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"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

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

LEARNING FARMING.

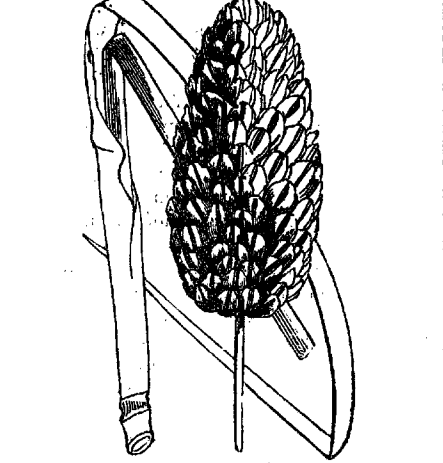
We receive frequent inquiries from young men about farm schools where they can learn the practice of farming. We do not know of any such. And we are often asked what we would advise a young man to do who is anxious to become an intelligent and thorough agriculturist—what course we would advise him to pursue in order to become one—we answer that we have hope that the National Endowment of Agricultural Schools will result in furnishing such young men with the opportunity of getting a theoretical education—a knowledge of science, natural laws, as related to the different husbandries, just as the young law student gets a knowledge of the theory and science of law and its practice, by attending a law school. When we get schools where the pupil shall be able to adapt his studies to his specific aim in life, a great step in advance of the present facilities for obtaining an agricultural education will have been reached. Then what would we do?—just what the shoemaker, or tanner, or blacksmith does in order to get a knowledge of his profession. We would go to the best practical man in any specific branch of agriculture we wished to pursue, and perfect our education in his service. If we proposed to engage in dairying, the best dairyman we could induce to receive us should instruct us, we compensating him with our labor, and, if necessary, with an additional tuition. If we proposed to enter upon sheep husbandry, it would be both capital and time well invested if we could induce one of the best flock-masters in the country to instruct us in the practical management and breeding of sheep. It is the only way we know of in which practical knowledge can be obtained. To be sure, the more we complete our knowledge of natural laws, affecting and governing any branch of husbandry, the more intelligently will we be able to practice the same, provided we don't let theory govern our practice too closely. Practical knowledge should always be allowed to correct theoretical; the latter should be used to render the former progressive, if possible. Facts, once established, are incontrovertible—stubborn. Theory cannot resist them. Facts, it should always be remembered, are the bases of science; theory has nothing to do with science; and yet these terms are often confused and made identical in use. The farmer who is governed in his practice by the most extended experience, and observation of the relation of facts to each other, is the most scientific farmer—no matter whether he ever read a scientific book or not. The breeder of sheep or cattle who is governed in his breeding by laws which his experience has wrought out for him, is a scientific breeder—no matter whether his practice conflicts with the dicta of theoretical writers or not. So that it is absurd to suppose, as many do, that a man must be learned in the books in order to be scientific. And yet, much practical knowledge is to be obtained from books—the recorded results of practice. The farmer should "prove all things and hold fast to that which is good."

Knowledge is power. If we had \$10,000 which we proposed to invest in stock for a farm, intend-

ing to manage it ourself, we should much rather spend half the sum in obtaining a thorough knowledge of the best modes of managing the stock we proposed to buy, than run the risk of losing the whole of it, and of a humiliating failure in its management, by investing in something we knew nothing about. There are, doubtless, many men among our readers who will indorse the correctness of this position because of their own experience in the purchase and management of blood cattle, years ago; and doubtless many others will learn what we mean before they shall have realized all they expect from the costly sheep they have purchased during the past year. The man who has a practical knowledge of his business will succeed better with half the capital than the man who has no knowledge, or only a theoretical one, of the work upon which he is entering.

CANARY SEED.

"Is Canary Seed grown in this country?" asks a correspondent. We answer that we saw several acres of it growing two years since; and we happen to know an Illinois farmer who grew fifteen acres of it the past year—with what result as to profit, we are not informed. But we are confident he would not have given that number of acres to this crop had not his previous experience with it warranted it. Most of that now used in this country is imported, and for it, the consumer pays a high price.



We give herewith an engraving of a head of this grass, and the straw. The field in which we saw it was prairie, had been fall plowed and the seed sown broad-cast in the spring. The proprietor anticipated it would be a profitable crop. We do not give the name of the party growing it, because he will, in his own good time, give the public the benefit of his experience with it. We hope to be able to give our readers this experience before the spring seed-time.

EVAN'S ROTARY DIGGER OR CULTIVATOR.

In the Autumn of 1863 we saw this implement at work in a field near this city, and then gave in these columns, the impressions it made upon us by its operation at that time. Our attention has been called to a report of a committee, consisting of JOHN G. BERGEN, WM. S. CARPENTER, and SOLON ROBINSON, appointed by the American Institute Farmer's Club to witness its work in the field. It was tested on a stiff, hard loam, very compact, and required a team of four horses to work it to its full capacity,—eight inches deep, and thirty inches wide. On this hard ground it was found necessary for the driver to ride or carry weight to keep the teeth in the soil and steady. The weight of the machine and driver is estimated at eight or ten hundred pounds, by the committee. The committee thus describes it:—

"The machine is made with steel teeth about an inch wide, like those of an ordinary spading fork, which are set, two by two, on a flexible chain band, working over rollers; and a machine may be made with two or more of these chains; two cutting twenty inches wide and three thirty inches, and so on. The one that we saw at work had three chains and six rows of teeth, and these, with the rollers, levers, etc., for regulating the work, are mounted upon a pair of wheels about two feet high, and the whole, with a seat for the driver, occupies just about as much room, and is of about the same weight as a Buckeye mowing machine, minus the cutter-bar.

In moving from place to place, the teeth are lifted from the ground, and the whole weight then rests upon the wheels. When let down to full work, the wheels are lifted, and the whole weight of the machine and driver, say eight or ten hundred pounds, rests upon the ground; and the rollers are so arranged that the teeth strike as they revolve, upon the points, and

and are forced almost perpendicularly into the earth, to whatever depth they are set for, from one to eight inches. If the motion of the team is rapid, the action of the teeth upon the earth, as they come around the hind roller, by a short, sharp leverage, is to throw it up in a spray, like the hay behind a tedding machine. In a small way, the action of the dirt is pretty well represented by an active dog, digging in loose earth, and throwing it up behind him. Of course, no other known process of working the soil, could possibly put it in better order for any crop, particularly one grown from fine seeds."

From this report we glean that the members of the committee were quite satisfied with the work performed by this implement. On soils that are not stony and stumpy it will be found profitable to use it in the work of commination. It will not turn sod; but if the sod has been turned deeply, it will prepare the surface for a seed-bed better than any other farm implement.

We are glad to record the good words of the committee concerning this implement. But the proprietors should not depend upon the opinions of committees. The implement should be manufactured and put in the hands of farmers to operate with—in the hands of intelligent figure-farmers, who are interested in the success of such implements. Let such men test them and report upon the results of their work during a season. The testimony of such men as GEDDES of this State, GREER of Ohio, SULLIVANT of Illinois, will pay a year's waiting. Farmers, the mass of them, have wisely adopted the rule of not purchasing new things until they see them at work, or have an opportunity to test them. We hope this digger will be put to work. There is need of such implements in our soil culture, and we shall rejoice in their success.

THE BEST SOIL FOR CLOVER.

A CORRESPONDENT asks what is the best soil for clover. It is our opinion, that a well drained, stiff, clayey loam is the best adapted to growing it in the greatest perfection. But we have seen it grow well on almost all varieties of soil—thriving on the sandiest sand, and luxuriant by the water-side in almost pure humus. We speak of the red clover—*Trifolium pratense*. But it will not thrive on wet soils. We have seen it, on the prairies extending from the dry upland, and occupying the slough bottoms through which the mole ditcher had passed. So that it is not to be excluded from any soil. It thrusts its roots deep wherever it can get a foot-hold until it meets water. Other things being equal, a soil containing an abundance of lime yields the largest and best clover product. And there is no crop that we know of which repays the use of gypsum and bone dust, as a top-dressing, more surely. Except we were cultivating it for its seed mainly, we should never sow it unmixed with other grasses for a forage crop. And whether sown alone or mixed, it should be sown thickly—more so than is common by a large proportion of farmers—say from ten to sixteen pounds per acre alone, and from six to ten or twelve pounds with other grasses.

PRACTICAL HINTS BY CORRESPONDENTS.

Warts on Cows Teats.—T. B. Wooster, O., puts a tablespoonful of alum in a half pint of soft water and, after milking, wets the teats thoroughly in the solution. The warts will come off and remain off.

To Prevent Horses' Feet Baling.—MASON W. HALL, of Greece, N. Y., writes:—"Soft soap put into the sole of a horse's foot will prevent them from clogging or baling up with snow. The feet should be well cleansed before applying the soap."

Ointment for Horses' Eyes.—WM. HENDRICK makes an ointment of tansy and fresh butter, or lard, with which he anoints the sore eyes of horses and they neither exhibit fear nor pain on its application. And he says it has been applied to the sore eyes of humans with good results.

Preparing Dry Stalks for Feeding.—"A Young Farmer" says he has prepared stalks so dry that cattle would not eat them well, by spreading them and pouring boiling water over them, and letting them lay awhile. When so prepared cows eat them cleaner, and give more milk than when fed dry.

Storing Corn Stalks.—"A Young Farmer," Milburn, N. Y., writes us that he stores his stalks in the barn by setting them up butts down, straight and solid, until the bottom of the bay or scaffold is covered, then sets another tier on top, and so on. Says damp stalks so stored will dry in the mow.

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.

CLEANSING FLEECES OF SHEEP AT FAIRS.

OUR highly respected friend WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN of Red Hook, N. Y., writes to us:—"I have sometimes thought that the State Society should appoint a man to cleanse the wool of all sheep entered for premiums and report to the Society its cleansed weight and value—and that no sheep should be allowed to compete for a premium unless the owners will submit to such a test. What do you think of it?" Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S letter was not intended for publication, but he will excuse us if we take the above extract as a text for some remarks on an interesting and much mooted topic among sheep breeders.

If wool buyers offered prices for wool with a conscientious reference to the facts which a test like the above would disclose—in other words, in reference to its actual value when cleansed, then the mode suggested by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN would undoubtedly be the best one for ascertaining the most profitable fleeces for the wool grower as well as the manufacturer. But do wool buyers keep in view, or hardly attempt to keep in view such a standard of value? Do not the most poorly washed wools of every neighborhood sell for nearly as much—often for quite as much—as the best washed ones, of the same quality?

How is this singular result brought about? We account for it as follows:—If the fair and experienced buyer passes by the dirtier lots, they are "gobbled up" by some eager or less practiced purchaser, incapable of judging, or anxious to pocket his commission. But in truth, the best buyers, with their eyes open, fail to make any adequate discrimination in prices. There is not enough clean wool to keep the manufactories running. The dirty must be also purchased. Those who furnish the latter ask the full market price, and knowing they will get it from somebody, resolutely hold on. The market price then is really adjusted with reference to the fact that it must be paid, with but trifling variations, for a whole class of wools, three-quarters or more of which is imperfectly washed. It represents the average market value of the clean and dirty wools put together, and thus the interests of the producer of the former are sacrificed for the benefit of the producer of the latter. And their statement also applies to grade as well as condition. Our growers of really fine wool have always been mercilessly cut short in prices for the benefit of the growers of medium wool. But this point is not involved in the present discussion.

There is still another place where the wool buyer dutifully obeys the injunction to "love his enemies." He insists on a uniform rate of shrinkage (one-third) on all unwashed wools. Yet a large yolk fleeced ram, carefully housed from summer and winter storms, will yield an unwashed fleece weighing two pounds more than he would if allowed to run out as sheep generally do; and the same differences in circumstances would make a difference of a pound in an unwashed fleece. The one-third rule then operates as a bounty on the preservation of yolk in the wool. And it operates exceedingly conveniently for those who, for other objects, house their sheep in summer to preserve their yolk. It enables them to kill three birds with one stone. They get the fashionable color; they get drag fleeces; and they get pay for the extra yolk which contributes so essentially to those objects. We do not, of course, intend to be understood, in the preceding remarks, that the buyer actually purposes or wishes to make discriminations unfavorable to those producers who bring their wool into market in the best condition. That would be to suppose him insane. But it is the practical effect of his action, and he is, therefore, accountable for it.

It is idle to say that the course of the buyer in the particulars complained of is unavoidable. On the contrary, there is not a shadow of necessity or good reason for its continuance. What prevents the wool buyer from going into the market, and like the wheat or butter buyer, offering prices in all cases proportioned to the actual quality and condition of each separate lot

which he seeks to purchase? Whoever heard of good wheat or butter being forced down in price to enable the buyer to pay more in proportion for inferior articles? And especially whoever heard of other commodities besides wool being subjected to a uniform rate of shrinkage for impurities, whether the actual impurities present comprise five or twenty-five per cent. of the nominal weight or bulk!—provided the seller cannot pretend that he has "washed," or performed some other special process on them!

Whenever common sense and fair play are allowed to triumph over tradition and precedent, wool will be bought as other commodities are. In the mean time, we are not altogether clear that it is the duty of the wool grower to introduce tests specially intended for the benefit of the buyer, which he himself ignores when he finds it profitable to do so. In plain English, the wool grower must be expected to market his wools in that condition which he finds most profitable. If the manufacturer wants cleaner wools, let him make it equally profitable to furnish them, and they will be promptly forthcoming.

There are some grounds on which the cleansing test would furnish useful information to the wool grower—but we have not space to advert to them here. We should not object to see it voluntarily resorted to by exhibitors of sheep at our Fairs—nor possibly to see premiums paid in certain voluntary classes with partial reference to the results of cleansing. (It would obviously in no case do to make it a sole test, irrespective of the form, size and constitution of the animal.) But as things now stand, we are not in favor of making such a test obligatory on all exhibitors. There would be several special objections to that course of a different character from the preceding, which we may advert to hereafter.

Such a test is not really necessary to settle any important and doubtful question. Of course no human eye can, by simple inspection, determine the precise amount of yolk in a fleece; but an experienced eye can determine this with approximate accuracy; and with still greater certainty can it discern the relative amount found in different fleeces. If this were not so, what guide would buyers have in establishing the "average" prices we have adverted to, or in determining the value of great lots in second holders or importers' hands? Nearly the whole wool of the United States, however many hands it may pass through, reaches the manufacturer before it has been subjected to any criterion of value but the eyes and fingers of the buyer. And the manufacturer employs no other criterion when he buys for himself. This implies his admission that no other is necessary.

We have no idea that the cleansing test would produce any change in the course of breeding Merinos among those who have been most successful in that art. Fortunately for all parties, the greatest amount of yolk in a fleece is not compatible with the greatest amount of wool—and taking wool and yolk together, that fleece weighs most which exhibits the greatest amount of wool instead of the greatest amount of yolk. It is a mistake, therefore, to suppose that the heaviest fleeced flocks exhibit the yolkiest wool—or that under ordinary management they exhibit any improper excess of yolk. Cleansing tests would only establish more firmly the supremacy of those Merino flocks of our country which now give the heaviest fleeces.

SUMMER SHELTER FOR SHEEP.

WHILE moving a building about the first of November, through a field which contained a flock of sheep, the rain compelled the workmen to retreat. The sheep immediately took peaceable possession of the building and occupied it through the stormy night that succeeded. Seeing how comfortable they looked the next morning, and how evidently benefited they had been by the passing shelter, I at once exclaimed, "Why not give every flock—every animal—a comfortable house, summer and winter?" Why not erect a cheap, substantial shed in every field our flocks and herds are expected to occupy? It would cost something, but the plain, substantial things of this world occasion but a small part of our expenditures. Men who would put a hundred dollars into extra putty and varnish and trimming for a carriage, a hundred and fifty dollars into a watch, and a thousand dollars in carvings and gildings and questionable flourishes for a house, will, I suppose, shiver over the expense of a few feet of stone wall, and three or four pine, hemlock, ash, or beech logs sawed into boards.

I observe that men who expect to get \$50 for bucks, and \$25 for ewes, always drive their show and sale sheep in when there is a prospect for a storm. The generality of men will not take this pains. Moreover, our every day sheep are frequently so far from our buildings that driving them in would occasion serious inconvenience. Then we don't always know what is going to turn up in the department of the weather. It looks fair at evening, and it is the reverse in the morning; or it looks like a storm and we drive up the flocks and it turns out fair. After a few false alarms, we think with the chap that tried to get into NOAH'S ark, and couldn't,—“Well, I guess it won't be much of a rain after all,” and so leave them out in what turns out to be one of the worst storms of the season. Give them free access to a close, dry, warm shed, and if they went on in when it rains the owner is not much to blame in a moral point of view.

I know that sheep will sometimes stay out in a warm rain till they get wet, when shelter is at hand, and if it turns cold they find themselves with a stiff, uncomfortable dress which they would be glad to exchange for a dry; but this occurs at a season when they should be in their yards, at least every night; during winter we will of course see that they do not get wet at all. When the railing accusation is brought against sheep, “that they don't know enough to come in when it rains,” it is due to the reputation of the sheep to say that their repugnance to coming in when it rains often finds ample apology in the nastiness and stench that holds undisputed sway in the apartments provided for their accommodation.

The utmost care should be taken to ventilate barns and sheds for stock, and by frequent cleaning, or by the use of absorbents like muck, charcoal, plaster or common earth, the fermentation of the manure should be prevented, the surface kept dry and hard, and the air pure.

The free use of straw or other litter will leave the manure loose, and occasion rapid decomposition, accompanied by noxious vapors offensive to pure minded and unperturbed sheep—whether they could conquer their prejudice against nastiness, as a man does who likes tobacco, is beyond my ability to say. Certainly that should not be required of them. Use a little litter, and the manure will pack, the absorbents I have mentioned will prevent offensive odors, and the sheep will have an agreeable resort in bad weather. How many rheumatic pains might be prevented, discomforts avoided, and valuable lives saved by these timely precautions, I leave sheep owners to judge.—H. T. B.

CONDENSED CORRESPONDENCE, ITEMS, &c.

SHEEP PULLING THEIR WOOL.—E. J. KEITH of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and DANIEL M. STEVENS of South Avon, N. Y., inquire what will cure this. Weak mercurial ointment rubbed in small quantities with the end of the finger on the skin in a few places where the wool is pulled, will put an end to the pulling. Take the common mercurial ointment of the drug store and rub it down with say five or six times as much lard, and then use a piece of the size of an ordinary chestnut at one dressing. If necessary repeat this after a week. This might be safe under any circumstances, yet in case of a winter rain, or a very severe storm of any kind soon after applying the ointment, we would recommend that the sheep be kept under shelter.

As there is such a dread of the very name of mercury, we recommend experiments with the following applications:—1. Lard mixed say half and half with turpentine, and used in the same way, and considerably more freely than the mercurial ointment. 2. Sulphur and lard with or without turpentine. 3. Tobacco ointment, made by boiling fresh tobacco leaves cut fine in lard (at the rate of an ounce of the former to a pound of the latter) until it becomes friable. 4. A strong decoction of tobacco would doubtless answer the same purpose, but it would discolor the wool more than the preceding applications, and would, to a certain extent, wash out the wool. Will some of our intelligent correspondents try these several remedies and report progress? We shall have them tried on our own sheep should occasion arise.

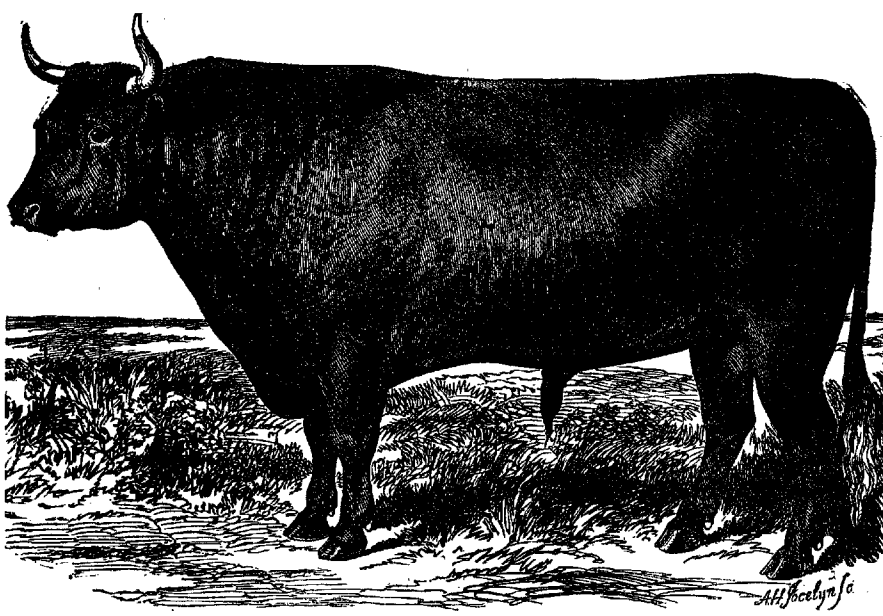
Dipping a sheep all over in a strong decoction of tobacco summarily cures them of wool pulling, as we know by experiment, but this would be rather an unsafe procedure in winter owing to the danger of taking cold—and would have a very disagreeable effect on the appearance of the whole fleece. This last result would not follow the necessary amount of tobacco ointment, and we have no doubt whatever that it would be found a certain remedy. It is also an excellent dressing for irritable ulcers: and we trust that quantities of it will be prepared and kept on hand for use by our sheep farmers when the tobacco crop reaches the proper condition next summer.

“SNUFFLING, SNEEZING AND COUGHING.”—JANE CROUCH, Newton, Jasper Co., Iowa, wishes to know the “cause and cure” of the above symptoms in sheep. The cause is a cold—caught by some unusual exposure. If the sheep is in good condition, and the cold is not very severe, it is not usual to do anything but take good care to guard it against further exposure by proper shelter. If the sheep is thin, or the animal attacked is a teg, the matter is more serious. The favorite prescription among farmers is to give it a tablespoonful of tar, or dand its face and nose with tar; we can bear witness to the efficacy of either remedy.

Communications, Etc.

PREPARING AND FEEDING ROOTS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I saw an inquiry not long since in the RURAL about feeding roots. I wanted to hear from others that had had more experience and had fed on a larger scale than I have, but perhaps a few words will be kindly received by those who read to be benefited thereby. My practice is to put up my stock early in the fall, as soon as cold rains fall, even if I do not give them any thing to eat during the rains; for they weaken the animal and it requires extra care to regain the strength. If I have a certain amount of fodder to give a sheep or a cow until the first of April, I choose to feed enough of it in the month of November to supply the lack of nutriment there is in frost-killed grass to keep the animal in good condition, in order to meet



DEVON BULL HURON. (E. 652.) (A. 604.)

THIS fine animal was bred by EDWARD G. FAIRB, West Farms, Westchester Co., N. Y. Sire and dam imported from the herd of JAMES QUARTLY, England. The property of WALTER COLB, Batavia, Genesee Co., N. Y. Huron gained the first prize as a two-year-old at the show of “The New York Agricultural Society,” at Albany, in 1859—also the First Prize of \$50 at the “New England Cattle Show,” of 1864

the demands that the coming cold weather will make on that animal's system. For that reason, I commence feeding roots as soon as I confine my cattle in the yard or stable.

I am well aware that some young men, just beginning, do not give their stock all of the attention that would be for their interest. Just give the subject a few thoughts, and a day or two in fixing some good place for your beast, and see next spring if it does not pay.

I suppose I have digressed. I think it pays full as well to feed roots to cattle as any stock that I have. Horses do well to have a part of their food supplied with carrots. I always clean all of my roots for horses or cattle. Some say dirt is good; but much of it is not. It is a good deal of work to clean them, but it pays. I fed a number of hundreds of bushels one winter, and wiped every bushel of them. One of my neighbors fed, the same winter, carrots to his horses and a cow; he came over to my place one day and said that his cow did not do well. He wanted to make her extra fat and gave her all of meal and carrots she would eat, but she did not gain much. I told him he fed too much dirt; he thought not. He wanted I should go and see the cow. His horses, he thought, were sick. I went and found no disease about the cow. He wanted to know how I fed my roots. I told him to clean his carrots and give in small feeds until the stomach gained its natural strength again. He did so and his cow fattened well from that time, and was a very fat animal when killed.

I think that roots fed with corn meal pay best, for the reason that the juice of the vegetable moistens the meal and aids digestion. The action on the stomach is different from water; in masticating the root it warms the juice while mixing with the saliva and it assimilates more readily with the gastric juice and prepares the food for a good digestion. The lacteal ducts take up the nutritive part of the food, while the blood carries it to the tissues, and the animal lays on fat.

We have weighed and fed, and weighed again, but no record has been kept of the gain, time, and amount of food. I should have to write from memory. I am feeding four head this winter with carrots and poor corn, and shall feed meal as soon as corn will grind. I sowed two acres of turnips; the grasshoppers ate them off the first time; I sowed again, but being late, they were small, the heavy rains flooded them. I shall try again next season. A. S.

FARM TALK ABOUT FEED CUTTERS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—As I sat myself before a roaring fire, in our cozy little sitting-room, and take up a copy of the RURAL, the thought comes into my head to write to you. It makes one feel “sort” of comfortable, to think everything is right in the barns and sheds; for it is cruel for a person to leave stock out, exposed to the storm such a night as this. How hearty this cold weather makes the stock! As I came in from the barn an hour ago I could not help wishing for cold weather always, all winter at least; it gives such an appetite to sheep and cattle. It does one good to see them eat the grain and fodder, which is all cut of course. (I have not got to steaming or cooking food for stock yet, having only commenced on a small scale.)

The other morning, neighbor B.—who thinks he is an adept at farming without books or papers, came into the barn where I was engaged in cutting hay with one of those economical feed cutters. Says he, “So you have got one of those overgrown nuisances? That one cost much as \$30, eh?”

“Yes.”

“’Spose a 12-dollar one, like mine, wouldn't cut feed for your four horses?”

“Yes, but I cut all of the fodder for my stock, except bean-fodder.”

“That must be fun, say nothing about the cost of that thing.”

“It isn't fun, but I believe it pays. See here, how much hay do your sheep waste in one week?”

“Well, I don't know, perhaps 50 or 75 lbs.—no more than other sheep, fed as well as mine are; you see, they eat the clover and leave part of the Timothy, for my hay is about two-thirds clover.”

“Well, neighbor, suppose they waste 50 pounds of hay per week, (which mine did before cutting it,) it will make 800 pounds lost in four months; allowing your bean fodder and other fodder to

last the remainder of the winter. Eight hundred pounds at present prices, are worth \$8.00. When I was in your barnyards yesterday, I saw that your cattle left full one-third of the corn fodder, and it was thrown out to litter the yards; that my cattle eat up clean, when cut; that third is worth \$25 at least. Besides, where you cut hay for your horses, I cut bright oat straw, gathered before fully dead ripe, which wet, and a little meal mixed with it, they eat up clean, and gain finely. I think I am saving at least \$10, in the keeping of each horse, being \$68 for these three kinds of fodder, to say nothing about the wheat and barley straw which the stock eat up entirely when cut. Why, neighbor, I was figuring on the subject a day or two since, and I calculated this machine would save me over \$50 this winter, over and above the cost of labor, which pays in war times.”

“If you feed out all of your fodder, what do you use for yard litter and bedding?”

“Did you see that large heap of leaves in the shed? I use those for bedding, and with the potato tops, dry sand and muck, I get along very well.”

“Where did you learn this, or what put it into your head?”

“I take the RURAL NEW-YORKER; in that I read the experience of prosperous farmers. I try their plans; those that succeed I adopt; that is where I got the idea.”

“Well, I don't believe in book-farming, but perhaps that machine is a good one. I came over to get your feed to use to day.”

“Yes, it hangs at the right of the door.”

“Good morning.”

“Good morning.”

To-day I saw a \$30 Feed Cutter drive into his yard.

And now, brother farmer, if you have not a good feed cutter, follow neighbor B.'s example, and procure one immediately. If at the end of one week you had rather be without one, I would like to know your reasons. I tell you that you can keep more stock on the same fodder, they will thrive better, fat faster, and put money in your pockets. And let us subscribe for one or more of the best Agricultural Journals for the coming year, read them, and adopt any suggestion or plan that will lessen our labors or add to our profits.

Make it a point to be wiser each Saturday night than the preceding one, be thorough in all we undertake, strive to be number one in our business, and in ten years we will be happier, our business more respected, and there will be fewer among us to complain of hard times, taxes, Administration, &c. Let us try it. GO-A-HEAD. Fruit Grove, Orleans Co., N. Y., Dec., 1864.

LANDS IN MINNESOTA.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Several of your readers having written me for information regarding the chance of getting good lands, well located, in Minnesota, I will, with your permission, answer through your columns. In the frontier counties there are yet plenty of fine opportunities to select government lands under the Homestead Law, which gives one hundred and sixty acres for the small sum of fifteen (15) dollars, provided the settler lives on it for five years. In the more thickly settled parts of the State, railroad lands are yet vacant, and some held by non-resident speculators can be had on reasonable terms. I have no way of describing these lands, more than to say that the part of the land grant of the St. Paul and Pacific road which they have just put in market, is mostly located in Wright, Sherburne, Hennepin and Carver counties, all above the Falls of St. Anthony. The railroad is finished, and cars running for fifty miles north of St. Paul, and the road is graded and ties delivered forty miles beyond that.

Yours Resp'tly, O. H. KELLY. Washington, D. C., Dec. 24, 1864.

CORN HUSK PAPER.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It appears that corn-husks are to be converted into writing and all kinds of paper, and are invaluable for that purpose. There is a great difference in the quality of the husk. I would call the attention of corn-husk paper manufacturers to a twelve-rowed variety, which we obtained by crossing the “Palmer corn” on the “Sheep-tooth” or “Bears-paw,” a fourteen to eighteen-rowed, yellow

low corn, thus producing a valuable field variety. It ripens early and weighs more to the bushel, is very productive, fills out to the end of the cob, better than other kinds grown in Vermont. We have repeatedly taken premiums at the County and State exhibitions, also at the American Institute, New York city, on this corn. The covering or husk is remarkably soft, fine and flexible. The husk is as different from the common eight-rowed varieties, or Western corn, to the feeling, as silk is to cotton or flax. I should presume it might be converted into the finest quality of paper of a strong texture. I think pure seed could be had by applying to HENRY BOWDITCH of Weybridge, Vermont. S. W. JEWETT. El Tejon, Cal., 1864.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Potatoes Frozen without Injury.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Canada Farmer* tells how a friend had twenty bushels of potatoes, in a good stone cellar, frozen as hard as bullets, and he threw upon them six or eight pails of water, when they shortly became a solid mass of ice. In a few days a thaw took place, the ice and water left them, and they remained during the winter perfectly free from frost, and were not in any way injured.

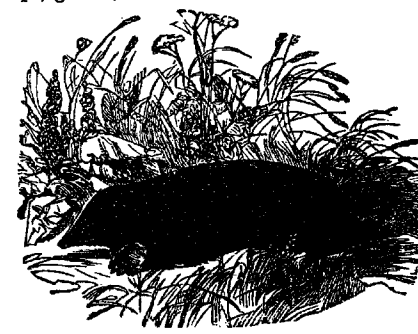
When to Cut Timber.

THE following facts are stated by a correspondent of the *Ohio Cultivator*, and are worthy of attention:—“Recently I had the pleasure of visiting Elder Bradley, of Portage county, who showed me a field which he cut and cleared off in June and July, 1822. Many of the stumps are yet standing and quite sound; the rails made at the same time quite sound and good. Another field cut and fenced in the winter of 1837-8, no stumps standing, rails nearly all rotten or gone. Barn built in June, 1834, chestnut shingles, all sound but much worn; oak sills, six inches from the ground—not covered, perfectly sound; stakes made in June, set top down, stand good, nine years old. Nearly all the sills of the barns exposed, that were cut in the winter season, only last good ten or fifteen years; so says the Deacon. He also says he easily kills all elders and briars by cutting them off to the ground in January; they will only stand one or two cuttings.”

How* to Trap Moles.

A RURAL correspondent recently asked the best way to get rid of ground moles. A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* says the best way is to catch them, and thus tells how to do it:—“Take an ordinary fence post, six feet long—with two nails fasten a piece of board or old barrel stave across near one end to keep it from swaying when set; on the same side of the post, and within 12 or 16 inches of the other end, with one nail, fasten a piece of board a foot long and about two inches wide. Within an inch or an inch and a half from each end of this piece, drive through two very sharp 3-16 wire spikes—two at each end—about eight inches long and three-quarters of an inch apart. Now with the ‘figure-four,’ it is ready for operation. Make the inner end of the horizontal spindle broad or spoon-shaped—have a number of small notches near the bottom of the perpendicular spindle, and so shape the shoulder in the long one that it will catch in them, and not slip up when the inner end is raised.

“The mole has some main thoroughfares that he travels often, and many travel the same road. Know one of these by setting your foot on it, and in six or eight hours he will have raised the dirt across your foot-track. In such a place set your trap, and so that the spikes in either end of the cross-piece will drop directly in and through the hole. Press down the dirt mid-way between the spikes—have your spindles so adjusted that the broad end of the long one will rest directly on the ground over the closed part of the hole. Coming from either way, he finds his hole closed, and rooting up the ground, raises the spindle, springs the trap, and lo! he is nailed ‘tighter than a brick.’ With a number of these traps and a boy to tend them, you may soon rid your premises of moles, and collect enough of very fine fur to trim your ladies' garments, make caps, gloves, &c.”



THE MOLE.

In this connection it may interest the RURAL reader if we say something of the mole. It is believed by many that the mole has no eyes; this is an error. The eyes are two glittering, black points of about the size of mustard seed, concealed and protected by surrounding hair and skin. This protection is necessary, from its habits of life. Its senses of smell, touch and hearing are very acute. The openings of the ears and mouth may be closed by membranous folds to prevent the entrance of earth. The food of the mole consists of worms, insects and tender roots, in search of which it burrows in the ground. And it is questioned by some naturalists whether the damage these creatures do by their tunneling is not more than compensated for by their destruction of noxious weeds and insects. They breed twice a year—in spring and autumn. The soft fur—white, ash or fawn color—is often made into pretty light robes and hats; and it has been employed for artificial eyebrows. If our readers trap them, they should use their fur—making it up for children, into robes, capes, &c.

Rural Notes and Queries.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Our thanks are due and tendered to correspondents who have recently favored us with articles for publication. Those whose favors do not soon appear will understand that it is impossible for us to examine and decide at once upon all—and, beside, many matters are sent to us for a certain paper after it has gone to press. Please remember, friends, that the outside pages of the RURAL go to press ten days in advance of date, and hence many articles sent us—such as those appropriate for the Holidays, etc.—are received too late for publication. This explanation will account for the non-appearance of a number of excellent contributions, in both prose and poetry. Articles for our Practical Departments are always acceptable, if not timely, while we are glad to hear from those who write on subjects appropriate for the literary departments of the RURAL. But, right here, we have a request to make. If you write us on business and also send an article for publication, we pray you to separate the documents—i. e., do not put the two on the same sheet or half sheet, for one properly goes to clerk and the other to Editors; and if they are mixed, or on opposite pages, it is difficult to give proper attention to each in season.

—Another thing. At this season when we are in the receipt of hundreds of letters daily, it is impossible for us to respond promptly to all who wish replies. We cannot personally attend to half the calls upon us in this line, and must therefore ask the indulgence of friends near and distant, who are not aware of the labor and vexation to which we are subjected. Patience, good friends, and all will yet be well.

Beware of “TRAVELING” AGENTS!—We have often published in the RURAL and elsewhere, that no traveling agents are employed by us, yet it is like the minister animadverting upon the sins of absentees to his devout listeners. Almost daily we receive letters advising us of the operations of swindling sharpers. Here is one (dated Jan. 6th.) from Kittanning, Pa., which says:—“There is a man traveling through this county collecting subscriptions for the RURAL, who calls himself John Allerson. Says he is paid annually by you. As he professes to give the RURAL at \$3, it greatly hinders our raising a club.” Now, John A. is a humbug—lies when he says he is paid by us in any shape—and we will pay \$100 for his arrest and conviction. We repeat that this journal has no traveling agents, and that the only sure way to secure it for a year is to remit \$3 direct to the publisher, or join a club formed by some one you know. Don't let any stranger handle your subscription money.

SUGAR FROM THE BEET.—In a recent speech before the Illinois Horticultural Society, Mr. GENNETT of Chatsworth, an experienced German sugar beet grower and manufacturer, said he did not believe that every farmer could be his own manufacturer of sugar from the beet. He required large works and extensive machinery to make sugar to advantage. He had invested \$75,000 in his works and they are not complete; without such works the business cannot be made a success. He had obtained 8 1/2 tons of beets this year from 3 1/2 acres. Beet raising has to be done on a large scale to be manufactured successfully. There is no difficulty about making sugar from the beet. That matter is settled, beyond a doubt. It can be made for half the price in Illinois that it can in Louisiana. He thinks 1,500 pounds of sugar can be made from an acre of beets; he has made 1,800 lbs. from an acre this year (1864).

THANKS TO THE PRESS.—We are under especial obligations to the Press, both City and Country, for the kind and cordial manner in which our new volume has been heralded and greeted. Would that we could commensurately repay all our friends for all the good things they have said and are saying for the RURAL. But they must take the “will for the deed,” with the assurance that when opportunity offers, we shall not be slow to reciprocate.

CORN STALK AND STRAW CUTTERS.—We have inquiries for straw-cutters which cut a half inch or less. CURMING'S Patent is made with a three-eighths and a five-eighths cut. It is one of the best feed-cutters, either for hand or horse-power, we know of. Price \$35. For sale in this city by N. B. PHELPS, 31 Buffalo Street.

J. H. ENGLISH of Michigan, is informed that we cannot learn that “The Challenge Feed Cutter” is sold in this city.

TURPENTINE.—P. A., Pottsgrove: Turpentine, you probably know, is a semi-solid substance which flows from trees of the pine family. This substance, as it comes from the tree, is distilled both with and without water, and becomes what is called spirits of turpentine. It is refined by re-distillation with caustic alkali. Of the process and means used in distillation we are not informed. Perhaps some of our readers can tell you.]

WOLF TEETH IN HORSES.—Some of our readers have talked of Wolf Teeth as the cause of blindness. JENNINGS says they are not—that they are natural to all horses, and that in cases where the eye is supposed to be affected by them, it is simply necessary to treat the eye for inflammation and allow the teeth to remain. As a rule they fall out soon after being cut.

RELATIVE VALUE OF POTATOES AND HAY.—Richard G.: The relative value of potatoes and hay as food for stock has not been determined by experiments in this country, that we are aware. BOUSINGAULT says: “Now I can state positively, from long and repeated observation, that it is not advisable in practice to substitute less than 280 of potatoes for 100 of meadow hay.”

THE ORIGIN OF THE POTATO.—A Young Reader of the RURAL says he has had a discussion with some of his friends as to the origin of the potato; and the matter is referred to the RURAL to decide. If he had looked in his WEBSTER'S Dictionary he would have found that it is a native of South America.

MANURES FROM STILL-STABLES.—A subscriber asks us to inquire if any of our readers have had experience in the use of the manure of cattle fed on distillery slops; if so, what of its value for corn or other crops? An early response to this question will confer a favor.

MAPLE SUGAR MAKING.—Cannot you induce your correspondents, some of them, to give facts and figures illustrating the profit of maple sugar-making—embracing the kind of boiler or pan used? It will be interesting to many readers.—A MICHIGAN FARMER.

KEEPING SWEET POTATOES.—A. W. H., Bureau Co., Ill.: We should certainly keep them from the light. We regard it important in keeping any tuber in the best condition that light be excluded.

ORCHARD GRASS.—H. OSMUN, Allegany Co., N. Y.: Sown in spring, early. The seed can probably be obtained of any seedman who advertises in the RURAL.

HORTICULTURAL.

THE IONA GRAPE.

We have been repeatedly asked what we think about this grape about which there is so much noise. We have thought a good deal about it, but do not propose to write all we have thought. It is doubtless a grape of merit; it certainly is of good flavor, good color and attractive, as we have seen it on exhibition tables. It is, without doubt, worthy of trial, notwithstanding the superlatives with which interested parties have pushed it into notice. But we do not sympathize at all with the policy which, without trial, recommends it for general cultivation, when it is doubtless true that it has never been adequately tested in more than two or three localities, and those not embracing a great range of latitude.

There has been considerable sharp practice in the way of advertising this grape. If we ever get as high an opinion of it (the grape) as we have of the advertising skill of the parties introducing it to the public, it will be a very good grape indeed. The unctious and abandoned with which the adjectives glorifying it were used by gentlemen who spoke of it at the recent meeting of the American Pomological Society, will long be remembered by disinterested spectators and listeners—especially such as can appreciate the ludicrous and comic. The management which induced HORACE GREELEY to offer a premium for the best grape, secured pre-judgment in favor of the Iona in the columns of the *Tribune* before the Committee could consider the question, secured the coveted award, and then after it had been heralded throughout the country, magnanimously refused to receive the premium, but insisted upon leaving the lists open to any other grape, and got this apparent challenge properly advertised—we say that such management is, we think, far ahead of BARNUM, no matter whether the grape is good for anything or not, and commands our open-mouthed admiration.

Then, having a large stock of vines on hand, and having given the public a thorough knowledge of the wonderful qualities of this grape, a grand Convention of Fruit Growers was called at Iona. It is asserted, (and we have not seen it denied,) that the names of distinguished men were used on the circular of invitation to lure the public thither, without their knowledge or consent. We do not assert that this is true, but it has been so asserted and we have seen no denial. At the Convention was a grand auction sale of Iona vines. This was really what the "Convention" was called for, and culminated in the sale of about ten thousand vines for nearly or quite as many dollars.

This is, in brief, the public history of the Iona, so far as it has been written. It does not affect the real character of the grape, no matter what that may be; but if it is a good and valuable grape it is not the best way, we think, of helping the public to believe it. There is such a thing as being too enthusiastic; and if this grape is all its friends claim for it, they have injured its reputation, for the time being, by their extraordinary efforts to push it.

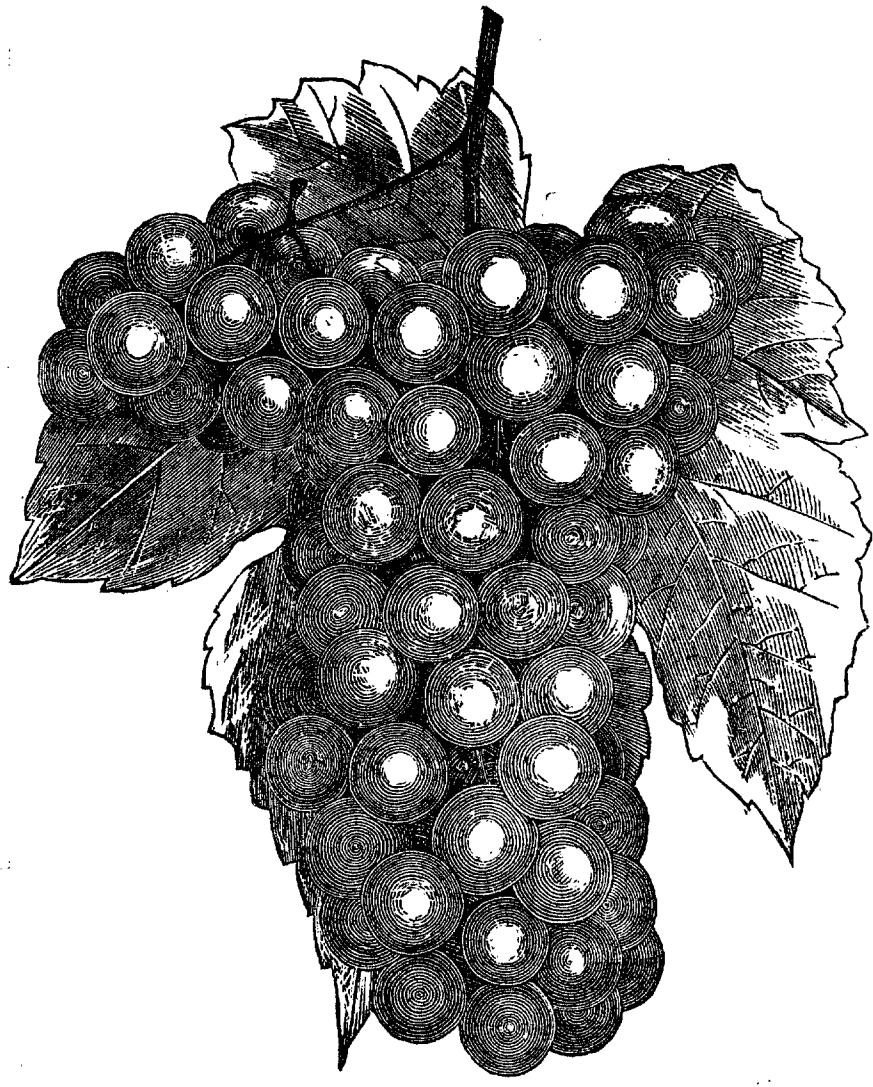
THE DELAWARE GRAPE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—This grape is hard to propagate, because of the hardness and firmness of its wood; and Delaware vines that are not well propagated seldom do well when planted. The vines of this variety must be planted in very rich and naturally very dry or well underdrained soil. They should be planted deep—in dry soils, eight inches; and if planted in the spring, place upon their roots but two or three inches of soil, and let it remain until mid-summer, when, from time to time, work the soil into the basin until it is entirely filled. This shallow covering gives the sun a chance to warm the soil and quicken the roots to grow and mature before the frost overtakes them; whereas had the hole been filled at once, the roots would have remained dormant for some weeks, and very likely the vines would have thrown out surface roots and weakened the bottom ones. The former are always injured by the heavy frosts of winter and extreme heat of summer.

If planted in the fall, a covering of leaves or straw should be placed on the three inches of soil (to make its depth) and the hole filled with soil, which is to be removed in the spring, just as soon as the heavy frosts are over. The vines should be cut back to three buds, and but one—the lowest—allowed to grow. This must be kept tied to a small stake and the laterals kept pinched, leaving one additional leaf each time of pinching. (The laterals are the side branches which grow at the expense of the vine, preventing it maturing as fast as when they are moderately checked as directed above.)

A good No. 1 vine will, with this treatment, grow about six feet the first year. In the fall succeeding the planting, cut the vine back to three eyes and grow as before; then it will be strong enough to train in any form the grower may wish. The double horizontal system is the best, which requires two arms from the second years' growth. The first, or end vine, on the trellis, has but one arm, and that starting horizontally at the height of three feet. The second in the row has two arms, fifteen to eighteen inches from the ground; the third two arms, three feet from the ground, and the fourth two arms fifteen to eighteen inches from the ground like the second, and so on, alternately. The length of these arms should be governed by the strength of the vine. Each vine is calculated to make eight feet of arms, except the end ones, which have but one arm of four feet. Thus they are planted just four feet apart.

A vine that has made a strong growth, say two canes, six feet each, can be allowed to form two arms, eighteen inches each, allowing every other bud to grow, and the next year the end shoot can be turned down to extend, and make



CLUSTER AND LEAF OF THE DELAWARE GRAPE.

an addition to the arm, of one foot, and so on, gradually, according to the strength of the vine, until the trellis is filled.

To give the full history of training, I fear will occupy too much space; but I will give it at another time if requested.

With the above treatment, I will insure the little Delaware to produce as many pounds of grapes to the acre as any other vine. D. C. S. Sing Sing, N. Y., 1865.

REMARKS.—The above is from a member of the firm of RYDER & Co., propagators of Grape Vines, whose price list of vines for 1865 is before us. We shall hope to hear further from the writer. Just such plain, practical information is what is wanted. When men know how to plant and take care of vines, without loss and disappointment, they will buy them.

—There are many people who have never seen the fruit of the Delaware Grape—perhaps some among our readers. For their benefit we publish an engraving of a cluster and the leaf of this fruit. It is one of the grapes that cannot be too largely planted.

SCREENS AND STOCKADES ON PRAIRIES.

OCCASIONALLY, I learn items of value to many of your readers. For instance, a general knowledge of what I learned yesterday, put in practice would be of immense value to the prairie farmers of the West. A ten acre field, including house, barn, sheep-fold and cattle-yard, enclosed by a living screen and stockade, as durable as time, and as efficient as a dense forest, and at half the cost of good board fence.

This screen, barricade, and stockade (as it really is) against man, beast, and storms, consists of the rapidly growing and beautiful Italian poplar on two sides of the enclosure, and the equally thrifty Silver Abele on the other two sides, either of which, at five years, will turn cattle, break storms, and afford a pleasing shade in summer. Trees from four to five feet can probably be obtained from nurserymen at \$50 to \$60 per thousand, and cuttings, (which are almost as good) at one-fourth these prices.

If trees are used, they should be planted in a furrow about one foot apart; cuttings should be set six inches apart, requiring about 5,000 cuttings or 2,500 trees to the mile. Cuttings are planted thicker than trees are required, to supply missing plants. Cuttings may be planted in the garden, in rows twelve inches apart, so that a space of two by ten rods will hold 10,000 cuttings, which can be transplanted the next year. Western lands being cheap and a moderate shade on prairies desirable, these rapid growing trees will supply the cheapest inclosure of fields, and, when other materials are desired, the wood in this will be worth more than its cost.

Lots may be subdivided as fancy may dictate, and the plants headed off to any desired height, as ten or fifteen feet. At five years the trees will be about six inches in diameter, and at ten years they form a perfect stockade of eight to ten inch trees which will equally oppose storms, man and beast. J. SMITH.

Egypt, Ill., Nov., 1864.

REMARKS.—This letter is a noticeable one—that is why we publish it. It evidently comes to us from an itinerant tree dealer. JOHN SMITH may be his name and may not. We want our readers to look it over carefully. It is a very good sample of the way these tree peddlers talk. We think it highly probable that our correspondent saw the barricade, stockade and screen he describes—we have seen similar ones ourselves. But there are many honest, plain folks who will ask about that "Italian Poplar." "Why that's a new kind o' poplar ain't it?" We think we hear some credulous Sucker say as he listens to just such a story from the lips of this identical JOHN SMITH. And will SMITH say "Yes, Sir?"

If he does not he is a more conscientious tree peddler than the average. Shall we tell our readers that we know of only one Italian poplar, and that is commonly called Lombardy poplar. But it may suit JOHN SMITH'S purposes better to call it Italian. True, it is an Italian tree, but neither botanists, nor any one else that we know of, ever called it anything but Lombardy. It is highly probable that the plain farmer would recognize the Lombardy if that name were given and could scarcely be induced to pay SMITH \$50 to \$60 per thousand for trees, nor one-fourth of that money for cuttings of it.

Again, what farmer ever heard of the "equally thrifty Silver Abele?" Not one in one thousand would suspect that JOHN SMITH was talking of the common silver-leaf poplar that, once planted, covers the whole neighborhood with sprouts from its roots. JOHN SMITH could not sell the silver-leaf poplar to farmers at \$50 or \$60 per thousand nor cuttings at one-fourth that price, if they had ever seen the tree growing; but he might sell them the "Silver Abele" provided he could induce them to believe his story. Doubtless this JOHN SMITH is telling this story to the Suckers with a great deal of innocent frankness; and some of them are believing the merits of these trees as rapid growers, easily propagated, something new in the horticultural world. We suppose the White Willow does not sell as well as it did, and some other wood for stockades and screens must be brought into notice. Perhaps JOHN SMITH thought he would be doing a big thing for himself and the prairies if he could only get the RURAL to swallow his recommendations. We advise our readers to beware of "Italian Poplar" and "Silver Abele" peddlers. The trees grow rapidly, will make a stockade or screen as quickly, probably, as the White Willow, especially on uplands, but there is no need of paying any such prices for them as this JOHN SMITH would like to fix.

INCREASING LOVE OF NATURE.

It is pleasing to see, everywhere in our country, a growing love for the works of nature. In ways diverse, almost, as the different characters of individuals, is this love and appreciation shown. Among the younger portion of our people it is evinced by the manufacture of pretty ornaments from cones, leaves, shells and woody lichens, and the collection, in almost every home, of specimens of minerals, corals, shells and seaweed. Among older persons, it is shown by the increasing frequency of jaunts to the sea-side, the mountains, lakes and cataracts of our beloved land. Then, again, more attention is given to laying out, with beauty and regularity, parks and public and private gardens and grounds.

Flowers receive greater care. But a few years since, the holly-hock, May-rose, and red peony were the only flowers found in cottage and farm-house yards; now, roses of various and beautiful hues shed their fragrance on every passing breeze, clamber over cottage roof, twine around pillared piazzas, bluish among the curls of living beauty and gleam, snow-white, around the brows of the beloved dead. Tulipa, that once might have been given as a noble's ransom, flaunt gaily in every garden border. Dahlias, of every hue and shade, are becoming common, and numberless shrubs, vines and flowers adorn our homes and brighten and beautify our lives.

More thought is employed in selecting fine and imposing building sites and arranging and grouping foliage about the grounds. Here, trees are planted to hide an unpleasant object; there, as carefully removed, because they obstruct a fine view, and thus, as much beauty as possible is secured. Yet we fall in one respect; sufficient thought has not been given to autumnal foliage; few have made provision for that glory of the leaves, which seems almost to renew, yearly,

"the bush burned with fire and not consumed." A little attention in planting and grouping trees and shrubs, whose foliage is known to color well in Autumn would be many-fold repayed in the added charms of park and yard during September and October.

The Soft Maple—*Acer rubrum*—flings out flaming banners before the earliest frost; though beautiful, its charms are fleeting, as the leaves drop almost immediately, while the Sugar Maple—*Acer saccharinum*—commonly planted for shade, often retains its gorgeous drapery two or three weeks. One of these trees will afford a new and charming spectacle each day; at first, perhaps a tuft of scarlet leaves will gleam out from the very top; the next morning, a twig, far below, will flash out in yellow, then, a whole branch will wake up all dressed in scarlet, bound and stained and spotted with gold and amber; and thus, ever-varying but ever beautiful, they return to Mother Earth.

The Stag-horn Sumach—*Rhus typhina*—is not particularly ornamental during summer, but its autumnal dress of deep red, and fruit panicles of crimson are very fine in color.

The Mountain Ash retains its green till the last of October, and its clustered coral berries contrast finely with the delicate foliage.

Carefully noting those trees and shrubs which are thus beautiful in autumn, and grouping them tastefully among or near evergreens, we may obtain the most charming pictures of landscape gardening. AMELIE PETTIT.

Horticultural Notes and Queries.

PRESERVING GRAPES.—What is the surest, best and cheapest mode of preserving grapes fresh a long time?—W.

INDIGO IN THE NORTH.—Inquirer: We know of no experiments in the culture of this plant in the North ern States. We do not think it could be cultivated here with profit. We have seen it asserted, however, that there are one or more varieties indigenous in the north; but the dye they yield is inferior.

SHIPPING APPLE SCIONS AND STRAWBERRIES.—If any of your readers have had experience and success in forwarding to this State, by mail, either apple scions or strawberry roots, will they please give information through the RURAL of their mode of packing to preserve them from mold and decay en route?—CALIFORNIA.

RABBITS IN ORCHARDS.—Illinois Subscriber: We know of nothing that can be applied to trees to prevent rabbits molesting them. They are very easily trapped in a "figure four" trap baited with an apple—a sweet one is best. Once caught, they are worth something in market, or may be used on your own table to save the chickens. They are excellent eating.

TO SAVE CABBAGE PLANTS.—Mrs. H. WIER of Johnsville, N. Y., saved her cabbage plants from being eaten off by worms, by digging holes for the plants and filling them with a compost made of soda, leached ashes, the sootings of the yard, refuse brine, &c. The plants were set in this compost, no other earth touching them, and there was only a loss of one-half of one per cent of the plants set, by worms.

SELF-EMPTYING FRUIT BASKET.—Fruit Grower, Oswego Co.: The basket you refer to as having been seen at the State Fair is probably that sold by J. BRACK & SON, Boston, Mass. It is so constructed that the fruit can be lowered in it from the tree and emptied on the ground or in barrels with less injury than by the ordinary mode—a section of the basket opening at the bottom so as to let the fruit roll out without bruising. We thought it a very good contrivance for the fruit gatherer.

Domestic Economy.

DOMESTIC INQUIRIES.

TO PREPARE BEEF TO DRY.—Will some of the readers of the RURAL please inform a subscriber a good way to prepare beef to dry?—SHERMAN.

MILK YEAST.—Will some contributor to the RURAL tell how to prepare milk yeast for wheat bread, and how to apply it?—W.

CLEANING TRIPES.—Will you or some of your readers inform me through your paper the best method of cleaning and preparing tripe for the table?—J. M. W., Hills Corners, N. Y.

CORN STARCH PUDDING.—I would like to inquire of some of the numerous RURAL readers how to make corn starch pudding. I find none in looking through four previous volumes. Also, how to make vermicelli soup?—A LOVER OF THE RURAL.

PUMPKIN BUTTER.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I noticed in the RURAL a recipe describing the process of making "apple butter," which no doubt is very good, and is applicable to those living in locations where apples are plenty, but those living where fruit is not so plenty or where there is none at all, are obliged to resort to something else as a substitute, and I thought I would send you a recipe for making "pumpkin butter" which is in reach of nearly every one.

The first process is to prepare the molasses, for which take good ripe pumpkins. Six good sized ones are sufficient for two and a half or three gallons of sauce. Prepare the pumpkins the same as for stewing with the exception of not peeling them. Have ready a kettle or boiler, into which put the prepared pumpkin with a very little water. Stew until tender, strain or press through a strong cloth strainer, then put the juice over the fire to be boiled down to the consistency of common molasses. Boil slowly when nearly done for fear of burning it.

The next process is to prepare the pumpkin for the sauce. Two or three good pumpkins are all that are required for the amount of molasses. Prepare and stew the same as for pies, stewing as low as possible without burning; when done, and while warm, add the molasses, spice, cinnamon, etc., to suit the taste. Dip in earthen or stone crocks and keep in a cool place.—A. C. LA DUE, Wayne, Wis.

A "TIP-TOP" PLUM PUDDING.

Recipe 1. From "M. B.," Metamora, Mich.:—12 ounces of bread, three days old, soaked in sweet milk and beat fine; 12 ounces of fresh beef suet, fine; 4 eggs; 12 ounces sugar; 12 ounces currants; 12 ounces of raisins; 1 ounce candied lemon peel chopped fine; nutmeg to suit the taste. Stir in flour until as thick as stirred cake. 1 table-spoonfull of cream tartar; 2 teaspoonfulls of soda. This is to be boiled in bowls that must be full. Take a cloth and put it over the top of the bowl, and tie it, around the bottom, with a string; then take the corners and pin them together over the top of the bowl. The cloth and the bowls must be well buttered. Keep on a good boil for two hours; then turn out on a dish and serve up with the following sauce:—Boiling water, thickened with flour; put in a lump of butter as large as a hen's egg; two table-spoonfulls of sugar; when cooked, add three table-spoonfulls of brandy.

Recipe 2. From MARION, Monrocton, Pa.:—Take 1 teacup of rice and two quarts of water; after the water has boiled off add 1 quart of milk—stirring it often to make it smoother; when scalding hot add the yolks of 3 eggs, well beaten; 1 cup seeded raisins and 6 table-spoonfulls of sugar. Stir the whites to a stiff froth; add 5 spoonfulls of sugar and spread over the pudding; set it in a moderately warm oven and let it stand till slightly browned.

JOHNNY CAKE COFFEE.

ONE cup molasses and 1 cup of cold water, thickened with Indian meal and baked until browned through, the same as you brown coffee. Put a piece about 8 inches square in the coffee-pot at night with a little water. Boil in the morning, and add 1 table-spoonfull of good Java coffee and it will make a good dish of coffee for a family of six persons. I use the same with the addition of the spoonfull of coffee for three or four mornings and it is better each time.—Mrs. A. V. O., Albion, Mich.

CRACKERS.—Five cups of flour; 1 1/2 cups of water; 1/4 cup of shortening (lard is best); 1 teacupful salt; 1 teacupful soda; two of cream tartar. The flour made from winter wheat is always best for crackers.

FLOUR CHOCOLATE.—Take half pint of flour, brown it, stirring constantly to keep from burning. Then wet it thoroughly with cold water, pour on 3 quarts of boiling water, let stand till it begins to boil, then put in half pint of milk. Let it stand till it begins to boil again and it is ready for the table.—LUTA LELAND.

DUTCH CHEESE A SUBSTITUTE.—In these times, when common cheese rules at a very high price, the "Dutch Cheese" makes a very good substitute, as follows:—Take new loppered milk, and put it into a kettle over a very moderate fire, let it heat gradually till the curd is separated from the whey; skim it out, and with the hands press out the whey; then add your salt and a small piece of butter, if you can spare it; when these are thoroughly mixed, make it into small balls or cakes. To be eaten soon.—J.

SMUT OUT OF YARN.—I would like to tell S. E. TURNER how mother and I take the "smut" out of yarn colored with "extract of logwood." After taking the goods from the dye, we dry them, then take some skimmed milk and warm soft water, equal parts, and wash the yarn thoroughly in it, rinse in water, and we have not been troubled with "smut" since managing in this way.—MELVA, Steuben Co., N. Y., 1864.

APPLE JELLY.—Take half peck sour apples; peel and core them, put them in a kettle over a brisk fire, with water sufficient to stew thoroughly; strain through a thin towel or jelly bag, add to each pint of juice one pint of white sugar; boil briskly twenty minutes; flavor with lemon; put it away in molds or glass tumblers while hot.—O. L. STAPLETON, Clermont Co., Ohio.

FOR TOOTHACHE.—A little horseradish scraped and laid on the *erist* of the side affected, will, in many cases, it is said, give speedy relief. Another way is to place a little scraped horseradish in the mouth, or the tooth, and just around the gum. It relieves rheumatic pains in the gums and face also. The mouth may afterwards be rinsed with a little camphorated water, lukewarm.

LARD FOR SUMMER USE.—To preserve lard for summer use, mother says, try the "leaf lard" separately, throwing in a small handful of salt while "trying." Put in a tin or stone jar and keep in a cool, dry place. In this way mother's keeps pure as long as it lasts; and she is sure it will keep a year.—NELLY G—, Rutland, Vt.

ENGLISH CHRISTMAS PUDDING.—Two lbs. superfine flour; 2 lbs. beef suet; 2 lbs. raisins; 2 lbs. currants; 2 lbs. sugar; 2 dozen eggs; 2 gills brandy; 2 ounces allspice; made into a thick batter with new milk. Boil eight hours.—"OLD COMMODORE ELLIOTT," Orleans Co., N. Y.

SURE CURE FOR CHILBLAINS.—Dissolve Epsom or Glauber salts in as little water as possible, apply it to the parts affected, night and morning, until it effects a cure, which will be in only two or three days.—E. H. F., Mound City, Kansas.

HOW TO KEEP SIRUP FROM RUNNING OVER WHEN BOILING.—Take sweet cream and drop in one drop at a time when it rises; this is sufficient, if the sirup is sweet, and much easier than dipping.—A. E. W.

TO PREVENT BLACK CROCKING.—Rinse the yarn in vinegar and some water, or put some in the dye.—ELIZABETH A. CROSBY.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. NELLIE. BY ANNIE FALLEY BOLAN.

We sat in the dim twilight Together—NELLIE and I— Watching the clouds of glory Drift across the western sky.

She was a fragile creature, I was a wild young thing; Hers were the dreams of Autumn, Mine were the hopes of Spring.

To-night in silence and darkness I weep; for my beautiful one Folded her hands and kiss'd me— And slept at the setting of sun.

JENNY LIND GOLDSCHMIDT.

RANKED among the Queens of Song, we find a very interesting notice of this lady in a recent work, from which we think may be gleaned something of profit and interest to the lady readers of the RURAL. And in the outset it affords the opportunity to say what we have long believed and often uttered—that it seems to us that we Americans are far too nearly piano-mad!—that we spend money and time enough in this eternal, infernal and expressionless drumming upon pianos, to make us, with the same application, the most wonderful nation of vocalists that ever existed.

But we forget that we were going to write of a woman who caused, and justly, too, an enthusiasm among our people, created by no woman before nor since her appearance among us. She was the daughter of an humble school-master, was born in 1821, was a lonely child, her voice being her only companion. Singing was her ruling passion when only three years old, repeating every song she heard with wonderful accuracy.

called forth not the mirth, but the tears of the auditors." After a year and a half constant singing her voice began to lose its freshness, and she became aware that it needed further training.

But JENNY LIND soon began to win the hearts of all who listened to her. And the secret of her success consisted not so much, probably, in her thorough culture as in her more thorough appreciation of art and nature.

And were not our space gone, we would copy much more concerning this Queen of Song to prove how important, in order to reach the highest attainments resulting from the cultivation of the voice, that the soul, the sympathies, should be attuned to a thorough appreciation of music in its highest and purest sense.

WHY JEWESSES ARE BEAUTIFUL.

CHATEAUBRIAND gives a fanciful but agreeable reason for the fact that the Jewish women are so much handsomer than the men of their nation. He says Jewesses have escaped the curse which alighted upon their fathers, husbands and sons.

ON PETTICOATS.

ELIHU BURRITT has been making calculations about women's petticoats—queer business for the Learned Blacksmith—and says more than 10,000 tons of steel are put into crinoline in Christendom annually.

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. STORY OF A SUNBEAM.

BY OLIO STANLEY.

FROM out the blue depths of the glorious sky A sunbeam so wondrously fell,

Ten thousand gay flowers with their myriad hues, Had mingled their perfume all night,

It glanced mid the boughs of the tall forest trees And started the birds from their sleep,

It imaged the smile on the innocent face, It bade the heart-weary be glad,

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. WINTER EVENINGS.

WINTER evenings! They are moving around the wheel of Time to the fireside joys once more. The winter evenings of the "long ago" away down among the years of childhood!

But these winter evenings, we are talking about, are the best part of the years. They are the hours that weave, with the shuttle of an imperceptible influence, much of the web of character which shall stand the wear of life.

The greatest law of God is love, and those who live the truest lives most fulfill this law. The first principle planted in the breast is the love of kindred, filial and fraternal love.

NATURAL ACTION OF THE MIND.—When the mind acts up to nature, and is rightly disposed, she takes things as they come, stands loose in her fancy, and tacks about with her circumstances;

A VIRTUE NEEDED IN AMERICA.

WE Americans are the most wasteful and extravagant people in the world. We waste fearfully in food, in clothing, and in extras.

The present is a most excellent time for the whole people to begin to learn and practice the virtue of economy. If those men who are striking for higher wages because of the high price of living, would, instead of this, waste less in their homes, their clothing and their "sundries,"

Among the mercantile, mechanic, agricultural and working classes of Germany, the same garment will not only be worn for one season or one year, but for half a lifetime or more; and yet they will be no less comfortably clad than our people, who wear out a hundred suits of expensive clothing during their brief existence.

Our habits of waste astonish all foreigners. We waste enough in this country, of food and clothing, in one year, to sustain the whole population for five. The times are hard. The currency is deranged. We know not what lies in the future.

TEACH YOUR BOYS TO ASPIRE.

MUCH prosy advice is bestowed on boys and young men that never gets beyond the drums of their ears. One of the most useful ideas you can introduce in a young head is that its owner is bound to make his mark in the world if he chooses to try.

A THIEF husband cradles his wheat or cribs his corn, while the thifty wife cribs, or cradles the babies.

Sabbath Musings.

CARPE DIEM.

BY PRES. HILL, OF HARVARD COLLEGE.

BUILD not on to-morrow, But seize on to-day!

Wait not any longer Thy work to begin. The worker grows stronger; Be steadfast and win.

Forbode not new sorrow; Bear that of to-day, And trust that the morrow Shall chase it away.

The task of the present Be sure to fulfill; If sad, or if pleasant, Be true to it still.

God sendeth us sorrow, And cloudeth our day; His sun, on the morrow, Shines bright on our way.

THIS LIFE AND THE NEXT.

In this life we grow up to our full stature; and then we decrease till we decrease, we decline and die. In another, we come at first to 'perfect stature,' and so continue forever.

OF CHRIST.

CHRIST made himself like to us, that he might make us like to Himself. Christ must needs have died, how else could sin be expiated, the law satisfied, the devil conquered, and man be saved?

In regard of natural life, we live in God; in regard of spiritual life, Christ lives in us. He that thinks he hath no need of Christ, hath too high thoughts of himself; he that thinks Christ cannot help him, hath too low thoughts of Christ.

WHAT IS CONSCIENCE?—When a little boy, my father sent me from the field home. A spotted tortoise in shallow water caught my attention, and I lifted my stick to strike it when a voice within me said:—"It is wrong."

A BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT.—A writer whose life has passed its meridian thus discourses upon the flight of time:—"Forty years once seemed a long and weary pilgrimage to make. It now seems but a step. And yet along the way are broken shrines where a thousand hopes are wasted into ashes; footprints sacred under their dust, green mounds whose grass is fresh with the watering of tears; shadows even which we would not forget.

Educational.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN N. Y.

Our readers are aware that the proportion of the appropriation of Public Lands, made by the General Government to the several States for the purposes of Agricultural and Mechanical Education, belonging to New York, amounts to nearly a million of acres, and that the income from this appropriation has been given to the People's College at Havana, N. Y., upon condition that it fully carry out the provisions of the Congressional Act making the appropriation. The People's College, or its Trustees, has undertaken to do this; and it is a matter which interests every farmer and mechanic in the State, to know how it proposes to do it, and what measures are in operation to meet their educational wants, as provided for by Congress. A circular issued by the Faculty of the People's College has just come to our notice, in which the manner proposed for doing the work is indicated to a certain extent. From it we learn that the College term commenced the second Monday in October last, and that "the design of this College is to impart a thorough practical, scientific and literary education, especially in the departments of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts." We learn also that "instruction is imparted chiefly by recitations"—that, "during winter, lectures will be delivered by the various professors upon subjects connected with their several chairs"—and that, "provision has been made, amongst other subjects, for a thorough course of lectures on the theory and practice of Agriculture and Horticulture." The circular further states that:

"The College Course will extend over four years, and as it is designed to prepare young men for the pursuit of Agriculture, the Mechanic Arts and General Business, it has been deemed advisable to divide it after a certain progress, into departments in which the studies peculiarly related to these subjects shall be made the prominent feature. For although the general curriculum of study, both in the preparatory department and the first years of the College Course, will be the same for all students, it is obvious that while Agriculture, as a science, depends upon the thorough cultivation of Chemistry and the higher departments of Natural History as relating to Plant Life, Comparative Anatomy, &c., the Mechanic Arts depend for their development almost wholly upon the principles of mathematics, and have but little relation to Natural History. In the very nature of things then, the division above referred to becomes imperative.

"In this connection, it must also be borne in mind that Physical Science as a whole, has become so wonderfully developed and extended as to be totally beyond the grasp of any one mind. It will therefore be the object of this College, while offering a general course of study, equal to that of any other institution, to afford to the student in these special departments such facilities for culture as will enable him to acquire a practical acquaintance with the applications of Science, beyond the reach of institutions which distribute his energies over a wider field. At the same time it is proper to say that while the development of the worker is thus cared for, the culture of the Man will be by no means neglected.

"The Preparatory Course will extend over a period of three years, and will embrace thorough instruction in English Grammar, Geography (Political and Physical), Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry, Latin (Grammar, Caesar, Virgil—six books, Cicero—four orations), Greek (Grammar and Reader,) together with the elements of Physiology, Zoology, Botany, Mineralogy, Geology and Natural Philosophy.

"Candidates for admission to the College Course must sustain a satisfactory examination in the Studies of the Preparatory Department. The range of study embraces thorough drill in Conic Sections, Analytical Geometry, Calculus, Land-surveying (including plotting, mapping and field-work); Topographical and Mechanical Drawing; Mechanics; Descriptive Geometry; Shades, Shadows, Perspective and Drawing in Water Colors; Strength of Materials, Bridge Building, Engineering Structures, Roads and Railroads, Architecture, Landscape Gardening, Theory and Practice of Agriculture and Horticulture, Anatomy (human and comparative), Geology, Zoology, Mineralogy and Mining; General, Agricultural, Technological and Analytical Chemistry; Physics (mechanical and chemical), Astronomy, Logic, Mental Science, French, German, Latin and Greek."

We shall look for results from this adopted system of instruction with a good deal of solicitude. We cannot say that we are very hopeful because of the exhibit above made of the purposes and plans of the institution; but as we become better acquainted with details, we shall hope to be able to regard it as a step far in advance of all previous efforts, and in the right direction.

VERY CHEAP AND GOOD READING.

In looking over my back volumes of the RURAL I was struck by the amount of reading matter furnished by each volume, as made up of the fifty-two weekly issues. Comparing a yearly volume, which the publisher advertises bound at four dollars per volume, I found it equal in contents, to twelve ordinary one dollar and fifty cent volumes. This is after throwing in two pages of each weekly issue, for vignette, business notices, advertisements, etc. Showing that the same amount of matter, furnished in ordinary 12 mo. book form would cost eighteen dollars—making the bound volumes of the Rural, cheaper, by over four to one, for the same amount of matter, than ordinary bound books.

Another prominent consideration, is forcibly impressed upon me, in perusing the back vol-

umes, to wit: the intrinsic value of the contents. I should be entirely at a loss to know where I could find the same amount of valuable matters in the same compass, and at so little cost. The amount of useful information, pertaining to Agriculture, Horticulture, Education, Domestic Economy, and other matters that go to make up a useful "Melange" for a Family Journal, is truly surprising. "The contents are so varied, that no member of a family, however large, can fail to find something that is particularly interesting and valuable to them, as individuals. For Family Reading, I doubt if a few dollars can be spent more profitably, by those who have not already done so, than by the purchase of the back bound volumes of the RURAL NEW YORKER. L.L.F.
Rolling Prairie, Wis., Dec. 1864.

War Literature.

BEFORE AND AFTER THE BATTLE.

BY ELIZABETH BOUTON.

"COMING events cast their shadows before" and the approach of Hood's army to Nashville, after the first battle at Franklin, was foreshadowed to us, who are not in receipt of the last hours advice, by the sudden appearance of an army of quartermasters men, engaged in building entrenchments around the city. The work of entrenching was begun on Wednesday, P. M., the last day of November, and continued all night by fire-light; and by noon, next day, two lines of breastworks extended from the river bank above, around to the river bank below the city. During the early part of the night, while the fire, kindled to light the men at work, were brightest, their appearance was beautiful beyond description, and all Nashville except the side next the river seemed girdled by a belt of glittering flames. All day Thursday the work went on so rapidly, that earthworks seemed to spring up by magic, while the air was thick with rumors of the movement of the approaching foe. Wounded soldiers and rebel prisoners were being brought in from Franklin and Brentwood, and about noon our forces began to arrive, and pitch their tents just beyond the outer line of entrenchments, and Hood's army, took up a position and began to fortify a mile or two farther off.

Thursday evening I went out with four other ladies and a Lieutenant-Colonel in an ambulance with an escort of officers on horseback, to see our army by the light of its camp-fires, and rode several miles along the line of encampments that skirted the sides and covered the summits of an amphitheatre of low hills, south of the city. Twenty-four hours before those hills were brown and bare, and except the few cattle that grazed their sides, had showed no signs of life; now they swarmed with armed men, were white with canvas and illuminated by ten thousand fires. The men were fatigued by a long and weary march, and in some of the camps still busy about their evening meal; and except the music of a distant band, and, here and there, a bugle sounding the signal for evening roll call, the long lines of encampments were as silent as a wilderness. It was a sight never to be forgotten. The city with its myriad lights to the north; and east, west and south, a line of hills robed and crowned with the camp-fires of an army of fifty thousand men.

All Saturday and Sunday the work of strengthening the defences went on, and citizens who went out to see the works were each provided with an axe or spade and allowed the privilege of using it a few hours in defence of their country, often to their own infinite disgust. Meantime the rebel forces were as busy as our own, and hostile earthworks were growing up confronting ours, and though some of our batteries were throwing shot and shell into their lines at intervals, for several days, they did not reply by a single shot, probably because they had no ammunition to waste in compliments.

Monday I rode through our lines on horseback with an officer who kindly offered to show me the rebels, to the summit of a hill that com-

manded a fine view of both armies, and on the top of which an Ohio battery was stationed for the purpose of annoying the rebels at their work. The sides of the hill were wooded, and as we approached the top it became easier to avoid the overhanging boughs on foot than on horseback; and as my Roseante, though a veteran Colonel's favorite saddle-horse, pretended that he felt alarm at the sound of artillery, and "could-na bide the smell of powder," I was glad when my companion proposed dismounting, tying our horses to a tree and walking up to the rear of the guns. The hill is the highest in that vicinity and its summit commands a view, whose wealth of hill and valley, forest and field, formed a landscape of exceeding beauty; but its natural attractions were all forgotten in the interest excited by the long lines of entrenchments stretching over hill and through valley, and the white tents that dotted every hill-side, clustered in the valleys, and overspread the plains throughout a circle eight miles in length by two in width. A little to our right the skirmish lines of the two armies were keeping up a brisk fire of musketry, that enveloped them in a cloud of smoke while the main body of the rebel army occupied the low ground to our front and left, in full view, and directly in range of the guns of some of our batteries that sent, every few minutes, balls whistling into their lines, with what effect we were too far away to tell. Part way down the hill, to our left, a battery of heavy guns shook the ground, with an occasional volley, directed towards an elegant residence, surrounded by extensive and beautiful grounds, said, I do not know how truly, to be that of Ex-Gov. Brown, which having given shelter to a party of rebel sharpshooters, was rapidly being reduced to a heap of ruins.

All that day and the next, and every succeeding day for two weeks, skirmishing was kept up along the lines with occasional cannonading by our forts and batteries, while troops were daily arriving, and long lines of army wagons, files of cavalry and infantry, and trains of artillery moved to and fro continually. Everybody predicted an attack from the rebels on the morning, but the rebels continued to multiply and strengthen their defences with untiring industry, until having completed his preparations, Gen. THOMAS opened upon their works with his artillery, before daylight on the 15th of December; and when my two friends and myself sat down to breakfast, in our quarters a mile and a half from the field of battle on that memorable morning, the very ground beneath us shook with the roar of the conflict. All that day we listened to the roar of artillery, the bursting of shell, and the rattle of musketry, which, after the middle of the day, began to recede, and just before nightfall we learned that our troops had broken the rebel lines and forced them to retire within their second line of works.

Next morning the battle was renewed two miles from where it was fought the day before, and closed six miles farther off, with what result you will have learned long before this letter reaches its destination. All your readers know before this, that on the 15th and 16th of December, Gen. THOMAS won a brilliant victory over Hood, followed by a precipitate retreat on the part of the rebel army and a vigorous pursuit on that of ours. And all probably know that we have taken several thousand prisoners, sixty pieces of ordnance; and that three thousand of our brave boys have paid for our triumph with their blood, and, three thousand homes must be filled with mourning for the dead or anxiety for the wounded. I do not propose to give any details of the battle, but only to tell you a little of what I saw when it was over.

All was quiet on the morning of the 17th, and I rode out with a party of friends to the scene of conflict; and Oh! the ruin and desolation, and sickening horror of what we saw! Acres of noble forest trees torn and splintered by shot and shell, as if the lightning of heaven had held carnival among their branches; beautiful homes reduced to ruins, and handsome grounds trampled and laid waste; fences and groves gone to feed the countless camp-fires that had illuminated the hillsides so many nights before; shade trees and shrubbery changed into broken lines of *chev-au-de-frise*; abandoned camps, strewn with cooking utensils, and the remains of the last re-

past eaten by its occupants. Bridges torn up, roads and fields soaked by the heavy rains that almost inevitably follow a battle, and trampled to an almost untraversable depth of mud, in which shot and fragments of shell, with guns and bayonets, cartridge-boxes, canteens, and other soldiers equipments, soaked and slaughtered horses, weltered. But sadder than all this wreck and ruin, this wholesale waste and desolation, was the sight of the mutilated remains of our country's brave defenders, and their rebel foes lying cold and lifeless on the sodden field with still, white faces turned to the dripping clouds, or hidden by overcoat or blanket, and drenched by the pitiless rain. Our own and most of the rebel wounded had been carried into the houses near the field, or removed to the city, and our men while picking up the wounded, had straitened and covered the bodies of many of our dead, while the enemy's, being left to be cared for last, still lay untouched as they had fallen, in every imaginable attitude, and with uncovered faces. Indeed very few of them had possessed, when alive, either blanket or overcoat, to shroud their lifeless forms when dead. I do not recollect to have seen a single one. Another difference in the appearance of their dead and ours that struck me very forcibly, was that while the faces of our men were remarkable for their whiteness and repose, looking calm as if they had fallen into a peaceful and painless sleep, and showing no signs of their sudden and violent death, those of the rebels were singularly dark and distorted. I do not know as this appearance was universal, but most of those I saw were dark, almost as mulattoes; but why I cannot tell unless the singularity was caused by some stimulant taken to fire their courage for the fight.

We lost very few prisoners in the battle, but judging from the appearance of the field, our killed must have greatly outnumbered theirs which was a natural consequence of their having fought behind their defences while our army was in front of, and most of the time some distance in advance of theirs. Some of their fortifications were unfinished, but those that were completed before the battle are called very fine. I noticed, however, that there was a great difference between their works and ours; our breastworks being shoulder-high and very thick, and the ditches broad and shallow; while their breastworks are only about breast-high, and the ditches deep and narrow, as if each had been that last ditch they are all going to die in, and they expected to be buried where they fell. Their *chev-au-de-frise*, too, was simply sticks driven firmly into the ground, while ours had cross-pieces inserted horizontally between the perpendicular ones. Most of the arms I saw were of English or Northern manufacture, while some of the cartridge-boxes, and other leather trappings bore the brand of a Southern maker.

So many of their wounded have fallen into our hands that one of the largest hospitals in the city, No. 1 on College Hill, has been filled exclusively with wounded rebels, and Nashville is so full of sick and wounded soldiers, of both armies, that all the churches, except one or two have been converted into hospitals. There are, however, two theatres and an immense restaurant unappropriated, and why these should have been spared and the churches taken I cannot guess, unless the Acting Medical Director, who ordered the occupation of the churches, has a season ticket for the theatres.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec., 1864.

The New York *Tribune*, in speaking of Mason & Hamlin's Cabinet Organs, says:—"These instruments have been blown by the wind of genuine success from Boston to San Francisco. That Messrs. Mason & Hamlin have succeeded in making a superior small instrument, from little hand-box-like things, to those which, though portable, and no larger than a piano, can make themselves felt in church, is the universal opinion of the musical profession. They agree that no such mechanical works of the kind can be found in equal perfection in Europe. The tone is pure and full, and with an immense body for so small a provocative mechanical force. They stand rough traveling, bad usage, and will live in climates which will kill American missionaries."

SPEAK EVER GENTLY.

Gently, with a clear and distinct articulation. Cres. mf

1. Speak ev er gen-ty to the child, so guile-less and so free, Who, with a trust-ful, lov-ing heart, puts
2. If on that brow there rests a cloud, how - ev - er light it - be, Speak lov-ing words, and let him feel he

Cres. mf

con fi-dence in thee; Speak not the cold and careless thoughts which time has taught thee well, Nor breathe a word whose
has a friend in thee; Nor ev - er send him from thy side, till on his face shall rest The joy-ous look and

mf

bit - ter tone dis trust might seem to tell,
beam-ing smile that mark a hap - py breast.

mf

3. Oh! teach him, this should be our aim, to cheer the aching heart,
To strive, where thickest darkness reigns, some radiance to impart;
To spread a peaceful, quiet calm, where dwells the noise of strife,
Thus doing good and blessing all, to spend the whole of life;—

mf

4. To love, with pure affection deep, all creatures great and small,
And still a stronger love to bear for Him who made them all;
Remember, 'tis an angel's work that thus to thee is given,—
To rear a spirit, holy, pure, prepared to dwell in heaven.

The Reviewer.

JOHN GODFREY'S FORTUNES; Related by himself. A Story of American Life. By BAYARD TAYLOR. New York: G. P. Putnam; Hurd & Houghton.

This is not a sensation story. It is what it purports to be—a story of American life, and could have been written by none other than an American. JOHN GODFREY leaves home for a boarding school, struggles faithfully there, gets school-fame as a school poet, enters his uncle's grocery store, gets offended and leaves his uncle to teach school, writes poetry and stories for the papers, falls in love, goes to New York to become a professional literary gentleman, becomes connected with the *Daily Wonder*, is promoted, publishes a book of poems, returns to his early love, with his poems under his arm, to find her faithless and married, again returns to work; gets in bad company, loses position and friends, is rescued, marries and prospers. This thread is used to stitch together characters and circumstances illustrative of life in America as literary men have found it. There are few such who cannot attest its faithfulness wherever their experiences run parallel. BAYARD TAYLOR may not have written his own experiences in detail; but he could not have written what he has but for them. It is a pleasant book, and we commend it to our readers.

ARCTIC RESEARCHES AND LIFE AMONG THE ESQUIMAUX. Being a narrative of an Expedition in Search of Sir JOHN FRANKLIN in the years 1860, 1861 and 1862. By CHARLES FRANCIS HALL. With Maps and Illustrations. New York: Harper & Brothers.

This is a book of near six hundred pages, profusely illustrated with well executed engravings. It is filled with pleasant and interesting reading for the long winter evenings. Mr. HALL'S story of his life among the Innuits or Esquimaux is "a plain unvarnished tale," apparently, and possesses that important feature of such literature, simplicity and detail unencumbered with stale history and lumbering statistics. No one can read it without becoming interested in it and in the people whose habits and life are described. While Mr. HALL failed to accomplish the object of his expedition, he has given us a valuable contribution to our literature relating to the Frozen North and its inhabitants. And in reading it we ought not, as we are too apt, to forget what of peril, privation and actual suffering such a work costs. We hope, as we believe, our readers will find the pleasure we have in looking through it.

A YEAR IN CHINA, and a Narrative of Capture and Imprisonment when homeward bound, on board the rebel pirate Florida. By Mrs. H. DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Author of "Voices from the Silent Land," with an introductory note by WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT. New York: Hurd & Houghton.

This book tells in a direct way precisely what its author saw and experienced in the passage to China, during her stay in that country, and during the passage home. This lady being the wife of the American Commissioner at Swatow, had unusual opportunities to see life in China, which she improved, and the results of which come to us in this volume. Her experiences aboard the pirate Florida and with Captain MAFFITT, are not at all complimentary to that gentleman, nor to the chivalrous pretensions of the southern associated with him in his work of plunder. It is a readable book. For sale by E. DARROW & BRO.

TREASURY OF TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE IN NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA, EUROPE, ASIA AND AFRICA. A book for Young or Old, with 120 Illustrations. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This book is made up of selections of adventures, experiences, descriptions of localities, &c., from other works—arranged to amuse and instruct. It is a winter evening book that will afford pleasant fireside reading—topics to talk about—a book which your boy will cling to even if the skating is good and the chores are not "done." It embraces in its pages stories of adventures with bears, among the Hudson Bay fur hunters, in the Arctic regions, on the Levant, among the Russians, in Japan, China, the Sandwich Islands, Africa, &c., &c. We can recommend it for the family.

FROM DAN TO BEERSHEBA; Or, The Land of Promise as it now appears. Including a description of the Boundaries, Topography, Agriculture, Antiquities, Cities and Present Inhabitants of that wonderful land. Illustrated with Maps and Engravings. By Rev. J. P. NEWMAN, D. D. New York: Harper & Brothers.

This book will prove interesting to the student of Biblical History and to the young Geographical student. The illustrations in it are excellent, and said to be very accurate. It seems to be carefully written, and will command the attention of thoughtful readers. It merits a place among the solid and valuable books in the library.

CRUSOER'S ISLAND. A Ramble in the Footsteps of Alexander Selkirk, with sketches of Adventure in California and Washoe. By J. ROSS BROWN. New York: Harper & Brothers.

We have no particular admiration for this book—nor neither its matter nor spirit. It relates some exciting adventures, and contains some spirited illustrations; but its tone is not calculated to command the reader's confidence in its truthfulness, and its contents will yield no adequate compensation for the time spent in reading it. Such, at least, is the result of our experience with it.

THE FIRE ON THE HEARTH IN SLEEPY HOLLOW. A Christmas Poem of the Olden Time. By EDWARD HOPPER. New York: Hurd & Houghton.

The chief merit of this work is its spirit and the conceptions of its author. Its winter evening pictures are very good. In some of its parts it lacks smoothness and finish—the facile use of words which poets are supposed to be inspired with. But its hearty, good nature and sound moral tone will render its reading by the fire-side pleasant and healthful. For sale by E. DARROW & BRO.

THE BEEKEEPER'S TEXT BOOK; Or, Facts in Bee Keeping. By N. H. and H. A. KING, Nevada, O.

This little work of 130 pages contains, in condensed form, much that is practical and useful to the beekeeper. And although it is devoted to the interests of a Hive Company, we think it contains information worth to the aparian, the seventy-five cents asked for it.

LIBRARY OF TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE—Three volumes: Fort in the Ice; Fighting the Whales; Away in the Wilderness. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

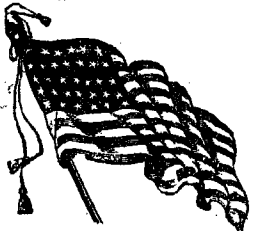
These are choice holiday books, which come to us too late to notice in the last volume. They are both entertaining and instructive books for youth, finely illustrated with colored plates.

UNCLE JOHN'S LIBRARY—Six Beautifully Illustrated volumes. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This is a series of pleasant-voiced story books for children—adapted to the wants of a family of them, from three to fifteen years of age.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



"God bless the old flag as He ever has done
Since He strengthened the arm of our own Washington;
And God bless the freemen, devoted and true,
Who are ready to die for the Red, White and Blue."

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 14, 1865.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

From the South.
COL. JULIAN ALLEN has been sent north by the Mayor and Common Council of Savannah, with the consent of Gen. Sherman, to purchase for that city certain articles of food for distribution to needy families.
 The *Palmetto Herald* will hereafter be printed at the office of the Savannah News, and will become a daily paper.
 On the 29th ult., the *Herald* says, on the capture of Savannah, when our forces took possession of Fort Jackson, the rebel ram Savannah opened fire on the fort. The guns being spiked, no response could be made. A battery was soon brought to bear on the ram, which peppered her briskly. She being well plated, was invulnerable to such attacks.
 She afterwards threw a few shells into the city, but the next night she ended her career by committing suicide.
 Gen. Sherman receives hundreds of citizens daily. He is in good health.
 A grand review of the Seventeenth Army Corps by General Sherman took place in Bay street on the 29th.
 Gen. Geary has been appointed Military Governor of Savannah.
 The *World's* Beaufort (S. C.) correspondent of December 28th, says:
 Increasing preparations are making in Sherman's army to resume offensive operations. The enemy evidently expect an attack on Charleston and Branchville. Refugees say Charleston being surrounded by formidable earthworks, a portion of Dahlgren's fleet were engaged in removing obstructions from the Savannah river, some of them being very formidable. A spacious channel has been made for vessels plying between Hilton Head and Savannah.
 Foster's army is still at Broad River Landing covering the Charleston and the Savannah railroad.
 It is now said Hardee's army passed over that road to Charleston.
 We have had many visitors from Savannah, and citizens speak well of Sherman's rule.
 General Geary has issued orders dividing Savannah into two military districts, protecting public and private property; registering persons formerly in the rebel army; concerning arrests; continuing the fire department, water and gasworks; arrests of straggling soldiers; transportation of persons within rebel lines who want to go; to supply destitute persons with food, &c.
 Gen. Sherman's Inspector of Field Officers states that as Savannah is, and will be held as a military post for future operations, it is proper to lay down certain general principles, that all may understand their duties and obligations. His then proceeds to state what may be permitted for the convenience and comfort of the people, in which are embraced all necessary privileges of a large community. The publication of newspapers is limited to two; the editors to be held to a strict accountability for libels and mischievous articles of premature news, exaggerated statements, or any comments whatever on the acts of the authorities.
 The Savannah Republican of the 29th ult. contains the proceedings of a public meeting, called by the Mayor and a large number of influential citizens, to take into consideration matters relating to the present and future welfare of the city. Resolutions were adopted:
First. That we accept the position of the surrender of the citizens in the language of the President of the United States, and seek to have peace by laying down our arms and submitting to the national authority under the Constitution, leaving all questions which remain to be adjusted by the peaceful means of legislative conferences and votes.
Second. That, laying aside all differences and burying by-gones, we will use our best endeavors to bring back the prosperity and commerce we once enjoyed.
Third. We do not put ourselves in the position of a conquered city, asking terms of a conqueror, but claim the immunities and privileges contained in the Proclamation Message of the President, and all legislation in Congress in reference to any people situated as we are.
Fourth. That we ask the Government to call a convention of the people, to say whether they wish the war continued.
Fifth. That it is the unanimous desire of all present that Gen. Geary be continued as Military Commander of this Post, and that for his urbanity and kindness he is entitled to our thanks.
 The Mayor, in the course of his address at the public meeting, says:
 Our city contains 20,000 inhabitants, without food, fuel or remunerative pursuits; without refuge, and cut off from all communication with the country.

The heart sickens at the sight. He saw but one course to pursue. He said they all felt deeply indebted to Gen. Geary, Commandant of the city, for the course he had pursued.
 A blockade runner schooner, with an assorted cargo, came up and anchored near the city on the 29th, unware that the city had changed hands.
 The work of clearing the river of obstructions is going on, and one of our monitors has arrived up at Savannah.
 The gunboat *Acacia* captured the steamer *Julia*, with 400 bales of cotton, from Charleston for Nassau. The *Julia* arrived at Port Royal the 28th.
 The steamer *California* from Hilton Head arrived at Fortress Monroe the 5th, with Colonel Ewing, bearer of dispatches from General Sherman.
 The army was resting and preparing for another great campaign. Kilpatrick was actively watching Hardee's movements.
 A detachment of men from the Potomac flotilla, under Acting Master Toll, landed on the Rappahannock river; on Wednesday, about six miles above its mouth, and destroyed two barrels of powder and the torpedoes which the rebels had there collected.
 The *New York Post* of Jan. 6, has a private letter from Savannah, which speaks of the order prevailing in that city since its occupation by our army, and the confidence the citizens have in our protection. A citizen late one night exhibited his watch to the writer, and said he would not have dared to wear a watch or anything else of value on the streets at night before the arrival of Gen. Sherman.
 The writer says he was also informed that Gov. Brown was about to issue a proclamation before Hood moved to Sherman's rear, calling a convention to propose terms for peace, but was disturbed by Hood's movements. He was afraid of Jeff. Davis.
 It would appear that the destruction of the railroad by Sherman, struck a staggering blow to Lee and Davis at Richmond. A private letter from a citizen of Savannah, states on the authority of an officer of that road, that it supplied Lee's army up to the time it was broken up, with thousands of head of cattle per week, coming from Florida and Southern Alabama. Indeed, six weeks before Sherman left Atlanta, Lee wrote the President of the road that its facilities must be enlarged, or he would be obliged to fall back with his army from Virginia nearer to his base of supplies.
 There is reason to believe from the information in his possession from individuals of Savannah, that Lee's army has not thirty days' rations.
 A Savannah correspondent of the *World* hints that Sherman will march first on Augusta, then to the rear of Charleston, when, with Dahlgren in front, he will lay siege to the stronghold.
 Despatches captured on a rebel soldier, divulged the intention to send the rebel rams out of Charleston harbor at once, thus taking advantage of the absence of our iron-clads.
 This led to promptly sending all our monitors to Charleston harbor, where they now are.
 The *Herald's* Savannah correspondent says:— Many of the citizens have taken the oath of allegiance.
 The Third Division of the Twentieth Corps had moved across the Savannah river into South Carolina, and there met and drove a regiment of Wheeler's cavalry. No other rebel force was found.
 The Adams' Express Co. have already received and sent north over \$500,000, and the rush continues.
 In addition to military reviews, the entire fire department had passed in review before Gen. Sherman, with the exception of officers. The companies consist of negroes.
 Advances from Fortress Monroe of Jan. 5, say that Admiral Porter's fleet is reported to be at Beaufort, safely anchored, having safely weathered the storm off Wilmington. All the remaining transports were on their way to Hampton Roads.
 The fleet of iron-clads has returned to Charleston harbor, and are to co-operate with Sherman in an attack on that place.
 A letter from London Co., Va. the 3d, says a cavalry force from Sherman's army visited the neighborhood of Upperville and Middlebury on the 27th ult. and destroyed and carried away a considerable amount of property belonging to secessionists of that neighborhood.
 The *World's* Washington correspondent says: It is rumored in this city that General Lee has been placed in command of all the rebel armies, and that he immediately determined to put Gen. Beauregard in command of the defences of Richmond, intending himself to proceed to South Carolina to concentrate the rebel forces in that quarter for the purpose of confronting General Sherman in his proposed movement northward.
 Sherman's movement is considered by Lee as more important than any Grant can possibly make on Richmond in four months.
 From the Army of the Potomac we have no news of importance to note. Matters generally remain the same as they did last week.

From the West.
 THE N. Y. *Times* has a special from Huntsville, Ala., which says the Tennessee campaign is ended.
 The last of Hood's army crossed the Tennessee River on the 29th ult. with eight pieces of artillery, and about 18,000 men.
 He left Macon, Ga., with 35,000 men and was re-enforced by 5,000, and had 110 pieces of artillery. After the battle at Nashville both armies floundered in the mud ten days. Hood's remnant of artillery crawled off at night, and his cavalry stubbornly resisting pursuit during the day. It is believed Hood has buried or thrown

into the river at least 80 guns. He abandoned a large number of wagons and ambulances.
 Our official list of prisoners number 9,700, not including 500 captured from Rhoddy on the 27th.
 Over 900 deserters have also reported. It is said that Hood is at Meridian, Miss., to attempt re-organization.
 The chase in force has been abandoned, although Gen. Steadman is across the river with orders to harass the enemy and capture as much as possible.
 A new campaign has been already projected, and the corps of Gens. Wood, Smith and Schofield are already moving.
 Advances from Courtland, Ala., Jan. 4, say that the cavalry belonging to Gen. Stoneman's command have pursued, captured and burned Hood's pontoon train, 600 mules, 100 wagons and 200 hogs, besides doing him much other damage.
 Forrest is reported near Russellville, and a deserter from Hood's army reports that Hood has been ordered to Tuscaloosa to re-organize his shattered army.
 Rhoddy's cavalry command is almost entirely dispersed.
 The N. Y. *Herald's* correspondent gives a full account of the recent important raid through East Tennessee and South-western Virginia, of Gens. Stoneman, Burbridge and Gillem. The injury done the rebels is immense, and is irreparable. The lead mines and salt works, 50 foundries and furnaces, 100 miles of railroad, 15 locomotives, 200 cars, and a vast amount of other rebel property, were destroyed, and 20 pieces of artillery and many prisoners, were captured from them.
 The rebels, under command of Walker Taylor, occupied Owensboro, Ky., on the 4th inst., our forces evacuating the place. The rebels are conscripting the citizens. The *New Albany Ledger* says that the rebel guerrillas have possession of Davenport and Hendersonville, and that the Lebanon train was captured by a band of Magruder's guerrillas near Lebanon Junction on the 6th. The passengers were robbed and the cars burned. The rebels brutally murdered four discharged soldiers of the 14th Ky. Infantry. Taylor has established his headquarters at Homesville, and the citizens are fleeing across the Ohio to avoid conscription.
 Gov. Bramlette, in his Message to the Legislature, recommends the gradual emancipation and ultimate removal of slavery in Kentucky. He rejoices over, and thanks Gens. Thomas and Sherman, for their victories.
 From Cairo of Jan. 6, we learn that General Davis has received information from his cavalry force, sent out from there on the 21st ult. They struck the Mobile and Ohio Railroad on the 27th, and destroyed a long stretch of it. Twenty-nine bridges, a great deal of trestle work, 21 cars, 300 army wagons, and 4,000 carbines were also destroyed.
 Forrest's (rebel) camp of mounted infantry, at Everon, was dispersed. Six officers were taken. Our forces did not lose a man.
 Gen. Grierson has orders to destroy the road as far as Meridian, and release our prisoners at Cawtowa, if possible.
 Advances from Little Rock of the 9th, say that military affairs are unchanged.
 The Legislature of Arkansas on the 29th ult. elected Hon. Wm. D. Stewart a U. S. Senator for six years from the 4th of March next.

From the South-west.
 THE steamer *Olive Branch* from New Orleans the 29th ult., arrived at Cairo on the 5th inst. She had on board the 19th and 22d regiments en route to Louisville to be mustered out.
 The transport *Exact* was reported in a sinking condition outside the bar at the mouth of the Mississippi river, having collided with another vessel off Tobasco.
 In the absence of our cavalry from Baton Rouge, the rebels were demonstrating against that place. A considerable force of them were concentrated at Clinton, Louisiana.
 A movement of troops was said to be going on at Memphis, the particulars of which has not transpired.
 The steamer *Henry Ames* from New Orleans the 31st ult., arrived at Cairo Jan. 7, with cotton for St. Louis.
 The steamship *Creole* from New York, had arrived at New Orleans. Also, the naval transport *Union* with \$4,000,000 for the disbursing officers.
 Gen. Hurlburt has issued an order prohibiting officers from attending theaters, drinking saloons, billiard saloons, and other places of amusement on the Sabbath day, denouncing the habits as dishonorable to the profession, and the duties which soldiers owe themselves and the country.
 Col. Davis of the 18th Ia. cavalry has been appointed Brigadier-General, and ordered to report to Gen. Canby.
 The Gunboat *Gazelle* had retaliated for the murder of her commander by burning the residences of the rebels in the vicinity of the place where the bloody deed was committed.
 Gen. Ullman had sent an expedition against the rebels beyond the Atchafalaya, who fled as our troops came within "shooting distance."
 A Matamoros paper gives an account of the wreck of the steamer *Rill* at the mouth of the Rio Grande. Twenty-two of the crew were drowned, and others were picked up on cotton bales by the French ship *Carlittone*.
 The same paper also notices the destruction of 600 bales of cotton belonging to merchants in Matamoros. Middling cotton was selling at Matamoros from 36 to 38 cents per pound.
 There was little inquiry for cotton at New Orleans. Flour was advancing slightly in price. The yellow fever has entirely subsided at Galveston and Houston. Gen. Kirby Smith's army was in fine condition—well clothed, with plenty of provisions.
 Everything was quiet in the trans-Mississippi region, and there were no Yankees south of the rebel army.
 From Mobile, Jan. 5, the report is that there is a Federal raid in progress south of Smothersville.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

DESERTERS from the rebel army have taken possession of the mountains of North Carolina, expelled the rebel citizens, and defy the rebel authorities.
 THERE are upwards of ten thousand enlisted men on detached service in Washington. One of the headquarters alone employs over two hundred as clerks.
 THE Secretary of the Treasury advertises for proposals for the building of revenue cutters (side wheel) for the upper lakes, and one or more for Lake Ontario.
 NEW YORK merchants are anxious to open commerce with Savannah, and to show their good will, contemplate making a free gift of supplies to the poor of that city.
 A REBEL journal states that the great bulk of the cotton captured by Gen. Sherman is owned by Great Britain. It is quite possible that Uncle Sam may dispute the title.
 THOMAS SIMS, the fugitive slave, about whom there was such a row in Boston ten years ago, is now recruiting agent for colored troops in Nashville. Time makes all things even.
 THE coiling of the new Atlantic cable from the manufactory at Greenwich, England, to the ship *Amethyst*, which is to convey it to the Great Eastern, was commenced on the 17th of December.
 THE police reports of New York city show an unconscionable number of murderous assaults on New Year's day and Monday, nearly all of them the fruit of immoderate indulgence in intoxicating liquors.
 JOE COBURN, the boxer, had a Christmas present of a farm in Minnesota, 150 miles from St. Paul, and consisting of 160 acres of land. He had better employ his muscle there than in pounding people to death.
 THE people of Philadelphia have collected the sum of \$30,000 with which they propose to purchase a residence for Gen. Grant. Including this, the presents the General has received during the war have cost not less than \$60,000.
 THREE hundred and sixty-two vessels are laid up at the Chicago wharves for the winter. They are classified as follows:—Steamers, 4; propellers, 13; barks, 45; brigs, 19; schooners, 194; scows, 27; tugs and canal boats, 60.
 THE Hon. David Sherman Boardman, since the death of Father Waldo, the oldest graduate of Yale College, died recently at New Milford, Connecticut. He was born in Dec., 1768, and graduated at Yale College in 1793.
 IN the U. S. Circuit Court, New York, Tuesday, before Judge Shipman, Albert Reusser was sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment and a fine of \$1,000, for violating an injunction of the Court restraining him from infringing the patent of a sewing machine.
 THE new rebel private Sea King, which left an English port some time ago, is now, under the name of the *Shenandoah*, actively at work in destroying American shipping on the Atlantic. She has already captured the ship *Kate Prince*, the bark *Elena* and E. G. Godfrey, and the brig *Susan* and schooner *Charter Oak*, of San Francisco.
 MR. BLISS, Missionary at Constantinople, writes to the *Missionary Herald*, that persecution has been a great blow to the work among Mohammedans. "No Turks," he says, "now attend our services, and when any advance is made towards those who were esteemed friendly, they point to the city prison and the men in exile and decline our advances."
 PRESIDENT LINCOLN pays \$1,279 income tax, and Assistant Secretary of War Watson pays \$1,020. W. W. Corcoran, the banker, pays \$3,321, and George W. Riggs pays \$3,977. Most of the Government officials keep up their residences in other places, and are not taxed at Washington, and most of the brokers and bankers made no returns of income.
 RALPH WALDO EMERSON is to repeat in Worcester, in February, the course of lectures on "American Life" which he is now delivering before the Parker Fraternity in Boston. It is intimated that these are the discourses he will prepare for public audiences, his purpose being to leave the lecture field at the close of the present season.
 GEORGE D. PRENTICE, of the Louisville Journal, has returned from a five weeks residence in Richmond, where he went to save his son, a Major in the Confederate Army, who has been on trial for murder. Prentice states that the public men in that city are unanimous as to the policy of freeing and arming the slaves. Their scheme of military emancipation embraces a donation of bounty lands, and the prospect of the freedom of the families of the slaves who fight.
 SAVANNAH has been twice captured by an invading force. It was taken by the English, under Col. Campbell, on the 29th of December, 1778. They had a column of 3,500 soldiers, besides a squadron under Com. Parker. Their prisoners amounted to 38 officers and 415 men, while their loss was only 7 men killed and 19 wounded. Seventy-one pieces of artillery and 817 stand of small arms fell into the hands of the British. It is now again taken in the same month by Gen. Sherman, with a decided increase in prisoners, guns and materials.
 THE Louisville Press says:—"The whole number of Union soldiers wounded in the two days' fighting at Nashville, thus far admitted to the hospital, is seventeen hundred and eleven. This does not include the colored soldiers, of whom from eight regiments, there have been admitted to the hospital three hundred and thirty-one. The killed in the two days are estimated by the Medical Director at four hundred and fifty. The prisoners will not exceed one hundred. Total loss two thousand five hundred and ninety-two."

List of New Advertisements.

Prospectus of The World for 1865.
 G. R. Ellis' Patent Mosaic Stone.
 New England Petroleum Company of Boston.
 Farm for Sale—Joseph B. Gray.
 Employment—C. Munro Brown.
 Reward of Merit.
 Clinton Grape Wood Wanted—A. F. Conard.
 Apple Seeds for Sale—P. Bowen.
 Short-Horns for Sale—C. K. Ward.

SPECIAL NOTICES.
 Atlantic Monthly—Ticknor & Fields.
 Our Young Folks—Ticknor & Fields.

The News Condenser.

- Gen. Tom Thumb and "family" are in Paris.
- Four thousand deaths in Chicago the past year.
- Thackeray is to have a bust in Westminster Abbey.
- Belle Boyd's husband is now confined in Fort Delaware.
- The extra income tax of President Lincoln was \$1,279.
- Eighty thousand apartments are vacant in Paris. Rents low.
- The oil fever has appeared in New Jersey, but the oil has not.
- Adah Benicia Isaacs Mizeppa Menken Boy is going to Paris.
- There are 362 vessels laid up at Chicago wharves for the winter.
- They are making tar extensively in Carroll Co., New Hampshire.
- The Russian telegraph is now complete to the frontiers of China.
- Admiral Farragut received his commission as vice admiral on New Year's day.
- A Spanish Squadron has been sent to the Pacific, but not for a pacific purpose.
- Oseian E. Dodge is in San Francisco, and intends to write a book on California.
- A Canada Farmer killed his best cow the other night supposing her a Fenian.
- 110 earthquakes have occurred in Great Britain and Ireland the present century.
- The Richmond Examiner calls Lord John Russell a "venomous little abolitionist."
- The Portsmouth spool factory turns out 25,000 dozen spools of cotton every week.
- The rebels in Texas are spinning cow hair mixed with cotton as a substitute for wool.
- The real name of "Josh Billings," humorist, is Henry G. Shaw, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
- The Chicago and St. Louis railroad is now open the entire distance between those cities.
- At an auction recently held in Paris a pen-and-ink sketch, by Victor Hugo, realized 186 francs.
- North Carolina has furnished 118,160 men for the rebel armies, of whom 18,586 were conscripts.
- The English are talking of building small batteries to be used in the cross-trees of men of war.
- Col. Seaton, just retired from the National Intelligence, has spent over 60 years in the editorial chair.
- In Philadelphia they talk of abolishing the fire department and letting the contract of extinguishing fires.
- Oregon sends a fresh backwoodsman to Congress, who had never seen a railroad till he came on this season.
- The Confederates have a machine in Richmond capable of turning out 340,000 percussion gun caps in 8 hours.
- The general impression in Mexico is said to be that Maximilian's rule cannot stand more than six months.
- Eleven regiments of twelve months' volunteers are to be raised in Indiana by proclamation of the Governor.
- A citizen of Nashville who went out to witness the attack on Hood had the top of his head taken off by a shell.
- An immense mine of emery has been discovered in Cheshire, Mass., of a quality unsurpassed by any in the world.
- George N. Sanders takes pains to deny that he was concerned in the plot to burn the hotels of New York city.
- Dr. Keith, the well known mineralogist, of Connecticut, has found a vein of gold on his land and is working it.
- The compensation of the clerks and messengers in the war department and its bureaus reaches the sum of \$1,300,000.
- Internal revenue receipts for December were \$31,688,823 61, and for the six months ending Dec. 31, were \$36,558,307 70.
- Thousands of sheep have been lost in Interior California from cold weather. They were sheared too late in the fall.
- A Hartford soldier, who went into the service weighing 300 lbs., has returned from a rebel prison reduced to 56 lbs.
- The President has signed the bill imposing a tax of \$3 per gallon on all distilled spirits manufactured after January 1st.
- A number of young ladies have gone to St. Louis from New England for the purpose of acting as teachers in negro schools.
- It is stated that the culture of cotton in the north-western provinces of India has increased fifty per cent. during the past year.
- Eight thousand dollars is saved to the nation this year by omitting the usual Christmas gift of a knife to each government clerk.
- A hog was recently sold in Atchison, Kansas, which weighed 1,123 pounds net. It brought ten cents per pound, making \$112.30.
- The Emperor of Russia has recently abolished serfdom in Trans-Caucasia—the last of the Russian provinces in which it exists.
- The Portland Argus says there is not a paper in Maine, with a single exception, which is paying the interest on the money invested.
- At Providence last year the transactions in printing cloth amounted to 2,697,150 pieces, a falling off from the previous year of 1,235,650 pieces.
- Admiral Wilkes was suspended from duty for 3 years from May 3, 1864, by sentence of court-martial. The President remitted two years of the sentence.
- Twelve sheep belonging to D. K. Chase of Calais, Me., were killed by a dog one night last week. He had paid seven dollars each for them the day before.
- At a Boston dinner party lately, Gen. Andrew was presented with an old-fashioned kitchen clock, which kept time during the first battle of the Revolution.

Special Notices

The Chimney Corner: By Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe. Dr. Johns: (A Romance), By Ik Marvel. Notes of a Pianist: By Louis M. Gottschalk.

Atlantic Monthly

during the year 1865. For the low price of Four Dollars a year can be obtained more than Fifteen Hundred Pages of the best reading.

Good Reading and Good Pictures

ILLUSTRATED JUVENILE MONTHLY Has long been needed. The want is now supplied by the New Magazine.

Our Young Folks

published by the subscribers. It is filled with FIRST-RATE STORIES, FIRST-RATE SKETCHES, FIRST-RATE PICTURES, and all sorts of entertaining and instructive reading.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, Rochester, January 10, 1865. The market is not very active. There are but few farmers in town. The roads are not in good condition.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—Wheat, \$1.25; Cotton, \$1.20 for middling; Flour, \$7.75 for super; Sugar, \$10.25 for No. 1; Coffee, \$22.00 for Rio; Butter, \$1.15 for cream.

TORONTO, Jan. 6.—Flour, \$3.00 for fall; Wheat, \$1.00 for No. 1; Corn, \$0.75 for No. 1; Beans, \$0.50 for No. 1.

BUTTER IN NEW-YORK.—The Tribune says:—Butter is accumulating in the city, there being no shipping demand.

CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Beef Cattle received, 5,191. Sales range at 10c per lb. General average of sales, 15c; 16c for heavy.

CAMBRIDGE, Jan. 5.—Beef cattle range at \$7.15 to \$7.50 for No. 1; Oxen, \$3.00 for No. 1; Cows, \$3.00 for No. 1.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 4.—Beaves, \$10.00 for No. 1; Sheep, \$4.00 for No. 1; Pigs, \$1.00 for No. 1.

CHICAGO, Jan. 6.—Beef Cattle—Sales range at \$7.50 for No. 1; Oxen, \$3.00 for No. 1; Cows, \$3.00 for No. 1.

TORONTO, Jan. 6.—Beaves, \$2.00 for No. 1; Sheep, \$4.00 for No. 1; Pigs, \$1.00 for No. 1.

WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—The market for both Domestic and Foreign descriptions has been extremely quiet since our last report, however, we have no change of sentiment to note.

THE WORLD FOR 1865. PROSPECTUS.

The Presidential contest just closed consigns the political destinies of the people of the United States, during another term of years, to the control of President Lincoln at the North, and Jefferson Davis at the South.

DIED

In a prison pen, near Charleston, S. C., of chronic diarrhoea, induced by slow starvation, WM. E. DUNN, aged 22 years, member of Co. F, 54th Reg't N. Y. S. Volunteers, formerly of Black Creek, N. Y.

New Advertisements

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 50% cents per line of space.

10 BUSHEL APPLE SEED for sale, at \$5.00 per bushel. P. BOWEN, E. Aurora, Erie Co., N. Y.

SHORT-HORNS FOR SALE—A few young Bulls and Heifers by C. K. WARD, LeRoy, Gen. Co., N. Y.

CLINTON GRAPE WOOD WANTED.—A few thousand cuttings Clinton wood. Address, stating price, A. F. CONRAD, West Groves, Pa.

REWARD OF MERIT.—THE CHAMPION CLOTHES WRINGER took the SILVER MEDAL at the New York State Fair, held at Rochester, Sept., 1864.

EMPLOYMENT—AT YOUR OWN HOMES.—Thousands can realize a hundred dollars weekly. No clerical or other special training required.

FARM FOR SALE.—I offer for sale my farm of 115 acres improved land, in the town of Waterloo, Seneca Co., N. Y.

NEW ENGLAND Petroleum Company, OF BOSTON.

CAPITAL, \$450,000—SHARES 90,000. SUBSCRIPTIONS \$5.00 PER SHARE.

NO PERSONAL LIABILITIES! NO FUTURE ASSESSMENTS!

For further information address, E. C. BATES, Esq., D. M. YEMANS, Esq., J. H. CLAPP & CO., Bankers, F. E. SMITH, Esq., Messrs. W. M. LINCOLN & Co., Messrs. R. & E. W. BEANS, 31 BOSTON, Mass.

REWARD OF MERIT.—THE CHAMPION CLOTHES WRINGER took the SILVER MEDAL at the New York State Fair, held at Rochester, Sept., 1864.

G. H. ELLIS' Parlor Music Store.

Mr. S. D. Dargos—I have examined your new Piano Forte, and cordially approve of its system of construction.

DEAR SIR—I have examined your newly invented Piano Forte. It merits all the praises given to it by Messrs. Thalberg, Gottschalk, Strakosch, Mason and others.

MEASRS. CHICKERING & SON—"Accept my sincere congratulations. Henceforth the United States may advantageously compete with Europe in the construction of Pianos."

Mr. G. H. ELLIS—Dear Sir: I take much pleasure in saying that the Piano you furnished for Graus's Opera House in this city is the best of its kind.

S. D. & W. H. Smith's American Organs. These instruments are pronounced by competent judges, the best instruments manufactured in the United States.

APPLE SEED, of first quality, the growth of 1864, for sale by J. A. ROOT, Skaneateles, N. Y.

IONA AND ISRAEL VINES for sale. Address, SEND F. E. GANNON, Geneva, N. Y.

THOSE SENDING ARTICLES OF COMFORT TO SOLDIERS, can in no way contribute so much to their health and comfort as by sending a box of FRANK MILLS' LIME LIGHT SHIRT, and WATER-PROOF OIL BLACKING.

WOOD-SAWING MACHINES.—The undersigned can furnish about 100 more of his Wood-Sawing Machines than are now on hand.

FIRST CLASS FARM FOR SALE.—The subscriber offers his farm for sale, containing 100 acres of land 2 miles Northeast of the village of Albion.

FARM FOR SALE.—One of the best Wheat and Sheep Farms in Washtenaw Co., Mich., containing 44 acres and lying on the direct road from Ann Arbor to Wood.

300 HEAD OF BLOODING STOCK FOR SALE CHEAP.—Comprising Devonshire, Durian, (Short-horn) and Alderney—Bulls, Cows, Heifers and Calves.

FARM FOR SALE.—A few acres of choice land six miles west of Geneva, Ontario Co., N. Y., about 15 acres of valuable timber on the farm.

THE WORLD FOR 1865. PROSPECTUS. The Presidential contest just closed consigns the political destinies of the people of the United States, during another term of years, to the control of President Lincoln at the North, and Jefferson Davis at the South.

DEFEATED IN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE, the small majority of popular votes by which it has been so defeated is demonstrated by the number of persons openly and officially dependent upon the administration as office-holders or contractors in the various departments of the public service.

THE LAW continues to be administered by the men who not only violate its express provisions, but invade also those personal and civil rights so highly and sacred that Constitutions cannot confer but only guarantee them, and which laws are made to vindicate and guard.

THE PRINCIPLES of the Democratic party are just, and will prevail, for they are the laws of the progress of the human race. They are the principles which have emerged from every revolution of the Anglo-Saxon race.

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GREEN'S PATENT ROOFING consists of a stout Canvas, impregnated with a perfectly water-proof and incombustible compound covered on both sides with a stout fabric made water-proof by a process of INDIA RUBBER, and hardened by a coating of PATENT METALLIC PAINT.

GREAT CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY and receive a national prize, by selling our great NOVELTY AND NATIONAL PRIZE PACKETS, Just issued for the Holiday Trade.

IMPORTANT TO HORSE RAKE MANUFACTURERS. The subscribers, yielding to the solicitations of many Manufacturers of Horse Rakes, have at length completed arrangements for furnishing Rake Teeth of any shape desired, bent and tempered to any pattern.

QUINCE STOCKS, APPLE STOCKS, Peach Pits, for sale at Walworth, Wayne Co., N. Y. T. G. YEOMANS.

CANCERS CURED.—Cancers and Tumors of every description removed and cured, without pain or the use of the knife by DR. BABCOCK & SON.

COOLEY & OPDYCKE, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, 219 Merchants' Row West Washington Market, NEW YORK.

GIBBONS & STONE, Sole Agents for Rochester and Monroe county, No. 22 South St. Paul street, Rochester, N. Y.

G. WESTINGHOUSE & CO., SCHENECTADY, N. Y., MANUFACTURERS OF Endless Chain & Lever Horse-Powers, Threshers and Cleaners, Threshers and Separators, Clover Hullers, Circular and Cross-cut Wood-Sawing Machines, Broom Corn Scrapers, Grid Mills, &c.

WHITTEMORE'S CURE FOR FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP. This remedy has been used without success, this remedy has positively cured. For sale by all Druggists.

G. WESTINGHOUSE & CO., SCHENECTADY, N. Y., MANUFACTURERS OF Endless Chain & Lever Horse-Powers, Threshers and Cleaners, Threshers and Separators, Clover Hullers, Circular and Cross-cut Wood-Sawing Machines, Broom Corn Scrapers, Grid Mills, &c.

OLD EYES MADE NEW. A pamphlet directing how to speedily restore sight and give up spectacles without aid of doctor or medicine.

THE WORLD, 35 PARK ROW, NEW YORK.

ROE'S WESTERN RESERVE PREMIUM VAT, With Cooper's Improved Patent Heater and Self-Adjusting Valves. These Vats are now made of galvanized iron (instead of wood) which we have procured rolled expressly for this purpose.

FOR FACTORIES. The No. 13 and 14 Vats have been fully tested in the factories, and have proved to be the best and most economical Vat in use.

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

AMERICAN BELL COMPANY, No. 30 Liberty street, New York.

TO INVENTORS AND PATENTERS.—Drawing in special for obtaining patents in the United States, Canada and Europe.

BUILD YOUR ARCHES NOW! COOK'S SUGAR EVAPORATOR. Is the best for maple in every sense of the word.

U. S. GOVERNMENT ARTIFICIAL LEG DEPOTS.—Where the Government furnishes the United States Army and Navy Leg to soldiers gratis, or its value applied on the Anatomical and Socketed Artificial Leg.

\$125 A MONTH! WANTED.—SEWING MACHINE AGENTS! Every where, to introduce the new Sewing Machine.

25,000 ACRES OF EXCELLENT LAND. For sale in New Jersey, 40 miles south of Philadelphia by the Cape May R.R.

Eastman's Mercantile College. Reynolds's Arcade, Rochester, N. Y. Entrance over the Post Office and from Exchange Place.

IVIN'S PATENT HAIR CRIMPERS. LADIES, TRY THEM. They will make your hair wave beautiful without heating it.

Stammering. Cured by Bates' Appliances. For descriptive pamphlet, call on H. C. L. MEARS & CO., 277 W. 24th Street, New York.

THE QUAKER COQUETTE.

BY MILES O'REILLY.

DEAR, coy Coquette! but once we met,
But once, and yet—'twas once too often!
Plunged unawares in silvery snarcs
All vain my prayers her heart to soften:

The Story Teller.

THE QUALITY.

"I RECKON," said old Mrs. Placid, whilst
making her first visit to the Edgerton cottage,
"you haint seen many of your neighbors yet?"

bounced off like a injun rubber ball. I thought
the creetur might be killed, and run to him, but
he jumped right up an stood up before me, and
made such a bow, you never seed the like of it,

relief all round. When we got to the dinner
room, that was a mighty nice dinner spread out,
and thar stood Barney, an Bill and Jim Jones,

We all went to bed purty soon, cause you see
the quality had purty nigh used us up. But we
wasn't done with yet.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]
Colds and Coughs.—Sudden changes of climate
are sources of Pulmonary and Bronchial affections.
Experience having proved that simple remedies
acted speedily when taken in the early stage of disease,

Corner for the Young.
For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
ILLUSTRATED REBUS.
Mr. A you &
Rd.
Reny

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.
I AM composed of 54 letters.
My 4, 26, 49 we could not do without.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
AN ANAGRAM.
GASPIRS ghronth file's difel fo catnoi—
Tels evr rapt robeef all den;

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
ANAGRAMS OF BIRDS.
Gip one, Yowel brotes,
Ase lugl, Kingcom dirb,

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
THE LARGEST-CIRCULATING
Agricultural, Literary and Family Newspaper
IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY
D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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county, where it goes free), and the same to any other
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