlled; enough to be highly beneficial to the flock indeed, and yet leaving the proof complete that neither DARWIN'S "natural selection," nor LAMORCK'S "development," has power to control the law or to show there is no law of production "after their kind."

The other point is in Chap. 12, page 116, "Breeding in-and-in. Of this the author gives the only true meaning, that is, "breeding between relatives, without reference to consanguinity." This has been followed for years in the breeding of sheep, cattle, horses, rabbits and fowls, to the manifest improvement of the quality of the animals, and not showing any degenerating tendency. In the human family the contrary is held to be the fact or law, consistent with which is the Mosaic provision against marriages between blood-relations, so fully approved in civilized, and generally, in uncivilized nations. This is a marked distinction, which separates man from the animals, proving the human family to be constituted differently from that of the mere animal world. Degeneracy soon appears in the children whose parents are closely allied by blood. It is to be avoided only by special adherence to the principle on which the sacredness of the blood-ties of families is secured and perpetuated, enforced not by mere instinct or sense but by moral power. The mere animals, directed in this matter wholly by instinct, ignorant of any higher law, and unable to apprehend any moral distinctions, are improved by the breeding which is destructive to our race. The law is great and wise and benevolent, and it arises from the immense difference in kind between the powers of the man and the brute. This distinction has been made and stated from SOCRATES, PLATO and ARISTOTLE to this day.

It should be observed, too, that while the animal returns to the characters of the ancestor, the degenerated man shows no tendency to put on the likeness to a strong but remote ancestor.

Rochester, Dec. 1863.

C. D.

CONCERNING FUEL.

FUEL, in some form or other, is a grave necessity of our mortal state. Whatever is dispensable, fuel is indispensable, and so claims a measure of attention not hitherto accorded to it.

The first settlers of a wooded country are solicitous *how to get rid of their timber*; their descendants' troubles are certain to be reversed. In most of the populated districts of the United States lands with timber on are now valued higher than with the timber off—and often the timber will bring twice as much as the land upon which it grew. It is observable, however, that the increased price of wood is viewed with alarm and dissatisfaction by multitudes who, accustomed to former prices, do not cheerfully accede to the altered state of things. It is but justice to all concerned to lay down some facts and principles which will help determine our future supply of fuel, and the price it ought to command.

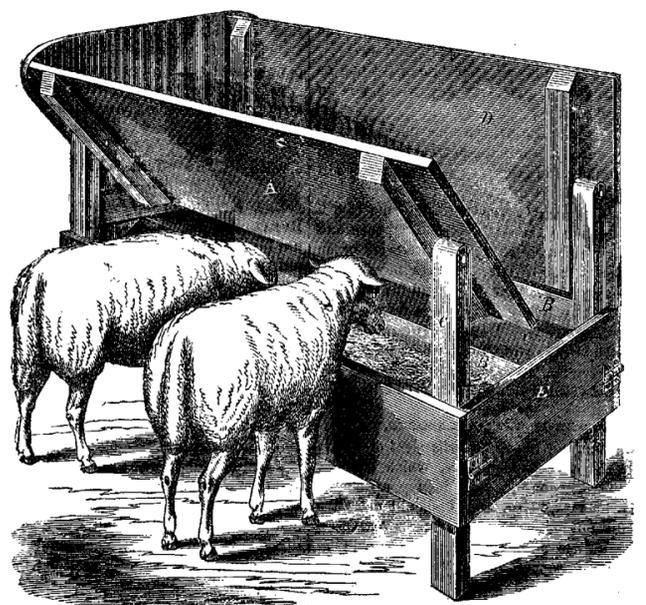
Our attention is at once turned to our coal fields. Beginning near the north line of Pennsylvania and extending south, bounded on the east by the main ridge of the Alleghany Mountains and occupying the Central and South-Western parts of the State, there is a vast bituminous coal field of some 60,000 square miles, which extends south as far as Northern Alabama, occupying portions of Southern Ohio, Eastern Kentucky and Tennessee, and Western Virginia. Another great coal field, of nearly equal extent, embraces a large portion of Illinois, Western Indiana, and a small part of North-Western Kentucky. This is separated by a narrow belt from a large coal region in Southern Iowa and Northern Missouri. Michigan claims a coal area of some three million acres, and there are still other beds in Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and elsewhere.

No trouble about fuel, say you? Yet there is trouble about fuel. Bitter complaints find their way into the public prints. Scarcity and high prices occasion wide-spread and serious apprehension, which our "Statistics of Coal" do not seem to dispel. Coal sells in England for one-third of its price in New York, and yet we complacently boast of coal mines equal in extent to the whole of Great Britain. We seem to be very much in the condition of the minister who had a good sermon in his head, but couldn't get it out. There is reason, however, to fear that our estimates, founded upon the extent of our coal lands, are eminently delusive. The mines of England, Belgium, the West Indies and other countries, are by far more productive than our own. Michigan, with its 3,000,000 acres of coal, is capable of furnishing only one-third as much coal as the Lancashire district in England, which is only one-eighth the extent of the Michigan district.

On a great extent of territory our coal measures are so thin and lie so deep as not to be available. Some of our coal mines—on James River, Virginia, for instance—have been worked for seventy-five years, and yet coal is generally dear throughout the United States as compared with other coal countries. I should like to see the evidence that it would ever be otherwise. If we suffer our forests, hitherto our main dependence, to be annihilated, and city and country, railroads, steamboats, factories and all to depend upon coal, what assurance have we of a uniform supply at fair rates? The expense of mining, owing to the high price of labor, and the condition of our mines, must be much greater than in England, while transportation and monopoly will make the burden much heavier. The more absolute our dependence upon coal, the greater danger from combination and extortion among dealers.

I propose, by way of obviating the sad effects of deficient fuel, the *planting and preservation of forests*. Wood should be grown for market as we would grow any other crop, and it should bring a remunerative price. I utterly deny the right of this generation to waste and destroy the timber, and then make free with the coal that was *hid away* for the use of God's children, just as good as we are, that will be here two thousand years hence!

As an agriculturist, I assert that all farm products that we raise now might be grown upon one-half of the land under cultivation, and the other half devoted to timber to beautify the country, protect it from winds, and supply us with wood. Farmers would grow wood if they were paid for it, but what is a fair price? I sold my neighbor GORTON an acre of wood for \$30, which had occupied the land forty-eight years



HALE'S IMPROVED SHEEP RACK.

OUR engraving represents what is claimed to be a great improvement in sheep racks. It was invented, we are informed, by a gentleman who owns and keeps one thousand sheep, and who devoted much time and labor to its perfection. The rack has been patented (or a patent has been applied for) by ROBERT HALE, of Fitchburg, Mass., who is now introducing it to the public. It is said to be highly approved by flock-masters who have used the invention. The rack is thus described:

"This apparatus is intended to economize feed and to obtain the greatest benefit from it by preventing the sheep from having access to the fodder except at proper times; it is also adapted to other purposes, being capable of conversion into a shearing table, and as a weather-proof salting house, or shed in the summer or mild seasons. The engraving represents one side, A, of the rack turned in, disclosing the feeding-troughs, B, and the internal arrangement of the rack or box, more properly speaking. These feeders, A, are swung on pivots in the upright bar, C, and when in the position indicated in the engraving on the

side where the sheep are feeding, permit them to have access to the fodder at all times. When roots or fine feed are used in the feed-troughs, it is necessary to clean them out occasionally; and to do this the feeder boards, A, are turned up, as shown at D, and the attendant can then, go inside and sweep out the troughs through the door, E, without being hindered or delayed by the crowding or desire of the sheep to get at the feed. The feeding boards can also be turned up in a horizontal position, so that by merely placing a bar underneath the two leaves, when so turned up, a table is made which may be used for shearing on in the spring; or by partially inclining the sides in the form of a roof and placing a ridge-piece over them, the salt, which is usual to supply the sheep with at certain seasons, can be thrown in the troughs instead of scattering around under foot and on rocks to be wasted; the inclination of the roof serves to keep off rain and dew, and is thus turned to good account in this respect."

Further information concerning this invention may be had by addressing Mr. HALE, as above.

since my father first bought it; he sold an acre of beans for \$54, which occupied his land three months. Did he get too much for his beans, or I too little for my wood? Who can tell how much wood ought to fetch? Of intangible subjects stove-wood beats them all—the Sources of the Nile, McCLELLAN'S military genius, and the Northern Lights, are nothing to it.

To get the real worth of wood in any locality, I suppose we ought to determine first the value of the land, and then see what the lawful interest would be per annum on the price, then add taxes, then calculate how many cords of wood, under favorable circumstances, could be grown on an acre in a year, and divide the interest and taxes by the cords of wood, and see how much the wood is worth. Will some of your readers make a computation?

If wood costs high, I shall insist still that it ought to be burned. Chiefest of *luxuries* is an open fireplace and a wood-fire! For such fruition, men might forego wine, cigars and broad-cloth; women might circumscribe their skirts, abjure ribbons and lace, and go to church in a very democratic wagon. An open wood fire is eminently healthy, and good health is cheap at any price. Stoves, close rooms and coal make many a weary head, and prematurely fill many a grave. The good sense of mankind appears to a very great disadvantage when it leads to profligate expenditure in almost every other department, and a suicidal parsimony here.—H. T. B.

SOUND POTATOES, AGAIN.

THE numerous readers of the RURAL will recall that some time last June I gave some years of my experience in raising potatoes, both in this and New York State,—that I deduced as the result of my observations, the rule of planting and digging early, before the autumnal rains, and securing in cool and dry pits or cellars, and

that, in case these rains were followed with much thunder and lightning, and immediately attended by a few days of warm weather, either clear or cloudy, potato rot was sure to follow. Lightning, or electricity, is the efficient cause,—thunder is merely its voice in seeking equilibrium. Now I desire to give the result of *this year's* experiments.

The fore-part of the summer was very favorable to the growth of the potato, so that all early varieties matured well by the middle or latter part of August. Many were fully ripe for the cellar the last of July. Such was the condition of the greater part of my crop,—being early Shaws, planted April 25th, four feet apart. I never had better potatoes, or a better yield. I intended to have dug them by the middle of August, but being away from home, and business pressing, they were left in the ground until the 6th of September. About the 20th of August we had a heavy rain, attended with tremendous peals of thunder and almost blinding flashes of lightning. The ground was thoroughly saturated with water. Again about the 1st of September another similar storm occurred, followed immediately by very warm and cloudy weather for three or four days. Within three or four days from the subsidence of the last storm, the potato rot began to show itself in small, light brown spots upon the surface, and only skin deep, without the least sign of cut or abrasion. In twenty-four hours, in places where the *rotter stood*, the points of decay had extended to double the size, and many were dark and nearly black; and within six days, there was a loss of one-tenth. The potato lot from which my family obtained their daily supply being near the house, the invasion of the disease was closely watched.

In the latter part of August, while the tops were all green and nearly all would pull up, I directed potatoes enough to be dug to fill a box holding six bushels, and put in a cool cellar.

To-day I have overhauled my whole crop, which was in my cellar, and find the following results. Those grown on sandy, gravelly soil, on a moderate slope of land, with porous subsoil, are sound and bright. On clay subsoil, in sags where water would remain longer, they are much more affected. On this kind of soil I planted the more bardy varieties, as Jenny Lind and Western Reds. Those dug in the latter part of August are sound and bright as a dollar. I am quite well satisfied that if I had dug them when I intended, I would not have had a diseased potato. The rot has been very bad throughout this State the present season. Many good farmers have not enough for the table, out of several hundred bushels. Others have none, and are obliged to buy or go without. The loss to this State is large. I understand the season was favorable to the potato in New York, and some other States, and in all such the crop was good.

The object of this communication is to give results, good and bad, and arrive at truth, or a law of God in Nature, that may serve as a beacon light by which the farmer may steer his bark safe into port, freighted with the fruits of his toil. Will enlightened farmers give their experience on this subject, and their theory if they choose, but especially their experience? Will some one answer the following queries through the RURAL:

1st. If the potato rot is produced by the potato bug, why is its ravages found only in locations where the weather is mainly warm and wet?

2d. Why is not the sting or bite of the bug as poisonous to the potato in dry weather as in warm and wet?

3d. By what rule can you decide in favor of this bug-agency, where the bug cannot be found in the field, on the ground or tops, or in the hill during the season?

Will some RURAL reader inform me how a drainable marsh, whose timber is spruce and tamarac, with any quantity of huckleberry brush and a heavy bed of moss, can the most easily and cheaply be got into grass, and if such land is good for hay, where the muck is from two to ten feet deep? DANIEL HIGBIE, M. D. Plainfield, Liv. Co., Mich., Dec., 1868.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

"AND THE MOUNTAIN LABORED," &c.

I SEE nothing in the advertisement of White Willow in your last number, which conflicts with the position assumed in my article in RURAL of Oct. 31st. And I should not have noticed it but for some ludicrous facts and statements with which this article from your contemporary has been heralded. Your neighbor of the Agriculturist is a good fellow, but if he don't blow his own trumpet, by whom shall it be blown? The man who procured the publication of this advertisement can answer, perhaps.

This White Willow advertisement appeared in the December number of the Anti-Humburg American Agriculturist. In the same issue, the Editor, speaking of his facilities for procuring and publishing "useful, reliable information," gives his readers the census of his numerous employees, taken "regardless of expense," and asserts, as evidence of his zealous efforts to serve his readers, that "Single items of but a few lines often contain the result of several hours of examination, sometimes requiring many miles of travel. For example, the single article on Willow Fences, [the advertisement in last RURAL,] on page 362, required a journey of between 2,000 and 3,000 miles, involving much time and expense."

Exactly! Now I do not assert that the Editor of this Anti-Humburg paper was trying to humbug his readers when he wrote what is quoted in the above paragraph, but I want to ask if he can lay one head on his Bible and the other on his heart, and solemnly say that this valuable "time," and this great "expense" involved in the acquisition of the material for this advertisement, was not all paid for by a man largely interested in the sale of White Willow cuttings—by the same party who probably paid for its insertion as a "Special Notice" in the RURAL? If ORANGE JUDD can not so "say," is he not given to practicing what he preaches against, occasionally? One thing I know, that other Agricultural editors have been invited to put themselves under the brooding care of this same White Willow dealer, and exhibit a similar amount of enterprise, "regardless of expense," for the benefit of their readers. This exhibition of enterprise on the part of your contemporary, is only equaled by the manner in which he studies and masters Western Agriculture—from the baggage car of a lightning express train! (See Sept. No. Am. Ag.)

Now give me space to review the opinion of Mr. WELD, for whose judgment and integrity I have the greatest respect. He says:

"From what I have seen, and from the views of those who know most about the White Willow, [said Willow dealer accompanying him, and taking him right into the region where they grow these cuttings most extensively for sale,] I am of opinion:—1st. That it will grow on all good soil, and in wet soil."

So it will! Sensible!

2d. That in four years, it will turn all domestic animals, if it be topped at a height of four feet, and the tops used to strengthen the hedge somewhat."

Sensible again! Mr. WELD should have said, "if properly strengthened." And he should have specified that the soil and culture be suited to its rapid growth. And that the "topping" be done at the right time of year. A row of Lindens would be likely to do as well on dry soils, and better on moist soils. I call attention to the above opinion, again—that it will "turn all domestic animals if it be topped at a height of four feet, and the tops used to strengthen the hedge somewhat."

3d. That if left to grow, it will, in five years, or six at most, make a fence, without topping, so that this fence will be an effectual wind-break, and after it is nine or ten years old, and periodically thereafter, will furnish a large amount of good fire-wood or durable fence-rails."

In other words, that it will make just what the Illinois Horticultural Society long ago recommended it for—"a fence where shelter, timber, and a fence combined is desired." The "great expense" incurred in obtaining this information might have been saved, had the Editor of the Agriculturist read the RURAL a little more carefully, or even the official report of the State Hort. Society.

"4th. That if the plow be run once every year or two, at a distance of a few feet from the fences, the roots will not interfere materially with the culture or products of the soil."

In other words, if the growing roots are prevented from extending, they will not extend! How grateful the West should be to the East for this information!—This "opinion" which has involved so much "time and expense" in its procurement! But Mr. WELD does not tell us what the roots will do if they are allowed to extend. Analogically, we are to conclude that they will extend so as to "interfere materially with the culture or products of the soil."

"5th. That the roots will not send up sprouts either before or after the removal of the tree or stump."

I have testimony, given at the last annual meeting of the Illinois State Hort. Society, during the discussion of the White Willow, [a full report of which the Executive Committee thought it would not be "politic" to publish,] that it will sprout. I hope it is true, however, that it will not. I have frequently heard it asserted before that it will not. Mr. WELD's opinion is of some value therefore.

And so the "mouse" has been "brought forth!" And the West bows in humble admiration!

WHO "RUNS" THE RACING AT FAIRS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I see in the RURAL that "Puritan" wishes to know if there has been any Town, County, or State Fair that has not had a horse-race; and if there was any fair held that was not conducted by landlords, fast men, and horse jockeys. Had "Puritan" asserted that to be a fact, it would have been a libel on our County Fair. We had no horse race, and the Fair was managed and controlled by our best farmers. No man that has at heart the agricultural interest of our country, would ask such a question. None but a fault-finder, or one that has been disappointed in not receiving a premium, would ever seek to bring disgrace and odium on our agricultural interests. I despise the practice of horse-racing at any time, and particularly in connection with our agricultural shows. I think if your inquirer would inform himself on the subject of horse-racing at the Fairs, he would find that they are, in most cases, got up by fast men, disconnected with the management, and a side-show of itself. Let "Puritan" exhibit such articles at the Fairs as are worthy of a premium and attracting attention, and assist in managing the Fairs, and he will soon become a prominent manager and crowd out one horse-jockey at least.

E. REYNOLDS.

Metomen, Fond du Lac Co., Wis., Nov., 1868.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

To Kill Weeds in Ponds.

THE Dutch adopt perhaps the most effectual and inexpensive method of killing large masses of weeds in their ponds. They run them dry in the winter, sow a crop of corn on them in the spring, and before filling and stocking them in the autumn, they plant roots of the common white water lily over a greater part of the bottom. Wherever the water-lily grows, other weeds do not; the stems form no obstruction to the movements of the fish, the leaves give shade, they are easily mown where clear spaces are required for angling, and the decayed leaves form scarcely any mud; indeed, they purify water rather than make it thick, as we see in the case in the Serpentine. In Holland the ponds are dried once in five years, the fish are sent to market, and after the crop of corn is out they are re-stocked according to a scale given in a book on fish-ponds, written by Boecheus. Carting mud out of ponds is a very expensive business, whereas the cultivation of the bottom of the pond for a few months causes the stock-fish to grow much more rapidly when it is re-filled, and before ordinary weeds can overspread it the lilies grow and keep them down.—Sci. American.

The Golden Method for Farmers.

No matter how fertile the virgin soil of the newly opened farm may be, he is an unwise farmer who neglects the duty of keeping up the productive energy of his fields. It is a fact illustrated everywhere, that when farms have been cultivated forty years without regard to manuring, the productive capacity of the soil has diminished more than 50 per cent. Fields which, when first opened, brought from 75 to 100 bushels of corn, will now, after thirty or forty years ruinous culture, yield but twenty to fifty bushels. That this waste, amounting during the time to the full value of a good farm, has been unnecessary, no one can doubt who has given attention to the subject.

What then should be done? We propose to notice at this time only what should be done now, during the winter. Every farmer should accumulate an immense pile of manure that will bring him gold, (especially in specie paying times,) with less labor than is required to dig and wash it out of the sands of California. Labor, it is true, is required to save and apply the fertilizing agent, but it tells from year to year, and the bare labor of producing a large crop comparatively light and pleasurable.

But what should be done? In the first place, haul to the barnyard a large quantity of muck, or any vegetable matter that will soon rot, and also have a great supply near the house. Then save all the manure of the stable and frequently

mix it, layer upon layer with the muck. If the arrangement of the stable is not such as enable one to save the liquids as well as the solid droppings of the stock, it should be remodeled; or, at all events, no stable should hereafter be constructed without such an arrangement. The liquid is worth more than the solid portion; and with the muck can be thoroughly saved. Then look to the barnyard, and whenever the weather will permit gather up all the droppings and convey them to the compost heap.

At the house, pour all the soap suds and everything carried out of the house possessing fertilizing properties to the muck pile and mix them together. Save everything. Neglect not any out-house, but clear out the chicken roost, &c., every month of the year and mix with the muck, or if you have no muck get soil for this purpose. By this attention you will preserve your barnyard and out-house from those disagreeable and unwholesome odors that are repugnant to every well ordered nose, besides accumulating what will tell on the credit side of the farm book.

No one can escape the observation that those farmers who have attended to the preservation of the productive power of their fields have grown rich, while all others have grown poor or merely held their own.—Exchange.

Mutton and Wool Growing.

THE consumption of mutton in North America has rapidly increased. The supply now as rarely exceeds the demand as with any other other meat, and the best qualities outsell beef in the principal markets. No country is better adapted by nature, and on the whole by artificial condition to the production of wool, than the United States. Australia and South America contain the only very extensive regions of the earth now capable of competing with equal areas of North America in the production of this great staple. The price of land in Australia is much higher than in the United States; its distance from the wool market of Europe equals nearly half the circumference of the globe; yet its exports of wool rose, between 1810 and 1862, from 167 pounds to 68,000,000 pounds! South America is also becoming an extensive producer of this staple; there were imported into Great Britain alone, in 1861, 6,000,000 pounds. Yet South America has no natural condition over North America for sheep farming, while there are political and moral ones which undeniably are hostile to the security and permanence of so exposed a branch of industry. Apart from the mere question of the cheap production of wool, the experience of the most advanced agricultural nations, like England, Germany and France, goes to show that sheep are a necessity of a good general system of husbandry, on even the highest-priced lands and amidst the densest population. They afford as much food to man, in proportion to their own consumption, as any other domestic animals. They are believed to return more fertilizing matter to the soil. In addition, they alone furnish wool. England is estimated to have about 590 sheep to one square mile, while the United States proper (exclusive of Territories) has only 43.—Mark Lane Express.

Japanese Husbandry.

LIEBIG, in his new work, "The Natural Laws of Husbandry," says: "The educated farmer of the Old World, who has irresistibly come to look upon England, with its meadows, its enormous fodder productions and immense herds of cattle, and, in spite of these, with its great consumption of guano, ground bones, and rape cake as the best ideal, and the only possible type of a truly rational system of husbandry, would certainly think it most surprising to see a country even much better cultivated, without meadows, without fodder productions, without a single head of cattle, either for draught or fattening; and without the least supply of guano, ground bones, saltpeter or rape cake. This is Japan. The Japanese peasant holds fast to one indisputable maxim, viz.: without continuous manuring, there can be no continuous production.

"In Japan the farms are small—about five acres each in extent—and the only manure producer is man. His excrements are collected with scrupulous care; and in the cottages of the poorest peasants, the excrement cabinets are kept neat and cleanly. Along the highways and foot-paths of that country, stoneware receptacles are placed in the ground for the use of travelers. The excrementary matter is mixed with water, and applied in a liquid form; for the Japanese farmer knows of no other method of using it but by top-dressing. With an area about equal in extent to Great Britain and Ireland, Japan sustains a far larger population, and exports considerable quantities of food to other countries, while England is compelled to import annually many millions of bushels of wheat, and many tons of beef, butter, pork and other provisions. In agriculture, therefore, nations which may esteem themselves highly civilized, may receive instruction from the Japanese, whom they consider barbarous."

Turnips for Hogs.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Country Gentleman says:

In feeding dry corn to fattening hogs, I have found the most beneficial results from giving one or two feeds a day of roots—turnips or sugar beets. It serves them in the place of water, renders the corn less heating, and fed in this way, a bushel of roots are fully equivalent for fattening to a bushel of corn fed alone.

To this the Ag. editor of the N. Y. World says:—We have fed a great many Swede turnips (Rutabaga) to hogs, and when steamed and mashed up with meal, consider them cheap and excellent food; but we question very much if a bushel of roots of any kind were equal to a bushel of corn for fattening hogs, cattle, or sheep.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE RURAL'S CAMPAIGN FOR 1864 opens auspiciously. From almost every part of the country reached by the United States mail, and many parts of the adjacent British Provinces, we are receiving orders for the ensuing year and volume. Among our receipts yesterday were remittances from Tennessee, Louisiana, South Carolina, (Morris Island,) Canada West and Nova Scotia—which reminds us of the times when the souls of the people were not tried by a war inaugurated by the seething spirit of secession. From other and nearer regions we are daily receiving handsome lists of subscribers. Former agents and many new friends are entering upon the recruiting service for the RURAL BRIGADE with a will, and apparently without regard to any bounty (premium) for their efforts. Some of the Boys and Young Men, having heard of our inducements, have commenced operations, and we trust others will enter the arena after seeing what is offered in this number. There is yet time to begin and still secure the best prizes.

—But we are otherwise encouraged. Many subscribers who have heretofore joined clubs, are remitting the full price (\$2 per copy) for the ensuing volume. We are daily receiving letters containing \$4 for two copies, and from their style we presume the writers do not intend to repent and ask to violate our rules by sending another copy for one dollar—as has been the case, in some instances, formerly. We are also encouraged by the manner in which correspondents hail the announcement of a department devoted to Sheep Husbandry, under the supervision of Dr. RANDALL. Indeed, thanks to its friends everywhere, the prospects of the RURAL are far more cheering than anticipated.

A CHICAGO PORK ITEM.—During the week ending Saturday, Nov. 23rd, the receipts of hogs in this city were one hundred and twenty-six thousand six hundred and fifty one. Of these about 5,000 were dressed—the balance live hogs. The range of prices during the week was from \$3.50 to \$8 per cwt. for live hogs, depending upon weight—say an average of \$4.75 per cwt. It will not be far from right if the average weight of these hogs is placed at 200 pounds—making a total of 253,302 cwt. of pork, which, at \$4.75 per cwt., would amount to the sum of \$1,203,184.50, which has gone into the hands of pork producers in the West during a single week! It is possible the above average of prices is too high. Perhaps \$4.50 per cwt. would be high enough. And it may be the average weight given is too high; but we think not. For while we have seen many long-nosed, lank, slab-sided hogs driven from the yards, we have seen thousands of compact, meaty porkers in them. Considering the price of grain, we wonder that there are as many well-fed swine in market as there are. But this may probably be accounted for by the fact that there is so much frosted and unmarketable corn in the country, which is only available for feeding.

The reader can make his own averages and figures; the above are the receipts. And it will foot up a pretty respectable week's pork business—the largest probably ever done in any market in this or any other country, during the same length of time. But the figures may be extended to the season. There have been received during the present season, 1863, to the above date, (Nov. 23rd,) one million five hundred and twelve thousand four hundred and nine (1,512,409) hogs. Placing the average weight at 200 lbs., as before, and reducing the average price at \$4.50 per cwt., let us see what it will figure:—1,512,409 ÷ 2 = 756,204.5 cwt. × \$4.50 = \$3,402,920.25. That has gone into the hands of farmers in the shape of greenbacks and vile trash called "currency," from this market alone—gone into the hands of farmers west of the eastern boundary of the State of Illinois. This is the pork item alone. There are other items equally interesting, which indicate the resources, for production, of the Prairie States.—C. D. B.

THE RURAL AND THE PRESS.—In answer to several recent inquiries on the subject we state those of our friends of the Press who club with their papers will be furnished the RURAL NEW-YORKER for 1864 on the terms we offered the present volume to exchanges—at the lowest club rate. Both the City and Country Press have been so uniformly kind and generous in commending the RURAL, that we feel under obligations for their favors, and shall continue to reciprocate so far as possible. We shall, therefore, honor all their orders at the lowest figures, whatever the price of "print." By the way, we observe that several city papers, here and elsewhere, offer to club the RURAL—and among others our enterprising contemporary, the Rochester Express (both Daily and Weekly) as advertised in our present number. We hope our friends of all parties, and in all sections, who do likewise, will not find the arrangement unprofitable.

WORTHY OF EMULATION.—Is the example of the author of a letter now before us, dated "Woodland Home, Minn., Dec. 7." The writer indorses pay for the RURAL for 1864, and says:—"Eight years ago I was a 'jer' mechanic in one of the Atlantic cities, with a family of six small children, without means to get away, yet sighing for the country life I had foolishly forfeited years before. Through a kind friend I found my way to Ohio; there I tarried four years, and by hard labor and economy, made enough to bring me to this Eden of the North-west. And now, thanks to the President and Congress, I have 80 acres (under the provisions of the Homestead Bill) of as good land as I want, within ten miles of two good market towns. The first two years we raised nearly enough to live on; this year we have plenty to live on, a few dollars for clothing, and enough left to pay for a paper, and we want the best in the country. Send on the RURAL NEW-YORKER."

COTTON GROWING IN "LITTLE DELAWARE."—It is printed that at a recent meeting of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, a gentleman related his experience in raising cotton in Delaware—stating that he sowed Tennessee and North Carolina cotton in the same fields where they raised Indian corn, and it required less attention and care than is usually bestowed on that product. The seeds were planted in the middle of May, and on the 15th of September the plants were as high as the head, and filled with bolls. The Tennessee cotton grew the most vigorously, and he obtained 100 lbs. to the acre.

LECTURES ON AGRICULTURE, &c., IN TORONTO.—It is announced that a course of lectures on Agriculture and Veterinary Science will be delivered, under the direction of the Board of Agriculture, at Toronto, C. W., commencing about the middle of January next. Prof. BUCKLAND will lecture on Agriculture, assisted by the various Professors in the University. Prof. SMITH will lecture on Veterinary Science.—We trust the course will be well attended, and prove successful in all respects.

AGAINST SHEEP-KILLING DOGS.—The Canadian Parliament has passed an act (applicable to Canada West only) for the protection of sheep against dogs. It is severe on the dogs and their owners, (says an exchange,) but, unfortunately, only applies after the dog has worried or killed the sheep. It may, however, as it provides for killing the dog, prevent a second offense.

ABOUT RANDALL'S PRACTICAL SHEPHERD.

TO AGENTS, BOOKSELLERS AND OTHERS.

FOR the information of all interested we would announce that THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD is sold only by Commission Agents and the Publisher—that it was first published after the middle of October, 1863, and in less than two months reached Ten Editions!—that the demand for the work has been such that we have been unable thus far to promptly fill the orders of Agents, and that with all our efforts it is hardly possible that we can get even with orders (so as to fill new ones on the day of arrival,) until after the 1st of January. New editions are being printed as rapidly as possible, and our binders are increasing their facilities. Thus we are doing all in our power to avoid delay and supply a demand which largely exceeds what we had anticipated.

THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD, as many of our readers are aware, comprises 454 large duodecimo pages, and is printed, illustrated and bound in superior style. [An extensive book-printer and binder in New York, to whom (in the hope of getting ahead of orders) we recently applied to get up, as rapidly as possible, an edition of 10,000 copies, but who was too busy to take the contract, assured us the work could not be better done in New York than was the copy shown him.] The uniform price of the work is \$1.50, and it can not be afforded at a less sum for years, if ever—for the price was established before the recent great advance in paper, etc. Considering its size, quality of paper and binding, the number and cost of illustrations, etc., the work is much cheaper than most new books—many volumes of less size, with no illustrations, and of far less value, selling at the same price.

Booksellers, from whom we are receiving many orders for THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD, are advised that our engagements with Agents preclude compliance with their requests. In this connection we will quote an order just received from a bookselling firm in Troy, N. Y.:

"D. D. T. MOORE, Esq.—Dear Sir: We have seen RANDALL'S Practical Shepherd noticed in the papers and the retail price given as \$1.25 and again at \$1.50. We ordered it from our book-jobber in New York and he charged us \$1.50, and another charged \$1.75. Some are at a loss to know what the proper price is. Please give us your wholesale and retail price, and oblige."

—In answer to which, and other letters from the trade, we state that THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD cannot be bought of any jobbers in New York or elsewhere, (unless procured of some of our agents in the country, a thing not at all probable,) either at wholesale or retail. We have only sold the work to Agents, and to go by mail, or single copies at the RURAL office—except in two instances (a few copies in each), and these were to help newspaper publishers out of a dilemma, they having received cash orders to send the book by mail. We are aware that several persons have sent money to New York for RANDALL'S new work and received instead his "Sheep Husbandry in the South" (first published fifteen years ago,) but we can't imagine what work the N. Y. book jobbers furnish at \$1.75 wholesale, unless it is the "Shepherd's Own Book"—which is simply YOUTT on Sheep and RANDALL'S Sheep Husbandry in the South (both old works) bound in one volume—retail price \$2. Others who have sent money to the large cities to obtain RANDALL'S new work on Sheep Husbandry, (meaning the Practical Shepherd,) have been furnished, innocently perhaps, his "Report on Fine-Wool Sheep Husbandry." Such being the facts, the re-publication of the following item from the RURAL NEW-YORKER of Oct. 3, 1863, is not inappropriate:

DR. RANDALL'S WORKS ON SHEEP HUSBANDRY.—Our correspondent, B. J., of Flint, Mich., who writes "to know if RANDALL'S (Practical) Shepherd" is the same work as RANDALL'S "Fine-Wool Husbandry," or RANDALL'S "Sheep Husbandry," is informed that it is not. RANDALL'S "Sheep Husbandry" was published fifteen years since under the title of "Sheep Husbandry in the South." The "Fine-Wool Husbandry" is a published Report on the subject by the same gentleman, read before the New York State Agricultural Society at its Winter Meeting in 1861-2, and comprising 112 pages as published in the Society's Transactions for 1861, though lately issued in a volume of 189 pages. "The Practical Shepherd" now about to be published, comprises 454 large duodecimo pages, and is a vastly fuller and more complete work on Sheep Husbandry than either of the preceding. It embraces, in a condensed form, all the valuable matter contained in the author's former works, together with a large amount of important and recent information on the various branches of the general subject discussed.

—In this connection it may be proper to add, for the information of Agents and others, that none but authorized Agents can purchase THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD at less than the retail price, and they only have authority to sell the work in territory assigned them. Several persons (newspaper publishers, agents, etc.) have offered the work, no doubt supposing it could be readily obtained. One of these writes us from Luzerne Co., Pa., Dec. 9, as follows:

MR. D. D. T. MOORE—Dear Sir: I have just found out that I have been transgressing your rules in regard to the sale of "The Practical Shepherd," by offering it as a premium to subscribers that subscribe through my Agency for Newspapers, Magazines, &c. I shall rectify the mistake immediately, by explaining the matter and notifying all persons receiving my Circular that I shall not sell any copies of the Practical Shepherd out of territory allotted to me, if it be my fortune to have such allotment. I was induced to do this at the time I wrote my circular, supposing it to circulate by subscription wholly, or I would not have offered it as above stated, I assure you. Hoping the above will be a satisfactory explanation of my mis-doing in the matter, I remain, &c.

Inquiries and Answers.

REMEDY FOR WARTS ON HORSES, AND FOR SCRATCHES.—I see an inquiry in the RURAL as to what would cure warts on horses. I cure them by rubbing skole root on them. Cut the root in two, rub the juicy side on the wart. If the wart is bleeding once rubbing will be sufficient.

And now I will give my remedy for scratches in horses. It is white lead and lincseed oil. But I like the preventive better than the cure—that is to say, when the horses legs begin to swell give them a good daubing with white lead and oil. This protects them from the mud, brings the old hairs off and a new, glossy coat comes on, and that is the end of the scratches till the next fall.—A. LINES, Barre, N. Y.

WHO BREEDS SILESIAN SHEEP.—I would like to inquire through the RURAL who breeds Silesian Sheep.—S. MR. Wm. CHAMBERLAIN, of Red Hook, Dutchess Co., is the principal breeder of Silesians in this State. Mr. JAS. GEDDES, of Fairmount, Onondaga Co., is also a breeder of Silesian Merinos.

PLAN OF CHEAP FARM-HOUSE WANTED.—Can you or some of your numerous readers give me a plan for a cheap, plain Farm House, with parlor, dining room and kitchen—about two bed rooms and pantry below, and suitable sleeping rooms above? Said house is for a small farm and a small family. I have been building quite a number of houses in this part of the country, and I do not wish to build the same thing over every year. I would like something that will do as well, and change the style. If you or some of the RURAL readers can give me such a design as above, it will much oblige—D. P. T. North Farmington.

QUESTIONS FOR THE RURAL.—Frosty Butler—Can any of the readers of the RURAL tell how to re-tore frowny butter to a comfortable condition of sweetness? Pin Worms—Can any one tell what is an effectual remedy for the expelling of pin worms from the human system?

Willow Peeling Machine Wanted.—Does any one know of a machine of modern price for peeling a basket willow, when the roots are cut? An answer to all or either of the above questions would be gratefully received, doubtless, by—MANY READERS.

Horticultural.

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT FOR 1863.

THE year is fast drawing to a close. One more number completes the present volume of the RURAL, and the last number will be so occupied with index, &c., that we shall have no space for horticultural matter.

HINTS TO HORTICULTURAL LEARNERS.

We cannot tell a person how to succeed in any horticultural pursuit beyond a peradventure, as sometimes correspondents seem to think; for some will fail in almost any undertaking, no matter how flattering the prospects, while others will succeed where things do not look altogether promising.

In regard to an apple orchard, then, we remark, that summer varieties should not be grown to any extent unless you live near a large city where the market will be good. Shippers do not buy summer fruit. The late fall and winter varieties are the most profitable.

The same remarks apply to pears, except that we would plant more extensively of the fall and winter varieties. We need more experience about winter pears, but this we are gaining quite rapidly.

We are making very rapid advances in grape culture, and we know that some complain that the fruit sells below a fair compensation for growing. This fact was stated at the last meeting of the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York.

All who desire information on these subjects should attend the gatherings of fruit growers at our County and State exhibitions, and the Horticultural shows, where they will have the benefit of the counsels of the most experienced, and specimens of fruit for examination.

PICKING AND BARRELING APPLES.

We have received from a friend, a very enterprising fruit grower, a barrel of apples, of a variety that we were quite anxious to procure, and while the specimens were fine, free from specks or worms, the packing was such that at least a third of the specimens were so injured that the whole lot would have been destroyed unless they had been attended to promptly, and the damaged specimens removed.

HORTICULTURAL MONSTERS.

OCCASIONALLY we receive from distant friends very curious specimens of deformed fruits and flowers—mere monstrosities—which puzzle their owners exceedingly, and at other times only written descriptions or rough drawings are forwarded. While it is true as a general rule that like produces like, yet we often have very singular deviations from the rule, and these exceptions will be found most numerous in a warm, moist season when growth is most rapid.



FIG. 2. One solitary and extremely instructive rose has been communicated by our correspondent, Dr. BELL SALTER, and is represented in the accompanying wood engraving, Fig. 1.

The usual cup of the rose was entirely gone, only a few complete and incomplete leaves occupying its place, one of them being half a petal half a leaf; this shows conclusively three things:—1. That the calyx of the rose consists of five ordinary but partially developed leaves; 2. that the cup of the rose is no part of the calyx, but merely a fleshy hollow on which that organ stands; 3. that the petals themselves are merely altered calyx leaves. Immediately following the calyx were sixteen dark purple petals in their usual state, except that one of them was also half a calyx leaf. The place of both these is shown in Fig. II, a, which represents the rose stripped of all its leaves.

Horticultural Notes.

VARIATED HEMLOCK.—Quite an addition has been made to our variegated evergreens by the accidental growth of a variegated variety of our hardy and well-known hemlock. This beautiful plant originated at the Evergreens, the residence of Dr. E. G. Kelley of Newburyport.

The proprietor recently presented a few small branches of this remarkable variety at one of the weekly exhibitions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and it interested us so much that we gathered from Dr. Kelley some account of its origin, and the general characteristics of the tree, which we add, trusting that we may have the opportunity of accepting an invitation of the Doctor to visit his beautiful grounds, and giving a more particular description of the tree.

The discovery of this beautiful Silver Hemlock was as follows:—In the spring of 1866, Dr. Kelley set out a hedge of small seedling hemlocks, this one showing a marked difference in appearance, but not enough to discard it. Supposing it to be less healthy than the rest he gave it a close trimming. The new growth was still so very white and apparently fading, that he cut it the second time, and again every shoot was so destitute of the normal green that he concluded it would only survive for that year.

The next spring the obstinate little tree grew more rampantly than ever, but with the same persistent character, and it then, for the first time, occurred to the proprietor that it was a distinct variety. It was, however, too late to incur the risk of losing it by removal, and it was not till the following spring, after growing in the hedge row two years, that it was transplanted to where it could receive proper attention and development.

The tree is now about seven feet high, in a very flourishing condition, and, indeed, one of the most beautiful specimens of silver or variegated foliage.

This is probably the only known variety of Abies canadensis, the most graceful and hardy of all our indigenous evergreen trees. Dr. Kelley proposes to call it Argentea Kelleyi.—Hovey's Magazine.

THE WHITE DOYENNE PEAR IN FRANCE.—It is remarkable that the French should have this variety subject to the same cracking diseases as we. M. Langoulet says, in the Revue Horticole, that old pear fanciers, like himself, remember that formerly it was "only necessary to buy, at a very low price, a Doyenne Pear, transplant it badly, and abandon it to the generosity of the climate, in order to gather annually a harvest of fruit, so perfect in tint, so melting, so juicy, so delicately perfumed, that our best modern varieties leave to the old "pear-tasters" (degustateurs) something to regret.

Fruit, he says, does not degenerate. Science has decided this; but, owing to some alteration, either culture or some of the various conditions which affect the well-being of the tree, an alteration has occurred in the fruit, and now, in place of the old Doyenne, we eat a few small, rough, stunted, cracked, worm-eaten, and coarse grained, with the consoling conviction that it is the tree which has degenerated, and not the fruit. The principle is saved, but the reality is sad.—Gard. Monthly.

THE EFFECT OF DEW AND FOG UPON PLANTS is the subject of an elaborate paper by M. Ducharte in the Annales des Sciences Naturelles. He gives the results of numerous experiments upon plants of very diverse kinds and under very diverse conditions, the results of which he finds to be of a uniform character. He expresses his conviction that plants do not absorb the dew condensed on their surface, as is generally believed; and that the dew does not exercise a direct influence on vegetation, but the water deposited on the surface of plants by nocturnal radiation suppresses transpiration in them, and, in some cases, produces the beneficial effect of a small local rain through the absorption of the earth upon which it falls from the plant. He does not attribute much influence on vegetation to fogs in temperate regions, but thinks that they may be important in intertropical mountainous regions.

LANDSCAPE GARDENING, &c.—The last number of the Ohio Farmer says:—"M. B. MATHAM, Esq., having disposed of his interest in the Columbus Nurseries, proposes to devote a portion of his time to Landscape Gardening, and to the selection of trees, shrubs, &c., for those who may desire his services. We trust that Mr. B. will receive sufficient encouragement to induce him to give his attention entirely to this field. The preparation and ornamentation of grounds around country residences, as well as in parks and cemeteries, has not received sufficient attention in this country, and when the services of gentlemen possessing cultivated taste can be obtained, it would seem strange that they should not be in constant demand."

PROTECTING TREES IN WINTER.—It is quite true that those who have not looked to this matter should do so at once. A very little labor will save the trees from the attacks of mice, rabbits, &c. A few sticks, a couple of horse-shoe drain tiles, or the like, will answer. A correspondent of the Valley Farmer says:—"The best thing I know for the purpose are corn stalks. Cut these about two feet in length; then split them in halves, and when you have enough, set them upright around the tree you wish to protect, putting the cut surface near the tree, and then tie with willows, or other suitable material. This is cheap, convenient and durable, lasting from two to three years."

HON. MARSHALL F. WILDER.—This distinguished friend of Agriculture, Horticulture and Pomology, has had a severe attack of illness, lasting nearly six months. We are happy to learn that he is now recovering rapidly, and we hope to hear of his full restoration to health and usefulness in a short time. The American Pomological Society, of which Mr. WILDER is President, is to hold its biennial meeting in Rochester next September. The days have not been fixed upon, but are under consideration.

PRICES OF FRUIT, &c., IN NEW YORK MARKET.—The following are the prices of Fruit and Vegetables in New York market, as given in the Tribune of the 12th inst.:

Table listing prices of various fruits and vegetables such as Apples, Peaches, Plums, Cherries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Currants, Potatoes, and Onions.

Domestic Economy.

A PROTEST.

DURING that mania for "Good Johnny Cakes," I was astonished at the amount of saleratus as an ingredient in the recipes. To be sure, where there is an acid there must be an alkali to counteract it, and where molasses is used, even where there is no acid, a little soda is necessary, but always as little as may be should be the rule.

If soda could be abolished from our cookery, it would be far better for us. We could do very well without it, for pies do not need it, and the best of cake can be made light with yeast. Warm, hot bread, and biscuit, which are universally known to be unwholesome, could not be used so much, were it not for soda. The sweetest and best bread can be made without yeast or soda by using coarse flour. Bread, in its pure, simple form, "is the staff of life," but we have so many ingredients and compoundings in these days, that I imagine the stuff most people eat, is as unlike that specimen which first won that expression, as health is unlike disease.

"PLUM MUSS."

UNDER this euphonious title the London Grocer describes a new article of merchandise. It says:—"Plum muss or jekuar consists simply of pure native plums boiled into a mass, no ingredient whatever being added to it; the plums being so sweet in themselves, they require no sugar. In Hungary it is used in both the cottage and mansion, and is a common article of sale in every provision shop. The poor eat it with their bread, all classes use it for the several purposes in which our more expensive preserves are found useful. It is of a more solid nature than our manufactured jams, but if found too firm for cooking purposes, it may be thinned with a little lukewarm water as it is required for use, without losing flavor. We are assured that it will keep good for two or three years if carefully stored; it might therefore form an important and economical article of export to our colonies, and for ships' stores it would no doubt prove invaluable. It possesses, as the reader may judge, a very pleasant flavor, is undoubtedly very wholesome, and, in the event of its being properly introduced by a good house, must become a very favorite article with housekeepers. It is certainly a novelty, and as it can be obtained in the mass at a very moderate rate indeed, it might be retailed at a price to suit the million."

CANDLES.—Take of alum 5 lbs., dissolve entirely in 10 gallons of water, bring the solution to the boiling point, and add 20 lbs. tallow, boiling the whole for an hour, skimming constantly. Upon cooling a little, strain through thick muslin or flannel; set aside for a day or two for the tallow to harden; take it from the vessel, lay aside for an hour or so for the water to drip from it then heat in a clean vessel sufficiently to mold; when moulded, if you desire to bleach them, lay upon a plank by a window, turning every two or three days. Candles made strictly by the above recipe will burn with a brilliancy equal to the best adamantine, and fully as long.—Exchange.

FLOATING ISLAND.—We remember our first sight and taste of this delicious compound. And we remember a twelve-year-old girl flying into our presence, with cheeks as roses, crying out:—"I've learned how to make floating island!" She found the way at her first effort! How eagerly she watched every mouthful with sparkling eyes as one and another pronounced it very good! But here is the recipe:—Set a quart of milk to boil, then stir into it the beaten yolks of six eggs; flavor with lemon or rose, and sweeten to taste; whip whites of eggs to a strong froth. When the custard is thick, put it into a deep dish, and heap the frothed eggs upon it. Serve cold.—German Town Telegraph.

CREAM CAKES.—One pound of flour, half a pound of butter and one pint of boiling water. Pour the water boiling hot over the butter and put it on to boil. As soon as it begins to boil, stir in the flour, and when cool add nine eggs well beaten. Drop it on tins and bake in a quick oven twenty minutes. It is an improvement to the appearance of the crust to rub the white of an egg over it before it is baked.

CUSTARD FOR THE CAKES.—One pint of rich cream; three eggs well beaten; a little flour; sweeten, and flavor to the taste and put it on to boil. When the cakes are baked, open at the side and fill with the custard.—E. L. G., Hazleton, 1863.

SAUSAGES.—As the time for making sausages is at hand, there are many who would be glad to see the following recipe which many of us have tried and know to be good:—40 lbs. of meat; one pound of salt; three ozs. pepper; half pint of sage after it is pulverized.—A. WILSON, Marcellus, N. Y., 1863.

CANDY-MAKING.—I do not use, and do not approve of much candy for children, but if some one could tell us how to make candy at home, of white sugar, it might be a help to Santa Claus, in these hard times, and a small pleasure to the children.—MAYRON.

ABOUT PREMIUMS.

TO AGENTS AND OTHERS.

IN consequence of the recent great advance in the prices of paper, wages, etc., we cannot really afford to furnish the RURAL for 1864 at its present low rates and give any Extra Premiums to Club Agents. And yet we have resolved to be more liberal than we can afford, in order to make some return for the kind efforts the friends of the paper are making to maintain and extend its circulation. We therefore make the following offers to all forming clubs for our next volume, except successful competitors for Premiums offered to Boys and Young Men under 21 years:

To every one remitting \$10 for Six Copies of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, previous to the 1st of February, 1864, we will send an extra copy of the paper for one year; or, if preferred to RURAL, a copy of EITHER of the following valuable and popular works, postage-paid: Randall's Practical Shepherd,

Barry's Fruit Garden, Jennings's Horses and their Diseases, Jennings's Cattle and their Diseases, Liebig's Natural Laws of Husbandry, Langstroth's Hive and Honey Bee.

To every person remitting \$15 for Ten Copies of the RURAL, as above, we will give an extra copy and also send, postage paid, a copy of either of the above named works—and for every additional ten subscribers we will give the Club Agent a free copy of the paper, whether remitted for before or after the 1st of February.

BOYS, DO YOU HEAR? GREAT PREMIUMS FOR BOYS AND YOUNG MEN!

IN accordance with the generous proposition of Hon. T. C. PETERS of Darien, Genesee Co., N. Y., already published (see RURAL of Nov. 28th) we offer the following Liberal Premiums:

Improved Short-Horn Durham Premiums, for the Benefit of the Boys.

\$150.00.—To the Boy or Young Man under 21 years of age obtaining the Largest Number of Yearly Subscribers to the RURAL NEW-YORKER (in any one County, or within ten miles of the competitor's residence), and paying or remitting therefor according to the Club Terms, on or before the 1st day of February next, (1864), the Hon. T. C. PETERS will give his two-year old Short-Horn Bull "Plow Boy," (6074 A. H. B.) bred by Hon. Wm. KELLY, and valued at \$100 at the lowest figure—deliverable at Mr. PETERS' barn in Darien.

\$100.00.—For the Second largest list, as above, will be given Mr. PETERS' Short-Horn Bull "Billy Seaward," (4684 A. H. B.) valued at \$100, lowest figure—deliverable as above.

\$50.00.—For the Third largest list, as above, will be given from Mr. PETERS' herd of Princess Short-Horns, a "Princess" Bull Cal, valued at \$50—deliverable as above.

[In order that the Boys and Young Men competing for the above, may have a chance to secure other valuable premiums, we offer the following Liberal Prizes:]

\$45.00.—For the Fourth largest list, as above, we will give either a WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE, Cash Price \$45.00, or one of HICKOK'S PREMIUM PORTABLE OILER AND WINE MILLER, same price, or an AMERICAN SILVER WATCH worth \$40.

\$35.00.—For the Fifth largest list, as above, either PRINDLE'S AGRICULTURAL CALDRON AND STEAMER worth \$35.00 to \$40, or a WATCH worth at least \$30.

\$25.00.—For the Sixth largest list, as above, either one of PARK'S TOOL CHESTS worth \$25, or a WATCH of equal value.

\$15.00.—For the Seventh largest list, as above, either Fifteen Dollars worth of RURAL (Agricultural and Horticultural) BOOKS, (postage or express free-paid), or one of ROBERTSON'S EXCELSIOR VEGETABLE CUTTERS (price \$10), and a CRAIG MICROSCOPE with twenty-four mounted objects, (price \$5.)

FIVE PREMIUMS OF \$10.00 EACH.—For EACH of the next FIVE largest lists, (8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th,) as above, either Ten Dollars worth of RURAL BOOKS, or one of the above named VEGETABLE CUTTERS, or six copies of the RURAL NEW-YORKER for one year—or one copy for six years.

TEN PREMIUMS OF \$5.00 EACH.—For EACH of the next TEN largest lists, (13th to 22d inclusive,) we will give a CRAIG MICROSCOPE with twenty-four mounted objects, cash price \$5.—or, if preferred, a PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUM, price \$5.

ELEVEN PREMIUMS OF \$5.00 EACH.—For EACH of the next ELEVEN largest lists, (23d to 33d inclusive,) a CRAIG MICROSCOPE with six beautiful mounted objects, price \$5.00, or, if preferred, a PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUM, same price.

Persons competing for any of the above Premiums, will please notify us of the fact, stating age and post-office address. As soon after the 1st of February, as the result can be ascertained, a statement giving the names of competitors, and the number of subscribers obtained by each, will be published in the RURAL (or in a Supplement, and mailed to every one interested,) and orders given for the Animals, and the Machines, &c., sent to the persons entitled in such manner as they shall order. A careful account will be kept of the number of Subscribers obtained by each competitor, and no favor shown to one over another. And as "every tub should stand on its own bottom," no consolidated club lists will be allowed to compete. So far as possible we shall strive to have all premiums awarded fairly—"on the square"—and paid accordingly.

TERMS—ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

TWO DOLLARS—A YEAR. Three Copies, one year, \$5; Six Copies for \$10; Ten for \$15; and any greater number at the same rate—only \$1.50 per copy. Club papers sent by different post-offices, if desired, as we pay American postage on copies mailed to foreign countries, \$1.70 is the lowest Club rate for Canada, and \$2.50 to Europe,—but during the present rate of exchange, Canada Agents or Subscribers remitting us in Bills of their specie-paying Banks will not be charged postage.

United States Treasury Notes and Bills on all Solvent Banks in U. S. and Canada taken at par, but Agents in the U. S. will please remit in Drafts on New York (less exchange), or New York, New England or Upper Canada money so far as convenient. All Subscriptions Money remitted by Draft on New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Albany, Rochester or Buffalo, (less exchange,) may be sent AT THE RISK OF THE PUBLISHERS, if made payable to his order.

We trust every Boy or Young Man who feels any interest in the success of the paper will at once become a Recruiting Officer for the RURAL BRIGADE, and see what can be done toward securing the Bounties offered. What say, Boys? If Aye, of course you will at once open the Rural Campaign for 1864.

Address D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

KITTY DEAN.

BY OLIO STANLEY.

Down by the mossy brink
Of a cool and shady well,
I sat me down with KITTY DEAN,
An old, old tale to tell;
With breaking heart,
I sat apart,
That old, old tale to tell.

The light of the mid-day sun
Soon grew to burning gleams,
We drew still nearer the cool, deep well,
Even as in my dreams;
For KITTY dear
Was ever near,
In my holiest, happiest dreams.

I told her the story old
While we gazed in the waters clear,
And promised her life should never grow cold
With haunting shadows drear;
And sweet replies
Shone in her eyes,
There, 'mid the shadows drear.

Only one little year
Has passed from earth away,
But KITTY has greeted, ere now, ere now,
The light of a sunnier day;
I call, but in vain,
She comes not again
From the light of that sunnier day.

Philadelphia, Pa., 1868.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

CHRISTMAS.

WHAT holy, joyous thoughts are suggested by the anniversary of our Savior's birth-day. Our Savior's birth-day! Sublime idea! Born a child, yet CHRIST our Lord. What condescension, what humility is manifested in that act. At the Savior's appearing upon earth the heavens were radiant in their starry beauty, and angels chanted joyous hallelujahs of "peace on earth, good will to men. Thus,

The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

But who knew, save those taught of angels, that this child, born of humble parents, and in a manger laid, was to redeem a world lying in wickedness? That He was to be the Mediator between a justly offended God and sinful man—that Jew and Gentile, bond and free, would, through Him, be brought into the Church Triumphant, there to hold sweet communion with the Father of Spirits, with angels, and arch-angels, and just men made perfect.

"It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty" that our hearts should swell with joyous emotions as we hail the dawn of Christmas morning. Oh! that from anniversary to anniversary we would in our hearts acknowledge Him whose birth we commemorate as King of kings, and joyfully obey His mandates, imitate His virtues, and lay our richest gift—our hearts' homage—at His feet.

As time reveals to us the mysterious donor of our Christmas gifts, it also unfolds to our maturer minds the truth of our Savior's birth, being the greatest and best gift of God to man. Well may the Church on earth deck herself in bright robes of evergreen. Well may the Choir pour forth in joyous strains the glad tidings that a Savior has come. And the marvelous story in song is told, that,

"The Son of the Highest, how lowly His birth,
The brightest arch angel in glory excelling,
He stoops to redeem thee, He reigns upon earth."

The congregation catch the strain,—

— "Exultingly sing,
Jerusalem triumphs—Messiah is king."

Could God have done more than to give His only Son a ransom for us? Could CHRIST have taken upon Himself greater humility than to choose so mean a place for His advent? Yet what a comfort to us who are poor in this world's goods, to know that the Spirit of God will come into our humble cot, if we but invite it.

CHRIST saw the barriers that impeded our upward progress, and knew, lest some gentle hand should lead us "beside the still waters and through the green pastures," we would deviate from the straight and narrow way, and lose ourselves in the labyrinthine pathways of the world. So He came, and by His precepts and example taught us the way that leads to the bright home he has prepared for all who believe that He is the Son of God, and rejoice in His coming.

While we celebrate with glad song and holy joy the first advent of our Savior, let our minds turn with awe and deep solemnity to His second advent, when He shall come in power and great glory to judge those whom He died to redeem.

As we contemplate His life while upon earth, and trace it from the beginning, when angels proclaimed His birth, until from Calvary's sacred summit He meekly bowed His head and cried "Tis finished," we are filled with admiration, and acknowledge that His was a perfect life, and triumphantly it closed. A beautiful model for finite beings; and, although there is no hope that we can attain to infinite perfection, yet, it becomes us to aim steadily and constantly toward perfection; and as our progress is not limited to time we have greater incentives to press forward to attain the mark of our calling; to improve every moral sentiment, every mental faculty, that we may be the better prepared to enter upon our bright and spiritual existence where the barriers that now impede our course will be removed, and wisdom's ways will be more clearly revealed.

Then may we unite in the songs of praise commenced by the heavenly choir in the gallery of the starry world, and echo it throughout the courts of heaven.

G. T. W.

Hendville, Pa., 1863.

OVER-TASKED CHILDREN.

A GREAT trouble, always pressing heavily on many a little mind, is that it is over-tasked with lessons. You will see, here and there, idiotic parents striving to make infant phenomena of their children; and recording with much pride how their children can read and write at an unnaturally early age. Such parents are fools; not necessarily malicious fools, but fools beyond question. The great use to which the first six or seven years of life should be given, is the laying the foundation of a healthful constitution in body and mind; and in the instilling of those first principles of duty and religion which do not need to be taught out of any books. Even if you do not permanently injure the young brain and mind by prematurely over-tasking them; even if you do not permanently blight the bodily health, and break the mind's cheerful spring, you gain nothing. Your child, at fourteen years old, is not a bit further advanced in his education than a child who began his years after him; and the entire result of your stupid driving has been to over-cloud some days which should have been among the happiest of his life. It is a woeful sight to me to see the little forehead corrugated with mental effort, though the effort be to do no more than master the multiplication table. It was a sad story I lately heard of a little boy repeating his Latin lesson over and over again in the delirium of the fever of which he died, and saying piteously that indeed he could not do better. I don't like to see a little face looking unnaturally anxious and earnest about a horrible task of spelling; and even when children pass that stage, and grow up into school-boys who can read Thucydides and write Greek iambs, it is not wise in parents to stimulate a clever boy's anxiety to hold the first place in his class. That anxiety is strong enough already; it needs rather to be repressed. It is bad enough even at college to work on late into the night; but at school it ought not to be suffered for one moment. If a lad takes his place in his class every day in a state of nervous tremor, he may be in the way to get his gold medal, indeed; but he is in the way to shatter his constitution for life.—"The Commonplace Philosopher," by A. K. H. C.

LADIES FOR HARD WORK.

FOND as the Abyssinian women are of embroidered garments and other fineries, it is strange that they should never try to gain even a slight acquaintance with the needle. High and low alike depend upon their male friends for every stitch in their dress. Tastes of course vary in different countries; but I confess that it always provoked me to see a tall red-faced fellow acting the dressmaker, and a slender girl performing the functions of a groom. Several times I tried to introduce reforms among our own people; but the very attempt to allot to each his own proper work produced such a storm of discontent that I gave up the matter in despair. But if it is provoking to see a man pilfering the needle, it is still more aggravating to see him monopolize the laundry. It is true, the Abyssinians have as strong a prejudice against a clean face, still, whenever, during the course of the year, the shirt or the shama requires a little scrubbing, a big fellow far better adapted to plow the field performs the agreeable job. * * * This kind of work, which is the heaviest the men perform, admits of no comparison with the more onerous duties devolving upon the poor women. In a large household, where a good number of females are required, some go early in the morning to collect wood, and others to fetch water; while not a few busily employed their hands in cleaning the stables, or in preparing the bread, skiro, dillok, and wotz for breakfast. To remove the husks from the grain before it is washed and ground is regarded by all as a most tiring job. We usually employ two at this occupation to relieve each other; but the unfeeling natives have no such consideration, and will sometimes force their female servants or slaves to stand over the rude mortar till their arms become almost paralyzed, and they are ready to drop from sheer exhaustion and fatigue.—"Wanderings in Abyssinia."

INFLUENCE OF MOTHERS.

JOHN RANDOLPH never ceased, till his dying day, to remember, with unutterable affection, the pious care of his mother, in teaching him to kneel at her side, and, with his little hands raised upward, to repeat, in slow and measured accent, the pattern prayer.

"My mother," said Mr. Benton, not long before he died, "asked me not to drink liquor, and I never did. She desired me at another time to avoid gaming, and I never knew a card. She hoped I would never use tobacco, and it never passed my lips."

Not long ago, the Rev. Dr. Mills, in one of his powerful appeals to mothers to consecrate their children to the ministry of the Gospel, said:—"A youth, after great deliberation, and with the knowledge that his mother desired him to be a clergyman, decided at last to become a lawyer; and, soon after, his mother inquired of him, in a tone of deep and tender interest, 'My son, what have you decided to do?' 'To study law, mother.' She only replied, 'I had hoped otherwise;' and her convulsive sobbing told the depth of her disappointment. 'Do you think,' said he, 'I could go into the law over my mother's tears?' He considered the case, and has long been an able and efficient clergyman."

All that Leigh Richmond was, he attributed to the simplicity and propriety with which his mother endeavored to win his attention, and store his memory with religious truths, when yet almost an infant.

Oh! if Christian mothers would but wake up to the use of their powers and influences, a Samuel might rise out of every family, and Leigh Richmonds be numbered by thousands.—"Hall's Journal of Health."

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

LABOR IS TRUE HONOR.

BY EMILE MARCE.

THIS world of ours once rolled in space,
With forests, lakes and mountains,
No hand had felled the giant trees,
Or chained the rushing fountains,
And round the whole, in grandeur lay,
The wavy rolling ocean.

No bark had plowed its sunlit waves,
Or dared the storm's commotion.
The coal-beds waited under ground,
The marble in the quarry,
The iron-ore, and yellow gold,
Lay hid in mountain hoary,
The diamond, in its dusky bed
Slept in the sandy river,
And countless gems sealed up their light,
One day to gleam and quiver.

Now gaze we on the scene transformed,
On harvests shining yellow,
On fertile fields, and spreading trees,
With fruitage warm and mellow;
And near, the cottage gleaming white,
The home where love is dwelling,
And out among the autumn flowers,
Comes love's own music swelling.
Unnumbered cities lift their spires,
Like stars in sunlight gleaming,
Below, the wide and lengthened streets
With busy crowds are teeming,
Vast halls are piled with printed lore,
Art's proudest works are glowing,
And earth's and ocean's rarest gems
Their richest light are throwing.

The fire-horse rushes through the land,
The steamer plows the ocean,
Heaven's lightnings drawn to earth to bear
Thought, feeling and emotion.

Was't magic wrought these changes vast?
'Twas labor stern and steady,
From year to year, from age to age,
Untiring, ever ready.

To thoughtful heads, and toiling hands,
Through every age departed,
To those who are thinking, toiling now,
The brave and noble-hearted,
Though small the range, and brief the span,
Their day of life has given,
To them shall come the meed of praise]
From earth and highest heaven.

Ye who have labored, waited long,
Take heart, be not despairing;
Your hardened hands and dusty brow,
Your garments dim with wearing,
These mark your worth. Lift up your eyes,
The geonid is before you;
The night of serving has been long,
The day is dawning o'er you.

The earth is yielding freely back,
For all bestowed upon her,
And mankind are waking up to know,
That Labor is true honor.

Fredonia, N. Y., 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

RURAL SERMONS.—NO. II.

He that is devoid of wisdom despiseth his neighbor;
but a man of understanding holdeth his peace.—
Proverbs xi. 12.

1. *There is a class who despise their neighbors.* Do you belong to that class? If so, you are ignorant. You are not wise. You lack understanding. You want discretion. You do not know your neighbor. You should seek his society oftener. You should study him personally. Commune with him. Look at things from his stand-point. You will be better able to judge of the purity of his motives and the uprightness of his character, as well as of the wisdom of his acts. Here is where we fail—precisely where we stumble. If our neighbor does what seems to us to be wrong or unwise, viewing it from our position, we should consult him and try to gain his platform from which to look at it, before we condemn him or his acts. We should not do this in the character of meddlers. Wait for opportunity. Suspend judgment until we gain it. Withhold opinion or an expression of opinion until we are thoroughly satisfied we understand his position. We should know our neighbors better. We should learn that we have neighbors. We should seek to measure our own capacity with that of our neighbor. By doing so, we shall learn to estimate more accurately his and our own value as citizens. This comparison will not always be flattering to our vanity and self-love. It will beget charity. And we shall learn to love and appreciate the good and truthful wherever we find it. We shall seek to emulate what we most admire in others—to correct our own foibles as they are mirrored to us in our neighbors' character. We should remember that

"Man like the generous vine, supported lives,
The strength he gains is from the embrace he gives;
On their own axes, as the planets run,
Yet make their circle round the sun.

So two consistent motions, act the soul,
And one regards itself, and one the whole—
Thus God and Nature linked the general frame,
And bade self-love and social be the same."

2. *Hold your peace concerning your neighbor.* Defend him if you say anything. Let this defense continue so long as it is honest to do so—so long as you can do it conscientiously. And when this is impossible, hold your peace. Do not herald his guilt nor magnify his evil acts. Give them no tongue. Let them speak for themselves. Perhaps they will show their author his real character and provoke reform. Do not render reform impossible to him. Encourage every good act. Kindly discountenance what you can not commend. Lift the man up from his degradation more than you pull him down. It is better to have a good neighbor than a bad one. To secure such an one is worthy an effort. To convert the latter into the former is the work of a man of understanding; and he will make an effort to do it. You not only benefit yourself and the neighborhood by such effort, but you place the object of such action under lasting obligations to you. If you succeed you secure a faith-

ful friend. Your recompense is in all respect sure and constantly increasing. Our neighbors are often what we make them. Charity constantly exercised produces fruit. It begets charity in others. It fosters community of feeling. It binds together. It strengthens. And in a RURAL neighborhood it is of practical advantage in business affairs. It strengthens our interest in each others success. We exchange opinion and experience. Mutual benefits result. We become identified with each other in interests, in projects, in prosperity. For strength follows union. Power is begotten of it; and influence follows power. It is the influence of combination. It is tempered and toned by charity. Understanding is its base. Wisdom is the animating cause—the motive power. Get wisdom; and with all thy getting, get understanding. And remember that charity, exercised, is as profitable in every respect to ourselves as to the object of its exercise. B.

UTILITY OF INVENTORS TO MANKIND.

WHEN Fulton first moved away from the dock with the *Clermont*, the skeptical crowd who watched his success doubted the evidence of their own eyes, but at length broke out in unrestrained applause at his triumph; which in that age of the arts and sciences was great indeed. From that day until the present time the efforts of mankind have been put forth to accomplish the hard work of the world by sinews that never tire. Apt indeed are the automatons which now clothe the naked, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and whirl the traveler at a giddy speed over plains or seas. All the steam engines have been perfected only by patient effort, mental and bodily; all the looms run themselves, so to speak, only by reason of the intelligent and untiring exertions made by practical men; and cheap clothing, cheap traveling, cheap food, cheap everything, in fact, results from the introduction of useful machines.

Inventors have been, and are still busy; let them be still more active. Fame writes the names of successful ones high up on her scroll, and the cause of humanity, of mercy, of all virtues and qualities, is aided and countenanced by the art of invention. As witness the safety-lamp of Sir Humphrey Davy, and the circulation of the blood by Jenner; for this latter, although more properly a discovery, was yet the result of patient thought and investigation. In more modern times the name of Morse, as connected with the telegraph; of Parrot, associated with his rifled ordnance; of Timby as the originator, and Ericsson as the practical developer of the system of iron-clad batteries, will all be gratefully remembered by posterity as men who, by their talent, energy, and patriotism, achieved great results for the nation.

With such a record before him, let no aspiring young man waste time and money on perpetual motions or other whirligigs, which are to the art of useful invention what the philosopher's stone is to chemistry—the shadowy and illusive thing that evades every attempt to grasp it, and ends only in sorrow and inexpressible misery to all concerned. Take hold of realities, oh! ye who aspire to wealth and honor! Grasp not the wind, but seize upon some arduous task now performed by manual labor, and reduce it to the sphere of machinery. Wrestle with possibilities, not intangible things; and fame and fortune, which now seem afar off, shall come at your nod and beck, as the slaves of old obeyed the rubbing of Aladdin's ring.—*Sci. American.*

INFLUENCE OF PARENTS.

A PERFECT child would be a perfect aura of the soul; at least its appearance would not be so variously restrained and so difficult as that of a perfect man. On him everything from the state down to himself exercises a forming influence; but on the fresh child parents repeat with full power the law-giving, moulding character of Lycurgus and of Moses. They can separate their pupil from others and form him without interference better than a Spartan or a Jewish State could do. Consequently we ought to expect more from the unlimited authority of parents.

If a whole system of religious metaphysics did not dreamingly sleep within the child, how could the mental contemplation of infinity, God, eternity, holiness, &c., be imparted to him since we cannot communicate it to him by outward means, and indeed have nothing for that purpose but words, which have not the power of creating but only of arousing. The dying and the fainting ear hears inward music which no outward object gives; and ideas are such inward tones.—*Jean Paul.*

READING AND CONVERSATION.—Our reading will be of little use without conversation, and our conversation will be apt to run low without reading. Reading trims the lamp and conversation lights it; reading is the food of the mind, and conversation the exercise. And as all things are strengthened by exercise, so is the mind by conversation. There we shake off the dust and stiffness of a recuse, scholastic life; our opinions are confirmed or corrected by the good opinions of others; points are argued, doubts are resolved, difficulties cleared, directions given, and frequently hints started which, if pursued, would lead to the most useful truths, like a vein of silver or gold which directs to a mine.

DIARIES.

A MAN who keeps a diary says
Due toll to many tedious days;
But life becomes eventful, then
His busy hand forgets the pen.
Most books, indeed, are records less
Of fullness than of emptiness.

HEROES.—A man must be a hero to understand a hero.—*Goethe.*

Sabbath Musings.

ABEL ENTERING HEAVEN.

TEN thousand times ten thousand sung
Loud anthems round the Throne,
When lo! one solitary tongue
Began a song unknown—
A song that told of banished fears,
Of pardoned sins and dried up tears.

Not one of all the Heavenly host
Could these high notes attain,
But spirits from a distant coast
Soon joined to swell the strain:
Till he who first began the song—
To sing alone not suffered long—
Was numbered with a countless throng.

And still as hours are fleeting by,
The angels ever bear
Some newly-ransomed soul on high
To join the chorus there;
And so the song will louder grow
Till all redeemed by CHRISTER below
To that fair world of rapture go.

Oh! give me, Lord, my golden harp,
Attune my broken voice
That I may sing of troubles sharp
Exchanged for endless joys;
The song that ne'er was heard before,
A sinner reached that heavenly shore,
Which now shall sound forever more—
A sinner saved by grace.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

RESENTMENT.

READER, did you never feel the flame of resentment kindling in your bosom? Did you never have the blood rush wildly to your cheek as you listened to some unjust censure? May be your character was assailed, your virtue questioned, your purest and most generous motives pronounced selfish, envy may have been the main-spring of your injuries, or the cause may have been trivial even,—no, question it not; but ask did you harbor resentment? Did you let its poison enter your heart or mar the quietness of your spirit? Then as you felt its power surging over your soul and mantling with crimson dye your cheek, did you vow to be avenged, or did you, after reflection, let the spirit of CHRIST come into your heart, subdue your resentment, and make you gentle and forgiving? If so, then are you happy and blest in fulfilling the Gospel which says—"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you; that you may be the children of your Father which is in Heaven."

MRS. MATTIE D. LINCOLN.

Canadaigua, N. Y., 1863.

A PLEASANT WORD FOR EVERY ONE.

A CHRISTIAN should resemble a sunbeam shining with a light derived from the "Sun of Righteousness." The amount of good and happiness which we may diffuse around us, by only showing a smiling face and a kind heart, and speaking kindly, but not always "our own words," is incalculable.

I remember walking one day through the fields with a dear friend. She seemed to have a pleasant word for every one we met. The little children looked up in her face and smiled, as they dropped their simple courtesies. The old men uncovered their grey hairs, and seemed to be cheered by her kindly greeting.

"A fine day, friend," said she to one old man.
"Yes, ma'am, it is very fine."
"We must thank God for it, and for every good thing."

"Aye, to be sure; but I never thought of that. I thank God with all my heart."

"You appear to be very lame, my friend," she observed to another, who was passing wearily along, and looked hot and tired; she called them all friends. The old man seemed touched by her sympathizing looks, and told her the whole history of the accident; upon which she prescribed some simple remedy, which, perhaps, soon cured him.

The next person we met was a little girl, who was crying because she had just upset her basket of ripe blackberries into the ditch. Upon which my friend smilingly suggested that she might gather more, pointing at the same time to the rich clusters which grew all around; and she soon dried her eyes, and began following her advice.

Thus it is that we should all endeavor to pass through the world, helping, cheering, and comforting one another. People who are always innocently cheerful and good humored are very useful in the world; they maintain peace and happiness, and spread a thankful temper around them. It has been well said, that "we have no more right to fling an unnecessary shadow over the spirits of those whom we may casually meet, than we have to fling a stone and break their windows."

WHAT IS CONSCIENCE?—When a little boy, my father sent me from the field home. A spotted tortoise in shallow water caught my attention, and I lifted my stick to strike it when a voice within me said "It is wrong." I stood with uplifted stick, in wonder at the new emotion, till the tortoise vanished from my sight.

I hastened home and asked my mother what it was that told me it was wrong.

Taking me in her arms, she said, "Some men call it conscience, but I prefer to call it the voice of God in the soul of man. If you listen to it and obey it, then it will speak clearer, and always guide you right. But if you turn a deaf ear, or disobey, then it will fade out little by little, and leave you in the dark, without a guide."

Let Jesus Christ be all in all; study Christ, preach Christ, live Christ.—*Matthew Henry.*

Scientific, Useful, &c.

PROFITABLE INVESTMENTS.

The Philadelphia *North American* gives some excellent advice to those who wish to invest money. It will be well for all who are in funds to heed the counsel:

"Though money has been temporarily scarce, capital continues abundant,—and the recent tumble in the stock market has brought capitalists to a realizing sense of the unreliable character of many of the securities dealt in. It is greatly to the credit of the Government, that its loans, of all the securities daily dealt in on the market, have maintained their integrity of price better than almost anything else. Its Five Twenty Year Six Per Cent. Loan, the interest on which is promptly paid in gold, has been subscribed to, all through the pressure in the money market, at an average of more than two millions per day. And, what is not the least gratifying fact in connection with the daily large subscriptions to this popular loan, scarcely any of it is returned to the market for sale. It is taken for investment, and is held with unflinching confidence in its reliability. And why should it not be? It is seen that the Government now—after two years of the most gigantic war that the world has ever known—experiences no difficulty in commanding the necessary means to prosecute it, or in paying regularly the interest in gold as it falls due. If this can be done while the war is being waged—who can anticipate any difficulty in readily accomplishing it when the war shall be ended? What better investment, then, for capital, than the 'Five-Twenty' Government Loan? But if any doubt, let him refer to the statistics furnished by the census-tables of the various nations of the world. The facts which they present will prove the most satisfactory mode of dispelling the numberless gloomy apprehensions which are being continually conjured up by those who are disposed to exaggerate the extent of the calamity occasioned by our rebellion. A reference to the state of most of the prosperous nations of the old world clearly disproves such a position, and shows that the highest conditions of national advancement have not been materially affected by the extended wars in which those nations have been immorally engaged, and that a heavy national indebtedness has not proved an unmitigated evil.

"For instance, Great Britain, France and the Netherlands, will undoubtedly be conceded to represent the highest prosperity that has been attained by any of the European nations. And yet no nations have been called upon to endure fiercer or more prolonged wars, domestic and foreign, than they. The effect has been, unquestionably, to incur an enormous national indebtedness; but neither their wars nor their indebtedness have had the effect to destroy their elasticity, nor to check the progress of their general prosperity. The result would have been different, probably, if these nations had been falling into decay, instead of being, as they really were, in a state of development; and in this respect their case resembles our own, with enormous advantages in our favor. These nations, while undergoing the trials of war, were oppressed by the evils of an immense exodus of their people, caused by the density of their population, the impossibility to provide occupation for them, the low price of labor and the scarcity of territory. Compared with our own country, they possessed slight room for future development; they were settled in every part, and no vast territory lay invitingly open to encourage enterprise and settlement. Their great problem has ever been what to do with their surplus population, which, in its turn, has sought new fields for adventure and self-support in countries like our own, where an illimitable territory waits to be developed, and where incalculable resources invite industry and energy. The encouragement to be derived from these facts and comparisons of circumstances is very great—and, to the mind of any dispassionate reasoner, is conclusive—that the course of this great country is onward and upward—and that its credit will live, unimpaired, to the end."

Our readers having money to invest will do well to ponder the foregoing facts and suggestions, and invest in the securities of the Government. The Circular of Messrs. Fisk & Hatch, the well known Bankers, in another column, will give them useful information on the subject.

FROST IN THE TROPICS.

A CORRESPONDENT of a Michigan paper, writing at the ancient city of St. Augustine, Florida, makes the following statement as to the destruction of orange trees by a severe frost, nearly thirty years ago:

Prior to the year 1835 this vicinity was an immense orange orchard. Matured thrifty trees sometimes produced 6,000 oranges, and the average produce per annum, of a single tree, was 500. When the business was in its prime the yearly export was between two and three millions of dollars from this city alone; but one night in the month of February, a frost cut off the entire species of the orange tribe. Thus one of the greatest resources of the city was cut off, many were hurried from the seat of affluence into poverty and distress. The city has never yet recovered from the blight of that stroke. Many shoots have sprung up, but have struggled under the pressure of disease and the ravages of animalcula which prey on the life of young shoots.

CAUSES do not seem to produce effects. Sequences are arbitrary. There is general law, but a great deal of special lawlessness. You lay all your plans to accomplish an object, and miss it, while the good that you never dream of obtaining comes to you unsought.

Various Topics.

THE ROTHSCHILDS.

THE following announcement appeared in the English papers recently:—"Baron Gustavus Rothschild, of Naples, has retired from business with a fortune, it is said, of £6,000,000 sterling (\$30,000,000.) There are now in Europe but four houses of Rothschilds—in London, Paris, Vienna and Frankfurt." The Neapolitan branch of the great house of Rothschild was the least wealthy and influential of the five branches of it; but assuming that the realized capital of the remaining four, upon which the managers could at any time retire, as Baron Gustavus has just done, is four times that of the Neapolitan, it would amount to the enormous sum of \$150,000,000! This is the lowest estimate—how much below the truth it is we have no means of ascertaining. Indeed, we doubt if it be exactly known by the fortunate holders themselves. The annual interest on such a sum as this, at six per cent, would be \$9,000,000, or \$24,657 a day. The wealthiest nobleman in England is the Marquis of Westminster, whose daily income has been estimated at \$5,000, which is one-fifth less than that of the individual members of the house of Rothschild. This famous banking firm is one of the great Powers of Europe.

GEN. GILMORE'S SHELLS IN CHARLESTON.

A REBEL correspondent of the *Augusta (Ga.) Sentinel* writes from Charleston. About twenty-five 100-pound Parrott shells were flung into the city to-day. Old Gilmore scattered them promiscuously in the lower part of the city, and it really seemed, from the way in which they were pitched about, that he was trying to hit somebody. The City Hall building had a hole punched in one corner and some of the marble cornice knocked away. One struck the telegraph office, and the operators "out stick." One smashed through the roof of a house in Queen street, and several falling in this neighborhood, the frightened denizens "vamosed to the tune of the double-quick." Several fell in the vicinity of the banks on Broad street and East Bay tearing up the streets, smashing window panes, and kicking up the mischief generally. One went crashing through the Mechanics' and Planters' Bank, and it is evident, I think, that Gilmore was after making a deposit. Whether he will be regularly "booked" and his currency taken "at par" is more than I can say.

HOW THE THREE-HUNDRED POUNDER PARROTTS ARE WORKED.—A correspondent on Morris Island writes:—"As there is no manual laid down for the three hundred-pounder Parrott, I subjoin that in use. The piece is on its carriage and "from battery." Implements, no two to be in the same place and no one in its proper place. The instructor gives the command "load her up!" At this command the gunner says, "some of you fellows bring a shell," and "John, bring a cartridge." Some of the "fellows" take a small hand-barrow and bring a shell. Gunner says, "Stick in that powder." "Now, boys, hold on till I get out a fuse." "Stick it in." All hands, by hard heaving, get the shell to the embrasure. Gunner says, "Swab her out." She is swabbed out. "Now, heave and haul, and in it goes." It goes in accordingly. "Now, ram it down." It is rammed down. "Now, run her in." She is run in. "Screw down the recoil-bands." They are screwed down. Gunner aims. "Slew her round a little." "All right." "Where's that primer?" "Now, git out of the way, everybody." All go to windward, and No. 3 steps round a corner, so as not to be hit if the gun bursts. Gunner says, "Blaze away!" She blazes away. Remark of the gunner on returning to the gun:—"How are you, Sumter?" Repeat.

PARAFFINE.—Paraffine possesses certain properties which render it useful in the laboratory. It may be advantageously substituted for oil in baths, as it endures a high temperature without evaporating or emitting any unpleasant odor. Filtering paper, after being soaked in it, may be kept several weeks in concentrated sulphuric acid without undergoing the slightest alteration. From this property of paraffine it may be advantageously applied as a coating to labels on bottles containing strong acids; fluoric acid, even, does not act upon it, except it be heated. Paraffine appears also to be useful in preserving fruits. Apples, pears, &c., coated with it retain all their freshness during several months.

DISCOVERY OF A SAND-IMBEDDED TOWN IN FRANCE.—A singular discovery, it is said, has been made on the French coast, near the mouth of the Garonne. A town has been discovered buried in the sand, and a church has already been extracted from it. Its original plan shows it to have been built near the close of the Roman empire. The original paintings, its sculptured choir and capitals, are adorned with profuse ornaments, which are attracting a large number of visitors. This is all that remains of those cities described by Pliny and Strabo, although the Gulf of Gascony abounds in ruins of ancient cities.

RAPID RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION.—Gen. D. C. McCallum, formerly Superintendent of the Erie Railroad, is now Government Engineer of Railways. Lately there was accomplished, under his direction, a feat without a parallel in railroad construction. The thirty miles of railroad recently destroyed by Lee's army, was rebuilt; and, in doing so, the ties were prepared, and the main track and switches laid, 600 feet of bridging (some of which was 60 feet in height), twenty culverts and ten water tanks, constructed all within the space of three weeks!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

ANOTHER year of health and of sufficiently abundant harvests has passed. For these, and especially for the improved condition of our national affairs, our renewed and profoundest gratitude is due.

We remain in peace and friendship with foreign powers. The efforts of disloyal citizens of the United States to involve us in foreign wars, to aid an inexcusable insurrection, have been unavailing. Her Britannic Majesty's Government, as was justly expected, have exercised their authority to prevent the departure of new hostile expeditions from British ports. The Emperor of France has, by a like proceeding, promptly vindicated the neutrality which he proclaimed at the beginning of the contest. Questions of great intricacy and importance have arisen out of the blockade, and other belligerent operations, between the government and several of the maritime powers, but they have been discussed, and, as far as was possible, accommodated in a spirit of frankness, justice and natural good will. It is especially gratifying that our prize courts, by the impartiality of the adjudication, have commanded the respect and confidence of maritime powers.

The supplemental treaty between the U. S. and Great Britain for the suppression of the slave trade, made on the 17th of February last, has been duly ratified and carried into execution. It is believed that so far as American ports and American citizens are concerned, that inhuman and odious traffic has been brought to an end.

I shall submit for the consideration of the Senate, a Convention for the adjustment of the possessory claims in Washington Territory, arising out of the treaty of the 15th of June, 1846, between the United States and Great Britain, and which have been the source of much disquiet among the citizens of that now rapidly improving part of the country.

A novel and important question, involving the extent of the maritime jurisdiction of Spain in the waters which surround the island of Cuba, has been debated without reaching an agreement, and it is proposed, in an amicable spirit, to refer it to the arbitration of a friendly power. A Convention for that purpose will be submitted to the Senate.

I have thought it proper, subject to the approval of the Senate to concur with the interested commercial powers in an arrangement for the liquidation of the Scheldt dues, upon principles which have been heretofore adopted in regard to the imposts on navigation in the waters of Denmark.

The controversy between this government and that of Chili touching the seizure at Setana of a large amount of treasure belonging to citizens of the United States, has been closed by the award of his Majesty, the King of the Belgians, to whom the question was referred by the parties. The subject was thoroughly examined by that Magistrate, and although the sum awarded to the claimants may not have been as large as they expected, there is no reason to distrust the reason of His Majesty's decision. It was promptly complied with by Chili, when intelligence of it reached that country.

Incidents in the progress of our civil war have forced upon my attention the uncertain state of international questions touching the rights of foreigners in this country, and of United States citizens abroad. In regard to some governments these rights are partially defined by treaties. In no instance is it stipulated that in the event of civil war, a foreigner residing within the lines of the insurgents is to be exempted from the rule which classes him as a belligerent, in whose behalf his government cannot expect any privileges distinct from that character. I regret to say that such claims have been put forward in behalf of foreigners who have lived in the United States the greater part of their lives.

Many persons born in foreign countries, who have declared their intention to become citizens, or who have been naturalized, have evaded military duty by denying the fact, and thereby throwing upon the Government the burden of proof. It has been found impracticable to obtain this proof for want of guides to the proper sources of information. These might be supplied by requiring clerks of courts, where declarations of intention may be made, to give, periodically, lists of the names of persons naturalized or declaring their intention to become citizens, to the Secretary of the Interior, in whose Department the names might be arranged and printed for general information. There is also reason to believe that foreigners frequently become citizens of the U. S. for the sole purpose of evading duties imposed by the laws of their native country, to which, on becoming naturalized here they at once repair, and though never returning to the United States still claim the interposition of this Government as citizens. Many alterations and great prejudices have heretofore arisen out of this abuse. It is therefore submitted to your serious consideration that it might be advisable to fix a limit beyond which no citizen of the United States residing abroad may claim the interposition of the Government. The right of suffrage has often been assumed and exercised by aliens under pretence of naturalization, which they have disavowed when drafted into the military service. I submit the expediency of such an amendment of the law as will make the fact of voting an estoppel against any plea of exemption from military service, or other civil obligation on the ground of alienage.

In common with other western powers, our relations with Japan have been brought into serious jeopardy through the perverse opposition of the hereditary aristocracy of the Empire to the enlightened and liberal policy of the Tycoon, designed to bring the country into the society of nations. It is hoped, although not with entire confidence, that these difficulties may be peacefully overcome. I ask your attention to the claim of the minister residing there for damages he sustained in the destruction by fire of the residence of the Legation at Yeddo.

Satisfactory arrangements have been made with the Emperor of Russia, which it is believed will result in effecting a continuous line of telegraph through that Empire from the Pacific coast. I recommend to your favorable consideration the subject of an international telegraph across the Atlantic Ocean, and also a telegraph between the Capital and the national forts along the seaboard and the Gulf of Mexico. Such communication, established with any reasonable outlay, would be economical as well as effective aids to the diplomatic, military and naval service.

The Consular system of the United States, under the enactments of the last Congress, begins to be self-sustaining, and there is reason to hope that it may become entirely so with the increase of trade which will ensue whenever peace is restored. Our Ministers abroad have been faithful in defending American rights. In protecting commercial interests our consuls have necessarily had to encounter increased labors and responsibilities growing out of the war. These they have for the most part met and discharged with zeal and efficiency. This acknowledgment justly includes those consuls who, residing in Morocco, Egypt, Turkey, Japan, China and other oriental countries, are charged with complex functions and extraordinary powers.

The condition of the several organized territories is generally satisfactory, although the Indian disturbances in New Mexico have not been entirely suppressed. The mineral resources of

Colorado, Nevada, Idaho, New Mexico and Arizona are proving far richer than have been heretofore understood. I lay before you a communication on this subject from the Governor of New Mexico.

I again submit to your consideration the expediency of establishing a system for the encouragement of emigration. Although this source of national wealth and strength is again flowing with greater freedom than for several years before the insurrection occurred, there is still a great deficiency in every field of industry, especially in agriculture, and in our mines, as well of iron as the precious metals. While the demand for labor is thus increased here, tens of thousands of persons destitute of remunerative occupation are thronging out foreign consulates and offering to emigrate to the United States if essential but very cheap assistance can be afforded them.

It is easy to see that under the sharp discipline of civil war the nation is beginning a new life. This noble effort demands the aid, and ought to receive, the attention of the Government. Injuries unforeseen by the Government, and unintended, may in some cases have been inflicted on the subjects or citizens of foreign countries, both at sea and on land, by persons in the service of the United States. As the Government expects redress from other powers when similar injuries are inflicted by persons in their service on citizens of the United States, we must be prepared to do justice to foreigners. If the existing judicial tribunals are inadequate to this purpose, a special court may be authorized with power to hear and decide such claims of the character referred to as may have arisen under treaties and public law. Conventions for adjusting the claims by joint-commissions, have been proposed to some Governments, but no definite answer to the proposition has yet been received from any of them. In the course of the present session I shall probably have occasion to request you to provide indemnification to claimants where decrees of restitution have been rendered, and damages awarded by Admiralty Courts, and in other cases where this Government may be acknowledged to be liable in principle, and where the amount of that liability has been ascertained by informal arbitration.

The proper officers of the Treasury have deemed themselves required by the law of the United States upon the subject, to demand a tax upon the incomes of foreign consuls in this country. While such a demand may not, in strictness, be in derogation of public law, or perhaps of any existing treaty between the United States and a foreign country, the expediency of so far modifying the act as to exempt from tax the incomes of such consuls as are not citizens of the United States, derived from the emoluments of their office or from property not situated in the United States, is submitted to your serious consideration. I make this suggestion upon the ground that a comity which ought to be reciprocated exempts our consuls in all other countries from taxation to the extent thus indicated. The United States, I think, ought not to be exceptionally illiberal to international trade and commerce.

The operations of the Treasury during the last year have been successfully conducted. The enactment by Congress of a National Banking Law has proved a valuable support of the public credit, and the general legislation in relation to loans has fully answered the expectations of its framers. Some amendments may be required to perfect existing laws, but no change in their principles or general scope is believed to be needed. Since these measures have been in operation, all demands on the Treasury, including the pay of the army and navy, have been promptly met and fully satisfied. No considerable body of troops, it is believed, were ever more amply provided and more liberally and punctually paid; and it may be added that by no people were the burdens incidental to a great war more cheerfully borne.

The receipts during the year from all sources, including loans and the balance in the Treasury at its commencement, were \$901,125,674.86, and the aggregate disbursements \$895,796,630.65, leaving a balance on the 1st of July, 1863, of \$5,329,044.31. Of the receipts there were received from customs \$59,059,647.40; from Internal Revenue, \$37,640,787.95; from direct tax, \$1,485,103.61; from lands, \$167,617.17; from miscellaneous sources, \$3,046,615.15, and from loans, \$776,682,341.67, making an aggregate of \$901,125,674.86.

Of the disbursements there were for the civil service, \$23,353,922.08; for pensions and Indians, \$4,216,526.59; for interest on public debt, \$24,729,848.51; for the War Department, \$599,298,600.83; for the Navy Department, \$63,311,165.27; for payment of funded and temporary debt \$181,086,635.07, making the aggregate \$895,796,630.65, and leaving a balance of \$5,329,044.31. But the payments of the funded and temporary debt having been made from moneys borrowed during the year must be regarded as merely nominal payments, and the moneys borrowed to make them, amounting to \$181,086,635.07, should therefore be deducted both from receipts and disbursements. This being done, there remains as actual receipts \$20,099,739.79, and actual disbursements \$714,709,995.58, leaving the balance as already stated. The actual receipts and disbursements for the first quarter, and estimated receipts and disbursements for the remaining three-quarters of the current fiscal year 1864, will be shown in detail by the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, to which I invite your attention. It is sufficient to say here that it is not believed that actual results will exhibit a state of the finances less favorable to the country than the estimates of that officer heretofore submitted, while it is confidently expected that at the close of the year both disbursements and debt will be found very considerably less than has been anticipated.

The report of the Secretary of War is a document of great interest. It consists, first of the military operations of the year detailed in the report of the General-in-Chief; 2d, the organization of colored persons into the Union service; 3d, the exchange of prisoners as fully set forth in the letter of Gen. Hitchcock; 4th, the operations under the act of enrolling and calling out the national forces, detailed in the report of the Provost-Marshal General; 5th, the organization of the invalid corps; and 6th, the operations of the several departments of the Quartermaster General, Commissary General, Paymaster General, Chief of Engineers, Chief of Ordnance, and Surgeon General. It has appeared impossible to make a valuable summary of this report, except such as would be too extended for this place, and hence I content myself by asking your careful attention to the report itself.

The duties devolving upon the naval branch of the service during the year, and also throughout the whole of this unhappy contest, have been discharged with fidelity and eminent success. The extensive blockade has been constantly increasing in efficiency. If the navy has expanded, yet on so long a line it was so far impossible to entirely suppress illicit trade. From returns received at the Navy Department, it appears that more than 1,000 vessels have been captured since the blockade was instituted, and that the value of prizes already sent in for adjudication, amounts to over \$13,000,000. The naval force of the United States consists at this time of 588 vessels completed and in the course of completion, and of these 75 are iron-clad or armored steamers.

The events of the war gives an increased interest and importance to the navy, which will probably extend beyond the war itself. The armored vessels in our navy, completed and in service, or which are under contract and approaching completion, are believed to exceed in number those of any other power; but while these may be relied upon for harbor defence and coast service, others of greater strength and capacity will be necessary for cruising purposes, and to maintain our rightful position on the ocean.

The change that has taken place in naval vessels and naval warfare since the introduction of steam as a motive power for ships of war, demands either a corresponding change in some of our existing Navy Yards, or the establishment of new ones for the construction and necessary repair of modern naval vessels. No inconsiderable embarrassment, delay and public injury have been experienced from the want of such governmental establishments. The necessity of such a Navy Yard, so furnished, at some suitable place on the Atlantic seaboard, has, on repeated occasions, been brought to the attention of Congress by the Navy Department, and is again presented in the report of the Secretary, which accompanies this communication. I think it my duty to invite your special attention to this subject, and also to that of establishing a yard and depot for naval purposes upon one of the Western rivers. A naval force has been created in these interior waters, and under many disadvantages, within a little more than two years, exceeding in number the whole naval force of the country at the commencement of the present administration.

Satisfactory and important as have been the performances of the heroic men of the navy at this interesting period, they are scarcely more wonderful than the success of our mechanics and artisans in the construction of our vessels, which has created a new form of naval power. Our country has advantages superior to any other nation in resources of iron and timber, with inexhaustible quantities of fuel in the immediate vicinity of both, and all available and in close proximity to navigable waters. Without the advantage of public works, the resources of the nation have been developed and its power displayed, in the construction of a navy of such magnitude, which has, at the very period of its creation, rendered signal service to the Union.

The increase of the number of seamen in the public service, from 7,500 men in the spring of 1861 to about 34,000 at the present time, has been accomplished without special legislation or extraordinary bounties to promote that increase. It has been found, however, that the operation of the draft, with the high bounties paid for army recruits, is beginning to affect injuriously the naval service, and will, if not corrected, be likely to impair its efficiency, by detaching seamen from their proper vocation, and inducing them to enter the army. I, therefore, respectfully suggest that Congress might aid both the army and naval service by a definite provision on this subject, which would at the same time be equitable to the communities more especially interested. I commend to your consideration the suggestions of the Secretary of the Navy in regard to the policy of fostering and training seamen, and also the education of officers and engineers for the naval service.

The Naval Academy is rendering signal service in preparing midshipmen for the highly responsible duties which in after life they will be required to perform. In order that the country should not be deprived of the proper quota of educated officers, for which legal provision has been made at the Naval School, the vacancies caused by the neglect or omission to make nominations from the States in succession, have been filled by the Secretary of the Navy. The school is now more full and complete than at any former period, and in every respect entitled to the favorable consideration of Congress.

During the past fiscal year the financial condition of the Post-Office Department has been one of increasing prosperity, and I am gratified in being able to state that the actual postal revenue has nearly equaled the entire expenditure, the latter amounting to \$11,314,306.84, and the former to \$11,637,789.59, leaving a deficiency of but \$150,515.25. In 1860, the year immediately preceding the rebellion, the deficiency amounted to \$5,656,705.49, the postal receipts being \$2,643,722.19 less than those of 1863. The decrease since 1860 in the annual amount of transportation has been about 25 per cent, but the annual expenditure on account of the same has been reduced 35 per cent. It is manifest, therefore, that the Post-Office Department may become self-sustaining in a few years, even with the restoration of the whole service.

The international conference of postal delegates from the principal countries of Europe and America, which was called at the suggestion of the Post-Master General, met at Paris on the 11th of May last, and concluded its deliberations on the 8th of June. The principle established by the conference, as best adapted to facilitate postal intercourse between nations, and as the basis of future Postal Conventions, inaugurates a general system of charges at reduced rates of postage, and cannot fail to produce beneficial results.

I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Interior, for useful and varied information in relation to Public Lands, Indian Affairs, Patents, Pensions, and other matters of public concern pertaining to his Department. The quantity of lands disposed of during the last and the first quarter of the present fiscal year, was 3,841,549 acres, of which 171,911 acres were sold for cash, 1,456,514 acres were taken up under the homestead law, and the residue disposed of under laws granting lands for military bounties, for railroads, and for other purposes. It also appears that the sale of the public lands is largely on the increase. It has long been a cherished opinion of some of our wisest statesmen, that the people of the United States had a higher and more enduring interest in the early settlement and substantial cultivation of the public lands, than in the amount of direct revenue to be derived from the sale of them. This opinion has been a controlling influence in shaping legislation upon the subject of our national domain. I may cite as evidence of this the liberal measures adopted in reference to actual settlers, and the grant to the States of the overflowed lands within their limits, in order to secure their being reclaimed and rendered fit for cultivation, and the grants to railroad companies of alternate sections of lands, which, when completed, will largely multiply the facilities for reaching our distant possessions. This policy has received its most beneficial illustration in the recent enactment granting homesteads to actual settlers. Since the first day of January last, before mentioned, the quantity of 1,456,514 acres of land had been taken up under its provisions. This and the amount of sales furnish gratifying evidence of increasing settlements upon the public lands, notwithstanding the great struggle in which the energies of the nation have been engaged, and which has required so large a withdrawal of our citizens from their accustomed pursuits. I cordially concur in the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior, suggesting a modification of the act in favor of those engaged in the military and naval service of the United States. I doubt not that Congress will cheerfully adopt such measures as will, without essentially changing the general features of the system, secure to the greatest practical extent its

benefits to those who have left their homes in defence of their country in this arduous crisis. I invite your attention to the views of the Secretary as to the propriety of raising, by appropriate legislation, a revenue from the mineral lands of the United States.

The measures provided at your last session for the removal of certain Indian tribes, have been carried into effect. Sundry treaties have been negotiated, which will in due time be submitted for the constitutional action of the Senate. They contain stipulations for extinguishing the possessory rights of the Indians to large and valuable tracts of lands. It is hoped that the effects of the treaties will result in the establishment of permanent friendly relations with such of these tribes as have been brought into frequent and bloody collision with our outlying settlements and emigrants. Sound policy, and our imperative duty to these parts of the government, demand our anxious and constant attention to their material well being, to their progress in the arts of civilization, and above all to that moral training which, under the blessing of Divine Providence, will confer upon them the elevated and sanctifying influences, the hopes and consolations of the Christian faith. I suggested in my last annual message the propriety of remedying our Indian system. Subsequent events have satisfied me of its necessity. The details set forth in the report of the Secretary of the Interior, evince the urgent need for immediate legislative action.

I commend the benevolent institutions established or patronized by the good in this District to your generous and fostering care.

The attention of Congress during the last session was engaged to some extent with a proposition for enlarging the water communication between the Mississippi River and the northeastern seaports, which proposition, however, failed for the time. Since then, upon a call of the greatest respectability, a convention has been held at Chicago upon the same subject, a summary of whose views is contained in a memorial addressed to the President and Congress, and which I now have the honor to lay before you. That this interest is one which ere long will force its own way, I do not entertain a doubt, while it is submitted entirely to your wisdom as to what can be done now. Augmented interest is given to this subject by the actual commencement of work upon the Pacific Railroad, under auspices favorable to rapid progress and completion. The enlarged navigation becomes a palpable need to the great road.

I transmit the second annual report of the Commissioners of the Department of Agriculture, asking your attention to the developments in that vital interest of the nation.

When Congress assembled a year ago, the war had already lasted nearly twenty months, and there had been many conflicts on both land and sea, with varying results. The rebellion had been pressed back into reduced limits, yet the tone of public feeling at home and abroad was not satisfactory with other signs—the popular elections then just passed indicated uneasiness among ourselves, while, amid much that was cold and menacing, the kindest words coming from Europe were uttered in accents of pity that we were too blind to surrender a hopeless cause. Our commerce was suffering greatly by a few armed vessels built upon and furnished from foreign shores, and we were threatened with such additions from the same quarter as would sweep our travel from the sea and raise our blockade. We have failed to elicit from European governments anything hopeful on that subject.

The preliminary emancipation proclamation issued in September was running its assigned period to the beginning of the new year. A month later the final proclamation came, including the announcement that colored men of suitable condition would be received in the war service. The policy of emancipation and of employing black soldiers, gave to the future a new aspect, about which hope, and fear and doubt contended in uncertain conflict. According to our political system, as a matter of civil administration, the government had no lawful power to effect emancipation in any State, and for a long time it had been hoped that the rebellion could be suppressed without resorting to it as a military measure. It was all the while deemed possible that the necessity for it might come, and that if it should the crisis of the contest would then be presented. It came, and as was anticipated, was followed by dark and doubtful days. Eleven months being now passed, we are permitted to take another review. The rebel borders are pressed still further back, and by the complete opening of the Mississippi the country dominated by the rebellion is divided into distinct parts with no practical connection between them. Tennessee and Arkansas have been substantially cleared of insurgent control, and influential citizens in each—owners of slaves and advocates of slavery at the beginning of the rebellion—now declare openly for emancipation in their respective States. Of those States not included in the emancipation proclamation, Maryland and Missouri, neither of which three years ago would tolerate any restraint upon the extension of slavery into new territories, only dispute now as to the best mode of removing it within their own limits.

Of those who were slaves at the beginning of the rebellion, full 1,000,000 are now in the United States military service, about one-half of which number actually bear arms in the ranks, thus giving the double advantage of taking so much labor from the insurgent cause, and supplying the places which otherwise must be filled by as many white men. So far as tested, it is difficult to say they are not as good soldiers as any. No servile insurrection or tendency to violence or cruelty has marked the measures of emancipation and arming the blacks. Those measures have been much discussed in foreign countries, and contemporary with such discussion, the tone of public sentiment is much improved. At home the same measures have been fully discussed, supported, criticized and denounced, and the annual elections following are highly encouraging to those whose official duty it is to bear the country through this great trial. Thus we have the new reckoning. The crisis which threatened to divide the friends of the Union is past.

Looking now to the present and future, and with a reference to the resumption of National authority in the States where it has been suspended, I have thought fit to issue a proclamation, a copy of which is herewith transmitted. On examination of this it will appear, it is believed, that nothing is attempted beyond what is amply justified by the Constitution. True, the form of an oath is given, but no man is coerced to take it. The man is only promised a pardon in case he voluntarily takes the oath. The Constitution authorizes the Executive to grant or withhold the pardon at his own discretion, and this includes the power to grant, as is fully established by judicial and other authorities. It is also proffered that in any of the States named, a State government shall be recognized and guaranteed by the United States, and that under the State shall, on the Constitutional conditions, be protected against invasion and violence.

The Constitutional obligation of the United States, to guarantee every State in the Union a republican form of government, and to protect the State in the case stated, is explicit and full. But why tender the benefits of this provision only to a State government set up in this par-

ticular way. An attempt to guaranty and protect a revised State government constituted in whole or in preponderating part as a very element against whose hostility and violence it is to be protected, is simply absurd. There must be a test by which to separate the opposing elements, so as to build only from what is sound. That test is a sufficiently liberal one which accepts as sound whosoever will make a sworn recantation of his former movements. But if it be proper to require as a test by admission to the political body an oath of allegiance to the United States and the Union under it, why not also to the laws and proclamations in regard to slavery? These laws and proclamations were enacted and put forth for the purpose of aiding in the suppression of the rebellion. To give them their fullest effect, there has to be a pledge for their maintenance. In my judgment, they have aided and will further aid the cause for which they were intended. To now abandon them must be not only to relinquish a lever of power, but would also be a cruel and astounding breach of faith.

I may add at this point, while I remain in my present position I shall not attempt to retract or modify the emancipation proclamation, nor shall I return to slavery any person who is free by the terms of that proclamation or by any of the acts of Congress.

For these and other reasons it is thought best that support of these measures should be included in the oath, and it is thought that the Executive may lawfully claim it in return for freedom and restoration of forfeited rights which he has a clear Constitutional power to withhold altogether, or grant upon the terms he shall deem wisest for the public interest. It should be observed also that this part of the oath is subject to the modifying and abrogating power of legislation and supreme judicial decision.

The proposed acquiescence of the National Executive in any reasonable temporary State arrangement for the freed people, is made with the view of possibly modifying the confusion and destitution which must at best attend all classes, by a total revolution of labor throughout whole States. It is hoped that the already deeply afflicted people in those States may be somewhat more ready to give up the cause of their affliction, if to this extent this vital matter may be left to themselves, while no power of the National Executive to prevent an abuse is abridged by the proposition.

The suggestion in the proclamation as to maintaining the political frame-work of the States, or what is called re-construction, is made in the hope that it may do good without danger of harm. It will save labor and avoid great confusion.

But why any proclamation now upon this subject. This subject is beset with the conflicting views that the step might be delayed too long, or taken too soon. In some States the elements for re-union seem ready for action, but remain inactive, apparently for want of a rallying point—a plan of action. Why shall A adopt the plan of B rather than B that of A? And if A and B should agree, how can they know but that the general government will reject their plan? By the proclamation, a plan is presented which may be accepted by them as a rallying point, and which they are assured in advance will not be rejected here. This may bring them to act sooner than they otherwise would. The objections to a premature presentation of a plan by the National Executive, is the danger of committing errors on points which could be more safely left to future developments. Care has been taken so to shape the denouement as to avoid embarrassment from this source, saying that upon certain terms certain classes will be pardoned, with rights restored. It is not stated that other classes and other terms will never be included, saying that reconstruction will be acceptable if presented in specific way. It is not said it will never be accepted in any other way. The movements by State action for emancipation in several of the States not mentioned in the proclamation, are matters of profound congratulation, and while I do not repeat in detail what I have heretofore so earnestly urged on this subject, my general views and feelings remain unchanged, and I trust that Congress will omit no fair opportunity of aiding these important steps to the great consummation. In the midst of our great, however important, we must not lose sight of the fact that the war power is still our main reliance. That power alone can we look for a time to give confidence to the people in the contested regions, that the insurgent power will not again overrun them. Until that confidence shall be established, little can be done anywhere for what is called reconstruction. Hence our chiefest care must still be directed to the army and navy, which have thus far borne their part so nobly and well; and it may be esteemed fortunate that in giving the greatest efficiency to these indispensable arms, we do honorably recognize the gallant men, from commander to sentinel, who compose them, and to whom more than to others the world must stand indebted for the home of freedom disenthralled, regenerated, enlarged and perpetuated.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
Washington, Dec. 8, 1863.

The following Proclamation is appended to the Message:

Whereas, In and by the Constitution of the United States, it is provided that the President shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment; and

Whereas, A Rebellion now exists whereby the loyal State Governments of several States have for a long time been subverted, and many persons have committed and are now guilty of treason against the United States; and

Whereas, With reference to said rebellion and treason, laws have been enacted by Congress declaring forfeitures and confiscation of property and liberation of slaves, all upon terms and conditions therein stated; and also declaring that the President was thereby authorized at any time thereafter, by proclamation, to extend to persons who may have participated in the existing rebellion in any State, or part thereof, pardon and amnesty, with such exceptions and at such times and on such conditions as he may deem expedient for the public welfare; and

Whereas, The Congressional declaration for limited and conditional pardon accords with the well-established judicial exposition of the pardoning power; and

Whereas, With reference to the said rebellion the President of the United States has issued several proclamations with provisions in regard to the liberation of slaves; and

Whereas, It is now desired by some persons heretofore engaged in the said rebellion to resume their allegiance to the United States, and to re-inaugurate loyal State Governments within and for their respective States:

Therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do proclaim, declare and make known to all persons who have directly or by implication participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, that a full pardon is hereby granted to them and each of them, with restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves, and in property cases where the rights of third parties shall have intervened, and upon the condition that every such person shall take and subscribe an oath, and thereupon ward keep and maintain said oath inviolate, and which oath shall be registered for permanent preservation,

and shall be of the tenor and effect following, to wit:

"I, _____, do solemnly swear in presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Union of the States thereunder, and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion with reference to slaves, so long and so far as not repealed, modified, or held void by Congress or by decision of the Supreme Court, and that I will in like manner abide and faithfully support all proclamations of the President made during the existing rebellion having reference to slaves, so long and so far as not modified or declared void by decision of the Supreme Court. So help me God."

The persons excepted from the benefits of the foregoing provisions are all who are or shall have been civil or diplomatic officers or agents of the so-called Confederate Government; all who have left judicial stations under the United States to aid the rebellion; all who are or shall have been military or naval officers of said so-called Confederate Government above the rank of Colonel in the army, of Lieutenant in the navy; all who left seats in the United States Congress to aid the rebellion.

All who resigned commissions in the army or navy of the United States, and afterward aided the rebellion, and all who have engaged in any way in treating colored persons or white persons in charge of such, otherwise than lawfully as prisoners of war, who have been found in the United States service as soldiers, seamen, or in any other capacity.

And I do further proclaim, declare, and make known, that whenever, in any of the States of Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina, a number of persons, not less than one-tenth in number of the votes cast in such States, at the Presidential election of the year of our Lord 1860, each having taken the oath aforesaid, and not having since violated it, and being a qualified voter by the election law of the State existing immediately before the so-called act of Secession, and excluding all others, shall re-establish a State Government, which shall be Republican, and in no wise contravening said oath, such shall be recognized as the true Government of the State, and the State shall receive thereunder the benefit of the Constitutional provision which declares that

"The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican form of Government, and shall protect each of them against invasion, on application of the Legislature, or of the Executive, when the Legislature cannot be convened, against domestic violence."

And I do further proclaim, declare and make known, that any provision which may be adopted by such State Government in relation to the freed people of such State which shall recognize and declare their permanent freedom, provide for their education, and which may yet be consistent, as a temporary arrangement, with their present condition as a laboring, landless, and homeless class, will not be objected to by the National Executive.

And it is engaged as not improper that, in constructing a loyal State Government in any State, the name of the State, the boundary, the subdivisions, the Constitution and the general code of laws as before the rebellion, be maintained subject only to the modifications made necessary by the conditions herein before stated, and such others, if any, not contravening said conditions, and which may be deemed expedient by those framing the new State Government.

To avoid misunderstanding, it may be proper to say that this Proclamation, so far as it relates to State Governments, has no reference to States wherein loyal State Governments have all the while been maintained. And for the same reason it may be proper to further say, that whether members sent to Congress from any State shall be admitted to seats Constitutionally, rests exclusively with the Houses, and not to any extent with the Executive.

And still further, that this Proclamation is intended to present the people of the States wherein the national authority has been suspended, and loyal State Governments have been subverted, a mode in and by which the national authority and loyal State Governments may be re-established within said States, or in any of them.

And, while the mode presented is the best the Executive can suggest with his present impressions, it must not be understood that no other possible mode would be acceptable.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, the eighth day of December, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-eighth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
By the President,
WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

OWING to the occupation of so much space by the President's Message and the Proclamation thereto appended, we are compelled to give a condensed account of the weekly news transactions, as follows:

THE ARMY IN VIRGINIA.—Gen. Meade's army is quietly encamped in Culpepper county, on the south bank of the Rappahannock. Lee occupies his old position at Orange Court House, his advance line guarding the Rapidan ford. The pickets are again on friendly terms. There is but little dueling, and few casualties on either side. Bushwhackers, of course, are beginning to swarm again on our flanks and rear.

A Washington dispatch of the 12th says that the Army of the Potomac will be immediately reorganized, and made larger and better in every way than it has been at any former period. Its chief command will probably be tendered to either Hooker or Thomas. The present corps commanders, with one exception, will be relieved.

Gen. Butler, at Fortress Monroe, has issued a lengthy order relative to colored troops, the effect of which is to call upon male negroes to volunteer to fight for the freedom of their race, and to instruct every officer in his command to aid the coming of all colored persons into our lines. Negro soldiers are to be paid a bounty of \$10, and to be paid \$10 per month, while their families are to be furnished with subsistence. Gen. B., in his order, calls on Congress to place colored troops on an equality with other troops of the United States.

The following dispatch was received in Baltimore on the 13th inst.:

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 12.

To C. C. Fulton, Baltimore American:—Please give notice that the rebel authorities decline receiving any more packages or provisions for the Union prisoners, so that parties interested may refrain from forwarding any more goods to this point.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General Commanding.

The steamer Circassian, Capt. Eaton, from the Rio Grande on the 25th ult., arrived at Fortress Monroe on the 13th inst. On the 9th inst., off Charleston, she captured the large blockade runner Wina, with a very valuable assorted cargo. She towed the Wina into Hampton Roads. The Captain of the latter tried to sink her, but the Circassian's men got on board in time to stop it.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.—By the arrival of the steam transport Fulton, from Port Royal, we have intelligence of the loss of the Monitor iron-clad Weehawken, which sunk at her anchor, inside of Charleston Bar, on the afternoon of Sunday last. Three of her engineers and twenty-six of her crew were drowned. A furious gale prevailed at the time, but no damage was sustained by the rest of the fleet. The engineers lost on the Weehawken were probably J. B. Allen, H. W. Merriam, and A. Mitchell. The latter is known to have perished. Mr. Young was saved, with all the other officers. The Weehawken lies in five fathoms of water, but is expected to be raised. The loss is said to be from neglect and bad management. No accurate list of the lost has been obtained.

The Fulton, on her way from Port Royal to New York, on the 9th inst., captured the British steamer G. O. Biglow, eleven days out from Bermuda, with a cargo of salt for Newbern, N. C. Her papers were informal, but after towing her two hundred miles, the Fulton relinquished her prize, on account of the violence of the weather.

The military situation before Charleston was unchanged.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.—On the 12th inst. the government had intelligence of an interesting character from Gen. Banks. Gen. B. had received a dispatch from Maj. Gen. Washburne, at Fort Espuzanza, Pas Caballo, Matagorda Bay, as follows:

FORT ESPUZANZA, Dec. 2.—I A. M.

On Nov. 30th the rebels blew up the magazines of this fort, having evacuated it two hours before. It is a very large and complete work, bomb-proof, and partially cased with railroad iron. It had a garrison of 1,000 men, who escaped all but six, by reason of the continuance of the gale. The gunboats could not furnish me with launches to enable me to cut off their communications, nor could they take part in the attack. On the 28th we drove them all from their outworks, and advanced our sharpshooters well up to their fort. We captured 10 guns, ranging from 14 to 128-pounders.

The command of the Bay gives us substantially the control of Central and Western Texas, and all the important points on the east coast, except Galveston.

MOVEMENTS IN THE WEST AND SOUTH-WEST.—The news from East Tennessee is really glorious. Longstreet has abandoned the siege, and is getting himself into Virginia as fast as possible, via Greenville. Our cavalry is said to be in close pursuit of the rebels. A large batch of prisoners was taken on the 6th inst., at Clinch River. Gen. Sherman has arrived at Knoxville. The President has sent the following to Gen. Grant:

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.

To Major-General Grant:—Understanding that your judgment and Chattanooga and Knoxville is now secure, I now wish to tender you, and all under your command, my more than thanks, my profoundest gratitude, for the skill, courage and perseverance with which you and they, over so great difficulties, have effected that important object. God bless you all.

A. LINCOLN.

Gen. Beats and staff, in Memphis, are busy mustering volunteer companies into the service. Seven full companies were mustered on the 7th, and as many more would be mustered on the next day. Beats extended the day of grace to the 12th.

The steamer Sally List, arrived at Memphis from Arkansas river, reports that the steamer Emma was fired into while en route from Duval's Bluff to Jacksonport. A major and captain were wounded.

A skirmish occurred at Little Rock Railroad, between a party of Federals, repairing the road, and a band of guerrillas, in which several were killed and the guerrillas repulsed.

A report from Arkansas says Gen. Marmaduke is endeavoring to unite forces with Price, who is said to be crossing Red river into Texas. Price's force is much reduced, and said to number less than 5,000. A large Federal force is pursuing. The rebels are said to be much disheartened.

AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.—The President has signed a pardon, exempting E. W. Gantt, of Arkansas, from the penalty of treason, which he incurred by accepting and exercising the office of Brigadier-General in the service of the rebels. The pardon also re-instates Gen. Gantt in all his rights of property, except those relating to slaves.

In the House, McPherson was elected Clerk, receiving 106 votes against 69 for Etheridge. Mr. Ordway, of New Hampshire, was elected Sergeant-at-arms. Ira Goodenough was re-elected door-keeper.

Richmond papers have been received in Washington, and their contents indicate rather unpleasant times in the rebel capital. Witness the following:

In (the rebel) Congress, on the 8th, Mr. Foot, of Tennessee, in a speech, said the President never visited the army without doing it injury; never has he visited any of our armies but that it has been followed with disaster. He charged him with having almost ruined the country, and he would meet his adversary anywhere to discuss it. He accused Commissary Northup with having starved the enemy's prisoners, and placed the Confederate government in the attitude charged by the enemy. From the 1st to the 26th of November, meat was furnished the prisoners very irregularly. For twelve days they got none at all. He demanded the removal of Mr. Northup, for the honor of the country.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

New York Tribune for 1864.
Prospectus of New York Observer—Sidney E. Morse, Jr., & Co.
Rochester Daily and Weekly Express—C. D. Tracy & Co.
Chicago Yata for Factories—H. & E. Cooper.
The Bard—John R. Wilms.
\$5 a Month—C. Burleigh.
Dairyman and Farmer Wanted—H. M. Weed.
The Practical Shepherd—David Morse.

Special Notices.

The Best Literature—Ticknor & Fields.
To Farmers and Wool Growers—Henry Payson.
Christmas and New Year's Gift—Craig's Microscope.

The News Condenser.

—New York imports for November were twice as large as usual.

—Of 1,800 conscripts in Milwaukee, Wis., all but 80 bought off.

—The school teachers of New York have had their salaries raised.

—Substitutes get \$1,000 and \$1,100 in Richmond, but then it is rebel money.

—A dozen towns in Maine have already filled their quota under the last call.

—Counterfeit \$20 greenbacks are in extensive circulation throughout the country.

—The navigation of the Mississippi above Quincy, Ill., was closed by the late freeze.

—M. Burvill, aged 98 years, the oldest citizen of Lynn, Mass., died on Monday week.

—The stock of cotton held in N. Y. city by speculators is estimated at about \$10,000,000.

—The Secretary of the Treasury, it is said, recommends an increase of the tax upon State Banks.

—Ice has formed in such quantities in Lake Michigan that navigation is considered over for the season.

—Levi Coffin, an Ohio Quaker, claims to have harbored 3,300 fugitive slaves, and to have forwarded them to Canada.

—It is reported that the vineyards around Fort Madison, Iowa, have produced \$30,000 worth of grapes this year.

—Well executed bills of the "Lincoln County Bank, Wiscasset, Maine," are in circulation. There is no such bank.

—Many of the towns in Vermont have filled their quota. The work of recruiting is now progressing in good earnest.

—Five balls advertised, and flour one hundred and twenty-five dollars a barrel! exclaims the Richmond Examiner.

—The cup (made out of a cocoon), and chest of Alexander Selkirk, (Robinson Crusoe) or being exhibited in London.

—The Louisville Journal says river pilots are now getting from twenty-five hundred to three thousand dollars per year.

—There were ninety-one deaths in Boston last week, of which five were from diphtheria, which is prevalent in that city.

—The total amount of the claims presented by citizens of Minnesota for losses sustained in the Sioux war is \$2,600,000.

—A Milwaukee paper invites the ill requited working girls of the Atlantic cities to come "West," where they are needed.

—A man in Blackwood thinks Gen. Lee the handsomest writer he ever saw—fifty-six, tall, broad-shouldered, and well set up.

—Thos. Miller, the oldest citizen of Waltham, Mass., aged 100 years, who had resided in the same house 68 years, died last week.

—Lawrence, Kansas, is rising from its ashes. Since the raid 137 buildings have been put up or in progress, and business is lively.

—A Canadian youth of fourteen winters and a cash income of \$4 per month, has married a damsel of the mature age of twelve.

—The Baltimore and Ohio R. R. Co. is about to add 200 coal-cars to its equipment, in order to meet the demands of the trade.

—A pork-house has recently been erected in Indianapolis, Ind., which has a capacity for slaughtering and packing 3,000 hogs daily.

—Six hundred thousand sheep, it is said, have lately passed through Chicago by railroad, on their way to Iowa and Western Illinois.

—The machinists in New York who have struck for higher wages in that city and vicinity, number seven to eight thousand men.

—The public schools of Vicksburg have been reopened after a noisy intermission of two years. Colored schools have also been established.

—New York has twenty theatres, which contain nightly 25,000 persons, who spend on an average twenty-five thousand dollars each evening.

—Col. Wm. Whistler, who was the oldest army officer in the U. S. except Gen. Scott, died at his residence in Cincinnati, on Friday morning.

—Twelve million butterflies have been caught this year in the canton of Basle, and the Swiss government paid the catchers the sum of 1,000,000.

—The entire capital (\$500,000) of the new National Bank in New Orleans has been subscribed, and an assessment of 30 per cent. called for.

—A number of cargoes of bituminous coal have been contracted for in the British Provinces and England, and will soon arrive in this country.

—The colored troops at Yorktown refuse to accept the pay provided by law of Congress, but insist on the same amount as is paid to white soldiers.

—A girl, 8½ years old, kept after school in New York, because she had not learned her lesson, was so frightened that she fainted and never recovered.

—Owing to the spread of small pox among the colored population in Washington, orders have been issued sending all the contrabands out of the city.

—Mr. Seward's report for Congress of diplomatic correspondence since January last, will, it is said, comprise a printed volume of two thousand pages.

—Four black regiments have been got of the abandoned slaves in our part of South Carolina. One volunteered; the rest were made up by conscription.

—The silver product of Nevada territory will this year, it is estimated, amount to \$15,000,000 and in two years more it is thought it will be fully \$30,000,000.

—The 1st Vermont brigade have crossed the Rappahannock six times in the face of the enemy. There are no braver champions of the country's honor.

—Two marriage ceremonies were performed on a railroad train in Missouri lately by a minister who then, for the first time in his life, took a ride in the cars.

—Henry W. Cushman, formerly Lieut. Gen. of Massachusetts, and for many years prominently identified with the politics of that State, died on Saturday week.

Special Notices.

THE BEST LITERATURE. BY THE BEST AMERICAN WRITERS. Atlantic Monthly

The new volume begins with the January number, and contains FEATURES OF A PECULIAR INTEREST.

To FARMERS and WOOL GROWERS.—Distemper in Sheep cured by PAYSON'S Celebrated Recipe.

IN SEEKING A HOLIDAY GIFT OR PRESENT, those of our readers who would combine instruction with amusement...

Markets, Commerce, &c.

The condition of the weather is such as to almost entirely put a stop to all transactions. Pork, mess, clear, and in the hog is a little higher.

Table of market prices for various goods including Flour, Wheat, Corn, and other commodities.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—SHEEP.—Quiet and steady. Sales at \$5.20 for pots, and \$3.75 for pearls.

GRAIN.—Wheat market may be quoted heavy and a shade lower. Sales for December spring, 1,470,000 bushels.

PROVISIONS.—Pork market quiet and easier. Sales at \$17.00 for extra, and \$16.00 for prime.

BUFFALO, Dec. 14.—FLOUR.—The market for the week has ruled quiet with moderate business.

GRAIN.—The wheat market for the week has ruled quiet and firm, with very little milling or speculative doing.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—For Cattle, Sheep, and Veal Calves, and other livestock, the market is active.

Table of prices for various types of cattle, sheep, and other livestock.

CAMBRIDGE, Dec. 9.—Whole number of cattle at market 1342; 1000 beefs, and 342 Stores, consisting of Working Oxen, two and three years old, 1000.

Table of wool market prices for various types of wool, including Saxony, American, and others.

ALBANY, Dec. 9.—There have been a few sales this week, but the market runs rather quiet and steady.

In Panfil, Nov. 29th, of Consumption, Mr. WILLIAM LESTER MOORE, aged 31 years.

New Advertisements.

THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD.—In sold in Iowa and Montcalm Counties, Mich., by DAVID MORSE, who is the exclusive Agent for that territory.

CHEESE VATS FOR FACTORIES.

These Vats have been in extensive use in New York, Ohio, and Vermont, for the past five years, and having been fully tested in Factories from 100 to 700 Cows in Jefferson and Oneida Counties the past year...

ROCHESTER DAILY AND WEEKLY EXPRESS.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1864. NEW TYPE, AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.

CLUBBING WITH THE RURAL NEW-YORKER!

We take this occasion in calling the attention of our friends to our plans and terms for the coming year, to return our hearty acknowledgments for the generous support which the public have heretofore extended to us...

TERMS, &c. The Terms of the DAILY and WEEKLY will remain the same as during the past year.

CLUBBING WITH THE RURAL NEW-YORKER. Our friends in the country will please bear in mind our recent announcement, that we will furnish the EXPRESS (Daily or Weekly) together with MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER, on exceedingly favorable terms...

TO ADVERTISERS. Business men should understand the fact that THE EXPRESS affords the BEST MEDIUM OF ADVERTISING in this part of the State.

BOOK AND JOB PRINTING. THE EXPRESS Book and Job Printing Department is a complete establishment, with facilities for all descriptions of printing.

C. B. TRACY & CO., Publishers of the Rochester Daily and Weekly Express, Rochester, N. Y.

THE TRIBUNE FOR 1864. PROSPECTUS.

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE, first issued April 10, 1811, has today a larger aggregate circulation than any other newspaper published in America, or (we believe) in the world.

By very large outlays for early and authentic advices by telegraph and otherwise from its own correspondents...

During the existence of the Whig party, this paper supported that party, though always sympathizing with the more liberal progressive, Anti-Savery "wing" thereof.

Ardenly desiring and striving for the early and enduring adjustment of our National distractions, THE TRIBUNE leaves the time, the nature and the conditions of that adjustment implicitly to those lawfully in authority...

AGENTS WANTED.

Agents wanted for the sale of the TRIBUNE in various territories. Address: SIDNEY E. MORSE, Jr., & Co., 37 Park Row, New York.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS!

The Craig Microscope, with mounted objects, consists in a beautiful and appropriate Holiday Gift to old or young; combining instruction with amusement...

U. S. 5-20'S.

The Secretary of the Treasury has not yet given notice of any intention to withdraw this popular Loan from Sale at Par, and until after ten days' notice has been given, the undersigned, as AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF THE BONDS, will continue to supply the public.

TERMS. DAILY TRIBUNE. Single Copy, 5 cents. Mail Subscribers, one year (12 issues) \$5.

INTERESTING, INSTRUCTIVE, IMPORTANT. Ethnology.—The Nations, Races, and Tribes of Men—their Origin, Present Condition, and Probable Destiny.

MEN WANTED!

FOR THE UNITED STATES ARMY! Rochester, State of New York, is the place to enlist. New recruits will be paid in CASH, before they leave the State...

DAIRYMAN AND FARMER WANTED.

Peoria, Illinois, to take charge of 15 or 20 cows and make cheese and butter. This will be completed if the bus no children. Must be honest, industrious and sober.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1864. THE NEW YORK OBSERVER.

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Choice roots for sale at the lowest figure, next spring. Send for my Price List. A. M. FURDY, South Bend, Ind.

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200 BUSHELS PEACH STONES FOR SALE cheap. Address: F. HANSON, Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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10,000 Standard Pear Trees, 10 feet high, at \$3.50. 10,000 Dwarf Pear Trees, 3 to 4 feet high, at \$1.50.

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CHRISTMAS BELLS.

BY BELL OLINTON.

MERRILY, merrily, Chime Christmas bells. One at the altar stands, Bound with love's golden bands, Buds showy white Gleam 'mid her shining hair, Rest on her bosom fair, Hope fills the ambient air With rainbow light. Merrily chime, Christmas bells.

Mournfully, mournfully, Peal Christmas bells. Since last your tones were told, Hearts have grown chill and cold, Homes sad and lone. Darkening each hill and plain, Winds past the funeral train, Death will a victor reign, All are his own. Mournfully chime, Christmas bells.

Joyfully, joyfully, Chime Christmas bells. Waken the song again, Echoed on Bethlehem's plain, Chime's horn to-day— Crowned "Savior," "Prince of Peace"— Ne'er shall his kingdom cease, Sound the glad lay. Joyfully chime, Christmas bells.

Chenango Co., N. Y., 1863.

DECEMBER.

To-day the sky is shrouded, thick and grey, And nature droops her sad and down-cast eyes, Gazing anon with meek and mute surprise, To watch the stary snow-flakes whirl and play.

Old Winter sits at last upon his throne, Grim, chilling, ghost-like, as in years gone by; A freezing smile lights up his shaggy eye, His voice is like the North wind's wailing moan.

And these, his messengers, gay, sprightly things, Bring back rare memories in golden shrouds— Sweet chimes of silver bells, swift-flying sleds, And the long winter evening gatherings.

A gush of merry voices fills the air, Gay shouts of laughter echo far and near; The children love the twilight of the year— Let us be young with them, and laugh at care.

[Knickerbocker Magazine.]

The Story-Teller.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

SUE'S COUNTRY EXPERIENCE.

REAPING.

BY BARBARA BRANDS.

"An' if ye please, Mr. ESTEL, PAT DARRY'S tuk wid th' rheumatiz, an' BILL BRADLEY'S got the mastes, an' shure who'll drive the rapers?" Now, if there is anything perfectly aggravating, it is to lose two or three hands in harvest-time, as every farmer knows full well. Judge ESTEL prided himself upon his patience and calmness, but he was now visibly discomposed. Meanwhile LU, his daughter, and I, were laying our heads together over a plot peculiarly feminine. LU ESTEL had been my "chum" at school, and my confidante since. I was spending a few weeks with her in her country home, and already our wild pranks had astonished the staid villagers, therefore the Judge was not as much surprised as he otherwise would have been, when we announced our plan.

"You take their places, indeed," he said, somewhat contemptuously. "An' authoress and a housekeeper would look well by the side of our sturdy workmen. No, no, girls. Keep to your pen, Miss SUE, and LUCY may sweep the house and wash the dishes. I'll manage somehow."

But somehow appeared to be a very poor way, for in less than five minutes he thrust his head through the open door, and added, "Well, girls, if you will be romps, come along. You're better than no help, I suppose." Although not relishing the uncomplimentary style of the Judge's last remark, we concluded to quietly pocket the affront, as we were wild for a frolic, and prove by our deeds how unjust was that depreciatory sentence.

If there is one thing more than another that I, SUE LANSING, pride myself upon, it is neatness of attire; and since the "scribbling fever" had taken possession of me, I was doubly particular in this respect. I was determined to prove to the world that it was not necessary for a woman to be slovenly in dress or appearance, because she was an authoress. This particular morning I cast a glance of satisfaction into the mirror as I left the room. The pretty dress, snowy apron and collar, and neatly arranged curls, were all in perfect taste, and when I had donned a pair of thick gauntlets, and settled my hat over the glossy ringlets, I could not refrain from congratulating myself, girl-like, upon my pleasing appearance. Oh, had I but known the woes that bright day held in store for me, I should have gone forth with more humility to my task.

Across the dewy fields we went, through the orchard, where the clover-blossoms, white and red, crept lovingly around the gnarled old apple trees,—over fences and ditches, till at last the field of our future operations came in sight. A high fence intervened, but accustomed as we were to scaling walls, this was but a momentary obstacle. The next instant I landed on the ground, leaving a large portion of my dress fluttering from the topmost rail, like a flag of distress. There was no use in talking of return, so, with the aid of a paper of pins, I strove to make myself presentable, but with poor success.

This was the beginning of the day's disasters. Confused as I was, I had an indistinct idea of the directions which the Judge was giving me. "Oh yes, I understand," I said at last, in desperation. "Pull the left hand rein to turn to the right, and vice versa." My instructor was busied about some part of the machinery, and did not reply, but confident of my ability to do all that was required, I started.

The reaper was one of those self-raking machines, invented, as the Judge assured me, for the purpose of saving labor, but, as I firmly believe up to the present moment, for the express purpose of perplexing such unfortunate damsels as myself. Into the midst of the grain I drove boldly. "Look out!" shouted Irish MIKE, and looking back I espied a long row of standing grain on either side of my new-mown swath. "Turn to the right," shouted the same voice. Had he bid me control the movements of the universe, it would have been quite as much to the point,—for, remembering my instructions, I pulled with all my strength on the left rein. To my dismay the horses walked farther and farther and farther into the grain, and finally stopped altogether. In vain I jerked and pulled,—not one step would these refractory animals move.

No one likes to be ridiculed, and I am no exception to the rule; still, I felt immensely indebted to MIKE, in spite of his laughter, as he led the team to the edge of the field, at the same time explaining the manner of guiding them, till it was plain even to my confused perceptions. With a slight diminution of self-esteem, I thanked him, and started again.

This time it was better. The horses paced quietly along, and the smooth, even swaths testified to the skill of the teamster. Depending fully now upon the docility of the animals, I glanced across to the field, where LU, under her father's tuition, was making rapid progress. Unwary glances! While I satisfied my curiosity, I unguardedly loosed my grasp upon the reins, when that intractable team turned again into the standing grain. This time I succeeded in guiding them into the proper path, but beheld, with rueful visage, the huge crescent waving triumphantly where the reaper should have gone.

I am not naturally dull, and after a great many attempts, succeeded even in what I have since considered the acme of human perfection, viz., turning corners. It was verging toward noon, and hungry, dusty, and tired, I was impatiently listening for the sound of the dinner-horn, when I espied two gentlemen making their way across the adjoining field, and after a few moments' conversation with Judge ESTEL, pursuing in company with him, their way toward the spot where unfortunate I reigned queen over a pair of reins, and one of MANNY & CO.'S best. I am not timid, but in the present case will frankly confess, could I have resigned those lines, and taken a "bee-line" for the house, the rest of this chronicle would have remained unwritten.

In one of my encounters with the team, a sudden breeze had carried off my hat, and ere I could recover it, it was crushed beneath the reaper's wheels. I had also, in some unaccountable manner, covered my hands with tar, which had been unconsciously transferred to my face, until it shone with true African blackness. My white apron was soiled,—my collar hung limp and starchless, and the glossy curls, my especial pride, were in a terrible state of disorder, therefore, it may be easily imagined, I was not exactly prepared to receive callers. "Miss LANSING," said the Judge, gravely, as they approached, "allow me to introduce my friends, Mr. BLAIR and Dr. GORDON, of M—Heavens! Girl, what ails your face?" I could no longer restrain my risibles, and my shout of laughter was echoed by the gentlemen. Mr. BLAIR was the editor of a well-known periodical in the neighboring village, to whose paper I had contributed frequently. I knew that he was expected at my host's residence, and had intended to astonish him by my lady-like grace and intelligence. I had astonished him, evidently, although not exactly in the proposed manner.

Fortunately, the Judge succeeded in procuring other help for the afternoon, so we made our way home as speedily as possible, and leaving the gentlemen in the vine-covered piazza, repaired to our own room. Through the open casement came the tones of their voices in earnest conversation beneath. My own name attracted my attention, and LU, dropping the heavy braid of hair which she was winding in classical style around her head, enjoined silence, with a playful shake of her finger. I am not in the habit of playing eaves-dropper, but what girl could have resisted the temptation of hearing her character discussed under such peculiar circumstances.

"Yes, Miss LANSING is witty and intelligent," said Mr. BLAIR, in reply to his companion; "but what a fright! Why, her ebony-colored visage would not be out of place on a plantation down in Dixie. And then her attire! I wonder if Mrs. NOAH brought that hat pattern over in the ark. That dress, so admirably mended with pins, was a miracle of art, and her sooty apron and collar attracted my first glance of admiration. Leave me to the tender mercies of fends, if ye will, oh Fates, but deliver me, I pray, from the blue-stocking proper!"

"Laugh away, gentlemen," I ejaculated, with a significant toss of my head, as their clear tones rang again through the room. "If I don't teach you a lesson, my name is not SUE LANSING." Mr. BLAIR so far forgot himself as to give a most countryed stare, as I re-entered the parlor, radiant in a misty blue robe, my attire faultless, from the tiny slipper-peeping forth from the folds of my dress, to the white ribbon confining my curls. His stare changed into an expression of unmistakable admiration as we entered into conversation, and that night, in the

quiet of our own room, LU and I enjoyed a hearty laugh, over the worthy editor's discomfiture. This was the first of a series of visits which the gentlemen found time to make at Hickory Farm during the ensuing weeks, and the evening before my return to my own home amid the maps, some one whispered of undying love, and a life desolate without me; for WILLIE BLAIR, in spite of pride and prejudice, had fallen in love with a "blue-stocking!"

Wit and Humor.

IN THE TUNNEL.

On the La Crosse Railroad, one day in September, a newly married couple were taking their wedding journey. The bride was pretty, and the groom devotedly fond of her, as appeared from the frequent little kisses that he printed on her cheek. Behind them sat a worthy pious maiden about sixty-five years of age. The happiness of this world had no charms for her,—it was all transitory, and a good deal mixed up in sin, or she erred in her estimate of the compound. She had been all the time, for the past forty-five years, looking to the future; that is, to the future world, where they don't get married and ride in the cars. But this young and happy couple sat right in front of her; she couldn't help seeing them, and though a little deaf, once in a while she heard a smack that made her scowl in contempt of the connubial bliss. They passed through a tunnel—long, dark tunnel; and as they entered it, the bridegroom was standing up, to get a view of the great work from a window a little ahead of his own seat. Just before they emerged from the darkness, the pious good soul of a maiden lady screamed! All hands were alerted. They thought the tunnel had fallen in. But it hadn't. A second more, and daylight had flashed in. There was the bridegroom by the side of the maiden lady, his face under her hood; and she had been kissed in her life, "just once." But the little bride didn't care, for she knew he had made a mistake.

A DOUBTFUL STEP.

To say you cannot make A rhyme that "step" will take, Is most absurd! To make a rhyme to "step," You only have to separate a word.

HOW TO GET RID OF YOUR CORNS.—Rub them over with toasted cheese, and let your feet hang out of bed for a night or two that the mice may nibble them. If the mice do their duty the remedy will be efficient.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MYTHOLOGICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 32 letters. My 1, 13, 8, 5, 4, 5 is the goddess of fertility. My 2, 19, 25, 26 is the goddess of youth. My 4, 20, 7, 14, 4, 24 is the most ancient of the gods. My 5, 8, 31, 14, 4, 5 is the god of sleep. My 6, 7, 23, 19, 24 is the place of departed spirits. My 7, 4, 20, 22, 29, 11 is the goddess of morning. My 31, 11, 29, 24 is the god of war. My 25, 26, 8, 8, 16, 14, 11 is the goddess of war. My 11, 14, 9, 26, 29, 15, 5 is the god who avenges slighted love. My 12, 13, 14, 4, 5 is the goddess of love, gracefulness and beauty. My 27, 7, 17, 30, 24 is the goddess who presides over human destiny. My 32, 20, 11, 17, 25 is the muse who sings of love and marriage. My 20, 10, 7, 23, 11, 31, 11, 14, 9, 18, 4, 24 was a lawgiver of Crete. My 7, 21, 11, 31, 32, 31, 14, 28, 14 was the commander of the Grecian forces against Troy; also the name of one of the vessels employed in laying the Atlantic cable. My whole is found in the Bible. Lansingville, 1863. BELLS H.

Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

AN ANAGRAM.

Yx tyrocu I ovel hets fro touh ods dants Eth phoe fo eryy torch dani; A cas karm ni het ited fo mite, Gearcin of veeah hyt rowb mutbise. I elvo the xnet of hecany ebavo, Nid fo ym sathifer i chet i levo, Dan lal yht eedslirma sa hety lwl, Thw lal hty lastuf i vole heet fkl. Spring Creek, Pa., 1863. MRS. CALVIN NICHOLS.

Answer in two weeks.

For the Rural New-Yorker.

ANAGRAMS OF PLACES.

Gin a Saw, Tary mals us, Spil a tiny, Tower want, Boy be Saug, Dan Grips Rad, Niche durie Pair, Hot wasp ring not. Geneseo, N. Y., 1863. THRO. C. N.

Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 725.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Strive to do right in all things.

Answer to Anagram: Our Union, the gift of our fathers! In wrath roars the tempest above! The darker and nearer our danger, The warmer and closer our love. Though stricken, it never shall perish; It bends, but not breaks; to the blast; Foes rush on in fury to rend it, But we will be true to the last.

Answer to Geographical Decapitations:—P-enfield, S-hip, P-earl, R-ed, B-ark, F-ox, C-hester, L-inn, C-ase, O-sage, C-lark.

Answer to Mathematical Problem:—42 cubic feet.

Answer to Poetical Enigma:—Woman.

DEAFNESS, CATARRH, AND DISEASES OF THE EYE, EAR, AND THROAT.

DRS. LIGHTHILL,

Authors of "A Popular Treatise on Deafness," "Letters on Catarh," &c., &c., can be consulted on DEAFNESS, CATARRH, DISCHARGES FROM THE EAR, MOISES IN THE HEAD, and all the various acute or chronic diseases of the EYE, EAR, AND THROAT, requiring medical or surgical aid, at their office, No. 34 St. Marks-place, New York. To save useless correspondence, persons residing at a distance are hereby informed that a personal examination is necessary in every case before appropriate treatment can be prescribed. Operations for Cataract, Artificial Pupil, Cross-Eyes, &c., &c., successfully performed.

In consideration of numerous and constant applications for treatment from parties residing at a distance, who are unable to come to New York.

DR. C. B. LIGHTHILL

Visits, professionally, the following cities, at regular monthly intervals, remaining a week in each place. He will be in Albany, at the Delavan House, commencing Monday, Dec. 7th. Rochester, " Osborn House, " Dec. 14th. Utica, " Baggs' Hotel, " Dec. 21st.

DRS. LIGHTHILL'S work, "A Popular Treatise on Deafness, its Causes and Prevention," with the illustrations, may be obtained of CARROLL, Publisher, No. 413 Broadway, New York, or through any respectable Bookseller. Price \$1.

TESTIMONIALS.

From F. L. CAGWIN, Esq.,

PRESIDENT CITY BANK, JOLIET, ILL. DR. LIGHTHILL—Dear Sir: It affords me the greatest satisfaction to be able to inform you that I am still improving, and have the highest hopes that my ear will be entirely well by the time you at first mentioned it would take to effect a cure. I can say that I am truly thankful to the kind Providence which directed me to you. Since the first few days' use of your prescription, my ear has improved, and almost at once I was relieved from a very depressed state of feeling and an almost intolerable case, to an elastic and hopeful state of mind. What Dr. John Nott replied to me as his experience has been mine so far. My catarrhal trouble seems very much better also, and, indeed, altogether, my health never was so good. I am weighing some five pounds more than is usual for me, (and more than I ever weighed before.)

I can but hope that it may be the good fortune of many, with like troubles, to fall in the way of the benefit of your skill, and knowing how great the fear of imposition is with those who in time past, may, like myself, have suffered by it, and feeling a wish, sincerely at this time, to aid and commend you in establishing a high and deserved position among us in your profession, I beg, therefore, that you will not hesitate to refer to me, as it may be of use. I also inclose herewith, Professor Nott's reply to my letter of inquiry, which I deem highly creditable to you, and of great importance to others, as it has been to me. I will visit you again soon. In the meantime, believe me, Yours, very sincerely, F. L. CAGWIN. Joliet, Ill., July 17, 1863.

From the Rev. John Nott, D. D., PROFESSOR IN UNION COLLEGE, SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK. FONDA, N. Y., April 29, 1863.

F. L. CAGWIN, Esq.—Dear Sir: I received your letter of April 23, to-day. I have had from infancy one very deaf ear, and always discharging more or less offensive matter. This year both ears became diseased, running very much very offensive, producing the greatest debility of body and depression of spirits, and my hearing impaired in the highest degree. In such a condition I placed myself under the care of Dr. Lighthill. He has fully restored me. I hear well; the dizziness and the discharge have been removed, and have not returned. The stopping of the running has given me the highest elasticity and vigor of body and a flow of spirits, while my fears were, that stopping the discharge would prove detrimental or dangerous. I esteem, or rather have learned to esteem, Dr. Lighthill (for he was a stranger to me until I was his patient,) as a gentleman and a man of science, in whom the highest confidence may be placed. Yours, very truly, JOHN NOTT.

From the Rev. P. R. Russell, Lynn, Mass. I have been much troubled with catarrh of the worst type for some 20 years. It gradually grew worse, producing cough and hoarseness, destroying the sense of smell, and breaking down my general health to such a degree as to compel me to resign my pastorate and suspend public speaking.

I made diligent use of the usual remedies, such as snuffs of different kinds, nitrate of silver, tar water, olive tar, and inhalations, but without any very salutary effects. Last Summer I heard of Dr. Lighthill's successful mode of treating catarrh, visited him, and put myself under his treatment. I began immediately to improve, and this improvement has gone on to the present time. My catarrh has gradually melted away, my cough has disappeared, my voice has become natural, and I am once more able to preach the blessed Gospel. Let me advise all troubled with catarrhal difficulties to apply to Dr. Lighthill. Lynn, Mass., Feb. 1, 1862. P. R. RUSSELL.

From James Cruikshank, LL. D., EDITOR NEW YORK TEACHER, ALBANY, N. Y. This may certify that having been afflicted during the year 1856, with severe and almost total deafness, and having tried the ordinary medical and surgical aid, under the care of those esteemed as eminent practitioners, I was induced at last to put myself under the care of Dr. E. B. Lighthill. His treatment was brief and successful. I was completely restored, and the cure is apparently permanent. I have all confidence in Dr. L.'s skill and integrity in the diseases he makes specialties. Albany, Oct. 1, 1862. JAMES CRUIKSHANK.

DELANVAN HOUSE, ALBANY, N. Y., March 7, 1863. To Dr. C. B. Lighthill: DEAR SIR:—I take pleasure in certifying that you have effected a great deal of improvement in the hearing of my son, Marcus C. Roessle, who had, previous to your taking the case in hand, been quite deaf from the effects of Scamlatina. As I know of many other cases which you have cured and benefited, I have no hesitancy to recommend you to the public.

I remain yours, very truly, THEOPHELUS ROESSELE, Proprietor Delavan House, Albany, N. Y.

NEW YORK, Sept. 2, 1863. This is to certify that I have been afflicted with Catarrh for some years, which produced the usual disagreeable effects. I consulted Dr. Lighthill about nine or ten months since, and at once placed myself under his care. I am now entirely free from Catarrh, my throat is perfectly healthy, and my health is very much improved.

P. E. NOLAN, Office Erie Railroad, foot of Duane St. No. 740 WATER ST., NEW YORK, June 5, 1862.

Dr. Lighthill has succeeded in completely restoring my hearing, which was seriously impaired, although previous to applying to him I was treated by several physicians without the least benefit. Any further information I should be pleased to render on application to me at my residence, No. 173 2d-st., Brooklyn, E. D., or at my place of business No. 740 Water-st. WM. H. WATERBURY.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

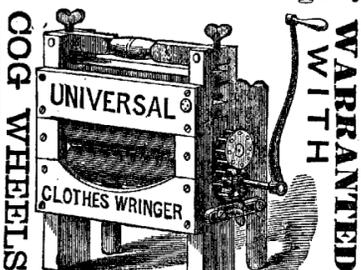
These Lozenges are prepared from a highly esteemed recipe for alleviating BRONCHIAL AFFECTIONS, ASTHMA, HOARSENESS, COUGHS, COLDS, and Irritation of the Throat.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS AND VOCALISTS Will find them beneficial in clearing the voice before speaking or singing, and relieving the throat after any unusual exertion of the vocal organs, having a peculiar adaptation to affections which disturb the organs of speech. 725-4t

The Root, &c.

If 18, and your Beard, Moustache, &c., is of scanty, retarded growth, the use for a short time of the Tennessee Swamp Shrub Balsam will stimulate them to a very fine and vigorous growth. Has been thoroughly tried and found infallible. A small sample box and an account of the discovery of this remarkable Balsam at Shiloh, April, 1862, will be sent sealed, on receipt of return postage. Address JOHN RAWLINS, 767 Broadway, New York.

UNIVERSAL Clothes Wringer.



It was pronounced superior to all others at the World's Fair, in London, 1862. It took the FIRST PRIZE at the great Fair of the AMERICAN INSTITUTE, New York City, 1863, where the judges were practical mechanics, and appreciated COG-WHEELS. It took the FIRST PRIZE at the New-York State Fair—1862 and 1863. Vermont State Fair—1863. Pennsylvania State Fair—1863. Michigan State Fair—1863. Iowa State Fair—1863. Illinois State Fair—1863. And at County Fairs without number.

SELF-ADJUSTING AND ADJUSTABLE!

IT SAVES Time, Labor, Clothes and Money. It is easily and firmly secured to the tub or washing machine, and will fit tubs of any size or shape. It is simple in its construction, and does not easily get out of repair.

It is not only a PERFECT WRINGER, but the cog-wheels give it a POWER which renders it a most EXCELLENT WASHER, pressing and separating as it does the dirt with the WATER, from the clothes.

ANY WASHERWOMAN CAN USE IT. A CHILD TEN YEARS OLD CAN WORK IT. It will save its cost every six months in the saving of clothes. We have seven sizes, from \$2.50 to \$30. The ordinary family sizes 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, and other Wringers without Cog-wheels. In our monthly sales of over 5,000, only from one to two dozen are without Cogs. In our retail sales we have not sold one in nearly two years. 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-wheel regulator. Therefore, for cheapness and durability, buy only the

Universal Clothes Wringer.

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. J. JUNIUS IVEY & CO., 347 Broadway, New York. 725-4t

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WATCHES, CHAINS, RINGS, &c., to be disposed of with the Novelty Prize Stationary Packet, containing over \$1 worth of fine writing paper, envelopes, &c., &c. Also, a certificate entitling the holder upon the payment of one dollar, to some one of the following articles.

Gold Watches, Silver Watches, Gold Vest and Neck Chains, &c. The whole of this novelty packet, we sell at \$15 per 100, which yields Storekeepers and Agents, handsome profits. And in addition we present them free with every 100 parts, a splendid solid silver watch, thereby giving them the best chances to make money ever offered. A single packet mailed free, upon receipt of 50 cents.

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