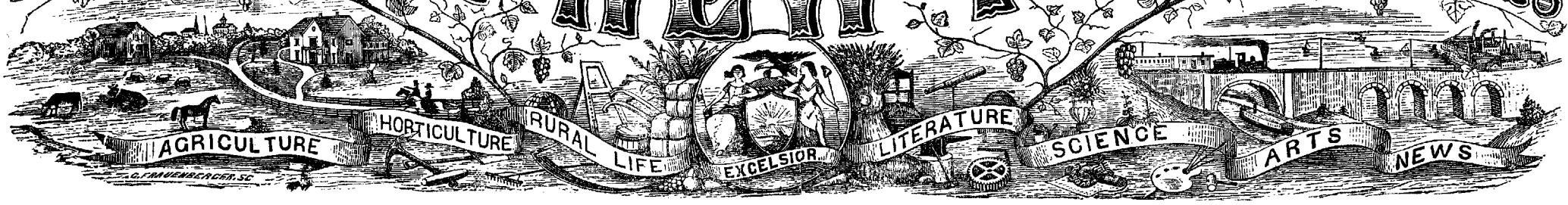


MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

(SINGLE NO. FIVE CENTS.)

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

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE.

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For Terms and other particulars, see last page.



CHEESE MANUFACTURERS' CONVENTION.

We regard these gatherings of gentlemen engaged in a specific industrial pursuit, to discuss matters relating thereto, as significant tokens of progress,—precursors of the good time coming to agriculturists. And we read such records as are made by such Conventions with great interest. We condense from the reports that have come to us concerning the action of the Convention at Rome, the 5th inst., what follows:

DAIRIES REPRESENTED.

One private and thirty-three associated dairies, embracing a total number of 15,433 cows, were represented from Oneida Co. One associated dairy of 500 cows from Chenango Co.; seven, embracing 4,950 cows, from Madison Co.; five, of 1,755 cows, from Herkimer Co.; four, of 1,058 cows, from Erie Co.; four, of 2,697 cows, from Lewis Co.; six, of 1,873 cows, from Chautauque Co.; two, of 2,300 cows, from Cortland Co.; one, of 600 cows, from Fulton Co.; one, of 600 cows, from Montgomery Co.; two, of 750 cows, from Oswego Co.; and one, of 500 cows, from Warren, Mass.—a total of over 33,000 cows. We notice, that in the list of dairies given, the largest is that of KENNEY & FRAZER, of Cortland Co., embracing 1,400 cows. At New Woodstock, Madison Co., there is a dairy of 1,200 cows. The Collins' factory, in Erie Co., has the milk of a thousand cows; also that of H. L. ROSE, of Oneida Co. But the bulk of these dairies consist of 500 and 600 cows.

THE ADULTERATION OF MILK.

A committee of five, consisting of GEO. WILLIAMS, S. A. BUNCE and W. H. COMSTOCK, of Oneida Co.; L. R. LYON, of Lewis Co., and H. FARRINGTON, of Herkimer Co., was appointed to prepare a petition and bill for the Legislature of the State, with reference to the prevention and punishment of the adulteration of milk. The following petition was reported and adopted:

"To the Honorable, the Senate and Assembly of the State of New York:—We, the undersigned, citizens of the State of New York, interested in the manufacture of cheese by the factory system, respectfully petition that your honorable body pass a law inflicting severe penalties upon all persons who sell or furnish milk to factories, who shall dilute with water, adulterate, or in any way impairing the quality and value of the milk so sold or contracted to be sold."

It was stated that the Courts had decided that the dilution of milk by water was not adulteration; neither skimming.

Mr. FISHER, of Herkimer Co., suggested ways in which milk might be diluted without the addition of water, as by poor feed, wet weather, feeding from different kinds of soil; the grass of lime soil produced better milk than soils where lime was lacking.

Mr. BARTLETT, of Ohio, said that one of the objections urged against this associated dairy system, is that milk sent to factories is liable to be adulterated, and there is no instrument which will detect the adulteration. Adulteration could always be detected, but dilution was not so easy. Yet, by the use of the hydrometer, lactometer, and a French instrument, not yet introduced into this country, together, dilution could be generally ascertained without difficulty. It could be pretty well detected by the hydrometer alone.

PROCESS OF CHEESE MANUFACTURE.

This subject was discussed. Mr. A. BARTLETT, of Ohio, by request, talked at length on the subject.

Want of Facts.—Mr. B. said no man could understand the art of cheese-making except by putting his hands into the vat. We were as yet very deficient in facts. No one could tell what proportion of milk was solid matter. He was satisfied that all the chemical analyses of milk were incorrect, and we could not tell whether we ought to obtain ten, twelve or fifteen per cent. in cheese of the weight of the milk. Some claimed we should obtain fifteen per cent.; he generally obtained about ten per cent. in dry cheese—sometimes a little more. Milk, it was well known, was composed of three substances—butter, casein and milk sugar. The two former should be incorporated into the cheese; in his opinion, the milk sugar should not be. He believed the usual waste in making cheese was sufficient to pay the cost of manufacture and all expenses incidental thereto. There were important questions yet to be determined. What proportion of the milk is cheese? Is any portion of the cheese milk sugar? What proportion should be water?

Cause of Waste.—A chief cause of waste was ignorance in regard to the process of manufacture. Milk can be handled so as to throw away from two to ten per cent. of the cheese substance, and yet good judges say it has been done right. He had not been able to prevent waste, but he thought it might be done. There were two kinds of waste—one of curd and one of butter. The curd passes off with the whey in minute particles. The butter is contained in little sacs, which become mechanically entangled in the curd, and any disturbance of the curd tends to set them free and allow them also to pass off. Any process of manufacture which divides into very minute particles wastes both the curd and butter. So long as the globules of butter remained unbroken they could be mixed with the milk. Cream should be mixed with the milk cold, as heating bursts the globules. After the rennet is put in, the milk should be stirred until it thickens, in order to properly entangle the butter globules. The less agitation after coagulation the better, and the process of dividing the coagulated milk should be as quick as possible; should not take over five minutes. The steel blades for this were very good, but not the thing, and the proper instrument had not yet been invented. He thought it should have sharp edges, and should be so constructed that passing it through the milk once each way will divide it sufficiently. Blocks one-fourth of an inch square were fine enough. There was more waste caused by breaking the curd than in any other way.

Sweet Milk for Cheese.—He thought it impossible to make a good cheese of sweet milk—the acid of the milk was formed by the decomposition of the sugar, and then coagulated and consolidated the milk into curd. To produce good cheese the milk should be first sweet, and the acid should come in near the close of the operation. He had seen acid or sour whey applied to the milk with advantage. As to the length of the entire process, he had made a cheese in two hours, and again had consumed six hours and wanted more time; there could be no rule here. Milk that had been carried two miles was in a better state for manufacturing than if poured into the vat immediately after drawn from the cows. He did not think it possible to make good cheese from milk newly drawn from the cow. While the animal heat is in the milk it is injured but little for cheese by agitation.

Mr. Bartlett's Process.—As soon as the milk was received at night and drawn into the vat, a stream of cold water should be admitted to cool it if the weather is warm; agitate while cooling. When cooled below 70 degrees leave it. In the morning first mix the cream that has risen during the night with the milk. Add the morning's milk, which will generally be sufficiently cooled by the night's mess. Apply heat until the temperature is raised in warm weather to 82 Fah.; in cool weather it should be higher. When heated sufficiently, add coloring matter sufficient to give the cheese the desired shade. Rennet is then added sufficient to produce coagulation in from 40 to 60 minutes. The milk is kept agitated from this time until coagulation begins, and then left in a perfect state of rest. When the curd is sufficiently fixed, which requires a period varying from 45 minutes to 24 hours, divide it as quickly and with as little agitation as possible. Preferred to leave it some-

what coarse to avoid pulverizing and consequent waste. As soon as divided add 6 or 8 degrees of heat, the amount depending on the state of the curd; the temperature should be 80 or 86 degrees. After manipulating the curd awhile at that temperature, let it stand and settle, and remove a portion of the whey by placing over a cloth strainer and dipping out. This method was preferable to drawing out through a faucet, because the waste of curd was less. Remove the cloth, and break up the curd with the hands. Then add heat until the temperature is 96 or 98 degrees. Manipulate the curd under the temperature until it will not pack together when allowed to stand and settle. But if the curd does not unite sufficiently at the temperature mentioned, add more heat, though rarely or never so as to raise it higher than 100 degrees. Cover up and examine occasionally to find if the curd is done. Dip it on to the sink and add the salt—a common rule is 2-7-10 pounds to 100 pounds of solid cheese. He sometimes uses more and sometimes less than this. No rule could be depended on, the amount being regulated by the condition of the curd; those curds which shrink should have the least salt.

After adding the salt to the curd, remove it to the pressing room and dip it into the hoops, and apply a very gentle pressure. Ordinarily, would let it stand in the hoops 15 or 20 minutes before applying any pressure. Would not apply great pressure until the cheese was turned and banded. When it had been pressed so that it could be handled, take it from the press and bandage. Then put it in the press again and apply strong pressure until the next day, and he thought two days' pressure still better; intended to get more presses, and press his cheese two days next season. The object was to remove the whey. By turning a cheese and pressing it again for a second day, he had removed a quart of whey from a cheese of 140 pounds. The past season he had a vat of curd in which fermentation took place and caused the curd to rise to the top of the whey before it was cured. It was put in press, and when taken out next day the cheese began at once rebelliously to grow. So he concluded to put it in a straight-jacket again, and kept it there 48 hours; this reduced it an inch and a half, and when removed it became a well behaved subject, and passed off respectably with the rest of the cheese. His opinion was that fermentation should be completed in such cases before the cheese is taken from the press. In bandaging the cheese he put it on a stool a little smaller than itself, and used the "sticking machine." He rubbed the cheese over with oil when it was taken from the press—whale oil; lard oil was probably as good. From that time the cheese was turned every day, and if it showed signs of dryness was rubbed with oil again. This process was continued until a good mud was formed. He was careful to keep off all signs of mould until the cheese was highly cured. In preparing coloring matter he used lye, the first run from the leach. He placed the annatto in this over a fire and boiled until it was thoroughly incorporated. Then it was allowed to settle, and only the clear portion was allowed, the dregs being carefully avoided. He prepared the rennets by soaking in water, being careful to use an abundance of salt. Was able to make 600 or 800 pounds of cheese from a single rennet. Others say they can make no more than four or five hundred pounds from a rennet. Considered it absolutely essential that the calf for rennet be at least five days old—ten days is a better age. It should have full meals regularly until sixteen or eighteen hours before killing. Take the rennet out, turn and salt it, turn it back and salt it, lay it in a pickle till thoroughly pickled, then dry it and keep it dry. Had never used hog's rennet.

Answers to Questions.—In answer to questions, Mr. BARTLETT said:—He had tried cooling the curd in the vat with the whey, instead of dipping out, and did not like it because the cheese was likely to become moist on the surface, which tended to produce mould. When the curd was too warm, cooled it a little before dipping into the sink. In mixing the cream with the milk in the morning, he dipped it up with a portion of the milk, and poured through a strainer.

My experience leads me to discard the use of ice-water in milk. Ordinarily threw his surplus curd into another hoop, let it lie until next day, threw it into the draining sink, and dipped it out with next day's curd.

[We shall conclude the publication of the proceedings of this Convention next week.]



EDITED BY HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D.

OHIO WOOL-GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

[The Editor of this Department being absent, we condense from the Official Report, published in the *Ohio Farmer*, what follows, concerning the meeting of the Wool-Growers at Columbus, Ohio, January 5th inst.]

President S. D. HARRIS called the Convention to order, read the call for it, and after indulging in a word of congratulation, proceeded to sketch the history of the present wool movement in Ohio, and the formation and progress of the Ohio Wool-Growers' Association, from its meeting in Cleveland on the 15th of April last to the present time, and to congratulate the wool-growers of the State upon the success which had attended their determination to obtain a fair and equal price for their wool, as compared with other articles of such prime necessity.

The wool interest of the country is now in the ascendant, and it becomes us so to deal with it as to promote the present profit and future stability of this branch of production. Wool-growers should exercise a wise foresight in their business, so that when the present excitement in the wool market, stimulated by the demand to supply the wants and wastes of war, shall have passed, they may not be crippled by a burden which is now a fortune in their hands. You will doubtless inquire what legislation is possible to meet your present necessities as wool-growers; and here comes up the never-to-be-settled question of the destruction of dogs for the protection of sheep. From having watched the course of legislation on this subject for the last fifteen years, during my residence at the Capital, I am of the opinion that we have got all we can get under the Constitution of Ohio, in the shape of practical legislation on this subject, and it remains with the farmers of the State to resolve to put our present laws in force or look to the General Government for further legislation. Under our present laws—with very few exceptional cases—every dog in Ohio is outlawed and liable to be destroyed without recourse, almost at any time. After further remarks on the subject of self-protection, the speaker concluded by saying:

According to the terms of the call which I have read, this Convention is open to all. The men of the farm and of the flocks, the men of the mill and the loom, the merchant, the dealer, and all who feel interested in this present question of the production, handling and consumption of wool, are cordially invited to participate in the deliberations of this Convention.

DOG LAWS.

Mr. GREER, of Painesville, in behalf of the Committee on Programme, reported the following resolution for discussion:

Resolved, That we petition the Congress of the United States to amend the Internal Revenue Laws as to impose a tax upon dogs, with a view of protecting sheep—by the destruction of dogs.

Mr. GREER said that in regard to the subject of the first resolution, experience had proved that legislation had been wholly inadequate to prevent the destruction of sheep by dogs; that the tax levied was so small in almost every case as to render its collection impracticable; and that a specific tax under the Internal Revenue Law would be alike beneficial to wool-growers and the Government.

Mr. MONTGOMERY was aware that this subject did not come up first because of first importance, but it was a plain matter which all could understand and in which all were interested. Sheep owners must have some remedy for this growing evil. It had been estimated that they suffer a loss in sheep killed by dogs of \$100,000 annually. He was satisfied that further investigation would show that they suffer more than \$100,000 additional in curtailing wool-growing. In many parts of the State dogs have the ascendancy and drive out sheep, compelling farmers to devote their farms to other branches of agricultural industry. We sometimes think our taxes burdensome, and so they are, but we pay them cheerfully because necessary to support the Government. When we are called upon to

bear this additional and outrageous burden we feel aggrieved, as it is most certainly not in keeping with the fitness of things that the dogs of the country should be supported on this kind of fare. Now, what should the remedy be? Col. HARRIS had said that we have legislation tolerably sufficient. The Colonel does not, perhaps, own a flock of sheep. We have two or three dog laws, but all are inadequate to the purpose. True, under a late law, a dog may be killed if unaccompanied by his owner in the night. Who will go to the trouble to keep watch? Besides, you get into trouble with your neighbor if you kill his dog, and on the morrow, perhaps, he will go and buy two pups. It was argued that the Constitution of the State stood in the way of adequate legislation. The Constitution provides that all property shall be taxed according to its true value in money. Dogs have a very uncertain value, or in case of their taxation it is hard to get their owners to place a value upon them. It was also difficult to get the State laws put in force. Therefore, to ask Congress to amend the Revenue Laws seemed to be the best remedy left, as under that law the tax is sure of collection. It will add largely to the revenue of the Government, and may reduce the number of dogs. He believed that the census returns of the number of dogs in the State was very imperfect, and yet the number was given at 170,000. His own opinion was that we have half a million of dogs in Ohio, and a per capita tax of one dollar would yield an annual revenue of half a million of dollars.

Mr. MCCLUNG, of Miami county, said that perhaps it was well enough to ask Congress to impose a tax upon dogs, but he thought that at the same time there are other means that will secure the protection desired as well or better, that is, if the farmers of Ohio will not be so modest in the matter. One law open before him declared dogs not put upon the duplicate, outlaws. Another law, passed last winter, required dogs to be tied up after six o'clock in the evening, and if that is not done, it allows any one to kill them. The Legislature had done all that could be done. He did not understand how the General Government was to collect a tax from irresponsible persons—and such owned more dogs than any other class—any more successfully than it is now done. The best thing that could be done now was to make it a dollar-and-cent matter with the farmers; they would find the remedy with themselves. There are communities in the State into which a dog cannot stick his head without endangering his life; this was pretty much the case in Shelby county. In his own county, the farmers had made it their interest to produce corn, wheat, &c.

Mr. DEFOE, of Carroll Co., spoke of the importance of the wool interest in the North-west, of the vast population to be clad in wool there, and said this dog question was one that affected the safety of flocks by night and by day. He had thought that this mode might meet the difficulty. Let the Assessor enumerate the dogs and report those not cared for properly, for it is hunger and bad training that cause dogs to attack sheep. If this were done there would not be one in a hundred as many sheep killed as now. How would he get at the owner? Let the Assessor report the fact that A. B. or C. did not take care of his dogs, and let the law provide for the destruction of the dog and the fining of the owner.

Mr. GRISWOLD, of Vermont, said there was a good deal of force in what Mr. MCCLUNG had said in regard to the farmers taking the matter into their own hands. Let each community form a dog-killing league and the sheep would have protection.

Mr. BELL, of Muskingum Co., was very much in favor of the spirit of the resolution, but thought that the State ought to manage such affairs without bothering Congress. We have a very good dog law upon the statute books now, and if farmers would only put it in force there was all the protection required from dogs. Any law not put in force was a dead letter, and he hoped this Convention would resolve to enforce the law. As for himself, he always kept a gun loaded at home for stray dogs, and he could recommend that to wool-growers as an excellent remedy for the dog raid.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM, of Stark county, opposed the resolution. Levying the tax proposed was equivalent to licensing all men to keep dogs, and it would conflict with the State law which authorizes the destruction of dogs when wandering in the night. He thought that such

action would increase rather than decrease the number of dogs.

Mr. MONTGOMERY could not see the force in the argument that a tax on a thing was a license to keep it. This fact remains yet unremoved by the arguments of any of the speakers.—The sheep were hourly liable to destruction from dogs, and guns and strychnine had not yet proved a sufficient protection. He had suffered over \$500 loss during the past year from this cause, and he remembered not long since being in company with a neighbor of Mr. Bell's then returning home with a lot of Vermont sheep for which he had paid \$7,500, and hearing him say that he hardly dare turn his sheep out now that he had got them, for fear that the dogs of the neighborhood would kill them. Mr. Bell's system, then, did not seem to prove very efficacious in his own neighborhood.

Gov. BROWN, of Massachusetts said that he lived in a community too thickly populated to keep sheep, and if that were not the case, they would be prevented from keeping sheep owing to the very difficulty which the Convention was discussing. That interest in his State had been reduced from five or six hundred thousand, down to about ninety thousand sheep. But he only arose to express a simple thought. It seemed to him that the remedy had not yet been prescribed to rid the farmers of Ohio from this great evil. He was glad to find them so independent and feeling that they have a remedy in themselves. When he heard the argument used about confining dogs, it seemed to him as though they had a law on their statute books that no man should keep twenty-five pounds of gunpowder loose upon the table and light matches in its immediate vicinity. As for him, he would crush out everything opposed to him as he went along. He admitted that some dogs were valuable, but for all that, he was in favor of the farmers forming canine associations for the purpose of extirpating those animals from the land.

The PRESIDENT:—Inasmuch as there was a law passed by the Massachusetts Legislature some years ago on this subject, which at the time he pronounced impracticable, he would like to ask Gov. Brown what had been the result of that law?

Gov. BROWN, in reply, said the result had been this:—Funds had accumulated in the hands of their selectmen from damages assessed for injuries to flocks of sheep, sufficient to pay farmers for their loss. This good had grown out of the law.

Mr. DUNCAN, of Shelby county, stated that in his neighborhood the farmers had formed themselves into a society, making it the duty of members to restrain dogs and protect sheep. They had resolved to kill all dogs not entered on the duplicate at over a dollar valuation, deeming it better to pay the damage to any man who might enter suit for recovery.

Judge LAWRENCE, of Logan county, thought the effort to get rid of the dogs by voluntary associations, impracticable. He claimed that there could be no great objection to a law of the description proposed by the committee, at least on the part of those who are in favor of protecting the wool interest of the State. We cannot adequately tax dogs by State law, for the reason that the Constitution provides that all taxes shall be uniform, according to their true value. He thought, therefore, the proposition should be agreed to at once, and that would bring up the question whether the Legislature of Ohio can, by any legislation whatever, make provision for the protection of wool growing. He was satisfied that the Legislature of the State had not exhausted all constitutional powers or wisdom.

Hon. COLUMBUS DELANO, of Knox county, fully concurred with Judge Lawrence that the legislation of Ohio is not as efficient as it ought to be. The law of 1862 is inoperative or inefficient, because it places upon individuals a necessity of destroying dogs that in many places they will not undertake. The law of 1863, requiring dogs to be chained up from six in the evening to six in the morning, is a law that, upon reflection, cannot be carried out. He was fully convinced that if they undertook there, among themselves, on that occasion, to fix the details of legislation, they would not succeed. For instance, he would not be in favor of a law to destroy all dogs. He would not destroy shepherd dogs, for they are as innocent as lambs and almost as valuable as sheep.

Hon. WM. H. WEST, of Logan county, said that a few years ago he had introduced into the General Assembly a bill, which became an act, for obtaining statistics in regard to the loss of sheep from dogs, for the purpose of awakening an interest on this subject in the public mind. He desired the Convention to act in an intelligent manner, in order that, as a member of the Legislature, he might found his action upon their action. Now, unless a law is passed that the people of Ohio will sustain any man who will kill a dog, you cannot get any officer to do the work. There is another difficulty.—The dog is either property or not property. If property, the Constitution of Ohio says he shall be inviolate. You might as well say that unless a man would keep a certain number of sheep on his farm, the sheep should be killed.

The debate on the first resolution took a wide range, and on being finally brought to vote, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. DELANO offered the following resolution: Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a bill, to be submitted to the Legislature of Ohio, for promoting the interests of Wool Growers and for protection against dogs, and that said committee memorialize the General Assembly in favor of passing said bill.

remark of Mr. West, in regard to public sentiment. It is impossible to carry out any legislation that is unpopular. He favored the appointment of the committee.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. MCLUNG offered the following resolution, which was adopted: Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the Wool Growers of Ohio, that they form associations for the purpose of pledging themselves to put in force the present laws upon the statute books of Ohio for the protection of sheep from the ravages of dogs.

WASHING SHEEP. Mr. GREER reported the following resolution: Resolved, That washing is in itself injurious to sheep—and is no advantage to wool—and is only made necessary by the present custom of wool buyers, and it is highly desirable that a reform be effected.

Mr. BELL did not think that the farmers were ready, in the State of Ohio, to pass their wool into the market without washing. He would admit that washing, in one sense of the word, is a sham. He would admit that it is injurious. But taking the wool as now offered in the State as a basis of argument, and it would work more injustice to offer all wool unwashed than it does at present. Wool in Ohio is not equal enough to go into the market without washing. He owns two classes of sheep; one would cleanse fifty per cent. more than the rest of the sheep. Passing this in at a reduced price, he would have gained in the sale. In Muskingum county there are clips not crossed much with the Spanish, weighing 2½ lbs. cleansed or 3½ uncleaned, and he thought it would be unfair to wool growers to say that all in the rough should be taken at a reduction of one-fourth or one-third.

Mr. MONTGOMERY said his best sheep were shorn without washing last season. He took a lot of eighteen or twenty, and divided them into two lots, making them equal as to number and probable weight of fleece. One lot were washed as clean as river water would wash them, and were then allowed to run about ten days. The washed and unwashed were shorn on the same day. The loss in this case was 33½ per cent., taking the unwashed as the standard. He took another lot of twenty sheep which had not been housed until the setting in of winter. These were second-rate sheep. Half were washed and half unwashed, as before, and the per cent. of loss was thirty. He also tried a third lot, and the per centage was only twenty-three. He supposed the average loss in the State, as sheep are washed, about 15 per cent.

Mr. — never experienced any inconvenience in washing. His manner of washing was to make a bath—a stream of water being kept constantly running into the vat, which was so placed that sheep could be plunged into it without its being necessary to wet one's clothes. He thought it best to prepare whatever they raised for sale to suit the purchaser. We all know that wool will shrink from 20 to 50 per cent. when washed. He thought it wrong to advocate putting wool into shape in which the manufacturer does not want it. He did not believe shepherds received any damage from being washed. In buying wool for a dealer, he had been instructed not to purchase the unwashed.

Mr. ALEXANDER, of Summit county, said he would like to know why the manufacturer will not buy unwashed wool. Will the manufacturer assert that he is unable to determine the value of unwashed wool? There is too much inequality in the washing to secure justice to those who are conscientious. There are many wool men in Ohio who will drive their sheep through the water and call them washed; and still, that very wool is in worse condition than others which are unwashed.

Mr. GRISWOLD spoke very earnestly against washing wool for the manufacturer, who, he said, only sought to drive a good bargain. He objected to the class of persons employed to purchase wool, they being, possibly, good judges of dry goods, but poor judges of classes of wool.

Mr. BELL urged that facts prove that the producer has to pay for the cost of transporting the dirt in unwashed wool. At the per centage of loss found in the best class of wool by Mr. Montgomery, the manufacturer must ship with 300,000 pounds 100,000 pounds of dirt. The cost of transportation must come off of the farmer. It is common sense, that the nearer you put an article into condition to suit the purchaser, the better it is for the seller. Clean Saxony wool has sold for a number of years twenty cents higher than other wool. One difficulty in the scale of prices is that the wool has to pass through too many hands before reaching the manufacturer.

No vote was taken on the last resolution.

FEEDING SHEEP. Mr. CUNNINGHAM, of Stark county, had not fed a great deal of grain. During the past three years he had fed both corn and oats. His own experience was that corn, given in proper quantities, is the best, as it produces the most wool and fat. To his lambs he fed oats in addition to hay and found it profitable, and did not know but that he would prefer oats to corn for young sheep. He fed a bushel of corn, ground with the cob, to 100 sheep once a day. He recommends feeding hay twice and corn once a day. Anything which will produce fat will produce wool. He had rather feed oil-meal than anything else, if he could obtain it.

ISAAC THOMAS, of Harrison county, asked if the gentleman ever experienced any disadvantage from the hard substance at the root of the grain?

Mr. CUNNINGHAM—None at all. Mr. STEVENS, of Hardin county, had observed frequently in his sheep, that many of those the most promising at the beginning of winter, before February seemed to be running down. He concluded that they ate too much and became overheated. There were not many

in his section prepared to go to the extent of housing and grinding corn. They feed the corn in the shock.

Mr. BELL's experience was against feeding the cob—it was like bran and sawdust, the less of sawdust the better. He thought corn and oats the best food. He does not grind the grain. He mixed bran with the corn, in order to prevent the sheep from eating too rapidly, in which case some of the sheep got more than their share.

Mr. THOMAS had found that by the time sheep got the grain off the stalk, the straw was run over and injured so much as to be of little account. It is better to feed grain and straw separate.

Mr. WITTER, of Medina, had been experimenting a number of years, to ascertain the different quantities of grain that it is profitable to feed sheep—ground and unground. He had concluded that to feed equal quantities of corn, oats, peas and beans, would insure the best clip of wool. Sheep have delicate tastes. If you feed all one kind of grain, some sheep will eat too much. Where different kinds are fed mixed, some sheep will select the corn, others the oats, and others again the peas or beans. He had found that sheep fed on peas would shear from one-half to one pound of wool more than sheep fed on any other kind of food. Peas produce more fat. He would not feed corn to lambs.

Mr. PUTNAM, of Athens county, found the principal advantage in feeding corn ground with the cob, in preventing the sheep from eating too fast. He breaks the ear into pieces, and lets them shell for themselves.

Mr. EAGLESON, of Harrison county, had fed grain, cob and all, for six or seven years. He mixed bran and a little salt with the grain, and found no difficulty in getting all the sheep to eat. In answer to a question, he said that he thought there was nourishment in the cob.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM thought the grain should be ground, as in that way the sheep cannot eat it so rapidly, and all will take hold of it better. Yearlings cannot eat corn when fed on the cob, owing to their front teeth being loose. Therefore, the grain will be distributed most equally if ground. It is still better to feed with cut straw or chaff. They never feed corn on the stalk in Stark county.

Mr. CLARK, of Columbiana county, cuts the corn into slices by means of a knife attached to a lever, similar to a tobacco cutter, and then places in troughs. He finds that it takes two or three times the usual time for them to eat it.

A committee appointed for the purpose reported the following

MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS: To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress Assembled.

We, your petitioners, interested in the growth of sheep and wool, and now assembled in the character and under the name of the Ohio Wool Growers' Association, would humbly represent to your honorable body, that one great hindrance to the profitable production of wool within our own and adjoining States exists in the destruction of sheep by dogs.

The most reliable statistics within our knowledge represent the annual average loss at about \$100,000. But this by no means covers the actual loss, because, in many portions of our State the number of dogs kept amounts in effect to a prohibition of sheep husbandry.

We further represent that a very imperfect enumeration shows the number of dogs within our State to be 175,000. We believe, however, that the actual number is very much greater, and will probably reach 500,000. While we have some very good State laws on the subject, we feel that they are insufficient, and that there are serious difficulties in the way of obtaining more. Believing that our sister States are in similar need with ourselves, and that a general tax of one dollar per head would afford a very considerable revenue to the government, and very valuable protection to wool-growers, and do no injustice to the owners of dogs,—we humbly ask you so to amend the revenue law as to levy a tax of one dollar per head on (or more as your superior wisdom shall indicate) each and every dog owned or existing within the reach of your jurisdiction, and as in duty bound we will ever pray.

The memorial was then signed by the officers and members of the association, and a resolution adopted requesting the signatures of the members of the State Board of Agriculture.

Col. DANIEL NEEDHAM, of Vermont, upon invitation, gave an interesting account of the Hamburg International Fair, at which Mr. CAMPBELL, of Vermont, took two first and one second class premiums on sheep. His remarks were well received.

Mr. GREER, from the Committee on Constitution, reported the following, which was adopted:

CONSTITUTION OF THE OHIO WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

ART. 1. This Association shall be known as the Ohio Wool Growers' Association.

ART. 2. Its officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Directors, who shall constitute the Executive Committee of this Association.

ART. 3. The officers of this Association shall be elected at each annual meeting in January; their duties shall be those ordinarily performed by officers of similar organizations.

ART. 4. Any person may become a member of this Association on payment of an annual membership fee of one dollar.

ART. 5. This Association shall hold two regular meetings in each year, one in the city of Columbus on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January, the other in the place where the Ohio State Fair shall be held—upon the evening of the second day of the Fair.

ORGANIZATION.

An enrollment of members took place, after which the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year:

President—R. M. MONTGOMERY, of Mahoning. Vice President—JOHN GURNEY, of Licking Co. Secretary—J. PARK ALEXANDER, of Summit. Treasurer—Col. S. D. HARRIS, of Cuyahoga. Directors—Col. MESSINGER, of Marion Co.; S. S. MATTHEWS, of Licking Co.; and JOHN SEARS, of Medina Co.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED. Resolved, That this Convention does most gratefully acknowledge its obligations to Hon. HENRY S. RANDALL, for his able and instructive address before this

body, and hereby requests a copy of the address for publication.

Resolved, That our acknowledgments are respectfully tendered to Col. DANIEL NEEDHAM, of Vermont, Gov. SIMON BROWN, of Massachusetts, and other gentlemen from abroad, for their attendance and kind participation in the deliberations of this Convention.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due and are hereby tendered to the Senate of Ohio, for the courtesy of tendering their Hall for the use of this Convention.

Inquiries and Answers.

GALLOWAY ON HORNLESS CATTLE.—(W. S. Clyde.) This variety of animals were some years ago imported and bred separate for a time, and were crossed with common stock without any marked advantage. They do not prevail now in any of our large dairies, and are only occasionally found throughout the country, and, as far as we are advised, no one is now engaged in propagating them as a separate breed. They generally fatten well, and when well kept are very fair milkers; but they will not compare with Ayrshires or their crosses with the common grade.

MICE—How DESTROY?—Will some of your readers inform me how to get rid of as troublesome a thing as mice, where a cat cannot get at them?—WAYNE.

HERBERT'S HINTS TO HORSE-KEEPERS.—Please state whether, or not, "Herbert's Hints" to Horse-Keepers treats of doctoring horses, or simply hints on their keeping, breeding, &c.—J. H. L.

There is a chapter in it entitled "How to physic a horse—simple remedies for simple ailments," another on "Farriery, etc.," and still another on "Veterinary Homoeopathy."

PLASTER WANTED.—HIRAM SMITH asks where the best plaster can be obtained. We cannot tell. Our experience is that the quality of ground plaster depends a good deal upon the manner of grinding—that ground finest bringing the best results when applied to soils. We are also asked if a good article can be purchased in New York city. We have no doubt that it can, but we have no names of plaster dealers there. And, how much should be sown per acre? We reply that a bushel of well ground plaster is usually enough. Some sow a bushel and a half—three bushels on two acres.

CHINA SHEEP.—Are they a humbug or not? I see they are advertised as something wonderful.—F. P.

From all that we can learn of them, we judge them to belong to that family of bugs. At any rate they do not seem to be sufficiently desirable to warrant us in recommending you to invest in them at any price.

A "PUFF" ON A HORSE'S LEG.—I would like to know how to take a puff from a horse's leg,—this being on the gambrel or hock joint, and resembling a wind gall. The whole joint seems to be puffed, on the sides and in front of the leg.—W. F. R.

The trouble is probably a wind gall. JENNINGS recommends the application of cold water and compresses secured by bandaging the legs, as the most efficacious. He says blisters, though commonly applied, are not attended with any permanent benefit. If our readers have better remedies let them be furnished.

—Since writing the foregoing we came across the following by a correspondent of the Country Gentleman, who says in his efforts to cure this trouble, he tried many remedies found in papers, but never found one which proved effective. At last he thought of Kerosene Oil, and made the trial. Had used it but a few times when the gall entirely diminished. He says:—"Procure the best Kerosene Oil possible, and bathe the spot two or three times a day until you see that the gall has diminished. Dip the end of your finger in the oil, and rub it in well. Then put a tight bandage of cloth around the gall. Be careful and not let the oil spread more than necessary, for if allowed to run down in the fetlocks it will cause a bad sore. If the gall is a bad one, and the oil should cause a sore, heal with Green Ointment, made as follows:—Two ounces of beeswax, two ounces of resin; when that is melted, put in half a pound of hog's lard, and four ounces of turpentine, and to this add one ounce of powdered verdigris, strain through a clean cloth, and it is then fit for use."

Agricultural Societies.

UNITED STATES AG. SOCIETY.—There has been an annual meeting of this "institution." The following named gentlemen were elected officers: Pres.—P. B. FRENCH. Vice Pres.—One from each State—names not given in the report before us. Sec.—Benj. Parley Poore. Treas.—Joseph F. Brown. Executive Com.—Isaac Newton, Washington; John Jones, Delaware; F. Smyth, New Hampshire; Ward H. Lamson, Illinois; W. B. Todd, Dist. Columbia; James S. Grinnell, Massachusetts; Z. R. Dodge, Ohio.

VERMONT STATE AG. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of this Society, held at Bellows Falls, Jan. 7th, the following officers were elected: Pres.—EDWIN HAMMOND, Middlebury. Vice Pres.—J. W. Colburn, Springfield; H. Keyes, Newbury; Daniel R. Potter, St. Albans; H. G. Root, Bennington. Sec.—Daniel Needham, Quechee. Directors—Frederick Holbrook, Brattleboro; E. B. Chase, Lyndon; H. S. Morse, Shelburne; John Gregory, Northfield; Elijah Cleveland, Coventry; Nathan Cushing, Woodstock; Geo. Campbell, Westminster; Henry Hayward, Clarendon; Wm. R. Sanford, Orwell; Wm. Q. Brown, Fair Haven. Their next State Fair is to be held Sept. 13—16, the place to be hereafter designated.

CATUGA COUNTY.—At the annual meeting Dec. 19th, the following officers were chosen: Pres.—A. M. CLARK, Fleming. Vice Pres.—H. Macomber, Fleming. Sec.—John G. Hosmer, Anselms. Treas.—L. C. Mann, Auburn. Directors—Israel E. Phelps, Cato; Charles P. Wood, Wheaton S. Leach, Auburn; Wm. D. Osborne, Mentz; John B. Shank, Springport; Oliver Freeman, Scipio.

FRANKLIN Co., MASS.—Officers for 1864: Pres.—EDMUND W. STEBBINS, of Deerfield. Vice Pres.—Nelson Burrows, Gill; Rominor Smith, Coleraine. Sec.—Austin DeWolf, Greenfield. Treas.—Edward W. Russell, Greenfield.

HAMPDEN Co., MASS.—Officers for 1864: Pres.—WM. BIRNE, Springfield. Directors—Wm. Pynchon, C. L. Buell, H. M. Sessions, J. S. McElwain, R. Brooks, H. E. Mosely, P. Stedman, Jas. Fowler and C. S. Nowell. Sec. and Treas.—J. N. Bagg.

SUSQUEHANNAH VALLEY.—Officers for 1864: Pres.—Wm. J. HUGHSTON, Sidney. Vice Pres.—W. H. Emory, G. B. Fellows, Unadilla; David Silver, Walter Wattles, Sidney. Sec.—R. W. Courtney, Sidney. Treas.—C. J. Hayes, Unadilla. Directors—Ralph Dewey, Sidney; C. D. Fellows, Unadilla; Abner Johnston, W. T. Hodge, Sidney; H. C. Gregory, David Lee, Unadilla.

Rural Notes and Items.

PERSONAL AND PROGRESSIVE.—We have the pleasure of announcing that Mr. CHAS. D. BRAGDON, formerly editor of the *Prairie Farmer*, and for the past two years our Western Aid, has changed his base from Chicago to Rochester, and been assigned duty on the RURAL's Office Staff as Associate Editor—a position for which he is eminently qualified, as thousands of our readers are aware. Mr. B.'s familiarity with agricultural matters at the West, his knowledge concerning the wants of the farming community, and earnest advocacy of its interests, have been manifested in our pages, giving him an enviable reputation; hence we are confident that the announcement of his new and more intimate connection with the RURAL will be hailed with pleasure. Added to his practical and theoretical knowledge of Agriculture and Horticulture, Mr. B. possesses fine literary taste, and has written much and well on various subjects. Years ago he was a favorite contributor to the RURAL (in which his "first efforts" appeared,) over the signature of CHARLEY CHRISTY. That his practical knowledge and extended observation pertaining to rural affairs, combined with conversation with other matters appropriate for discussion in the RURAL, will render Mr. BRAGDON a most valuable and acceptable member of our home staff, we are fully assured, and trust the connection will prove gratifying and beneficial to all interested.

—In this connection we ought perhaps to tender acknowledgments to the substantial friends of the RURAL New-Yorker for enabling us, by their generous support, to employ such able contributors to its pages as we have recently announced. But the best return we can make is to render the paper increasingly valuable and acceptable, and that is our earnest endeavor. The simple fact that we have received during the past six weeks more subscribers than during the whole of the preceding year, indicates that our present volume is destined to have a much greater circulation than either of its predecessors, and we shall endeavor to make it worthy of the large measure of support it is receiving.

THAT HAUNCH OF VENISON.—Sent us a few days ago, by H. C. BINGHAM, Esq., of Brantford, C. W., (long time an efficient recruiting officer for the RURAL Brigade,) was appreciated by family and friends who partook thereof. One of the latter, in acknowledging the receipt of a portion of the haunch, writes:—"We read of martyrs going to 'the stake' joyfully, and I can fully realize their feelings if their steaks were at all like those you sent. I think I can now better appreciate our friend the Doctor's enthusiasm over deer hunting in the Adirondacks, and his relish for saddles and staves of venison. The [this] poet says: Hark to that sound, stealing faint thro' the wood, Heart hammers, breath thickens, swift rushes the blood, It swells from the thicket more loud, and more near, 'Tis the Doctor himself—he has started a deer, His antlers thrown back, and his body in motion, With quick rise and fall, like the surge of the ocean, His eyeballs wide rolling, in phrenzied aflight, Out bursts the magnificent creature in sight. (Note.—You must observe that this is the deer, not the Doctor. The Doctor pulls trigger, the deer springs on high, The 'medicine man' says 'the patient must die.'") Thanks to our Canada friend, who annually makes such joyful martyrs and poets!

THE CANADA FARMER.—Some weeks ago we stated that Hon. GEO. BROWN, of the Toronto *Globe* newspaper, was about to commence the publication of a semi-monthly agricultural journal entitled *The Canada Farmer*. The initial number of this journal is before us, and is highly creditable in both contents and appearance. The several departments are well filled, and comprise an unusual variety—a better melange, we think, than the editor and contributors will be able to present in each subsequent issue, when time to prepare matter will be limited. Mr. F. W. CLARKE, of Guelph, is the chief editor. A number of able contributors are announced—among others, Mr. GEO. BUCKLAND, Professor of Agriculture in Toronto University, who takes charge of the Live Stock department, and D. W. BEADLE, Esq., of St. Catharines, who takes charge of the Horticultural department. We cordially welcome *The Canadian Farmer*, and wish it much success.

AID THE SICK AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS.—The ladies of various cities—Chicago, Cincinnati, Buffalo, Rochester, &c.—have recently held very successful Fairs or Bazaars for the benefit of sick and wounded soldiers of the National Army. And it is now announced by circular (and a private letter before us) that a Metropolitan Fair is to be held in the city of New York, beginning on the 28th of March next in aid of that humane and patriotic association, the Sanitary Commission. The object is certainly a worthy one, and we trust societies and individuals will contribute liberally. County Agricultural Societies and Farmers' Clubs would aid the Union cause by sending contributions to the Fair, by express or otherwise, directed to the Receiving Depot, No. 2 Great Jones Street, New York, where they will be credited and their receipt acknowledged by the proper committee. Those wishing particular information should address Mrs. ELIZABETH W. SHREWOOD, Secretary, at the Receiving Depot above named.

"STRAWS."—Under this heading the N. Y. *Independent* of the 21st inst. states that in five successive days of this month more than 125 new subscribers were entered upon its books per day, and that the exact number was 662. This may be considered extensive by a paper which a few years ago spoke of the RURAL New-Yorker as a highly meritorious "country paper,"—yet the said RURAL has received full two thousand subscribers per day for more than five consecutive days of this month, at least one-fourth of which must have been new subscribers. The *Independent* should move into the "rural districts" and become a "country paper" if it really desires to attain a respectable circulation.

WHAT ARE DOGS WORTH?—We learn that the dogs got among the Merinos of J. D. Patterson, Esq., of this Co., and destroyed \$3,000 worth of sheep. What are those dogs worth? What are the dogs in this State worth? There are not \$3,000 worth of dogs between the two oceans, if we except the shepherd dogs and terriers. In Jefferson Co. recently, a citizen did the horrible death which follows the bite of a dog—six months after he was bitten. Who is safe? Not the lives of all the dogs in the State are worth as much as a citizen's life. We are in favor of legislation that shall legislate dogs where they can kill no more sheep, cause no more deaths, nor endanger our children's lives, reader.

THE AMERICAN PHENOLOGICAL JOURNAL.—Enters upon a new year and volume with a splendid number and under very favorable auspices. It has been greatly improved since the return of Mr. WELLS from Europe, and is entitled to augmented support from its friends and the public. Published by FOWLER & WELLS, New York, whose advertisements see in this paper.

Horticultural.

PEARS IN THE ISLAND OF JERSEY.

In a very elaborate work, recently published, on the "English Channel Islands," Jersey and Guernsey, etc., by E. T. ANSTED, there is an extended notice of the Pear Culture of those Islands, which have long been celebrated for their abundant and superior fruit. Some of the finest pears ever seen in the English markets, it is well known, come from the Island of Jersey. These facts led us to examine this work with much interest, and to notice carefully the condition of soil and climate under which this fruit is produced.

The islands, it appears, although situated a little south of England, and within sixteen miles of the coast of France, have a climate but little milder than that of the southern counties of England. The mean annual temperature of Greenwich, England, is 48.7 deg., that of Jersey is 50.8 deg. But the climate of Jersey is much more equable than that of England. The thermometer never rises higher than 83 deg., and never sinks lower than 24 deg. The spring months are cool, the autumn temperature is four degrees higher than that of Greenwich, and the winter six degrees higher. The summer temperature is cooler than that of the south-east of England. Snow rarely falls to any depth, and remains on the ground only a day or two.

The soil of the island is largely of granite formation, but is said not to be rich in organic matter, or in potash or phosphoric acid. Much sea-weed is used as a top-dressing for agricultural purposes; but nothing is said of the special manures employed for the pear. The inhabitants, however, are largely engaged in horticultural pursuits, exporting annually six to nine tons of Black Hamburg grapes, grown under glass, and of course they know something of the art of cultivating and manuring plants and fruit trees. We quote the following passages from the work above mentioned, on the production of pears:

"Both Jersey and Guernsey are remarkably successful in the culture of pears, whose export has long been a source of considerable profit. As many as 59 named varieties are cultivated in Jersey, some of which are very excellent, and a few of them keep well and range over many months for table use. The most remarkable in both islands is the *Chaumontel*, which certainly attains, there, its greatest perfection, owing, no doubt, to the peculiarity of the climate it enjoys, and the absence of night frosts when its final ripening approaches. Great attention is also paid to its culture. Then, pears are usually plucked about the 10th of October, but are not fit for use for several weeks, being in perfection about Christmas. Those weighing 16 ounces are regarded first rate, and fetch good prices. Pears of this size average in value from four to five pounds sterling per hundred, in the Guernsey or Jersey market; but as they diminish in size the price falls rapidly.

"Chaumontel pears of extraordinary size are sometimes obtained by removing most of the fruit from a tree. The largest and best grown specimen on record was grown in Guernsey in 1849. It measured 6 1/2 inches in length, and 1 1/2 inches in girth, and weighed 38 ounces English weight. No pear of this variety weighing more than 30 ounces appears to have been grown in Jersey. Five Chaumontel pears were obtained from one tree, in 1861, in the garden of Mr. MARQUAND, Guernsey, four of which weighed, together, seven and a half pounds. The tree, though usually prolific, in this case bore only these fine pears, which weighed respectively 32 1/2, 33, 31 1/2, and 22 ounces.

"The quantity of pears exported is always very large, both from Jersey and Guernsey. In the year 1869, a favorable year, nearly 10,000 bushels were sold from Jersey alone, while in the following year less than 3,000 could be procured. From Guernsey, about 10,000 fine Chaumontel pears, and 3,000 bushels of common fruit, may be regarded as the average. The fine pears usually command about five pounds sterling per hundred in the island markets. The smaller fruit are sold by the bushel, and are much cheaper."

The islands in question are very small, neither of them being over 10 or 12 miles long, by about six miles wide. A large portion of the land, in each of them, is rough, sandy and rocky, and there is, of course, a long line of sandy coast, incapable of cultivation, and exposed to the violence of the ocean winds. With all these disadvantages, however, the climate is so temperate and equable, that these islands are able to supply the English market with new potatoes, in immense quantities, three weeks in advance of those grown in Cornwall. They are often sold at one shilling and upwards per pound. The export of early potatoes from Jersey alone amounts to about 3,000 tons per annum. A supply of potatoes for winter use is imported from France, in the autumn, when the price is lowest, leaving a large profit in favor of the island.

Here, then, we have the conditions of climate, etc., under which are produced the famous pears of Jersey. One aspect, only, of the climate, we have omitted to notice; the degree of humidity and the rain fall. This is less than in England, but greater than in the South of France. The summer is often dry, but a real drought seldom occurs. There is not so much cloudy weather as in England.

Our chief object in preparing this article is to call attention to the Chaumontel pear, and to inquire if it has not been unjustly and too hastily placed on the list of discarded varieties in this country. Many of the decisions on the subject of pears have come from Boston alone. Boston has often pronounced a verdict for the whole country; and the American Pomological Society, and the Fruit Books have put the verdict on

record as one not to be questioned or over-ruled. We desire to know whether or not the Chaumontel pear has been fairly tried in a variety of soils and climates in this country. It appears that it is capable of growing to a size larger even than the Duchess d'Angouleme, and it ripens at a most desirable period, Christmas and New Year. Dr. ROBERT HOGG, author of the standard English *Fruit Manual*, says it is "melting, rich, sugary, and highly perfumed; a desert pear of high merit."

We trust the new Pomological Assistant in the Horticultural Department of the RURAL will tell us whether the Chaumontel has been fairly tried in the country, and what has been the result.—*East Penn. Fruit Grower*.

REMARKS.—The Chaumontel has not succeeded well in this country, as far as we know. We have ourselves grown it for 25 years, and although we got fair sized, high colored fruits, they do not attain that excellence which entitles it to rank with our best pears. Our climate, evidently, does not quite suit. The climate of the Channel Islands is moist and much more equable than ours. The range of the thermometer is said to be from 80 deg. to 37 deg. We have thought that the climate of Tennessee and Georgia would suit this variety. If we should ever be able to hear from our old friend BERCKMANS, he will be able to inform us on that point. We will be happy to hear from other fruit growers on the subject.

NEW AMERICAN FRUITS.

HOVEY'S MAGAZINE in its annual, comprehensive, and interesting article on the "Progress of Horticulture," makes the following statement in relation to new American Pears and Grapes:

"A few years have caused an immense change in public opinion regarding American pears. The late Hon. John Lowell, with his good judgment, said, in 1832 or 1833, that there were only four or five varieties of known American origin that were worth growing! How stands the matter now? In the short period of thirty years the number exceeds one hundred, and at the rate of recent increase will soon be two hundred, or more; and these embrace kinds whose excellence no European pear can equal. In fact, we begin to think foreign pears will soon be considered of as little importance as foreign apples, of which only one half a dozen are thought worthy of a place in our orchards. Look at the results of the last dozen years, viz.: The Sheldon, Swan's Orange, Dana's Hovey, Augustus Dana, Excelsior, Moore's Pound, Kingsessing, Clapp's Favorite, and the Edmonds. No other ten pears of their season can surpass, if equal them. If every decade shall give us similar results, how rich in this delicious fruit will American collections be? We make no account of previous accessions, such as the Dix, Seckel, Lawrence, Boston, and other unequalled pears.

"Nearly all these have been accidental productions, showing how much must be due to our climate, or some other unknown cause, for this excellence; and if so much has come from accident, what will be the result of skillful efforts made with a view to combine the merits of two varieties, under our present accumulated knowledge of hybridization? We do not doubt they will be as progressive as similar efforts with other fruits.

"And of the grape, how immense have been the strides towards excellence. Had the Concord been but half the good grape it is, the impetus its introduction gave to the growth of new seedlings would be alone worth all the disappointment which must have ensued. But it has not only exceeded all that was promised for it—standing by all good authority at the head of popular grapes—but it has awakened an interest in grape culture that will not cease till even the Concord is as much surpassed as that surpassed its predecessors. Already we have the Adirondac, like it in size of bunch and berry, and color of fruit, a fortnight earlier, and superior in quality. It only remains to see if its growth, hardness, ease of cultivation, productiveness, &c., are equal to its other acknowledged qualities. If so, for the present, at least, the Concord and Adirondac will be the grapes. And now we have the sum of a dozen years' grape growing, viz.:—The Concord, Adirondac, Allen's Hybrid, Rebecca, Delaware, Union Village, Creveling, Iona, Winchester, Framingham Seedling, and Hartford Prolific. There are still others, among which some of Rogers' Hybrids might be named, but after a careful examination of them for three years, we can see nothing that should give them the name of hybrids; they are simply improved varieties of the kinds they were named from, and we cannot detect the least foreign blood in them. Who that cultivated the Isabella and Catawba so many years, rarely obtaining a sweet berry, but must acknowledge their indebtedness to the raisers and introducers of these valuable kinds, so hardy, and so early, that they can be grown anywhere, and so good that cold-house grapes can scarcely compete with them in the market. Liberal premiums for superb seedling grapes will find the above list doubled in number in another ten years."

It will be observed that Hovey's Magazine holds that Rogers' grapes are not hybrids, but "improved varieties." This is our own opinion. We have examined these grapes in the fruit, wood, foliage and habits of growth, and have been unable to "detect the least foreign blood in them." This we are aware is in conflict with opinions entitled to great weight.

The circumstance, however, as to their being, or not being, hybrids, though of great scientific interest and importance, will not affect the qualities of the grapes. Some of them will, beyond a doubt, prove valuable; among such, we think

No. 3, 4, 9, 15 and 44 may be named. Another year, if favorable for the grape crop, will do much to settle the character of many of these Rogers' grapes.

POMOLOGICAL GOSSIP.

The Hartford Prolific.—A. G. HANFORD, of Columbus, O., calls this the very best early grape in cultivation, and says it deserves to be highly prized for adding a full week or ten days to the grape season. The vine is hardy and productive, and he says the habit of dropping the fruit when ripe, nearly or quite disappears as the vines become older.

The Ellettsdale Raspberry.—This has been published as a new fruit. A correspondent of the *Iowa Homestead*, writing from Shellrook, Iowa, says it is seven years old at least, he having cultivated it, or one exactly like it, that length of time. Says he found it in a grove near by where there are any amount of them growing wild. We do not remember to have seen the description of this fruit.

The Four best Pears.—A correspondent of the *Massachusetts Ploughman* names the following as the four best pears, giving his reasons in detail. If a person is to plant but one variety, he recommends the *Bartlett* above all others. If two are to be planted, he names the *Bartlett* and *Duchess d'Angouleme*. If three are planted, he adds the *Vicar of Winkfield* to those above named. He says, "with a little care in ripening, these three will give a regular and uninterrupted succession of fruit for the table, or for market from about the 20th of September until January." For a collection of four trees, principally for family use, he adds to the above *Dearborn's Seedling*.

The Creveling Grape.—Mr. HANFORD, quoted above, says the Creveling is a better grape than the Hartford Prolific, with a good size bunch, rather loose, berries dark purple, with a thick bloom; flavor, sweet, excellent. This with the last named grape he recommends for culture as "two early grapes."

Peaches in Japan.—THOMAS HOGG, in the *Horticulturist*, writing of the fruits of Japan, says of the peach there:—"Although of fair size and appearance, they are inferior in flavor. This may be partly attributed to the practice of picking all their fruits in a very green state. No fruit suffers more from this treatment than the peach." We quote this to denounce the practice of sending early peaches to market a week or ten days before they ought to be picked, which obtains among some growers.

The Devereaux and Lenoir Grapes.—WILLIAM MUIR, a Missouri grape grower, has written an article in which he brings testimony to prove that the Devereaux grape of the Washington gardens is identical with the Lincoln; and that the latter is distinct from the Lenoir, which it has been regarded by some as a synonym.

The Philadelphia Raspberry.—A week or two since we published a paragraph concerning this new raspberry. We have since seen an article from WM. PARRY, of New Jersey, in which he states that it has been thoroughly tested by the side of leading varieties during the past ten years, and has proved to be superior to any other kind in cultivation. This is very high praise; indeed, the article in question is rather too superlative in relation to the relative merits of this fruit. We cannot conscientiously advise our readers to pay a big price for it; better wait until it is better known and cheaper.

The Belmont Apple in Indiana.—The State Pomological Society discussed the merits of this apple. J. D. G. NELSON, of Fort Wayne, said it was almost uniformly fine, healthy and prolific, little disposed to rot, and that he regarded it as the best single variety with which he was acquainted. He said that it, like most varieties, did better in the open air than in close confinement.

Gen. ORR said it had not done well in the north part of the State. It was often scabbed and specked. Still he regarded it a good variety for a small orchard.

THE WHITE WILLOW FOR FENCE.

THERE is, perhaps, not another man in the West who has had a larger experience with, nor a more thorough knowledge of, hedging plants of all sorts, than Prof. JOHN B. TURNER, of Jacksonville, Ill. We find in the *Prairie Farmer* the following opinion of the White Willow, which we publish for the benefit of our readers, who may be solicited to invest:

"Years ago I tried the Gray Willow, and also several other sorts of willow, and have hedges or parts of hedges of them now standing on my place. I know not how these trees may work further to the north. I once thought them a success here; they did first-rate for some ten or twelve years—after that they began gradually to thin themselves out, or die out at the bottom; and now there are holes in them, as any one can see, through which not only a hog but a large ox could easily walk as if the fence was all removed. I am fully aware that this tendency of trees to thin themselves out on different soils and in different climates is very various, and while they may do so here, they may not elsewhere; but I have many fears that such will finally prove to be the result with all such classes of trees over a much wider region than is now supposed; and that many bitter disappointments will at last ensue.

"The time of testing most hedge plants is far too short—fifteen or twenty years for the soft-growing willows, cottonwoods, poplars, &c., is the shortest time upon which a man can make up and report an intelligent and reliable opinion on this vital point. All the hedges I have ever tried, and all I have ever known of in this country, of this description of trees, have, in the end, on this fatal ground, utterly failed. All

that is said about this willow as a tree for screens or timber is substantially true, and too much of it cannot be planted for those purposes; but I greatly fear that it will in the end fall for a hedge throughout all Central Illinois, however well it may do elsewhere. At least I am sure that I can never make such a lasting hedge of it as we want here, and I doubt whether others can. I wrote substantially the same opinion to our Horticultural Society last year, but I have never seen it published.

"I write my present opinion, conscious that I am not embarrassed by any personal interest, even if mistaken in my personal experience. I may add that I have never been able to sell a single branch of the willow for a hedge to any man who had first seen my hedge as it now is, and I show it to all who call for the slips."

Horticultural Notes.

INDIANA POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—We have received a brief report of the proceedings of the first day's session of this Society, at its last meeting, at Indianapolis. The President, I. D. G. NELSON, of Fort Wayne, in his address, said of the importance of care and judgment in the selection of varieties for culture, that "ten well selected trees were often worth more money than a hundred taken promiscuously, without knowledge, and without care as to their character." He cautioned the members against the Canada Thistle, as a pest that depreciated a place one-half its value the moment it got a foot-hold.

He urged the re-districting of the State, pomologically, being governed by its geological divisions instead of Congressional districts. A committee, consisting of Prof. R. T. BROWN, Gen. JOSEPH ORR and JOHN SON, was appointed to re-district it and report. We shall be glad to receive the official report of the proceedings of this Society.

CULTURE OF THE OZIER WILLOW.—In reply to inquiries in regard to the culture of willow, in RURAL of Jan. 9, I would say, prepare your ground as for planting corn, or if not clean fallow it. Then plant in rows three feet apart, placing the sets one foot apart in the row, and cultivate the same as corn for two years. Cost of cuttings, planting and cultivating, \$50 per acre. The best variety for market is the *Salix Purpurea*. You may obtain from two to four tons per acre, depending on soil and cultivation. Price per ton from \$90 to \$120. They will grow well on any rich soil, but a black muck is preferable.—W. P. RUPERT, Geneva, N. Y.

POMOLOGICAL WISDOM.—A verbose writer in the *New York Tribune* says:—"I have noticed quite a rage among some pomologists to shorten in their fruit trees during the summer, that is, to cut off the ends of the branches. Their object may be well enough, such as making the tree more stocky; but one thing is certain, the tree does not bear, because the buds which the tree was developing have been cut off."

This is pomological wisdom! Don't the man know that a man does not cut off all the fruit buds when he cuts off the ends of the branches? If he does not, he does not know enough to educate the *Tribune* readers in horticulture.

DESTROYING WEEDS ON GARDEN WALKS.—A correspondent of an Irish paper says the following application will keep the weeds out of walks.—Boil 1 lb. of arsenic in 3 gallons of water; add to each pound so boiled 7 gallons of cold water. Pour it on the walks, &c., from a garden watering pot rose, in dry weather, being careful not to let any of the liquor touch the edging, as it will destroy the grass or box. Ten gallons will do for 25 or 30 square yards. Keep all the fowls off the place for two or three days after.

THE AMERICAN TEA PLANT.—Mr. E. DURAND, in the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, has recently presented a paper denying that any discovery has been made in Pennsylvania of a plant similar to the Chinese tea plant. He says the American tea plant is entirely different in its characteristics and qualities from the Chinese tea plant. The American plant is very common in our woods, and popularly known by the name of Jersey tea, under which it was used during the revolutionary war.

PEACH BUDS NEAR CINCINNATI.—We see by our exchanges, that a report was recently made at a meeting of the Cincinnati Hort. Society, stating that after a careful examination of the peach buds, the committee are of the opinion that every peach bud is killed—the effect of the recent cold weather.

Inquiries and Answers.

PLANTING PEACH TREES.—Will Winter Nellis, Lawrence, Buere Bose, Bartlett, and White Doyenne pears succeed on rich limestone hill-sides facing the North—J. P. A., Metamora, Ind.

We should regard such a soil and aspect favorable for pears generally. Some protection from the west wind would be desirable.—B.

OSAGE ORANGE SEED.—I have been watching for six months for an advertisement in the RURAL of Osage Orange seed. Has anybody got it? Where can it be obtained?—W. M.

Our armies are in Texas. With Gen. BANKS' army is a Capt. MANN, of the firm of OVERMAN & MANN, Bloomington, Ill., who will secure Osage seed if it is possible to do so. He is largely interested in the propagation of plants.

THE LADY APPLE.—I wish to know all about the Lady Apple, *Pomme d'api*. Our soil is clay loam and some sandy loam. If you think it will do well and prove profitable on such soil, I propose to plant many.—P. RHODES, Williamsville, N. Y.

The Lady Apple would no doubt succeed well on your soil. It is a great bearer, and in the markets of the large cities, as New York, Boston, Philadelphia, &c., commands a very high price; three or four times that of common winter apples. We have no doubt but that its cultivation may be made profitable, but our own experience will not justify us in recommending it to be planted extensively.—B.

LOCATION FOR HOME AND FRUIT FARM.—Please tell me where is the best and cheapest place for me to locate a cosy little home and small fruit farm in your State.—A. B., Grand Rapids, Mich.

The counties of Wayne, Monroe, Orleans and Niagara, on the South shore of Lake Ontario, and portions of Chautauque, on the South shore of Lake Erie, are regarded as the best in our State for fruit culture generally. And we have no doubt but you can find such a farm as you desire in any of those counties, by giving your wants proper publicity. If you want a "small fruit" farm, as we understand it, a farm for the culture of small fruits, such as grapes, berries, &c., you should locate as near as possible to a large city that would afford a good market.—B.

Domestic Economy.

PUDDING, CAKE, &c.

DANDY PUDDING, OR FRENCH CUSTARD.—Take 6 teacupfuls sweet milk and put it in a pail to boil. Have ready the yolks of 6 eggs, 6 even teacupfuls flour, and 6 of brown sugar, well beaten together, and when it boils stir it in. When thoroughly cooked turn it upon a large meat platter and flavor with lemon. (This is for the bottom.) Have ready the whites of 6 eggs beaten to a stiff froth, stir in this, gently, 6 teacupfuls loaf sugar rolled fine, flavor with any thing you like, then take a spoon and drop this froth over, keeping it in balls as much as possible. It will then want to sit in a hot oven about a minute. Care should be taken not to let it brown, and you will have a dish beautiful for either dinner or supper.

LEMON PIE.—Juice and rind of one lemon; 1 cup sugar; yolks of 2 eggs; 3 teacupfuls flour; milk to fill the plate; line the plate with paste, and pour in the custard. After it is baked, beat the whites of 2 eggs and 4 teacupfuls powdered sugar to a froth, and spread over the pie. Brown lightly. This makes an excellent pie, but we think them much better sliced and made like green apple pie.

BAKER'S GINGERBREAD.—Two cups molasses and 4 teacupfuls butter stirred together without melting; add 1 cup flour; 2 teacupfuls soda, dissolved in 1 cup milk; 1 teacupful alum, dissolved in 1/2 cup boiling water, and 1 teacupful ginger. Stir all well together, adding flour gradually, roll thin, cut in cards. Bake quickly. S. B. L. RATHRONE.

COLORING CRAPE SHAWLS, &c.

EDS. RURAL.—In reply to several inquiries in your paper, I would answer:

TO COLOR WHITE CRAPE SHAWLS.—Take sixpence worth of cudbear (which can be procured at almost any country store,) to about two gallons of soft water; put in the cudbear and heat it gradually until it boils. Wash the goods in strong soap suds, then put it in the dye, stirring it constantly. Take it out and air often, and when dark enough to suit your taste, wash in soap suds and rinse in cold water. This colors a beautiful crimson, that will not fade.

TO MAKE HARD SOAP.—Take four pounds bar soap, two ounces sal soda, three ounces borax, two ounces spirits hartshorn, and eight quarts of water. Cut the soap in small pieces, put it in the water and heat gradually, but do not let it boil. When the soap is thoroughly dissolved, put in the soda and borax. Keep it hot until they are dissolved, then pour it in a tub to cool. When about lukewarm, stir in the hartshorn. When cold, cut in bars and put away for use. From the above quantity you have twenty-five pounds of good soap, at a trifling cost. For washing, make a good suds with the soap, put in your clothes, let them soak a few moments, and they will require but little rubbing. It is excellent for flannel and calico; also for the toilet. EDITH. Coeymans, N. Y., 1864.

BROWN BREAD.—One of the chief cooks of the Ladies' Fair held on the Fair ground of our County Agricultural Society last year, has given us her recipe for making brown bread. Those who dined with the ladies on that occasion, cannot but remember the palatable "rye and Indian" which constituted a feature of the entertainment. We submit her recipe:

Take three quarts of sifted corn meal; scald it with boiling water. When sufficiently cool not to burn, add two cups of rye flour, one cup of hop yeast, one half cup of molasses, and a little salt; enough warm water to mix all together. It should be much softer than wheat dough. After raising about three hours, bake in a deep dish, in a moderately warm oven, for two or three hours. An iron baking vessel is preferable to tin, if it can be obtained. Shorts or Graham meal may be used instead of rye, if necessary.—*Decorah (Iowa) Republic*.

AN EXCELLENT RECIPE FOR MAKING YEAST.—Take eight good sized potatoes and pare them; get two single handfuls of hops, pour on them two quarts of water, and let them boil as long as it takes to grate the potatoes. Strain the hop water on the potatoes, and let it stand until lukewarm; then add half a teacupful of sugar, a teacupful of salt, one cup of baker's yeast. Put this in a jug or jar, and keep air-tight. One teacupful of this yeast is enough for three loaves of bread. Set the sponge over night. Save a cupful of this yeast to raise the next you make.—Mrs. T. ANDREWS, *Geddes, Onon. Co., N. Y.*

HOT ROLLS, FOR BREAKFAST.—At night take one pint sweet milk, lukewarm; two eggs; butter the size of a walnut; three teacupfuls of yeast; flour enough to make it the consistency of biscuit. Let it stand until morning, then make in rolls. This is the best recipe I ever saw.—Mrs. T. ANDREWS, *Geddes, Onon. Co., N. Y.*

EGG PUDDING.—Six eggs, six teacupfuls of flour, to one quart of milk. Let your milk boil, and add salt. Beat your eggs, add the flour, and beat well together. Stir in gradually while boiling, and continue till done. Serve with sweetened cream; nutmeg or lemon as a flavor.—ABBEIE, *Saratoga, Minn.*

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

A LAST RESORT.—Manufacturers of inferior Saleratus who could not sell under their own names have doubtless adopted that of De Land & Co., and the labels of their *Chemical Saleratus*—a superior article—to make sales. They cannot sell true in a place without detection. The genuine is in red papers.

Ladies' Department.

"NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP."

In the quiet nursery chambers,
Snowy pillows yet unpressed,
See the forms of little children,
Kneeling, white-robed for their rest.
All in quiet nursery chambers,
While the dusky shadows creep,
Hear the voices of the children,—
"Now I lay me down to sleep."

In the meadow and the mountain
Calmly shine the winter stars,
But across the glistening low lands
Slant the moonlight's silver bars.
In the silence and the darkness,
Darkness growing still more deep,
Listen to the little children,
Praying God their souls to keep.

"If we die,"—so pray the children,
And from mother's head drops low;
(One, from out her fold, is sleeping
Deep beneath this winter's snow.)
"Take our souls;"—and past the casement
Flits a gleam of crystal light,
Like the trailing of his garments
Walking evermore in white.

Little souls, that stand expectant
Listening at the gates of life,
Hearing, far away, the murmur
Of the tumult and the strife:
We who fight beneath those banners,
Meeting ranks of foemen there,
Find a deeper, broader meaning
In your simple vesper prayer.

When your hands shall grasp this standard,
Which, to-day you watch from far,
When your deeds shall shape the conflict
In this universal war,
Pray to Him, the God of battles,
Whose strong eye can never sleep,
In the warring of temptation,
Firm and true your souls to keep.

When the combat ends, and slowly
Clears the smoke from out the skies,
When, far down the purple distance,
All the noise of battle dies,
When the last night's solemn shadows
Settle down on you and me,
May the Love that never faileth,
Take our souls eternally.

[Springfield Republican.]

Written for the Rural New-Yorker.

NOTHING TO YOU!

"WINNIE, do not let me see you giving fragments to beggars at the street door again. I will not have the dirty creatures around."

"But, Auntie, it was a little girl, and so miserable and ragged. She tried to thank me, but commenced crying and sobbed as if her heart would break, poor thing. How the wind whistled through her rags; I wish you could have seen how grateful she seemed for the bread and cold meat."

"I can assure you I have no desire whatever to come in contact with such people. What is she to me? I have nothing in common with street paupers."

Can she be anything to you, with your wondrous beauty, your pride, your riches? To you whose home is a palace, whose slightest wish is a command, whose jeweled hand has never performed harder labor than that of sending rich music flooding through those grand halls, as they moved quickly over the pearled keys of your rose-wood piano, when the dancers feet woke no echoes with their light tread upon wreaths of mimic flowers. Can it be that the holy eyes of childhood have ever sought your own, that a tiny, dimpled hand ever rested confidently in yours, and a bird-like voice chirped the name of mother in your ear? Can it be that you ever guided with all a parent's care and tenderness the earliest steps of infancy,—ever taught a lisping tongue its "first prayer?"

Ah! yes. A shadow sweeps over that proud face, a mist of tears hangs heavy over those dark eyes, and the curl of scorn on those red lips has changed to an expression of deepest sadness. Yes, you have a heart, a heart to sorrow and ache. It is dark and gloomy now to be sure, but once, years ago, a child's love sprang up there and threw out its creeping tendrils, beautiful leaves and sweet flowers all over the dark walls, filling the deep cells and dismal dungeons with the perfume of its lovely bloom. There is a picture there now, half veiled with the cobwebs of time, a picture of a little earth angel with earnest blue eyes and long twining curls of gold, and down through the dim heart galleries floats a childish voice that once called you by the sacred name of mother. You remember how large and bright those blue eyes became, how the pink faded from off those cheeks day by day, and how that ringing voice grew low and plaintive like a summer night wind. You remember how kind hands straightened the little stiffened form you had held so many times close to your heart. You remember how they smoothed back the flossy curls and twined a white rose bud among them, and placed another amid the fleecy folds of the tiny shroud. You go often to visit a little mound with its costly monument, bearing the name of the loved one, and weep for the child whose love lies buried away deep in your heart. And you remember all this, and say that this little shivering, starving, weeping child is nothing to you?

Oh, pause and remember, lest when your rich clothing is changed for the death robe,—when instead of these grand halls for a dwelling place you sleep away the long, long night of death amid the chill darkness of the tomb,—when your weary spirit feet falter before the pearly gates of the New Jerusalem, the angel who keeps the golden keys looks pityingly down upon you and says, "My Master knows you not. He was an hungered and you fed him not, He was thirsty and ye gave him no drink, naked and ye clothed him not, sick and in prison and ye visited

him not. *Inasmuch as ye have not done it unto one of these ye have not done it unto Him.* Go thy way thou hast no inheritance in the Kingdom of Heaven." And away off on the "Evergreen Mountains" you catch the gleam of an angel's robe and your spirit child's voice comes stealing through the pearly bars, chanting a song of Love and Heaven lost to you forever. **NETTIE.**
Jamestown, N. Y., 1864.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MY FOLLIES.

It was a foolish investment,—fifty dollars for the beautiful, damask, cushioned chair; but then I never counted my returns in yellow gold, but in the currency of sweet heart thoughts. For six months the chair had been the ultimate of all my plans of retrenchment, and now it stood wheeled on the piazza till the special nook was cleared, a few moments only, but long enough for the sharp steel, in the hand of a vagrant boy, whose requests at the kitchen door had been disregarded, to pass with a sharp ripping sound through the strong cloth. In a moment a firm grasp was laid on the little culprit. The iron had pierced my own soul; the weeks of patient toil, the long walks to and from school, passed in rapid review. A look at the chair, crossed and recrossed by the keen blade, then down at the little sin-stamped face.

I cannot analyze my thoughts, but gradually the angry ones passed away, and as gradually the hold on the trembling arm relaxed. The child made no effort to escape, but stood blinking with that cowering, terrible look so often seen in the eyes of the little ones apprenticed to crime. There fell two great unwomanly tears that were lost in the folds of my long sleeve. I could see the clearer, though, for the tears; they had swept away the last thought of anger. A change, too, had been wrought in the hard visage of the child; it was brightening as if a new thought had rent the cloud that pressed down on that young soul. Ah, it was foolish to buy the mere luxury—foolish to weep at its marring—but more foolish still to watch the little brown feet moving away (at our bidding,) and to put forth no effort to arrest them.

By common consent no allusion was made to the mishap, though at times there was a merry twinkle in the mischievous eyes of brother Frank that made me feel uncomfortable. Could he have seen me let the culprit depart? With a good deal of labor and overlaid with the meshes of a large tidy, the easy chair looked passably well.

A month passed away, when one morning Frank entered the sitting-room, pushing before him a little ragged boy who looked as if he would gladly have beat a retreat. FRANK advanced with a serio-comic grace, begging me accept of a small token, left, he said, repeating the words of the boy, "For the little woman who didn't nab him for slashing her chair." He placed a seat for the timid stranger, then succeeded in drawing his attention from that painful consciousness of being the "observed of all observers." The little "token," as Frank pleased to call it, warmed by the fire, was making an excursion on the carpet. A turtle's slow gait was not accelerated by the fibers of the carpet, and the child joined heartily in the merry laugh, elicited partly by the awkward movements of the turtle, and partly by the group of appreciative faces watching it so intently.

The chair has stood in its corner for three years; the maid of all work asks why I don't have it upholstered. She does not know that the bitter thoughts have changed to sweet associations; nor why I linger at the door to speak a pleasant word to the little errand boy who leaves the parcels. Ah! three years have wrought a change! It may be the small hands will prove too weak for the breaking of the iron chains of habit; the voices from old haunts may recall the feet now walking in pleasant paths; leave the future trustfully with Him "who knoweth the end from the beginning;" but never think of my "foolish investment" with regret; nor feel sorry that I "remembered mercy." If the soul should lapse to the old life, there will always be for me a sweeter ring in the Savior's "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least, ye have done it unto me." **ADELAIDE STOUT.**

LEAP YEAR.

It must be a subject of solemn reflection to the whole estate of bachelorhood that during the entire year 1864 the privilege of making love is taken from them and bestowed upon the ladies. It may not be known to all the unmarried what their respective rights and duties are. We will therefore produce the law on the subject, showing that the advent of every leap-year completely overturns the old rules which have governed the kingdoms of love. In an old law-book, printed in the year 1606, where it treats of "courtship, love and matrimony," we find the following:

"Albeit, it is now become a parte of the Common Lawe in regarde to the social relations of life, that so often as everie besextile year dothe return the ladies have the sole privileges during the time continueth of making love unto the men, which they may doe either by words or looks, as unto them seemeth proper; and, moreover, no man will be entitled to the benefits of the clergy who dothe refuse to accept the offers of the ladies or who dothe in any wise treat her proposals with slight or contumely."

LOVE is not an intellectual admiration, a gratified imagination. It is too intangible for definition, but the soul knoweth its presence by its fullness of content in the beloved.—*Mrs. Oakes Smith.*

MANY persons write because they have nothing to do, not duly considering that they have also nothing to say.

Choice Miscellany.

Written for the Rural New-Yorker.

DEAD!

THERE are tidings of a battle,
Many soldiers brave are slain;
Is my darling, think you, lying
On the fearful battle-plain?
Are those nut-brown locks dyed crimson,
With his life-blood in its flow?
Oh! my Father, look with pity
On a widowed mother's woe.

Hark! a newsboy shrilly crying,
As he swiftly hurries on,
"There's another battle fought,
And a Union victory won."
Oh! this cruel, cruel anguish,
And this dreadful, sickening fear,
It is haunting me so closely,
That I cannot shed a tear.

I remember how I saw him,
In his manly, noble pride,
As I bade him "go," that morning
He was kneeling at my side.
How he said, "God bless you mother
For your pure and holy love;"—
He is so much like his Father,
Who is dwelling up above!

Even our old blinded "Carlo"
Seems to miss him every day,
For he whines, and listens for him,
Kowing he has gone away.
The canary scarcely warbles,
But sits quiet, all day long,
Missing that clear, ringing whistle,
And those merry bursts of song.

There's his straw hat in the entry,
There's his slippers by the chair,
His guitar stands in the corner,
Where he placed it with such care,
Saying, "When you see this, mother,
You'll remember your poor boy,"—
God grant his safe returning
To fill my heart with joy.

There! I've mused so long about him,
That I have not read a word,
For my thoughts have wandered strangely
Since the newsboy's cry I heard.
I am trembling with emotion,
And I dare not open the sheet,
For the list of "Killed and Wounded,"
I shall be the first to meet.

Am I dreaming, is it fancy?
Cease your throbbings my poor head,
Till I read again that sentence,
"Capt. WALTER GRAHAM, Dead."
Dead! who will smooth those ringlets,
Who will close the bright blue eyes?
I will go at once and seek him,—
Who will tell me where he lies?

Ah! my heart, cease, cease your throbbings,
For your surgings make me wild,
Dead! my boy, my only darling,
Dead! my noble, noble child!
Oh, this cruel strife and bloodshed,
Will it never, never cease?
Will this day of gloom and darkness
Never see the light of peace?

Two are waiting now in heaven,
Two are watching up above,
Beckoning me from earthly trials,
To a home of rest and love.
I am calmer than, oh, Father,
Freely gave *thy only Son*,
I can kiss the rod and murmur,
"Not my will, but Thine be done."

Rochester, N. Y., 1864. **BERTIE.**

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

WHAT SHALL OUR FOOTPRINTS BE?

THERE are some questions which we would do well to ask ourselves every morning—some problems which yield weighty solutions every evening, as we sit within the veil of our hearts and scan them thoroughly before its faithful monitors—questions which determine character, and tell upon the principles we are weaving through their agency; and which affect not only our own inner selves, but are constantly moulding the lives and destinies of all around us. Conspicuous among these stands the fearful query,—What shall our footprints be?

GOD has carpeted the earth with a soft, rich carpet, and every day we walk forth upon it, but not in the same old tracks of yesterday—they with their prints have flown to that region, the nearest conception of which is eternity, and left a record which we shall realize only in that day when all records are read. Their steps can never be retraced. But new grounds must be traveled—new footprints made in the sands of time—new records, to-day, traced in the journal of Heaven. To matter and mind is given a plastic nature; and every moment we leave deathless impressions on surrounding character—handmarks that can never be washed away; but, like the eddying tide, swell wider and wider into the ocean of life. More than eighteen hundred years have elapsed since there came among the children of men one heralded as the "bright and morning star." Glorious in His humility, and blessed above men in His nearness to heaven, His footprints were destined to become beacon lights to the world—guides to all things right and good, and patterns for the erring. No wonder the glad courts of heaven rang with a loud *Te Deum* of joy, and the mountains of earth echoed the song in one long jubilee; for man had now a guide—footprints to follow that lead to the celestial home—ambitions and hopes he had never known before. Since that time man has had no excuse. To know the right, involves the power to do the right; and man in this instance is the creator of his own destiny.

The laboratories of nature are full of chemical processes. Their deep workings are all the stronger by being so silent. The metal is slowly but surely being coined. Yet had strict care been taken, that those ingredients should not be compounded, the metal would never have been wrought.

At the great gate of eternity, we shall see

characters that might never have been condemned had a watchfulness perhaps on our part been constantly had that no ingredients save those of truth and right should form a compound so eternal. Selfishness is in its most dangerous state when it deprives us from caring anxiously for the mould of our brother's nature. Social forces are born in heaven that prompt us, in our daily walk and conversation, to carefully wield the chisel of destiny. The cry of our brother's blood upon our garments arrest the one—the smile of our Father and a home in heaven repay us for the other. Thus it is all through life. The little infant, crowned with innocent smiles; the child, rearing up a column in the home circle; the young man, making strong his arm for the battle of life; and the aged one, whose every wrinkle and hair of snowy white tell histories great and good,—all these have a force in GOD'S plan concerning us that measures only in the infinite.

The old year has drawn to a close. Its last sands have been counted in its hour-glass. The mournful echoes of its death bell toll upon our ears. Pale and cold its form lies dead and motionless, while around the bier, with bowed heads and aching hearts, are gathered many mourners. Are we among them? Has the old year gone down to its long home and left us sadly mourning many misspent hours, many talents perverted, many footprints dyed in blood? Do we drop our chisels and view with horror the forms we are cutting for the Great Gallery? Does the long path we have traveled all this year rise up before us, each step crimsoned with a brother's blood? The new year, in mercy, throws ajar her portals, and an angel of hope lifts up our sinking hearts. Raising up our stricken heads, she points to a lone star in the distant horizon, and bidding us keep our eye constantly upon its glimmering light, she folds us softly within her mantle. 'Tis the star of repentance. We may yet do better. A new field lies before us,—pleasant walks and fruitful gardens are all around. Loved companions through our pathway, and within us are strong, rich talents. What shall our footprints be this year? **MARY PRICE.**
Adrian, Mich., 1864.

SOCIAL AMUSEMENTS.

PUT no obstacle in the way of the enjoyment of everything that wealth and liberality can contribute to divert the spirits and gratify the imagination, and elevate the heart; but let it be remembered, that over all these preparations, the spirit of intelligence and discretion should preside; and that there can be no permanent happiness where there is a departure from propriety. He is not the kindest friend who pours forth the most liberally of his abundance; but he who so manages his contributions, that, while he promotes the innocent hilarity, he does not jeopardize the moral habits of the companions collected around him.

We are getting to be more dull, and grave, and phlegmatic, than is wise or prudent. The plan of our association is too strictly utilitarian. We prune off and pare down, until the fruit, as well as foliage, is in danger of destruction. We are very little of an imaginative people. There is not much that seems to us expedient, unless its exact value is first mathematically ascertained. The May pole and the Liberty pole are cut down; the sports and gambols of merry England, the joyous hilarity of beautiful France, the song, the dance, the improvisatore of romantic Italy, are out of season and out of climate; and our public days are too often days of disgraceful intemperance, because there are no national games, no lawful, pleasurable pastimes, which may be honestly substituted for the daily labor of life.—*James T. Austin.*

AGE AND YOUTH.

"I AM like the hoary mountain,
Gray with years, and very old;
And your life a brightly fountain,
Springs, and leaves me lone and cold;
Dancing, dancing on your way,
Down the valleys warm and gay.

"There you go, Dear, singing, sparkling,
I can see your dawn begin;
While the night, around me darkling,
With its death-dews, shuts me in—
Hear you singing on your way
To the full and perfect day."
[Gerald Massey.]

NUMBER OF SONNETTEERS.—In all ages, and in every nation where poetry has been in fashion, the tribe of Sonnetteers hath been very numerous. Every pert young fellow that has a moving fancy, and the least jingle of verse in his head, sets up for a writer of songs, and resolves to immortalize his bottle or his mistress. What a world of insipid productions in this kind have we been pestered with since the Revolution, to go no higher.—*Steele.*

FEW BOOKS AND MANY THOUGHTS.—The man of few books, if they be well chosen and well read, is master of many thoughts: Don't let your children learn good and bad things indiscriminately. To be sure the bad might be eradicated in after years, but it is easier to sow clean seed than to cleanse the dirty wheat.—*Fireside.*

THE TRUE AND FALSE.—Extremity distinguishes friends. Worldly pleasures, like a physician, give us over, when we once lie a dying; and yet the death-bed has most need of comfort. Christ Jesus standeth by his, in the pangs of death, and after death at the bar of judgment; not leaving them either in their bed or grave.—*Bishop Hall.*

A COMMON arm-chair is a more comfortable seat than a throne, and a soft beaver hat a lighter and more pleasant piece of head-gear than a crown.

Sabbath Musings.

THE CLOUD'S SILVER LINING.

SAY, when in pity ye have gazed
On the wreathed smoke afar,
That o'er some town, like mist unraised,
Hung hiding sun and star;
Then as ye turned your weary eye
To the green earth and open sky,
Were ye not glad to doubt how faith could dwell,
Amid that dreary glare, in this world's citadel?

But Love's a flower that will not die
For lack of leafy screen,
And Christian Hope can cheer the eye
That ne'er saw vernal green;
Then be ye sure that Love can bless
Even in this crowded loneliness,
Wherever moving myriads seem to say,
Go—thou art naught to us, nor we to thee—away!

There are in this loud-strutting tide
Of human care and crime,
With whom the melodies abide
Of the everlasting chime;
Who carry music in their heart
Through dusky lanes and wrangling mart,
Plying their daily task with busier feet,
Because their secret souls in holy strain repeat.

Faith, Hope and Love shed heavenly light
On Mammon's gloomiest cells,
As on some city's cheerless night
The tide of sunrise swells,
Till tower, and dome, and bridge-way proud,
Are mantled with a golden cloud,
And to wise hearts this certain hope is given,
"No mist that man can raise shall hide the eye of Heaven."

"WHILE IT IS CALLED TO-DAY."

TO-DAY, "while it is called to-day," is really all the time there is. That which is called "yesterday," is time no longer. While it was called "to-day," it was a reality; it was here; it was ours to use, to improve, to enjoy, to profit by; but since we began to call it yesterday, it is ours no longer—indeed, it is a fact no longer; it is out of existence. All there was of it, and all we could make of it, was *while it was called to-day*. Yesterday—last week—last year—these are but phrases denoting periods that existed only while they were "called to-day."

There is no such thing as *to-morrow*, and there never will be as a real entity, an actual matter of fact. "Boast not thyself of to-morrow," for "to-morrow" does not exist until it comes to be called "to-day." "To-morrow" is only a word—an expectation—not a reality. When it comes into being, it is as "to-day," and not at all as to-morrow. Strive as we may to peer into the future, we shall find nothing there, for there is nothing until it comes; and when it comes, and while it lasts, it is simply "while it is called to-morrow."

But to-day, in character and value, is what it is very largely as the result of the departed and dead yesterdays. They, in their succession, while they were "called to-day," were working out issues to give shape and coloring to what should come after them, and this present, actual to-day bears the marks which they have left behind. And so to-morrow, when it becomes to-day, shall be greatly shaped by the mould which to-day is preparing for it. Who does not know this? yet how few seem to understand it!

The great art of life, then, is rightly to estimate and well to improve to-day. To-day is everything. "While it is called to-day," time and opportunity are here for all that is required of us. But they wait not—they linger not. To-day is fast dying into yesterday, and just ready to take its place with the dead and buried past. May the Great Teacher help us so to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom, "WHILE IT IS YET CALLED TO-DAY."

ENTERING INTO JOY.

THE day of final account will be something more than a day of joy, for it will be a day of triumph to those who have faithfully labored. Amid much discouragement and many reproaches they have wrought, and sometimes they have been tempted to quit a service which seemed to bring to them so little gain, and the present promise of so small reward. Still they have wrought humbly on in the faith of Him whom they have sought dutifully to serve, and when the Lord appears their triumph will be complete. Archbishop Leighton employs the following beautiful language:—"It is but little we can receive here, some drops of joy that enter into us; but there we shall enter into joy, as vessels put into a sea of happiness!" Happy are they who, having faithfully labored for the ascended Master, and having abundantly trusted in his worthy name, shall at last triumphantly enter into the joy of their Lord.—*Boston Recorder.*

RELIGIOUS PARENTS.—There is no earthly blessing to be compared with that of a religious training. You may be poor. You may have to struggle hard in order to procure the necessities of life. You may have had but little opportunity of acquiring the learning of the schools. You may be debarred from the circles of the refined and erudite. But having had parents who claimed for you the right to Christian baptism, and instructed you in the truths of the Gospel, and set you an example of humble piety, and used the requisite means for the purpose of crushing your tendencies to sin and establishing you in habits of holiness,—your privilege is incomparably greater than that of those who have been born with a title to the largest estate or the most exalted throne.—*Rev. J. Nesbit.*

WRITE your name by kindness, love and mercy, on the hearts of the people you come in contact with year by year, and you will never be forgotten.

Educational.

GEOGRAPHY—HOW SHOULD IT BE TAUGHT?

Not, we reply, wholly from books; nor should books be ignored. But preliminary to the study of Geography, as much as comes within the pupil's observation of the topography of the earth should be taught. For example, we are in a country village, and occupy five hours a day with a class of little children; one has come, this pleasant morning, down Sumner's Hill; another has crossed the causeway by White's Mill; a third has gathered dandelion blossoms from the bank between the road and Lake Anon near the village, and so on.

The time arrives which we devote to a familiar talk with the pupils upon common things,—things which they may have seen; perhaps our subject is the hill they have come down; the attention is directed to other hills, the imagination to mountains, whose tops can only be reached by a ride of a long half day; and to some that are even higher than this, whose heads are away above the clouds; to mountains that have openings at their tops, where fire and smoke are continually sent forth; we show them a picture of such a mountain, or draw it upon the board, and give its general name.

At a subsequent lesson, the school-yard is our topic. Assisted by the children we represent the yard upon the board, with the road, and the adjoining common, or whatever else we see.

We talk at another time of the lake, of its beautiful lilies, of the fish, of the boats, or of whatever of interest suggests itself; of the islands, the sandy beach, the headlands, the little bays. The lake is just a mile long, and half a mile wide; we impress these distances with others upon the mind, and fix the idea of direction. We talk also of the little brooks that run down the neighboring hills and crook about through the long, smooth, and narrow valleys that slope gradually down to its sides,—of the sources whence they spring, of their swollen condition after heavy rains. We trace the outlet of the lake to the great ocean into which its waters empty. Some of the pupils have seen the ocean; we let them give their own ideas of its appearance,—let them tell of the ships, of the beach, of the birds, of the fish; we try to enlarge their ideas of its vastness; we talk with them of the monster whale, of the sea turtle, the walrus, of the mountains and fields of ice.

After these, come many more things to be considered; animals of every kind, birds and creeping things; plants, trees and fruits; heat and cold, winter and summer; water and ice; clouds and vapor; snow and rain; rocks and soils, and some of the thousand relations and uses of all these.

And then, at what age we cannot say, will come the study of Geography,—for all this is not Geography any more than for a familiar conversation upon the various parts of a house, the windows, the doors, the sills, etc., is architecture.

Some careful teachers, after teaching thoroughly the geography (?) of the village, the town, or the city, advance to the neighboring town, thence to the county, thence to the State, and so on,—enlarging their range till the earth is at last embraced. To this plan we decidedly object. The child can no more have an adequate idea of a county or a State than of the whole earth, unless the section comes within the power of his observation,—if he depends upon the representation, he may as well have a representation of the whole as of a part.

The systematic study of Geography should be begun with the globe. If you have not one, any globular body may be shown to the pupils, an apple, an orange, a pumpkin, or a ball of wood. Its properties should be discussed, its form, its circumference, its diameter; its hemispheres should be shown—its equator—the equator as a great circle may be illustrated; an axis may be made, and its revolutions shown; its latitudinal and longitudinal distances may be explained—measurements in degrees, the great and lesser circles. And after all these points have been considered, the child may be told that the earth on which we live is a vast globe, differing in size, but not materially in form, from these. Give the earth's form definitely; labor to give some idea of its size, its circumference, its diameter, the equator—show where it cuts the sky—its meridians—trace in the heavens the meridian of your own locality, and the axis to the polar star. Explain its daily rotation, the direction in which it turns, and the resulting phenomena. Illustrate the rate of its motion on its axis, its distance from, and motion around, the sun. Show the zones. Consider the surface of the earth as being divided into land and water; show the relative proportions of these by reference to a colored globe, or better, perhaps, a slated globe upon which you have outlined the continents; fix in mind the shape of the lands, and the shape of the oceans. Transfer these forms to the board; let the pupils trace them in whole or in parts upon their slates, or upon paper; they will by these frequent drawings practically learn to look upon maps as pictures of portions of the earth, and be fully prepared to use maps in the place of the globe.

Next consider the reliefs of the lands; show on the map or the globe, the representation of the great mountain chains of the earth, the table lands, the plains, the slopes. From the mountains flow the rivers; consider these in systems. See next what are the relations of the land and the water of the earth; here some of the obvious properties of the atmosphere demand attention, as the great medium of communication between these mutually dependent portions of the earth's surface, its currents or winds, their modifications by the rotation of the earth, the contour of the land, and the situation of the mountain systems. Here consider rains; fertile

regions; deserts; situation and the cause of salt lakes, etc. We now come to climate, and thence proceed to organic nature, to plants and animals, and finally to man.

We are now prepared to make a careful study of that particular part of the earth which we inhabit, the United States. We have traced an outline of North America, and have drawn the great rivers and mountain chains. We now direct attention to the political divisions of North America, and proceed directly to study the great physical features of the United States; we note its peculiar fitness for the wants of man, its vegetable and mineral resources, its climate, soil, etc. In our study we embrace the history of its discovery and its early settlement, and study till we embrace all that pertains to the country in general, when we arrive at the more detailed study of the general political divisions, with their modes of life, their communications, their institutions, etc.

We believe with this or a similar course, children in a comparatively short time would master the subject of Geography; which is what few at present ever do. One lesson of a half hour is time enough to give an attentive child a good idea of all the great mountain systems of the earth. We protest earnestly and confidently against the process so laboriously and so unsatisfactorily pursued of following a text-book from State to State, through the vast maze of town and country, lake and river, boundary and definition, till at last the mind is overburdened with a mass of unclassified details, and the child feels as a caged animal does that attempts to liberate himself by gnawing his way out. When the poor prisoner is free, he looks with pity upon himself, and with contempt upon the mass of rubbish that entrapped him.

For very shame, let us escape from such working in the dark, and conform our teachings to the obvious demands of the human mind.—*Massachusetts Teacher.*

PRIMARY AND GRAMMAR TEACHERS.

In some parts of the country—in the West particularly—an interesting discussion is in progress relative to the place for the best teachers. Some insist it should be in the Primary Schools, and others in the Grammar Schools. A writer in the *Illinois Teacher* talks in this wise:

"In the Primary School children learn their letters; in the Grammar School they learn the first principles in grammar and arithmetic. Upon which foundation is there to be the most building? Will the manner in which those children learn the alphabet exert a greater influence upon their future course of study than that in which they learn to study the sciences? Why are so many people unable to explain the inverting of the divisor in division of fractions? Is it because they are not taught the *alphabet* in the right way? or is it because the foundation in *arithmetic* was not well laid?"

"It is said that the best teacher should be in the Primary Department, and if mediocrity must preside at the teacher's desk, let it be in the Grammar Department. By best teachers I understand teachers who possess the faculty of teaching in a pleasing way, of making crooked things in learning straight, and of imparting life and vivacity to scholars. Does it need any more tact to teach a child his letters than to teach him to write numbers? Does it require any more tact to teach a child to draw than to write? Vivacity is needed in a Primary School. Does it require any more energy to interest children in their tasks when they have scarcely thought of the work than it does to interest children who have worked upon some principle during the previous evening, failed to comprehend it, and finally enter the class with the idea that it is dull and hard, and they can not understand it? If there is anything within the province of the Primary School which requires more tact than it does to make children believe that Case is a subject which they can master, and make lessons in disposing of substantives interesting, I would like to learn what it is."

TEXT-BOOKS FOR TEACHERS IN THE CLASS.

Is it any way proper that a teacher should have the aid of a text-book in the class more than his scholars! Do not many of our teachers sit, in undisturbed complacency, with the book open before them, asking questions which they could not themselves answer if they were to be questioned in their turn, and leading both question and answer? Do not pupils often suffer from this slavish confinement to the letter of a book, and lose confidence in their teachers, and interest in their studies? The vivacity and animation of a lesson is necessarily gone when the teacher is afraid to differ from his text-book, and discourages anything like a spirit of free inquiry among his pupils, lest he be led out of his depth. Whatever is worth teaching, is worth teaching well; and if the teacher and scholar were obliged to meet on equal ground, if the one were required to be as certain of the lesson as the other, it would revolutionize the teaching in many schools.

Let this be the rule in teaching, "Whenever the pupil needs a text-book in reciting, the teacher needs one in teaching, and only then." In geography, history, grammar, and in all the definitions and rules of arithmetic, a teacher ought to be able to teach better without the book than with it. It would require more thoroughness of preparation, of course, but that is, of all things, to be desired. When the public sentiment of New Hampshire requires such teaching everywhere, most particularly in its Common Schools, the State will have to spend very little to educate its teachers; they will do it for themselves.—*N. H. Journal of Education.*

TRYING to be what we cannot, positively prevents us from being what we ought.

Various Topics.



WILLIAM MAKEPEACE THACKERAY.

THIS noted English novelist is dead. His death has produced a great sensation in England. There are comparatively few Englishmen, even, who would acknowledge, before his death, how strong a hold THACKERAY had upon the hearts of the reading classes. Now that he is dead, the sorrow seems universal, and the grief of his countrymen, unadulterated. Comparatively few American readers, we think, fully appreciated the writings of THACKERAY. And there is a good reason for it, perhaps, which may be found in the fact that the characters which he laid bare, either belonged to another time, or to classes and castes unlike those with which we are familiar. But it is foreign to our purpose to attempt any analysis of his merits as a writer. The English, and many prominent Americans, belonging to our *literati*, pay tribute to his genius in words of glowing eulogy. It is to be supposed that they know him better than the class who fail to appreciate his writings.

THACKERAY was, born in Calcutta, in 1811. His father belonged to an old Yorkshire family, and was engaged in the civil service of the East India Company. When seven years old, the son was sent to London to school—first to the Charter House school, and thence to the University of Cambridge. But he did not take a degree. When of age, he inherited a fortune, chose Art for a profession, traveled on the Continent, and studied for several years in France, Italy and Germany. When thirty years old, his fortune was greatly reduced by losses and unsuccessful speculations, and he adopted literature as a vocation. He contributed to the *Times*, and to *Fraser's Magazine*, early in his literary life. Among the earlier papers from his pen were "The Great Hoggarty Diamond," "The Paris Sketch Book," "The Second Funeral of Napoleon," "The Chronicles of the Drum," "The Irish Sketch Book," and "Barry Lyndon."

In 1841 he contributed to the great comic paper, *Punch*, over the signature of "The Fat Contributor," a series of papers, which were followed by "James' Diary," and "The Snob Papers." In 1846, "Vanity Fair," illustrated by himself, was published, following a Christmas book entitled "Mrs. Perkins' Ball." It was followed by another Christmas book, called "Our Street," then "Dr. Brick and his Young Friend," "The History of Pendenhall," "Rebecca and Rowena," "The Kickleburys on the Rhine," "The Newcomes," "The Virginians," "Love the Widower," "The Adventures of Philip on his way through the World," and later still, "The Roundabout Papers."

Such is the compend of his literary work. By it he has attained the rank of the greatest satirist of his time, and ranks high with the best English novelists. Of his personal character, we must let another speak. TOM TAYLOR, his friend, thus writes of the burial of THACKERAY, at the Kensal Green Cemetery, the 30th of December, 1863:

"The crowd which yesterday gathered within Kensal Green Cemetery was almost made up of men in some sense representative; and nearly all of the classes whose manners THACKERAY had most studied, whose weaknesses he had most subtly detected, and whose shams and sore points he had most mercilessly laid bare. There were the literary men to whose little follies and vanities, improvidence and generosity, he had dealt even measure of justice—the class whose foppishness and faults of manner, or defects of education, he had as keen an eye as for their high aspirations and exquisite enjoyments—the officials, lawyers, and men about town, and swells, and soldiers, whose orders had all in turn passed under his scalpel, and on to the object-glass of his microscope. Yet there seemed but one feeling in that large crowd. Respect and love for the departed, and sympathy for his children, brooded like a presence, and gave an awful solemnity to the responses which rose from hundreds of reverent voices in the bright and genial air that breathed rather of Spring than Christmas time. At that moment it seemed as if every thought in those hundred of hearts was attuned to one sentiment. All the little follies and susceptibilities, to which no eminent man was ever more subject than THACKERAY, were lost sight of in the strong sense of his gentle, noble and generous nature, the geniality and playfulness of his humor, the warmth of his heart and the openness of his hand, the readiness of his recognition of excellence, his delight in helping forward the straggler or the student, the genuineness of his aversion to all that was shifty, shuffling, or insin-

cere, his hearty hatred of a snob, and his courageous contempt and loathing of oppression.

"Looking back over the experience of a long and intimate acquaintanceship with the dead, I find that all has disappeared but the impression of one of the sweetest and kindest hearts, one of the robustest, subtlest intellects, with which I have been permitted to communicate. I believe this to be the impression of all who knew THACKERAY well, and could judge him on fair data, and of none more than some he had been at feud with, on causes due often to their own inconsiderateness or want of feeling, not unfrequently to his own touchiness in little matters, or his excessive susceptibility to opinion. Thinking of the inference which has often been drawn from THACKERAY'S writings, that he was a man who took a cynical pleasure in laying bare baseness or littleness, in showing respectability how much it may have in common with the blackguardism it shrinks from—not because he loved respectability less, but because he loved blackguardism more—in revealing selfishness under all sorts of masks, I am astonished how the notion ever took root. Such inferences were contradicted by everything his friends saw in THACKERAY'S life and manners. No man delighted more to hear of good, generous or unselfish actions, or was heartier or louder in his recognition of them. Better still, no life was ever more made up of such actions. But his subtle ken pierced through the multifarious disguises of selfishness and meanness, and his truthful nature compelled him to lay bare what he found underneath. His hatred of pretension and Pharisaism concurred with his large charity in leading him to point out how the web of all lives is shot with lights and darks. But there was never any confounding of black and white, still less any sinister sympathy with evil thoughts, words or doings, or any preaching of the doctrine either of despair or devil-worship. Perhaps there never was a man who was more freely resorted to by the needy and the helpless of his literary confraternity; and certainly there was no man who ever recognized more fully the claims of such brotherhood. All who knew him must remember almost comical cases of the straits he was often put to find work and pay for unfortunate *literateurs* who had sought his aid—how he groaned, and sweated, and protested, but always paid, and comforted. I can hardly command myself yet to write of THACKERAY'S sweet and amiable manners as a companion, guest, or host; of the playfulness of his wit, the charm of his manner, the gentleness of his voice, the sweetness of his smile. There was much of the child about him at such times, as there was always something childlike in his calm, candid face, and soft, bright eyes."

FACTS ABOUT THE REBELLION.

NOT eighteen months ago, the rebel Secretary of War publicly predicted that on the 4th of July, 1863, the rebels would beat their drums on Boston Common, and that the rebel flag would float in triumph over Faneuil Hall.

Wigfall, about the same time, predicted that on the next Christmas day, he and his staff would eat a holiday dinner at Philadelphia.

While at Gettysburg last summer, Gen. Ewell, the successor of Stonewall, was heard to declare that within a fortnight the rebel forces would occupy Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Lancaster. About the same time, the Richmond papers were felicitating themselves that their forces would succeed in setting on fire the vast coal fields of Pennsylvania, and thus reduce them to a mass of cinder.

A year ago the rebel forces were acting in concert, moved by one head, united. For six months past, the forces have been cut in two, communication between its commanders East and West of the Mississippi has been infrequent, unreliable and dangerous.

Two years ago, there were more rebels in fact in Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee and Maryland, than there were Union men. To-day, a popular vote in those States would be overwhelmingly for the Union.

It was claimed by the rebels, at the outset of the rebellion, and for months afterwards, that their cause represented twelve millions of people in the slaveholding States. To-day the stars and stripes float over slaveholding territory having at least a population of over six millions.

These are indisputable facts, and they suggest a sum in simple arithmetic:—If the rebels lose one-half their territory and more than half their population in eighteen months, how long can the rebellion last? In other words, how long can a firm which has lost half its capital and all its credit in the course of two years' business, keep out of the Bankrupt Court?

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

THE words of the English language are a compound of several foreign languages. The English language may be looked upon as a compilation, both in words and expressions, of various dialects. Their origin is from the Saxon language. Our laws were derived from the Norman, our military terms from the French, our scientific names from the Greek, and our stock of nouns from the Latin, through the medium of the French. Almost all the verbs in the English language are taken from the German, and nearly every other noun or adjective is taken from other dialects.

The English language is composed of 15,784 words—of which 6,732 are from the Latin, 4,321 from the French, 1,665 from the Saxon, 1,669 from the Greek, 691 from the Dutch, 211 from the Italian, 106 from the German (not including verbs), 90 from the Welsh, 75 from the Danish, 55 from the Spanish, 60 from the Icelandic, 31 from the Swedish, 41 from the Gothic, 16 from the Hebrew, 15 from the Teutonic, and the remainder from the Irish, Scotch, Arabic, Syriac, Turkish, Portuguese, and other languages.

Reading for the Young.

MY "ISTHMUS HOME."

DEAR YOUNG RURAL FRIENDS:—It is now only a few years since I, your humble correspondent, was a little, round-faced, chubby, village boy of Western New York, fond of play and full of fun; always ready to play "tag," fly kites, go fishing, slide down hill, skate, snow-ball, or anything else that afforded innocent amusement. All my time was not spent in that way, however, for I attended the village school, summer and winter, and learned to read, write, cipher, studied geography, &c., as most of you are now doing probably. In geography I soon learned to answer the questions, How many continents are there? What two grand divisions compose the western continent? By what isthmus are North and South America connected? Where are the West Indies, the Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean Sea, &c., &c.? The different divisions of land and water were all pictured out on the map, and though I could tell their names and their direction from each other, I knew but little else about them. I often wondered how it would seem to visit some of the distant countries that I had learned about in geography. Well, I am now in one of those distant countries—on the Isthmus of Darien, or Panama, as it is now called,—which forms the north-western part of New Granada. The names were familiar, but I had no distinct idea of the country before coming here. I see much here that is new and interesting to me, and I presume it would be to you if you were here. But you are living hundreds of miles away and know as little about this country, perhaps, aside from the name, as I did before coming here. So I propose to do for you what I would like to have you do for me if our places were exchanged—tell you just how it seems to me now that I am here, how things appear, what I see, and "all about it." But not in one letter, though!

I have already told you something about it in two previous letters. In the last one I told you about a November gale, and at the close expressed some disappointment because my wife did not come as I expected, on the steamer that had just arrived from New York. But she came on the next steamer, so it's all right. She had a most agreeable passage; was not sea-sick at all, even when nearly all the other passengers were obliged to take to their berths during a furious gale in the "Caribbean." We have just commenced housekeeping in a little white cottage in a cocoa nut grove, only a few steps from the shore of Navy Bay, on which Aspinwall is situated. Our parlor is fitted up after the style of the country—a large hammock of gay colors, swung from the opposite corners of the room, fancy straw mats upon the floor, small side shelves filled with tropical fruit, &c., &c.

JENNIE thinks this is a delightful place to live, and is enjoying herself finely. The weather is pretty warm here—thermometer is 80° most of the time, with very refreshing sea breezes, however. We have the finest oranges you ever saw, and probably finer than you ever tasted. The early trees are just now giving us luscious oranges, nearly as large as twenty-ounce Pippins, and only a cent apiece, where you buy them. You have no idea how delicious an orange is, right from the tree, for they lose much of their flavor in transportation. Bananas, of the Martinique variety, nearly a foot long and delicious, are worth four for five cents. JENNIE has them on the table at all times and seems to enjoy eating them. I think I hear you smacking your lips and wishing you lived here. Well, the oranges and bananas are plenty and delicious, but remember the bitter goes with the sweet. Scorpions, centipedes, vampires and the like, are common here. Now and then a scorpion shows himself in our kitchen, and a few other reptiles peep in occasionally, but we are getting used to them. I have been stung once by a scorpion, and once by a centipede, so you see I have some personal knowledge of the bitter.

A large vampire flew into our bedroom night before last, about eight o'clock. He was a savage fellow. After some exertion I finally managed to kill him with a broom. He measured, with spread wings, over fourteen inches. His head looked just like the head of an old rat. JENNIE ran and hid while I dispatched him, otherwise she might have been severely bitten. He caught on my head once, but the hair prevented any injury from his long, sharp teeth. These vampires are similar to the bats you have seen, only they are much larger and more savage. I have been told that two or three of them will draw so much blood from a person's body in the course of a night as to cause utter prostration. Do not imagine, however, that the *biter* comes every day. It may not come once a month, perhaps not at all. A little care will generally save you from any injury. Scorpions and centipedes, though quite common, always run from you, and only sting in self-defence. More about "varmint" another day.

The railroad from here to Panama—47 miles—is overrun with freight, though there are a dozen engines and over two hundred cars. The steamers "North Star" and "Atlantic" from New York, and "Crusader" and "St. Thomas," from Liverpool, have arrived within three days, full of freight, to say nothing of eight large sailing vessels arrived within a week and now discharging at the wharves. The passenger fares for one week amounted to over \$75,000, while the freight receipts for the same week reached near \$400,000. We have a good supply of clerks, however, so that I get a few leisure days each month. I have not been on that "alligator hunt" yet, but when I go you shall have an account of it, that is provided the alligator don't catch me, instead of my catching him. Wishing you "Merry Christmas," "Happy New Year," and lots of fun,

I remain, truly yours,
COUSIN ELBERT.
Aspinwall, N. G., Dec. 25, 1863.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 23, 1864.

The Army in Virginia.

THE N. Y. Times contains a translation of a letter from a Frenchman formerly in the rebel army, dated Richmond, 11th inst., to friends in the city of New York. He reports the arrival of another agent of the French Emperor, named Lartigny, via Nassau, who has mysterious conferences with Jeff. Davis. It is known, he says, that Jeff. has promised to recognize Mexico, and promised France all the aid of the Southern Confederacy if Napoleon would recognize the Confederate cause. All our principal men think, therefore, that war between France and the United States is near at hand. The writer has no doubt the plan of making Gen. Lee dictator will be the only means to counteract the strength of the North. Lee has expressed his willingness to accept it. He and Jeff. are on bad terms, and the latter would have to retire. The latter is very unpopular on account of keeping Bragg so long in command. He has even thought since Bragg's dismissal of giving him the command of the army of Virginia, and sending Lee to Dalton, but had to abandon his plan on account of the great influence against it.

Johnston, who took command of Bragg's demoralized army, thought of retreating to Atlanta, but was kept at Dalton by an order from Richmond, that he might take advantage of the probable weakening of the Northern army by furloughs and expiration of the term of enlistments.

Jeff's plan is to keep the army on the offensive, though Gen. Lee gave his opinion that with the miserable state of the army in regard to clothing and provision it was impossible to do so.

The official report of Major Cole, dated Loudon Heights, Va., has been received in Washington. He gives the facts of the recent attempts of Moseby's Guerrilla Cavalry to surprise and capture his camp, between three and four o'clock in the morning. They studiously avoided our pickets, and divided themselves into small bodies, which were speedily consolidated in sight of Major Cole's camp. They then made an impetuous charge, with a yell, on the right of the same. In consequence of the suddenness of the charge, the company could offer but a feeble resistance. In the meantime, Co. A, of the 2d Maryland Volunteers, the second in the line, was speedily rallied by its commanding officer, Capt. Vernon, who contested their further advance in such a sanguinary manner as to form a rallying point for the remainder of the command, who were now thoroughly aroused to the danger which threatened them, and one and all, from the officers to the privates, entered into the contest with such a determination and zest as led to the utter route and discomfiture of the enemy, and the signal failure of their base attempt. They experienced a loss of one captain, two lieutenants and two privates. It was also very evident they removed a large portion of their wounded with them in their precipitated flight, and a detachment of the command subsequently sent in pursuit found traces of blood all along their line of retreat. Our loss was four men killed and sixteen wounded.

Sharp musketry firing, continuing several minutes, was heard among the rebels over the Rapidan, near Ely's Ford. It was supposed to be occasioned by a concerted attempt to desert, all at once, by a considerable body of men.

Reports that Richmond is being gradually evacuated by the rebel government, continue to be brought by persons returning from that place. It is positively stated that the removal of the gun-making machinery, from the Tredegar Iron Works to Columbia, has been going on for weeks.

Department of the South.

THE Herald has letters dated off Wilmington 13th, which detail the capture or destruction of the blockade runners Bendigo, Ranger, and Hero. The Bendigo, which was run ashore, was set on fire and shelled, but being an iron vessel she was comparatively undamaged. An attempt was made to tow her off by the Montgomery and Iron Age. The Montgomery stuck fast, but her powerful engines got her off. The Iron Age also got ashore, and though two gunboats tried their best, she could not be moved. Her guns were thrown overboard, and she was set on fire and burned. The officers and crew were transferred to other vessels. The Ranger was run ashore and set on fire by the Minnesota. One man was killed and one wounded in the boats which boarded her by the rebel soldiers from the shore. The Hero was destroyed in the same way by the Aries. The Montgomery had been engaged for two days in shelling the rebel cavalry along the coast. The letter adds that the blockade runners are fast being used up.

A correspondent of the Boston Traveller, writing from Newbern, N. C., says:—Information reached there that a call had been issued at Raleigh for a State Convention for the purpose of seceding from their allegiance to the Southern Confederacy. The writer says Gov. Vance and nearly every leading man of North Carolina desires a return to the Union. He also says that an army of 10,000 men under General Butler could march to Raleigh, take possession of the Capital and free the State from the rule of the traitors in one month. Such an army would receive an enthusiastic welcome there and all along the march. So say men who know.

The wholesale conscription law is creating great consternation and excitement in the western portion of North Carolina, where prepa-

arations are being made to resist it. Public meetings are being held, some of which already repudiate the Southern Confederacy, and favor a return to the Union.

The Raleigh Standard says if the civil law is to be trampled under foot by the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, and every man from 16 to 75 placed in the army, and the rights of States be swept away, the people of the State of North Carolina will take their affairs into their own hands and proceed in Convention convened to vindicate their liberties and privileges. They will not submit to a military despotism. They will not submit to the destruction of their civil rights. What we say we know to be so. A majority of our people are already excited on account of the threatened encroachments on their liberties by the Congress at Richmond, and we warn that body not to kindle a flame that cannot be extinguished. Pass these measures and the people of North Carolina will rise in their majesty. North Carolina will not be the slave of either of the Congresses of Richmond or Washington. She is this day as she has been from the first—the keystone of the Confederate arch. If that stone should fall the arch would tumble.

The Hilton Head correspondents of the 15th, state that a few vessels of the new expedition are moving out of the harbor.

The siege of Charleston is temporarily suspended, except by the fire of our guns from Morris Island, where sufficient force is left for defense and to work the guns, and where four batteries are being erected for the purpose of reducing the city to ashes.

A large negro force accompanies the expedition, the War Department having authorized Gen. Gilmore to recruit all the negroes in his Department as troops under white officers.

Movements in the West and South-West.

TENNESSEE.—The Cincinnati Dispatch of the 24th, says that Capt. Elkena, staff officer from Knoxville, on Thursday of last week, brings the information that Longstreet had been reinforced with 20,000 men, and was advancing on Knoxville, pushing Granger's forces before him. It was thought that our army would be compelled to fall back to the entrenchments at Knoxville.

It was reported that John Morgan, at the head of 5,000 cavalry, was about to make a movement to cut off communication from Knoxville and Chattanooga, or for a raid in Kentucky.

The following has been received at headquarters in Washington:

NASHVILLE, TENN., Jan. 7, 1864.
To Maj.-Gen. Halleck, Commander-in-Chief:—On the 14th inst., General Vance made a raid toward Tensville and captured a train of twenty-three wagons. He was promptly pursued by Col. Palmer, who recaptured the wagons and took one ambulance loaded with medicines, one hundred and fifty saddle horses and one hundred stand of arms. Vance, his Adjutant-General, and his Inspector-General, are among the prisoners captured. U. S. GRANT, Maj.-Gen.

The Memphis Bulletin says the account given currency to by the St. Louis Republican, to the effect that a rebel quartermaster, under authority from Richmond, had offered to sell General Hurlburt cotton outside of the Federal lines, and that Gen. Kirby Smith had sent a special agent to Washington, is a humbug, gotten up by interested parties for effect in the New York market. Nothing is known of such a report at Memphis.

The telegraph this (Tuesday) A. M., gives us the following items of intelligence:

The excitement regarding Knoxville was totally unfounded. The demonstrations of Longstreet were apparently intended only to recover the forage ground taken by Gen. Foster, and the latest information is that he is retreating. Our troops are in winter quarters. Gen. Foster anticipates no attack, and is able to repel any Longstreet can make. There are reasons to doubt the truth of the report that Lee has reinforced Longstreet. No active operations in that vicinity need be expected for weeks.

Gen. Vance and his brigade, which were captured near Knoxville, arrived here to-night. Vance had captured one of our forage trains, and Gen. Sturges went in pursuit and captured the entire rebel force.

Deserters say that John Morgan arrived at Atlanta, and will start with a brigade composed of the 22d Kentucky and 3d Alabama regiments, cavalry and mounted infantry, to cut the Chattanooga railroad. Morgan made a speech at the Warrington Hotel, declaring that the Yankee army must evacuate Chattanooga.

The rebel General Wheeler is on the eve of a raid. It is believed he will turn in the direction of London and Knoxville.

A body of rebel cavalry dashed into LaFayette a few days ago and conscripted 52 men, among whom were two 80 years old.

On the 20th inst., a fight took place near Russellville. A large rebel force attacked an Ohio regiment on picket, killed Adj. Smith and four men, wounding 14, then drove the regiment to Blair's Cross Roads. We lost one piece of artillery.

MISSISSIPPI.—General Hurlburt has issued an order committing the commerce of the Mississippi River exclusively to the agents of the Treasury Department, who will be responsible for the amounts, character and disposition of the supplies, and to whom the same are given. No permits will hereafter be required or given by the military authority, except for the purchase of military or sutlers' supplies.

Re-enlistments were being rapidly pushed forward. Nearly the entire 16th Army Corps will re-enlist. Twenty thousand men of the 18th Army Corps have re-enlisted.

The New Orleans Era gives statements of a Union refugee just from Mississippi. He says fully one-half of the population of that State left at home are strongly Union, and the women, especially, bitter against Jeff. Davis. Hundreds

of Mississippians were in the woods to escape conscription.

The following extracts from private letters received in New York city are of marked interest:

PORT HUDSON, Jan. 12.
To Gen. Ullman.—The statement published in the papers of December 22d, of the capture and imprisonment in Richmond of Gen. Ullman, was a canard. There was not a syllable of truth in it. Another invention has gone the rounds of the papers, and caused a vast amount of unnecessary pain in families, viz:—That the officers of Gen. Ullman, who had been taken prisoners, had been hung by the rebels. The facts are, that after much effort, General Ullman received information as to the fate of all the officers of his division which have fallen into the hands of the enemy, except one. Those who were taken at Jackson are in the Libby Prison, and those who were captured at Brashear City in June, are, and have been, at Camp Ford, a rebel depot for prisoners, four miles from Tyler. It is known that latterly their treatment has not differed essentially from that of other prisoners. Gen. Ullman constantly has prisoners in his hands, and those who know him need no assurance that if any of his command shall be treated contrary to the usages of civilized warfare, retaliation will be sharp and quick.

Gen. George Cook, commanding at Baton Rouge, and Gen. Ullman, have sent out large detachments to try to cut off some 2,000 rebels, who are making a stand about fifteen miles east.

The rebels are concentrating near this stronghold and Baton Rouge. They are becoming quite enterprising. They push their pickets close to the Union line.

The rebel General Adams has several brigades distributed at Woodville, Clinton and Jackson. Gen. Ullman took a number of prisoners to-day. Most of them profess to be sick of the war, and glad to be taken. They declare they never heard of the President's Proclamation of Amnesty.

ARKANSAS.—Col. Caldwell, of the 3d Iowa, brings information from Little Rock, concerning the reconstructive movement in Arkansas. The State Convention which assembled on the 8th inst., had about completed its labors. The greater portion of the State was represented, and no deliberative body that ever assembled in the State has comprised more men of solid worth and intelligence than this Convention. An article prohibiting slavery was adopted with but one dissenting vote.

The Constitution is to be submitted to the people on the second Monday of March, at which time the State officers and members of the Legislature will be elected. The Legislature is to meet on the third Monday in April. The action of the Convention was universally satisfactory to the loyal men. The qualification of the voters is that prescribed by the President in his Proclamation. It is believed that the loyal citizens will be able to poll 20,000 votes for the Constitution. The Convention will recommend a suitable person for Provisional Governor, and Judge Murphy is spoken of in this connection.

Department of the Gulf.

GEN. BANKS has issued a proclamation for a State election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Auditor of Public Accounts, &c., of Louisiana, on the 22d of February. In his order for the election, Gen. Banks says he is fully assured that more than a tenth of the population desire the earliest possible restoration of Louisiana to the Union. He declares so much of the Constitution and Laws of the State as relate to slavery, being inconsistent with the present condition of public affairs, and inapplicable to any class of persons now existing within its limits, as inoperative and void. The General also appoints a Convention for the revision of the Constitution, to be held the first Monday in May next. Arrangements will be made for the early election of members of Congress.

The town of Madisonville, La., on the north side of Lake Ponchartroula, has been occupied without any resistance, and garrisoned by our forces. The expedition consisted of a portion of the 12th Maine, the 9th Connecticut, two battalions of convalescents of the 13th Corps, the 15th Massachusetts, Battery A, Battery B, U. S. Artillery, and a company of the 2d Louisiana Cavalry, all under command of Col. Kimball, of the 12th Maine.

Commander J. H. Strong, of the U. S. steamer Monongahela, reports that on the 29th December, at request of Gen. Washburne, he sent the U. S. steamers Granite City and Sciota up the Peninsula, off the entrance of Matagorda Bay, Texas, with Gen. Ransom and one hundred troops, to cut off rebel pickets. While the Sciota was absent on a reconnaissance at the mouth of Brazos river, the troops which had been landed were attacked by a force of eight hundred or one thousand rebel cavalry, but were defended by the Granite City, which fired one hundred and forty rounds before the enemy were driven off. On the return of the Sciota, the Granite City went down to Pass Cabello and brought up the Monongahela and Penobscot, and fell in with the U. S. gunboat Estrella on her way back. On their arrival, they found that the cavalry had made several attacks during the night, but had been kept off by the Sciota, which anchored close in to the breakers, and shelled on either side of the troops. During the day a rebel steamer on the inside came close up and shelled our troops out of their position, forcing them to retreat down the beach. The Sciota, Granite City and Estrella, having succeeded in getting the troops on board, had brought them back there.

Another revolution occurred at Matamoras. Ruiz took charge of the city; he was to resign next day and name the three persons to be pre-

sented with the supreme government, out of which to select a governor; none of them to be persons who have taken part in the impending questions. Col. Rojas to be Prefect of City; Capistran is to be Commanding General of the troops which are to march against the French at Tampico, with Cortina as second in command. All the acts of Serna, including the forced loan, are approved by Gov. Ruiz.

A Brownsville letter reports that Serna's forced loan was made on foreigners as well as Mexicans, including four Americans. One of them, Mr. Galvin, was imprisoned for refusing to advance \$10,000. He subsequently paid the money under protest. Gen. Dana was informed of the proceedings, and promptly notified Gov. Serna that such indignities to American citizens could not be tolerated, and it would be his best policy to return the funds he had exacted. The three other Americans had paid their assessment without protest. Gen. Dana then took possession of the ferry boats at Brownsville and Freeport, and had a force drawn up provided with two days rations, preparatory to business. Serna immediately repaid the money.

Letters from St. Augustine, Florida, furnish intelligence of the re-occupation by Union troops of Jacksonville, upon the St. John's river, about forty miles inland from St. Augustine. The event is said to have taken place on or about the 19th inst. A letter says:

"Union refugees continue to crowd into St. Augustine. They are chiefly of the farming class. Their reports all agree as to the stringency of the new rebel conscription. All white males between the ages of fifteen and fifty-five are collected and driven to the nearest military depot, at Pilatka. These harsh measures are creating great dissatisfaction among the native population of Florida. The people living nearest to St. Augustine are very anxious to secure Federal protection."

AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

THE War Department has decided that volunteers who have served faithfully two years are entitled to the bounty provided by the act of July 22d, no matter at what time since the opening of the rebellion they entered the service.

It appears from a communication of the Commissioner of Agriculture to the Agricultural Committee of the Senate, and which was presented by Senator Sherman to that body, that in the Commissioner's opinion the proposed tax of 20 cents on leaf tobacco would destroy the export trade which now gives us \$20,000,000 revenue. It estimates our average crop at less than one-third of the product of the world, and shows that more tobacco is grown in Europe than in this country, and that the substitutes for the growth of this are already driving it out of the European market. It is shown that the article is grown through South America, Northern and Southern Africa, East and West India, all of Europe except Britain, and the northern portion of the Continent, in every State and Territory in the United States and in Canada. The product of Brazil has increased seven fold in two years. Holland and Belgium have increased their product several hundred per cent. in two years, and other European States have made advancements while France has absolutely retained the cultivation, by refusing to give permits. The report concludes that the United States does not control the tobacco trade, and that the capacities of other countries to grow all they need, is ample.

There is authority for stating that the great 5-20 loan closed on the 21st inst., the entire amount \$600,000,000 having been subscribed. The absorption during the present week has been very rapid, subscriptions having been made of over \$13,000,000. No subscription made hereafter will be received.

Gen. Butler left on the 21st inst., for Fortress Monroe, hopeful of being able to release our prisoners at Richmond within a month. He will not recede an inch from the high ground he has taken with the Confederate authorities.

The Naval bill, as reported from the Committee of Ways and Means, appropriates for the ordinary operations of the Navy proper about \$90,000,000 in addition to the usual appropriations for the several bureaus of the department, and for navy yards, docks and miscellaneous expenses. The pay of officers, seamen and engineers requires \$19,453,000, and for construction and repairs, \$20,800,000; for armor-plated vessels, \$3,600,000; hemp and other materials, \$700,000; fuel, \$3,840,000; equipments, \$3,000,000; provisions, \$6,416,000; construction and repairs on machinery, \$23,312,000; surgeon's appliances and necessities, \$3,200,000; navigation apparatus and supplies, \$126,000.

The Committee on the Conduct of the War, just authorized to be appointed, consists of Senators Wade, of Ohio; Chandler, of Michigan; and Harding, of Iowa, and Representatives Gooch, of Massachusetts; Julian, of Indiana; Odell, of New York, and Loan, of Missouri. The old Committee was appointed in December, '61, and closed its labors in 1863. The new one, in addition to its duties of inquiring into the conduct of the war, is instructed to examine into all contracts and engagements with any Department of the Government, and is authorized to sit during the recess of Congress at any place which may be deemed proper. Besides this, every facility is provided for a thorough investigation, including the sending for persons and papers.

The bill of Senator Lane, of Kansas, to set apart the State of Texas, for the use of persons of African descent, assigns them the region between the Colorado and the Rio Grande, in Texas, in which they are allowed the privilege of the Homestead law. The officers in charge of emigration, hereafter to be appointed by the President, are charged with the execution of this act, and the appropriations heretofore made for colonization purposes are placed in the hands of the President, to carry its provisions into effect.

List of New Advertisements.

Booth's Combined Shaker—A Sprague.
The Cultivator—A. M. Spangler.
Farm for Sale—John S. Good.
Stammering Cured—H. C. Mears.
The Heald, & Co.—John Rawlins.
Fresh Garden Seeds for 1864—B. M. Watson.
For Nurserymen—A. G. Hanford & Bro.
Cure of Cancers—Drs. Blake & Hadley.
Farm Wanted—Address Box 544, Rochester, N. Y.
Shepherd Wanted—H. Ten Eyck.
Cranberry Plants for Sale—Geo. A. Bates.
Salesmen Wanted—Harris Bros.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

The Last Resort—D. B. De Land & Co.
I will Pay—M. Gregg.

The News Condenser.

- Tallow candles are selling for a dollar a piece in Dixie.
- A coal field, the first of its kind, has been found in Brazil.
- There are in Massachusetts 37,615 more females than males.
- Another colored regiment has gone South from Philadelphia.
- There are twenty-two inmates of the Boston Home for Aged Men.
- Washington, since the war, has grown to be a city of 100,000 people.
- Tooth-brushes sell at Natchitoches, La., for \$25 in rebel currency.
- The value of the Massachusetts State fisheries last year was \$2,280,000.
- The total number of department clerks at Washington is about 3,000.
- The people of Cleveland, Ohio, want a Navy Yard established at that port.
- The Halifax Citizen says there are 5,300 Nova Scotians in the Federal army.
- A large number of Sioux Indians perished by cold this winter on the prairies.
- There are two eclipses of the sun this year—one in May and another in October.
- Kamehameha IV, king of the Sandwich Islands, died on the 19th of November.
- It is announced from Suez, via Paris, that the fresh-water canal is completed.
- The net proceeds of the recent Sanitary Fair in Boston will amount to \$150,000.
- The average number of small pox cases in the District of Columbia is about 1,300.
- There is extreme suffering among the refugees in Kansas, both white and colored.
- The whole number of cents coined at the Philadelphia mint last year was 54,360,000.
- The receipts of lumber by lake at Chicago during the year 1863 were 393,074,882 feet.
- The value of buildings erected in Chicago in the year 1863 is estimated at \$2,500,000.
- Gen. Cags is said to be so feeble that he cannot live much longer. He is in his 81st year.
- Two thousand three hundred and fifty negroes have been recruited in the State of Missouri.
- The Cleveland and Columbus, O., Railroad gives \$10,000 for the aid of soldiers' families.
- Within the last eight years railway property in Scotland has positively doubled in value.
- The Maryland House of Delegates have declared in favor of emancipation by a vote of 51 to 15.
- Two of the Herald correspondents, prisoners in Richmond, have been paroled for ninety days.
- During the last year 468,296 acres of land were entered in Minnesota under the Homestead law.
- An organization to aid emigrants from Europe to come to this country, has been formed in Boston.
- The Custom House duties at the port of San Francisco amounted to \$4,600,000 during the year 1863.
- The only rebels now in West Tennessee are a few roving bands in the cane-brakes near Island No. 14.
- During 1863 there were 255 persons killed in the United States by steamboat accidents, and 264 by railroads.
- A match machine is now in operation at Kenosha, Wisconsin, that turns out one thousand matches per minute.
- Orders have been issued to rifle all the 24 and 32-pounder guns at the Washington Arsenal on the James pattern.
- All night omnibuses are to be established in Paris. It is said the number of Parisian night travelers is about 500,000.
- The Chinese Government has adopted a national flag. Heretofore they have had only local and individual flags.
- The men under "Stonewall" Jackson have already raised \$7,000 towards the monument to be raised to his memory.
- The total number of deaths in Philadelphia last year was 15,386. The deaths from consumption numbered 1,877.
- Fourteen hundred shipwrecks are stated to have taken place in the Mediterranean during the first week in December.
- The deterioration in the breed of Irish horses has attracted the attention of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland.
- The N. Y. City Board of Education has voted to spend \$200,000 on a fire-proof library building for the Free Academy.
- They are discussing in Maine the propriety of establishing a State Military School, at a cost of eight thousand dollars.
- The Mormons are operating largely in some portions of Canada. Forty-seven converts were recently baptized at Chatham.
- Two circular sawmills have been set up by the Yankees at Vicksburg, which are turning out large amounts of fine timber.
- The funded debt of the city of Buffalo is \$585,000. 16,162 children attended the public schools last year, at an expense of \$95,000.
- Mining operations have been commenced in the mountains of Utah, which are thought to be rich in the stores of precious metal.
- The Missouri House of Representatives has passed a bill appropriating \$50,000 for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers in Missouri.
- The enormous sum of £300 was paid for the insertion of an advertisement on the back page of the Christmas number of a London weekly.
- The Detroit Free Press states that the whole number of craft of all classes engaged in the commerce of the lakes the past season was 1,770.
- During last year 306,942 barrels of mackerel were inspected in Massachusetts. The mackerel catch of last year was the largest since 1852.

Publisher to the Public.

BOYS, LISTEN!

LIBERAL PREMIUMS FOR THE BOYS AND YOUNG MEN!

In accordance with the generous proposition of Hon. T. C. PETERS of Barren, Genesee Co., N. Y., already published in the RURAL of Nov. 28th we offer the following Liberal Premiums:

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

\$150.00 - To the Boy or Young Man under 21 years of age obtaining the Largest Number of Yearly Subscribers to the RURAL NEW-YORKER (in any one County, or within ten miles of the competitor's residence), and paying or remitting therefor according to the Club Terms...

\$100.00 - For the Second largest list, as above, will be given Mr. PETERS' Short-Horn Bull "Billy Seward" (404 A. H. B.), valued at \$100, lowest figure - deliverable as above.

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

\$25.00 - For the Fourth largest list, as above, we will give either a WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE, Cash Price \$40.00, or one of HICKOX'S PREMIUM PORTABLE OILER AND WREN, same price, or an American SILVER WATCH worth \$25.00.

\$25.00 - For the Fifth largest list, as above, either one of PETERS' TOOL CHESTS worth \$25, or a WATCH of equal value.

\$15.00 - For the Sixth largest list, as above, either one of PETERS' TOOL CHESTS worth \$15, or a WATCH of equal value.

\$15.00 - For the Seventh largest list, as above, either Fifteen Dollars worth of RURAL (Agricultural and Horticultural) BOOKS, (package or expressage prepaid) or one of HOBBS' GREAT OCEANOGRAPHIC CUTTERS (price \$15) and a CRAIG MICROSCOPE with twenty-four mounted objects, (price \$5).

FIVE PREMIUMS OF \$10.00 EACH - For each of the next FIVE largest lists, (23d to 27th inclusive), a CRAIG MICROSCOPE with six beautiful mounted objects, price \$10, or if preferred, a PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUM, same price.

TEN PREMIUMS OF \$5.00 EACH - For each of the next TEN largest lists, (15th to 22d inclusive), we will give a CRAIG MICROSCOPE with twenty-four mounted objects, price \$5, or if preferred, a PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUM, price \$5.

ELEVEN PREMIUMS OF \$6.00 EACH - For each of the next ELEVEN largest lists, (23d to 33d inclusive), a CRAIG MICROSCOPE with six beautiful mounted objects, price \$6, or if preferred, a PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUM, same price.

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

TERMS - ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR. Three Copies, one year, \$5; Six Copies for \$10; Ten for \$15; and any greater number at the same rate - only \$1.00 per copy. Club papers sent to different post-offices, if desired. As we pay American postage on copies mailed to foreign countries \$1.75 is the lowest Club rate for Canada, and \$2.50 to Europe - but during the present rate of exchange, Canada Agents or Subscribers remitting us in Bills of their specie-paying Banks will not be charged postage.

United States Treasury Notes and Bills on all solvent Banks in U. S. and Canada taken at par, but Agents in the U. S. will remit in Drafts on New York (less exchange), or New York, New England or Upper Canada money so far as convenient. All Subscriptions Money sent by Express, to Boston, Philadelphia, Albany, Rochester or Buffalo, (less exchange), MAY BE SENT AT THE RISK OF THE PUBLISHER, if made payable to his order. Young Man who feels any interest in the paper will at once become a Recruiting Officer for the RURAL BRIGADE, and see what can be done toward securing the Bonuses offered. What say, Boys? If yes, of course you will at once open the Rural Campaign for 1884.

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

Remember that competitors for the above Premiums must be under 21 years of age - that no consolidated clubs are allowed to compete, and that only subscriptions obtained in the competitor's own county, or within ten miles of his residence, can be counted for premiums.

TO AGENTS AND OTHERS.

We repeat and call attention to the following offers to all forming clubs for Vol. XV, except successful competitors for Premiums offered to Boys and Young Men under 21 years:

To every one remitting \$10 for Six Copies of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, previous to the 1st of February, 1884, we will send an extra copy of the paper for one year; or, if preferred to RURAL, a copy of EITHER of the following valuable and popular works, postage paid:

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

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

Subscribers Early - Back Numbers - Those who wish to secure this volume of the RURAL complete, as we trust is the case with ALL our subscribers - should renew at once; and such non-subscribers as propose taking the paper for 1884, and wish all the numbers, will do well to subscribe now. Last winter and spring thousands were disappointed because they could not procure the early numbers of the volume. To accommodate urgent applicants we disposed of many sets saved for binding, which we now need. After No. 1 of this volume had gone to press, the rush was such that we added 15,000 copies to the edition first fixed upon, and, though the orders are more numerous than ever before at this season, we shall probably be able to supply back numbers to all who subscribe without delay - and as long as our edition holds out shall send from No. 1 unless otherwise directed.

Remit Fall Price - People who remit less than \$2 for a single copy of RURAL one year, (except club agents, clergymen, soldiers, etc.) will only receive the paper for the length of time their money pays for at single copy price. It is useless to send us \$1.25 or \$1.50, and tell us to send one year for that, or add your name to a club (perhaps fifty miles away), and then - especially when our lowest rate ought to be \$2 - while many, who thought joint clubs, send us the full single copy price, and insist upon getting the paper at low figure without joining a club. As an instance of the difference in people, a California lady has just sent us \$10 in gold for a club of six, asking no premium on the coin - while a Canada man sends us a gold dollar asking the RURAL and American postage, one year (\$2.20) therefor.

Special Notices

I WILL PAY 18 CENTS APIECE

For good old Axe Poles, at the Rochester Edge Tool Works, in rear of Barton Mills. M. GREGG.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, ROCHESTER, January 28, 1884.

Flour is without change in prices. GRAIN - White Genesee wheat has declined 3 cents per bushel, and only a very choice sample of Canadian wheat now brings \$1.70. Buckwheat is \$2.00 per bushel.

MEATS - The only change observable is in Beef which is in somewhat better demand and a little higher. HIDES AND SKINS are advancing. WOOD AND COALS have added very materially to the rates heretofore existing.

Rochester Wholesale Prices.

Table listing various goods and their prices, including Flour, Wheat, Corn, Beans, Pork, Beef, etc.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28. - SHEEP - Steady; sales at \$3-75 for wethers, and \$10 for yearlings. FLOUR - Market opened quiet, closed with a better demand and rather firmer, but without however any quotable change in prices; sales \$2,000,000 for the week. \$1.50 for extra State; \$1.55 for medium extra Western; \$1.47 for common extra Western; \$1.40 for extra round Ohio, and \$1.70 for trade brands extra round Ohio. Sales choice extra Western at \$1.70; for Canadian Flour may be quoted unchanged; sales at \$1.70 for choice extra \$1.20 for good to choice extra. Rye Flour quiet; sales at \$3.50 for inferior to choice. Corn meal very firm; sales at \$3.25 for Branford; \$3.30 for Jersey; \$3.00 for common State, and Marsh's caloric \$2.50.

GRAIN - Wheat market may be quoted firm, with a demand, chiefly for export. Sales at \$1.52 for 1877 for Chicago spring; \$1.54 for 1878 for Milwaukee; \$1.57 for 1879 for winter red Western; \$1.60 for 1872 for amber Michigan; and \$1.51 for white Western. Rye quiet and without much change. Barley quiet and unchanged; sales at \$1.25 for Eastern and \$1.30 for Canada. Barley malt steady, \$1.50 for 1877. Peas at \$1.07 for Canada. Corn market rules more active and quiet 1/2 cent higher; sales at \$1.24 for yellow Jersey, and \$1.23 for white Jersey. Oats market quiet and rules 1/2 cent higher; sales at \$0.95 for Canada; \$0.85 for Western - the latter an extreme price. PROVISIONS - Pork market rules heavy and over; sales at \$19.75 for 200 lbs for prime. Beef is active; sales at \$4.00 for inferior prime; \$4.25 for 200 lbs country mess; \$10.00 for 400 lbs for packed mess, and \$11.00 for 200 lbs for extra mess. Prime mess beef quiet and unchanged; sales at \$22.00. Beef hams firm; sales State at \$21.00 for 20 lbs, and \$21.00 for 10 lbs. Bacon quiet and unchanged; sales at \$2.00 for shoulders; 10% 1/2 for hams. Bacon sides are quiet; sales at 10% 1/2 for Western Cumberland; but middle and 1 1/2 for long clear middles, and 1 1/2 for long cut hams. Dressed hams quiet and unchanged; for Western; 10c for city. Lard dull and heavy; sales at 13 1/2 for No. 1 to choice. Butter is selling at 22 1/2 for Ohio, and 22 1/4 for State. Cheese firm at 19 1/2 for 40 lbs.

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 19. - BEEF CATTLE - The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows: - Extra, \$13.00 for 100 lbs; First quality, \$12.50 for 100 lbs; ordinary, \$11.50 for 100 lbs; common, \$7.00 for 100 lbs; inferior, \$6.50 for 100 lbs.

COWS AND CALVES - First quality, \$4.00 for 100 lbs; second quality, \$3.50 for 100 lbs; inferior, \$3.00 for 100 lbs; common, \$2.50 for 100 lbs; ordinary, \$2.00 for 100 lbs; inferior, \$1.50 for 100 lbs.

BRIGHTON, Jan. 20. - BEEF CATTLE - Extra, \$9.00 for 100 lbs; 1st quality, \$8.25 for 100 lbs; 2d do, \$7.50 for 100 lbs; 3d do, \$6.75 for 100 lbs. Stores - Extra, \$10.00 for 100 lbs; 1st quality, \$9.25 for 100 lbs; 2d do, \$8.50 for 100 lbs; 3d do, \$7.75 for 100 lbs.

CAMBRIDGE, Jan. 20. - BEEF CATTLE - Extra, \$9.25 for 100 lbs; 1st quality, \$8.50 for 100 lbs; 2d do, \$7.75 for 100 lbs; 3d do, \$7.00 for 100 lbs. Stores - Extra, \$10.25 for 100 lbs; 1st quality, \$9.50 for 100 lbs; 2d do, \$8.75 for 100 lbs; 3d do, \$8.00 for 100 lbs.

TORONTO, Jan. 20. - BEEF, by the quarter, from \$3.25 for 100 lbs for fore quarters; \$4.50 for hind quarters. In the market, inferior, \$3.50 for 100 lbs; 2d quality, \$4.25 for 100 lbs; 1st quality, \$4.75 for 100 lbs. Stores - Extra, \$10.00 for 100 lbs; 1st quality, \$9.25 for 100 lbs; 2d do, \$8.50 for 100 lbs; 3d do, \$7.75 for 100 lbs.

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THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. - Continues in steady fair demand at the market is but an advance in gold and exchange. The supply in the hands of wool producers is very moderate, and the stock in market is equally so, particularly of domestic, while the consumption is larger than ever known before. Holders, consequently, are very firm, in their views respecting the wool. The sales are 365,000 lbs, native fleece at 77 1/2 cts, chiefly at 77 1/2 cts for fine, and choice quality of State Michigan and Pennsylvania. Foreign - Smyrna, 70 cts; 200 lbs, washed, \$2.25; 200 lbs, unwashed, \$2.00; Crimee, 19 1/2 cts; Buenos Ayres, 20 1/2 cts; Peruvian, 22 1/2 cts.

BOSTON, Jan. 20. - The following are the quotations for wool for this week - Domestic - Full blood, 75 cts; half blood, 70 cts; common, 70 cts; pulled, extra, 85 cts; do, superfine, 70 cts; mixed, 70 cts; Foreign - Smyrna, 70 cts; 200 lbs, washed, \$2.25; 200 lbs, unwashed, \$2.00; Crimee, 19 1/2 cts; Buenos Ayres, 20 1/2 cts; Peruvian, 22 1/2 cts.

TORONTO, Jan. 20. - Wool scarce at 40 cts for 100 lbs. - Globe.

Married

On Thursday morning, Dec. 10th, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. D. WILLIAMS, F. MAURICE WILLIAMS, of Brookfield, N. Y., and Miss F. M. TURNER, of Oxford, N. Y.

Died

In East Berlin, on the 10th inst, of diphtheria, FINLEY A. BOYD, of JOHN R. & JULIA A. POTTER, aged 12 years. Also, on the 17th inst, of diphtheria, JULIA A., daughter of JOHN R. & JULIA A. POTTER, aged 5 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. SPECIAL NOTICES (following reading matter, leaded), 60 cents a line.

SALESMEN WANTED - Salary Paid. Apply (with stamps) to HARRIS BROS., Boston, Mass.

CRANBERRY PLANTS FOR SALE by GEO. A. BATES, Sellingham, Mass. Send for Circular on the Cranberry Plant. (733-34)

SHEPHERD WANTED - A person to go to the State of Iowa, to take charge of two thousand sheep. None but those thoroughly acquainted with care of sheep need apply. H. TEN EYCK, Cazenovia, N. Y.

CURE OF CANCERS - CANCERS, TUMORS, WENS, Old Ulcers, Scrofula, etc., speedily cured without the knife, and with little pain, by a new and sure process. Pamphlet describing treatment sent free. Address DR. BLAKE & HADLEY, 849 Broadway, N. Y.

FARM WANTED - 50 to 800 ACRES in East, West or Southern New York. Particulars as to location, soil, improvement, price and all things in high contract. Address JOHN S. GOULD, Box 544, Rochester, Monroe Co., New York, may hear of a purchaser.

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS FOR 1884 - Gardeners, Market Gardeners and others, purchasing SEEDS in small or large quantities, by sending a list of what they require, and the quantity, will receive the same by mail, with the lowest possible prices annexed, for cash. B. M. WATSON, 733-2t Old Colony Nurseries, Plymouth, Mass.

FOR NURSERYMEN - FRENCH PEAR SEED, growth of 1883, \$2.50 per bushel. Apple Seed, growth 1883, \$5.00 per bushel. Angers Quince, Manette Rose and Oser Willow cuttings, \$3 per 1,000. Red Cedar, 4 to 12 in. \$6 per 1,000. Address JOHN S. GOULD, 733-2t Old Colony Nursery, Columbus, Ohio.

FOR SALE - MY FARM OF 67 1/2 ACRES, situated in the town of Macedon, three miles from the village of Macedon, and containing 500 Peach trees, fruit, grapes, etc.; a young orchard of 500 Peach trees. Good house, (nearly new), corn house, barn, etc., with living water in the barn yard, and a large all brick out-building. Address JOHN S. GOULD, Macedon, Wayne Co., N. Y. REFER TO - John J. Thomas, Union Springs, Cayuga Co., N. Y. or Greeneden, Macedon. 733-3t January 25th, 1884.

VIOL'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF SEEDS AND Guide to the Flower Garden for 1884. My NEW CATALOGUE AND FLORAL GUIDE is now published and ready to send out. It contains accurate descriptions of the leading Floral Treasures of the world, with FULL and complete instructions for SEED, TRANSPLANTING and GENERAL CULTURE. Also, a list of Choice Seeds for the VEGETABLE GARDEN, with necessary instructions for Planting and Culture.

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93 ACRES OF LAND FOR SALE IN THE TOWN of Geddes, about 3 1/2 miles from Syracuse. Inquire of J. W. OSBORN, Geddes, Albany. 729-4t

\$75 TO \$150 PER MONTH - THE LITTLE GIANT Sewing Machine Company want an Agent in each county, to solicit orders for their new Sewing Machine, with gauge, screw-driver and extra needles. We will pay a liberal salary and expenses, or give large commissions. For particulars, terms, etc., include a stamped, and addressed T. S. PAGE, Toledo, O., General Agent for the United States.

STEEL COMPOSITION BELLS. A good Church or other Bell for 20 cents per pound. Warranted 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 Bell, with Harrison's Patent, and patented rotating hangers, either in this country or in Europe. AMERICAN BELL COMPANY, No. 30 Liberty Street, New York. 729-2t

CANCERS CURED. Cancers cured without pain or the use of knife. Tumorous White Swelling, Gout, Ulcers and all Chronic diseases successfully treated. Circulars describing treatment sent free. Address DR. BARCOCK & TOBIN, 27 Bond Street, New York. 722-1t

"BEAUTIFUL WOMEN" - For Portraits, with the Secret of Beauty, and "How to be Beautiful" see the Phrenological Journal. The January Double No. has more than 40 portraits. Only 15 cts. by first post, or \$1.50 a year. New York. FOWLER & WELLS, 83 Broadway, N. Y.

GREAT DISCOVERY - USEFUL AND VALUABLE DISCOVERY. HILTON'S INSOLUBLE CEMENT! is of more general practical utility than any invention now before the public. It has been thoroughly tested during the last two years by practical men, and pronounced by all to be SUPERIOR TO ANY Adhesive Preparation known. Hilton's Insoluble Cement is a new thing, and the result of years of study; its combination is on SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES and under no circumstances or change of temperature, will it become corrupt or emit any offensive smell. BOOT and SHOE Manufacturers, using Machines, will find it the best article known for Cementing the Channels, as it works without delay, is not affected by any change of temperature. Jewelers. Will find it sufficiently adhesive for their use, as has been proved. IT IS ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO LEATHER. And we claim as an especial merit, that it sticks fast, and is sufficiently strong without stitching. It is a Liquid. Remember. Final. 701-26ct

PEACH PITTS - 100 bushels, one year old, in good order, will be delivered at R. R. here for \$2 per bushel. E. WARE SYLVESTER, Lyons, N. Y. 732-2t

DEAR SEEDS - PEAR SEEDS - Just received at R. E. SCHROEDER'S Importing Agency, Rochester, N. Y. a lot of Pear Seeds, very best quality, at \$2.00 per bushel. Also an assortment of Evergreen and other tree seeds. 732-4t

WHITE OR HEDGE WILLOW makes the best of live fence. Circulars giving instructions how to raise it, sent free. Agents who wish to introduce COLBY'S IMPROVED CLOVES WREN, which we warrant to give satisfaction, write to COLBY, BROS & CO., Waterbury, Vt. 732-3t

THE BEST MACHINE EVER INVENTED FOR SEPARATING OATS, BARLEY, &c., FROM WHEAT.



For separating oats and all wild seeds from wheat, premium quality for market, or best for grinding into flour with a grist. Fanning mill makers have tried and offered for years to separate oats, and some of them are trying the farmer to drive away the mill and buy a new one. We say to farmers that we defy any one to beat this little shaker. And at a cost to them, at less than one-half the cost of a fanning mill, they can obtain an article that will for ever settle the question for separating their wheat for seed, etc., and without waste of one kernel of wheat. The farmer gets his six nicely perforated steel plates set by 21 inches square, containing over 15 feet square of surface and 2000 holes, the whole arranged in a frame or box, and mounted on three elastic iron plated legs, and vibrated by hand, and by a child; weighs only 25 lbs. - always in order, can be operated anywhere, cleans perfect from 12 to 20 bushels per hour, and will pay for itself once for every 100 bushels of seed wheat cleaned and sown. One farmer who has not only used it on the 15th of Feb., 1882, sold 50 to his neighbors in a few days, and he writes us that "every one is delighted with it and they dollars could not buy it from some of them." Wherever exhibited at fairs it always draws a larger crowd than any other thing on the ground, its perfect simplicity, perfect and rapid work astonishes all. We want good responsible farmers to buy and sell them. We will make it an object for them, and advise them to write us, or come and see it at once, or send for one. Not a day should be lost in getting them in the hands of every farmer. They are put up in cases of 6 dozen each, and with extra wire sieves for small seeds, or without. Those living in the West will apply to general depot for the West, Messrs. VAUGHAN & CO., 240 Lake Street, Chicago. Those residing nearer the Factory, (east end) Andrew St. Bridge, Rochester, N. Y., address 733 A. S. SHAGUE, Rochester, N. Y.

OSIER WILLOWS - Cuttings for sale, and also a few thousand Hawthorn plants, by M. SMALLWOOD, Warsaw, Wyoming Co., N. Y. 732-3t

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GREAT CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.

A magnificent business for any one to engage in the sale of the Great "Novelty Prize Stationary Packet" which contains besides the large amount of the Stationary, ONE DOLLAR in the great sale of \$600,000 of Watches and Jewels. Agents can sell thousands of these packets, as the Stationary is worth more than the price asked, and the Certificate which is added will worth 25 cts alone. As an EXTRA INDUCEMENT we will present, free, with every 100 Packets, one SOLID SILVER WATCH, warranted genuine. Also "SPLENDID STEREO ENGRAVINGS" the finest ever published, and Photograph Pictures at prices which will yield the agent nearly \$50 for every \$10 invested. Never before were such great inducements offered! Circulars, with full particulars, mailed free. Sample Packets forwarded by mail upon receipt of 50 cts. Address G. L. HASKINE & CO., 732-1t Nos. 36 & 38 Beekman St., New York.

"A PRETTY PRESENT" - Send to your nearest, dearest, and most valued friend, the Illustrated Phrenological Journal for 1884. It would be highly prized, and cost only \$1.00. FOWLER & WELLS, N. Y.

GOOD LANDS - FREE - To settlers in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. Letters of inquiry, with stamp, answered. Also, good lands in Wisconsin, in well settled counties, at \$1.50 per acre, on ten years' time, 7 per cent. Interest. Also, good lands in Wisconsin, of Government lands in above States sent for \$1.50 each. Address W. H. GARDNER, Care P. M., 732-4t Fort Howard, Wis.

NEW READY - THE ILLUSTRATED PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL, 40 Engravings, Portraits of Gen. Banks, Lyndhurst, Beautiful Women, Egyptian Mummies, Sioux Indians in a Scalping Dance, Wild Men and Beast Children, Babes nursed by the Wolf, Dances, their Significance, Phrenology, or Signs of Character, Love, Courtship and Marriage, in the Jan. No. Phrenological Journal, 15 cents by express, G. L. HASKINE & CO., 732-2t FOWLER & WELLS, 308 Broadway, N. Y.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION of Breeding-Thoroughbred Horses, for the choice of officers and transaction of other business of interest, will be held at the City Hall, Worcester, Mass., on Wednesday, March 24, 1884, at 10 o'clock A. M. A full attendance of members and others interested in the objects of the Society is expected. The Herd Records - Short-Horn, Devon and Ayrshire of the Association, prepared by Brown & Gross, Hartford, Conn. Price, \$1 each. HENRY A. DYER, Sec'y. 732-3t

"TOP TOP" - THE JAN. PICTORIAL DOUBLE NUMBER, PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL, is the best ever issued. It has 40 Portraits, and other Engravings, including Maj.-Gen. Banks, Lord Lyndhurst, and Beautiful Women. Only 15 cts. a year. New York. Address FOWLER & WELLS, New York.

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STEEL COMPOSITION BELLS. A good Church or other Bell for 20 cents per pound. Warranted To give Satisfaction. For valuable information upon the subject of BELLS send for pamphlets to the undersigned, who are the only manufacturers of

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

TWILIGHT.

BY HILT MARKHAM.

Softly, now, the dying daylight
Blushes over world and fell,
And the glamour of the twilight
Reels in rounds of mystic spell,
Forming scenes of tropic beauty,
Gorgeous dreams of tropic smiles,
Golden gleams of orange orchards,
Coral caves of Eastern isles.

Lakeville, Jan., 1864.

The Story-Teller.

THE HARD SCHOOL.

In the autumn of 1852 I received a visit from one of the Superintending School Committee of the town of G—, in the State of New Hampshire. He introduced himself as Mr. Brown, and at once proceeded with his business. He wished to employ a teacher for one of the schools in his town. He ran his eye over my frame, and I saw the result was satisfactory, for he immediately expressed a desire to secure my services. I asked him what sort of a school it was.

"Wal," he said, with a peculiar nasal twang, and a pronunciation not set down by any of our lexicographers, "it's a pooty tarnation hard school, naow I tell ye. But yeou've got the bone an' muscle, an' I reckon as haow yeou might dew it."

He again ran his eye over my large, sinewy frame, and rubbed his hands with evident satisfaction.

"Have scholars been in the habit of gaining control of the school?" I asked.

"Lord bless ye, yes. Why, no master can stand it a week. Ye see, 'squire, there's some pooty all-fired stout boys in that ere school. Ye see they work in swamps, an' they're kind o' rough in their ways. We hearn tell o' you, an' I was sent to see ye; an' I was privileged to offer ye forty dollars a month, ef ye'd only come and keep it. That's mor'n twice as much as we ever paid afore."

"How large is the school?"
"Wal—that's nigh onto sixty scholars, all told, when they come—some boys an' some gals."

I had heard of the school before, and had been acquainted with an excellent teacher who had been thrown out from the school-house and rolled in a snow-bank, by the large boys; yet I resolved to go and try it. Of personal danger I had no fear, for I happened to possess a large frame and proportionate amount of nerve and muscle. I had exercised freely in our gymnasium, and there was not another man in the place who could at all hold his strength by the side of mine. Nature had been lavish in her favors, and evil habits had not impaired the faculties God had given me.

I told Mr. Brown I would keep the school. It was to commence on the first day of December, and continue three months. But I told him that I must have my own way; that in all things pertaining to the school I must be master; that my will must be absolute, even to the casting out of half the scholars. He said I should have my own way, and pledged his word that the committee should not interfere in any way, nor under any circumstances.

At the appointed time I packed up my wardrobe and school books, and started for G—. When I reached the village I learned that my school was in a distant part of the town, in a rugged region known as Rawbone Hollow. On the following morning, Mr. Brown took me "over" in his sleigh. I found my school-house upon the edge of quite a settlement, which was located in a wide valley, with high, bleak mountains on all sides. I was taken at once to the place where I was to board, and in this latter respect I was fortunate.

My host's name was Elias Bonney. He was a well-to-do farmer, about forty-five years of age—a firm, intelligent man, and one of the selectmen of the town. He had five children that were to attend the school—the oldest being a girl of nineteen, named Lydia, and the youngest a boy of seven.

Mr. Brown remained to dinner, and then took his leave; and as I was alone with Mr. Bonney, I began to inquire particularly about the school. My host shook his head with a dubious expression.

"You know what boys are," he said, "especially if they've had their way for a long time. For six winters we've had no school that could be called a school. There are quite a large number of stout boys, and they generally contrive to get the master out at the end of a week. But I think they'll find it hard work to put you out."

"I don't know," I replied; "but I really shouldn't want them to try it, for I'm not apt to be very considerate when acting on the defensive against mere brute force."

Bonney said he should think 'twould be dangerous for the scholars to make the attempt. "But," he added, with another dubious shake of the head, "the boys are not only stout and hearty, but you must remember there is a number of them. Once get 'em started, and they don't fear anything. They've had some pretty stout masters to deal with."

"But how many are there in the school," I asked, "who are really bad—who are ready to go ahead in any evil pranks?"

Bonney pondered a few moments, and then replied:

"Why, there's only two of them that are really ugly; and even they ain't bad neighbors. They're kind and ready in case of need, but they seem determined to resist the school-master."

We kept up the conversation, at intervals, until bedtime, and when I retired for the night, I had about made up my mind as to the nature of the work I had to do. I had learned enough to assure me of several important facts. In the first place, each succeeding teacher had gone into the school-house with the firm belief that he had to fight his way through. This very feeling had served to excite his combativeness, so that his first position to the scholars was an antagonistic one. The result had been inevitable.

At fighting the large scholars were handy; they had prepared for it and expected it, and consequently were easily led to an exhibition of their pugnacious qualities.

On the next morning, I found the building nearly new, and looking clean and neat. I liked that. I went in and arranged my books on the desk. Mr. Bonney had given me the key to this desk, at the same time informing me that he believed there were some implements there I might need. I found a heavy rock maple ferule, some two feet long by two inches wide, and three-quarters of an inch thick.

It was a perfect club, and was, moreover, enough to excite the ire of any decent person who might see it brandished about in the hands of a superior. It was not alone. It had a companion in the shape of a long, stout, heavy rawhide, or "green hide," as they are sometimes called. I let them remain in the desk.

At nine o'clock I rang the hand bell with which my host had supplied me, and the scholars took their seats. The school was full, and as I gazed carefully around, I was pleased with the appearance of most of the scholars. They were a comely, intelligent set, for such a place. But among the larger boys were some faces which I wished to study. John Putney and Stephen Oliver had been so thoroughly described that I recognized them the moment I put my eyes upon them. They were two hard-looking customers, especially the former. Putney was tall and stout, with a head and shoulders not unlike those of a bull. He wore a scowl upon his face, and seemed to lean back in his seat like one who held sway o'er all around. When I first came to him, in my sweeping glance, I caught his eye. He tried hard to keep up his gaze, but in a very few seconds his lids trembled, and his eyes sank. I knew I could conquer him in some way. Stephen Oliver was not so tall as John Putney, although, some said, stronger. But he was a better man. His face was more intelligent, and he seemed to have pride.

As soon as all was still, I made a few remarks. I opened my desk and drew forth the ponderous ferule and rawhide. "Do those belong to any one in the school?" I asked, holding them up.
No one answered. I then asked Lydia Bonney if she knew to whom they belonged. She said she believed their last teacher brought them. I then stepped down and put them in the stove.
After this I told the scholars that I had come there to teach them—to help them to an education which should fit them better for the various paths in life they might be called upon to pursue. I pictured to them the educated man and woman in contrast with the ignorant, and urged them to weigh well the considerations I gave them. I called up all my powers of imagination and simplification in portraying the happy results of education.

"And more," said I, "I have come to help give you this education, if you will only receive it. And in order to gain it properly—in order to have a profitable school, we must have order and regularity. We must all behave properly. Now I am sure you do not know as much of arithmetic, geography, history, grammar, and other branches of common school education, as I do—consequently I feel it my duty to impart to you all the information upon these subjects that I can. But I believe of that other qualification of a scholar you know as much as I do. You certainly know how to behave. You know how to behave properly—how to be quiet, studious and peaceable. If there is a scholar present who does not know how to do this, will he or she arise? I am in earnest. If no one rises, I shall consider that I have an assurance from each and every one of you that you know how to behave properly in school."

I waited some moments, but no one arose. But I could see that Mr. John Putney was uneasy. He seemed to be fearing that I was compromising him in advance of his will. However, I appeared not to notice him.

"Very well," said I. "I thank you for the assurance. And now I am going to place the government of the school at your disposal. You are all voters, and I want you to exercise the privilege. Shall we have during the coming three months an orderly, model school? All in favor of that, will hold up their right hand?"
The girls commenced first.

"Come," I urged, "I want you all to vote one way or the other. I shall think all who do not vote on this side mean to vote on the other. All up!"
By this time every right hand was up save Putney's and Oliver's. The latter had got his half up, when I saw Putney catch him by the arm and pull it down again.

"Down!" I said. "Now, are there any of the opposite mind?"
John Putney hesitated, but I saw that he was anxious to raise his hand.

"If there are any who do not wish an orderly school, I should be pleased to know it," I resumed, "for I am determined not to have scholars here who need to be forced into obedience. I am not fond of punishing."
Putney's hand came up with a jerk, and I saw him try to push Oliver's up; but I had caught the latter's eye, and he gave up to the influence of an imploring glance.

"What is your name?" I asked.
"My name is John Putney, the world over," he replied, in a coarse, impudent tone; but yet there was an effort in it.

"And do you not desire a good, orderly school?" I resumed.
"Wal, I don't care much, one way or the other," he replied, in the same tone, and I could see, too, that he was trembling his strength away fast.

"Very well," I said, in a firm but yet kind tone. "If such is your opinion, then your presence here will not only be useless to yourself, but of great detriment to the rest of the school. So you can retire before we proceed any further. But should you at any time make up your mind to come in, with a determination to be orderly and gentlemanly, you can return."

As I spoke, I stepped down and opened the door.

"S'posin' I'd ruther stay here?" he returned, turning pale.

"But you can't stay here," I replied, in a tone and with a look that made him start!

"We cannot have you here. For the good of the school, and for the good of the school alone, you must leave, I can wait but a moment longer." The fellow was determined to try my strength. But he might as well have thought of facing a thunderbolt. I was nerved up to my most powerful mood. I felt in my arms and hands that were I then where Samson once was, I could have pulled down the pillars of the temple.

I walked up to the man's seat (for he was a man in age and size, coming one-and-twenty within a month) and placed my hand upon his collar, while he grasped the edge of the low desk before him and held on. With one mighty effort—an effort that surprised myself—I tore the fellow from his seat and raised him above my head.

I strode on to the outer entry, and when I had reached the door-stone, I cast him upon the snow. He scrambled to his feet, and with an oath, rushed towards me. I struck him between the eyes and knocked him down. I went and lifted him up, and then told him to go home. He cast one glance into my face from out his already swelling eyes, and then, with mutterings of vengeance he walked away.

I returned to the school-room, and of course found the scholars at the windows, or rather rushing back to their seats.

"Now," said I, with kindly smile, "suppose we try that vote over again, for really, I feel a deep, earnest desire to have the whole school with me. All who are desirous of having an orderly, model school, and who are resolved to labor to that end, will raise the right hand."

Every hand went up in a moment.

And so I commenced my school. I went to Stephen Oliver, and asked him how far he had gone with his studies. He told me, and I then informed him that any evening when he wished for assistance, which I might not be able to render during school hours, I should be happy to grant it, if he would call upon me at my room. He was as grateful as ever I saw a person.

I had made the scholars understand that I should have no whipping going on. If any one would not behave, he must leave the school. I had come to teach the various branches of common English education, and those who had not yet learned to behave properly were not far enough advanced to be admitted to that school where the scholars themselves had determined to have good order.

I never had a better school. I have at times found it necessary to punish children, but I knew that the school had had altogether too much of it, and I resolved at the outset not to strike a blow, save in self-defence, and to turn from the school every child that would not obey. Oliver was of great assistance to me. When I wished to leave the room for a short time, I felt perfectly confident of order in leaving him in charge. He studied hard, and ere long he became a thirist for knowledge. He spent many evenings with me, and they were profitable to both.

I kept the school three weeks. On the Sabbath evening following the third Saturday, as I sat with Mr. Bonney and family, some one knocked at the door. One of the children answered the summons, and returned, followed by John Putney. He said that he wanted to speak to me. I led the way to my room, where a good fire was burning.

I bade the young man good evening, and told him he had taken a stormy season for a walk.

"Yes, sir," he returned in a half-choking tone, "it does storm hard, very hard. But, sir, I don't mind that, I'm used to it. I wanted to see you, sir, I—"

"Don't be afraid to speak plainly, John," I said, "for I assure you that you are speaking to one who will be your friend under all circumstances."

"I want to come to school, sir," burst from his lips, spasmodically.

"I thank you, John—I thank you," I cried, extending my hand, which he took at once.

"Since I came to this place nothing has occurred to afford me more pleasure than this: come to-morrow morning, and you will find one of the best schools in the country. We won't think of the past—will only try for improvement in the future."

The stout youth cried like a child. Mr. Bonney said, "It beats all."

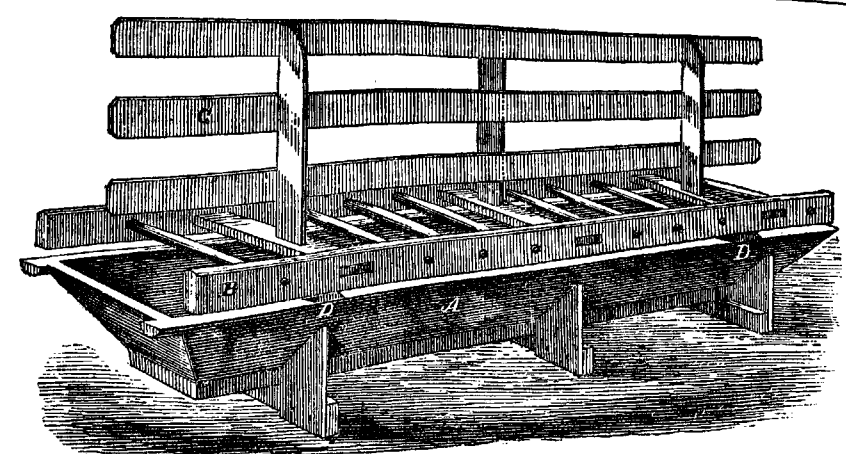
"Why," said he, "here's a school that's been going on to rack and ruin for years, because they could not find a master strong to conquer the big boys, and now they are all conquered without even so much as a blow. And yet," he added, after reflecting a while, "taint the nature of man to be very good under blows, and I s'pose children have all the feelings of men. The lash may keep 'em under while it's over 'em, but it don't produce an effect that you can depend upon."

"That's it," I replied. "The obedience produced by the lash is only obedience to the lash. It can never beget one iota of respect for the one who wields it. I am not prepared to say that the lash is never, under any circumstances, necessary; society is in a terribly warped and unchristian state; but there is one thing I can say, I will never keep another school that I cannot govern without the rod. If there chance to be a boy who will not behave, then send him back to those whose duty it is to teach him the first rudiments of behavior."

People were astonished at the result of my efforts. The committee were forced to report the school kept in the district known as "Rawbone Hollow," to be the best in their town.

So much for the "Hard School."

Mechanical Inventions, Improvements, &c.



RALSTON'S COMBINED RACK AND TROUGH.

THE above engraving represents a Combined Rack and Trough for sheep and other stock, patented by ANDREW RALSTON, of West Middletown, Washington Co., Pa., in May, 1862.

The examination of a model of this rack, and of various certificates from persons who have used the invention, convinces us that Mr. RALSTON has a valuable improvement. He thus describes his invention and its advantages:

"In the accompanying figure of RALSTON'S Patent Combined Rack and Trough for sheep, A is the trough, B the rack, and C the railing placed on the rack to prevent sheep from getting on or over it. The rack is hinged to the trough, so that when thrown open it is easily filled and cleaned out. This rack has been extensively used and much approved. It obviates all the difficulties usually experienced in feeding sheep, such as wasting feed or hay, rubbing wool off the neck, getting hay seeds into the wool, strong sheep crowding out weaker ones, &c., &c. Wherever it has been introduced, it is regarded as a public benefit, and by its use thousands of dollars worth of hay and other feed may be saved annually. Full particulars relative to this

invention—including price of rights and terms to agents selling the same—may be obtained by addressing the inventor as above."

PIANO-FORTE PLAYING BY TELEGRAPH.—"Musical Telegraphy" is one of the oddest projects of the day. The device of connecting a piano-forte by means of electric wires with another instrument at a distance, which other being played, sets its fellow in a state of audible sympathetic vibration, is made the basis of a regular scheme by Mr. Hachenberge, who announces that he will thus be prepared to lay on music to any desired number of houses.

A distinguished artist is to play at a central instrument in electrical connection with the rest, and every subscriber will thereupon have the option, by means of a little private tap, of turning on the stream of harmony into his own drawing-room.

PHOTOGRAPHING THE MOON.—Dr. Draper, of New York, celestial photographer, has constructed a reflecting telescope that magnifies the moon 320 times its size as seen by the naked eye.

Coner for the Young.

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

I AM composed of 32 letters.
My 7, 17, 2, 26, 14, 5 is a city in Greece.
My 9, 11, 21, 4, 24 is a river in Spain.
My 10, 30, 20, 16, 14 is a lake in Minnesota.
My 12, 19, 39, 31, 22, 14, 1 is one of the United States.
My 18, 7, 14, 15, 12, 32, 29 is a German State.
My 25, 3, 23, 14, 13 is a county in Kentucky.
My 8, 15, 8, 32, 23, 22 is a city in the Western States.
My 6, 11, 29, 27, 3, 20, 23 is a county in Maryland.
My whole is one of the ten Commandments.

Elmira, N. Y., 1864. B. C. S.

Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM.

A rich merchant set apart a certain capital to divide among his children. To the first son he gave \$1,000 and 10 per cent. of what remained; to the second \$2,000 and 10 per cent. of what then remained; and so on to all his sons, giving to each \$1,000 more than the last preceding, and then 10 per cent. of what remained. He then added to what remained one third as much as he first set apart, and divided this sum among his daughters, giving to the first \$666.66 and 10 per cent. of what remained; to the second twice \$666.66 and 10 per cent. of what then remained, and so on to all his daughters, giving each \$666.66 more than the last preceding, and then 10 per cent. of what remained, which just exhausted the two amounts set apart; and each daughter received 2/3 as much as each son. How many sons, how many daughters, and how much did each receive?

Watertown, N. Y., 1864. A. M. A.

Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. QUESTION FOR "EUCLID."

J. L. GRIMES, Minnesota, sends us the following:—"A gentleman sent the following note to his merchant: 'Please send me one pound of what the following spells: One right angle triangle inverted, one circle complete, two semi-circles joined by a straight line, a triangle with feet, two semi-circles and a circle complete.'"

Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. RIDDLE.

My first is what a friend should ever be;
My second is a virtue which in some animals we see;
My third, by Uncle Samuel, is now in great demand;
My whole must be respected by all in every land.

Superior, Mich., 1864. Mrs. M. M. V. D.

Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 731.

Answer to Philosophical Enigma:—The six Mechanical Powers.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigmas:—Economy is the road to wealth.

Answer to Anagram:

Lo! a cloud's about to vanish
From the day;
And a brazen wrong to crumble
Into clay.
Lo! the right's about to conquer,
Clear the way!
With the right shall many more
Enter smiling at the door;
With the giant wrong shall fall
Many others, great and small
That for ages long have held us
For their prey.
Men of thought and men of action
Clear the way.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

"I have never changed my mind respecting them from the first, excepting to think yet better of that which I began thinking well of."

REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER.

"The Troches are a staff of life to me."

PROF. EDWARD NORTH,
Pres. Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y.

"For Throat Troubles they are a specific."

N. P. WILLIS.

"Too favorably known to need commendation."

HON. CHAS. A. PHELPS,
Pres. Mass. Senate.

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DR. G. F. BIGELOW, Boston.

"I recommend their use to Public Speakers."

REV. E. H. CHAPIN.

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REV. S. SEIGFRIED, Morristown, Ohio.

"Very beneficial when suffering from Colds."

REV. S. J. P. ANDERSON, St. Louis.

"Almost instant relief in the distressing labor of breathing peculiar to Asthma."

REV. A. C. EGGLESTON, New York.

"They have suited my case exactly, relieving my throat so that I could sing with ease."

T. DUCHAMP,
Chorister French Parish Church, Montreal.

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