

MOORE'S

RURAL NEW-YORKER

AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER,

DEDICATED TO THE

HOME INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRY AND TOWN RESIDENTS,

EMBRACING DEPARTMENTS DEVOTED TO

AGRICULTURE, SHEEP HUSBANDRY, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC ECONOMY, SCIENCE, LITERATURE, EDUCATION,

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE, THE MARKETS, &c., &c.

ILLUSTRATED WITH BEAUTIFUL AND COSTLY ENGRAVINGS.



CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,

WITH AN ABLE CORPS OF ASSISTANTS AND CONTRIBUTORS.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

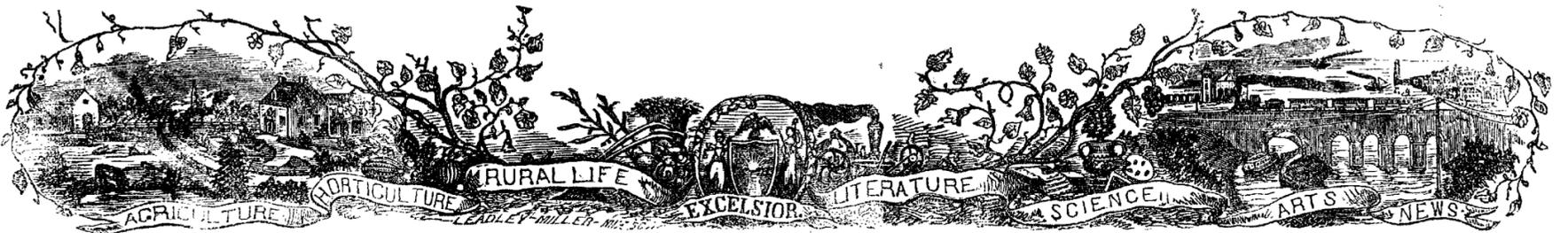
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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.



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"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

[SINGLE NO. FIVE CENTS.]

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CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With a Corps of Able Assistants and Contributors.

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

For Terms and other particulars, see last page.

Agricultural.

VOLUME XV.—PRELIMINARY.

IN presenting the first number of our Fifteenth Volume but few preliminary remarks are considered necessary. Indeed, were it not that we now address several thousand readers for the first time—at least as subscribers—an introductory article would be omitted, our usual custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

To former members of the RURAL BRIGADE, and those also who have recently enlisted therein, we extend the congratulations of the Holiday season, cordially wishing all such health and wisdom as shall insure to happiness and prosperity. Our aim during the year will be to aid each and every reader of this journal to make progress in the right direction. While we shall earnestly and constantly endeavor to render the Practical Departments useful and instructive to the Farmer, the Stock Breeder and Wool Grower, the Horticulturist and Florist, the Artisan and the Housewife, we shall in no wise neglect those portions of the RURAL dedicated to the intellectual and moral improvement of its readers of various ages and classes. To accomplish this we shall rely upon experience and industry, and the co-operation of the able corps of associates and contributors whose names are given at the head of this column. As we never entered upon a volume under more favorable auspices—either in regard to Editors and Contributors, or Encouragement from the Rural Public—we are resolved to achieve more during this than any preceding year for the entertainment, instruction and consequent benefit of our readers.

For the information of new subscribers we may be permitted to again state that "Our object from the commencement of the RURAL NEW-YORKER has not been to furnish either an Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Mechanical, Educational, Literary, or News Journal,—but rather to combine all these, and thus present a paper unequalled in Value, Variety and Usefulness of Contents. Our earnest desire has ever been to make it an honest, independent, reliable and eminently useful RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER—correct in its teachings on Practical Subjects, instructive and entertaining to members of the Family Circle, of high moral tone, and entirely free from deception and quackery, even in its advertising department." Such was, is, and will continue to be, our "platform"—brief, explicit and comprehensive. If it please our readers as well in the future as in the past, we shall be content—for no journal has hitherto been more ardently appreciated and supported than the RURAL.

Wishing well to all our contemporaries—and cheerfully conceding that each Agricultural Journal should be supported by the people of its locality or State, in preference to any other—we shall in the future, as in the past, honestly and laudably strive to excel our friends in efforts to furnish the best combined RURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

AGRICULTURE AND THE GOVERNMENT.

It is known to most of our readers that there is established at Washington, a "Department of Agriculture, the general designs and duties of which shall be to acquire and diffuse among the people of the United States, Useful Information on subjects connected with Agriculture, in the most general and comprehensive sense of that word, and to procure, propagate, and distribute among the people, new and valuable Seeds and Plants." (I quote from the act establishing the Department.) Some of the labors of this Department are before me in the shape of a "Report" for 1862, in which are embodied dissertations upon the wheat plant, cotton, flax, sorghum, apples and pears, physiology of breeding, sheep husbandry, horses, farm implements and machinery, entomology, health of farmers' families, Agricultural Statistics, &c., &c. Among the writers I recognize several whose contributions to Agricultural Literature have honorably distinguished them, and I should think the volume quite equal to any of its predecessors of the "Patent Office," or any of the "Transactions" of our Agricultural Societies. I observe, however, that the *Country Gentleman* an able Agricultural Journal, thinks the documents not quite up to "the occasion." It admits they are well written, and treat upon important practical subjects, but it has failed to discover that they contain anything particularly new to well-instructed Agriculturists. I submit that the average of us are not well instructed, that the dissemination of documents that concisely embody well settled principles in Horticulture, Grain Growing, Stock Breeding, &c., &c., will be eminently advantageous to our productive industry, and consequently to our National prosperity, and that such documents are just what were contemplated in the Act of Congress establishing the Department of Agriculture. I would suggest that all to whom such favors may come, should "read and circulate," regarding them as the property of the Nation, to be diffused among thoughtful, considerate and inquiring men, to instruct them in what is known, and stimulate the discovery of the unknown. I have already sent the copy of which I am overseer.

But how is it about getting something new? Does the *Country Gent.* find it so easy to extemporize new things?—then he is the only "country gentleman" in that fix. Some years ago a friend who was interested with me in a particular subject, called to converse about it; I being absent, he left word that when I had a "new idea" I should write to him. I have not written to this day! I venture the opinion that if all the savans of our Republic, instigated by the Department of Agriculture, should set assiduously to work they could not at the end of a year's effort, fill five pages with original matter that would be worth to the public the cost of printing. I think the Department should be liberally supplied with funds, and have a wide discretion to employ our most noted scientific men, to furnish papers that may help to elucidate subjects connected with Natural History, Vegetable Physiology, Agricultural Chemistry, &c.; but I confess that I do not expect any surprising results. Scientific men, and observers generally, do more in their usual modes and moods, than they do when prompted by official patronage, and we have journals of wide circulation that are doing what they can to bring forth things new and old.

It is my opinion that the Government should undertake an *Experimental Farm*, to be conducted by an able and discreet agriculturist, for the purpose of testing the relative value of different articles of food in growing and fattening stock, (different breeds, and management,) different modes of cultivation, comparative value of manures, cost of raising crops, testing farm implements, &c., &c.; and be it further understood that the person or persons in charge, shall forfeit and give up their position, whenever they shall fail to make said experimental farm pay the Government four per cent. per annum on the capital invested. A man of good common sense is not expected to try experiments that will turn out utter failures. Fifty thousand dollars expended in purchasing and furnishing a farm in a good location, should yield handsome returns. Arranged, as it should be, after the most successful plans, with all its appointments in good order, much that would be done ought to yield a large profit, and if losses occur in testing doubtful points, they should not be allowed to eat up the entire gains in other departments. Accurate measurements, close and critical attention to details, and a reliable record of proceedings would

of course cost something, but the expense should not be enhanced by expending largesums where there is not a reasonable prospect of profitable returns. *Very doubtful experiments should always be tried on a very small scale, or not at all.*

We are now so accustomed to spend money, that we may not be greatly horrified at expending a few hundred dollars annually, to settle doubtful points in our domestic economy. Shrewd men know that the country is losing millions every year because those points are not settled,—at least not settled in an authoritative and convincing manner. Carefully conducted experiments are now the great want of our Agriculture, and private enterprise does not seem to undertake them. England has her *Mechi* and her *LAWES*, but America wonders and waits.

Whatever we do to raise agriculture to the dignity of a "learned profession," whatever we do to increase the intellectual forces working in it, contributes to elucidate its principles and determine its methods. Whether we get little or much from the Government, let us strive to increase daily in knowledge and good works.

It is due to the Commissioner of Agriculture, and the Department with which he is connected, to acknowledge specially the effort made the past year to determine the condition of the crops in the loyal States, and report upon them. By an extensive correspondence, the Commissioner has endeavored to ascertain the yield and quality of the leading agricultural products, and through monthly bulletins disseminate such information for the mutual benefit of dealers, producers and consumers. Determined to do better myself, I will venture to exhort all who may receive the circular inquiries of the Department to spare no pains to give prompt and authentic information. With a full and cordial co-operation on the part of citizens, estimates may be made sufficiently accurate to render essential service both to Commerce and Agriculture.

—Further remarks on this subject in the next or an early future number.—H. T. B.

ANOTHER THING TO LOOK AFTER.

READER, you are interested in the manner in which the land scrip donated by Congress to your State, for the purpose of endowing Agricultural and Mechanical Schools, is disposed of. Do you know what projects are on foot for its disposal? Have you inquired? And, if you have, have you digested these projects? Let me tell you a thing or two. Old fogy institutions, literary and sectarian, old school and new school, are ready, in some States, to swallow the whole concern. Institutions that have no more conception of the wants of Agriculturists than they have of the system of education peculiar to Jupiter, are standing with wide-open mouths to receive the dainty endowment which this nice little fund would be to them. Institutions that have done nothing to supply the want which has so long existed for Agricultural Schools, are now suddenly attacked with colic pain at the way they have so suddenly discovered. Oh how they sympathize! How marvelously soon they have mastered the great question of how to furnish this specific education in all its details. They are veterans in Agricultural science! They are quite willing to undertake to impart it! And they would make your College, or School, secondary to theirs—an attachment thereto.

Another class needs to be watched. Your politician, who has wheedled you out of an office of responsibility and trust, whereby he may legislate money into his pocket and out of yours, belongs to this class. He is ready to sell to the highest bidder. You had better watch his legislative down-sittings and up-risings. He has his price and will sell out to some one. And he will sell his constituents with himself. The Agricultural College endowment will go too, unless you watch him.

Another thing. What are you going to do with this grant? What do you want done with it? Have you planned for the organization of the school? Have you studied how the errors of the past may be avoided, and how the money to be derived from the sale of this land scrip may be made to benefit your children and children's children? This is properly the work of the New Year. This question will soon be disposed of in some of the States which the RURAL visits. Let this set you to thinking, examining, and devising plans, whereby success may follow this effort to supply the educational wants of RURALISTS.



EDITED BY HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D.

INTRODUCTORY.

TO THE READERS OF THE RURAL NEW-YORKER:

I HAVE engaged to edit, for a year, a Department of SHEEP HUSBANDRY in the RURAL NEW-YORKER. I bring to my aid in the performance of this duty the experience of many years in the practical management of sheep, and a zeal which has manifested itself as much in periods when the interests connected with their production were depressed as when they have been as prosperous as they now are. But neither of these circumstances forms a basis for any exclusive pretension. Our country abounds with discriminating observers and sound writers on this subject. Our Agricultural Journals are, generally, fairly and judiciously conducted in reference to this important interest. If there is one of them that intentionally or unintentionally either fans the fires of false speculation, or on the other hand represses real progress, it is the exception instead of the rule. Each journal, too, has its body of intelligent contributors; and there are very few sheep breeders who can not habitually gather new and useful hints from their communications. Among the editors of these sound, useful publications, I only aspire to take a respectable place. To each and all of them I extend the right hand of fellowship. If forced, on any occasion, to differ with any contemporary, I shall aim to do so respectfully and with candor: and I have no right to ask, and do not ask, that any more forbearance be exercised toward me than I habitually exercise toward my editorial brethren.

Those practical flock-masters who are accustomed to contribute information to Agricultural journals, are respectfully invited to contribute to this paper; but they are not solicited or desired to do so at the expense of those papers which they have been in the habit of enriching by their communications. The RURAL NEW-YORKER asks but its fair share of such favors.

It is perhaps proper to declare, at the outset, that I do not enter upon my present field of labor to act as the advocate of any particular interest or body of men connected with Sheep Husbandry. I have my preferences as between breeds of sheep, and between families and flocks of the same breed. Should the occasion, in my judgment, require it, I shall not hesitate to express those preferences. Nor, on the other hand, would I shrink from denouncing what I believed to be fraudulent pretensions, or imposture of any kind. But, in my opinion, an agricultural editor should never take the place of a mere advocate, and he should be very chary of assuming that of an umpire, where honest rival individual interests are at issue, and when sound, discreet men are divided in opinion. There is a "sober, second thought"—the gradually developing result of experience— which generally soon enough settles all moot questions of practical agriculture which need to be settled. The common sense of an intelligent community, the inhabitants of which are engaged generally, and under the usual variety of circumstances, in experimenting on a given subject, is the very best ordeal to which the questions connected with that subject can be submitted. The conclusions of the many are worth more than the conclusions of any one individual. When, therefore, experiment is still engaged in developing and establishing the facts, who is called upon by his own prematurely uttered dictums, to attempt to forestall its decisions?

Moreover, a multitude of questions connected with Sheep Husbandry are warmly debated, where, in reality, there is no ground of controversy, and therefore no possible call for the umpirage or interference of an agricultural editor. For example, we have occasional controversialists—agricultural propagandists—who are determined to prove that Merino sheep are more profitable than the mutton breeds, or vice versa—that one family of fine or coarse-wooled sheep is more profitable than all others, etc.—without regard to circumstances! These men may be of some use in the community; for he who rides his

own hobby hard may develop its paces and its points better than a duller horseman. But the man who insists that because he has ascertained that a particular kind of product or breed of animals is best fitted to his particular climate, soil and market, it must necessarily be so to all other climates, soils and markets, is simply an amusing—booby! It is just as absurd to attempt to decide this class of questions generally, or in the abstract, as it would be to attempt to decide in the abstract whether a line of steamboats or a railroad and locomotives would establish the best mode of transportation between two given points—irrespective of the fact whether the space to be traversed was occupied by sea or land! There are localities where fine-wooled sheep are greatly and obviously the most profitable—where coarse-wooled sheep can not be kept at any profit,—and there are localities where the coarse-wooled, or mutton sheep, have equally the advantage in every particular. And there are various breeds, varieties and families included in these two general classes, whose respective profitableness is also determined by local circumstances. The South Down delights in the medium pasturage of the sound, dry upland—most of the heavy, long-wooled breeds, in the profuse herbage of the moist, alluvial plain. The small, short-bodied, compact Vermont Paular, roams far and wide over thin-soiled hills, amidst rocky declivities, or over parched plains, collecting its scattered morsels of food and preserving its condition on them—the huge-fleeced American Infatado finds its congenial home on the fertile meadow lands of New York and broad clover fields of Ohio. The early-maturing, prolific, and easily-fattened mutton sheep makes the best returns where access to city markets is rapid and cheap—the Merino makes the best returns in situations remote from cities and markets. There is, in reality, little necessary competition between any of the prime breeds or families of sheep. Each is best in its place, and the object of the producer should be to obtain the best breed for his situation, and the best sheep of his breed.

It is unquestionably the duty of an agricultural editor to devote space and attention to all breeds, varieties and families of sheep equally in proportion to their importance—to exhibit broad, catholic views in estimating their merits—to abstain from riding any hobbies of his own at the expense of other men's rightful interests.

Having been invited by the proprietor of this paper to assume the exclusive control of the Department of Sheep Husbandry, I shall hold myself responsible for all the editorial matter which is published in it, and for the appearance or non-appearance of communications intended for its columns. With the rest of the paper I have no concern whatever.

The publication of the prices current of wool, which would seem to be appropriate to this Department, can not be conveniently included in it, because its matter will be in type each week, several days before the publication day of the paper—and because its editor resides at a distance from Rochester—and this would prevent the prices current from being corrected and brought down by him to the latest date preceding issue. Accordingly, Mr. MOORE, the general editor of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, will take the exclusive charge of that subject.

All communications intended for the department of which I now assume the charge, will be addressed to me at my residence, Cortland Village, New York. HENRY S. RANDALL, January 1, 1864.

SHEEP WORK IN JANUARY.

We shall aim, at the beginning of each month, to point out the Sheep Work appropriate to that month,—and we now begin with January.

Sheep should, at this season, be in their winter quarters in all the Northern States—properly drafted, and divided according to condition and strength—with their barns, sheds, racks, yards, watering places, etc., in perfect order. If any of these things have been neglected, let them be attended to at once—for the health and thrift of sheep depend upon them; and it is vastly easier to prevent damage to the condition of sheep than it is to repair it—and vastly easier to repair it now, than it will be one or two months later.

Let the sheep farmer at once ask himself, are there any lambs, or old, feeble sheep, or sheep in low condition, left among flocks of strong, fleshy ones—to be crowded away from the rack

and trough, jostled about, run over, and put to death by inches by the latter? Is every stable or shed in good repair, and every gate and door about the sheep yards securely hung? We knew a choice flock of full-blood Merino lambs which were doing admirably up till the beginning of March last year. In a wild, stormy night of rain and sleet, the door of their stable blew open, and seeing the light, or frightened by the noise, they rushed out. The slamming of the door or other causes, prevented their re-entrance. They were exposed to a pelting rain which penetrated to their skins, and before morning the wind changed and froze severely. They took violent colds, and in the case of a number of them a low fever supervened. Five or six died, and a greater number were ruined—for the want of a proper door-latch!

Does each ventilator slide readily in its groove, or turn on its hinge and securely fasten back? It is slow (but not so very slow) to keep sheep in close stables without abundant ventilation—especially if one or two sides of it are formed by damp, sweating stone walls, which support outward banks of earth.

Has each sheep sufficient rack room without crowding or being compelled to wait? Are the stables, sheds, and yards sufficiently spacious, and are they kept well littered down? Do the pumps and water-pipes work freely—or is the watering place graveled about, and its approaches made dry and clean? Sheep abhor mud and filth, and never thrive when habitually exposed to them. The sheep can endure deprivation of water better than any other domestic animal; but it requires it when fed wholly or partly with dry feed. Snow would furnish a substitute if we could be sure of an unfailing supply of the clean article. But it is never as good as water for them; and when they have water part of the winter, and are then compelled to go back to and depend upon snow, the consequences are highly injurious—especially to breeding ewes.

Is every ram removed from the breeding flock as soon as the first day of January? Under any of the ordinary systems of management, and in flocks of any considerable size, ewes had much better go dry than drop their lambs after the first of June—at least in the climate of New York, New England, and all parallel ones. However well the ewes may appear to take ram at the proper time, he who leaves his rams in the flocks through winter, will, in nineteen cases out of twenty have scattering lambs through the summer. Besides, a ram is dangerous in a flock of inlamb ewes. If cross, he is very dangerous—striking right and left, when crowded, at the rack and trough; and if not cross, his heavy horns endanger ewes in advanced stages of pregnancy, as he elbows his way unceremoniously through dense clusters of them to get first at the feed. He is a gentleman of no gallantry. His ideas of the sex are strictly Oriental—and have none of the chivalry of the Western Nations!

But our Turk, if accustomed to freedom before his harvest-season, must not be utterly deprived of it afterwards. Though an uncivil fellow, he is now-a-days a very costly one, and his life must be saved. Shut up in a close barn or stable, he is apt to languish,—and if the winter is a bad one for sheep, if it is what farmers significantly term a "dying winter," he often falls into an obscure decline, which terminates his life. If valuable, it is a pity to put him with other old rams—for they are always liable to kill each other. Put him rather with a few wethers, or a few ram lambs, where his feed will be generous, and his access to the open air and to room for exercise unrestricted.

Lastly, is the feed good and regularly given out in respect to time and in respect to quantity? We decidedly prefer feeding sheep three times a day. Twice, however, will answer. But whichever mode is adopted, there should be the least possible variation in the daily time of feeding. The sheep kept waiting for its food beyond the usual time is restless, and, if I may use such a term, dissatisfied; and this is not the mood most propitious to a due performance of the various functions of the animal economy. Sheep should be fed just enough at each foddering so that they will consume their hay, straw, etc., to that point which is considered most desirable. Grain, roots, and green-cured fine hay or clover, should be eaten up cleanly. But if the hay or clover be coarse or over-ripe, it is not expedient to compel sheep to eat the butts of the stalks. These should be pitched out of the racks into the salting-rack or into the colt yard. Sheep may safely be required to consume a moderate feed of nice, fresh green-cured oat or barley straw (especially if it has not been over-threshed!) down pretty close to the butts once a day, in lieu of hay, and without any equivalent in grain or roots; but this is not true of other straws, or even of coarse, ripe barley and oat straw. Exclusive straw feed, and even wheat straw, is made to do, up till the middle of February or first of March, with enough grain and roots. But whatever system of feeding is adopted, perfect regularity in time and amount (making proper allowance for the weather) is about "half the battle."

Salt sheep in winter as regularly as in summer. Either put the salt in boxes under cover, where they can have constant access to it, or brine the orts and put them in a rack by themselves which the sheep are not compelled to eat from, but which they can visit when they desire salt. Salting the hay is not expedient, for then the sheep are compelled to eat it in quantities not prescribed by their own appetite; and their own appetite is the only safe guide.

COAL-TAR FOR MARKING SHEEP.—The *Prairie Farmer* recommends the use of coal-tar as being one of the best articles extant for marking sheep. It pronounces the material cheap, durable and bright.

Communications, Etc.

HAY AND STRAW, CUT AND UNCUT, AS FOOD FOR STOCK.

In times like these when everything edible for the support of biped and quadruped is at a very high price, it is important to know how to feed animals in the most economical manner. It has been said with much reason, that hay cut fine affords one-third more nutriment than hay when fed unchaffed. The philosophy of this is, that hay, like straw, contains a large portion of cellulose (woody fiber) which, notwithstanding its insolubility, if only made soluble, is identical with starch, and is as nutritious and fat forming. Hence, when hay is cut fine or chaffed, it is better masticated, absorbs more saliva, and of course it becomes more soluble in the animals' stomach; but if the hay after being chaffed is steamed or wet with scalding water, it becomes still more soluble, and when a little meal or shorts is added to it, it not only becomes more nutritive, but it is still better digested.

What is true of hay, will apply with much more force to straw, or corn stalks, because they contain less starch and nitrogen, and much more insoluble woody fiber than hay. Dr. CAMERON says, "it is clearly proved that the straw of cereals possess a much greater nutritive power than is generally ascribed to it; that its so-called woody fiber may be made to a great extent assimilable; and that if well assimilated or digested, four-tenths of its weight may be converted into fat; hence, as woody fiber forms from six to eight-tenths of the weight of dry straw, if this substance was only made all digestible, straw would become a fattening food." He also says, "as compared with white turnips, the nutritive value of oat straw stands very high; for white turnips contain little more than one per cent. of flesh formers, and less than five per cent. of fat formers; the straw contains about four per cent. of flesh formers, and thirteen per cent. of fat formers." But turnips contain but three per cent. of woody fiber, and are very digestible, while dry straw contains sixty per cent. Hence it is that straw fed to cattle in a finely chaffed state is so much more nutritive than when fed long. In this state it is so insoluble that it does little more for the animal than to fill the belly and support animal heat and respiration.

Alderman MECHI, the amateur farmer of Tiptree Hall, says that 100 pounds of straw cut, steamed and fed warm, is more nutritive than the same weight of timothy hay, and he gives several experiments to prove the truth of his assertion. But this must depend entirely on the quality of both the straw and the hay. If the straw is cut with gluten in it before the grain is dead ripe, and the timothy is cut after it has shed its seed and put on woody fiber, MECHI may be right, but hardly otherwise.

To those farmers who have no straw it is still more necessary that they should make the most of their hay and corn stalks by chaffing them. I have seen young cattle leave bright, freshly-threshed wheat straw to eat chaffed corn stalks; but these tall stalks were cut up and stock as soon as the corn was glazed, to save their starch and sugar intact. S. W. Waterloo, N. Y., Dec., 1863.

FARMERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I have been a subscriber for and a reader of the RURAL long enough to understand that its columns are always open to whatever is calculated really to benefit the agriculturists of our country. The subject which I now wish to introduce to the notice of this class of your readers, is that of Mutual Insurance against loss by fire among farmers. It is well known that in consequence of the high rates of insurance in stock companies, a large majority of the farmers do not insure at all, and frequently some of them are doomed, in one short hour, to see the hard earnings of many years laid in ashes, without the slightest prospect of ever again being able to replace them.

This subject is now and has been for some time claiming much attention among the farmers of Michigan, some eight or ten counties having organized companies for the purpose of doing their own insuring. Washtenaw County, however, claims to be the pioneer in this plan for insuring farm property. This county organized their company some four years ago, under an Act of the Legislature passed February 15, 1859. The charter or constitution of these companies must be approved by the Attorney General of the State, and then filed in the office of the Secretary of State. One hundred members must be obtained, and \$50,000 entered for insurance, before the company can actually do the business of insurance. No person can become a member unless he is a resident of the county, and no property can be insured except farm property in the county where the organization exists. This is emphatically a home company, all its members being enabled to participate in its management and the annual election of its officers. Indeed, it combines the two great requisites of an insurance company—cheapness and safety.

The Secretary of the company enters all propositions for insurance in a book kept for that purpose, from which a policy is made out for each member. There are no salaried officers in this company, the compensation of the directors being a moderate per diem for services actually rendered. Each person on entering his insurance pays a small membership fee, and one dollar on each \$1,000 insured, to defray incidental expenses. The farmers take each others' risks; and in case of a loss by fire among them, the directors ascertain the amount, and all are assessed *pro rata* to make good the same, or the insurance thereon. Notice is then given to each member, through the mail, of the amount of his

assessment, and thirty days allowed for payment, which, for convenience, may be made to any one of some five or six individuals appointed as receivers in different parts of the county. In case payment is withheld beyond thirty days, the insurance on such member's property ceases, but he is still liable to the company for the amount due. The Washtenaw County Co. now has some twelve hundred members, and over \$2,200,000 insurance on their books. The last annual report of the directors showed that the cost of insuring one thousand dollars from the first organization of the Company up to that time (three and a half years) had been \$1.25 annually. The company has had eleven losses by fire since it commenced business, amounting in the aggregate to \$5,683, all of which has been promptly paid. Insurance under this system is perpetual without renewal of policy. But any members can withdraw at any time, by giving notice thereof, and paying his arrearages, if any.

The farmers of this county now have the utmost confidence in the plan, and are satisfied that for them it is the cheapest and safest of any that has yet been devised. There is no patent for a company of this kind, except an Act of the Legislature of the State, and I have given this explanation of our mode of insuring for the benefit of those farmers who may wish to go and do likewise. W. R. WALDRON. Webster, Wash. Co., Mich., Dec. 18th, 1863.

REMEDY FOR COUGH IN HORSES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I have, for many years, owned and taken care of a favorite mare, that was, during the winter months, when fed on dry hay, subject to a severe chronic cough. Unless her cough was in some way palliated, it was alarmingly severe and frequent. "Coughing herself to death" would be a graphic description. The cough relieved, she was a very valuable animal. First, I tried a variety of cough remedies: rosin, ginger, lime-water, licorice tied-on the bit, &c., with only partial and unsatisfactory success. One winter I withheld hay entirely, and fed her on clean bright oat straw, with about eight quarts of dampened oats per day. Under this treatment the cough scarcely appeared at all. The next winter, not having any oat straw, I fed hay sprinkled with water. This answered well, but was troublesome and nasty. The next winter I accidentally discovered that a pail of water-kept standing in her manger was as good a palliative as any I had tried, although the hay fed was bottom land hay, and consequently more dusty than that grown on upland. As the mare picked the hay from the rack, orts (refuse) would continually fall upon the surface of the water in the pail, which she would every few minutes eat, thus keeping her throat, mouth and nostrils moist. The palliation almost amounted to a cure.

The old mare died at the age of 22 years, having coughed 15 winters. I now have a young mare in her place, perfectly sound in wind, that I am supplying with water in the same way. So far I like it much. Perhaps my experience may be of benefit to farmers who have coughing horses. Certainly it will be to the animals themselves if followed. PETER HATHAWAY. Milan, Erie Co., O., 1863.

Condensed Correspondence.

Growing Dent Corn at the North.

AN article appeared in the RURAL of Dec. 5, in which the author (Mr. KLIPPART) expressed the opinion that it would not do to plant Dent Corn north of 40° North Latitude. In reference to this, Mr. R. H. BENNETT, of Cottage Grove, Minn., writes us that Dent Corn is annually raised in that State north of 40° N. L., and where it is planted by the 10th of May gets ripe, although the product may not be as much per acre as in Southern Ohio. In 1862 Mr. B. raised sixty acres, and any of the crop would grow if planted; but last year the Dent was a failure there, as it was further south, even as far as Kentucky. Mr. B. has been credibly informed that Dent Corn has been grown as far north as Pembina, (49° N. L.) on the Red River of the North.

Farmers Should Keep Books.

MR. ISAAC TREMBLY, South Bristol, Ontario Co., writes that he has taken the RURAL ten years, and adds:—I can say in truth that the money it costs me is well invested. Indeed, I am often more than paid by the perusal of a single article it contains. I wish to mention one thing in particular, which was recommended by one of its correspondents near the commencement of the year 1855, and which I adopted and have practiced ever since, and intend to continue doing so. I refer to keeping a diary. Below is my form:

Table with 3 columns: DATES, OBSERVATIONS, WEATHER. Includes a sample entry for Jan. 1.

I first procured twelve sheets of good foolscap paper, and made me a book by stitching it together in a good stout sheet of paste-board for a cover. This answered me for two years. Subsequently I found a book at the booksellers made for this purpose. I have now nine years' records, which I would not part with for all that your paper ever best me, principal and interest.

Success to the Dear Old RURAL! It has come to be almost as one of our family.

Saccharine, Dairy and Wool Products of Iowa.

THE Deputy Secretary of Iowa, E. M. WRIGHT, Esq., writes the RURAL as follows:—The people of this State are paying some attention to the cultivation of Sorghum and Imphee, and the manufacture of sirup and sugar therefrom. Some attention is also given to Bees, and the production of Honey and Wax. There is

quite an interest manifested in the Dairy Business, and quite an excitement on the Sheep question and Wool Growing. These Departments of operative life are not the staple of our country, but are important auxiliaries, and promise great good to our young and growing State. That the public may know our present whereabouts, and note our future progress, I send you the result of our doings in these respects for the year 1862, as shown by the assessment of 1863:

Table listing agricultural products and their values: Total No. of acres of Sorghum and Imphee, lbs. of Molasses, lbs. of Sugar, lbs. of Bees, lbs. of Honey, Beeswax, Butter, Sheep at shearing time, Cheese, lbs. of Wool sheared.

Public Lands, Free Homesteads, &c.

AN intelligent correspondent in Wisconsin writes us that that State has located the lands donated it by Congress for College purposes within its own borders. These lands are said to be superior farming lands, and much more of the same sort is yet to be had in that enterprising Western State. The poor man desiring a farm, and willing to make one at the West, can there obtain it free of cost under the Homestead Law. In North-Western Wisconsin, or in Minnesota, prairie near timber and water may be had in abundance, notwithstanding the representations of land speculators who in every county town of the whole West will assure you that no Government land is to be had in that county, &c. Their object is to sell their own lands. Individuals desiring information regarding the Government lands will do well to address our correspondent at Fort Howard, Wis., (Box 2), care of P. M. He has had considerable experience, and can tell those not posted, what it will cost time, vexation and considerable money to learn by travel and inquiry.

Inquiries and Answers.

MEASURING HAY.—(A. G. C., Albion, N. Y.) It has been generally estimated that from 275 to 300 cubic feet of well pressed hay in the mow, will weigh a ton—say 16 or 18 feet square one foot in depth. A good deal depends upon the quality of hay and the superincumbent pressure it has received.

IS THERE A WEEKLY FOR THE YOUNG?—Can I be informed through the worthy columns of your RURAL where there is a weekly paper printed for the young, terms, &c.?—OTIS MILLER, Bloomington, Minn.

We are not aware that there is such a paper in this country.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES, &c.—Will you please inform me where to write that I may obtain Catalogues of Agricultural Schools or Colleges in the United States. Also give me your opinion as to which is the best. Please write soon and greatly obliged.—JOHN HOSMER, Madenville, Crawford Co., Pa.

As we have no surplus catalogues the officers of institutions interested are requested to respond to above.

GYPNUM.—(H. G. B., Tusculum, Pa.) We are not aware that Gypsum, when ground or exposed to the air, deteriorates to any extent. It is a Sulphate of Lime, and holds its constituents with great tenacity, even at red heat, and has no attraction for any of the substances composing the atmosphere, except, perhaps, a portion of its Nitrogen. It has a strong affinity for water, in which it is thought one of its values consists.

GIRDLING TIMBER.—In answer to the inquiry made some time since, I will state that the old of the moon in August was the time that we used to girdle timber. As I do not believe the moon has anything to do with killing timber, I think that trees girdled thoroughly from the 15th of August to the 1st of September will surely die—beech, maple, and all other kinds.—AN OLD FARMER, Webster, N. Y., Dec., 1863.

CAUSES OF CHEESE CRACKING.—To "Inquirer," Burlington, Wis. The causes of your cheese cracking are several. First, skimming the milk too much. Second, putting too much rennet in the milk. And last, though not least of all, allowing the curd to sour before putting it to press. Either of these has a tendency to make cheese crack. To keep flies from troubling your cheese, make a paste of wheat flour, stirred in boiling water thick enough so as not to run when cold. Add a table spoonful of ground cayenne pepper to a pint of the paste. Apply with the hand or a brush every second or third day for ten days, and afterwards once a week is sufficient.—EDWIN, Clyde, Ohio.

SELF-ACTING CATTLE PUMP.—(A. C., Newtown, Pa.) This pump has not gone into general use in this region, owing partly to its expense and the ease with which water is procured. When properly constructed we believe it works satisfactorily where wells are not too deep. The pump is made by PETER FRANK, of West Springfield, Erie Co., Pa., and costs from \$25 to \$30, according to depth of well.

PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES.—There are several manufacturers of Portable Steam Engines in this State, intended for thrashing and other agricultural purposes; but they are not yet in general use, not being as convenient for traveling thrashers as the horse-power. When the ejection and smoke pipe is properly hooded, like the locomotive engine, there is very little danger of fire.

BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES.—MESSRS. SEYMOUR & Co., of East Bloomfield, Ontario Co., N. Y., manufacture this machine of the most perfect operation, distributing the grain in any quantity desired, as well as grass seeds, plaster and other fine fertilizers.

SCREW-POWER MOWING MACHINES.—Of the Screw-Power Mowing Machine we are unable to speak, as there are none in our neighborhood, and we are not advised in regard to its operation in other localities.

FEEDING BEES.—(H. J. B., St. Paul, Minn.) Our correspondent says all his bees are in a dry cellar, and consequently in the dark, and we do not see any practical way of feeding them. Feed should have been supplied to the weak hives in the fall, before housing them. Honey, or honey and brown sugar, is the best material for feeding. If sugar alone is used, it must be diluted with water and boiled and skimmed down to the consistency of honey. It has been strongly recommended to invert the hives in housing, as it secures a perfect ventilation. Perhaps in that case a small quantity might be strewn among the combs. The temperature should be kept but a little above the freezing point, as the bees will then consume little or nothing. Buckwheat and white clover, for which there are no prominent substitutes, are the great sources of honey, and the corn tassel for pollen. The soft maple, bass-wood, and various indigenous plants, furnish more or less honey during their season of blossoming.

Rural Notes and Items.

No. 1, Vol. XV, OF THE RURAL NEW-YORKER—Appears in an entire new dress, and ought to be very respectable. If it is not what it should be in all respects the failure can scarcely be attributed to a lack of pains or expense. Every type, rule, cut, etc., is "bracket new," and moreover of the best style and material obtainable. Though a small portion of the paper upon which our large edition is printed is not such as we ordered and expected, (our late experience with paper-makers confirms all preconceived notions in regard to total depravity,) we still trust our present number exhibits marked improvement in appearance, while its contents will compare favorably with those of any of its predecessors. The time required to change from old to new type, however, necessitates some extra labor, and we are obliged to prepare this and other items in haste, and "make up" this number for the press in the short hours of the morning of Dec. 30. Indeed, the whole office force of the RURAL BRIGADE, from the Brigadier down to the lowest "high private" (the P. D.) is very much fatigued, and will "breathe freer" when No. 1, Vol. XV, is out and APPROVED BY YOU, READER.

—And if you approve, how shall it be manifested? Why not advertise the RURAL for us among your friends and acquaintances—we have scarcely advertised the paper for months—and thereby augment its circulation and usefulness? We are bound to do our best to furnish the paper of its class, but unless our efforts are seconded by ardent, active, working friends all over the land, its beneficial influence will be comparatively limited. However, the three hundred well-lined letters received to-day evince that the friends of the paper are doing good service, and we do not fear the result.

THE WOOL CONGRESS.—To meet in Columbus, Ohio, next week, promises to be a great occasion for all interested in Sheep Husbandry. The Congress opens Jan. 6th, and a large attendance is anticipated. W. F. GREER, Esq., Secretary of the Ohio Wool Growers' Association writes us that in addition to an address by Hon. H. S. RANDALL, Col. DANIEL NEEDHAM, Secretary of the Vermont State Ag. Society, will be present and address the Convention. There is a very strong probability that Hon. JOSEPH WRIGHT, U. S. Minister to Germany, will also be present and speak. We are also advised that the railroads of Ohio will undoubtedly carry passengers to and from the Congress at half fare—the officers of some of the roads having so informed Mr. Secretary KLIPPART, of the State Board of Agriculture. The prospect is that the meeting will be far the largest ever held by Wool Growers, and its deliberations and proceedings will be noted with great interest by flock-masters throughout the country.

BE BRIEF AND ACCURATE.—PERSONAL.—In writing us on business, please be as brief as consistent. At this season we receive so many letters (from 200 to 300 daily) that it is no easy task to read all carefully and give each proper attention;—even the opening and glancing at the contents of each, is somewhat laborious. The short letters are always read, while the long epistles cannot at once receive the time required; so we are constrained to attend to the business part and defer the rest. Brevity and accuracy are the great essentials of a business letter; and no other matter should be given on the same sheet or half sheet. If you send an inquiry or an article for publication with a business letter, pray do not mix them on the same page, or even opposite pages, unless so that we can separate without injury to either.

—Another personal item. Our time is so fully occupied at this season, that those who address us, requesting written answers, must excuse apparent, but not intentional, sins of omission—our reticence being necessitated and not voluntary. At the best we can only find or take time to answer a small proportion of the large number of inquiries received on all sorts of subjects, yet do the best we can under the circumstances. Those who write us relative to Subscription and Advertising Terms—and their name is legion—asking what is the best we can do, or if we will do thus or so, are referred to published rates and publisher's notices for particulars. Would treat all courteously, but can not afford to write what is already printed,—and much more easily read than our poor chirography can be deciphered.

MICHIGAN GYPSUM.—Some years ago we received several beautiful paper weights—of variegated colors, and highly polished—made of Gypsum from Grand Rapids, Mich., and hence think this item from the *Scientific American* no exaggeration.—"At Grand Rapids are found extensive strata of gypsum embedded in the earth. Aside from the value of this mineral for agricultural purposes, it is capable of being wrought into various objects of utility and ornament. It can be formed into paper weights and little cups and vases, which in translucency, capacity of receiving a polish, and soft, beautifully-shaded colors, bear a strong resemblance to the Derbyshire spar. It is of various colors, orange, pale reddish brown, and white mottled with blue. Whether there be any portion of it pure white we are not informed; if there be it is alabaster, and alabaster, it is said, is found in the lower part of quarries of gypsum, though it is found cropping out in the roads over the Appenines. An intelligent correspondent residing at Grand Rapids says:—'The gypsum beds are immense, and are worked for two miles, one quarry being a large cave, artificial, in the side of a hill. The spar is of a great variety of colors and various degrees of hardness. If it were taken out carefully, so as to prevent what are called shakes, caused by blasting, and put into the hands of a skillful lapidary, ornaments might be made that would rival much of the alabaster work now sold in eastern auction-rooms.'

WHAT ABOUT FLAX CULTURE AND FLAX COTTON?—The attention given to flax culture the past season, and the experiments made to cottonize flax ought to have elicited considerable information if not produced valuable results. We call upon those who have fairly tried flax culture to give us the facts—whether they succeeded or failed, and wherefore. Those engaged in cottonizing or manufacturing the fiber are also requested to "report progress" for the benefit of the public. Let us hear from you, gentlemen, as the matter is important, and many are desirous of obtaining such information as you only impart.

—Since the above was written we have received a note from an aged and esteemed friend in Seneca Co., N. Y., which among other things says:—"Wool is now in the ascendant, and I think the day is dawning for Flax. I don't expect to see any more cheap cotton fabrics, compared with past prices, in my day. After wearing cotton-fannel under-shirts for the last twenty years, the price this winter has driven me back to wool-again, and I trust thousands will sooner or later do the same."

DEFERRED.—We are obliged to defer Western Editorial Notes and several articles intended for the Agricultural and Horticultural Departments. Also, two or three columns of Advertisements, Publisher's Notices, &c. For our inducements to Agents and others forming clubs, see late numbers of the RURAL.

Horticultural.

CALIFORNIA FRUIT ITEMS.

HERE are some items given me by a horticultural friend who has spent some time in California. He was located forty-five miles from San Francisco at Suscol. These items were noted down by me as he gave them, during a general conversation.

GOOSEBERRIES.—They are very easily grown there and sell in market at from five to twelve and a half cents per pound. They are marketed in peach baskets—some of the largest of these will contain 45 pounds. This gentleman had superintended the picking, boxing, and had weighed five tons of gooseberries, the product of three-quarters of an acre of land! This was in 1892. The reader will agree with me that it is a pretty big item.

APPLES FROM OREGON.—Oregon ships to San Francisco from 5,000 to 7,000 boxes of apples per week. These bring from two to five cents per pound. They are sold to dealers at auction on the wharf.

APPLES IN CALIFORNIA.—Apples begin to ripen the 6th of June. They have apples the year round without any difficulty. Notwithstanding its size the fruit is solid and eats and keeps well. The flavor is as good as any of the same varieties he ever tasted here. They used to keep the Yellow Newtown Pippin in boxes in the barn until July. Has often weighed Gloria Mundi's that weighed 30 to 33 ounces each. And he says those apples eat finely! A great many varieties are cultivated for market. The most profitable early varieties are Keswick Codlin, Dutchess of Oldenberg, "White June Eating," Early Harvest, Red Astrachan, Summer Rose, William's Favorite, Summer Pearmain. These are the most profitable—the first two because of their earliness, and the rest because of color. Anything red will sell ahead of anything else. The most profitable fall varieties are Rambo, Baldwin, Esopus Spitzenberg, Gloria Mundi, Cathed Greening, Yellow Belleflower, Roxbury Russet, Rhode Island Greening, Fall Pippin, Swaar, Tompkins Co. King, Zalpchocken. Of these, he says Esopus Spitzenberg sells ahead of anything else. Has seen them sell at seven to nine cents per pound when other varieties sold at 3 1/2 cents—all on account of color. He says the above varieties may be properly called fall varieties there. But I see that California catalogues do not agree with him altogether in this classification. He gives the following as the most profitable winter varieties. Newtown Pippin, green and yellow, White Winter Pearmain, Wine Sap Morgan, Rawle's Janet, Wagener, Monmouth Pippin. The last named, he says, promises to be the apple. It bears early, is a good and beautiful apple.

WORMS AND CURCULIO.—He had never seen the curculio there nor a wormy fruit. The fruit is very seldom imperfect.

PEARS.—Pears ripen early in June; and the Early Beurre keeps well until that date the succeeding year. The pears grow to an enormous size. The Pound Pear, which he says is a popular fruit, though poor, and good only for cooking, grows to weigh three or four pounds. The average weight of a Bartlett as grown there is a half pound,—has seen Duchess de Angouleme and Flemish Beauties frequently weigh over a pound each. The most popular summer pears are Bartlett, (extra), Elizabeth Manning, Lodge, Madeline, Jargonelle, and Doyenne d'Ete. The most popular autumn varieties are Belle Lucrative, Beurre Clairgeau, Beurre Diez, Bonne d'Esze, Duchesse de Angouleme, Emile d'Heyst, Flemish Beauty, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Merriam Marechal Dillew, Marie Louise, Nouveau Poiteau, Parre d'Albert, Seckel, Swan's Orange, Urbaniste Seedling. Of winter pears, the following are named as the best:—Beurre Branneau, Beurre Easter, Columbia, Glout Moreau, Josephine de Mature, Pound. There are other varieties on trial that are promising.

STRAWBERRIES.—The strawberry season commences about the first of May and continues as long as people want the fruit—from two and a half to three months. The bulk of this fruit grown is from seedlings. The British Queen and Ajax are considerably cultivated. The Wilson is favorably regarded where it has been tested. But seedlings are so abundant and fine that little attention has been paid to improved varieties.

PLUMS.—The plum product is spoken of as excellent. As before said no curculio is there to trouble. Coe's Golden Drop, Green Gage, Imperial Ottoman, Jefferson, Dennison's Superb, and Washington are regarded the best. Other varieties, as Columbia, Coe's Late Red, Duane's Purple, Lombard, Magnum Bonum, Orange, and others are good.

CHERRIES.—The following varieties are highly spoken of:—Arch Duke, Black Tartarian, Eureka, May Duke, and Ohio Beauty. The Kentish, Kirtland's Mammoth, Bright Early Black, Early Purple Guigne, Flesh Colored Bigarreau, Downer's Late Red, Doctor, Davenport's Early, and Butner's October Morello, are being successfully tested.

C. D. B.

HORTICULTURE, FLORICULTURE, ETC.

[It is proper to state that the following "abusive article has never been seen by either of the parties named as doing the things charged, and that we "assume the responsibility" of its publication, promising to "chalk up" to avoid a suit at law.—Ed.]

MR. EDITOR:—Before commencing an action against you for damages, I thought I would write you and see if you are willing to make the "amende honorable" for certain "actions and things" which this individual has suffered at the hands of two firms of RURAL ADVERTISERS. For, have you not, at divers times, promised to protect the subscribers of the RURAL NEW-



THE PENDULOUS LINDEN.

HARDY ORNAMENTAL TREES—NO. I

THE LINDEN.

THE Linden or Lime Tree is the *Tilia* of Botanists, and belongs to the natural order *Tiliaceae*. The American species is known by the common name of Basswood.

In nearly all parts of Europe, the Linden has for ages been one of the most popular of ornamental trees. In every park and pleasure ground you visit in Great Britain or on the Continent, you will find splendid specimens of this tree, but it is in the public avenues and promenades that it prevails over all others. For this purpose it seems to have a peculiar fitness—free, upright growth, a well balanced, graceful head, and sweet-scented flowers. The growth is rapid enough; it bears transplanting well, even when of large size, and the branches bear shearing or clipping to any extent. In the old formal Dutch style of gardening, where everything was clipped, the Linden was one of the most useful trees, as it was also one of the most extensively employed.

In this country the Linden was formerly very

popular as a street tree, and there are still in the older cities some fine avenues of it. Of late years, however, in some places the European species has been attacked by a borer. The American species has not, to our knowledge, been attacked by this borer, and no tree that we know in the catalogue is more worthy a place on the lawn or in the avenue than our beautiful native Linden.

The WHITE-LEAVED AMERICAN LINDEN (*Tilia alba*) is the finest species—a noble, erect, rapid-growing tree, with large leaves, quite hoary underneath. There is a pendulous variety of this, *T. alba pendula*, the most graceful, and, as Mr. SARGENT says, the most ornamental of all the Lindens. We give a portrait of this tree from ELLWANGER & BARRY'S illustrated catalogue of Ornamental Trees.

Of the European species, there are some varieties particularly ornamental, viz., the Red-twigged, (*rubra*), the Golden, (*aurea*), and the Cut-leaved, (*asciniata*).

In the nurseries the Linden is seldom propagated from seed, but from layers and by grafting and budding.

YORKER against the impositions of designing men?

First and foremost then, I charge ELLWANGER & BARRY, nurserymen of Rochester—advertised as such in the RURAL—of having imposed upon me in manner following, to wit:—They sent me various and many things, bearing strange names, when I simply ordered of them a few plain things, such as apples, pears, cherries "and such like." When I wrote them that I wanted PEARS, did they not send me such things as *Dutchesse D'Angouleme*, *Louise Bonne De Jersey*, and other such outlandish things. When I asked of them, and sent them money for *Cherries*, they sent me *Gov. Wood*, *May Duke*, *Donna Marias*, and even *Black Eagles*. Now, Mr. Editor, would you be willing to part with your money, and receive such trash as *Governors* and *Black Eagles*? Is it not outrageous when a man sends for *Pears*, to have a batch of *Duchesses* and *Marias* sent to him? What can a married man do with such property? It is enough to break up all family ties, and make a regular smash-up in a man's household. Then, as if not enough to satisfy their desires, they committed the following sins of omission against this humble individual. They never put into the bill, or the box, a single root of *Canada Thistle*, no, not even a seed. They even were so penurious as not to put in one single root of that very desirable (?) grass called "quack." Do you suppose I am going to stand such things, when I can prove by a firm of New York nurserymen that such things are in the order? Do I not know it of my own eyes? For did not said nurserymen send me fine samples of both of the above plants? You "can't fool me," when I have such good proof of the legitimate way of doing business!

Now, Mr. Editor, there is another Rochester man that you have advertised extensively, surnamed VICK; I supposed his father must have called him JAMES, as I see he appends something of the sort to the other name. I put money in a letter and sent it to him. What do you suppose he sent me in return? Seed! yes, cabbage seed, tomato seed, flower seed. Well, that was not what I complain of. But of this:—The cabbage seed all grew! Well, anybody knows that was not right that ever bought a paper at a "store." You may fool young birds "with chaff," but not one who has bought cabbage seed for years, and never had a dozen plants to a paper grow. Then, did not all of the tomatoes grow "smooth," when every novice knows that they ought to be rough like a wash board. It won't answer, Mr. Editor, to have them "smooth." If you do their skins will "peel." You know, too, that flower seeds

have no business to blow double, like those flowers that Mr. VICK sent us. We know better, for have not our mothers raised *Zinnias* and such things, from our boyhood up, and who ever saw double ones? It is clearly not legitimate. It is time a stop is put to such things!

Finally, Mr. Editor, if you are willing to "chalk up," and do the fair thing, I will be reasonable in my bill of damages. But, if you compel me to "go to law," you will be made to suffer considerable, "if not more."

Rolling Prairie, Wis., 1893. L. L. FAIRCHILD.

ILLINOIS APPLE LISTS.

At the meeting of the Illinois State Horticultural Society, Dec. 15th, the State was divided into three grand divisions, or fruit districts—the Northern, Central and Southern. The boundaries between these districts were fixed as follows:—The line of the Legansport, Peoria and Burlington railroad is the boundary between the Northern and Central districts; the line of the Terre Haute and Alton railroad the boundary between the Central and Southern districts. On the first day of the session of the Society, O. B. GALUSHA moved to appoint a Committee of three from each district to report lists of Apples to be recommended by the Society for cultivation, for the following purposes:—1st, For Market; 2d, For Family Use; 3d, For Trial. The following committees were appointed:

Northern District.—O. B. GALUSHA, of Kendall Co.; A. R. WHITNEY, of Lee Co.; and C. W. MONTFELDT, of Winnebago Co.

Central District.—Dr. E. S. HULL, of Madison Co.; J. H. STEWART, of Adams Co.; and C. R. OVERMAN, of McLean Co.

Southern District.—W. C. FLAGG, of Madison Co.; G. H. BAKER and P. R. WRIGHT, of Union Co.

These committees reported the following lists, which were adopted by the Society:

FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT.

FOR MARKET.—Winter—Wine Sap, Rawles' Janet, Domine, Jonathan, Willow Twig, Red Romante, Minkler, Talman Sweet, Yellow Belle Flower, Northern Spy.

Autumn.—Famouse, Bailey's Sweet, Maiden's Blush, Fall Swaar, Lowell, Striped Gillflower, Ramsdell's Sweet, Yellow Siberian Crab.

Summer.—Red Astrachan, Carolina Red June, Keswick Codlin, Early Pennock, Sweet June.

FOR FAMILY USE.—Summer—Early Harvest, Carolina Red June, Keswick Codlin, Benoni, Hocking, Sweet June.

Autumn.—Famouse, Bailey's Sweet, Maiden's Blush, Fall Swaar, Autumn Strawberry, Holland Pippin, Lowell, Rambo, Striped Gillflower, Dyer, Mother, Haskell Sweet, Yellow Siberian Crab, Fulton.

Winter.—Winesap, Rawles' Janet, Domine, Jonathan, Willow Twig, Yellow Belle Flower, Talman Sweet, White Winter Pearmain, Westfield Seek-no-further, Roman Stem, Northern Spy, Ramsdell's Sweet, Swaar.

FOR TRIAL.—Winter—White Belle Flower, White Pippin, Paradise Winter Sweet, N. Y. Pippin, Tompkins County King, Hubbardston's Nonesuch, Broadwell, Newton Pippin, Rhode Island Greening.

Autumn.—Fall Orange, Northern Sweet, Fall Wine, Montreal Beauty Crab, Transcendent Crab.

Summer.—Kirkbridge White, Duchess of Oldenberg.

FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT.

FOR MARKET.—Summer—Early Harvest, Golden Sweet.

Autumn.—Maiden's Blush, Bailey's Sweet.

Winter.—White Pearmain, Domine, Winesap, New York Pippin, Willow Twig, Rawles' Janet, Newtown Pippin (upon rich limestone soils, with high cultivation).

FOR FAMILY USE.—Summer—Yellow June, Early Harvest, Sweet June, Red Astrachan, Keswick Codlin, Golden Sweet, Ramsdell's Sweet, Summer Pearmain, Benoni, Carolina Red June.

Autumn.—Maiden's Blush, Fall Wine, Buckingham, Bailey's Sweet, Fulton, Hubbardston's Nonesuch, Fall Swaar of the West, Snow.

Winter.—Domine, Jonathan, Pryor's Red, Swaar, White Winter Pearmain, Roman Stem, Peck's Pleasant, Esopus, Spitzenberg, Winesap, New York Pippin, Rawles' Janet, Newtown Pippin, White Belle Flower, Lady Apple.

FOR TRIAL.—Early Joe, Downing's Paragon, Rome Beauty, Ladies' Sweeting, Romanite, White Pippin, Nickajack.

FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

FOR MARKET.—Early Harvest, Red Astrachan, Carolina Red June, Yellow Belle Flower, Rawles' Janet, Winesap, Newtown Pippin, New York Pippin, Pryor's Red.

FOR FAMILY USE.—Early Harvest, Large Yellow Bough, American Summer Pearmain, Rambo, Yellow Belle Flower, Pryor's Red, Newtown Pippin, Rawles' Janet, White Winter Pearmain, Buckingham.

FOR TRIAL.—Yellow June, Sine-qua-non, Benoni, Porter, Rome Beauty, Willow Twig, Nickajack.

Horticultural Notes.

MISSOURI STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—We learn from a circular issued by its officers that the Fifth Annual Meeting of this Society will be held at St. Louis on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Jan. 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1894. Delegates from Horticultural and Agricultural Societies are cordially invited, and all persons interested in Horticultural improvement are requested to attend. The ladies are especially invited to lend their influence in this cause, and to grace the assemblies by their presence. Specimens of Fruits, Flowers, Plants, Vegetables, Wines, Seeds, and other products, are earnestly solicited. Arrangements have been made with all the railroads in Missouri, by which members will be furnished free passes for returning home. Application has been made to the Illinois railroads, asking the extension of a like favor for Horticultural friends from other States. It is confidently expected it will be granted by all railroad companies who appreciate the efforts that give value to the country through which their roads pass. The order of business includes addresses and essays from prominent Horticulturists, discussions on fruits, etc.

ILLINOIS STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—OFFICERS ELECT, &c.—At the meeting of this Society recently held at Alton, the following officers were elected for 1894: **President.**—SMILEY SHEPHERD, of Bureau Co. **Vice Presidents.**—At large, O. B. Galusha, Lisbon; 1st District, Jno. Periam, Thornton; 2d, C. N. Andrews, Rockford; 3d, A. R. Whitney, Franklin Grove; 4th, J. H. Stewart, Quincy; 5th, W. A. Pennell, Grandville; 6th, J. O. Dent, Wenona; 7th, M. L. Dunlap, Champagne; 8th, O. M. Colman, Bloomington; 9th, C. C. Starveaud, Beardstown; 10th, Jno. Huggins, Woodburn; 11th, Charles Kennicott, Sandoval; 12th, E. S. Hull, Alton; 13th, T. J. Evans, South Pass. **Cor. Sec.**—W. C. Flagg, Moro. **Rec. Sec.**—C. W. Murtfeldt, Rockford, and Parker Earle, South Pass; **Treasurer.**—C. H. Dimmock, Alton. **Executive Com.**—Smiley Shepherd, G. W. Miner, O. B. Galusha.

The attendance at this meeting was the largest in its history. The exhibition of Fruits and Wines was very good. The papers read were in the main valuable and profitable, and the discussions spirited and practical.—C. D. B.

INDIANA POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Third Annual Meeting of this Society will convene in the city of Indianapolis on Tuesday, January 5th, 1894, and continue in session four days. A general invitation is extended to all persons who are in any way interested in Fruit Culture. All who can possibly do so, are invited to take with them samples of fruits and wines. An interesting meeting may be expected. On the first day addresses are to be given by the President, I. D. G. NELSON, and Dr. JOHN A. WARNER. Several other prominent persons who are announced as Essayists, have been written to, and nearly all have answered favorably. The reading of the essays will be followed by discussions.

DRY WALKS FOR WINTER.—We should be remiss in our duty were we to neglect, at this season of the year, to repeat our counsel as to the great comfort and convenience which *dry walks* insure about dwellings, barns and out-houses generally in winter and early spring. We are pained sometimes to see the utter negligence prevailing upon some premises in this respect. A few old boards, or a dollar's worth, or two, of new boards, nice fat stones, or a liberal supply of coal ashes would save ten times the cost in shoe-leather, damp feet, colds, doctors' bills and loss of time. Coal ashes laid on dry ground to the depth of three or four inches, after removing the mud, make a first-rate walk, and they can be put to no better use. The difference to be seen upon a premises where dry walks are provided wherever needed, when compared to others where this moral influence has no abiding place, is enough to make us shiver as well as to cause us to feel the absence of social charities in the family.

DWARF PEARS.—Referring to two men, the *American Agriculturist*, says:—"What is the truth upon this subject? Both these men are right. Dwarf pears are a success with the first man, because he takes care of them, and a nuisance to the latter, because he pays no attention to them. I have been cultivating pears since 1850, and have now about 150 trees, standards and dwarfs. The first trees planted were suckers, contrary to the advice of the books, and to the practice of the best pomologists. They were respectively budded with the *Flemish Beauty*, *Louise Bonne de Jersey*, *White Doyenne* and *Winter Nellis*, and have never thrown up a sucker. The last two bore for the first time last year, though they have had good cultivation, plenty of manure, and have been shortened in every year. The others began to bear three or four years earlier."

Domestic Economy.

CORNED BEEF, PICKLE FOR HAMS, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Below you will find a few valuable recipes that have been well tested for years by a housekeeper who would like them more generally known, and who takes pleasure in contributing a little useful knowledge to your highly prized paper:

CORNED BEEF.—One cwt. beef; 6 lbs. fine salt; 4 lbs. brown sugar. Pack the meat with this mixture, rubbing over every portion of the same. Let it lie 24 or 36 hours; then make a brine of two quarts of salt and two oz. saltpetre, and let it *just boil*. Skim, and when cold, pour over the meat.

PICKLE FOR HAMS.—For one cwt. take four gallons water; 4 oz. saltpetre; 6 lbs. good coarse salt; 1 quart molasses. Scald and skim this brine as for beef. To remain in this pickle six weeks, then soak over night in pure water before smoking.

TO DYE SCARLET YARN.—One oz. cochineal; 2 oz. muriate of tin; 1 oz. cream tartar; put the cochineal and cream tartar in first, and when it is nearly boiling then add the tin. Boil half an hour in brass.

INDELIBLE INK THAT WILL NOT EAT THE CLOTH.—About an inch in length of nitrate of silver, put into a very small bottle, and dissolve in *strong vinegar*; keep in a dark place,—corked close.

Preparation.—One teaspoonful salts of tartar; 1/2 teaspoonful gum Arabic, dissolved in soft water,—bottle close. Saturate the place to be marked with this preparation, and, when nearly dry, smooth with a warm iron; then (shaking the ink before using) mark with the ink, and expose to the sun until the writing turns to a jet black.

SOFT SOAP.—Put six pails of good lye into a barrel, one pail of boiling hot grease (to be nice should be strained) poured into the lye. *Stir well*. Next day stir thoroughly, and add five pails of soft water. Stir often for several days. Let any one who wants a good soap, and nice-looking, try this. DAISY. Binghamton, N. Y., 1893.

MINCE PIE, LINCOLN SAUCE, &c.

MINCE PIE.—I notice a call for a recipe. Take meat for six pies; add two-thirds as much apple; having both chopped *fine*; one teacup of boiled cider, or cold tea, or coffee will answer; one-half a pound of butter; a pint basin of nice sirup; add of salt, cinnamon, pepper, allspice, cloves and raisins to suit the taste; spread thin on a flaky crust and bake quick. If you have not the apple, bread may be used in place of it, after scalding it in vinegar. Use more moistening with the bread than when apple is used.

LINCOLN SAUCE.—Perhaps many readers of the RURAL may not know that sauce which is cheap, but equal to the best, may be made from the common pumpkin. Cut the pumpkin in small pieces, and boil twenty minutes in vinegar; add one-half a pound of sugar for every pound of the pumpkin, after taking from the vinegar; cook slowly for two hours, and season with lemon. Cook in porcelain or tin, and you will have sauce that will be so nice no one will suspect of what it is made.

NICE FLAVORING EXTRACT.—Slice three lemons into one pint of alcohol. Wadhams' Mills, N. Y., 1893. Mrs. P. V. CLARKE.

CATCHING COLD.—One of the most fruitful and certain causes of severe colds is the habit many have of going into warm rooms from the cold air, and retaining all their wrappings of shawls, hoods, furs and overcoats. They "can only sit a few minutes," and so stay and chat a quarter or half an hour, get in a slight perspiration, and go out thus in the wind and cold. In a few minutes they are cold and shivering, especially if riding, and too often a severe and serious cold is thus caught, the sufferer wondering how and where. Better always throw off, at least partially, your furs, unpin your shawl and throw it from your neck; loosen or lay aside furs, and unbutton your coat, even if but for a few minutes' stay, and not fasten them till just ready to go out. A little attention to these trifles will be no trouble, and will save many a sore throat and bad cough, and, perhaps, life in the end.—QUEMCHY, New York, 1893.

CLARIFYING MOLASSES.—Common molasses may be clarified and rendered much more palatable by heating it over the fire and pouring in sweet milk in the proportion of one pint to a gallon of molasses. When the molasses boils up, once, the albumen in the milk collects all the impurities in a thick scum on the top, which must be carefully removed, and the molasses is then fit for use. Bullock's blood is also used for this purpose, but milk is more agreeable in many ways.

APPLE JELLY.—One pound moist sugar, one pound apples, one lemon—the juice of the lemon to be used and the rind added—cut very fine. Boil the whole till it becomes a perfect jelly. Let it stand in a mold till quite firm and cold. Turn out, and stick it with almonds; set custard round. If for dessert, use a small mold, plain.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

BEWARE OF IMPOSITION.—Some unprincipled parties have put up a large amount of worthless stuff called *Saleratus*, and scattered it all over the Western States, much to the detriment of D. B. De Land & Co.'s excellent *Saleratus*. This worthless stuff is put up in blue or green paper and called "D. B. De Land & Co.'s Housewives' Favorite," while D. B. De Land & Co.'s Housewives' Favorite or Chemical *Saleratus* is put up in bright red papers. Beware of the imposition.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

AT DUSK.

BY CLIO STANLEY.

Time for the bright blue eyes to close And the fringed lids to fall, For the evening breeze, with rustling sound, Creeps through the grasses tall; Time for the rosy lips to breathe The tender, sweet good-night; So happy sleep My baby keep, 'Till sunny morning light.

Time for the little feet to pause In their tread, so fairy light, Time for the little hands to fold O'er the robe, so dainty white; Time for our little one to rest In quiet, peaceful sleep; Good angels, care For baby fair, Your trust securely keep. Philadelphia, Pa., 1863.

Written for the Rural New-Yorker.

HINTS TO SCHOOL GIRLS.

The bleak wintry winds are whistling around the house, unceremoniously intruding themselves through every crack and crevice, swaying the bare brown limbs of the cherry tree which so lately rustled its green foliage against the window. The modest little snow flakes come whirling cautiously, easily down, until they quietly settle upon the white carpet so daintily thrown over the faded earth, as if to hide it from our view until it can appear in a more beautiful garb. While sitting here so cozily all alone, looking dreamily out of the window, my mind wanders back to the winters that are past, when I bore the sweet name of student, and participated in all the pleasures, anxieties and disappointments accompanying this period of our lives. Remembering the many trials and temptations to which young girls are subjected on leaving home, and the influence of a kind and loving mother, to go forth among strangers, I thought it would not be amiss to drop a few words of friendly advice to such as have already commenced their course.

The first and most important consideration, after being thrown into a promiscuous crowd of schoolmates, is to select those whom you wish for your associates. In doing this, remember that a good and beautiful heart is often hid beneath a homely exterior. We are all too liable to judge by the dress. Many a poor student has been slighted merely because dressed in plain, simple, or, perhaps, odd garments; or they may not have had the benefit of the most genteel society, and appear awkward. If these are their only faults, if they are industrious, attentive, and always come to the class with good lessons, they are just the ones whom you must select among your friends, and endeavor to encourage and assist.

If you are old enough to go to school—of course you ought to know what you go for. Far too many are unmindful of the value of their time, and throw it away upon the many amusements brought forth by the idle heads that care nothing for education, and attend school only because it is fashionable. Beware of all such waste of time. Take care of the minutes and the days will take care of themselves, and you, too, for you will get through with perfect lessons and a cheerful heart.

Another important but very much neglected matter, is regularity of habits. "A time for every thing, and every thing in its time," is of no less consequence in keeping order, than "a place for every thing and every thing in its place." As soon as you know what recitations you are to have, appoint a certain time for the study of each lesson. Thus you will always be in readiness when the recitation hour arrives.

On returning from school, it will take but very little longer to carefully place your books upon the shelf or table, than to throw them down promiscuously to be piled up at some other period. By doing in this way, and managing every thing else accordingly, you will be surprised to see what an easy task it is to keep your room in order.

Regularity of diet is very important to those who wish to keep a healthy stomach and clear brain. To sit with a book in one hand, and a piece of pie, cake or apple in the other, is very poor food for the brain when you want to study. Your hours for eating should be so arranged as to allow at least one hour's recreation,—more is better,—before again calling the blood to the brain, as is required in study.

Of equal importance with diet is ventilation. These cold nights, it does seem rather hard that we can not shut up all the doors and windows, and make our room air-tight to keep out the cold; but pure air was made to breathe, and while there is such an abundance of it out-of-doors, it seems absurd to bolt it all out, and breathe what has become poisoned by having been used once. Then, don't be afraid of the cold. You need not open your window and allow the cold blast to blow direct upon you; this would be injurious, but it can be lowered a few inches from the top, letting in pure air and permitting the escape of the impure.

Last, but not least, keep your rooms neat. Remember you are now laying the foundation of your future lives. A good habit is more easily formed than a bad one broken, and if you get into careless habits, such as leaving a pile of dishes unwashed, a bed unmade, the floor unswept, a comb full of hair lying on the stand, your dress hanging on one chair, your apron on another, your shoes and stockings in the middle of the floor, and various other disorderly tricks,

you will either have to break yourself of them some day, or carry them to your home. And I can assure you no nice young man would select such a girl for a permanent house-keeper. Port Huron, Mich., 1863. FANNY FLOYD.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

LET US BEAUTIFY OUR HOMES.

BEAUTIFY your home. Plant trees,—plant vines,—plant flowers. Though it is but a little brown house, if there are trees grouped about it, vines creeping up its rough sides, flowers growing plentifully around, it is a place of beauty. Don't think money or time wasted that is spent in beautifying your home. Here are gathered together your heart treasures. Here you come for rest when weary. Here you retire when jostled too rudely by this rough world,—when sickened with its selfishness and deceit,—for here are love, and truth, and sympathy. Can too much pains be taken to beautify a spot to you so dear—so entirely your own.

Judging by the majority of country places, I will imagine what your home is now. A thrifty-looking place,—a white, clean looking house,—a back-ground of outbuildings, a little square yard in front, a bunch of pansies, a pair of lilac bushes, an old maple somewhere in some corner,—that is all. As good as your neighbors, you will say, and you are satisfied. Now I wish farmers would do away with this as-good-as-other-folks' idea, and have a little more individuality. Tear down the fence of that little, penurious-looking, square front yard, though it is "just like all the neighbors." Inclose in your yard all the ground you can conveniently spare, then fill it with shrubbery,—lilacs, syringas, snowballs,—such as can be had almost anywhere for the asking. Get some vine, and train it over the portico. Let vines creep and cling around every door, and tie them up till they "look in at the highest window." Plant roses by the windows, by the doors. Buy three or four of the beautiful climbing roses, and train them over rude arches,—set in here and there among the shrubby bunches of peonies, lilies, etc.,—hardy flowers that thrive without much care,—then, in some choice spot, make two at least, large flower beds—border them round with pinks, or polyanthus, or dwarf lilies, and fill them with annuals and choice plants. Around the back-door set maples and willows,—at the side of the house, evergreens, balsams or cedars. Make a rough frame over the well, and set a grape-vine to run over it. Along the roadside, too, plant trees,—thus, lindens, maples, willows,—there is a beauty in variety,—let them stretch along the whole length of your farm, in one long sweep of beauty.

Now allow me to glance for a moment inside your home. It is a convenient, comfortable-looking place, the snow-white curtains at the window are suitable and pretty. The family Bible lies on the nicely dusted table, and by its side the "weekly journal." But it don't look just right. What is wanting? It is something more to feed the mind,—to raise and keep it above the monotony of every-day life. Put books and papers on the tables, plants in the windows, pictures on the walls, and you have indeed a pleasant-looking home. The wee little birds will nest in the vines, the robins will build in the balsams,—the flowers unfold in beauty their velvet leaves. The birds will make sweetest music,—the flowers yield sweetest fragrance.

Such a home as I have pictured, where the voice of discord is never heard,—where industry gives cheerfulness and health, and where a taste for the refined and beautiful blend in with life's sterner duties, is, indeed, almost a paradise below,—and yet, such a home is within the reach of every industrious, energetic farmer. Such a home is, indeed, the "dearest spot on earth." Hitherward, the eyes of the wandering child are ever turning with tenderness and longing. The school-child will peer in with wistful eyes through the pickets. Hoary-headed age will lean on the gate-way, and recall the faded memories of youth. The man of business, with his over-taxed brain, will pause, as he chances past, and gaze on all around with a pleased sadness.

"Turn round, and gaze again And sigh, and say it is a blessed place."

KATE H. TITCOMB.

Hagans, Mont. Co., N. Y., 1863.

FEMALE SOCIETY.

WHAT makes those men who associate habitually with women superior to others? What makes the woman who is accustomed and at ease in the society of men superior to her sex in general? Solely because they are in the habit of free, graceful, continued conversation with the other sex. Women in this way lose their frivolity, their faculties awaken, their delicacies and peculiarities unfold all their beauty and captivation in the spirit of intellectual rivalry. And the men lose their pedantic, rude manner, declamatory or sullen manner. The coin of the understanding and the heart is changed continually. Their asperities are rubbed off, their better materials polished and brightened, and their richness, like fine gold, is wrought into new, finer workmanship by the fingers of women than it ever could be by those of men. The iron and steel of their character are hidden, like the harness and armor of a giant, in studs and knots of gold and precious stones, when they are not wanted in actual warfare.—Joseph C. Neal.

HUSBANDS AND WIVES.—Many wives are miserable, not from wanting the affections of their husbands, but from the absence, in that affection, of the quality of tenderness.

It is the most momentous question a woman is ever called on to decide, whether the faults of the man she loves will drag her down, or whether she is competent to be his earthly redeemer.

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

REMEMBER ME.

Oh! tell me if—when I am pillowed in Death, When his pale seal is set on my brow— When lost is my feverish, flickering breath, You will think of me kindly as now? I ask thee not often to mention my name, Not often to think of my bier; But when I'm remembered,—oh, bear me the same Fond affection you've given me here!

When the heart-beat of hope in its casket is dead, And the life-leaping pulse is at rest: The silver chord loosed, and my languishing head Dropping low on the pale monarch's breast. When I quietly sleep 'neath the turf's velvet green, From the world's witching haunts far away— Oh! sometimes recall what we are, and have been, And love me as well as to-day.

I ask for no fonder affection to breathe Its tribute with sympathy's tear, No blossoms of beauty my pillow to wreath Than the ones you have culled for me here. And when, in the future, a hallowed spell From the past o'er thy spirit shall come, Will memory whisper you love me as well As when I was with you at home? Bethany, N. Y., 1863. MOLLIE.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

"MY FARM OF EDGEWOOD."

"HAVE you read IK MARVEL'S new book?" asked a friend, the other day.

"No, I haven't."

"Well, you had better buy and read it; it will just suit you."

So I bought it, wondering why "it would just suit me." I've been reading it. Some passages in it do suit me—"just suit me;" and I believe it should have a wide circulation. Some passages are exceedingly suggestive, and the suggestions may do good. So, MOORE, you will pardon me if I let 'em suggest, and segregate a little.

"A PRETENTIOUS FALSEHOOD."

The author had advertised for a farm of 100 acres. In answer to the advertisement came one letter "from a widow lady, inviting attention to the admired place of her late husband," who had "an unusual taste for country life, and had expended large sums in beautifying the farm," &c.

The farm-hunter, after deciding the place "inadmissible, upon the whole, as a desirable place on which to test the economies of a quiet farm-life," utters the following paragraph of good sense:

"I can conceive of nothing so shocking to a hearty lover of the country as to live in the glare of another man's architectural taste. In the city or the town there are conventional laws of building, established by custom and by limitations of space, to which all must in a large measure conform; but with the width of broad acres around one, I should chafe as much at living in the pretentious house of another man's ordering and building, as I should chafe at living in another man's coat. Country architecture whose simplicity or rudeness is so far subordinated to the main features of the landscape as not to provoke special mention, may be any man's building; but wherever the house becomes the salient feature of the place, and challenge criticism by an engrossing importance as compared with its usual surroundings, then it must be in agreement with the tastes and character of its occupant, or it is a pretentious falsehood."

MR. TALLWEED.

And here is a portrait which will be recognized. IK MARVEL says,—"There are not a few entertaining people of the cities who imagine that a farm of one or two hundred acres has a way of managing itself; and that it works out crops and cattle from time to time very much as small bear works into a foamy ripeness, by a law of its own necessity."

IK MARVEL wishes with all his heart it were true, but asserts that it is not. And he illustrates how stumbling blocks are thrown in the way of agricultural progress, by the introduction of his friend Mr. TALLWEED, who, after accumulating a fortune in the city, is disposed to put on the dignity of country pursuits and advance the interests of agriculture.

He purchases a valuable place, builds his villa, plants, refits, exhausts architectural resources in his outbuildings, all under the advice of a shrewd Scotchman recommended by THORBURN, and can presently make such a show of dainty cattle and of mammoth vegetables as excites the stare of the neighborhood and leads to his enrollment among the dignitaries of the County Society.

But the neighbors who stare have their occasional chat with the canny Scot, from whom they learn that the expenses of the business are "gay large;" they pass a side wink from one to the other as they look at the vaulted cellars and the cumbersome machinery; they remark quietly that the multitude of improvements does not forbid the employment of a multitude of farm "hands;" they shake their heads ominously at the extraordinary purchases of grain; they observe that the pet calves are usually indulged with a wet nurse, in the shape of some raw-boned native cow, bought specially to add to the resources of the fine-blooded dam; and with these things on their minds—they reflect. If the results are large, it seems to them that the means are still more extraordinary; if they wonder at the size of the crops, they wonder still more at the liberality of the expenditure; it seems to them, after full comparison of notes with the "braw" Scot, that even their own stunted crops would show a better balance sheet for the farm. It appears to them that if premium crops and straight-backed animals can only be had by such prodigious appliances of men and money, that fine farming is not a profession to grow rich

by. And yet, our doubtful friends of the home-spun will enjoy the neighborhood of such a farmer and profit by it. They love to sell him "likely young colts;" they eagerly furnish him with butter (at the town price) and possibly with eggs; his own fowls being mostly fancy ones, bred for premiums, and indisposed to lay largely; in short, they like to tap his superfluities in a hundred ways. They admire Mr. TALLWEED, particularly on Fair days, when he appears in the dignity of manager for some special interest; and remark among themselves that "the Squire makes a thunderin' better committee-man than he does farmer." And when they read of him in their agricultural journal—if they take one—as a progressive and successful agriculturist, they laugh a little in their sleeves in a quiet way, and conceive, I am afraid, the same unfortunate distrust of the farm journal, which we all entertain of the political ones. Yet the Squire is as innocent of all deception, and of all ill-intent in the matter, as he is of thrift in his farming. Whoever brings to so practical a business the ambition to astonish by the enormity of his crops, at whatever cost, is unwittingly doing discredit to those laws of economy, which alone justify and commend the craft to the thoroughly earnest worker.

THEN AND NOW—NASAL AND BROGUE.

I think it is well to remember the good old times—and contrast them with the present, that perchance we may not arrogate to ourselves too great a degree of progress; or that we may then better appreciate what we now possess or enjoy. To this end I copy MITCHELL'S felicitous portraits of Nasal and Brogue:

"There lived some twenty or thirty years ago, in New England, a race of men, American born, and who, having gone through a two winters' course of district school ciphering and reading, with cropped top heads, became the most indefatigable and ingenious of farm workers. Then hoeing was a sleight of hand; they could make an ox yoke, or an ax helve, on rainy days; by adroit manipulation they could relieve a choking cow, or as deftly hive a swarm of bees. Their furrows, indeed, were not of the straightest, but their control of a long team of oxen was a miracle of guidance.—They may have carried a bit of Cavendish twist in their waist-coat pockets; they certainly did not waste time at lavations; but as farm workers they had rare aptitude; no tool came amiss to them; they cradled, they churned if need were; they chopped and piled their, three cords of wood between sun and sun. With bare feet and a keen-whetted six-pound Blanchard, they laid such clean broad swaths through the fields of dewy herdsgrass, as made 'old-country-men' stare. By a kind of intuition, they knew the locality of every tree and of every medicinal herb that grew in the woods. Rarest of all which they possessed, was an acuteness of understanding which enabled them to comprehend an order before it was half uttered, and to meet occasional and unforeseen difficulties with a steady assurance, as if they had been an accepted part of the problem. It was possible to send such a man into a wood with his team, to select a stick of timber of chestnut or oak that should measure a given amount; he could be trusted to find such—a cut it, to score it, to load it; if the gearing broke he could be trusted to mend it; if the tree lodged, he could be trusted to devise some artifice for bringing it down; and finally,—for its sure and prompt delivery at the point indicated.

"Your Irishman, on the other hand, balks at the first turn. He must have a multitude of chains. He needs a boy to aid him with a team, and another to carry a bar. He spends an hour in his doubtful estimate of dimensions; but 'begorra its a lumphish tree, and he thwacks into the rind a foot or two from the ground, so as to leave a 'mate' Irish stump. Half through the hole he begins to doubt if it be a chestnut or a poplar; and casting his eyes aloft to measure it anew, an ancient wood-pecker drops something smarting in his eye, and his bowl starts the ruminating team into a confused entanglement among the young wood. Having eased his pain and extricated his cattle, he pushes out with his ax, and presently with a light crash of pliant boughs, his timber is lodged in the top of an adjoining tree. He tugs and strains, and swears, and splits the helve of his ax in adapting it for a lever, and presently, near to noon, comes back for three or four hands, to give him a boost with the tree. You return to find the team strayed, through a gate left open, into a thriving corn field, and one of your pet tulip trees lodged in a lithe young hickory. 'Och! and its a toolip—it is! and I was thinkin' 'twas niver a chestnut; begorra, its lucky thin it didn't come down intirely.'—C. D. B.

WHAT WE MAY DO.

No human being can be isolated and self-sustained. The strongest and bravest and most hopeful have yet, acknowledged and unacknowledged to themselves, moments of hungry soul-yearnings for companionship and sympathy. For the want of this what wrecks of humanity lie strewn about us. Youth wasted for the mock semblance of friendship adrift at the mercy of chance, for the grasp of a true, firm hand, and a kindly, loving heart, to counsel. It is affecting to see how strong is this yearning, so fatal to its possessor if not guided rightly; such a life-anchor if safely placed. "Friendless?" What a tragedy may be hidden in that one little word. None to labor for; none to weep or smile with; none to care whether we lose or win in life's struggle. A kind word or a smile coming to such an one unexpectedly at some such crisis of life, how often has it been the plank to the drowning man, lacking which he must surely have perished. Those, surely, we may bestow as we pass those less favored than ourselves, whose souls are waiting for our sympathetic recognition.—Fanny Fern.

Sabbath Musings.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

SOWING AND REAPING.

BY MARIA M. JONES.

Lo! morning's ushering stars arise, In orient fair clouds serene, And darkness shunned from off the skies, Leaves victor day's bright silvery beam! And where the moon looked coldly down, Who vigils through the darkness kept, Now morning tinges with a crown Which rivals hues where twilight slept.

The bird, the first to spy the beam, With joyous notes sprung from her nest; The flowers, wakened from night's dream, Now rock their crowns on th' Zephyr's breast! So Nature quickly springs to life, Await the dulness of the night— Back from her calm into her strife, From light to darkness, then to light!

Ye who are on the road to fame, Oh! heed this lesson and the song, 'Tis not a breath—No! not a name, For which you toil so slow and long! The darkness of the night is deep, The daylight's beaming long and slow, Yet still, your watchful vigils keep, Watch still with faith for morning's glow.

Place firm one hand in God's on high, And sow the little seed with care, There ever lives a watchful eye— A love that still will watch it there; Oh! weep not at life's cheerless lot, Nor murmur that thy path is straight, Thine is reward which all have not, The end is Heaven's golden gate! Webster, Michigan, 1863.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

I AM GOING HOME.

A FEW more weeks, a few more weary days and restless nights, a few more sun-risings and settings, then the last lesson will be learned and recited, the last counsel given, the last good-bye received, and I shall go home. Home, to a father's approving smile and a mother's clasping arms; home to mingle in the society of manly brothers and gentle, confiding sisters; home to all the happiness and endearments of the fireside circle. And what matter though that home be a homely one, though its walls be unadorned with magnificent paintings and heavy tapestry. What though the floor be uncarpeted, though no costly viands grace our table and far-brought luxuries tempt our appetites? It matters not so long as there are sunny smiles, kindly words and loving tones—so long as there be warm hearts, and ready hands, and willing feet—so long as those I love are gathered there.

I am going home. I know that at the thought the bloom deepens on my cheek, that my dim eyes grow brighter, my step more elastic, and the blood bounds more joyously through my veins.

Is it always thus? We are all teachers and scholars in the school of life, but soon the last task will be completed, our life-book closed, and the Great Teacher will summon us home. Home to the "many mansions" in our "Father's house"—home to walk in the company of the "just made perfect"—to see our SAVIOR as he is, and bathe forever "in the light of his countenance." And does the knowledge of this fact fill us with the same joy and happiness as would a visit to our earthly home? Does it strengthen us anew, give us fresh zeal and activity in the performance of our daily duties? O, happy will it be for us when the Master calleth, if we shall feel that we are but going home, that we are about to exchange the heavy cross for a glittering crown, our earth-stained garments for the robes of righteousness, and that all our moans of sorrow and pain here shall be forgotten amid the harp-songs of the redeemed. Then will it be joy indeed to go home. OMEGA. Jamestown, N. Y., 1863.

DEVOTION TO CHRIST.

NOTHING great or valuable is accomplished in this world, save under the influence of a master purpose or passion. The master passion of the true Christian is devotion to Christ. He need not wonder at his cold, comfortless, inefficient state while his bosom is unvisited with a thrill of this devotion. He need not inquire about creeds, church-organizations, benevolent societies as means of good; or suggest improvements in their machinery, while selfishness still largely reigns in his heart. It will be in vain. A divided heart accomplishes nothing by a show of affection. We must give up our idolatry. We must be prepared for a true self-surrender. Having, for the most part, passed the earlier, indistinct, and somewhat deceiving raptures of the young Christian's self-surrender, let us calmly, sacramentally, consciously, give ourselves to Christ. Let us make no reservations. Let us fall at His cross, glad to be there on any terms. Let us at least prayerfully, humbly, endeavor to make the great offering, and advance a step nearer to the stature of perfect men in Christ Jesus. The improved tone of piety will be evinced in the greater measure of success vouchsafed to the Gospel.—Am. Presbyterian.

AFFLICTIONS serve to quicken our pace in the way to our rest. 'Twere well if more love would prevail with us, and that we were rather drawn to heaven than driven. But seeing our hearts are so bad, that mercy will not do it, it is better to be put on with the sharpest scourge, than to loiter, like the foolish virgins, till the door is shut.—Baxter.

To store our memories with a sense of injuries, is to fill that chest with rusty iron which was made for refined gold.

Educational.

WRITING COMPOSITIONS.

AMONG the many reforms of old abuses in teaching which are being discussed, none are capable of more decided improvement than the old plan,—or, rather, no plan at all,—of instruction in the art of composition.

The pupils naturally thought that they must write something proper, and their subjects used to be selected after the following order—Hope, Love, Patience, Contentment, Faith, Perseverance, and so on,—and their productions were usually pretty prosy and uniform.

Besides, the monotony acquired under the old way usually followed pupils through the world, unless they had a decided genius for literature, in which case they might outgrow old habits.

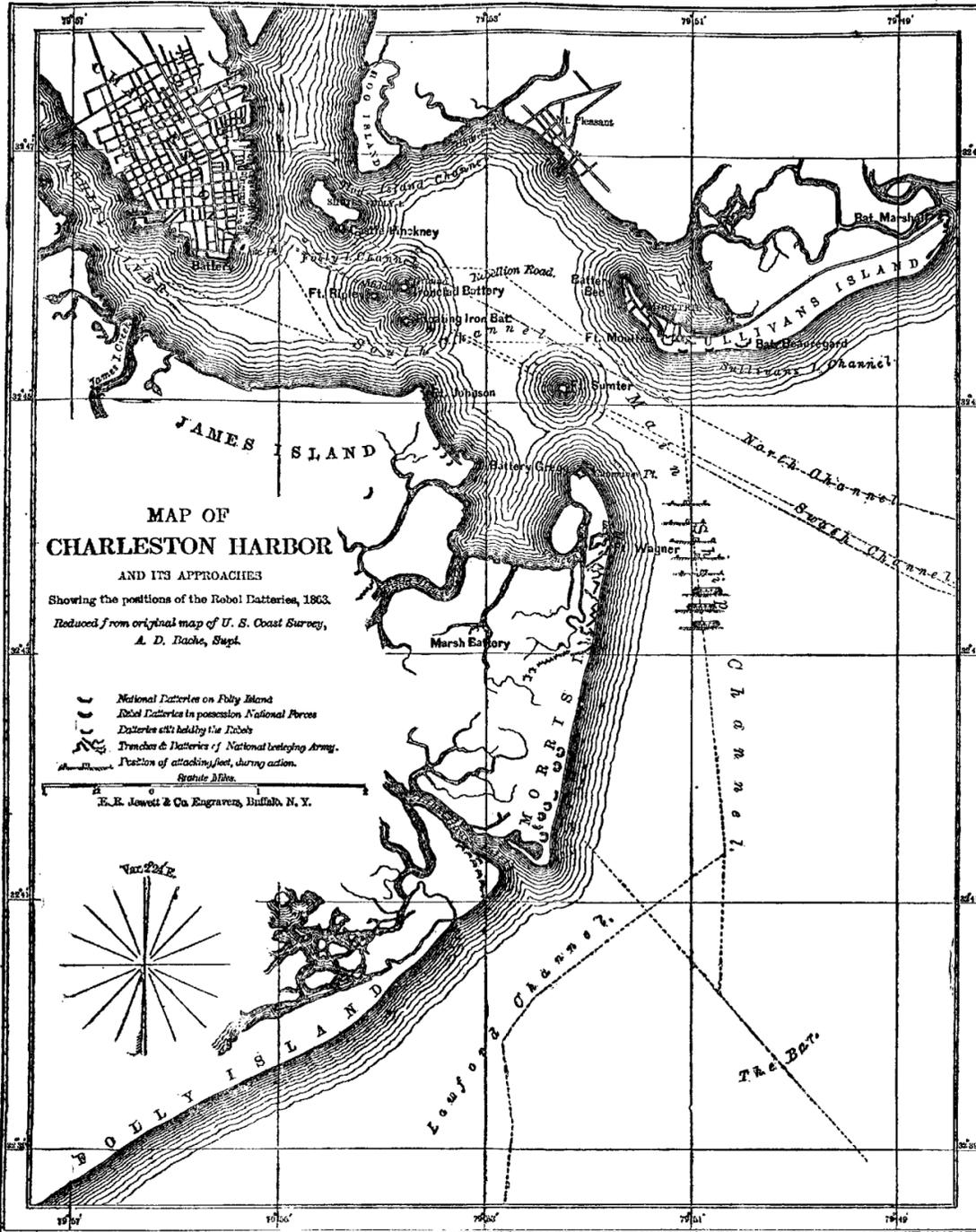
Another way in which the old plan failed of its expected benefits, was in the dodges practiced by pupils who had not the gift of writing even on matter-of-fact topics.

PRONOUNCING EITHER AND NEITHER.

THE pronunciation of the words at the head of this article as if spelt either and neither, which is not unfrequently heard from divines and others, is not sanctioned either by analogy or good use, and is only to be accounted for on the supposition that some doubtful use in England is considered better authority than good use in America.

To show how entirely analogy fails to sustain the corrupt pronunciation, the following paragraph has been framed, in which is introduced all the different connections in which the letters e are met with, except as in the word "height" given above:

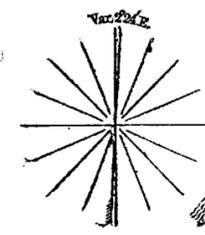
Every one of the words in the above paragraph, quoted, might as well have its e pronounced long, (as i in mine,) as "neither" or "either." Where the authorities preponderate so greatly against any particular pronunciation, there is certainly no sufficient reason for its adoption.—Exchange.



MAP OF CHARLESTON HARBOR AND ITS APPROACHES

Showing the positions of the Rebel Batteries, 1863. Reduced from original map of U. S. Coast Survey, A. D. Rache, Sup't.

National Batteries on Folly Island. Rebel Batteries in possession National Forces. Batteries still holding the Rebels. Trenches & Batteries of National Army.



CHARLESTON HARBOR AND ITS APPROACHES.

A MAP OF CHARLESTON HARBOR AND ITS APPROACHES will attract attention at a time when the eyes of the whole world are turned to that important point in the contest between formidable portions of the Union and Rebel armies and armaments.

be accurate. We think it the most beautiful and complete illustration of the kind ever given in the RURAL, and it reflects great credit upon Messrs. E. R. JEWETT & Co., of Buffalo, by whom it was executed.

as maps, charts, diagrams, or any other work requiring delicate tracery and perfect distinctness of outline. Though the map is too fine for ordinary newspaper printing, we trust it will work so clearly that all RURAL readers will comprehend its points without needing other explanation or description.

BENEFITS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

THE war between the Northern and Southern States is showing, in various ways, the importance of Common School education. If all the people at the South had been as well educated as the mass of the people at the North, it is presumed they would never have inaugurated such a rebellion.

In the Northern States, provision is made by which every child, rich or poor, shall receive, free of charge, such an education as will qualify him for the ordinary business of life.

Who has not been gratified to see that Northern young men, by reason of their ability to read and to reason, can so soon be transformed into well disciplined troops, and can perform any kind of labor which the exigency of their circumstances requires.

The friends of Public Schools and of the Union may learn from facts being developed by the war, the benefits of Common School education.

CONVERSATION.—Among such as out of cunning hear all and talk little, be sure to talk less; or if you must talk, say little.—La Bruyere.

INTELLECT DEVELOPED BY LABOR.

ARE labor and self-culture irreconcilable to each other? In the first place, we have seen that man, in the midst of labor, may and ought to give himself to the most important improvements, that he may cultivate his sense of justice, his benevolence, and the desire of perfection.

It is mind, after all, which does the work of the world; so that the more there is of mind, the more work will be accomplished. A man, in proportion as he is intelligent, makes a given force accomplish a greater task, makes skill take the place of muscles, and with less labor gives a better product.

GENIUS, TALENT, AND CLEVERNESS.

GENIUS rushes like a whirlwind; talent marches like a cavalcade of heavy men and heavy horses; cleverness skims like a swallow in the summer evening, with a sharp, shrill note and a sudden turning. The man of genius dwells with men and with nature; the man of talent in his study; but the clever man dances here, there and everywhere, like a butterfly in a hurricane, striking everything and enjoying nothing, but too light to be dashed to pieces.

fears none, he lives in himself, shrouded in the consciousness of his own strength; he interferes with none, and walks forth an example that "eagles fly alone, they are but sheep that herd together." It is true, that should a poisonous worm cross his path he may tread it under his foot; should a cur snarl at him he may chastise him; but he will not, cannot attack the privacy of another.

THE PATH TO GREATNESS.—There are two ways which lead to great aims and achievements,—energy and perseverance. Energy is a rare gift,—it provokes opposition, hatred and reaction. But perseverance lies within the reach of every one, its powers increase with its progress, and it is but rarely that it misses its aim.

ESTIMATE OF TEACHERS.—Plato, when near his end, blessed God for three things, viz., that he was a man, and not a beast; that he was born in Greece, and brought up in the time of Socrates, so that he could enjoy the benefit of his instruction.

Gibbon says:—"A liberal mind will delight to cherish and celebrate the memory of its parents; and the teachers of science are the parents of the mind."

BOOKS.—The number of books printed since the invention of the art, in 1440, to the end of the year 1822, was estimated by Peigrot at 3,681,960; and counting an average of three volumes to each book, and 300 copies to each edition, the aggregate of printed volumes was estimated by him to be 3,313,764,000.

THE true educator should read and study and teach subjects rather than books. The truth, the principle, the idea, the thought, should be valued more than its mode of expression; the diamond, not its mechanical setting. Thought is the soul of language, and language is of little worth without it.

Reading for the Young.

FROGS PETITIONING JUPITER FOR A KING

A FABLE.

AS Esop was traveling over Greece, he happened to pass through Athens just after Pisistratus had abolished the popular state and usurped a sovereign power; when perceiving that the Athenians bore the yoke, though mild and easy, with much impatience, he related to them the following fable:

The commonwealth of Frogs, a discontented, variable race, weary of liberty and fond of change, petitioned Jupiter to grant them a king. The good-natured deity, in order to indulge their request with as little mischief to the petitioners as possible, threw them down a log. At first they regarded their new monarch with great reverence, and kept from him at a most respectful distance; but perceiving his tame and peaceful disposition, they by degrees ventured to approach him with more familiarity, till at length they conceived for him the utmost contempt.

MORAL.—'Tis better to bear with some defects in a mild and gentle government, than to risk the greater evils of tyranny and persecution.

PUNCTUALITY OF WASHINGTON.

AN EXAMPLE FOR THE YOUNG.—When Gen. Washington assigned to meet Congress at noon, he never failed to be passing the door of the Hall while the clock was striking twelve. Whether his guests were present or not, he always dined at four. Not unfrequently new members of Congress, who were invited to dine with him, delayed until dinner was half over; and he would then remark, "Gentlemen, we are punctual here. My cook never asks whether the company has arrived, but whether the hour has." When he visited Boston, in 1789, he appointed eight o'clock A. M., as the hour when he should set out for Salem; and while the old South clock was striking eight, he was mounting his horse.

THE SPIRIT OF LOVE.

BEYOND all question, it is the unalterable constitution of nature that there is efficacy in love. The exhibition of kindness has the power to bring even the irrational animals into subjection. Show kindness to a dog, and he will remember it; he will be grateful; he will infallibly return love for love. Show kindness to a lion, and you can lead him by the mane; you can thrust your head into his mouth; you can melt the untamed ferocity of his heart into an affection stronger than death.

If I were choose the people with whom I would spend my hours of conversation, they should be certainly such as labored no further than to make themselves readily and clearly apprehended, and would have patience and curiosity to understand me. To have good sense, and ability to express it, are the most essential and necessary qualities in companions. When thoughts rise in us fit to utter among familiar friends, there needs but very little care in clothing them.

HESITATE, and the vulgar will think you weak; be confident, and they will think you wise.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 2, 1864.

The Army in Virginia.

INFORMATION received on the 26th from the Army of the Potomac says there is no indication of a retrograde movement toward Washington, as has been reported, nor is it believed the enemy in their present condition are able to give us much annoyance. Their cavalry on our front are not equal to the task of making any formidable raid on our base of supplies owing to the impoverished condition of their horses. The insufficiency of shoes and blankets, if the statements of deserters can be relied upon, renders it equally improbable that Lee's infantry can be called from their strong position and comfortable shelters to undertake a campaign during the rigors of winter.

The following dispatch has been received at headquarters:

ED RAY, COCAHONTAS CO., WESTERN VIRGINIA, } Dec. 24, via Beverly, Dec. 22.

Major-General Halleck, General-in-Chief:—I have the honor to report that I cut the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad at Salem, on the 15th, and have arrived safely at this point with my command, consisting of the 2d, 3d and 8th Va. mounted infantry, 14th Pa., Dobson's battalion of cavalry, and Ewing's battery. At Salem three depots were destroyed, containing 2,000 barrels of flour, 10,000 bushels wheat, 100,000 bushels shelled corn, 50,000 bushels oats, 2,000 barrels meal, several cords of leather, 1,000 sacks salt, 31 boxes clothing, 20 bales cotton, a large amount of harness, shoes and saddles, equipments, coal oil, tar and various other stores and two wagons.

The telegraph wire was cut, coiled and burned for half a mile. The water station, turn-table, and three cars were burned and the track burned up and the rails heated and destroyed as much as possible in six hours. Five bridges and several culverts were destroyed over an extent of fifteen miles. A large quantity of bridge timber and repairing materials were also destroyed. My march was retarded occasionally by the tempest in the mountains and the icy roads. I was obliged to swim my command and drag my artillery across Cross Creek, seven times in twenty-four hours. On my return I found six separate commands under Gens. Fitzhugh Lee, Imboden, Judson, Echols and McConsten, arranged in a line extending from Staunton to Newport, upon all the available roads, to prevent my return.

I captured a dispatch from Gen. Jones to Gen. Early, giving me his position and that of Jackson at Clifton Forge and Covington. I marched from the front of Jones to that of Jackson at night. His supports were pressed in at a gallop by the 8th Virginia Mounted Infantry, and the two bridges across Jackson's River were saved, although fagots had been piled ready to ignite. My column, about four miles long, hastened across, regardless of the enemy, until all but my ambulances and a few wagons and one regiment had passed, when a strong effort was made by them to retake the first bridge, in which they did not succeed.

The ambulances and some sick men were lost, and by the darkness and difficulties the last regiment was detained upon the opposite side until morning, when it was ascertained that the enemy seemed determined to maintain his position upon the cliffs which overlook the bridges. I caused the bridges, which were long and high, to be destroyed, and the enemy immediately changed his position to the flank and rear of the detachment which was cut off. I sent orders to the remnants to destroy our wagons, and come to me across the river or over the ruts. They swam the river with the loss of only four men, who were drowned, and joined me. In the meantime forces of the enemy were concentrating upon me at Cullhatt's, over every available road but one which I deemed impracticable, but by which I crossed over the top of the Alleghenies with my command with the exception of four caissons which were destroyed to increase the number of the pieces. My loss is one officer and four men drowned, and four officers and 90 men missing. We captured about 200 prisoners, but have retained but four officers and 80 men on account of their inability to walk.

We took also about 250 horses. My horses have subsisted entirely upon a very poor country, and the officers and men have suffered cold, hunger and fatigue with remarkable fortitude. My command has marched, climbed, slid and swam 355 miles since the 8th inst.

W. W. AVERILL, Brig. Gen.

The N. Y. Tribune's army dispatch of the 28th ult., states that a cavalry raid has returned to Bealton Station, having made a successful forage among the rebels, driving the guerrillas into the mountains, and destroying at Luray a large saddle and harness factory and a large tannery. Five other tanneries were destroyed near Sperryville. A rebel mail and a quantity of medicines and dry goods were captured. Quite a number of prisoners are also captured during the raid and several brilliant skirmishes were had.

The Herald's army dispatch says the re-organization of the army has commenced.

Deserters from the North Carolina troops continue to avail themselves of the President's amnesty.

General Michael Corcoran died at Fairfax Court House Dec. 23d.

Department of the South.

THE U. S. transport Star of the South, from Hilton Head 21st, arrived in New York on the 26th ult.

The report of the Ironsides and other Monitors being entangled in the obstructions in Charleston harbor, is untrue. The Monitor Lehigh while on picket duty near Fort Johnson, got aground. The rebel battery opened on her, doing her considerable damage, when the other two iron-clads went to her assistance and succeeded in getting her off. She sprang a leak, making it necessary for her to go to Port Royal for repairs. No one on board was injured.

Gen. Gillmore continues to shell Charleston daily from his 200-pounders.

The United States steamer Massachusetts arrived at Fortress Monroe on the 27th from Charleston Bar with 250 soldiers, 44 sick, and 15 rebel prisoners captured on the rebel steamer Cheatham. She has on board a portion of the rebel obstructions in Charleston harbor, forwarded by Admiral Dahlgren.

Dispatches from Charleston harbor state that no important events had occurred since the sailing of the last steamer.

There had been but little firing the last few days. The Ironsides and Monitors were all lying safe at their anchorage. There were no present prospects of active operations.

The Boston Traveller has a letter from Beaufort, S. C., dated the 22d inst., which says:

An expedition is about starting all in a hurry and uncertainty. No one knows its destination, but the fact that it is to be commanded by Gen. Seymour, indicates that it is of importance, for he is a fighting man. The order to strike tents was given at 7 o'clock, and at 10 o'clock they were off.

The new oath of allegiance has been administered to a number of rebel officers who have recently come into our lines to accept of the pardon offered by the President. They bring intelligence from a large number who intend to do likewise at the earliest opportunity.

Late Wilmington papers announce the arrival of blockade running steamers in great numbers. A refugee who has just reached here says 23 arrived there the night before he left.

The plan of leasing out the abandoned plantations in East and North Carolina adopted by David H. Eaton, supervising agent, is proving a great success to the Treasury Department, and also great benefit to the laboring classes of both colors.

The rebel iron steamer Cheatham was captured by the gunboat Huron, about December 1st, in Duboy Sound, Ga., in attempting to run to sea with a cargo of cotton, tobacco, &c.

The expedition planned by General Gillmore for an attack on Savannah was abandoned on account of the arrival of troops sent to re-enforce Bragg.

Admiral Dahlgren has one or two expeditions on foot, from which good results are anticipated.

The Richmond Examiner of the 28th ult., publishes the following dispatches:

CHARLESTON, Dec. 25.—The enemy commenced shelling the city last night, keeping up a steady fire, which is still going on at 9 o'clock this morning. A fire broke out at 2 o'clock, destroying 12 buildings and causing a few casualties. There is heavy firing in the direction of Stono, which is believed to be between our batteries and the enemy's gunboats. The shelling of the city continues to-day. One white man was mortally wounded, and one white woman seriously wounded, and three firemen badly wounded. All is quiet at Sumter.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 28.—From 12 Thursday night till 4 Friday P. M., 130 shells were thrown into the city. The enemy fired five guns, three at Gregg, one at Cumming's Point and from a mortar battery.

The engagement on Johnson's Island, between our light batteries and the enemy's gunboats, resulted in a draw fight. There were few casualties. Our loss at Stono was one killed and five wounded.

Department of the Gulf.

THE steamer McClellan from New Orleans the 14th, Pensacola the 15th, and Key West the 18th, arrived in New York on the 26th ult.

The rebels are in large force in the vicinity of New Orleans, but have refrained from making any attack on our entrenchments. Our scouting parties are outside every day. Recently 30 rebels came in and gave themselves up, saying they were tired of the rebel service. A day or two before a party of our cavalry captured 29 rebel cavalrymen. They seemed to be willing, and joined our cavalry without hesitation.

The Era says that since the firing on the Henry Van Phul all boats have passed up and down unmolested, and not a sign of an enemy is to be seen at Morganza Bend. A gunboat is stationed near the point where the batteries were formerly placed.

At the mouth of Red River a fleet of transports have been assembled, and as there is nine feet of water on the bar at that place, we shall soon hear of these boats having ascended the River, doing all the damage to the enemy in their power.

The arrivals of cotton at New Orleans for the week, amounted to 2,444 bales and 2,699 bags for New York.

Mr. Getchell, N. Y. Herald correspondent, captured at the Bayou Coteau fight, states that 600 prisoners and 24 officers were captured with him. He says the disaster was owing to the bad conduct of Gen. Washburne, and that the gallantry of Gen. Burbridge alone saved the whole corps from capture.

The schooner Marshal J. Smith, with a cargo of 250 bales of cotton, was captured off Mobile Point on the 9th inst.

Movements in the West and South-West.

THE Choctaw Chieftain McCurtain, with other rebel Indian leaders, came in our lines at Fort Smith, Arkansas, on the 27th ult., and surrendered themselves to Gen. McNeil. They have abandoned the rebel cause, and have expressed a desire to avail themselves of the President's proclamation. Their example will influence others of the rebel tribes.

Apprehensions are felt for the safety of an immense supply train on the way from Fort Scott, on account of Standwaite and Quantrel being in that direction.

Col. Williams, commanding at Rossville, Ark., has secured for the Government, and has in process of ginning, some 200 bales of rebel cotton. He has within reach of camp 100,000 bushels of corn, and is gathering 1,000 bushels per day. He can put up, if salt can be procured, 200,000 pounds of pork. All of this is being done by the regiment with the assistance of one extra train besides running two miles and hunting bushwhackers generally, several of whom have been captured.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

INFORMATION has been received at the State Department that orders have been sent by the Imperial Government of France to the Commander-in-Chief of the French naval force in the Pacific, to place in a state of blockade the ports of Acapulco and San Blas, but that through a spirit of liberality and comity on the part of the Emperor of the French, he has decided that American packets which constitute the line between Panama and San Francisco, shall enjoy the privilege of touching at Acapulco, in order to renew their stock of coal which they may need for the completion of their voyage; it being understood that these vessels shall not leave or receive any passengers at that port, or any merchandise.

The State Department has received intelligence from London by the last European steamer that all the rebel rams in England have been offered to the English government at a certain price. Lord Clarence Paget, on the part of the English Admiral, has written to the builder that no decided answer could be given at present, but that the subject was before their Lordships for consideration.

In accordance with instructions received from the Emperor, the Russian Minister, Mr. De-Stoeckel, had an audience of the President on the 26th, for the purpose of expressing the thanks of the Imperial Government for the kind reception of vessels of the Russian Navy, and their officers and crews in the United States, and also for the assistance extended at San Francisco to a Russian corvette.

It is expected that Arkansas will be represented in Congress at an early period in the present session. Arrangements are progressing favorably for an election in that State, and there is reason to believe the State Government will soon be acting in co-operation with the Union authority.

Congress having failed to amend the Conscription Act previous to adjournment, the draft will be postponed till February 1st, in order to give Congress time to amend the law. The act will undergo a revision upon the re-assembling of that body, in order to simplify its provisions and increase its efficiency, and until this is done it is not likely a draft will be enforced. In the meantime recruiting will be stimulated by bounties and by a vigorous effort.

A bill has passed both Houses of Congress to supply deficiencies, appropriating \$20,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the payment of bounties and advance pay, provided that no bounties except such as are not provided by law shall be paid to any persons enlisted after the 5th of January next, and that money paid by drafted persons under the Enrollment Act shall be paid into the Treasury, and shall be drawn out on requisition, as in the case of bounty money, and the money so paid shall be kept in the Treasury as a deposit, applicable only for the expenses of the draft and for the procurement of substitutes.

As the terms of the President's Emancipation and Amnesty Proclamations do not, in words, include the Indian Territory, efforts are being made by the Indian Bureau to adjust the difficulties growing out of certain Indians having made common cause with the rebel government, and to base the settlement on the principles asserted in these proclamations. Already the Creeks have negotiated a treaty with this Government providing for the abolition of slavery among them, providing they be reinstated in the benefits which they forfeited by their disloyalty, and similar treaties are contemplated with the Choctaws and Cherokees. The latter, through their council, have provided for freeing their slaves, but a stipulation for that end is required in a new treaty.

A Circular has been issued from the Adjutant-General's office as follows:

The six months troops now in the service who may desire to re-enlist for three years or the war, will be re-enlisted under the following regulations:

First. When three-fourths of a regiment re-enlist, the officers will be permitted to retain the rank held by them.

Second. Should less than three-fourths re-enlist, said force will be organized into one or more companies, and officered by such officers as may be selected from the brigade command, by the commanding officer of the department. The remainder will continue under the remaining officers till the expiration of the six months term is discharged. If the government shall not require the troops for the full period of three years, and they shall be mustered honorably out of the service before the expiration of their enlistment, they shall receive the whole amount of bounty unpaid, the same as if the full term had been served. All legal heirs of those who die in the service shall receive the bounty unpaid at the time of the soldier's death.

The government has decided that the safety of American vessels leaving seaports requires that no person shall be allowed to leave these ports as a passenger, or otherwise, on any American vessel without first receiving a passport from the Marshal of the District. Any one can obtain the proper passport who can have his loyalty properly vouched for. The adoption of this stringent measure will probably prevent a repetition of the Chesapeake affair.

Instructions have been sent by Secretary Welles to the commanding officers of the different navy commanders to have a fleet of vessels ready to take their positions at New York, Boston, Philadelphia and other ports, for the purpose of carrying out the new regulations relative to passports of vessels and passengers.

On the 24th ult., two enterprising soldiers of the United States Army, who have been in durance at Richmond, reported themselves at the Provost Marshal's office, dressed in gray clothes made from secess blankets. Their names are H. S. Howard, of Seaman's brigade, and John R. McCullock, of the 1st Wisconsin Infantry. Howard had been employed by the rebels in charge of Alabama Hospital No. 23, and McCullock as Hospital Steward. Having ascer-

tained that if they could escape they would receive assistance from the Union people of Richmond, who are more numerous than is generally supposed, McCullock feigned to be dead, and was carried out in a coffin, and Howard passed the guard in the night. Their escape was effected on the 8th ult., and they remained in the city until the 17th. Some friends took charge of them, and suits were made for them out of rebel blankets, and passes furnished which enabled them to get out of the city. These persons report our men are suffering great hardships in the rebel prisons and hospitals. The rations of the rebels themselves are very scanty, consisting of a piece of corn bread, and they receive occasionally a piece of bacon. They represent that the average number of deaths of our prisoners in the hospitals in the city is 35 per week.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

THE entire number of guns wrested from the enemy by "Unconditional Surrender GRANT" during the past six or seven months, amounts to four hundred and twelve, viz:—Fifty-two while winning his way to Vicksburg; three hundred at that place, and sixty at Lookout Mountain. His own losses of cannon have been trifling.

THE materials for a game dinner for a Philadelphian at Caracas, were put up at Philadelphia recently. Two turkeys, four pair of canvas-bucks, a dozen quail, and two pair of prairie hens, were placed in the center of a hoghead of ice. This large package was necessary to preserve them sound. In Caracas they have no turkeys. "That bird cannot live in that climate, and the Yankee in Venezuela who wants a turkey dinner must import it."

A LATE number of the Richmond Whig says:—"In Danville five dollars in gold were sold at auction, a day or two ago, for one hundred and forty dollars in confederate notes." Which makes a confederate dollar worth 3 1/2 cents.

FEW American cities surpass Chicago in the number and beauty of its church edifices; and it is stated as a singular fact, that religious worship is conducted there in more languages than in any other city in the world. A convocation of all the Chicago churches would be Babel renewed. A person making the rounds of the various houses of worship would, in a single day, hear services in English, German, French, Swedish, Welsh, Dutch, and Norwegian, besides some supposed to be conducted in unknown tongues.

A LETTER from Morris Island, since the late storm, says:—"For the past twenty-four hours these shores have been ghastly with numberless rebel dead, some of them in boxes, but mostly uncoffined. They were washed out from the beach near forts Putnam and Strong, (formerly Gregg and Wagner.) Skulls, arms, and entire skeletons bobbed around the beach, a literal 'dance of death.'"

In the last six months, one-fifth of the whole population of Panama has perished from small-pox. All the churches and cathedrals are now without pastors. The dead are buried without religious ceremonies, and marriages are performed either by the civil authorities or consuls, or by the chaplains of the war-ships.

A PATRIOTIC old lady recently sent three smoking caps as presents to officers in the Potomac army. One was to Gen. Meade, and the remaining two she desired to be presented to two Generals, one of whom must be a teetotaler, and the other one who never indulged in profanity. Gen. Williams, chief of Gen. Meade's staff, took the Anti-Profanity cap, and Gen. Hunt the Temperance cap.

THE sum of \$35,000 has recently been appropriated by the authorities of the Methodist Church, for the extension of the Church in the far South, and measures are being put in operation to carry out the work. Bishop Ames is at St. Louis, preparing to start down the Mississippi; Bishop Simpson will soon proceed to Tennessee, and a prominent minister in New York has been designated for New Orleans.

THE San Juan Press says, owing to the mercurial vapor which falls from the chimneys of the works at New Almaden quicksilver mine, the vegetation on the surrounding hills for the circuit of three or four miles is all dead, and the timber likewise is leafless and sapless. Cattle that feed on the dry grass within half a mile of the works become salivated.

THE plantations of Jeff. Davis and his brother, Joe. Davis, below Vicksburg, have been taken possession of by the Government and will be used for a contraband camp.

Dr. J. W. Robinson, Assistant Surgeon of the 3d Kansas Regiment, died at Fort Smith on the 11th inst. He was the first Secretary of the State of Kansas, and took an active part in the councils of the Free State men in 1855-7.

A SEA captain of forty years' experience asserts that the Gulf stream is several hundred miles nearer our coast than usual, and predicts a warm winter in New England, but not at the South, in consequence.

THERE are now about 6,000 rebel prisoners in Camp Douglas very much exercised about the President's proclamation offering pardon to all who will take the proposed oath. A large number express themselves willing to take that oath. Over one hundred have enrolled their names, and have had them forwarded to Washington, offering to enlist in the United States navy.

A YOUNG LADY in Richmond, writing to her friends in Baltimore, says that the gaieties of society in that city consist chiefly of what are called "starvation parties," at which people meet in each other's houses, and have music and dancing, but nothing to eat or drink. The fair writer attends these parties twice a week, and she avers that they have a good deal of fun but no supper.

List of New Advertisements.

Prospectus of The World. Cook's Sugar Evaporator—Blymyer, Bates & Day. Geo. Demerit & Co., Jewelers. The Young Ladies' Collegiate Institute of Union Springs—R. B. Howland. Springfield (Mass.) Republican—S. Bowles & Co. See the Best—G. & C. Merriam. Valuable Property for Sale—M. T. Meeker. Spring Garden Seeds—J. M. Thornburn & Co. The Prettiest Present for a Lady—Arrandale & Co. Clark's School Visitor—J. W. Daughaday. Elegant Christmas Presents—Arrandale & Co. Randall's Practical Shepherd—D. T. Moore. Scrofularia, &c.—Wm. B. Prince. Steel Composition Bells—American Bell Co. The Little Giant—Agents Wanted—T. S. Page. Nursery Foreman Wanted—A. G. Hanford & Bro. Dairyman and Farmer Wanted—H. M. Wad. Agents Wanted—O. Ruggles & Co. Elba Nurseries—E. J. Pettibone & Son. Land for Sale—C. L. Salisbury. Employment—C. J. Helman & Co. Short-Horns for Sale—E. Marks. Agents Wanted—Shaw & Clark. \$30 per Month—J. S. Pardee. Prince Alberts Windsor Pipes—Wm. K. Gridley.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Atlantic Monthly—Tieknor & Fields. Beware of Imposition—D. B. DeLand & Co.

The News Condenser.

- The small pox is said to be raging at Memphis, Tenn.
—The Richmond Whig quotes coke at forty dollars per load.
—The Maine potato crop this year amounts to 6,696,348 bushels.
—The Sultan of Turkey has gone into horse-racing extensively.
—A Scotchman has invented a way of making carpets of cork.
—Telegraph facilities are rapidly increasing along the Pacific slope.
—There were 10,520 federal prisoners in Richmond on the 18th ult.
—They are enlisting colored men in New Haven at the rate of ten a day.
—One of the California mining companies is selling land at \$1,000 an inch.
—The ground for another National Cemetery has been selected at Chattanooga.
—The North has used 2,980 tons of powder in the war since its commencement.
—Thousands of logs have been lost by a freshet in the Kennebec river, Maine.
—Justice Wrightman, a distinguished English Judge, died lately, aged 80 years.
—Seventy thousand bales of cotton have been raised in Italy the present year.
—Another National Bank with a capital of \$1,000,000 is to be started in Chicago.
—The New England clergy are, it is said, talking of a strike for higher salaries.
—The Quakers are about to establish a college in their interest at West Chester, Pa.
—The mining productions of the United Kingdom are estimated at \$150,000,000.
—Fresh beef is selling at from three to four cents per pound in Indiana Co., Pa.
—Twenty-five colored regiments have been organized in the Department of the Gulf.
—It is expected that Alexandria, Egypt, will be lighted by gas in about eight months.
—Gen. Rosecrans is appointed to the command of the Western District of Missouri.
—About \$120,000 have been subscribed in San Francisco for the Sanitary Commission.
—It is stated that the rebels have 3,000,000 bales of cotton accumulated at Atlanta, Ga.
—The ice on the river at Albany is eight inches thick and heavily laden teams are crossing.
—The keels for two immense war vessels were laid at the Brooklyn Navy Yard last week.
—A bounty of \$1,000 is paid in Newark, N. J., to every recruit under the last call for troops.
—The entire capital (\$500,000) of the new National Bank in New Orleans has been subscribed.
—During the last three months 10,500 horses have been purchased in Chicago for government.
—The free colored schools in Washington are well attended, and are accomplishing great good.
—Not a single steamer under the American flag now sails between the United States and Europe.
—The estimated expenditures of the city government of Philadelphia for 1864 amount to \$4,809,263.
—The number of persons leaving Liverpool America in 11 months of last year was 136,000.
—A company in Indianapolis, Ind., is preparing a fruit farm near that city to embrace 1,200 acres.
—A Yankee prisoner in Richmond made believe dead, was laid out in the dead house and escaped.
—Seven children in one family in Miltown, Maine, died within the space of one week of diphtheria.
—The contributions from New Hampshire to the Boston Sanitary Fair will produce, it is said, at least \$15,000.
—A fair held by the American ladies in Montreal for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission yielded the sum of \$700.
—There are 535,319 white males in Ohio of the age of twenty-one years and over, and 9,937 blacks of the same age.
—In some parts of Iowa the snow is said to have fallen to an extraordinary depth, drifting in piles fifteen feet high.
—The Missouri Senate has passed a bill repealing the old law prohibiting whites touching slaves to read and write.
—It is stated that only eighty millions of the five hundred millions of the "Five-Twenty" loan remain unsubscribed.
—In the Third Army Corps 16 regiments have agreed to re-enlist upon condition that they retain their present organization.
—Rev. John Dempsey, D. D., a distinguished preacher of the Methodist denomination, died in New York recently.
—All the cotton mills in Cohoes are running, and it is said they are likely to continue in operation throughout the winter.
—A New London (Conn.) paper announces the death of Jas. Douglas, of Stony Creek, at the extraordinary age of 110 years.
—A scientific expedition has started for Syria from England to investigate the geology, zoology and botany of the Holy Land.
—It is asserted that the Loyal Union Leagues at the North now number between eight hundred thousand and one million voters.
—A dispatch from Chattanooga, 18th ult., says that the President's Message and Proclamation are satisfactory to many rebel prisoners.

Special Notices.

NO MAGAZINE NUMBERS among its contributors such eminent names as those constituting the regular staff of writers for the Atlantic Monthly

THE BEST AMERICAN WRITERS Contribute regularly to its pages. HAWTHORNE, EMERSON, LOWELL, LONGFELLOW, HOLMES, WHITTIER, and other distinguished writers are represented in its columns.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, ROCHESTER, December 29, 1863. FLOUR—No change in rates. Trade dull.

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

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—FLOUR—Market quiet and heavy. Sales superior State at \$6.15 per bushel.

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

ALBANY, Dec. 28.—BEEVES—Prices—About 1000 head changed hands at the close of yesterday's market.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—There is rather more movement than usual at the close of the year, and with unusually light stocks, holders are very firm.

Married

ON the 9th of Dec., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. M. DAY, RICHMOND L. BRIGGS and SARAH E. WRIGHT, all of Richmond, Ontario Co., N. Y.

Died.

In this city on the 28th ult., THEODORE B. HAMILTON, aged 55 years.

New Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 62 1/2 cents per line of space.

WELL-BRED SHORT-HORNED BULLS, COWS, Heifers, and Bull Calves, for sale. E. MARKS.

PRINCE ALBERTS WINDSOR PIGS—A few of this new choice breed of Suffolks for sale by WM. K. GRIDLEY, North Chili, Monroe Co., N. Y.

ELBA NURSERIES—APPLE SETTS—A good variety, for sale at \$7 per 1000. Address [739-131] E. J. PETTIBONE & SON, Elba, Genesee Co., N. Y.

93 ACRES OF LAND FOR SALE IN THE TOWN of Geddes, about 3 1/2 miles from Syracuse. Inquire of [729-44] Or, J. W. OSBORN, Albany.

\$80 PER MONTH—Agents wanted in every town. This is something new and of real value. For particulars address, with stamp, [729-21] J. S. PARDEE, Binghamton, N. Y.

\$60 A MONTH—We want Agents at \$60 a month, expenses paid, to sell our Enticement Pencils, Circular Burners, and 13 other articles. 15 circulars sent FREE. Address, [729-21] SHAW & CLARK, Buffalo, Mo.

PATENTS.—J. FRASER & CO., Western N. Y. Patent Agency, Rochester and Buffalo, N. Y., give opinions on Inventions without charge; examine the Patent Office records, and warrant Patents in all doubtful cases. Send for a Circular. [729-44]

EMPLOYMENT!—\$70 per month and traveling expenses will be paid to men who merit the approbation of the subscribers, and a permanent situation. For full particulars address [729-44] C. J. HEINMAN & CO., Atkinson Depot, N. P.

\$75 A MONTH—AGENTS WANTED TO SELL Sewing Machines. We will give a commission on all Machines sold, or employ agents who will work for the above wages, and all expenses paid. For particulars address [729-21] C. RUGGLES & CO., Detroit, Mich.

DAIRYMAN AND FARMER WANTED—Near Peoria, Illinois, a man who can make and sell cheese and butter. The wife will be employed if she has no children. Must be honest, industrious and sober. Address [729-21] H. M. WEAD, Peoria, Illinois.

NURSERMAN FOREMAN WANTED.—An active, capable man fully acquainted with the various branches of the business. Also, a Green House propagator, who thoroughly understands his business. Address, with references as to character and ability, [729-21] A. G. HANFORD & BRO., Columbus Nursery, Columbus, Ohio.

\$75 A MONTH—THE LITTLE EAST Sewing Machine Company want Agents in every county, to solicit orders for their new \$15 Machine, with gauge, screw-driver and extra needles. We will pay a liberal salary and expenses, and give \$250 per annum. For particulars, terms, &c., incl. seal, stamp, and address [729-21] T. S. PARDEE, Toledo, O. General Agent for the United States.

SCROFULARIA or Veronca Quinquifolia for Scrofula, Erysipelas, Salt Rheum, Mercury, Liver Diseases, White Swelling, Glandular Swellings, Ulcers, all Eruptions, and all diseases arising from impurity of the blood. Pneumonia, composed of four medicinal plants, for Consumption, Croup, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Lung and Throat Diseases in general. Serravallo's Small Pills. Pile-wort, for Piles, &c. All are in \$3 and \$5 packages. WM. R. PRINCE, Flushing, N. Y.

STEEL COMPOSITION BELLS.—A good Church or other Bell for 20 cents per pound. Wanted to give Satisfaction. For valuable information upon the subject of Bells send for pamphlets to the undersigned, who are the only manufacturers of this description of bells with Harrison's self-adjusting patented tongue hangings, either in this country or in Europe. [729-21] AMERICAN BELL COMPANY, No. 30 Liberty Street, New York.

A THOUSAND YEARS' Works' Great War Song, Words and Music, in January No. 1. A SCHOOL MAGAZINE FREE! CLARK'S SCHOOL VISITOR.—Vol. VIII. The Publisher of this favorite Monthly, in order to reach all schools, will send the VISITOR one year gratis to one person (who will act as Agent), at any post-office in the United States. This is an unparalleled offer. Patrons will receive certificates for particulars, at [729-21] J. W. CHUGHADAY, Publisher, 1308 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

ELEGANT CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR A LADY. A Beautiful Gold composite, Hunting case WATCH, Jeweled. An excellent time keeper, \$15. For a Gentleman, MAGIC RAILWAY WATCH, With Patent Time Indicator, Showing the hour without opening case, very handsome and reliable. The Gold Composite can also be had in gentleman size. Watches sent for inspection before payment.

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SPRINGING GARDEN SEEDS J. M. THORBURN & CO., 15 JOHN STREET, NEW YORK. Take pleasure in announcing their Annual Descriptive Catalogue of Vegetable and Agricultural Seeds FOR 1864. MAILED FREE TO ALL APPLICANTS.

TO THE SEED TRADE! WHOLESALE PRICES OF SEEDS for the month of January 1864, are now fixed. TRADE LISTS on application. J. M. THORBURN & CO., 15 John Street, New York.

"GET THE BEST!" Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. A HOLIDAY GIFT OF PERMANENT VALUE!!

lad to add my testimony in his favor. [Pres. Walker, of Harvard.] very scholar knows its value. [Wm. H. Prescott, the Historian.] he most complete Dictionary of the Language. [George Eckersley.] he best guide of students of our Language. [John G. Whittier.] it will transmit his name to latest posterity. [Chancellor Kent.] etymological part surpasses anything by earlier laborers. [Edith Barrett.] bearing relation to Language the Principles does to Philosophy. [President Hitchcock.] xceeds all others in defining scientific terms. [Horace Mann.] o far as I know, best defining Dictionary. [Smart, the English Orthopedist.] take it altogether, the surpassing work. [Sold by all booksellers.]

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

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FOR SALE. VALUABLE MILL PROPERTY, NEAR FORESTPORT, ONEIDA CO., N. Y.

The undersigned offers for sale at a low price, 2,800 Acres of Land, heavily timbered with Hemlock, Spruce and Hard Wood.

The Mill is large, and well stocked with Gang and Circular Saws, having a capacity to saw 15,000 feet per day. It is situated on Woodhull Creek—a never failing stream. The Water Power is one of the best in the State, and is easily kept in repair. Adjoining the Mill there are

8 Good Houses, 2 Barns, Store, Smith Shop, &c. The location is one of the best in the country, being only one mile from Canal navigation, and four miles from Adler Creek Station on the Utica and Black River Railroad. It commands a large trade with Utica, and the Erie Canal, there being only thirty miles of Canal navigation to the former place. Belonging to the property there is an ample dock for storing and shipping lumber, wood, &c.

The land is very heavily timbered, very little of it having been cut over. It is estimated that the average product of each acre is 10,000 feet Hemlock and 5,000 feet Spruce Lumber, 5 cords Hemlock Bark, and 30 cords of hard wood—Maple, Birch and Birch. A large quantity of other lumber is also produced.

The lumber is in great demand for Albany, Troy, and Eastern markets. The hard wood is of the best quality, and finds ready sale in Utica, and to the N. Y. Central Railroad Company. Splendid lumber bark is in good demand for a large Tannery situated near the property. It is believed that for speculation, or for a party desiring to engage in the lumber trade, that this property is one of the most desirable and profitable that can be made, it being offered at a low price and on favorable terms.

Beides the Mill property there are a large number of Splendid Water Powers on the property, and tributary to them there is an endless quantity of heavily timbered land. For further particulars inquire of or address [729-44] Or Messrs. PETER SAXE & SON, and LYMAN R. LAY, Lumber Merchants, West Troy, N. Y.

THE LEADING JOURNAL OF NEW ENGLAND. SPRINGFIELD, MASS., REPUBLICAN.

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THE ONLY JOURNAL THAT GIVES ALL THE NEW ENGLAND LOCAL NEWS.

Its leading characteristics are great comprehensiveness and compactness of News; fullness and variety of Editorial Discussions on political, moral, religious and literary subjects; and large space devoted to Choice Literature. In each and all of these respects, it challenges comparison with any journal in America.

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The REPUBLICAN has a corps of eight editors, including Dr. J. G. Holland, ("Timothy Titcomb"), and a lady of high literary culture. Its Weekly Edition is printed and mailed on Friday for \$2 a year; ten copies \$15; always in advance. It is also issued Daily at \$7 a copy, and Semi-Weekly on a double-sheet at \$4. Ten copies of the latter for \$30. Specimen copies will be sent on application.

The Circulation of the DAILY REPUBLICAN is 10,000 copies; of the WEEKLY, 12,000; which is greater than that of any other interior journal in the country, and only excelled by but few of the city papers. Both in the number and high character of its subscribers, it presents special inducements for all kinds of general advertising. SAMUEL BOWLES & COMPANY, Publishers, Springfield, Mass.

GEO. DEMERIT & CO., JEWELERS, NO. 808 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, (CORNER DUANE STREET).

100,000 Watches, Chains, Gold Pens and Pencils, &c., &c., WORTH \$500,000. TO BE SOLD AT ONE DOLLAR EACH, WITHOUT REGARD TO VALUE.

And not to be paid until you know what you will receive!

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All the goods in the above list will be sold, without reservation, for ONE DOLLAR EACH. Certificates of sale, in the form of a receipt, will be sent with every article, and will be received by the holder of the certificate, or delivered at our office, without regard to choice. On receiving a Certificate, you will see what article it represents, and it is optional with you to send one dollar and receive the article named, or any other in the list of same value. By this mode we give selections from a varied stock of the goods of the best make and latest styles, and of intrinsic worth, at a nominal price, while all have a chance of securing articles of the very highest value.

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We guarantee entire satisfaction in every instance, and if there should be any defect in the goods with any article that you receive, they will immediately return it, and the price will be refunded.

AGENTS.—We allow those acting as Agents Ten cents on each Certificate ordered, provided their remittance amounts to One Dollar. They will collect 25 cents for every Certificate, and, retaining 10 cents, remit to us 15 cents for each. Address [729-21] GEO. DEMERIT & CO., 808 Broadway, New York.

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This establishment recommends itself to the public for its high merit. The arrangements and arrangements are made with a view to thorough physical, moral, literary and Christian training of Young Ladies.

The course of study and capacity of the Professors to give instruction, admits of the widest range; but instead of bringing all to an exact rule, each will be educated as health, peculiar talent, and their prospects in life may make advisable. Especial attention will be given to the development of an ability to teach and converse well, and the reading of distinct topics will be regularly required, with a view to oral narration and discussion; to which end, a Library valued at \$4,000, has been selected, under the most favorable auspices.

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A Model Infant School, and a more advanced class of young children, will be maintained for the advantage of the Normal Scholars. Our aim is to give the house the elevating atmosphere of a Christian Home, imparting to the mind the habit of noble action, and stimulating true culture and refined self-possession.

For Boarders, Regular Course of 40 weeks.....\$200 Primary Department..... 150 Latin, for 40 weeks, French, German, Drawing, and Singing, for 40 weeks, each..... 200 Painting..... 40 Day Scholar, Regular Course..... 40 Primary and Infant day Scholars, 40 weeks..... 32 Payable in advance for each session.

The first term commences the 12th of 11th month (November), 1863, and continues except Christmas Holidays one week, until 30th March (March) 21, 1864. The Spring Term will commence the 24th of 3d mo. (March) and continue 16 weeks. The Fall term commences the 18th of 8th mo. (August) and continues 10 weeks.

Application for admittance to be made to the President, Union Springs, Cayuga Co., N. Y. For the convenience of Teachers who wish to enter for a short time, these terms may be varied by the week, and so allow of a short tarry, if necessary.

Union Springs, 12th mo., 10th, 1863. R. B. HOWLAND, 729-31

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Is the most successful device before the public for operating with the Maple. It will make Better Sugar, In Less Time, With Less Fuel, Than any other yet brought out. See Testimonials.

Brick arches for Cook pans should be built 8 1/2 inches in width and 9, 10 1/2, 12 or 15 feet in length, inside measurement. Send for a Circular and order early.

BLAKE, BATES & DAY, Manufacturers, Mansfield, Ohio.

TESTIMONIALS. Half a cord to the 100 lbs. As light as the best cooking sugar, and as sweet as Honey, Hinesburg, Vt. Baked much faster and made sugar at least 20 per cent better.—Orange Buck, Cambridge, LaMolle Co., Vt. One-third faster. Sugar worth 15 per cent more.—P. M. Henry, North Bennington, Vt.

Its operation surprised all who saw it.—Sidney Shepard & Co., Buffalo, N. Y. As good as sugar. Bakers.—Hiram Robbins, Brighton, Monroe Co., N. Y.

Saved half the wood and time. Sugar and Syrup of a purer quality altogether.—M. C. Morgan, Bennington, Vt.

The Sugar and Syrup were very beautiful in color. The Syrup of the first run looked like the white of an egg or the clear honey that young bees make.—Levi Hart, Fulaskville, Ohio.

PRESS NOTICES. Commended as the best by Moore's Rural New-Yorker. The New England Farmer, American Agriculturist, New York Tribune, Country Gentleman, Genesee Farmer, Ohio Farmer, Ohio Cultivator, Field Notes, Illinois Farmer, Prairie Farmer, Wisconsin Farmer, Minnesota Farmer, Michigan Farmer, Indiana Farmer, and by all editors who have ever seen it in operation. [729-36m]

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Containing over \$1 worth of the 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., &c.

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THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD: A Complete Treatise on the Breeding, Management and Diseases of Sheep. By Hon. HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D., Author of "Sheep Husbandry in the South," "Fine Wool Husbandry," &c. With Illustrations.

This work reached seven editions in less than six weeks from the time of its first publication, in October, 1863, and the demand for it is still extraordinary. No volume on any branch of Agriculture or husbandry ever had so rapid a sale, or gave such universal satisfaction.

It is cordially welcomed and highly approved by both Press and People, being pronounced THE BEST WORK ON SHEEP HUSBANDRY ever published in America. The Twelfth Edition is now in press and will be issued next week.

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An Independent Democratic Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly Newspaper.

UNION OF THE WORLD AND ARGUS. THE WORLD, To which the New York Weekly Argus has been united, has to-day five times the aggregate circulation of any Democratic or conservative newspaper. It addresses weekly alone more than

100,000 subscribers and constant purchasers, and reaches at least half a million readers. With the steady increase in circulation which it now enjoys, these numbers will soon be doubled. Nothing less than this should satisfy those who believe that the only hope of restoring the Union and the authority of the Constitution over a now distracted and divided country, lies in wresting power from the hands of those whose fanaticism has helped to provoke, invite, and prolong the war; and that to accomplish this end, no means is so effective as the diffusion, through able and enterprising newspapers, of sound political knowledge among the working men, the thinking men, and the voting men of the North.

Enterprise, industry and money will be liberally expended to make The World the Best Newspaper in America.

Its news from every part of the world will be early and authentic. Wherever the telegraph extends, or railroads run, or steamboats ply, it will gather the latest intelligence. It has a large staff of accomplished correspondents with all the Federal armies, who will telegraph and write to us the latest news from the various seats of war. It has correspondents and reporters in every political and commercial center in America and Europe, whose letters and dispatches will leave nothing worthy of note unknown to its readers.

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The war in which the nation is engaged against armed and infatuated Rebels, and the radical policy of the administration which prolongs it, have conspired to bring together upon one platform all conservative, Union-loving and Constitution-loving men, of whatever former name and creed. Many of those who, within the limits of the Constitution, fought the battles of the ballot-box under the leadership of those patriotic statesmen of other and better days, Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, together with the masses whose principles were those of such patriots as Andrew Jackson and William L. Marcy, Silas Wright and Stephen A. Douglas, now stand shoulder to shoulder upon the same platform and under the same banner. The platform is a plain one. It is to restore the Union, maintain the Constitution, and enforce the Laws. Whatever makes for this end, the exercise of force or the policy of conciliation, THE WORLD will advocate; whatever makes against it, THE WORLD will oppose.

It will oppose every enemy of THE UNION, whether armed in rebellion at the South or insidiously planting the seeds of disunion and essential disloyalty at the North.

It will oppose every violation of THE CONSTITUTION, which is the only hope and bond of Union, and our only authority for exhorting or compelling the allegiance of the South.

It will oppose every infraction of THE LAW, in high places or in low, by reckless and misguided partisans, or by the administration which has been their example.

It will fearlessly exercise the Freedom of the Press; it will constantly uphold and defend Freedom of Speech and Freedom of the Ballot.

To the lawless acts of the Administration, its arbitrary and unjust arrests and expatriations, its denial of the right to the writ of habeas corpus, its illegal proclamations, its abrogation of State and Federal Laws, its despotic accumulations of ungranted power, and its subversions of the safeguards of civil and personal liberty, it will constantly oppose the letter and the spirit of our supreme law and the advocacy of sound doctrine, until American freemen shall be roused to the recovery of their rights, their liberties, their laws, and their limited and well-balanced government, by the resolute decision of the ballot.

Profoundly impressed with the desire to contribute all that it may to the great work of this generation, namely, to restore our national unity, and to place the United States again foremost among the nations of the earth, and first in the peace, prosperity, and happiness of its people, THE WORLD seeks from those who desire such things their sympathy and support, and, above all, the favor of Him who crowns every good work.

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All orders must be accompanied by the Cash. Address THE WORLD, 25 Park Row, New York.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

IN THE DEPOT.

BY A. S. HOOKER.

'Twas a long pine box with an ink-marked lid, Coarse, and heavy, and plain;

It looked like a hundred I'd seen before, Filled with their stranger freight;

And now, through my tears, what a change there came O'er the depot's noisy gloom,

White-robed and bright, and girded with steel, With starry flag in hand,

With the roar and shout of the battle day, The crash and scream of fight;

And one 'mong the dead from his mountain home, Bravest among them all,

And afar, by an open cottage door A weeping mother stood,

I woke from my dream as the clanging bell And rushing train went by,

But I knew there were tear-filled eyes that night, Dim for a loved one dead,

Lima, N. Y., 1863.

The Story-Teller.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MRS. FORSTER'S BOARDERS.

BY EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER.

"If we must board all summer, then let us go to Mrs. FORSTER's," said I.

"Just the place," said TIMOTHY. "It always refreshes me to look at the old lady;

So it was settled that while we were compelled to wait for the completion of our new house

"What a funny bedstead," said little CLARA; "it's got steeple to it;

"I do," said Master HARRY; "there's an orchard, with the best trees to climb you ever saw,

"Don't you ever go into the barn again," it was on my tongue to say;

"Yes, ma'am," said the boy, readily, by which he simply meant that he would not go

We had been in the family about a week, had become accustomed to the little oddities

Broad halls ran completely through it in both stories, the rooms were numerous

Miss WOODS appeared to be about thirty-five, and was, as TIMOTHY declared,

Even the "nice young man for Number 10" was not long wanting;

"You ought to see his room, Miss JENKINS," said Mrs. FORSTER, one day.

It was a great grief to her that JOSEPH was disposed to take the world so quietly,

for her part would have heartily enjoyed managing the affairs of half the nation;

We were sitting at the dinner table, patiently waiting while Mrs. FORSTER clumsily carved the roast beef.

"Well, Mrs. JENKINS," began our hostess, "I reckon you'll have some company before long.

"Have you engaged any one yet?" I asked, faintly, my heart sinking at the prospect.

"Well, you see," said Mrs. FORSTER with a great deal of satisfaction,

"But about the boarders, Mrs. FORSTER," mildly interposed TIMOTHY.

"Oh, yes; well, as I was saying, I left it all to MARTHA, and this morning I got a letter saying

"And how many will that be?" asked TIMOTHY again, with a grim smile

"Let me see," said Mrs. FORSTER, fumbling in her pockets;

There's Miss PENDLETON and her three children; she's some kin to MARTHA, and her man's gone for a soldier;

"What do you suppose I am going to have HARRY running all summer with a couple of low-bred city boys,

"Well," said TIMOTHY, inquiringly, when we were alone in our room after dinner,

"We can't stay here, that's certain," said I. "Do you suppose I am going to have HARRY

"What a funny bedstead," said little CLARA; "it's got steeple to it;

"I do," said Master HARRY; "there's an orchard, with the best trees to climb you ever saw,

"Don't you ever go into the barn again," it was on my tongue to say;

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Even the "nice young man for Number 10" was not long wanting;

"You ought to see his room, Miss JENKINS," said Mrs. FORSTER, one day.

It was a great grief to her that JOSEPH was disposed to take the world so quietly,

in a bottle. I can't see what he wants with such pizen-looking things unless he's a secesh."

A few weeks afterward she came bustling into my room in great excitement,

"There, Miss JENKINS, just look here. I've always said that fellow was a secesh,

I don't think I am less tender-hearted than the majority of my sisterhood,

"I don't see what sport you can find in seeing your feller creetur suffer,"

"What do you want me to do," said I, trying to be grave;

"Mersey, no," said she; "just pull them darnin' needles out of 'em,

A hearty laugh behind us at this moment roused us both to the fact

"You see, ma'am," he said, apologetically, busying himself with fixing the "locusses"

"What a heathen!" ejaculated Mrs. FORSTER, as she went down stairs;

Of course the great topic of our table-talk was the war,

I really think Mrs. FORSTER enjoyed the war. Not that she lacked in patriotism

Both she and HETTY read the daily papers eagerly, but from different motives;

The news of a great battle flashed along the electric wires,

She made no answer to my words, but after a little she got up

He that gives good advice, builds with one hand;

He that gives good counsel, builds with both;

He that gives good admonition and bad example, builds with one hand

He that gives good advice, builds with one hand;

He that gives good counsel, builds with both;

He that gives good admonition and bad example, builds with one hand

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He that gives good counsel, builds with both;

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He that gives good advice, builds with one hand;

He that gives good counsel, builds with both;

He that gives good admonition and bad example, builds with one hand

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. BIBLICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 61 letters. My 15, 9, 42, 50, 22 was a god of the Philistines.

My 25, 20, 12, 23, 46, 6 was a famous prophet. My 42, 28, 25, 90, 21, 57 was the grandson of Manasseh.

My 36, 10, 8, 38 was the grandfather of David. My 25, 31, 37, 53, 56, 35 was the patriarch from whom the Israelites derived their names.

My 24, 14, 27 is the three final letters of a Book in the New Testament. My 48, 26, 37, 16, 52 was King of Tyre.

My 55, 60, 10, 43, 37, 30, 4 was a prophetess. My 50, 37, 7, 11 was a prince of the Midianites.

My 4, 45, 25, 22, 56, 33, 53, 37 was the son of a priest. My 22, 25, 23, 37, 19, 44 was a mighty hunter.

My 37, 46, 23, 59, 34, 35 was a wife of one of the patriarchs. My 49, 59, 61, 37, 23, 47, 14 was the brook beside which Elijah dwelt.

My 54, 21, 5, 33, 12, 54 was a prophet. My 43, 9, 1 was a tree under which the body of Saul was buried.

My 26, 38, 37, 13, 17 was the number of years David reigned over Israel. My 58, 16, 32, 36, 32, 5, 41 is a Book in the New Testament.

My 8, 53, 37, 2, 4, 39, 16 is a city of Sidon. My whole is one of the ten commandments.

Deer River, N. Y., 1863. DEBBIE SKITTE. Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. A RIDDLE.

In every land, in every clime Throughout the earth I ever dwell;

And many a tale I often tell Of sorrow, misery and crime. If by the vile I am abused,

To evil then I often tend; But broken hearts I surely mend If by the good I'm rightly used.

With "deadly poison" I am filled— Of all earth's things I am the worst, But still of good things am the first, If with judiciousness I'm willed.

Greenwich, N. Y., 1863. S. D. HILLMAN. Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. PROBLEM IN PROBABILITIES.

A CIRCULAR slate, eighteen inches in diameter, is so placed in a dark room that a person drawing a circle thereon is as likely to take any one point as center as any other.

A and B draw each a circle, six inches in diameter, wholly on this slate. What is the probability that the two circles thus drawn intersect each other?

Nunda, N. Y., 1863. ASHER B. EVANS. Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. ANAGRAMS OF RIVERS.

Curb me land, Bore, Tice cut Conn, Or boar, Change on, Imp pool, Let manor, Reoil, Old thumb, Will I meet at, Set barn, A was hit.

St. Louis, Mo., 1863. HIPPOPOZAMUS. Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. AN ANAGRAM.

Ho! aedns fo eth tsaymrn atth osi arehyell eihperds Tx xntlogiel, hmnoctm, adn odn enburk ihll,

Aym yth isperit ety adnhr het ndla abht ety rhedchies, Dan ugdlie nad tredct sn ot troyyic isall.

Northville, Mich., 1863. H. P. E. Answer in two weeks.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER, THE LARGEST-CIRCULATING Agricultural, Literary and Family Newspaper,

IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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DRS. LIGHTHILL, Authors of "A Popular Treatise on Deafness," "Letters on Catarh," &c., &c., can be consulted on DEAFNESS,

CATARRH, DISCHARGES FROM THE EAR, NOISES 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, Jan. 4th. Rochester, " Osborn House, " " Jan. 11th. Utica, " Baggs' Hotel, " " Jan. 18th.

DRS. LIGHTHILL'S work, "A Popular Treatise on Deafness, its Causes and Prevention," with the Illustrations, may be obtained of CARLTON, 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 related to me as his experience has been mine so far. My catarrh 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. P. R. RUSSELL. Lynn, Mass., Feb. 1, 1862.

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, 1862. To 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 Scarlatina. 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, THEOPHILUS 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.