

# MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

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**MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,**  
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY  
**RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.**

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THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors 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.



## ISAAC NEWTON ON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

THE paternal manner in which Sir ISAAC undertakes to direct and enlighten public sentiment upon the subject of Agricultural Colleges, is exceedingly amusing. We have only space to call attention to and discuss one of the salient features of a paper on this subject which we find in the Commissioner's bi-monthly report for January and February.

We quote:—"So far as they (opinions) have been expressed in the course of study in our few agricultural schools, and in the writings of those who have sought to mould public opinion, the instruction proposed has contemplated a preparation for the farm only. The languages have generally been regarded as useless, and the course of mathematical studies has been too limited. In this we think lies the failure of Agricultural Colleges." Again:—"Our agricultural colleges have heretofore failed because they aimed to educate for the pursuit of agriculture only."

Now, this kind of talk, with the balance of the article from which we make the above quotations, proves that the Commissioner is either talking of something about which he knows nothing, or that he is in the hands of a class of men who are seeking to control the appropriation by Congress for Industrial Schools, with the purpose of galvanizing certain colleges that lack endowments, or both. Else, we cannot imagine why the Head of the Department should have the hardihood to attribute want of success to a too great effort on the part of Agricultural Colleges to provide a specific education to young men who wished to become farmers, when it is known that the cause of failure, in almost every instance, is found in the effort to do precisely what, in his wisdom, the Commissioner recommends should be done. We say "known," for we have not talked with, nor seen the written opinions of, a man who has investigated this subject, who has visited these schools and become familiar with their regime, who has not given it as his opinion that too much has been undertaken, and that failure has resulted from the effort to provide a course of literary study, in conjunction with the scientific course, adapted to the wants of practical men. We have paid this subject some attention. We have watched with no little anxiety the development of plans for this use of the appropriation of Congress, by the States. Our greatest fear is that too much will be undertaken; or that colleges which have hitherto made no effort to provide a course of study adapted to the wants of the farmer, shall get control of and absorb this national endowment. And we are not relieved of this fear by the profound opinions of the sapient Commissioner of Agriculture.

We define our position briefly, as follows:—We are in favor of a liberal education for the farmer, in its broadest sense. We would have our Normal Schools lay a broad foundation, by the education of teachers for our common schools. But we believe an Agricultural and Mechanical school should sustain precisely the same relation to agriculturists and mechanics that a Medical College sustains to physicians, or to those who desire to become such. No one goes to a Medical school to study literature, the languages and mathematics. An Agricultural or Mechanical school or college should provide for the education of students in the physical sciences in their relation to the different husbandries and mechanic arts. Liberal provision should be made for demonstrative, practical lectures on practical subjects, open to all who may choose to attend them, whether students pursuing the course of scientific study adopted, or not; so that the farmer and mechanic and their sons, who may not be in circumstances, nor qualified by preparation, to go through with a course of study, may reap such benefit from such an institution as they may have time and means to secure.

We do not believe a student should be taught the languages in such an institution. Neither would we admit a student who had not availed himself of the advantages of our public and high schools to acquire the needed preliminary education. These schools are to be organized to provide a specific kind of knowledge which other schools have hitherto made no effort to furnish. This was the design of Congress. It was what the people asked for. Let them be confined to this business. Let them be and remain independent and distinct from all other institutions; and if the amount of Congressional appropriation does not meet their requirements, let each State, respectively, provide for the deficit.

Where there are existing State institutions, controlled by the State governments, as is the case in most of the Western States, there is less objection to adding a Department than there would otherwise be. For instance, create an agricultural school and a mechanical school as distinct departments of the University of Michigan, as law and medical schools are distinct. Create the same distinct departments in the Normal University of Illinois. Thus a State building, already provided, may be used, and yet the Industrial departments be kept distinct from and independent of the Normal department.

We see nothing difficult in this. The great difficulty lies in the fact that existing sectarian and literary institutions, controlled by sects and corporations, are seeking to get possession of this land grant for their own purposes. They are manipulating legislators with this object; and unless the industrial classes are vigilant, and make some effort to thoroughly understand their own wants, and make them known, and organize to secure their supply, these sects and corporations will succeed. They cry that this appropriation is not ample enough for the purpose designed—that their aid is required. But we find them working for it like greedy cormorants. It is ample for their use. And ISAAC NEWTON, Commissioner of Agriculture, is lending them his potent aid! We pray Sir ISAAC to confine his attention to his milk business, and cease talking of what it is so evident he knows little about. For had he read the Agricultural papers of the country during the past five years, he would hardly have ventured upon the assertions we have quoted above.

—Since the foregoing was written and given the compositor, the *Country Gentleman* has come to hand, containing a just criticism of this report, especially of the "figures and arithmetic" it contains. The editor closes his review of the report by saying:—"If the Commissioner will insist on taking up grave questions for discussion in these bulletins, like that of Agricultural Education, we trust he will hereafter select those about which he is better informed, and on which he can bring forward suggestions or ideas that shall be of some real value; and if the preparation of statistical articles is entrusted to the clerks of the office, it is to be hoped that he will select for the duty those whose knowledge of figures at least reaches the mysteries of per centage, and who will not encumber with hap-hazard conjectures and absurd speculations, whatever tables of figures they may have to present." To all of which we say Amen! and pray that ABRAHAM LINCOLN will quickly remove the disgrace he has fastened upon Ameri-

can agriculturists by the appointment of the present Commissioner of Agriculture, and substitute a man who knows something of the wants of the Industrial classes and the commonest facts current among them. JAMES BUCHANAN was never more imbecile as President than in this ISAAC NEWTON as Commissioner of Agriculture. These are plain words; but truth is often very plain and homely.

### SPRING WORK.

**Carrots.**—See article on page 76, current Vol. Carrot seed requires time—considerable time—to germinate. Of course, the soil should be in condition, warm and dry, to receive the seed. But this crop is usually put in too late. A large portion of the season best adapted to the growth of this root is lost by most farmers who plant it after most other crops are in the ground. We urge, therefore, early planting, and think our readers will thank us for the hint if they use it.

**Potatoes.**—Plant early. Plant this month if possible. Plant before your seed has begun to sprout. Considerable observation, and some experience, has established the conviction that the earlier in April potatoes are planted on well prepared, well drained soils the better and surer the crop—the less the danger from rot. Potatoes well ripened, early in the season, will ripen better, taste better, and are better in all respects, than those which the early autumn frosts find with foliage green and growing. Wheat, peas and potatoes should be got in the ground early.

**Seed Bed.**—The germination of seed, and the healthy growth of the plant depends upon the condition of the seed bed. Soil can not be too thoroughly pulverized. The work of preparing the seed bed is the most important of the farmer's duties. Success, or failure, depends upon the perfectness, or imperfectness, of this work. Thorough and deep pulverization and complete comminution are essential. Soils so prepared are less liable to suffer from extremes—whether of heat, cold, dry or wet seasons. The growth of the plant is more uniform and uninterrupted.

**Waste Places.**—Every inch of the farm should be made productive. Plans should be laid to secure some income from all the capital. The losses to the farmers of the country from unproductive capital are enormous. There are uncouth corners, hedges, semi-swamps, brambles, that with little labor may be made productive by being cleared up and cleaned out. We know labor is scarce and high; and therefore there is the greater need that all the resources of the farm should be made available. And this month, as you walk over the farm or fix up the tools rainy days, plan to do something to make these "breaks" in the farm less repulsive and more useful.

### CURRENT TOPICS DISCUSSED.

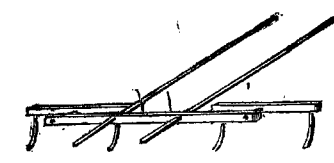
**Grease and Scratches in Horses.**  
L. C. G., Knowlesville, N. Y., writes:—"Wash daily with warm water and Castile soap. When dry use Mercurial Ointment, rubbing it into the cracks with the hands. Let the horse avoid mud, and if you must use him, wash off as soon as put in the stable. I have used this effectually in both diseases, if indeed they are different, which I believe is a mooted question with farriers."

**Manuring Potatoes.**  
F. D., of Onaquago, N. Y., gives us his practice. He plants on dry land; furrows it 3 1/2 feet apart, and plants in hills about the same distance apart. Marks with a marker across the furrows. Drops a small forkfull of coarse straw manure when the mark crosses the furrow. Digs a hole through the manure with the hoe, and deposits there a hoe-full of fine, warm soil; places the seed on it, covers up the seed and manure carefully. Gets good crops of dry, good-flavored potatoes. Asks DAMOS to try this mode, and report to RURAL in the fall.

**To Keep Pumps from Freezing.**  
T. H. D., Hopedale, O., writes us that an old-fashioned log pump can be kept from freezing as follows:—Bore a hole in the pipe an inch in diameter far enough below the platform or curbing to be out of reach of frost, insert a wooden spigot, similar to those used in vinegar barrels, except that the handle should extend above the curbing eighteen inches, and close to the side of the pump, so that it will not be in the way. In freezing weather turn the handle

just enough to keep the water from standing still, and there will be no danger of the pump handle becoming tight.

**How a Sucker Grows Potatoes.**  
A. C. POWELL, of Winnebago Co., Ill., writes us he has had good potatoes with but very little rot the past three years. He says:—"I first plow as deep as I can, then furrow out three and a half feet apart, fill the furrows with barn-yard manure, then drop the potatoes from sixteen to twenty inches apart, cover with the plow, let them remain two or three weeks, and then harrow down smooth. It is easy keeping them clean. I plant as soon as I get through seeding small grain, and before planting corn."



**A Corn Marker.**  
B. L. R., of Ellington, New York, sends us a sketch of a corn marker, which we give above. He thinks it an improvement on the ordinary marker, for uneven ground. "The draft bar is made of four-inch, hard wood scantling, eight feet long. The thills, running through the draft bar with a dovetail mortise, are each one foot and three inches from the center of the draft bar, extending back two feet for handles, and fastened in with a key. Take two pieces, four feet long, frame two legs or markers in each three and a half feet apart. Bore holes through the center of each of the short pieces, place them in front of the draft bar, and so that the inside markers will be three and a half feet apart. Bore a hole through the draft bar corresponding with those through the shorter ones, put a pin through, having it smaller in front, so that the markers will adjust themselves to the surface. The markers should be one foot and eight inches long, with a natural crook at the lower end extending back. Handles can be fastened to the draft bar to steady the marker by. The whole can be easily taken apart and placed under shelter when not in use."

**Tapping the Maples.**  
J. D. P., of Smithville, says sap will be obtained from a tree in proportion to the number of spouts, if the holes are far enough apart so that they will not drain the same cells—say four to six inches. He says further that small trees dry up sooner after a freeze than larger ones; but after another freeze they are fresh as before, except the gradual searing of the wound which is common to all trees.

"A bit which will bore a hole about five-eighths of an inch in diameter in the largest place, gradually tapering to a point, is the best shape; for when the inside of the hole sears over somewhat, by boring about a quarter of an inch deeper the inner surface will be all fresh, while by using an auger, or an auger bit to bore the trees over, the hole will be fresh only as far as you bore anew."

G. G. B., of Manchester, Vt., who writes us that he has experimented somewhat, says "a gimlet hole amounted to little. The spout was necessarily driven into the bark under the hole. This small hole soon dries up, but produces a fair flow of sap when fresh—much less, however, than a half-inch hole in the same tree. I never used an auger less than three-fourths of an inch; never found more sap to run from it than from a half-inch hole, and conclude the latter sized bit the best for tapping. I think more sap can be obtained by inserting one spout at first; and after eight or ten days another may be put into the larger trees."

**Boiling Pans for Sugar Making.**  
THE same writer says:—"A sheet iron boiler is undoubtedly best. There are a variety of opinions as to the best form. There are evaporators that work well. The common three-sheeted (?) pan answers a very good purpose. But all within my knowledge seem somewhat defective."

**Cleansing Maple Syrup.**  
MR. J. D. P. says if the sirup is allowed to stand until it is thoroughly settled, milk and eggs are only a damage to it; for just as white sugar can be made without as with them; and they cause molasses or soft sugar to sour sooner. Sugar should be strained through a woolen strainer just as it begins to grain.



EDITED BY HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D.

### TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS.

Persons who send communications for this Department, must not be disappointed, or take it for granted, that their communications are rejected, because they do not appear for some weeks in our columns. The RURAL NEW-YORKER being designed for a family newspaper, it can devote only a limited space to sheep, or any other one topic. And within our assigned space, we are compelled to seek variety in respect to matter and length, adaptation to the season and circumstances, &c. That an article is deferred is no indication that it is not valued. A good one, indeed, will keep longer than an indifferent one; and it is because the latter is connected with some temporary discussion or topic under, or which we desire to bring presently under investigation, or because the article happens to be of the right length, that it takes precedence of more valuable contributions.

The want of space and the desire to present variety, has induced us to squeeze some valuable and well written papers into those brief abstracts presented in our "Condensed Correspondence." This, to a certain extent, is unavoidable, but we do not purpose to abridge communications oftener than is necessary. Our correspondence is already large from all parts of the country. We trust it will continue to increase. Many friends will have less time to write when the active labors of summer commence. The surplus articles we now receive will then be needed. We think that we can safely promise that every properly written communication on a subject not wholly thread-bare, shall receive due notice in these columns.

### SHEEP AND WOOL GROWING IN AUSTRALIA.

FROM DR. CHARLES OF KENWORTHY, who has resided for a number of years in Australia, we have recently received a letter in regard to sheep and wool growing in that country; and it contains many inquiries preparatory to an intended emigration of the writer to the United States. He thinks popular English and American authors have a very imperfect idea of sheep raising in the Australian Colonies, and believing that a knowledge of the modes there practiced would prove useful to those who wish to raise sheep on a large scale and on uncultivated lands in the United States, he offers to furnish full information in regard to them for publication, if we desire it of him. Knowing the extensive experience possessed by our correspondent on the subject, we have not failed to accept his offer; and his articles may be expected to appear in due time in our columns. Though his present letter was not intended for publication, the following paragraph from it will convey new information to most persons in regard to the climate and summer pasturage of Australia. He says:

"From the expressed opinion of the majority of writers, it seems to be the opinion that a cold climate is necessary for the production of fine wool. But I am forced to the conclusion that this is an error. In the interior of this colony, where a large amount of wool is raised, the summer heat exceeds that of Central Africa. For nine months out of the twelve, everything is burnt up, and the thermometer ranges from 95 deg. to 140 deg. in the shade. For days together the hot winds will blow from the arid interior, and can only be compared to the heated air from a furnace. The first hot wind burns up everything in the shape of herbage, and for months the flocks are compelled to subsist on dry grass and shrubs."

A great inter-colonial sheep show took place at Melbourne, Nov. 12, 1863, and our obliging correspondent sends us samples of the wool of several of the prize fine-wooled sheep, taken at the time of the exhibition, and labeled by their proprietor, Mr. THOMAS LEARMONTH OF ERICILDOWN. The first is from the ram, then about nineteen months old, that gained the champion prize of £100. Its fiber is about 4 1/2 inches long (unstretched), and is of fair quality as regards fineness, but its style is inferior to medium American Merino wool in any of the prime flocks of Vermont and New York. It lacks both crimp and luster. It may have been injured somewhat in these particulars by handling, but we judge that it is very nearly in its natural condition. We detected in this single specimen two of those short, shining, pointed hairs which are called "jar," and which are not favorable indications of good breeding. Altogether, the specimen much resembles the wool







The Reviewer.

ANNALS OF THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND: Comprising Biographies, Descriptions of Departments, Accounts of Expeditions, Skirmishes and Battles; also, its Police Record of Spies, Smugglers, and prominent Rebel Emissaries. Together with Anecdotes, Incidents, Poetry, Reminiscences, etc., and Official Reports of the Battle of Stone River. By an Officer. Illustrated with Steel Portraits, Wood Engravings and Maps. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

SUCH is the title page of one of the most interesting books of war literature which has been produced during the present war. It is a book of near seven hundred pages, splendidly illustrated with the steel portraits of eight Major and six Brigadier Generals and the members of their respective staffs, which, judging by the portraits of those we have met personally, are very faithfully and finely executed, indeed. There are also numerous wood engravings which add to the interest of the graphically written adventures and experiences of scouts and army detectives, and scenes and incidents occurring during the campaigns of the Army of the Cumberland. This work has been carefully prepared. It is not, evidently, of mushroom growth, patched up with the sole purpose of gathering green-backs. We (the writer) happen to know its reputed author, as a once patient, conscientious, hard-working editor. We commend this book to our readers as a valuable record of a great organization which has made its mark in this war for freedom, truth, and republican government, and as lifting the curtain and giving us glimpses of the romance, adventure and danger which is begotten of war. Nor this alone! War begets poetry! Samples of "army poetry" are given. The loyal and the rebel muse mingle. One is published, said to have been found in manuscript in the pocket of a dead rebel on the battle field of Stone River, entitled "Disappointment." It is followed by a touching one written by a private in the Army of the Cumberland, entitled "Only a Private."

"One man killed in the skirmish to-day!"  
He was "only a private," they say;  
He was "only a private!"—oh, how  
Could they dare thus speak of the dead,  
For our country so nobly, who bled,  
So deserving a laurel'd brow?

Oh, perhaps we have hard'nd our hearts  
Until death no impression imparts,  
Nor the bitter anguish of friends;  
He was "only a private," 'tis sad  
That his valor such slight notice had,  
Now his body with common earth blends.

Does a father, enfeebled with years,  
Or a mother, all trembling in tears,  
A dear sister, whose love is a gem  
Of the purest,—or brother,—in vain  
Keep a watching for him? Ne'er again  
In this world he'll return unto them.

Are there orphans awaiting neglect?  
Does a widow her husband expect?  
Is it known at his home how he died?  
How he bravely with face to the foe  
From a bullet received a fell blow,  
When life sailed out on the ebbing red tide?

SUNDAY SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS. By Rev. ALFRED TAYLOR. Boston: Henry Hoyt.

THIS is a capital book for Superintendents, Teachers, and Sunday School bibles, who torment little ones by their tiresome stupidity, or injure them by mountebank stories in place of intelligible, simple-worded utterances of truth. No one, who has had any experience in Sabbath Schools, can fail to recognize some one or more of the pen portraits it contains. It will benefit every thinking person to read it, whether he finds in it a coal to fit himself or not. For sale by DARROW. Price 25 cents.

EVERY-DAY DUTIES; OR, THE SCHOOLMISTERS. By Mrs. MADELINE LESLIE. Boston: Henry Hoyt.

THIS is an instructive and interesting book for both parents and children. The every day life of two families is contrasted. The effect of two systems of government upon children is given. The contrast is striking and yet faithful. And it is instructive. The book is worthy a place in every Sabbath School and family library. For sale by DARROW, and ADAMS & ELLIS. Price 25 cents.

THE PARLOR MAGICIAN; OR, 100 Tricks for the Drawing Room. Illustrated with 121 engravings. New York: Dick & Fitzgerald.

WHATEVER contributes to innocent pleasure at home—whatever renders home attractive and strengthens the hold of the parent upon the child, is to be commended and adopted. And we remember with how much interest we used to watch the unraveling of puzzles, the solution of riddles, charades, and the feats of legerdemain with which we were entertained. Remembering these enjoyments, we cannot under-estimate the delight which such a book as this before us, in the hands of a competent "Uncle," or eccentric and much loved "Auntie," would give to the little ones of an evening. For sale by R. E. CLARKE, at the Waverly Book Store. Price 25 cents.

LITTLE GRACIE; OR, ONE MORE LAMB IN THE FOLD. Boston: Henry Hoyt.

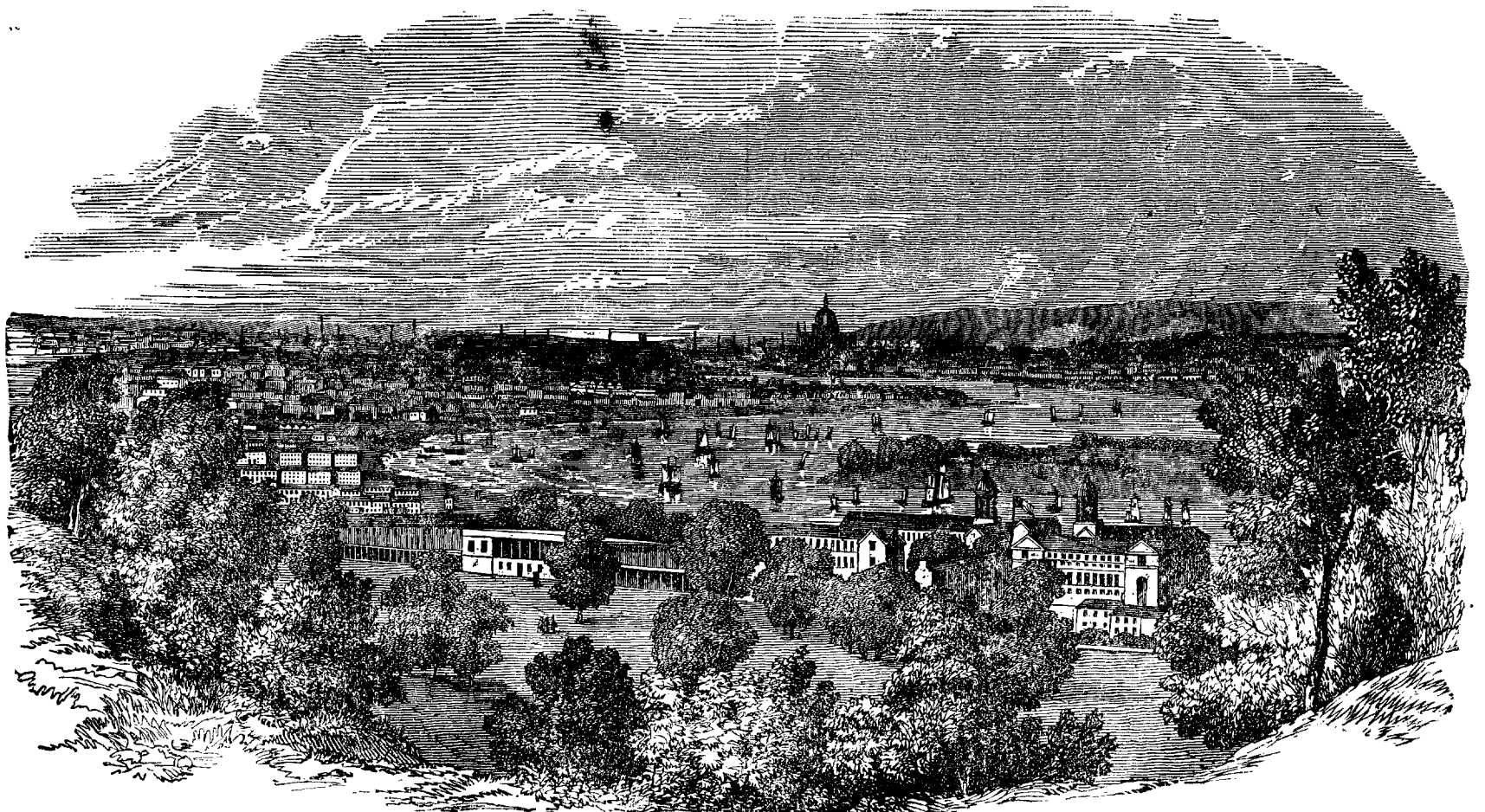
A BIOGRAPHY of a child aged five years and eight months! As a family memorial of a favorite child this book is excusable. But for general circulation we cannot see its use, nor the propriety of circulating it. For sale by ADAMS & ELLIS.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

WATER ENGINES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Although not a farmer, I take pleasure in supporting your excellent paper. I am interested in the welfare of the farmer and the progress of agriculture. I hail with delight all improvements which tend to lighten his labors or make them more pleasant; for they enrich his possessions, give him time for mental improvement, and tend to make him, not the menial servant of the soil, but the lord of the soil. The wealth of the farmer is the wealth of the land; and as machinery does the work of many, thereby enabling many more to become producers, so machinery adds many times its marketable value to the wealth of the country. Give us machines!—good machines! and may the time speedily come when the fruits of science may be substituted for the drudgery of the farmer; when the forces which nature has given us in air, water, electricity and heat, may be more generally used in performing the will of man.

I have been induced to make these and the



NEW ORLEANS—THE CRESCENT CITY.

NEW ORLEANS has occupied no insignificant place in the attention of the American people during the years of the present rebellion. And we have thought that it might gratify some of our readers to get a glimpse of this great Southern metropolis, even on paper. It is now inseparably associated with the names of one naval and three eminent military characters. Rear Admiral FARAGUT, and Generals ANDREW JACKSON, BENJAMIN F. BUTLER and NATHANIEL P. BANKS. No one, who may visit hereafter, will fail to recall those portions of its history with which these men are associated. And we venture to predict that when the history of New Orleans is faithfully written no American will have cause to blush because of any official administrative act of any of the gentlemen named. Our readers are too familiar with its geography and commercial position to require anything at our hands on that subject.

following remarks, from an article which I saw in your paper of 27th of last February on Hydraulic Rams. It has been my fortune to become acquainted with EAMES' Water Engines, which are manufactured at Watertown, N. Y. Although I have not seen them work, judging from the principles of construction and from the testimony of those who have tried them, I think they are, in many respects, if not every way, superior to the Hydraulic Ram. My examination leads me to the following conclusions in regard to them, which are more than confirmed by those who have tried them.

First.—They will work with as small head as the Hydraulic Ram. Second.—They will throw a greater per cent. of the water; thus, the effect of a Hydraulic Ram under favorable heads is about 0.5, or 50 per cent., the theoretical effect, (See D'AUBISSON'S Hydraulics, p. 463,) but under very small heads, of say two feet, it falls to about 0.2, or 20 per cent. EAMES' Water Engine, under favorable circumstances, has been said to have nearly 0.9 or 90 per cent. of the theoretical effect. One man, who has used both the ram and water engine, says the water engine will furnish 75 per cent. more water than the ram. Third.—When the supply runs low the ram will stop and not start again without help, or, at least, until there is a large supply, but the water engine will hold all the water after the supply has become too low to work it, and as soon as the spring—or supply pipe—sufficiently fills, it will work until it again exhausts the supply, and so on. This is quite an item in the summer. Fourth.—The water engine will work under water; hence, by submerging it, there will be no danger of its freezing. Fifth.—It works like a steam engine, only we have a water power instead of a steam power. Sixth.—They may be worked by a brook or creek, to throw the water of a spring. This can not be done by the ram, as all the water which it throws must pass through the ram.

I wish to add that I have no pecuniary interest in these engines, and direct public attention to them because I think they possess great merit, and if I am not disappointed, they will yet supersede the ram and become a favorite auxiliary for raising small quantities of water. They may be used equally well for raising large quantities, but the farmers—the masses—have needed some sure way of raising small quantities. DE VOLSON WOOD, Prof. Univ. of Mich. Ann Arbor, Mich., March, 1864.

POISONING OF WATER BY LEAD PIPES.

WE have received from Professor H. Dunsance, of New Lebanon, N. Y., a detailed statement of a series of experiments on the action of several different kinds of water on lead, under various conditions. The lead was subjected to the action of the water for twenty-nine days, and the experimenter draws the following conclusions:

1. That distilled water has no action whatever on lead by three days of contact; after that time the dissolving action begins.
2. That the lead is dissolved by distilled water in proportion increasing every day; the distilled water exposed to the open air dissolves more of this metal than distilled water in close vessels, or than distilled water deprived of air and gas.
3. That creek water, containing small proportions of lime, has no action on lead.
4. That distilled water, containing 1-3500th of a salt in solution, prevents the dissolving action of the water on lead.
5. That water dissolves lead till the saturating power of the acid is exhausted.
6. That, in ferruginous water, all of the iron is

precipitated by lead; then lead pipe must not be used to convey mineral waters. This fact has never been noticed before. To render these facts more interesting, another series of experiments must be made to ascertain the quantities of lead dissolved daily in the water, and what compound it forms, and to see if the action will be the same in lead pipes. This will form the subject of another communication.—Sci. Amer.

A WORD ABOUT CHAIRS.—An eminent physician, speaking of our chairs, remarks that they are too high and too nearly horizontal. We slide forward, and our spines ache. The seats should be fifteen or sixteen inches high in front for men, and from eight to fourteen inches for children and women. The back part of the seat should be from one to three inches lower than the front part. This last is very important. The depth of the seat from front to back should be the same as the height. The chair is likewise unphilosophical. The part which meets the small of the back should project furthest forward. Instead of this, at that point there is generally a hollow; this is the cause of much pain and weakness in the small of the back. The present seats produce discomfort, round shoulders and other distortions.

LEAD IS A POISON.—Every family should decline using vessels lined with lead for cooking or keeping provisions in, also the use of this metal for the conveyance of water, as pure water will dissolve the inside of the pipe without the presence of some protecting salt, which forms an insoluble coating and prevents further action; even then there is danger. If you already have lead pipe, the simplest precaution is always to draw off the water contained in it before saving any for use. There is also too much imprudence among the working class with regard to this poison; the painters in their use of white lead and litharge, plumbers eating with hands soiled by particles of this metal, also in the manufacture of glazed cards, glazed earthenware, &c.

HICCOUGH—HOW TO STOP.—This may often be removed by holding the breath, by swallowing a piece of bread, by sudden fright, or by a draught of weak liquid. When it arises from heat and acidity in the stomachs of children, a little rhubarb and chalk will remove it. Should it proceed from irritability of the nerves, take a few drops of sal volatile, with a teaspoonful of paregoric elixir. If it still continue, rub on soap liniment, mixed with tincture of opium, or a plaster may be put on the pit of the stomach, or sipping a glass of cold water with a little carbonate of soda dissolved in it.

SYRUP FOR COLDS.—As this is the season of the year when children and grown-up people are liable to be troubled with a cough, the following excellent remedy should be known:—Boil one ounce of flax-seed in a quart of water for half an hour, strain, and add to the liquid the juice of two lemons and a half pound of rock candy. If the cough is accompanied by weakness and a loss of appetite, add half an ounce of powdered gum arabic; set this to simmer half an hour, stirring it occasionally. Take a wineglassful when the cough is troublesome.

TO DISTINGUISH ARTIFICIALLY-COLORED WINES.—Saturate a piece of bread crumb with the wine to be tested, and place it in a plate full of water. If the wine is artificially colored, the water very soon becomes colored reddish violet; but if the coloring matter is natural, the water, after a quarter or half an hour, is but very little colored, and a slight opalescence only perceptible. The test depends upon the difficult solubility of the real coloring matters of wine in water free from tartaric acid.

Reading for the Young.

LEAVING HOME.

THERE is hardly a time in the life of a youth which seems to gather together so many tokens of a mother's affection and care, as when he is leaving the roof that has sheltered him from infancy, and going forth to prepare for, or to enter upon, the duties and scenes of life. That trunk, which no one but a mother can arrange and pack, is filled with the work of her own hands; work which she has done while he was, perhaps, asleep, or at play; on which her tears have fallen as she anticipated the moment of separation; and over which her prayers have often been silently offered for blessings on her child. Piece after piece is carefully put away, while the children look on and talk cheerfully of the morrow, and know not the anxiety and care that is passing in the mother's heart. All is at length arranged, and on the last layer is placed a Bible, on the fly-leaf of which is written the mother's earnest wish, that her child may take that blessed volume as his guide through life. And when he is far away, amid scenes that are strange and new, if there is one motive next to the desire to obey God, that should, above all others, induce him to abstain from evil, and to act wisely and virtuously, it should be the wish to please his mother, and to repay her kindness and care. Nothing will so surely do this as the knowledge that her son remembers her instructions, obeys her commands, even while absent; and is growing up in wisdom and virtue.

DON'T DESPISE SMALL THINGS.

I MUST tell you an anecdote, little friends, which will show you pretty clearly, I think, that it is not wise to despise small things. Some years ago, a gentleman visiting a farmer in Tolland, Connecticut, took from his pocket a small potato, which, somehow, had got in there at home. It was thrown out with a smile; and the farmer, taking it in his hand to look at it, a curious little boy of ten, at his elbow, asked what it was. "Oh, nothing but a potato, my boy; take and plant it, and you shall have all you can raise from it till 'you are free.'" The lad took it, and the farmer thought no more about it at the time. The boy, however, not despising even small potatoes, carefully divided it into as many pieces as he could find eyes, and put them into the ground. The product was carefully put aside in the Fall, and planted in the Spring, and so on till the fourth year; the yield being good, the actual product was four hundred bushels! The farmer seeing the prospect that the potato field would, by another year, cover his whole farm, asked to be released from his promise. Remember this, young friend, when you feel like despising small things.

CHEERFULNESS is the promoter of health. Repinings and murmurings of the heart, give imperceptible strokes to those delicate fibers of which the vital parts are composed, and wear out the machine. Cheerfulness is as friendly to the mind as to the body. It banishes all anxious care and discontent; soothes and composes the passions, and keeps the soul in a perpetual calm.—Addison.

If a few civil words will render a man happy, he must be a wretch indeed who will not give them to him. Let another man light his candle by your own, and yours loses none of its brilliancy by what his gains.

RANDALL'S BOOK



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 Sheep Husbandry," &c., &c.

PUBLISHED BY D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y. This work, first published last fall, has already reached its Fifteenth Edition, and the demand has thus far been extraordinary. A new and revised edition is now ready, and others will follow in such rapid succession that all orders can hereafter be filled promptly. No volume on any branch of Agriculture or husbandry ever had so rapid a sale or gave such universal satisfaction. The work is a timely one, and unquestionably the best and most complete Treatise on Sheep Husbandry ever published in America. It is cordially welcomed and highly approved by both Press and People. Witness the following extracts from a few of the numerous Reviews and Letters the work has elicited:

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From the Journal of the N. Y. State Agt. Society. THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD is a most complete work on Sheep Husbandry for the practical wool grower, and gives all the important matter required for the management of sheep as well as a description of the various breeds adapted to our country. This work meets the wants of the wool growers.

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From the New York Tribune. In this volume the author has exhausted the subject, and given all that is necessary for any farmer to know about selecting, breeding, and general management of sheep, in health or sickness. We heartily commend this work to all who wish for a sound and thorough treatise on sheep husbandry.

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From Col. B. P. Johnson, Sec'y N. Y. State Agt. Society. It is the best practical Sheep Book. I think, ever published, and does great credit to DR. RANDALL.

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From J. P. Reynolds, Sec'y Illinois State Agt. Society. I have little doubt the work will meet fully the wants of those engaged in Sheep Husbandry. It has been looked for with much interest, and seems, from the not very careful examination I have given it, to be what the author designed to make—an impartial and useful book.

From the Scientific American, New York. It is vastly important that those who raise sheep should obtain all the information possible how best to manage their flocks, and we unhesitatingly recommend the "Practical Shepherd" as the most interesting and reliable work on the subject extant.

THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD is sold only by Agents and the Publisher. It comprises 454 large double pages, and is printed, illustrated and bound in superior style. Price \$1.50. Those not supplied by Agents can receive copies by mail, post-paid, on forwarding the price to D. D. T. MOORE, Editor Rural New-Yorker, Rochester, N. Y.





A HUNDRED YEARS TO COME.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. We'll telegraph across the seas, By hanging wires upon the breeze...

The Story-Teller.

NETTY'S TOUCHSTONE.

PM only Netty's maiden aunt; but for all that I couldn't help noticing how beautiful she appeared on a certain evening not long ago, when George Holmes and Henry Kirtland sat talking with her at the library window...

Thanking my lucky stars that my time for being attractive to their particular species had passed away, I busily plied my needles, weaving in with the coarse blue yarn many a tender, yearning thought of "the brave soldier-boys" for whom I had been steadily knitting and working for months.

ner. Then she got out her little desk and sat writing for a few minutes. Her lips were pale, and I could see that her hand trembled a good deal. After the messenger had gone away with her reply, I took an old aunt's privilege, and asked who her letter was from.

Corner for the Young.

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