

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



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

AGRICULTURAL.

THE SEASON AND ITS LABORS.

The past Winter was unusually severe over a large portion of the country—with deep snows, followed, as Spring opened, with extraordinary freshets. The inundation in this region was unparalleled, far exceeding any thing in the recollection of "the oldest inhabitant" of the famous Genesee Valley. And yet, since the flood, the season has been very propitious, with warm and favorable weather for out-door operations. Though we had, in February, a greater depth of snow than at any period for a decade or more of years, it has been gone, hereabouts, for some weeks, and Spring reigns triumphant. Ruralists are busy, everywhere, as they should be, and the indications in regard to seed-time and harvest are encouraging, so that we have no doubt the scriptural promise will be amply fulfilled, and that the peaceful campaign of the agriculturists will prove eminently successful, though it may not excel in glory such achievements as are being chronicled of the heroes of the Union Army—the GRANTs, SHERMANs and SHERIDANs who are just now so unmercifully exterminating the evil weeds which produced and prolonged the rebellion.

But what of the Season and its Labors? Nature is awake and at work, amid a genial atmosphere and glad sunshine. Is Man at his post and on duty in garden, field and orchard? Are his forces marshaled for the arduous Spring and Summer contest—prepared to enter upon each duty at the earliest practicable moment and to prosecute the campaign in such a manner as to preclude failure? Do you fully comprehend "the situation?" He is a wise farmer who appreciates his position—who knows the condition and power of the elements and forces at his command—such as soil, laborers, teams, implements, etc.—and has the wisdom and energy to guide them aright. Both mind and muscle must be brought into requisition and use at this season, for planning and executing are equally important auxiliaries of successful husbandry. Like the general who plans well but fails to accomplish, the farmer who does the figuring only, with none to carry out his programme, must inevitably fail as regards profitable results. It is superior management and judicious labor during Spring and Summer that produce commensurate returns in Autumn. But we need not dwell upon what must be patent to every intelligent and experienced cultivator; every RURAL reader who is posted knows that mental should precede and accompany manual labor to insure the most profitable results in agricultural, as well as other operations.

There are various matters which demand immediate and careful attention. Need we enumerate them? Your domestic animals require extra attention at this season—those which are to "bring forth the increase," as well as the teams upon which you depend for work. It is important that these things be not neglected. Proper care and feed, daily, are essential requisites in this department. Fences and out-buildings must be seen to and repaired, and implements and machines not in

order and ready for use when wanted should be made so without delay. How are the gates, plows, cultivators, harrows, mowers, et cetera, which you will have occasion to use as the season advances? If you have machines of the right kind, take care of them, and if you have not, be careful in purchasing, to obtain the best—such as have been thoroughly tested and are known to be the most economical.

Look out for the grain fields "about these days." See to their drainage, the tares, stones, &c., and do not omit top dressing and rolling in cases where either is necessary. The reports as to the condition of the wheat crop are very favorable, but in many cases much will depend upon care and attention. And don't forget the meadows; keep animals off, remove the stone, and if any fertilizers are to be used, now is the time for their application.

Your ground being prepared in the best manner for sowing and planting, remember that it is of equal importance to have good, pure seed, of the best varieties obtainable. Every farmer should save the best of his seeds and tubers for planting, if he uses his own product for that purpose, but it is often beneficial to change seed, procuring a superior article from another locality. Experienced farmers understand this matter so well that no argument is necessary; the hint is thrown out for the benefit of those not fully advised on the subject.

In Western phraseology there is a "heap" of work to be done immediately, and a "right smart chance" for every one to labor at something, or in some department, on the farm. Many of our readers know what is to be done, and when and how to enter upon the performance of their multitudinous labors and duties. They need no special advice or admonitions, while others are prone to ignore printed hints and suggestions. Yet we stir up the minds of all by way of remembrance, trusting that each will duly heed and perform the Duties and Labors of the Season.

THINGS FOR PRODUCERS TO CONSIDER.

ASSOCIATION of labor and diversity of employments grow with civilization, freedom and wealth. The pioneer, in his log cabin, goes miles to a blacksmith's shop, wasting precious time and strength thereby. Soon a smith's shop is set up near his door, and that waste saved. Then comes the tailor, the shoemaker, and others, until, at last, great factories are built up, ready to furnish his wants or minister to his growing taste. The factory wants his produce, he wants their goods, and there is mutual convenience and economy in their proximity.

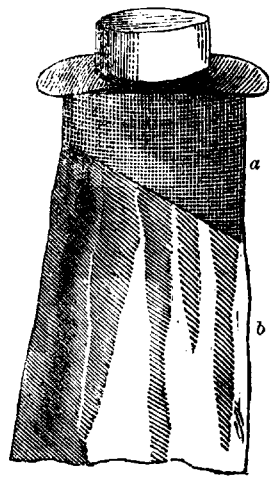
Our country has varied soils; great mines of coal, iron, copper, &c.; water-power and water-carriage in almost every State; steam, and the skill to use it everywhere. No land in the world is so adapted to the growth of the varied industry indispensable to lasting power, true freedom, and the best culture and education. Yet over large regions there seems little thought or effort for varying industrial occupations.

The farmer in Western New York, Michigan, or Iowa, sells his grain or wool to a distant market—on the seaboard or in Europe—and gets his cloth and hardware from shops equally distant, in return. Meanwhile he is lulled to his nightly sleep by the sound of the stream sweeping through his own farm, whose waters might be his servant, to weave the cloth, or shape the tools he uses. Meanwhile, too, he is sending away the materials which should be returned to his soil to keep up and increase its fertility, and his crops slowly but surely grow less and less; and New England, with her poor soil, and her factories and farms side by side, increases in her productiveness. Why is this? Simply because, with shop and farm near each other, all waste and offal is put back into the earth.

You may draw on the soil largely as you will, and the draft will be met, if only you pay back in manure to keep the balance. That condition cannot be obeyed in any wholly agricultural region, and hence the need, for lasting prosperity, of variety of occupation. Short-sighted indeed is the course which will exhaust even the richest soils of our noble West, which puts on the farmer the burthen of transportation to and from the distant market and shop, and which retards the exercise of varied talents and faculties which fail to find scope where there is no varied range of productive industry.

Farmers, Mechanics, Manufacturers, there is no real conflict of interest between you, but the closest unity. Each must exist, that all may

thrive, all must grow together, that each may share in the growth. Let all thoughtful men, all farmers with wise foresight, help on the time when the farm and the workshop may be neighbors, and not, as now, in wasteful and jealous distance from each other. Thus shall be aided the lasting triumph of free labor and free government, with the rich results of fine culture, home enjoyment, education, manly and womanly character, and independence of the fluctuations of trade and policy in foreign nations. s.



IMPROVED BEE-HAT.

FRIEND RURAL:—Above find a drawing of an improved bee-hat, suggested by my friend SAWYER. It is made from a common felt, or heavy straw hat, with a wire cloth cylinder (a) to protect the face, with a light piece of cloth or calico (b) attached, to button down under the coat, or vest. A strip of wire cloth (mesh sixteen to the inch), sixteen inches long and eleven wide will cut in two parts, making the front and rear of the cylinder; to be sewed together, the seams coming on each side of the hat. A wire raveling may be used to sew them. Width of the cylinder in front eight inches and three inches behind. The upper and lower edges of the wire cloth are bent over, after the manner of hemming, and then bound with common dress-braid. This binding enables us easily to sew to the lower side of the brim of the hat and also to sew the dependent cloth, to its lower edge.

The circumference of the cylinder will be about thirty-two inches, and will give ample room inside for the face, leaving sufficient space to protect the wearer from the sting of the bee. It does not obstruct the vision, so as to preclude seeing the eggs deposited in the combs, and if the hat is straw, and the cloth light, is not uncomfortable to wear. It is perfectly bee and mosquito proof. L. L. FAIRCHILD. Rolling Prairie, Wis., March, 1865.

SELF-ACTING APPARATUS FOR WATERING BARN-YARDS.

EDITORS RURAL NEW-YORKER:—We have an apparatus in successful operation in this vicinity, for watering barn-yards, by means of cisterns, that I have never seen described in your paper. As it may be new to many of your readers, I send you the following imperfect description, to do with it as you think best:

In the first place the cistern should be built so that the bottom is not quite as low as the lowest part of the yard. Insert an inch pipe (larger would be better) near the bottom of the cistern leading to a part of the yard where the water will run out freely into a tub. At this end of the pipe is a stop-cock, fastened on a metallic lever of about one foot in length. On the other end of this lever is fastened a hollow ball of brass or composition, four or five inches in diameter. This ball is designed to float on the surface of the water, and is so constructed that when the tub is nearly full it will close the faucet. As the water is drunk by the stock, the ball settles, the faucet opens, the water runs in and keeps the supply good. This tub should be secured against frost or disturbance of any kind. Then insert into this tub a pipe, (half inch will do,) leading to another tub, from which let the stock drink.

If this is properly done a constant supply of water is at all times accessible to the stock as long as the cistern holds out, and none is wasted. The water from the first tub can be conducted to as many places as desired, with sufficient fall. GEO. QUICK. Mendon Center, N. Y., March, 1865.

BINDERS AND SELF-RAKERS.

In the RURAL of March the 11th, appears an article entitled "The Economy of Binders," by A. D. V., in which are statements so much at variance with my experience with the binder and what I conceive to be the facts in the case, and at the same time so manifestly unfair, that I think it due to the public to make a correction of the statements in said article.

With what show of fairness does he put the binder hands at \$2.50 each, while self-rake binders are obtained for \$2? With such a beginning we are prepared to hear that "the wire is very bad to thrash," that it will take one "extra team to draw the binder," and that "four men will bind it much better than can be done with any of BURSON'S machines." All of which statements differ from my experience, and I think from that of every one who has used a BURSON Binder through a single harvest. My experience with the binder is that \$3 worth of wire will bind ten acres of the average of our Western wheat, at the high price of last year, and I would rather draw my reaper with the binder attached than any self raker that I have ever seen, while the wire thrashes as easily as straw bands, and my cattle never looked better in the spring than when running to the straw pile with the wire in it.

One thing further. We can "work in" a cheap hand for driver, these war times, when our good men are in the army. Now, for my figures:

Self-Rake Account.	
One team.....	\$2 00
One driver, (manager,).....	2 50
Four binders at \$2.50.....	10 00
Total.....	\$14 50
With Burson's Binder.	
One team.....	\$2 00
Cheap hand for driver.....	1 50
One forker.....	2 50
One binder.....	2 50
Wire for ten acres.....	3 00
Total.....	\$11 50

This shows a saving by the binder of three dollars per day. But as most farmers do not estimate with reference to the use of self-rakers, a cheap hand for driver should be added to the self-rake account, making \$1.50 more, or \$4.50 per day, saved by the use of the binder.

Add to the above the difficulty of getting men in harvest, the vexations of having a large number around during any delay caused by bad weather or reaper breakages, and the exorbitant wages demanded at times, (many places last harvest being three dollars per day and board,) and it will be seen that farmers only want to be persuaded that the binder will do for them what it has for me—good, satisfactory work—and they will speedily adopt it. N. C. Broadhead, Green Co., Wis., 1865.

RIGHT vs. LEFT-HAND PLOWS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I see the relative merits of these plows are being discussed. I like left-hand plows best because: 1.—With the left-hand plow the lead horse is in the furrow, and the team walks more steadily than if the lead horse is on the land, as he is compelled to be if a right-hand plow is used. Then he soon learns to walk close to the furrow, because it makes the plow run easier; and then a true furrow and a full one cannot be cut. To prevent this happening when a left-hand plow is used, we use a jockey-stick between the bit of the off horse and the leader's hames, which keeps them in the right relative position. 2.—I had rather have a team around than gee. I begin in the center of the land to plow, and thus turn my team on unplowed land, and the land is not tramped hard after it is plowed by turning on it. And when the field is plowed, the dead furrows are clear through and all around it. Some will say, "that will do if the land is square; but if it is not so, how will you manage it?" Why, I should begin just where the man would finish who plows around the outside of his land. MERCER CO., ILL. WM. P. STRONG.

CHEAP HAY RACK.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In No. 11, March 18th, I see an inquiry for a light, convenient and durable hay rack. Now, what some would call convenient others would not. I am using one which suits me better than any I ever tried before. It is placed on top of the wagon-box, and is made of inch and a half and two inch light stuff made wide enough for the side piece to come outside of the wheels. The pieces

that lay on the box have a pin through them close in the corner; this prevents the rack from working ahead or sidewise. A piece is put across the center of box and pinned to the long pieces at each end. As all boxes have a support under the center, I strap the rack to this and go along. It can be taken off or put on in three minutes by one man. You always have a box ready for use. It will last a lifetime if cared for, and it is cheap. L. G. SHERMAN.

GLEANINGS FROM LETTERS AND PAPERS.

The Early York Potato.—S. W. ARNOLD, Cortland, Illinois, writes the RURAL:—"The Early York Potato is the best early potato grown in this place. It does not mature quite as early as Early June, but attains a given size quite as soon, is much larger and more productive. It is of good quality for summer or winter. Top, medium. Will bear thick planting, is easy to dig, the tubers all lying near together, and usually ripens before the time of year for the rot to commence. I obtain them of marketable size about the middle of June. I consider them the most valuable of any one variety of potato. They were introduced here from Michigan about nine years ago. Where and by whom were they originated?"

Deep Plowing.—WM. P. STRONG of Mercer Co., Ill., writes:—"I see a great deal said about deep plowing in the RURAL and other papers, but it is seldom that any writer tells us how many inches he thinks is deep plowing. I find that farmers differ very much about it. Some call five to six inches deep; others, six to eight, and so on. Now, when a man advocates deep plowing, let him say how deep, and how he manages to attain that depth. I call from ten to twelve inches deep plowing; and I plow that deep by hitching three horses abreast to a common two-horse plow, with the mole-board raised about three inches in height—plowing each year a little deeper than the year before."

Drilling Spring Wheat on Fall Plowed Land.—N. BATTERY & SON, Winnebuck Co., Iowa, writes the RURAL that wheat drilled on fall plowed land at the rate of 1 1/2 bushels per acre yielded four or five bushels more per acre than broadcast sowing on similar soil. The ground was harrowed before drilling, and seed put in from 16th to 28th of April. Think five pecks of seed per acre enough when put in with a drill. Drilled oats on corn-stubble land, spring plowed, yielded 65 bushels per acre, while, by broadcast sowing, they had never before received over 48 bushels. They paid \$90 for the drill, and it saved three times its first cost the first season.

Sowing Rye for Pasture.—A Van Buren county, Mich., correspondent, asks the RURAL: "Will you, or some of your correspondents, tell me if rye can be raised on sandy openings for pasture with profit; if so, what rye and when sown?" We have seen good pasturage secured by seeding land the last of July, or in August, with winter rye. The chief object of such seeding was to secure winter pasturage; and in spring the crop was plowed under and planted to corn. If our readers have experience bearing upon our correspondent's question, let them give it.

Poling Hops.—On page 54, C. A. T., Madison, O., asked for the best method of poling hops. In response, B. T. W., Canandaigua, N. Y., writes the RURAL, and recommends poling with poles 20 feet long, because, 1. It is, in 99 cases out of 100, cheapest. 2. When slats or wires with short poles are used, there is necessarily a great waste of hops in picking. 3. The poles are handiest to work among. 4. It is natural for the vine to run upward instead of horizontally; therefore, to have a good growth of hops, they must be allowed to follow the sun, and have something of the right size to cling to.

Food for Cows.—J. H. B., Smithville, N. Y., tells the RURAL that he feeds his cows corn and oats before they come in, and corn, oats and rye afterward. When he carries a grist to mill, he tells the miller to grind the grain fine, for he does not want the grain to grow after his stock eats it. He feeds from two to three quarts of meal, wet with hot, at least warm water, with about two quarts of roots to a cow. He says:—"I do not like to feed dry meal;" and asks, "Will meal fed cows before they come in cause their bags to grow fleshy?"

Urine for Dissolving Bones.—GEORGE THOMPSON:—Urine will dissolve bones if they are completely covered by it. Human urine is the best, but any will do.

Sheep Husbandry.

EDITED BY HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Mr. RANDALL'S address is Cortland Village, Cortland Co., N. Y. All communications intended for this Department, and all inquiries relating to sheep, should be addressed to him as above.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

On the 25th of March we published the following note:

"The Editor of the Country Gentleman has courteously offered us explanations on the subject of personal controversy between us, which will in due time be made public, and which preclude the necessity of further controversy in that direction."

The Country Gentleman of March 30th says:—"Unintentionally, without doubt, the foregoing note in the last number of the RURAL NEW-YORKER is open to a construction somewhat at variance with the real state of the case." The editor then proceeds to give his version of a conversation which occurred between us on a recent journey from Canandaigua together, as if our note copied above was based on what transpired in that conversation. This is an entire mistake. We certainly did understand the tenor and spirit of the conversation referred to by Mr. TUCKER somewhat differently from what he does; but it would be inappropriate now to raise any discussion on that head, inasmuch as neither in that nor in any of the preceding conversations on the same subject between us, occurred the particular "explanations" referred to in our note of March 25th. These were made in a letter from LUTHER H. TUCKER, Esq., dated March 10th, two days after our last personal interview.

That letter was marked "private," but as it contained overtures to an adjustment of a public controversy, we had every right to assume that if those overtures were accepted as a basis of adjustment and acted on as such, the letter, or something fully equivalent to it, would be made public. Indeed, the letter itself contained a distinct intimation of the writer's intention to make an early publication of the same explanations in regard to one of the most important subjects involved in the controversy.

On the receipt of this communication, we addressed a brief note to Mr. TUCKER, stating the reasons why we should not be enabled to reply to him fully, for a day or two, but informing him that in the meantime we would suppress all that we had written for the RURAL in continuance of the controversy. This embraced two articles. One was already in type, and the other (a reply to the personal matter contained in Mr. T.'s article of March 9th,) was on the point of being mailed. Before our full answer to his "private" letter could be prepared, mail communications were suspended by the floods, and it was not forwarded until the 20th of March. Two numbers of the RURAL had then been issued since the Country Gentleman's article of March 9th, containing no reply to that article. With the delay, expected to result from a further personal correspondence (to settle a point or two not thought to be sufficiently embraced in Mr. T.'s "private" letter,) and from the considerable time in advance of publication at which matter must be transmitted to the RURAL, we anticipated that two or three weeks more would elapse before we should be able to place the final disposition of the matter before our readers. We felt that such a delay, without any hint at its causes, would, in the minds of strangers, subject us to grave misconstructions. And we were totally unable to see in what had occurred, or in the nature of the case, anything which rendered such a hint improper, provided it was couched in terms of respectful delicacy towards our opponent, and provided it neither expressed nor implied anything which did not come strictly within the letter and spirit of the facts. The first of these questions we are willing to leave to the decision of all honorable men. The last can only be determined by comparing the language of our note of March 25th and of Mr. TUCKER'S "private" letter. As he assumes that the former "is open to a construction" "somewhat at variance with the real state of the case," we have twice requested his permission to publish that "private" letter, in order to place us "in a proper position before the public"—and this request has been twice refused.

* We will simply correct, however, one error in his statements, which we have no doubt was entirely unintentional, because to leave it without correction might lead to misunderstanding hereafter. Mr. T. says that we "most implicitly denied" ever having bought up sheep to sell on orders. What we said was that we never bought up sheep to sell on orders, without communicating the fact to the persons making the orders; and that in nearly all cases, we had done it at the express request of the purchasers, provided the orders could not be filled out of our own flock.

† The large edition of the RURAL published requires each side to be put to press some days in advance of the nominal publication day. To make allowance for this and for the delays of the mails, we are expected to mail our outside editorial matter two weeks, and our inside matter one week in advance of publication day.

WESTERN SHEEP LANDS.

HON. H. S. RANDALL, LL. D.,—Dear Sir:—Owing to letters that have been received and inquiries made that originated from my former article, signed "MALCOLM," I again ask for a corner in the RURAL to submit a few more statements on Sheep Lands in Nebraska. Though engaged exclusively in the work of the ministry, I love to do anything that will benefit agriculture or increase the interest of the RURAL, because I find the latter promoting everything that purifies the heart, cultivates the taste, and refines the feelings.

One remark in my former article requires modification. I stated that here in Dakota Co., it never rained in winter. I should have said it very seldom rains. This winter, near the close of February, we had a heavy rain, though such an event is very rare indeed. I am also now

satisfied that the railroad to the Missouri will not be completed by six months as soon as I predicted. I had been misled by our newspapers. Sheep husbandry here is no untried experiment. Whenever attempted in the Territory it has been attended with the most gratifying success. I understand that there are quite a number engaged in the business in the Southern part of the Territory, though I am not personally acquainted in that direction. But I have noticed that all those who are engaged in sheep husbandry in this region are doing their utmost to extend their business. Last autumn OLIVER BALZLEY and JOHN STOUGH of Punka, in the county above us, brought four hundred more sheep from Eastern land. They were in poor condition, but they have here improved so much that they scarcely look like the same sheep, although they have had no shelter nor grain. Most of the time they were running among the bluffs, and feeding on the dry prairie grass. The genial climate seems to have done all for them. Mr. MILLAGE, of Dakota Co., has also kept about three hundred sheep over winter in the same way. They all look remarkably well. Thus far no diseases of any kind have been known among the sheep of Nebraska. Nothing to me is more remarkable than their rapid increase. In the largest flocks it is an exceedingly rare thing for a ewe to have less than two lambs; and no difficulty is ever experienced in raising them. The wool also greatly improves in quality. The profits are very large, though I am not at liberty to state them. But I have no doubt from what I have seen that it would still be a great improvement if sheep had shelter, especially in March, which is usually our roughest month. So far as I have observed, the sheep here belong to what you call the American Merino family.

All other kinds of stock do proportionally as well as sheep. Among other things that make this country so desirable for stock raising, are the many different kinds of grass that grow on the bottoms and in the bluffs. After the prairie grass dries up, the rush beds and other species of grass afford an abundance of the most nutritious matter during autumn and the open winters. I am a native of Pennsylvania, but find the winters here much milder than in the east. This must be owing in part to the dryness and purity of the atmosphere, as the thermometer falls lower betimes than it ever does in my native State. There is one drawback in common with all the Western States. It is the high winds that prevail, and sweep unobstructed over the plains. Though wherever the settlers plant cottonwood a screen is soon afforded, sufficient to shelter stock and orchards. These trees grow so rapidly that every one is culpable if he suffers from the winds after being here several years.

I have taken great pains to verify these statements and believe them all to be far within the truth. The fruit trees that have been planted and properly cared for are doing remarkably well. Mr. WESTCOT, a few miles from Dakota City, already has a fine apple orchard, from which he expects a large return of fruit during the coming season. Many species of wild grape grow and produce here in marvelous abundance. The native plum luxuriates in Nebraska. I have no doubt but that all the hardy varieties of grapes can be most successfully cultivated. The dryness of the atmosphere, the character of the soil, and the profusion of wild grapes convinces me of that. To the unprejudiced mind the most unpleasant feature of the west is the habit formed by many of decaying every locality save the one occupied by themselves. When I was on my way here I met parties who represented Nebraska as an almost heaven-forsaken country. I have been most agreeably disappointed. I found it vastly superior to the localities with which it had been so unfavorably compared. This country has been cursed by speculation. It is just now beginning to recover from it. After 1856 and '57 many who could no more succeed in accumulating fortunes by buying and selling land, denounced the country. All, however, who turned their attention to stock raising and cultivating the soil have had no reason to be dissatisfied. Did I not believe that the value and future importance of this region were not generally known, I should not have occupied so much of your valuable room. And I greatly prefer that all who intend coming west should visit other localities before coming here, and then judge for themselves.

Any person who wishes to learn further particulars concerning the country can address the following persons, whom I know to be reliable and disinterested men, namely, WM. ADAIR, THOMAS GRIFFE, Esq., WM. CHENEY and CHAS. F. ECKHART. Yours most sincerely, S. AUGHEY.

CONDENSED CORRESPONDENCE, ITEMS, &c.

"ARE WE ENFERBLING OUR MERINO SHEEP," AND OTHER MATTERS.—We heartily thank the Country Gentleman for republishing entire our much garbled article under the above heading, which originally appeared in that paper in 1863. Had it placed in the same connection the change of opinion in a single particular avowed in the Practical Shepherd, page , it would have rendered our record complete in the premises, and set forth precisely the views expressed in the last named work, and which we most devoutly entertain at this time.

In our article headed "The Country Gentleman and our Pedigrees," (April 1,) we referred the editor of that paper to the American Agriculturist, 1844, for a passage where, in giving the pedigrees of our Paular sheep, we spoke of the "fictitious importance attached to the Paular name;" and we stated that it would undoubtedly be found in the Cultivator of the same or succeeding month, though we could not cite the page, not having that volume of the Cultivator in our possession. Mr. TUCKER has politely sent us the volume, and we find that the remarks which preface the pedigrees in the two journals are not, as we supposed, the same, and that the words above quoted do not appear in the Cultivator copy. Mr. T. was therefore correct in asserting that fact.

We think we discover the reasons for the forgotten omission! We find a letter of ours on the same sub-

ject, published in the same volume of the Cultivator, some months earlier, in which precisely the same opinion is expressed in regard to the "fictitious importance attached to the Paular name," but in different words. We said: "It is often asserted that there are no pure Paulars now in the U. States. Individually I consider this a matter of the least possible importance." (See Cultivator 1844, p. 25.) It was not necessary to repeat so distinctly expressed views in a succeeding article on the same topic and in the same paper.

WOOL EATING.—D. STURGES, South Otselic, N. Y., describes his flock of 40 sheep as eating off each other's wool to such an extent that in February the "rumps, hips and legs of some of them became quite bare." He thinks about half of the flock thus eat the wool from others. Their feed has been half an ear of corn per head, and good, bright hay; they have good shelter which they can go in and out of at pleasure—and in previous years his sheep have always done well. He has given them hemlock boughs, salt and ashes, and salt and sulphur by way of remedy, but entirely in vain. If Mr. S. describes all the symptoms, and if his description is strictly accurate, the case is a very anomalous, and so far as our information extends, an utterly unprecedented one. If the skin exhibited irritation, if the sheep bit or dug away their own wool, we should understand it better,—but who ever before heard of 50 well fed and well cared for sheep out of 40 exhibiting to the fullest extent the depraved appetite of wool eaters? Let Mr. S. watch his sheep still more closely, and see if this really is so. Such a thing might happen from salt being sprinkled into the wool of sheep—it would be hard to account for it otherwise. Were the sheep ours, besides giving internal remedies calculated to correct the condition of the stomach, we would temporarily try the virtue of some smearing on the ends of the wool, which would be supposed to render its taste peculiarly repulsive to sheep. We would try green cow dung diluted to a proper consistency on some—fish oil and Scotch snuff on others—and other "villainous compounds on others"—until we found something too strong for the stomach of the wool eaters! But if the habit became chronic in the flock we would rid ourselves of it whatever the sacrifice.

LIFE MEMBERS.—We gave last week the names of forty-seven Life Members of the N. Y. Sheep Breeders' and Wool Growers' Association. The following additional names were sent in prior to April 8th: D. W. Percey, Esq., North Hoosick. George W. Ostrander, Esq., " Nain Burgess, Jr., Esq., " J. C. Sweet, Esq., " Garret Hollenback, Esq., Hoosick. Elton Percey, Esq., " J. L. Quackenbush, Esq., " William M. Holmes, Esq., Greenwich. Jephth A. Potter, Esq., Penn Yan. Hugh T. Brooks, Esq., Pearl Creek. Franklin J. Marshall, Esq., Wheeler. Grattan H. Wheeler, Esq., Hammondsport. Elijah E. Brown, Esq., New Hope. Eliondo Greenfield, Esq., Moravia.

TO PROTECT SHEEP FROM WOLVES.—A valued friend writes us:—"Prairie shepherds sometimes adopt a unique method for protecting their flocks against the night depredations of wolves. Trailing the dead carcass of a sheep around a circle of two or three miles by the aid of a horse, they drop at intervals a small ball of lard having in the center a sufficient quantity of strychnine to destroy all appetite for mutton. The wolf in scenting for the flock, strikes this trail; finding the lard ammunition he takes it at a gulp; before he can reach the next the lard has melted in his stomach, and the poison takes instantaneous effect. As many as a half dozen varmints have been found on a trail of a single morning."

CURE FOR WOOL PULLING.—J. L. GILLET, Cortlandville, N. Y., informs us that a year or two since he had a flock of grade Merinos which pulled their wool so badly that they left the skin naked in small spots. He mixed Scotch snuff and fish oil to about the consistency of cream and rubbed it on the skin wherever the sheep pulled. The cure was thorough.

POISONING OF SHEEP WITH LAUREL.—"S. S.," Corning, N. Y., writes us:—"I recently had five or more valuable sheep poisoned with laurel. I gave them the usual remedy, melted lard and milk, without any apparent effect. Two of them died. I then applied a crushed onion under the fore legs of the others where they join the body. Two of them which appeared to be in the worst condition, recovered. The other which lost off the onion died."

SALES OF SHEEP IN ONTARIO CO., N. Y.—Messrs. PRITS & WILEY of Honeyoye, N. Y., have recently sold to M. P. THOMPSON of Hillsdale, Mich., ten 2 year old Merino ewes for \$1,000, and to D. L. HAMILTON of Honeyoye, N. Y., 28 two year old ewes for \$1,767.

Communications, Etc.

USING THE BINDER ON A REAPER.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I notice an article in your issue of March 10th, in which your correspondent A. D. V. figures that by using a self-raking reaper he saves \$4.50 per day, from what it would cost him to use BURSON'S Grain Binder. A. D. V. seems very particular about figures, at the same time he sets down his hands for binding at \$2 a day, and charges them at \$2.50 with the binder. I gave the figures as near correct as possible in your issue of January 7th. If it required an extra team I should have stated it at the time.

I wish to inform A. D. V. that one team can draw a reaper with three men and the binder on it. I had a pair of small four-year old colts that would draw it last year. There is but very little difference in the draft with or without the binder, as it and an extra man are placed on the outside of the drive-wheel, taking the weight from the grain wheel, and lessening the side draft, which is worse on the team than the forward draft.

I cannot get any five men that will bind snug up to the reaper, and my grain came to the stack in better shape from the binder than it ever did from five men. As for thrashing, the bands can be cut with a common knife, and they will go through with the straw; the only detriment I find with the wire is, it dulls the hay knife to cut down the straw stack to feed it to the cattle.

A. HELLIER.
Pewaukee, Waukesha Co., Wis., 1865.

NEW WAY OF CLEANSING MAPLE SUGAR.

MR. MOORE:—I wish to say something about cleansing maple sugar, as I have found a new way to me, and perhaps it will be to many RURAL readers. Although it is getting late in the season for many to try it, yet, as the saying is, "better late than never," and perhaps some will remember it till next season. It is this:—When the sirup is about done, stop its boiling by taking out the fire, or swinging it off, and have ready some eggs, well beaten, in a pail, or bucket—about a dozen of eggs, to sirup enough to make one hundred pounds of sugar. Then dip out two or three quarts of the sirup and turn on to the eggs, stirring them well, to prevent cooking in chunks. Next fill up the pail with cold sap, turn it into your sirup, stir it so as to get it well mixed, then bring it to a boil slowly, and skim it, after which strain it through a good cotton and woolen strainer, which takes out all the dirt that don't happen to get out with the scum, and the sirup is ready to sugar off, without waiting for it to settle, which requires an extra vessel and is in danger of souring if the weather is warm. I think this a good way and deserving at least one trial by every one who makes maple sugar and has not tried it.

WM. P. BROWN.
North Aurelius, Ing Co., Mich., March, 1865.

WEIGHTS OF MILK, WATER, &c.

MR. EDITOR:—I wrote you last summer soliciting facts in regard to the relative weights of milk, water, cream and skimmed milk. The reply which you gave not being satisfactory, I was induced to test the matter, and the mode and result are stated below: I weighed in a glass vessel, which had a very small neck, and which held nearly a gallon, equal quantities of milk, water, cream and skimmed milk. The milk weighed seven pounds and fifteen ounces. The water seven pounds and fourteen ounces. The cream seven pounds and thirteen ounces. The skimmed milk eight pounds.

I send this to you, thinking perhaps, some of your readers would like to know the result of the test. S. S. OTIS.
Dear River, N. Y., 1865.

ALSIKE CLOVER.

My article on the Swedish White Clover in last year's RURAL, is bringing me some inquiries for seed. I have none, either for sale or to give away. The dry season of 1864 prevented many blossoms, and the clover did not get a very strong growth. I think, however, it has rooted, so that it may get a good growth the coming summer. This year, I hope to be able to test its value as a honey-producing plant. I did not see that the few blossoms it yielded were visited by the bees. This might have been owing to the season, and to the fact that buckwheat was yielding abundantly at the time.

L. L. FAIRCHILD.
Rolling Prairie, Wis., March, 1865.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

What Sized Potatoes are Best to Plant.

MR. GEORGE MAW, an English experimenter, has made some careful trials of the effect of planting seed potatoes of different sizes. He planted in rows two feet apart, and one foot in the row. In one experiment, twenty potatoes weighing 2 ounces, and the same number weighing 4 and eight ounces each, were tried. The yield was as follows:

The 20 of 2 oz. each (2 lbs.) yielded 21 lbs. 5 1/2 oz.
The 20 of 4 oz. each (5 lbs.) yielded 29 lbs. 0 1/2 oz.
The 20 of 8 oz. each (10 lbs.) yielded 35 lbs. 3 1/2 oz.

Extending these results to an acre shows, after deducting the weight of the seed, that there is again of 5,069 pounds in using the 4 ounce sets, the gain over the 2 ounce was 6,942 pounds.

Experiments with the above different sorts show even a larger gain than this, from using large seed. Mr. Maw is of the opinion that the use of larger sets produces larger potatoes, and believes that not only the quantity, but the quality of the crop may be improved by always planting the largest and best, that the potato-producing power of land may be increased one-third by using large seed.

Substitute for Cheese Bandage.

MR. FITCHER of Martinsburg, N. Y., made the following statement concerning a substitute for the common cheese bandage, at the Watertown Cheese Convention:—He said the high price of cheese bandage had induced him to make an experiment to see if a substitute might not be employed for bandage. His dairy consisted of 80 cows; had made cheese for a number of years; had some boxes made, the hoop planed inside and outside, and had covers fitted to them in the usual way. The cheese was not bandaged, but when carried to the dry room the hoop was slipped on and used in lieu of bandage. This hoop was half an inch larger in circumference on one edge, and was made an inch higher than the cheese. The cheese was turned daily, the hoop being higher and larger at one edge rendered it easy to be taken off the cheese at any time. The hoop was removed occasionally in order to rub off the mold accumulating on the rind of the cheese—it was easily removed. There was no trouble with the cheese—it formed a handsome, smooth rind, and cheese buyers were pleased with their appearance, etc. When ready to send to market the box was cut down even with the cheese and the cover fitted on, and all was ready. In eight or ten days the cheese are loose from the hoops, they are then taken off and the cheese greased. Do not grease the rind when the cheese is taken from the press, as it is apt to produce mold. Hoops are not so liable to produce mold as the bandage. Did not think

the hoops would do for soft, porous cheese; do not approve of such cheese. When cheese are properly made, the use of hoops is to be preferred to bandage. Last spring contracted for his hoops and paid one cent per inch.

Breeding Back.

An English writer, discussing the essentials to success in breeding horses, says:—"Nor is the transmission of qualities or defects, as the case may be, confined alone to the parents. It goes back even to the grandsire and granddam, or sire of the dam; and many properties or vices, dormant for a generation, are sometimes re-produced in the next. This may be styled "breeding back," and only further confirms the great advantage to be derived from giving due regard to lineage, and carefully excluding from the stud either stallion or mare whose ancestors in any degree, not very remote, are known to have possessed damaging faults; for unfortunately what holds true in regard to the re-production of good points of character or of form is equally so as regards vices, although happily not to such an extent, if we may judge from the fact that very frequently cart mares, very vicious themselves, produce remarkably good-tempered foals. In the higher-bred classes, however, it is more common, and precaution should therefore, if possible, be taken to avoid the risk of any vice being developed.

Paralysis in the Horse.

THE Massachusetts Plowman alludes to the frequency of cases of paralysis in horses in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and says: "They may be expected to increase through March, when they are usually more common than earlier, owing to the more frequent exposures to cold drafts when heated." This paralysis, it is stated, is caused by congestion of the vessels of the back of the spinal cord, causing the animal to lose the use of its hind legs, and producing great pain and restlessness.

The remedies advised are, rubbing the back to excite circulation, applying hot baths to the loins, and hot blankets to keep in the heat, or a mustard paste rubbed into the skin with a brush, all over the back, the animal being kept in a warm stable. Bran mashes and a little physic to keep the bowels open, are also recommended; and unless relieved by these means the animals rarely live beyond four or five days.

Rural Notes and Queries.

THE RURAL AND THE MAYORALTY.—The election of the Editor of this Journal to the Mayoralty of Rochester seems to have disturbed two or three correspondents, or awakened their fears. One fears that the paper will suffer in consequence—which may be true to some extent, for a week or two, but our arrangements for the future are such that there will be no permanent deterioration in the interest or value of its contents. Another fears the editor "is becoming a politician, but hopes that, if so, the RURAL will not be used as a party organ!" When our astute friend finds in the paper any evidence of this, we trust he will write or telegraph us immediately, and we will endeavor to at once abandon an evil to which we are not at present inclined. Meantime, we will whisper to him, in the strictest confidence, that the position was altogether unsought on our part, and that we were not elected as a politician. Perhaps he and others interested may infer this from the conclusion of our Inaugural Address to the Common Council, which reads as follows:

"In conclusion permit me to say that it will be my earnest endeavor to discharge the duties upon which I now enter with fidelity and impartiality. Your cooperation is confidently sought and will be gratefully appreciated. Let us work together, uniting our efforts to promote the best interests of the city and people, whose welfare has been confided to our guidance. In my opinion every man connected with the City Government should consider the welfare of his fellow citizens as paramount to party, and vote and act accordingly. Thus believing, it will be my aim to discharge the multifarious duties of Chief Magistrate honestly and faithfully, regardless of personal or party friendships or considerations."

CARPENTER'S COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.—This excellent Boys' School, under the charge of Prof. E. M. CARPENTER, a contributor to our Educational Department, is, we are glad to learn, becoming both popular and successful. Prof. C. is a capable and faithful instructor, and prepares pupils for College or business, taking boys who are ten years of age and upward. The Institute is in the old University Building, Buffalo street. We can confidently commend the Institute to parents and guardians seeking a good school for youths. The next term commences on the 17th inst.

MONROE COUNTY AG. SOCIETY.—At a meeting of the Board of Managers of this Society on the 4th inst., it was unanimously resolved that an Exhibition of Horses be held on the Society's Grounds on the 4th day of July next. It was also decided that the Annual Fair of the Society be held on the 26th, 27th and 28th days of September next. We trust both exhibitions will prove creditable to our county and city, and in all respects successful.

COW'S SORE TEATS.—"Milk-Maid" should soak the teats of her cow in warm water so as to clean them perfectly and get rid of all scabs, and after milking anoint with an ointment made as follows:—1 oz. beeswax, 3 ozs. lard; melt together, and when they begin to get cool, add and mix an ounce of sugar of lead and a drachm of alum, finely powdered.

ROARING HORSES.—W. P. R., Lakeville N. Y.: Roaring is a damage to any horse. We never saw one yet whose wind was good. There are said to be two kinds, acute and chronic. The acute is not regarded a permanent injury; but the chronic is. If we wanted a good horse we would not buy a roarer, no matter what his other good points might be.

PAMPHLETS, &c., RECEIVED.—From B. P. JOHNSON, Secretary N. Y. State Ag. Society, the Address delivered before the N. Y. State Agricultural Society at the annual meeting, February 9th, 1865, by JAMES O. SHELDON. We have marked several parts of this address of ex-President SHELDON, which we shall print.

AG. FAIRS.—The Provincial Ag. Association of Canada West is to hold its next Show in London, Sept. 18-23. The Fair of the New England Ag. Society is to be held at Concord, N. H.

HORTICULTURAL.

VEGETABLES AND FRUIT GARDENS.

The following extracts from articles in the April number of the Gardeners' Monthly are seasonable, and will prove interesting to most of our readers:

Vegetable Garden.

Tomatoes, Egg-plants, Peppers, and similar plants, every gardener tries to get as forward as possible. South of Philadelphia they may be out unprotected by the middle of the month. Here we seldom risk them before May. The same may be said of Sugar Corn, dwarf and Lima Beans, Okra, Squash, Cucumber, and Melons. No "time" can be set for sowing these, except not to sow till the ground has become warm. A few warm days often makes us "feel like gardening," but unless the ground is warmed, the seeds will be very likely to rot. Here we sow about the first week in May. Onions for seed should be sown in rich soil, but very thickly, so as not to become larger than marbles. Very far North, where they perfect in one year, this advice of course, is not intended. A crop of Carrots should be sown the end of April. In moist seasons the earlier crops are liable to run to seed.

Early York Cabbage sown last month, or kept over the winter, must now be planted out, where there is a demand for summer greens; and to meet this want, another crop of Spinage may yet be sown.

Bean poles may be planted out preparatory to sowing the Lima bean in May. When bean poles are scarce, two or three hoop poles, set into the ground one foot from each other, and tied together at the top, make as good a pole, and perhaps better.

Dwarf beans should not be sown closer together than two inches. The Valentine is still the most popular; a kind called the Early Butter came into use a few seasons ago, and is valuable from the fact of its having very little "string," even when nearly mature.

Peas should be sown every two weeks to obtain a succession. There are few additions to the old stock among the early kinds; but in the later ones there have been some decided improvements. Harrison's Glory, Flack's Victory, and Fairbeard's Champion of England, have already got a good reputation here. Some new Marrowfats, that are dwarfish, are also improvements, at any rate in that respect, of which Climax, Alliance, and Bedman's Imperial, are well spoken of. For those who have good sticks at command, a six-footer, called Leviathan, and one nearly as tall, Gen. Windham, has been introduced. Trant's Evergreen Pea was spoken highly of by a correspondent in the January number, and if offered for sale by our principal seedsmen, judging by the inquiry we have had for it, it would be found to have a ready sale.

Lettuce for a second crop of salad, should be sown about the end of the month. The Drum-head Cabbage is usually sown for a summer crop; but the old kinds of Cos Lettuce would, no doubt, be found very valuable in rich soils.

It is not a good plan to cut all the Asparagus as soon as they appear. A few sprouts should always be left to grow from each, to strengthen the plants.

Where Brussels Sprouts, Cape Broccoli, and Autumn Cauliflower are desirable, now is the time to sow. They require the same treatment as the general Cabbage crop.

Fruit Garden.

Fruit trees that have proved undesirable from any cause, may be re-grafted with more favored kinds. This is an advantage with some varieties—it takes an age, for instance, to get the Seckel Pear into bearing condition from a nursery raised tree; but by grafting it on one that has already "arrived at years of discretion," the advantage of placing a young head on old shoulders, in this way is soon made manifest.

Buds that were inoculated last fall should not be forgotten, but as soon as vegetation has pushed forth, the buds should be examined, and all other issues from the old stock taken away. It may also be necessary to make a tie, in order to get the young shoot of the bud to go in the way from which you would not have it hereafter depart.

Above all, do not allow the month to pass without posting yourself afresh on the various methods recommended for destroying insects, or preventing their attacks. The advantage of a stitch in time is never more decided than in the great struggle with fruit destroying insects.

CARE OF ORCHARDS, Etc.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—As I have been perusing the RURAL, I find comments of different men on the Culture of the Apple Tree. We are all liable to overlook things of importance. An orchard may be started well, and eventually ruined by not being properly cared for as long as the trees live. One man says that it makes a vast difference betwixt taking the clons from an old or young tree; another man thinks no difference. I have grafted considerable, and my experience and observation goes to prove there is no difference in the last year's growth; if there is, I want it proved. An orchard is commonly spoiled through neglect. There are orchards all over the country that are dying an untimely death for the want of pruning; the top is allowed to accumulate to a size that the roots are unable to supply with sap; consequently, something must die; the effect of the cause will soon appear; the tree will become mossy, the ends of some limbs will fall to leave out—an unmistakable sign that the sap is insufficient to support the top. But if there are men that can afford to bring an orchard to maturity, and then let it die for the want of proper pruning, I say, go ahead!

After succeeding in everything else that is requisite, if we fail in one particular, we shall suffer disappointment. It is my opinion that the locality of the ground and the quality of the soil has as much to do with an orchard as any one thing. To illustrate:—About 40 years since, myself and a neighbor, by going about 12 miles, obtained each of us 100 seedling trees from a nursery. I planted mine on dry, gravelly soil, with quite an easterly descent. My neighbor planted his on the top of a bleak hill on nearly level ground. I staked my trees to prevent their leaning and the roots from loosening. For several years I washed with strong ley each spring, and put leached and unleached ashes around the roots to prevent grass growing, and kill worms. My trees grew rapidly. How my neighbor managed with his I cannot say; he often said to me, "Pratt, what makes your trees grow so much faster than mine? What do you do to them?" I told him as near as I could, but whether he went and did likewise I cannot say; the result was my trees outgrew his two to one. Had he cared for his equally as well as I did, the difference is easily accounted for; for while mine were protected from the cold, cheerless north and west winds, his were twisted and warped, even to loosening the roots. I don't know as I had better draw a contrast between the two orchards, but I will venture it. My neighbor's orchard bore some one or two years before mine; but when mine began to produce, it bore abundantly, and does to this day. My trees are one-fourth to one-third larger, and quite free from moss; while his are quite scrubby and mossy. I don't know as I have been acquainted with an orchard on a bleak hill that has done first rate; the reasons have been given. I would recommend an easterly exposure for an orchard in latitude 40. Will some one give their opinion of the best time to prune apple trees?
J. D. PRATT.
Steben, 1865.

OSAGE ORANGE HEDGES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It being generally conceded that the Osage Orange is our best plant for hedges, where the climate will admit; and the supply of seed not being equal to the demand, I offer (for the benefit of those interested,) a fact I have observed, which (although not conclusive evidence,) leads me to infer that it can be easily multiplied from cuttings of the roots, if properly done.

About 10 years ago I obtained a pound of seed and raised plants enough for fifty rods of hedge; not having the ground ready to set them out, I left them in the nursery two years; the plants being large, more roots were left in the ground in taking up. A few weeks after they were removed, while plowing the ground, I observed numerous sprouts from one to two inches long, growing from the ends of the roots that stick out of the ground. I also noticed the same thing a few years after, in plowing beside my hedge, the roots that stuck out of the furrow sprouted the same. In raising my hedge, the most difficulty I found, was in getting it to sprout thick, or branch out at the bottom. To remedy the defect, I would suggest to those wishing to experiment, to leave the tops on their plants one foot long and set them in the hedge leaning; one plant over lapping the other, in order to get more sprouts, and get a fence sooner.
H. S. HOXSIE.
Adrian, Mich., March, 1865.

REMARKS.—There is abundant testimony that the Osage Orange may be propagated by root cuttings. We have seen the hedges thickened at the bottom by laying them down horizontally and interweaving them somewhat after two years growth. But as a good way to get a thick hedge, is to slash it close to the ground after the plants have become firmly established—say after they are three years old. We have known instances where what seemed to be a failure was made a perfect hedge by this course.

TO PREVENT MAGGOTS IN ONIONS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Please publish the following facts for the benefit of onion growers:—Steep the seed before planting, twelve hours or more, in a strong decoction of tobacco, to be kept at a temperature of 100 degrees to 120 degrees Fahrenheit, and the small white worm or maggot will protrude about the tenth part of an inch from the apex of the seed and die. I tried it last year, and others in town have for two or three years, without a failure. Try it. It is no hoax, and I ask nothing for the information. I saw an advertisement in the RURAL that information, equivalent to the above, could be obtained from some person (name not remembered,) in New England, for 50 cents.
De Peyster, March, 1865. BENJ. EASTMAN.

TO RENOVATE AN OLD ORCHARD.

NATHAN SHOTWELL, Genesee Co., N. Y., writes the RURAL:—"To renovate an old orchard, the trees should be grafted with another kind of fruit. Remove about one-third of the old limbs and all of the sprouts every year, till all are removed. Scrape the trees with a sharp hoe after a shower, and wash them about twice a season for two or three years with a good strong ley from wood ashes. Use an old broom to wash with. Manure the roots of the trees frequently, and allow no tough sod to form over the roots. I have often known old orchards in dilapidated condition made to grow vigorously and bear profusely. I have old apple trees that, seven years ago, (when I became their owner,) more than half their branches were dead and had to be removed. They are now as thrifty and as profuse bearers as any in the neighborhood. They were treated as above.
"In grafting an orchard for market, profuse bearers should be selected providing they are saleable. Some kinds, such as Pippins, Gill-

flowers, Spitzenbergs, &c., are too spare bearers for profit. The three most profitable kinds in my opinion in Western New York, are the Roxbury Russet, R. I. Greening and Baldwin. For family use I think the following are desirable: Early Harvest, Sweet Bough, English Golden Sweeting, Summer Rose, Early Strawberry, Ladies' Blush, Red Astrachan, Ribstone Pippin, Swaar, Northern Spy, Tollman Sweeting, Yellow Bellflower, &c. Clons for grafting should be cut any time before the buds start. Lay them down in the cellar, or in the shade, and cover the cut ends with damp saw dust. Keep them thus till they are wanted for use."

A HUGE AND TRUE GRAPE STORY.

THE Marietta Intelligence re-publishes the account made two years ago of the great success of Mr. C. M. GLIDDEN of Ironton, Ohio, in grape culture. Having ourselves seen his vines in full bearing, and heard his own account and its confirmation by his neighbors, we are prepared to believe and vouch for the truth of the following facts:

About the last of August, 1853, the Ohio Farmer, at Cleveland, had a letter from Clermont county, stating, as something uncommon, that a lady there had a Catawba vine running upon her house, which had upon it that summer, "197 bunches of grapes, all sound." The Mahoning County Register beat that statement, a Mr. Simon having an Isabella vine with upon it "274 bunches of large size"—one bunch "containing 86 grapes." To beat this last, two gentlemen went to Mr. Glidden's young vines in Ironton, and on an Isabella trained on the northeastern side of his house, counted 1,019 bunches of grapes. They then became tired of counting, and saying that they "already had more than anybody would believe," quit. The vine had upon it exactly 1,229 bunches.

Mr. Glidden had another vine which the second season from the planting of the slip had 408 bunches of fine grapes. In 1859 he challenged the world in a wager of \$500 to beat him in producing grapes either in the quantity or quality. At that time his vine, four years old, had on 1,548 bunches; and four vines two years old had 2,596 bunches, and made 30 gallons of wine.

In 1859 he planted an Isabella slip which made the second season 594 feet of vine; and in the third season (1861) the vine contained 3,800 bunches. A single vine trained on the northeastern end of his house made 43 gallons of wine in 1861, for which he got \$80. He made that season 435 gallons from a square rod of ground. In 1862 he expected but half a crop and made 385 gallons. In 1863 he made 540 gallons. In 1864 his crop was not so large, the vines having been greatly damaged by the winter.

We have seen leaves of his vine so large that they could not be packed in a large cheese box without folding in the corners of the leaves. In 1860 we visited his vineyard, and on our return called upon Mr. Longworth and told the story of Mr. Glidden's grapes. That somewhat eccentric gentleman said at once, "I would not believe that if the king of France should tell it." On leaving, Mr. Longworth, knowing that we were going to Mr. Buchannon's, said, "Tell Robert that grape story." But we had only begun the story when Mr. Buchannon said: "I am prepared to believe it all, for I have just received a leaf from his vines."

But every one desires to know how Mr. Glidden has managed his grapes to secure such wonderful crops. We quote from the Intelligence:

HOW HE DOES IT.

Mr. Glidden lets his vines grow—make all the wood he can coax them to do—and then he "feeds" them to make them produce fruit—feeds them every day during the season.

His ground is the hard clay soil of the Ohio river bottom.

1. He makes it as rich as possible with stable manure, to the depth of 15 to 18 inches, mixing in lime to a considerable quantity, and sand enough to make the ground, after it is prepared, light and porous. His ground gives to the foot almost like a sponge.

2. He digs a trench 3½ feet deep by 3½ feet wide, throwing the prepared earth on the other; and sets in the trench the posts for an arbor. In the bottom of the trench he places bones from the slaughter house, to the depth of five or six inches; upon the bones he packs solid about 18 or 20 inches of stable manure, upon the top of which he puts the prepared earth, taken from the top of the trench in digging, and the clay from the bottom is spread over the surface of the ground.

3. He sets his plants. After that he never digs the ground, but applies all "feed" in a top-dressing.

4. In the case of bearing vines, every day when it does not rain the whole surface of the ground is freely sprinkled with water, from the time the grapes are formed until ripe. All the summer all his vines are fed with lime water, about two-thirds of a bucket full of lime to 80 gallons of water, and all the soap suds and all the dish water from the kitchen is fed to the vines. The heavy bunches are tied up with twine to support them.

5. He slips back the bearing branches, going over the vines about three times, to equalize their growth, lets them grow no longer than eight or ten inches, and keeps them there.

6. After bearing—at the proper season—he cuts off all the bearing branches smooth to the vines; the next year the bearing branches again shoot out at the same place. He then gives the whole surface of the ground a coating of manure, and sawdust on top of that.

7. The posts of his arbor (three or four inches square, planed and painted) are set about seven feet apart, the center of the trenches being about the same distance between; posts about seven feet high. Iron rods, round, one-fourth of an inch in diameter, run through the posts and along the top, about 15 inches apart, form-

ing the sides and top of the arbor. The vines run across the arbor on the top about six or seven inches apart. In bearing, the blue sky overhead is scarcely to be seen for the bunches of blue grapes. As the sun sets and shines in on the side of the arbor, mist can be seen falling from the vines almost like rain.

8. No mother ever nursed her child with more unwearied and tender care than does Mr. Glidden his grapes. But they repay all time, all care bestowed.

9. Mr. Glidden's grapes never blight or rot; never fall!—Cincinnati Gazette.

Osage Orange a Failure.—A correspondent of the RURAL, at Baldwinsville, N. Y., writes:—"I would like to inquire how to destroy, or get rid of the Osage Orange hedge, it having proved a failure with me. Have about a mile of it." We will wager that it is our correspondent, and not the Osage, that has proved a failure; for a man who was not a failure, would never ask such a question.

Horticultural Notes and Queries.

PLANTING OSAGE ORANGE.—I would like to inquire the right time and the best way to plant the seed and set out the cuttings of the Osage Orange.—Mrs. SARAH DAY, Polk Co., Iowa.

CAMELLIA FANNY SANCHELLI.—This charming white Camellia has been produced in Italy, from whence it has been received by the establishment of M. Verschaffelt. The flowers are of the purest white, slightly tinged with rose in the center, while some pretty rose spots are visible here and there. The petals are large, round, bl-lobed at the summit, and are placed with the most perfect regularity. The plant is of excellent habit, the foliage ample and of a fine green, and the flowers are produced in abundance.—Exchange.

RAISING PLANTS FROM CUTTINGS.—PETER HENDERSON of Jersey City, a noted propagator, gives a simple mode of raising plants from cuttings, such as roses, verbenas, carnations, etc., adapted to inexperienced cultivators, although not the mode used on an extended scale. A common flower-pot saucer, or even a common kitchen saucer or other dish, is filled with sand, and the cuttings thickly inserted in it. It is then watered until it becomes about as liquid as mud. The cuttings should of course be of green or unripened wood, three or four inches long, placed in a strong light in a room or green-house, kept in a temperature of 50 to 60 degrees, but the best at 70 to 75 degrees, allowed to remain from ten to twenty days till rooted, and the sand kept constantly in this semi-fluid state, for if they become partly dry they are ruined.

THE DELAWARE GRAPE FOR WINE.—After the close of the meeting of the Horticultural Society in Cincinnati, there was a meeting of the Wine Growers' Association, says the editor of the Ohio Farmer; the long table was over-filled with tasters, and the wines were superb. JOHN MOTTIER, the old wag, had placed on the table a sample of imported Johannisberg, which cost \$75 a dozen, and a sample of his Delaware vintage of 1864, and the marks of all the tasters were considerably higher for the young Delaware, than for the ripe Johannisberg! This was a big joke, but after it was known what he had been tasting, every one declared the marking was right, and upon my honor, says COL. HARRIS of the Farmer, I must say, never such Delaware moistened my lips before, and so young. Mr. MOTTIER has sold the entire vintage of 200 gallons at \$6 a gallon.

Horticultural Advertisements.

APPLE AND CHERRY SEEDLINGS FOR SALE by J. D. CONKLIN, Locke, Cayuga Co., N. Y.

FOR SALE—Three Thousand Doz Little Improved American Black Raspberry Plants at Godfrey Zimmerman's Nursery, at the corner of Niagara and Pearl St., Buffalo, N. Y. Address G. ZIMMERMAN, Buffalo, N. Y.

GRAPE VINES CHEAP FOR CASH. Concord, Diana and Hartford Prolific, 2 years old, \$10 per 100; 1 year old, \$8 per 100. Delaware, 2 years old, \$12 per 100; 1 year old, \$10 per 100. Logan and Taylor's, and Cassaday, 2 years old, \$8 per dozen. A. W. POTTER, Medina, Orleans Co., N. Y.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS BY EXPRESS.—Russell's Prolific and La Constant \$1.00; \$1.00. For \$15 I will send 1,000 Russell's Prolific, 1,000 La Constant, 200 Carter's Seedling, 200 Wren's Eliza, 200 Wm. H. Hartlett of Theory plants, of the best quality, true to name, and packed so that they will be received in good order. Address C. L. HOAG, Lockport, Niagara Co., N. Y.

NEW STRAWBERRIES OF 1864. Descriptive Catalogues mailed to all applicants. Also all the leading old varieties, at reasonable rates, including 20,000 WILSON'S ALBANY, 30,000 TROMPE D'EAU. Address EDWARD J. EVANS & CO., York, Pennsylvania.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.—Great inducements to Dealers and Planters. Every Plant Warranted true to name, and will during the balance of spring setting at the following rates: Russell's 100 for \$1; per 1,000 \$5. Smith's Buffalo Genuine, per 100, \$3; \$1,000, \$30. Iowa Grape Vines, No. 1, 1 year, \$2 each; \$2 doz., \$22. J. KEECH, Waterloo, N. Y.

CHEAP APPLE TREES.—Good Apple Trees \$10 per 100; smaller sizes, \$5 per 100. I will send to any address on receipt of price. Address A. M. WILLIAMS, Box 80, Syracuse, N. Y.

THE TRUE CAPE GOD CRANBERRY.—For Swamp Planting for Upland and Garden Culture, and for Swamps. Under my method of cultivation the yield last season on upland was over 400 bushels per acre. Explicit directions for cultivation, with prices of plants, with Nursery and Seed Catalogue complete, will be sent to any address. Agents wanted. Seeds prepaid by mail. B. M. WATSON, Old Colony Nurseries, Plymouth, Mass.

FRESH SEEDS OF ALL KINDS.—By mail, prepaid; also the New Strawberries, Grapes, Currants, &c. Price Descriptive List will be sent to any address. B. M. WATSON, Old Colony Nurseries, Plymouth, Mass.

BRILL & KUMERLE, SEED MERCHANTS, Growers, Importers, and Dealers in genuine Garden, Field and Flower Seeds. Also Trees, Vines, Shrubs, Plants, &c., &c. 153 Broad Street, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY. JOHN U. KUMERLE, Seedman. (Successor to the late Geo. C. Thornburn.) FRANCIS BRILL, Seed Grower and Nurseryman. N. B.—Seeds by mail, postage paid, on receipt of price. Catalogues gratis, by addressing as above. 755-13c.

RUSSELL'S Prolific STRAWBERRY. Strong plants, price \$10 per thousand, \$1.50 per hundred. And sent by mail, fifty plants, for one dollar; cash accompanying orders. Address GEORGE T. DEVEL, Agt., Red Jacket Vineyard, Waterloo, Seneca Co., N. Y.

500,000 CRANBERRY PLANTS for sale by GEO. A. BATES, Bellingham Mass. Send for Circular.

Domestic Economy.

VARIOUS RECIPES.

VERMICELLI.—Seeing an inquiry in the RURAL for a recipe to make vermicelli, I venture to send ours with a few others which we consider very good. Break an egg into a bowl, add a little salt, beat it a few moments, then add flour. Turn it on your moulding board, knead thoroughly, adding flour until it is as stiff as though intended for crackers. Roll out in three pieces to the thickness of wrapping paper. Spread on a cloth to dry for an hour. Place the sheets over one another, roll them into a roll and with a sharp knife cut it into fine threads. The beauty of your dish depends on the thinness of the sheets and the fineness of your threads. It can be dried to use at your convenience. Have nice beef broth seasoned with pepper, salt, saffron, celery, or a little parsley. Put in your vermicelli, boil five minutes, and you have a dish which the most fastidious epicure would relish.

EXCELLENT JOHNNY CAKE.—Two cups butter-milk, one egg, two tablespoonsful sugar, two tablespoonsful of melted lard, two cups of corn meal, one cup flour, one and a half teaspoonsful saleratus, crushed fine, and put in just before going to the oven.

TO TAKE GREASE OUT OF SILK AND CLOTH.—Put stone ammonia, the size of a walnut, into a basin with half a teacup soft boiling water; cover closely until dissolved. Bottle, and whenever used heat a little and apply with a brush or sponge.

FOR BURNS.—Put unslaked lime into water and apply to the burned parts every few moments. After the pain has left it, apply linseed oil and bandage with a soft linen cloth. Burns treated in this way leave no scars.

TO PREVENT BLACK YARN OR CLOTH FROM CROCKING.—Use your copperas in your dye, in small quantities, as it burns the goods. Just as soon as you take them from the dye have some strong hot lye in which to put them for fifteen or twenty minutes; stir them all the time. Wash and rinse thoroughly and they will never crock. E. M. W. Suspension Bridge, N. Y., 1865.

ANSWER TO DOMESTIC INQUIRIES.

BLACK SPOTS ON SILVER.—Can be removed by washing the ware with a saturated solution of cyanide of potassium, and this is to be washed off immediately with clear water. Cyanide of potassium can be procured of any druggist or photographer, it is a deadly poison, and should not be allowed to touch the hands or skin, nor should its fumes be breathed into the lungs.

TO COAT A BOOT SOLE WITH INDIA RUBBER.—Procure a thin sheet of rubber, similar to the upper of a rubber shoe, i. e., with thin cloth on one side, then rasp the boot sole rough, then apply some gutta percha with a moderately warm poker or soldering iron, this will soften and melt the gutta percha, spread it over the surface of the sole, and while sticky, put on the rubber, cloth side down, keep it until cold, then trim off the rubber. O. F. Q.

HOW TO MAKE GOOD BREAD.

A FRENCH contributor, M. Valliet, Madison county, Ill., sends the following recipe to the American Agriculturist, which we translate:—"Cook a handful of hops in a half gallon of water, until it is reduced to about half; pass the liquid through a sieve and turn, while hot, upon enough flour to make a thick porridge, and when nearly cool, add a pint of brewers' or other yeast, and set the vessel in a warm place until it rises. This yeast will be fit to use in about twelve hours; it should be put in a well closed jug and kept in the cellar. In using it, a pint should be kept, with which to make a new quantity when needed. To make bread take one pint of this yeast to ten pounds of flour, and with water and salt make a stiff dough, which should be well kneaded on a moulding-board. Let it remain ten or twelve hours (in a warm place in winter) or until it is well raised. Then take a piece of the dough of the size of an egg and roll into biscuits and place them in a pan so close that they will touch one another; let them remain to rise another hour and then place them in the oven. If these conditions are observed, with good flour, you will have light and spongy bread, and never sour, even when it has raised a little too much. If the flour is not good, still good bread may be made by using milk instead of water. In making new yeast, it is well to wash out the jug in order to avoid sourness. If preferred, the bread may be made into larger loaves.

ROUND CRACKERS.—Take one cup of sweet-cream, one cup water, one teaspoon salt, flour enough to make a stiff dough, roll in sheets one-fourth inch thick; do not bake too quick. I have used this recipe for some time and find it excellent.—W. R., Jerusalem, N. Y.

TO REMOVE STAINS FROM MARBLE.—A good general application is a mixture of an ox gall, a gill of soap lees, and half a gill of turpentine, made into a paste with pipe clay. Lay it on the marble; let it dry for a couple of days, then rub it off, and if not clean apply it a second or third time.

DOMESTIC INQUIRIES.

WANTED.—Recipes for making a cake without saleratus, a cake without eggs, cracker pills, and good, sharp, tip-top vinegar.—LYDIA.

KEEPING DRIED BEEF.—Will some of the readers of the RURAL tell me the best method of keeping dried beef through the summer?—S.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. WAITING FOR THE CHILDREN. BY ANNIE PALLEY BOLAN.

Soon shall I hear their pattering feet Coming in from the busy street, Soon I shall hear their voices sweet, Soon I shall smile their smiles to greet— Dear FANNIE and WILLIS and HORACE and MAY, HARRY and BEN—how they linger to-day.

These were my words in the long ago— Then in the freight's ruddy glow— Then I could smile, for 'twas mine to know— They would soon come in though they lingered so. Dear little children—happy at play— Tarrying long in the sweet summer day.

Then I could smile—but to-day I weep, For some of the children have gone to sleep, One lies where the waves of the ocean sweep, And one where the pennons of ivy creep— Far from their childhood's home away— HORACE and FANNIE are sleeping to-day.

There's a little grave near the garden gate, Where longest at evening the sunbeams wait, Where the stars smile early, and linger late— A dear little grave near the garden gate— 'Tis a treasured name on the marble stone, And MAY—little MAY is a vision flown.

The other children are stalwart men— Not fair and innocent—gay as then— The children—dear WILLIS and HARRY and BEN, But earnest and strong, and carrow men— Bowed with the weight of their years. To me They are but the children, I'm waiting to see.

And when to the homestead hearth once more They come and speak of their childhood o'er, I shall think of those who have gone before— The children who wait on the shining shore. I shall wait no more in that country fair Their coming—the children will all be there.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. SOCIAL SKETCHES—No. 4.

MISS LAZEE.

MISS LAZEE is an authoress. Miss LAZEE languishes in long curls and dirty fingers. Miss LAZEE is a poor housekeeper, and don't know that glass is transparent. Miss LAZEE is careless of her little obligations,—“forgetful of mundane things.” Miss LAZEE would esteem it “heavenly” to be cared for, even to the extent of having the necessary amount of bodily exercise done by proxy. Miss LAZEE thinks work vulgar. Miss LAZEE “adores” hair,—in the shape of a moustache. Miss LAZEE is “ecstatic” over brass,—in the shape of a shoulder-strap. Miss LAZEE is everybody's friend—particularly every gentleman's—and doesn't deny the soft impeachment of susceptibility. Miss LAZEE is poetical, and “worships” BYRON, and Byron collars. Miss LAZEE often figures in the “poet's corner” of the village newspaper. Miss LAZEE is always in pursuit of lions. She's in her glory when hanging on the arm of some (male) new-comer, and repeating to him, ad nauseam, the effusions of her muse. Miss LAZEE believes in phrenology. “The bigger the head, the bigger the brain-power,” is a favorite maxim with her. Miss LAZEE corresponds with all the great ones of earth. Her album is full of their cartes de visite, with their autographs. Miss LAZEE thinks lady friends “great bores,” and deems them wanting in that intellectual capacity which her companions should possess. Miss LAZEE “engineers” the village lyceum, and criticises the minister. Miss LAZEE seizes upon a lapsus lingue, and treats it as a delicious morsel, to be made the most of. Miss LAZEE paints, both her face and her canvass. She knows a daub from one of the old masters, and talks learnedly of “light and shade, &c.” Miss LAZEE has an eye for diamonds. If some itinerant barber should invest his earnings in a huge cluster ring, don the dress and address of a count, and visit our little village, Miss LAZEE would be the first to be smitten, and I should speedily be called upon to chronicle a “wedding in high life.” AUNT KATURAIL.

HOW LADIES SHOULD DRESS.

As you look from your windows, in Paris, observe the first fifty women who pass; forty have noses depressed in the middle, a small quantity of dark hair, and a swarthy complexion; but, then, what a toilet! Not only suitable for the season, but the age and complexion of the wearer. How neat the feet and hands! How well the clothes are put on, and, more than all, how well they suit each other!

Before American women can dress perfectly, they must have the taste of the French, especially in color. One reason why we see colors ill arranged is, that the different articles are purchased each for its own imagined virtues, and without any thought what was to be worn with it. Women, while shopping, buy what pleases the eye on the counter; forgetting what they have at home. That parasol is pretty, but it will kill, by its color, one dress in the buyer's wardrobe, and be suitable for the others. To be magnificently dressed costs money; but to be dressed in taste is not expensive. It requires good taste, knowledge and refinement. Never buy an article unless it is suitable to your age, habit, style and the rest of your wardrobe. Nothing is more vulgar than to wear costly dresses with a common delaine, or cheap lace with expensive brocades.

What colors, it may be asked, go best together? Green with violet; cold colors with dark crimson or lilac; pale blue with scarlet; pink with black and white, and gray with scarlet or pink. A cold color generally requires a warm tint to give life to it. Gray and pale blue, for instance, do not combine well, both being cold colors. White and black are safe to wear, but the latter is not favorable to dark or pale com-

plexions. Pink is, to some complexions, the most becoming; not however, if there is so much color in the cheeks and lips, and if there be even a suspicion of red in the hair or complexion. Peach color is perhaps one of the most elegant colors ever worn. Maize is very becoming, particularly to persons with dark hair and eyes. But, whatever the color or materials of the entire dress, the details are all in all; the lace around the bosom and sleeves, the flowers—in fact, all that furnishes the dress. The ornament in the hair must harmonize with the dress. If trimmed with black lace, some of the lace must be worn in the hair, and the flowers worn in the hair should decorate the dress.

WOMEN AND RELIGION IN WASHINGTON.

A WOMAN writing the Springfield Republican of the funeral of Senator Hicks in Washington, thus moralizes:—But, after all, pageantry of burial is of little worth, and it seems an unnatural manner of going to heaven by the way of a Washington hotel. Death and eternity are far off things here. The pressure and excitement of events, the crowding of sensuous allurement upon leisure moments, the utter absence of the tuning quiet of private, domestic life, tend to fasten the thoughts and desires upon things of time, to the putting out of sight of concerns whose issues are eternal. Christians come to Washington in official capacity, but of how much worth is the epistle of their daily lives?

I believe that a woman may dance and be fond of the drama and go to heaven; that a man may be a politician and love Christ; but such gregarious society as we have here always deals in extremes. Do we see Christian men and women oftener holding fast to their integrity, or being borne down by the stream? One does not publish and propagate a faith by tirades against so-called vanities, but rather by the appeal of a constant and beautiful living. Religion is not made enough a vitalizing sentiment of our daily lives. Its virtues are too little ingrained into our beings by constant reflection and practice. It is too much a holiday garment to be put on at will. We never tire of talking about things which pertain to the perishable body, but if we talk in a drawing-room of what concerns the welfare of the immortal soul, we are apt to do it in a whisper. True faith wraps about and keeps the soul like a sacred and lambent flame. It will not flourish without tender nursing. Our religious observances are the frame-work upon which we hinge our daily adorations. We cannot neglect them without spiritual harm. If we think too little of heaven we shall dwell too much on earth.

BEAUTY OF THE TURKISH WOMEN.

As to the beauty of mere dress and ease of attitude, nothing that I have seen in life or in pictures, can give the slightest idea of the wonderful grace, the extreme delicacy, and bird-of-paradise like uselessness of the Turkish belle. Women of rank look like hot-house flowers, and are really cultivated to the highest perfection of physical beauty, having no other employment but to make their skins as snow-white and their eyebrows as jet-black as possible. When young, their skin is literally as white as their veils, with the faintest tinge of pink on the cheek, like that in the inside of a shell, which blends exquisitely with the tender apple-leaf green, and soft violet colors, of which they are so fond. The reverse of the picture is, that after the first bloom of youth is past, the skin becomes yellow and sickly looking, and you long to give the yashmak a pull and admit a fresh breeze to brighten up the fine features. A belle, and a beauty, too, the Turkish woman must be; for nothing can be more wretched than to see the poor thing attempting to walk, or to make herself at all useful. She shuffles along the ground exactly like an embarrassed parrot, looking as if her loose garments must inevitably flutter off at the next step. The drapery which falls so gracefully and easily about her in a carriage, or while reclining on cushions, seems untidy and awkward when she is moving about. In fact, if she is not a beauty, and is not the property of a rich man, she is the most miserable-looking creature possible.—Lady Hornby.

FEMININE GOSSIP.

At a recent fashionable party in Troy—one of the most brilliant of the season—the invitations were given “from 8 to 12 o'clock,” and these sensible hours were rigidly adhered to.

Two young ladies sit cozily by a comfortable fire. The married one says:—“Whenever I want a nice snug fire, all to myself, I tell George my mother is coming, and then I see nothing of him until one o'clock in the morning.”

At a masquerade party the other night, Brother Jonathan, alluding to a young lady industriously at work knitting, asked “why she was like the capture of Fort Fisher to the rebels?” and explained, “Because she is a blessing in disguise.”

A BILL has passed both branches of Congress appropriating \$1,500 for Mrs. Lucy A. Wright, of Richmond, Va., for her courage and patriotic devotion in secreting Col. Streight and his party, and enabling them to make their escape from the rebels.

Mr. HUNT, in his lecture on common law, remarked, “that a lady, when she married, lost personal identity, her distinctive character, and was like a dewdrop swallowed by a sunbeam.” Snip says that thunder-cloud should be substituted for sunbeam in many instances.

ALPHONSO of Castile, who had a practical plan for regenerating mankind by killing nine out of ten, and was sure that if he had been consulted about the making of the world it would have been better made, disposes of woman in these words:—“She is a human being, who dresses, babies, and undresses.”

Choice Miscellany.

SOLDIER'S MONUMENTS.

THEY gathered by the quiet homes Where white stones overlain The portals whence no footstep comes That once has passed between, And raised a monument to keep A soldier's memory green.

The grass had not been touched by spade Where its slant shadow lay, The soldier's resting-place was made On red field far away. And yet with bowed, uncovered heads They knelt around to pray.

Thus did they consecrate the place To memory of that one. One? Why was there a vacant space Left ominous on the stone? They turned to each their asking eyes Who dared to look thereon.

That little town its willing score Of patriots had sent, And there was room for nineteen more Names on the monument. They only said, “Thy will be done,” And went their way content.

The graver came another day And cut a name beneath, And on the stone next morning lay Another dewy wreath; And pale forget-me-nots were there That sweeten even death.

So let the soldiers' monument In every grave-yard stand— Although their buried forms be blent With distant sea or sand— To keep their memory for aye Within a grateful land.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. WHAT IS TRUTH?

THE discussion in the RURAL on the subject of dancing and card-playing has not, I think, involved all the truth which is connected with the subject. The question should not be whether, in any manner you chose to view them, they are innocent or sinful, but what is their legitimate tendency? The approaches to almost every sin are so nearly parallel to virtue, that to characterize them as wrong has the effect to rob us of our influence, and place us in the company of croakers. But the partaking of an “innocent glass of wine” is acknowledged as one of the stepping-stones in the path of the drunkard, and if we accept the testimony of GREEN, the reformed gambler, learning to play a game of eucher paved the way for his fall.

That the constitution needs exercise and recreation, is a point admitted by all intelligent men, and many consider dancing as innocent and effective as any means by which these objects can be attained. And for Christians to deny its members this means for this end, is thought calculated to sour the minds of the young and indispose them to assume the yoke of CHRIST. But thinking men acknowledge that even lawful pleasures need restraint to prevent excess, and wisdom requires the choosing of those least liable to excess. I admit that “wink and catch 'em” is more childish than a well conducted dance, but a growing Christian will not choose either.

We know that the mind of man craves happiness, and like all other desires implanted in our breast, God has provided a reasonable gratification. And if we seek it in accordance with His direction, we shall be far more successful than if we selfishly grasp this object regardless of duty. Who is so happy as he who promotes the happiness of others? As the pleasures of childhood grow vain and insipid to the adult, so Christianity, embraced in its fullness and without compromise with sin, leads the mind higher, and still higher, till we lose our relish for mere worldly pleasures in possession of those far superior and more enduring. Many deny the existence of such joys because of the apostasy of some who once made a profession of religion. But the happiness of the Christian is progressive, and in proportion to his whole-hearted, uncompromising acceptance of truth and obedience to duty. Such Christians never apostatize, and no others can be accepted as competent witnesses. Science opens a boundless field of pleasure and profit for the mind of man, and there is no excuse for dallying in the flowery pathway of sin. A game of eucher may be good for the intellect, and in no way injurious save in its tendency to lead in the direction of the gaming table. The position for the Christian to assume is not that these things are sin, per se, but can we not lead the mind to choose those pleasures which satisfy our highest wants here on earth, and do not “at the last bite like a serpent and sting like an adder?” J. B. Spring, Pa., March, 1865.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. A NINE BALL.

Show your colors! Get off the top of the fence. Don't pray “Good Lord” and “Good Devil” in the same breath. If your heels and toes swing toward Dixie, set your face that way, too. Be one thing or another—loyal or disloyal; but don't be a go-between. One never knows where to hit these no-sided natures. We want to know where to send the olive-branch, and where to point the cannon. If you are an American, be one. Don't go strutting around in a coat from Paris, pantaloons from Germany, hat from Austria, and a walking stick from Pompeii, like an animated pudding-stone. If you are an Abolitionist, own it. I'm one—black as a thunder-cloud, and growing blacker every time a black regiment shows “victory.” If you are disloyal, own it, —'tisn't half so bad as serving the devil in Heaven's livery. If you love

your country you'll pray for her, work for her, die for her! There is no genuine patriotism on the Canada side, or in the payment of high bounties to hire foreign scum to don the glorious blue armor that none but lovers of America should wear. CHRIST said “who is not for us is against us,” and that contains the gist of the matter. I have some respect for an out-and-out enemy. But these slick, slimy, saintly sinners, who “smile to kill,” ought to be dissected, so one may know what is bone and what is muscle; and whether the pendulum that thumps under the left ribs, is a heart or a French gizzard. Be pro or con—milk or water—but don't mix. So much from MINTWOOD'S artillery. Selah.

Hilldale Farm, Tompkins Co., N. Y., March, 1865. Monday P. M., ten minutes after the departure of a French-kidded, English-broadclothed, Cologne-scented walking-apparatus, “who cannot find it in his heart to be able, really, to decide voting either way for the Constitutional Amendment.” Requisite: cat in netles.

OLD-FASHIONED COMFORTS.

OUR ancestors were a frugal, self-denying people, inured to hardships from the cradle; they were content to be almost without the luxuries of life, but they enjoyed some of its comforts, to which many of us are strangers, (old-fashioned comforts, we may say;) and among these the old fire-place, as it used to be termed, held no mean rank. How vividly the picture of one of those spacious kitchens of the olden time comes to our mind, with its plain furniture and sanded floor, innocent of paint, but as white as the neatest of housewives could make it! In one corner stood the clock, its very face wearing an aspect of good cheer, and seemed to smile benignantly upon a miniature moon over its head, which tradition said had, at a remote period, followed the rising and the setting of its great prototype in the heavens, though its days of active service were long ago over.

But the crowning glory of that kitchen was not its white sanded floor, nor the high desk, with its pigeon holes and secret drawers, which no venturesome youngster dared to invade; nor yet the old clock ticking so musically in the corner; but it was the old-fashioned fire-place, with its blazing embers, huge back-logs, and iron fire-dogs, that shed glory over the whole room, gilded the plain and homely furniture with its light, and rendered the place a type of true New England in “ye olden times.”

Never were there such apples as those which swung around and around upon strings before the bright fire of a winter's evening, never such baked potatoes as those buried deep in the ashes upon the hearth, never such corn-cakes as those which caught golden hue from the blazing embers, or turkey like those turned upon a spit, filling the room with savory odors so suggestive of a dainty repast.

Before the fire was a wooden settee, and here the children were wont to sit in the long evening telling stories, cracking nuts, conning their lessons for the morrow, or listening in silence to the words of wisdom that fell from the lips of their superiors, and anon gazing in silence into the fire, and conjuring up all sorts of grotesque, fanciful images from among the burning coals. No fabled genii, with magic lamp of enchantment, could build such gorgeous palaces, or create such gems as the child could discern amid the blazing embers of the old-fashioned fire-place.

And we must not neglect the chimney corner, where sat our grandfather in his accustomed seat, his hair silvered by the snows of many winters—a venerable man, to whom age had come “frostily but kindly,” and whose last days were like those of an Indian summer, serene and beautiful, even till the stars appeared in heaven.

How pure was the air in those days! The huge fire-place, with its brisk draught, carried off the impurities of the atmosphere, and left it pure, life-giving, and healthful. Now, we crouch around hot cooking stoves, and think it strange that we feel so stupid and drowsy of an evening; or we huddle about air-tight stoves, and wonder that the air seems burned and impure; or we sit down in chilly rooms heated by a furnace, and marvel that with all our costly furniture, soft carpets, bright mirrors, and damask curtains, they are cheerless places—so unlike our ideas of a New England home.

Alas! that with all the so-called improvements of our advanced civilization, the fire should be permitted to go out forever in our old-fashioned fire-places, thus, burying in the ashes of the past so many means of health, home comfort, good cheer, and happiness.—Scientific American.

RESPECT THE AGED.

MANY an old person has the pain—not bodily, but sharper still—of feeling himself in the way. Some one wants his place. His very chair in the chimney corner is grudged him. He is a burthen to son or daughter. The very arm which props him is taken away from some productive labor. As he sits at the table, his own guests are too idle or to unkind to make him a sharer in their mirth. They grudge the trouble of that raised voice which alone could make him one of them; and when he speaks it is only to be put aside as ignorant, or despised as old-fashioned and obsolete. O, little do younger persons know their power of giving pain or pleasure! It is a pain for any man still in this world to be made to feel that he is no longer of it—to be driven in upon his own little world of conscious isolation and buried enjoyment. But this is his condition! And if any fretfulness or querulousness of temper has aggravated it—if others love him not because he is not amiable—shall we pity that condition the less? Shall we upbraid it with that fault which is itself the worst part of it?—Selected.

Sabbath Musings.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. MUSINGS.

BY MARGARET ELLIOT.

SILENT sat I and alone— God had taken all my own.

All grief's curtains dark I spread, And in sackcloth veiled my head, Least some light with woful smart Should reveal my empty heart.

In the silence and the gloom, Lo! a voice within my room.

And it said “O soul, arise And look upward to the skies!”

But I plead with bitter cry, “In this darkness let me lie!

“All my life is wrapped in gloom, Let me shroud it in this tomb.”

Still it said “O soul, arise, And look upward to the skies!”

Then I rose up, sad and slow, Lifting up my face of woe,

Lo! a ray of light divine Shone through this dark heart of mine.

Then I saw the matchless love That would draw my heart above—

And I heard sweet songs afar Echoing through the radiant air.

March, 1865.

HOW TO SPEND THE SABBATH.

RISE early. God requires one-seventh part of your time. The Sabbath is just as long as any other day. If you indulge in sleep Sabbath mornings one or two hours later than usual, you rob God and your own soul of so much holy time; and if you begin the day by robbing God, you cannot expect he will bless you.

Pray for your minister; he will then preach better, and you will be better prepared to profit by his preaching. He needs your prayers. He tasked his energies to prepare good sermons to interest and instruct you. Exhausted by the labors of the week, and trembling under his awful responsibility, he will be cheered and encouraged if he believes he is remembered in your prayers.

Pray that the preaching may be blest to your soul. He is a foolish man who sows his seed before he breaks up the soil. You are more foolish if you expect a blessing without asking for it, or preparing your heart to receive it. If a blessing is not worth asking for, do not complain if it is not bestowed.

Do not indulge in secular conversation. To spend the interval between the services of the sanctuary in talking about business, or pleasure, or politics, is not remembering the Sabbath-day to keep it holy. If you spend your intermission in this manner, you must not wonder if in the afternoon you feel sleepy, and the preacher seems dull.

Banish worldly thoughts. You must not, on the Sabbath, “think your own thoughts.” If your thoughts are allowed to wander unrestrained over the business of the past week, or the plans of the week to come, you will suffer for it. God will leave you in darkness; your love will be cold, your prayers formal, and you will be disqualified to engage profitably in the services of the sanctuary.

Do not criticise the performances of your minister. If he has preached a poor sermon, make the best of it; if a good one, be thankful and improve it. Your praise or censure can do no good, either to him or yourself, but may do hurt to both. You will profit far more by praying over the sermon, and applying it to yourself, than by criticising it.

Spend every Sabbath as though it were your last. Your last Sabbath will soon come. Perhaps the next will be your last. Spend it then as you will wish you had done when you review it millions of ages hence. If you knew it would be your last, you would be much in prayer, you would banish worldly thoughts and conversation, you would meditate much on Divine things, and examine the foundation of your hope for eternity. Do this, and your Sabbath will not be spent in vain.

THE BEAUTY OF TRUTH.

How often is a stigma cast upon Christianity because the veracity and moral integrity of its professors are so often called into question. Unfair, indeed, you will say, to blame Christianity for its counterfeiters; as well cast away good bank notes, because there are some counterfeiters of them. Yes, and not only unfair, but looked at thoughtfully, after all, an unconscious compliment to Christianity, for the stigma implies that these men are not embodiments of the glorious creed they profess. We turn from the false copies to the fair and Divine original: how refreshing and stimulating to study His character, who came to bear witness to the truth, and in whose mouth was no guile! Beautiful words these—NO GUILE—nothing even susceptible of mistake, or designed to conceal. How clearly He declares, when speaking of the rest of heaven, “If it were not so, I would have told you”—implying that truth would have obliged him even to correct their anticipations, if false, as well as to unfold the revelation of eternal life. Think of Him in the busy scenes of the market and the temple, sitting at the Pharisee's banquet, and eating at the publican's table, yet ever and always revealing hidden hypocrisy and interpreting the sincere sigh for forgiveness and peace. True in what he said; true in what he threatened; true in what he promised; true in what he corrected; true in what he revealed. The Way; the Truth. “In Him was light, and the light was the light of men.”—Selected.

Rural Architecture.

PREMIUM PLAN OF BARN FOR GRAIN, HAY, HORSES, CATTLE AND SHEEP.

As this is the season for planning and erecting farm buildings, and as we have frequent inquiries on the subject, we again re-publish the Premium Plan of a Barn first given in our tenth volume—1859.

This plan was awarded the first premium (\$25,) among the large number sent in by competitors for the prizes we offered in 1858, and we regard it as one of the best, if not the best, ever published. Some of our readers say it ought to be re-published annually. As we said on its first

shown in the plans, but the reasons therefor will be given as we ascend from the

Foundation.

The excavation of the whole structure, including that in the yard, is, at the south-west corner, about three feet in depth, and graded to a slope of one in forty; the natural slope, being one in ten, as shown in dotted lines on the section plan. The earth excavated was placed in the approach to the doors, on the west, as shown above the dotted line. A trench was excavated three feet wide and one foot below grade, and filled with broken stone, that served as a drain, upon which the foundation rests.

The foundation walls are built of good quarry stone, laid in lime mortar, with a balance slope, as shown in section; the west one seven, and

bushels. The bottom of the bins slope toward the main floor, and are ten inches above it. This admits of the drawing of the grain into the half bushel with ease, or of emptying a whole bin upon the floor in a few minutes, if it were required. The bins have a free circulation of air on every side, and no sight for a mouse to get a foothold, except on the covers, in plain sight of any who happen to be on the main floor.

The main floor is of spruce, 1 1/2 inches thick, laid upon inch hemlock. It is tongued and grooved, and the end joints sawed with a double bevel, to prevent any springing of the end, as seen in fig. 1. The floor is 40x41 feet surface, and has nothing to break bulk in any direction. That portion between the doors is calculated to have grain mowed upon it, and is furnished with

which throws almost the entire weight of the structure and its contents upon the outer walls. Its stability depends upon the strength of the suspension rods, and the longitudinal strength of the timber. The braces in every case are as long as they could be used, and placed in gables

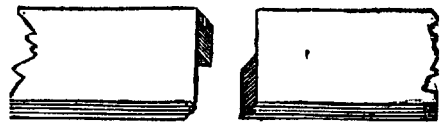


FIG. 1.—SHOWING END JOINTS OF FLOORING. at the ends, and are not morticed, but heavily nailed.

When any of the timber needed splicing to increase its length; if it was soft wood it was put together on the double bevel principle, B; if hard wood, it was done on the ship-lap "gain and key plan," A, as shown in accompanying illustration.

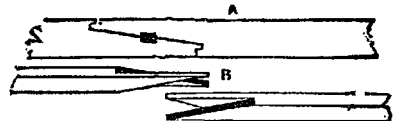


FIG. 2.—HARD AND SOFT WOOD SPLICE.

The Timber is usually small for such a building, but its strength is amply sufficient. The girts to which the siding is nailed, being only three feet from center to center, render it, with its thorough bracing, almost as inflexible as iron. The Siding is pine, planed, matched, and afterwards battened and painted.

two Ventilators on Emerson's Plan, with ornamental brackets, figure 6. This portion of the roof is covered with Russell's Patent Roofing, laid upon inch hemlock, well nailed to joists 2 by 12 inches. The slope from the center is only four inches each way, but water runs from it readily, and from its exposed situation snow cannot accumulate in winter.

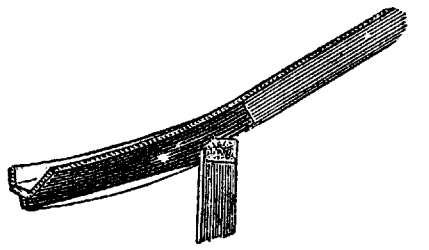


FIG. 7.—MAIN CORNICE.

The other portions of the roof are of spruce shingle, laid upon inch hemlock, with a steep pitch for the greater part of its length, and curves out at the eaves to give a greater projection from the building with the same amount of roofing, and give a finished look to the design, as seen in figure 7.

The eave-troughs are built with the other portions of the roof, and form the cornice. The conductors from the cornice form an ornamental bracket, and running down the corner, give an additional finish.

The barn has a projection, as seen in figure 8, and also in the elevation, that not only adds to the finish of the siding, but protects the masonry.

The approach to the doors on the west is graded to a rise of one foot in ten, and extends to within eight feet of the main building. The protection wall is about four feet in height and two feet thick, sloping against the bank.

The area between the protection wall and the building is bridged, giving a free circulation of air to the basement, as seen in the sectional drawing. The cost of the entire structure was about \$1,200.

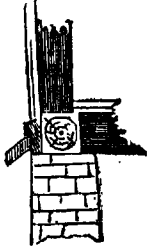
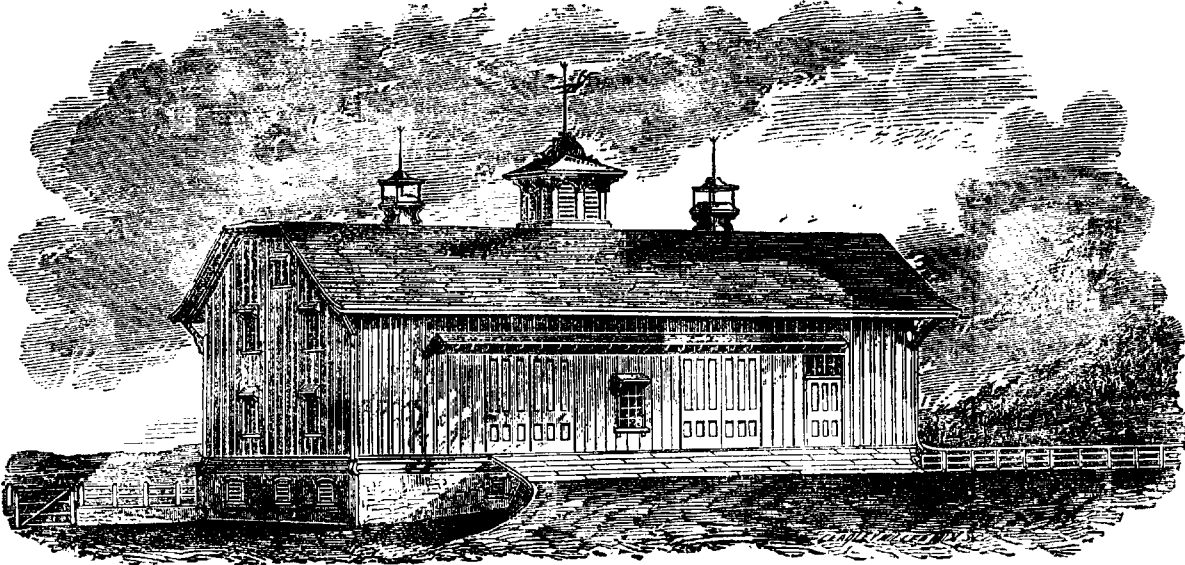


FIG. 8.—WATER TABLE.



PREMIUM PLAN OF BARN—PERSPECTIVE VIEW.

publication, it is truly a Premium Barn, and no one can study its internal arrangement, or mode of construction, without profit. A similar plan, with drawings and description, so complete, would, of course, involve no little expense, if procured of an architect. Though it may not be exactly adapted to their wants and circumstances, those about to build barns cannot fail of deriving valuable suggestions from this excellent plan:

H. Sweet & Sons' Premium Barn—Description.

Our farm contains 165 acres, including woodland, and is situated in Pompey, Onondaga Co., a little north of the dividing ridge which separates the waters of the Susquehanna from the

east one eight feet above grade. The west one is pierced by four windows three feet square; the east one being merely returns four feet in length; the remainder being open space, or wood upon a low wall, but above the reach of manure, rendering it as easy of ventilation as if it were not a basement. The south wall is backed by earth five feet, the west three feet, and the north two feet; the east being entirely above grade.

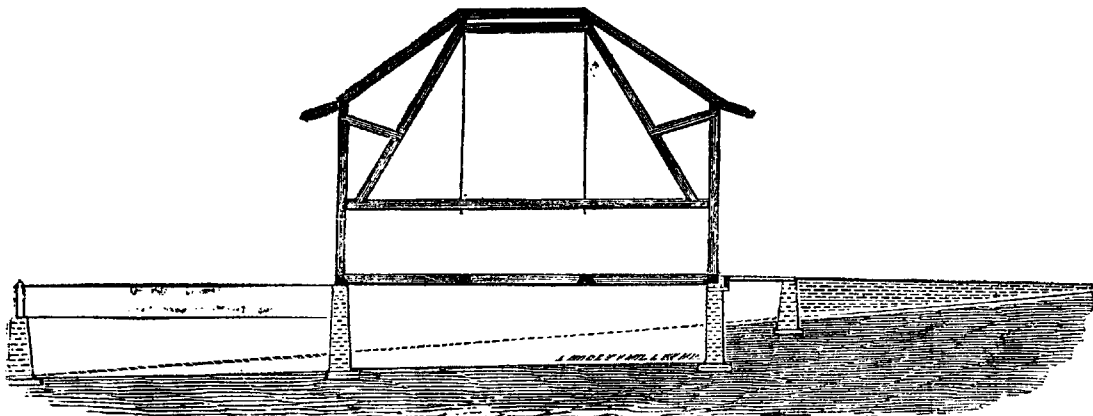
Basement.

The north end of basement is occupied by a Bay for hay, that extends to the top, seventeen feet in width, and has a cubic capacity of about 23,000 feet. South of this, and entirely across

an extra movable floor, that is inserted after the grain is thrashed, to hold the straw above, thus giving great room below, which is often required in thrashing clover seed. On the north-east corner of the floor is a stairway to the cow-stable below. This room is lighted by three windows on the east and one on the west, with two large single rolling doors on the west.

Second Floor.

The second floor, accessible by stairs from the horse-stable, is tight over the stable and grain bins, but is movable over all other parts. It has a cubic capacity of about 40,000 feet, and is calculated for hay, grain, clover seed and straw. When that portion of the main floor before



TRANSVERSE SECTION.

St. Lawrence, about 1,750 feet above the level of the sea, in a naturally bleak position, subject to heavy winds from any quarter.

The farm has been devoted for the last sixty years to grain and stock-raising, and to meet its wants there had been built, in a group, one barn 30x64, one 30x40, a horse-stable between the two 16x46, and an open shed 16x80, with a space above for hay. They were of the usual construction, upon good foundations of stone laid in lime mortar. The site they occupied was as near upon the crest of the hill as could be; the ground descended naturally from the yard in three ways. On the first of May, 1857, they were destroyed by fire.

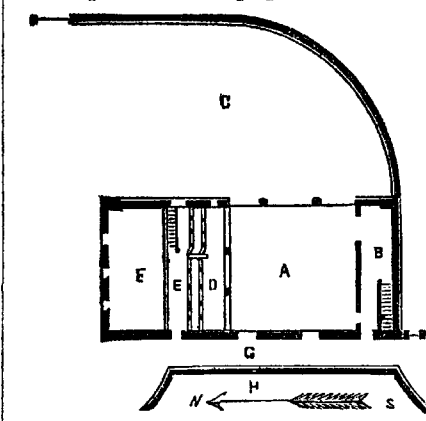
The first requirement with us was, where shall we put a new one?—for we were still aware that

the building, is the cattle-stable, sixteen feet in width, including the passage and stairway to the floor above. Next is the open shed, 32x40 feet, with nothing to obstruct communication with the yard, except two cast iron columns, that support sills above; easily ventilated at any time through the windows on the west, and capable of receiving, with plenty of spare room, a ten horse-power to do the thrashing above on a rainy day, should circumstances require it. Next, south, is a tool-room for heavy tools, or such as are not often used; wagons in winter and sleighs in summer, plows, harrows, drills, roller, reaper, &c., with stairway to stable above.

First Floor.

The horse-stable, which occupies the south end, is eighteen feet in width, and divided into

spoken of, is used as a mow, the capacity of the barn is increased about 4,000 cubic feet. This entire space is only broken by six braces, eight inches square—so near perpendicular as not to



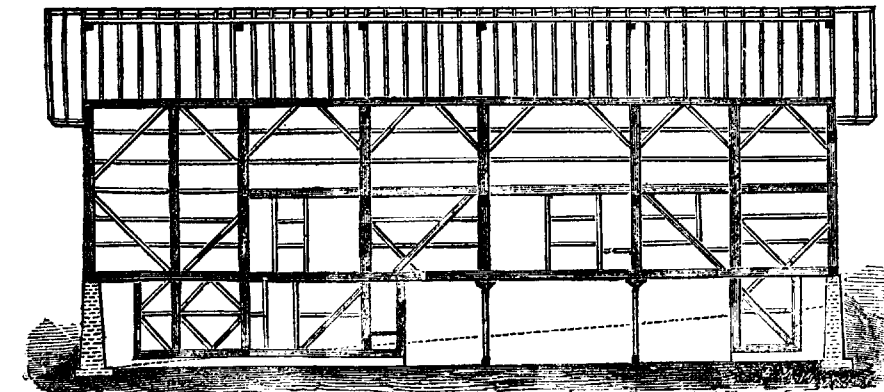
BASEMENT.

- A. Open Shed.
- B. Tool Room.
- C. Stock Yard.
- D. Stabling.
- E. Passage.
- F. Bay.
- G. Area.
- H. Approach Embankment.

interfere with the settlement of grain or hay—and six rods 1 1/2 inches in diameter and perpendicular. The cupola through which access is had to the roof is reached from below, and is the central ventilator to the building.

Frame.

The carpentry is of the style used in modern bridge building, and is upon the truss principle,



LONGITUDINAL SECTION.

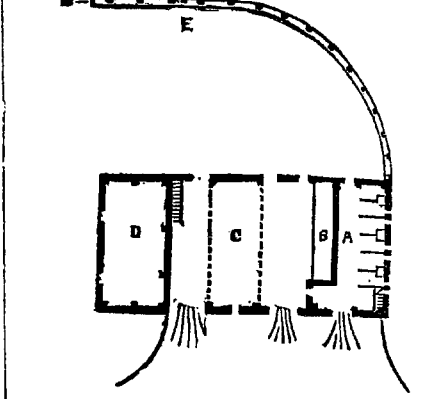
one good big one was better than six small ones. We selected a site further from the dwelling than before, on land that sloped to the north-west, about one foot in ten, a little east of the summit of the ridge, where the water naturally runs to the west and north-east. The reasons for selecting were, that the earth excavated might be used in the approach upon the west, and thus make the water run from the barn in every direction, and save making deep excavation.

The next item in consideration was its size. This we determined by counting the cubic contents of the old ones, and adopted 40x80, and nineteen feet above the basement, with a truss frame and flat roof.

We next considered its internal arrangements. We needed a Grain, Hay, Horse, Cattle and Sheep Barn, the details of which are clearly

stalls of equal capacity, and one of ten feet, into which a team coupled can be easily driven in case of necessity. A stairway leads to floor above, and a place for harness. The forage for horses is put into tubes above, about two by three and a half feet square, one tube furnishing two horses, who draw it from the bottom, and eat more, as nature designed them to do, than is usual. The floor is double, and is made tight with tar and lime, which makes a cement that is impervious to water, as well as a preserver of wood. The manure is dropped through a trap-door to shed below, and mixed with that of the sheep and cattle.

The grain bins are next-north of the stable, and form part of the partition between the stable and main floor. They are four feet in width, and have a capacity for five hundred



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR.

- A. Horse Stable.
- B. Grain Bins.
- C. Barn Floor.
- D. Bay.
- E. Stock Yard.

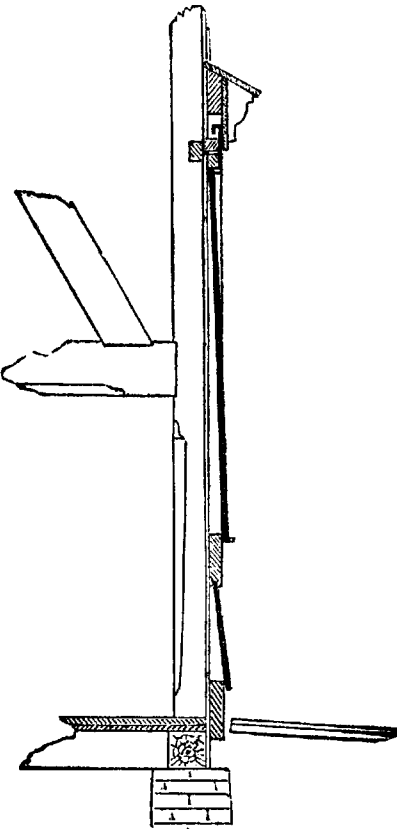


FIG. 3.—SECTION OF ROLLING DOORS.

The Doors are of pine, and hung on rollers at the top. The frames are two inches thick, put together with iron bolts that run the whole width.—The panels are an inch thick, fitted into a groove at the top, but outside of the rail at the bottom, as seen in fig. 3, causing all water to flow from them, and yet have the appearance of a panel door.

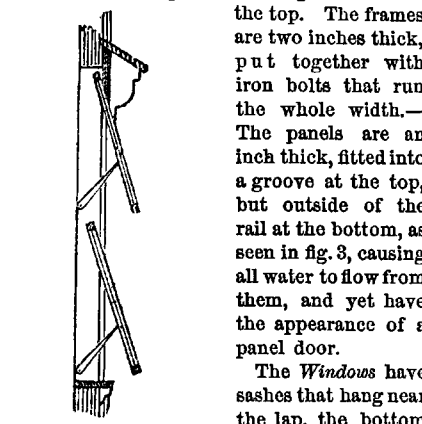


FIG. 4.—SEC. OF WINDOW. The Windows have sashes that hang near the lap, the bottom pushing outwards, as shown in figure 4, and are glazed. They have to be fastened open, but they fasten themselves shut.

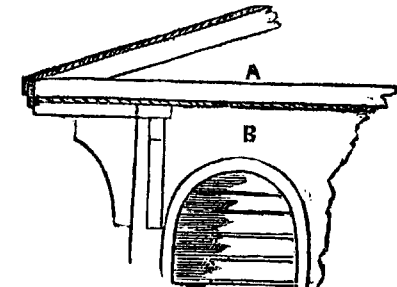


FIG. 5.—CUPOLA AND CORNICE.

The roof is nearly flat on the top for fourteen feet, sloping seven each side of the center—surmounted by a Ventilating Cupola, (figure 5,) and

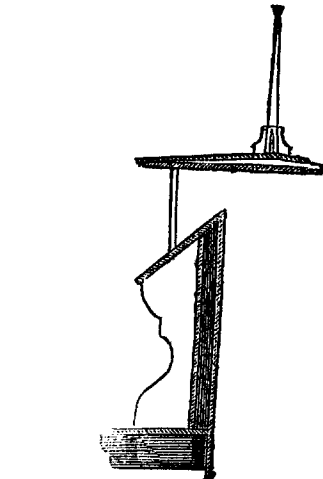


FIG. 6.—VENTILATOR.

Reading for the Young.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. A CHILD'S PRAYER.

God my Father, God my Friend,
Now to Thee my knees I bend,
Praying that for Jesus' sake
From my heart all sin thou'lt take.

If I wake with morning's light,
Keep me pure and good and right;
If on earth I never wake,
Up to heaven my spirit take. M. D. L.

BEWARE OF THE CURRENT.

Oh, youth, beware of the current—
The current of folly and sin;
Approach not its farthest circle,
Lest you reach the abyss within;
For worse than the shriek of the dying
That rings from the Norway coast
Is the wail of a perishing human soul,
At last and forever lost.

A HAPPY HOME.

WHAT a sweet picture is that of a happy home and a fond domestic circle! Thousands of such may be found in this Christian land. We will try to tell our young readers what are the principal things which make home happy.

First of all is Piety. The love of God and constant endeavors to keep his commandments, an humble trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, and a good hope through his grace of a celestial home hereafter—these tend, to smooth away all the troubles of life and to brighten all its enjoyments.

Next comes mutual Affection. This helps to suppress every unkind word and action, and makes each member of the family anxious to regard the wishes and promote the happiness of every other. Love is better than sunshine in any dwelling, far better than costly furniture, or fine clothes, or plenty of money.

Thirdly, in every house where there are children, comes a respectful and obedient demeanor on the part of the children toward all who are older than themselves, and especially toward their parents. Such a demeanor leads children to be regarded as ornaments and comforts to society; otherwise they are likely to be considered as plagues and nuisances.

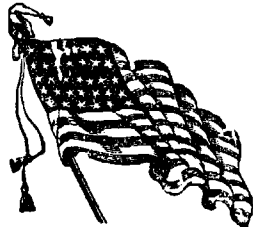
Fourthly, a love of reading. How pleasant to fill up the leisure hours, and especially long winter evenings with loud reading! Thus the whole family may share the pleasure of reviewing the history of other times or joining in a common excursion to other lands, and all are furnished with food for reflection and subjects for conversation.

All these sources of indoor enjoyments are almost equally within the reach of the rich and the poor, of families in the city or country. Let each one of our readers try to do what he can to make his own a happy home.

HOW A CLERGYMAN CURED HIS APPETITE FOR TOBACCO.—I had a deep well of very cold water, and whenever the evil appetite craved indulgence, I resorted immediately to fresh-drawn water. Of this I drank what I desired, and then continued to hold water in my mouth, throwing out and taking in successive mouthfuls until the craving ceased. By a faithful adherence to this practice for about a month I was cured, and from that time to this have been entirely free from any appetite for tobacco.—Med. and Sur. Reporter.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



"Who said that the stars on our banner were dim— That their glory had faded away? Look up and behold! how bright through each fold They are flashing and smiling to-day!"

ROCHESTER, N. Y., APRIL 15, 1865.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE BATTLES BEFORE PETERSBURG.

FROM the voluminous accounts of the late brilliant achievements of our armies in the vicinity of Petersburg, we give as full details as the space allotted to the news department permits. It appears that our army first made a movement on Wednesday, the 29th ult., and that skirmishing soon commenced in different parts of the extended lines of the Armies of the James and Potomac, and continued during Thursday, especially with the forces directly under the command of Gen. Sheridan. On Friday, Gen. Sheridan's command with Gen. Warren's corps, (the 5th,) had a severe encounter with the rebels in the neighborhood of Dinwiddie Court House, in which our troops lost 2,000 men, though the enemy were driven from the field. Sheridan and Warren immediately entrenched their positions. The cavalry command of General Sheridan was divided into two corps, one under the command of Gen. Custar, and the other under Gen. Devin. There were two other large bodies of cavalry which were not directly under Gen. Sheridan during the fight of Friday, as well as Warren's 5th corps, which created confusion. Gen. Grant, not being satisfied with the operations, gave Sheridan, Friday night, the entire command of Warren's corps and all the cavalry.

At daybreak on Saturday morning, Sheridan fired four guns as the signal to begin the day's work, and immediately thereafter the cavalry began to move. The rebels were soon attacked in their intrenchments first with cavalry, and then with infantry. The scene is described as perfectly awful at times. Many charges with the bayonet were made, and each army, during the whole day, appeared to realize the important results which a victory or defeat would bring. The rebels fought like fiends—as though Richmond must fall in case of defeat—as though they were the pillars upon which rested the last arch of the crumbling and tottering "Confederacy." More than thirty thousand men were surging to and fro—on horseback, on foot—in and out of the intrenchments—in hand to hand struggles with bayonet and saber, and then with the unerring rifle at long and short range.

By a stratagem of Sherman, a large body of rebels, toward evening, were flanked, driven like a flock of sheep into a large barn door—surrounded on all sides by impregnable walls except at the place of entrance. And here, the door was soon closed by several thousand infantry, who charged like a descending avalanche into the very faces of the astonished rebels,—they had been entrapped,—they must surrender or fight to the death!

At seven o'clock the rebels came to the conclusion that they were whipped or soon would be. They had been so busily engaged that they were a long time finding out how desperate were their circumstances; but now, wearied with persistent assaults in front, they fell back to the left only to see four close lines of battle waiting to drive them across the field, decimated. At the right, the horsemen charged them in their vain attempt to "fight out," and in the rear, straggling foot and cavalry began to assemble; slant fire, cross fire and direct fire, by file and volley, rolled in perpetually, cutting down their bravest officers and strewing the fields with bleeding men; groans resounded in the intervals of exploding powder, and to add to their terror and despair, their own artillery, captured from them, threw into their own ranks, from its old position, ungrateful grape and canister, enfilading their breastworks, whizzing and plunging by air-line and ricochet, and at last, bodies of cavalry fairly mounted their intrenchments and charged down the parapet, slashing and trampling them, and producing inextinguishable confusion. They had no commanders, at least no orders, and looked in vain for some guiding hand to lead them out of a toil into which they had fallen. A few more volleys, a new and irresistible charge, a shrill and warning command to die or surrender, and with a sullen and fearful impulse, five thousand muskets are flung upon the ground, and five thousand rebels are Sheridan's prisoners of war.

In this fight the rebels must have lost, all told, not less than 10,000 men! Gen. Sheridan reports his own loss at only 1,500 men. This includes killed, wounded and missing. The Herald's correspondent has the following account of operations on Sunday, in front of Petersburg: At midnight, Saturday, Gen. Wilcox had orders to demonstrate on the right of the line so as to draw the rebels from the left preparatory to operations in that quarter. The next morning, Admiral Porter and all the artillery in the works on the right were also set to work. Wilcox's skirmish line was advanced and some sharp volleys of musketry were heard, indicating that they were at work. Amid the noise and smoke the skirmishers

pushed on, until reaching the outskirts of Petersburg, when they met a heavy body of rebels advancing upon them. A brisk engagement followed, but our numbers were so small that we were compelled to withdraw. Wilcox then got orders to attack Fort Mahone on the left. He massed a column for the purpose.

While this was being done, similar dispositions were making further to the left, and a system of cannon signals had been agreed upon to fix the moment for starting, that all might start simultaneously. Owing to a mist which hung over the field, the preparations had been concealed from the enemy.

At 4 o'clock the signal was given. The men advanced quietly and in perfect order, with fixed bayonets. They were accompanied by a detachment of heavy artillery, prepared to turn and work the enemy's guns.

Presently musketry was heard, and the rebel picket line was reached. Now a heavy cheer, followed by a roar of musketry. The cheering and musketry firing is taken up and run along to the left until it is lost in the distance.

Instantly the artillery on both sides is at work, and 200 big guns belch forth their thunder. But the work is quickly done.

Harriman of the 37th Wisconsin, acting Brigadier, gives orders to "Charge bayonet, double quick—charge!" and away the noble fellows went over breastworks, rifle pits, abatis, chevaux de frize and the parapet of the fort into the main works, and the deed is accomplished. For one moment the thunder-struck rebels looked, and then took to flight, but our fellows were too quick for all of them, and captured 250. Nine guns were found in the fort and quickly trained and set at work annoying the rebel batteries. This, with the simultaneous operations further to the left, cut the rebel line in two, took from them a commanding position, and a large amount of valuable artillery.

Scarcely were we quiet in possession of the first, when the rebels, having organized their forces and picked up some re-enforcements, came up with a determined effort to retake it. They made a most desperate assault, standing up manfully against terrific discharges of grape and canister and withering volleys of musketry, but it was to no purpose.

Four times during the day did they attempt to retake this important position, but were each time sent reeling back in disorder, losing heavily each time.

It was in one of these assaults that the rebel Gen. A. P. Hill lost his leg, seeking in person to lead his men up to the work. He died soon after. Meantime the 6th and 24th corps, having broke through the rebel lines in their front, were swinging around to their rear, and were coming down both upon their rear and flanks. It was evident Petersburg was lost to the rebellion.

The movements of the 6th corps were so rapid that Gen. Lee himself narrowly escaped capture. As it was, his headquarters fell into our hands.

The Tribune's correspondent recounts the operations on our left.

At 4:30 Sunday morning, the 6th corps left their lines to attack the enemy's left centre. It moved in echelon so as to enable the corps to throw forward its left, and flank the works of the enemy one after another. Soon a battery of four guns opened upon the division, but by rapid charging of the first brigade it was immediately captured.

The batteries of the enemy now opened from every point, but on went our gallant braves.

The left soon reached some works in their front, and one by one they fell into our hands. At 1:30 A. M., a grand picture of war presented itself. The line of the corps with its left in advance, was sweeping on towards two heavy forts. The rebels plied their guns vigorously, and shells burst thickly over our lines. On pushed the left division, until it struck the Southside Railroad, and against the two forts sweeps the 2d division.

Our artillery played upon the forts from commanding positions incessantly, until our men were close up to them. Then a dash was made upon the works, but it was repulsed. Again it was tried, and this time with success, but so resolute were the rebels inside that some of them used the bayonet for a short time.

As these works fell into our hands a loud cheer rent the air, and the enemy were seen hastily retiring to their second line, which opened sharply in an effort to stay our advance.

About this time Sheridan appeared on the field, and was received with loud cheers by the 6th corps, who look up to him with great respect. At this moment, too, our entire line was changing its long front to the right, and slowly before it the broken line of the enemy was falling back upon the rear defenses.

Against the line to which they fell back a heavy force was now pitted, composed of parts of the 24th, 6th and 25th corps, and nearly all fresh troops.

A lull took place when the force was ready to move, and it was plain that a distinct action was to be fought. Dusk stole over the scene, and the attack was deferred for the next day.

While the above fighting was taking place, the 5th corps, and cavalry, under Gen. Sheridan, turned the right wing of the rebel army, taking from 4,000 to 5,000 prisoners.

The 2d corps, connecting with the right of the 5th, was also victorious, notwithstanding they had, perhaps, the roughest ground to fight over, and a brave and determined foe in the rebel 3d corps.

The line of defenses in front of the 9th corps was stronger than at any other point. It delivered many assaults during the day and suffered severely. At night it found itself up close to the main line of defenses, but unable to go further. The first division of the 10th corps aided the 9th in several charges.

The Herald's correspondent says:—Throughout the early part of the night, operations were confined to skirmishing, but a few minutes after

twelve o'clock the rebels advanced, making a demonstration upon our center. It was of short duration, and easily repulsed.

Then followed a season of stillness, with orders for the strictest vigilance. The orders were that if the rebels started to go we were to follow after them, and they did go at three o'clock, our skirmishers in pursuit, occupying their main line. Orders were then given for an immediate advance, and at four o'clock we were in Petersburg.

[The Mayor met the troops as they entered the city, and formally surrendered up the "keys" to the commanding officer.]

The loss of the rebels in men from the commencement of the movement on the 29th ult., to the evacuation of Petersburg on the morning of the 3d inst., is computed at fully 40,000!—25,000 being prisoners! Gen. Grant, on the 4th inst., reported that his whole loss in the recent operations, in killed, wounded and captured, would "not, probably, reach 7,000, of whom 1,500 to 2,000 were captured, and many but slightly wounded."

THE EVACUATION OF RICHMOND.

At about three o'clock A. M., on the third inst., it became evident to General Weitzel, in command of a portion of "the Army of the James," a few miles from Richmond, that the rebels had evacuated the city, and he telegraphed to Gen. Grant for instructions. Gen. Grant was satisfied that the rebels had left the defenses, and authorized Gen. Weitzel to take possession of the town. Maj. Stevens of the 4th Mass. cavalry, and forty men, accompanied by Maj. Graves of the General's staff, were immediately sent on a tour of observation. Within two miles of Richmond they met a carriage, the driver of which was waving a white flag. The carriage contained the Mayor of Richmond and several other rebel dignitaries, who bowed in submission to the agents of "Uncle Sam," and the Capital of Rebellion ceased to be what it had been for four years—the nest of the vilest and most ungrateful scoundrels that have existed since the days of Danton and Robespierre.

The Arch-Rebel, Jeff Davis, fled the city at eight o'clock on Sunday evening—taking passage on a train of cars, with his horses and carriage on board, that he might make sure his escape in case of accident. Gen. Lee's order for evacuation was first made known to the people of Richmond from the pulpits on Sunday afternoon—the great Chief himself being one of the listeners to the reading of the important document—who became agitated, arose and left the church.

When our troops entered the city (Maj. Stevens and his forty men) the business portion of it was found to be on fire, the torch having been applied by the rebels. One-third of the town was destroyed—loss \$10,000,000.

About 500 pieces of artillery were left in the hands of the Union army, (including the captures in and around Petersburg,) besides an immense amount of other munitions of war and public property. The iron-clads were blown up by the rebels, and the smaller war-vessels burned.

THE PURSUIT OF GEN. LEE'S ARMY.

ITS SURRENDER!

As soon as it was known that the rebels had evacuated Richmond and Petersburg, General Grant dispatched several Corps in pursuit of the fugitives—the intrepid Sheridan leading the way. The country passed over by the defeated army gave evidence that a "Bull Run" disaster had overtaken it, and that by following up the victory with energy, utter annihilation of its remnant would be the crowning glory of the campaigns of the noble Armies of the Potomac and James. The only avenues of escape for the enemy were the Danville road, leading southwest from Richmond, and the Lynchburg road leading westward from Petersburg. The two roads connect at Burksville, some 50 miles from Richmond. The rebels had been given little rest during their retreat to Burksville—losing severely in the continuous skirmishing, besides thousands by desertion. Near the intersection of the roads noted, Sheridan attacked the enemy in force on the 6th inst., and made great havoc—capturing several thousand prisoners, (among whom were Generals Ewell, Kershaw, Button, Case, Du Barry and Custis Lee,) and a large quantity of munitions. Gen. Sheridan telegraphed that he was satisfied that Lee would surrender.

On the 7th inst., Gen. Grant opened a correspondence with Gen. Lee. Gen. Grant said to Lee that the result of the past week must convince him that further resistance to the Federal arms was useless; that there may be no further shedding of blood in the two armies. Gen. Grant called for the surrender of the rebel army known as that of Northern Virginia.

General Lee at first did not regard further resistance entirely hopeless, but would ask of Gen. Grant the terms upon which he might surrender his army. A number of messages passed between the two commanders on the 8th and 9th—the two final ones of which we give:

APPROXIMATE COURT HOUSE, April 9th, 1865.

Gen. R. E. Lee, Commanding U. S. Army:—In accordance with the substance of my letter to you of the 8th instant, I propose to receive the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia on the following terms, namely:—Rolls of all the officers and men to be made in duplicate, one copy to be given to an officer designated by me, the other to be retained by such officer as you may designate; the officers to give their individual paroles not to take arms against the Government of the United States until properly exchanged, and each company or regimental commander sign a like parole for the men of his command. The arms, artillery and public property to be parked and stacked and turned over to the officers appointed by me to receive them. This will not embrace the side arms of the officers, nor their private horses or baggage. This done, each officer and man will be allowed to return to his home, not to be disturbed by United States authority so long as they observe their parole and the laws in force where they may reside. Very respectfully, U. S. GRANT, Lieut. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, April 9th, 1865.

Lieut. General Grant, Commanding U. S. A.—GENERAL:—I have received your letter of this date, containing the terms of surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, as proposed by you. As they are substantially the same as those expressed in your letter of the 8th instant, they are accepted. I will proceed to designate the officers to carry the stipulations into effect. Very respectfully, your ob't serv't, R. E. LEE, General.

We have not yet received the particulars of the surrender, neither of the whereabouts of Jeff. Davis and his government.

The Secretary of War announces the surrender, and orders a salute of 200 guns to be fired at the headquarters of every army in the United States, and also at all the arsenals and ports, and the Military Academy at West Point.

DREADFUL CALAMITY AT SEA.

ONE of the most heart-rending disasters which has occurred for many years, took place on the 31st ult., off Cape Hatteras, N. C. On Wednesday, the 29th, the U. S. steam transport General Lyon sailed from Wilmington for Fortress Monroe, having on board 204 of the 56th Illinois regiment, who had served out their time, about 200 paroled prisoners, and a considerable number of refugees, making a total of 550 persons.

The Lyon proceeded as far as the bar, where she remained over night, and at 8 o'clock in the morning (the 30th) proceeded on her way. Everything appeared to work favorably until about 10 o'clock on Friday morning, (the 31st,) when the thrilling cry of "fire" was sounded throughout the vessel. Women ran screaming on the decks searching for their children or friends, while men were quite as appalled or frantic, and, in the language of one of the survivors, it seemed as if every one had suddenly become bereft of their senses, and the place soon became a very pandemonium. Soldiers who had been with Sherman through all his hard-fought battles, and had never been known to falter in the thickest of the fight, became as helpless as little children.

The fire was caused by the burning of a barrel of coal oil in the porter's room. In less than five minutes the flames were belching out on deck, and with the assistance of a strong gale, spread very rapidly. The mate endeavored to get out the hose and set the pumps to work, but the excitement was so great that but little progress could be made toward extinguishing the fire, and the attempt was abandoned.

In the meantime the captain of the ship came up, and in the most frantic manner exclaimed, "She's gone! she's gone!—there's no use trying to save her!" A rush was then made for the three life-boats on board, which were soon launched, the captain springing into the first one that was lowered and pushed off with but one other person with him. The boat was soon struck by the wheel of the steamer, the captain instantly killed, and the person who was with him in the boat, (Capt. Weber, 56th Ill. reg.) was drowned some time afterwards as he was being rescued from the swamped boat to which he had clung. A few persons in the other boats were saved, as well as several who were picked up from planks and doors—in all numbering only twenty-nine!

It is related by the survivors that nearly four hundred person were below decks, and by some unaccountable oversight, were there imprisoned and burned—the ladders having been removed from the hatches! It makes one shudder to contemplate the scene! Five hundred and twenty-one persons were either burned or drowned, by this appalling calamity, in less than two hours!

We learn that both the army and navy are giving the rebels much trouble at Mobile, and the probabilities are that when the great disaster to Davis and Lee is fully realized by the commanders in that city, the "last ditch" will be crossed and safety sought by flight, or their arms stacked in humble submission to General Canby and the Admiral of the Navy.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, Rochester, April 11, 1865.

THE market in all departments is dull. Buyers only purchase to supply immediate wants, and holders hesitate to sell as the prices go down. FLOUR, FEED, MEAL, &c.—White wheat flour \$12.50; red wheat, \$8.00; rye, \$7.00; coarse mill feed, \$42; fine, \$55; tun. Corn meal, \$2.75; \$1.00 lb.

GRAIN.—White wheat, \$1.50; red wheat, \$1.50. Corn, \$1.00; barley, \$1.10. Rye, \$1.20; oats, \$1.00. HAY.—Hay \$12.25; and falling. Straw, \$10. SHEEPS.—Timothy \$6.50. Clover, \$15.50; 16. Beans, \$1 @ 2. Peas, \$1.00; 2.50. Flax, \$2.50 @ 3.

FRUITS.—Green apples, a few in market at \$1.25 @ 1.75; bush; dried 10 @ 11c. MEATS.—Fresh pork \$13 @ 15. Beef, \$13 @ 15. Mutton, 10 @ 15; 100 lbs. Hams, 13c. Shoulders, 16 @ 18c. Chickens 13 @ 20c. Turkeys, 20c. Tallow, rough 7c. Lard, 20 @ 22c. VEGETABLES.—Potatoes, 50 @ 60c. Onions, \$1.75. Hops, 30 @ 35c. Carrots, 35c. DAIRY, &c.—Butter, 20 @ 21c. Cheese, 20 @ 22c. Eggs, 15 @ 17c. Salt, \$3.45 @ 7 lb.

HIDES AND BELTS.—Green hides 6c. B. Green calf skins 12c. Pelts, \$1 @ each. Wools.—No sales of any importance. May be quoted at 40 @ 50c, there being a few sales at that price.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, April 7.—Cotton, 45c for middlings.—Flour dull, and 5 @ 15c lower; Superfine State \$7.00 @ 7.50; extra State, \$5.00 @ 5.15; choice State, \$5.20 @ 5.30; superfine Western, \$7.50 @ 8.00; common to medium extra do, \$5.10 @ 5.40; common to good shipping brands extra round hoop Ohio, \$3.80 @ 3.75; trade brands, \$3.50 @ 3.75. Canadian dull, at \$2.50 @ 2.50. Wheat, Chicago spring, \$1.83; with sales at 70 @ 80c. Petroleum, 54 @ 55c. Rye quiet, and declining. Barley, declining and no sales. Corn dull and drooping, with sales at 70 @ 80c. Potatoes, 34 @ 35c. Pork, \$21.50 @ 21.75 for new mess; \$24 @ 24.50 for mess. Shoulders, 14 @ 15c. Hams, 15 @ 16c. Lard, 15 @ 15.5c. Butter, 13 @ 13.50 cts. for Ohio, and 20 @ 25c for State. Cheese, 14 @ 22c.

BUFFALO, April 8.—Flour, sales X and XX Canada spring at 75 @ 80c; X Indiana red at \$8.75; wheat, dull and inactive. Corn, 86 @ 87c. Oats, 56c. Barley, no sales. Rye, \$1.10. Beans, \$1.25. Clover seed, \$1.15. Timothy seed, \$4.75 @ 5.00. Pork, \$23 for mess. Hams, 22 @ 24c. Shoulders, 15c. Lard, 20c. Salt, \$2.00 @ 2.25.

TORONTO, April 5.—Flour, \$4.10 @ 4.75. Fall wheat at 60 @ 65c; bushel; spring do, 50 @ 55c. Barley, 70 @ 77c. Peas, 80 @ 90c. Oats, 42 @ 45c. Rye, 60c. Buckwheat, 40 @ 45c. Taro, 80 @ 81c. Butter, 12 @ 17c. Cheese, 10 @ 11. Eggs, 12 @ 15c. Ham, 10 @ 11. Bacon, 9 @ 10c. Lard, 11 @ 12. Apples, \$1.75 @ 2.50 @ 3.00. Potatoes, 20 @ 25c. Carrots, 50c. Turnips, 25c. Beef, 8 @ 9c. Dressed hogs, 15 @ 17c. Mess pork, \$20; prime, \$15. Shoulders, 8 @ 9c. Hay, \$12 @ 15. Straw, \$6 @ 11. Clover seed, \$2 @ 10. Timothy seed, \$2.50 @ 3.50. Sheepskins, \$1 @ 20. Calf skins, 7 @ 8c. Hides, \$3 @ 3.50 @ 100 lbs.—Globe.

CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, April 4.—Beaves received, 4,943 against 8,770 last week. Sales range at 14 @ 24c. Cows received, 214 against 176 last week. Sales at 40 @ 100 each. Veal calves received, 1,749 against 1,512 last week. Sales range at 10 @ 15c. Sheep and lambs received, 3,728 against 728 last week. Sales at 8 @ 15c. Swine received, 5,471 against 4,081 last week. Sales at \$11.50 @ 12.50 cwt.

BRIGHTON AND CAMBRIDGE, April 5.—Beaves, range at \$10 @ 18. Oxen, \$13 @ 30 @ pair. Milch Cows, \$40 @ 60. Handy Steers, \$10 @ 15. Veal Calves, \$20 @ 25 each. Shoats, 12 @ 15c. No fat logs in market. Sheep, 7 @ 13c.

CHICAGO, April 7.—Beef Cattle.—Sales range at \$4.00 @ 9.75. Hogs, \$3.50 @ 11. Sheep, \$3.50.

TORONTO, April 5.—First class cattle, from \$5.50 @ 5.50 @ 100 lbs, dressed weight; 2d do, \$4.50 @ 5.00; inferior, \$3 @ 4.25. Calves, \$5 @ 6 each, but very few in market. Sheep \$5 @ 6.50 each per ear load. Lambs, \$2.50 @ 3. Yearlings \$3 @ 5.50.—Globe.

WOOL MARKETS.

BOSTON, April 5.—The following are the Advertiser's quotations:—Saxony choice, 80 @ 85c; Saxony fleece, 78 @ 82c; full-blood Merino, 75 @ 80c; three-quarters do, 72 @ 75; half do, 70 @ 72c; common, 65 @ 70; Western mixed, 60 @ 70c; California, 60 @ 60c; Canada, 1.50 @ 1.50; pulled extra, 80 @ 80c; superfine, 80 @ 85c; No. 1, 65 @ 75c.

TORONTO, April 5.—Wool is in good request, but little offering; \$5 @ 6c for good fleece.—Globe.

DIED.

At his residence in Seneca Castle, Ontario Co., N. Y., March 22d, 1865, Mr. LEVI A. PAGE, aged 49 years. In the demise of this truly amiable man—distinguished alike for solidity and maturity of judgment, kind, conciliatory and gentlemanly deportment and rare conversational powers—his surviving family and relatives, together with a widely extended circle of warm personal friends, feel that they have sustained an irreparable loss. Long will he be held in precious remembrance.—Com.

New Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 50c cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES (following reading matter, leaded), 60 cents a line.

MERRY CHIMES.—By the author of "Golden Rule" and "Hart of Judah," containing INSTRUCTIONS, EXERCISES and SEVERAL HUNDRED POPULAR SONGS, NEW and SPARKLING, adapted to all occasions, and alive with the spirit of the times, including MERRY CHIMES, NEW and NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED. Specimen pages sent free. Price of "Merry Chimes," 50 cts., on receipt of which it will be sent, post-paid. Sent Published by OLIVER DITSON & CO., 277 Washington St., Boston, Mass. 75c-1f

1857. W. S. McCURE & Co., 1865. The well established strictly PRODUCE COMMISSION HOUSE, No. 250 Fulton Street, New York. Reference—New York National Exchange Bank, N. Y. Have unequalled facilities for disposing of Wool, Hops, Leaf Tobacco and High quality direct to manufacturers. The usual attention given to Butter, Cheese, Pork, Beef, Flour, Grain, Beans, Peas, Dried and Green Fruits, Seeds, Eggs, &c., &c. CONSIGNMENTS SOLICITED.



THE ABOVE CUT REPRESENTS THE natural size of D. G. WYETH'S newly invented watch case, made of brass, and is made of sheet brass, on which the number of the case is permanently impressed and colored, and can be identified 10 feet distant. They are warranted to never lose from the case, to be easily inserted and re-inserted with proper tools at hand, to stand re-insertion a dozen times without spoiling the label. PRICES.—Labels, with numbers and initials, to order, \$3 per hundred. Good papers, with fork attached, \$1. Samples sent free. Address D. G. WYETH, New Way, Licking Co., Ohio.

GREAT SALE OF WATCHES AND JEWELRY!

ONE MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH, TO BE DISPOSED OF AT ONE DOLLAR EACH. Without regard to value! Not to be paid for until you know what you are to receive! By A. H. ROWEN & Co., Agents for the Manufacturers. Certificates of the various articles are first put into envelopes, sealed up and mixed; and when ordered, are taken out without regard to choice, and sent by mail, thus giving all a fair chance. On receipt of the certificate, you will see what you are to have and then it is at your option to send the dollar and take the article or not. Purchasers may thus obtain a Gold Watch, Diamond Ring, or any set of Jewelry on our list for one dollar. In all transactions by mail, we shall charge for forwarding Certificates, paying postage, and doing the business, 25 cents each. On receipt of the certificate the article is sent for. Five Certificates will be sent for \$1; eleven for \$2; 30 for \$5, with a premium Gold Pen; 100 for \$20, with a premium Silver Watch. AGENTS.—We want agents in every town and county in the country. Send 25 cts. for certificate and at the same time get our special terms to agents. Address 75-2t. A. H. ROWEN & CO., No. 36 Beekman St., N. Y.



The Large Illustrated Circular of the Bee-Keepers Text-Book (just published) and the American Nucleus Swarming, side opening, movable Comb Bee-Hive. Also of Italian bees.

The Bee-Keepers Text-Book contains in a condensed form much that is practical and useful to the bee-keeper. We think the information worth the spalarian, the 75 cents asked for the Rural New-Yorker.

It contains much information of great practical benefit to all bee-keepers.—Frazier Farmer. A handsome volume of 130 pages, 16mo.—Ohio Farmer. It gives much useful and trustworthy information.—Country Gentleman. Your ideas on wintering bees are very valuable, and must be of great use to us on the prairie. I think the hive a good one. Send me fifteen more all together for this season.—M. L. Dunlap, Ed. Ill. Farmer. I have read your work on bees, and like it very much indeed. I got more information from it than from any other work I ever read.—J. Hays, Esq. Genesee Farmer. We confess to having been very much surprised and instructed. No one keeping bees should be without his book. With it he can grow bees understandingly.—N. H. Journal of Agriculture. Agents Wanted; Terms Liberal. Circular and other valuable and interesting matter, free; Books in cloth, 75 cts. each; in paper covers, 40 cts. Address H. A. King & Bro., Nevada, Ohio. The Books are for sale at the RURAL Office.

List of New Advertisements.

Ree-Keepers Text-Book—H A King & Bro. Great Sale of Watches, &c.—A H Rowen & Co. Metal Far Mark for Sheep—D G Wyeth. Halsted's Improved Horse Hay Fork—M Halsted. Merry Chimney—Oliver Ditson & Co. New Strawberryries of 1884—Edward J Evans & Co. Secret Art of Catching Fish—Julius Rising. Strawberry Plants by Express—C L Hoag. Pine Apple Cider—B T Babbitt. Strawberry Plants—J Keach. Agents Wanted—D B Harrington & Co. Grape Vines—A W Potter. Doolittle Raspberry—G Zimmerman. Apple and Cherry Seedlings—J D Conklin.

New Advertisements

\$75 A MONTH.—Agents wanted to sell Sewing Machines. We will give a commission on machines sold, or employ agents who will work for the above wages and all expenses paid. Address, D. B. HERRINGTON & CO., Detroit, Mich. SECRET ART OF CATCHING FISH.—This is no humbug as many suppose; by mixing a simple vegetable substance with the bait you can always catch fish in any water where there is fish. Send for the above art free to all who will send 20 cts. to help pay for advertising, postage, &c. JULIUS RISING, Box 43, Southwick, Mass.

PINE APPLE CIDER. DR. TALBOT'S CONCENTRATED MEDICAL PINE APPLE CIDER will cure you if you are sick, and if you are well will prevent sickness. See list of advertisements in RURAL of 7th January, 11th page. Send for Circular. 736-1st B. T. BABBITT, 64 to 74 Washington St., N. Y.

HALSTED'S PAT. IMPROVED HORSE HAY FORK. ENTIRELY IRON AND STEEL. Warranted in every respect. Sold for Circular. Town, County and State rights for sale. Agents wanted. Address No. 67 Pearl Street, New York.

BARCAIN FOR SOMEBODY.—A Steam Saw Mill on our farm, so well located and at so low a price (6,500) that it will pay for itself in a short time. Owner cannot go West, or it would not be sold at all. Apply at once to SPALDING, Box No. 5,209, New York City.

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE.—The subscriber offers for sale his Farm, containing 165 acres of land, pleasantly situated in the town of Seneca, Ontario County, N. Y., on the west side and in view of Seneca Falls. It is the best farming district in the State. Good market being only 1 1/2 miles south-west of Geneva. The land is well adapted for raising all kinds of Grain and Grass. It is watered by a living stream which passes through the center of the farm. Good farm buildings. Terms of payment easy. For particulars address the subscriber. JAMES SCOON, 734-4t Geneva, N. Y., March 27, 1885.

POULTRY, PIGEONS AND EGGS FOR SALE.—White and Black Spanish, Black Red, Fries, Blue and English Pheasant Game and Brahma Pootras. Each \$7.00 to \$10.00 per pair, \$10.00 to \$15.00 per trio, according to age and size. Also, 25 varieties of Pigeons from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per pair, according to kind. I will safely pack and forward as directed, the following kinds warranted pure Eggs for setting, viz: Bolton Grays, White and Dominique Leghorns, Brahma Pootras, White Shanghais, Golden, Silver and Black Poland Earl Derby, Black Red, Fries and Gray Game, Black, Gold and Silver Laced and Java Bantams, And many other Black Cayuga Ducks. One dozen of any of the above, \$3.00; two do, \$5.00; five do, \$10.00. All over that number 25 per cent. All orders booked and sent in their turn. "First come first served." They can be sent with safety by Express, by my manner of packing. Address E. A. WENDELL, Box 1144 P. O., Albany, N. Y. 734-3t

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This stock is bona fide, full paid, with no possibility of future assessments and no personal liability. The absolute value and actual cash cost of this property are so great as to preclude its being offered with the allurement of a reduction from a nominal par value.

It has been selected, at different times during the past year by several old and experienced oil-workers and residents of Oil Creek, who are familiar with the history, progress and value of every well and piece of property in that region. Several of the producing interests were originally acquired for the purpose of holding as private investments and sources of regular income.

These gentlemen have, however, been induced to combine their various interests, with additional property, into one strong, sound, and reliable company. Each of them will retain an interest as stockholders, and hold their stock as a permanent investment. Residing in the oil region, and directly concerned in the success of the company, they are pledged to look closely after its operations; thus affording a guaranty of watchful supervision, and faithful and energetic management possessed probably in an equal degree by no other oil company ever formed. Two of these gentlemen are on the Board of Direction, and one, Superintendent of the Company.

The stock is sold to pay for the property, and to furnish a working capital to open up the large and promising tracts yet waiting to be developed.

The managers start with the intention of paying dividends quarterly and from actual earnings only. Paying quarterly affords time to sell the oil produced to the best advantage, and is believed to be in all respects the soundest policy.

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Also a good Refinery, in complete working order, capable of refining

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DANGEROUS EYES.

"Blue eyes melt; Dark eyes burn." Cornish Saying.

THE eyes that melt! The eyes that burn! The lips that make a lover yearn! These dashed on my bewildered sight, Like meteors of the Northern Night!

Then said I, in my wild amazement, What stars be they that greet my gaze? Where shall my shivering rudder turn? To eyes that melt, or eyes that burn!

Ah! safer far the darkling sea, Than where such perilous signals be,— To rock, and storm, and whirlwind, turn, From eyes that melt, and eyes that burn!

[All the Year Round.]

The Story Teller.

THE BURGLARY AT THE MEADOWS.

THE household at the Meadows—a lonely place, everywhere surrounded with low, salt marshes, the mansion itself standing on a knoll and approached by a causeway of a mile in length, so handsomely shaded with elms as to be worthy of the dignified appellation of an avenue—the household at the Meadows was one night rudely disturbed from its slumbers by an alarm of burglary. One of the children, waking from some mince-pie nightmare or other, heard a most singular sound; and creeping to the bedside of Katy Small, their nurse, a little white phantom before her, pawed her into a terrified wakefulness. But after her first glance she, too, detected the stifled sound, and, seizing the matter at once, wrapped a blanket round her and flew to the door of her mistress's sleeping-room, in such a shaking fright that she could not command her voice, even had she not feared being overheard by the thieves. "Oh, ma'am!—Oh, Mr. Grey!" was what slid through the key-hole, accompanied by a flutter of timid taps, till Mr. Grey began to dream of a moth battering about the window-pane suddenly endowed with voice and calling him by name, and till at his hurried, half-awake uprisal, as she made bold to turn the handle of the door, Katy turned and fled. Then Mr. Grey also heard the sound, and thrusting himself into part of his clothes, stepped out on the soft carpet of the upper hall and listened.

This sound, to which all under the roof were now aroused, was a soft, slow, gridding, sliding one, as if with their delicate and muffled instruments the burglars were sawing the bolt of the great lock upon the front door. Now and then some slight scraping of the panel took place; now and then there was a step upon the low, sunken stone; now and then the handle of the lock rung at a faint touch; now and then all gave way to something like a singular whispering.

It was well known that much valuable plate was always in use at the Meadows, for it was a hospitable place, with a round of guests and dinner-parties and suppers. Just to-night, of all nights in the year, there was no one at home but the family; and, owing to some whim of the ancient architect and owner, the apartments of the house-keeper and of a majority of the servants were in a separate building. Mr. Grey, however, was a host in himself, and he desired no help, unless he should become disabled in the combat that seemed imminent, in which event either Katy Small or one of the two chamber-maids would open the other door for his adherents to come to the rescue of his wife and children. But what if the burglars were some of those adherents themselves? The thought was like a cold chill. Yet—no; the singular whispers which seemed to be those of some foreign language, dispelled such an idea; moreover, their fidelity and attachment to himself, the most indulgent and considerate of employers, were proverbial.

Meantime the work was progressing. While he listened they might at any moment burst open the door and he be found defenseless. Defenseless he certainly was at that moment; for, though a master of the noble British art, fists would be of small service against the mace or mallet of a house-breaker, and all his guns were down in the shallow closet on the other side of the front door, so that it would be almost impossible for him to reach them without being seen. Finally, however, with one hand upon the railing of the baluster, he noiselessly slipped down, possessed himself in the dark of his best rifle, and of sufficient ammunition for a siege, and returned half-way up the staircase, where, seating himself, he coolly made his preparations—made them somewhat slowly, as he could scarcely see his hand before him, loading the rifle with a charge of small shot, determined, the moment the door gave way, to pepper the villains roundly with a ball for every bone in their bodies.

During this work, Katy Small, with the trembling help of one of the chamber-maids, had dressed the children even to their hats and water-proofs, and had furthermore tied the blankets and coverlets together in a long knotted rope, as a possible means of exit from the back way should the robbers succeed in entering at the front. The other chamber-maid had taken the occasion as an opportunity for exhibiting her accomplishments, and had fallen from one fainting fit into another faster than Mrs. Grey could bring her out of them. Mrs. Grey herself, a woman of Southern birth, was no more acquainted with fear than her husband was, and she had raised her head from her pillow full of fight. As she saw him sitting on the stair now, tinkering with his rifle, she was fired with impatience, she longed to have him go down, fling open the door, and blaze away at the assailants with such a volley as would put them to terrible rout and confusion; there was to be indiscriminate slaughter on the grass outside the door, after which the maimed miscreants were to be taken into shelter, the house turned into a hospital, and themselves nursed back to health and virtue by the inhabitants. But this was not the way to do it, sitting waiting for them, instead of dashing down, taking the war into Africa and converting the attack into defense. It seemed almost craven to Mrs. Grey, this calm delay. If she had only ever learned how to handle a gun herself she would pass him and teach him a lesson, woman as she was; but as the case stood, such conduct on her part might result in her being the only injured one herself of all the parties concerned, and add to the general disturbance disastrously. So she left the chamber-maid to her swooning, and stood at the head of the stairs a white shadow herself, urging her husband, another shadow, to descend and engage the villains, even forgetting caution, and raising her voice above the slow and interrupted grinding and grating on the panel as she spurred him on.

But when Mr. Grey had crossed the hall to the gun-closet he had given his attention to the door, you may be sure, in passing. And there, dimly to be detected in the darkness of the soft, hazy, summer night, he was perfectly sure that he saw through the plate-glass side light the darker outline of a pair of legs, the legs of the man who stood there at work so quietly, so skillfully, upon the lock; then he heard steps upon the turf, and at the other side light saw again the same. If, then, he could thus see two of the plunderers, there could scarcely be less than half a dozen of them in all, and for one man to go down and meet a whole band of such desperate creatures was mere bravado. Moreover, by remaining where he was he had the clear advantage of a garrison, and as they secured entrance could pop them over, one after another, like so many plump partridges.

There was never any loud outside stir, by day or night, to be heard at the Meadows; there was nothing but the flap of an eagle's wings, the swath of the mowers' scythes, the warble of the bobolink in the morning, the scream of a night-hawk, the hum of insects in the evening—these mere sounds of nature that always make assuance with the scene around them, and leave the silence more profound. Mr. Grey had never been so sensible of this as now, while sitting on the stair; no other noise in all the region round could he detect than this little grate upon the door, this tap upon the lock, this step upon the turf, this strange, rough whisper—it made the desolation of the place strike him with a kind of awe; he knew that haze wrapped the knoll itself, that all below and around it was waisted deep in soft, cool, white vapor, an airy cloudy sea in which cry or murmur would at any distance fall equally dull and dead; there were not even enough star-beams sifted into the haze about them for him to discern his assailants when they should have flung open the door and confronted him. To obviate this difficulty, Mrs. Grey, trying hard to curb her battalious spirit, waited with match and wick behind him, ready at the appointed moment to blaze away on her part. The enjoyment which Mrs. Grey anticipated from the fierce scratch she was to give with that lucifer-match on the unoffending wood-work, much more than equalled all that her husband looked forward to from his trusty rifle.

To a person of Mr. Grey's temperament, once being fully awakened from sleep, there would have been something delicious in watching this slow, soundless lapse of a summer night; but the circumstances of danger and desolation, the suspense, the peradventure, gradually made the delay intolerable. And through it all the time there continued that slow, low, cautious, intermittent sawing, that tap upon the handle of the lock, that scratch of the panel, those steps about the turf, those whisperings in the long, rank, succulent grass that grew all round the low door-stone and close up to the threshold. Why they were so long about the business was more than Mr. Grey could conjecture.

"Well, well," said Mrs. Grey, her patience worn out, "there is no use in my sitting here with a match and a moderateur"—which last, though it was the name of the lamp she held, was intended for a sly hit at her husband. "These doughty knights of the latch-key will effect an entrance at this rate by the time we hear the sunrise bells ring from town. I will leave you to watch them carefully till then; and, for my part, I shall go to bed!" And she was about to withdraw, first taking a look at the little huddled group of frightened children fallen half asleep between Katy Small and the chamber-maids.

This, at last, was more than Mr. Grey could bear, or else his own patience was exhausted. So, eager for the fray, let her have it! He sprang down the stairway, grasping his rifle surely; Mrs. Grey blazed away with her lamp and followed him; he threw back the bolts, flung open the door, and there, standing across the low, narrow stone, was a great dun ox, placidly feeding on the rich, sweet, juicy grass that grew so rankly there, the nibble of his tooth, and the swish of his tail as he brushed away the setting night-fly, making a strange, whispering sound, and his brass-tipped horn tapping now upon the lock of the door, now grating on the side post—a mild, contented creature that stared round, large-eyed, at the sudden splendor that streamed over him from the open door-way, whisked his tail, tossed up his heels, and put down his head, wheeled about, and darted off into the shadow.

"Ah, how did you dare," said a young acquaintance, to whom Mrs. Grey was languishingly relating the occurrence next day, "to urge Mr. Grey to go down and meet them? It makes me shiver! I should have brought every valuable in the house and set them out on tables directly before the front door that they might take our money and leave our lives."

"Precisely!" said Mr. Grey, proudly. "That is the difference between you and a Southern woman, my little friend!"

"If you mean," retorted the little friend, indignantly, "that I should value my husband's safety more than my jewels and silver—it certainly is the difference!"

"Ah, I cry you mercy!" pleaded Mr. Grey, repentantly. "Latitude hardly alters human nature, I confess. At the equator or at the poles, equally, womankind are all as faithful as—it is in their power to be! A chaque sainte sa chandelle!"

Wit and Humor.



A DECIDED FALSETTO (FALSE SET O!)

Patrick—Singing Irish Emigrant's Lament—"I'm sitting on the stile (style) Mary." Mary—"Are ye's, ye blunderin' spalpeen, to be after murderin' my duck of a bonnet wid yer ould carcass. Och Hone! out of that wid ye, and let me hear no more of ye's settin' in the style unlis ye's can sittle the damages."

HUMOROUS SCRAPS.

A MAN who avoids matrimony on account of the cares of wedded life, is compared to one who would amputate his leg to save his toes from corns.

"I SEE the villain in your face," said a judge to an Irish prisoner. "Shure, your lordship's rivrence won't be after making a personal reflection of a phoor boy!" said Pat.

"MY dear," said an Irish gentleman to his wife, "I would rather the children were kept in the nursery when I am at home, although I do not object to their noise if they'd only be quiet."

A YOUNG lady objected to a negro's carrying her across a mud hole because she thought herself too heavy. "Lor's, missus," said Sambo, imploringly, "I've carried whole barrels of sugar."

A DOWN East Yankee, seeing an alligator for the first time on the Mississippi, with his mouth open, exclaimed, "Wall, he aint what you may call a handsome critter, but he's got a deal of openness when he smiles."

Booth, the tragedian, had a broken nose. A lady once remarked to him, "I like your acting, Mr. Booth; but, to be frank with you, I can't get over your nose." "No wonder, madam," replied he, "the bridge is gone."

"It seems to me I have seen your physiognomy somewhere before," said a swell to a stranger whom he met the other day; "but I cannot imagine where." "Very likely," replied the other—"I have been the keeper of a prison for the last twenty years."

CHARLES MATHEWS, seated on a coach-box on a frosty day, waiting for the driver, said to him when he at length appeared, "If you stand here much longer, Mr. Coachman, your horses will be like Captain Parry's ships." "How's that, sir?" he asked. "Why, frozen at the pole!" replied Mathews.

In a Scotch town lately, a man from the country applied to a respectable lawyer for legal advice. After detailing the circumstances of the case, he was asked if he had stated the facts exactly as they occurred. "Ou, ay, sir," rejoined the applicant, "I thought it best to tell you the plain truth; you can put the lies till' yourself!"

It is related that when a former Bishop of Bristol held the office of Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, he one day met a couple of under graduates who neglected to pay the accustomed compliment of capping. The Bishop inquired the reason of the neglect. The two men begged his lordship's pardon, observing they were freshmen and did not know him. "How long have you been in Cambridge?" he asked. "Only eight days," was the reply. "Very good," said the Bishop, "puppies never see till they are nine days old."

Corner for the Young.



Answer in two weeks.

GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 52 letters. My 39, 36, 35, 16, 40, 45, 36 is a county in New York. My 11, 1, 8, 7, 9, 36, 23 is a river in Georgia. My 2, 20, 16, 5, 47, 32, 52 is a city in England. My 47, 23, 31, 48, 36, 23, 2 is a bay in Michigan. My 3, 4, 22, 31, 29, 26 is a territory. My 30, 43, 1, 16, 14, 46, 13, 48 is a city in Kentucky. My 6, 41, 33, 40, 29, 36 is a county in Indiana. My 34, 8, 50, 42, 43, 6, 20, 51, 26, 34 is a range of mountains in Europe. My 25, 27, 52, 18, 17, 1 is a country in Asia. My 12, 15, 14, 38, 16 is a city in China. My 37, 3 is a river in Italy. My 19, 10, 13, 44 is a gulf in Europe. My 28, 8, 49, 33, 41, 17, 11 is a city in Missouri. My 51, 33, 21 is a county in Pennsylvania. My whole is a proverb. GENESCO, N. Y. MOLLIE AND ANGIE.

Answer in two weeks.

AN ANAGRAM.

LAL nigh teth bigmoon emtain nng Dah dolape ganlo eht ede, Nad mlunyroth eth sgrnl uns Kedool ro'e eth oldwreir tepes. Near New Lisbon, Ohio. MAGERE BOWMAN.

Answer in two weeks.

A PUZZLE.

THREE-FOURTHS of a cross and a circle complete, Two parts of two triangles which together meet, Add to these a triangle which stands on two feet, Three-fourths of a cross and a circle complete, And you will have what many love to eat. Bellevue, Ohio. SALLY.

Answer in two weeks.

ANAGRAMS OF TREES.

Pemla, Potatlem, Cmsoyera, Oababb, Relmrybr, Serpsyc, Esanp, Impmesron, Liwwoi, Hecch, Amalagin, Kate, East Randolph, Wis. ALLEN A. DEITZ.

Answer in two weeks.

ANSWER TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 793.

Answer to Grammatical Enigma:—Every man is the architect of his own fortune.

Answer to Anagram: Leaves have their time to fall, And flowers to wither at the north wind's breath, And stars to set, but all, Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O Death.

Answer to Illustrated Rebus:—Shouldered his crutch to show how fields were won.

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