

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.
CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
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THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it seasonably advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate Engravings, than any other Journal, rendering it far the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

N. Y. STATE CHEESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

First Annual Meeting.

LEAVING Rochester in a great snow storm, the wind apparently rising, and being nearly ten long hours reaching Utica, we were prepared to find few cheese men gathered together in response to the call of the officers of this Association. But the attendance the first day has been a large one. The hall in which the meeting has been held has been pretty well filled. The Association was called to order at 12 o'clock, by President WILLIAMS, who congratulated the members upon the influence it had exerted during the brief period since its organization, by the discussions elicited at last winter's meeting. He thought the facts brought out at that meeting had saved much to manufacturers, had increased the quantity of cheese produced, and that the quality had reached the maximum required for export. There was little left to be desired in order to compete with foreign cheese, except, perhaps in adapting the form and size to the peculiarities of the market.

Little work was done beyond the appointment of Committees, preliminary to going to work, and the Association adjourned at 2 o'clock.

Best Dairy Breed.

While waiting for the Committees Mr. MATROON, of Oneida, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That Native cows are the best and most profitable for dairy purposes.

He said that while he offered the resolution for the purpose of creating discussion, he could not say that he had decided in his own mind which is the best breed. In New England, the little Devon cow is not regarded the best milker. He has experimented with Durham cows and does not regard them so profitable as the Devon. Has examined cows bred on the Western prairies, and found them fine looking, handsome cows, but does not believe they are the best milkers.

THOMAS A. MOORE, of New Hartford, N. Y., said he could only give his experience—could not undertake to advise any body. In the outset he purchased all his cows, and he found a vast difference in the amount and quality of the milk they gave. He had Durhams, Devons, Ayrshires, Alderneys, then Grades and Natives—had cared for and milked them himself, giving each the same feed and treatment. The Devon cows mature earliest and give more milk when young. The Ayrshires were very fine milkers; the Alderneys the best of those named. But he had found the grades, resulting from crossing Durhams on Native cows, the best milkers. In reply to a question, he said the Alderneys were excellent milkers, but were hard keepers—it costing a great deal to keep them in condition, hence they are unprofitable.

JOHN R. CHAPMAN, of Oneida Lake, said he had bred full-blood Devons fifteen or sixteen years. He had also bred grade stock, including grade Ayrshires. I give you what ought to constitute the principle upon which the farmer ought to work. A great deal of money has been lost by putting animals with large frames upon

poor feed, or forage. The farmer whose pastures do not afford an abundance of rich succulent food, should not put Durhams nor their grades upon it—Devons will be better. The farmer, in selecting his dairy stock, must consider whether he is going to depend simply upon what his farm produces in the shape of forage, or whether he will add slops or mashes; if the latter are to be added, the Durham grades would doubtless be as good as any. Pure Devons are not equal as milkers to well selected native stock. I have to cull the Devons as I do the Natives, in order to get good milkers; and the proportion of culls among the Devons is greater than among the Natives. And the Durham culls are in still greater proportion than among either the Devons or Natives. Some of the Durhams will not give milk enough to raise their own calves. The cross of the Devon on the Native cow is a very good one for milk. Devons give a good quantity of milk early in the season; but later in the season the feed goes on to the ribs and not into the milk. As before said, the cross of a Devon bull on Native cows gives a desirable animal—rather smaller than the pure Devon, but with large teats. In nine cases out of ten the male gives external character to the progeny. In quality—dairymen would understand him—the Devons excel all other breeds. I do not know any better cows for general use than grade Devons. I have not had experience enough with the Ayrshires to give an opinion concerning them. The Ayrshire bull on the Natives produces smaller animals than the Devon grades.

LEANDER WETHERELL of the Boston Cultivator said the cow must be selected with reference to its adaptability to the farm where she is to be kept; and no distinct breed has been introduced into this country adapted to all localities. Hence the difference in opinion and experience with reference to the same breed must be varied according to the character and forage product of the respective localities of breeders and dairymen. It has been said: "Species, God makes; breeds, man makes." You may say the Improved Short-Horn is a breed. You may take fifty Short-Horns and put them on a farm under the management of an indifferent and careless breeder, and after a few generations they will degenerate into a shabby lot of animals. Let the same man treat a lot of Devons in the same way, and they will still remain distinct in all their essential qualities and peculiarities. It illustrates the difference between a race and a breed. The type of the Devon has become fixed—that of the Durham has not, though it may become so in time. This illustrates, too, the importance of care in breeding, no matter what the race or breed upon which you work.

In the oldest and best dairy districts in Massachusetts, dairymen have long used the thorough bred Durham bulls of milking families upon native cows, selecting the best of the latter, of course, to breed upon. They have derived, from this course, a most excellent milking stock. Perhaps there is no better in the State. The Ayrshire and Devon have also been used in the same manner, but in the district referred to, with not so satisfactory results as the grades obtained from the Durhams. It should be remembered, however, that the breeders of Durhams have, in their effort to develop the symmetry of their stock—beauty of form and completeness of points—paid little regard to milk, and have, of course, bred it out of the race or breed—hence it is not safe to select males of this breed indiscriminately, with reference to breeding dairy stock. In the districts referred to the pastures are of blue grass and white clover, kept in excellent condition by top-dressing of plaster and other manures. The winter keep is good English hay from the uplands, corn fodder—which is more valued than formerly—and shorts and meal. The natural products of the farm constitute the feed, mainly, perhaps entirely. Mr. WETHERELL enumerated several experiments which had been made with the different pure breeds in comparison with grades, resulting in favor of the latter, almost invariably, as milking stock adapted to the wants of the American dairyman. And he gave the preference to Short-Horn grades, when food was suitable and abundant. The Ayrshire grades had been found better milkers than pure Ayrshire cows.

The Association adjourned the afternoon of the 19th. The attendance was very large—many persons being present from other states. We were disappointed in the results. There was too little real legitimate work done. We shall say something on this subject, and resume our report of proceedings in the next RURAL.

"MIDDLE MEN."

It is not a little amusing to watch the wry faces now made by a class of men at the exclamations of "middle men," who but a few years ago laughed at farmers for trying to shake off the power of this same go-between class. Now there is manifest an anxiety to get into closer communion with farmers. "Why," said one of our city friends the other day, "I cannot get a farmer to sell me a bushel of apples nor potatoes, nor a pound of butter. Ask him for it, and he says 'no; the buyers come to my door for it, pay my price, and I cannot afford to peddle it out in dribbles at the same price.' So we must all pay just what these (hard word) speculators ask. I'm not going to do it any longer. I'll turn speculator on my own hook long enough to speculate a supply into my larder."

Fabulous fortunes are made by the present system of buying and selling produce. So systematically is it conducted, and so completely does it control the whole work of handling the produce of the country, that there is now no better business. For these deal in necessities. There is no doubt as to the demand for the article they deal in. And, co-operating with each other, they find it profitable to insure the farmer a remunerative price in order to get control of his products, thus insuring themselves against damaging fluctuations. The difference between now and the old time is that the business is organized. Salaried men, in the employ of the produce dealers in the larger commercial centers, ride through the country day and night buying on the farm what the farmer has to sell. It is quite different from the times when the farmer was compelled to peddle his produce through our large towns and receive for it what the townspeople chose to offer—quite different for him, since he does not have to lose his time as he formerly did, and quite different for the townspeople who are now compelled to pay the farmer a good price for his products, and the dealer a good commission for the time, labor and money expended in handling them. And now that farmers are reaping some benefit from middle men—now that they are no longer compelled to peddle their products humbly at everybody's doorstep, and receive with gratitude what is offered them, there is a cry from another quarter against middle men.

We do not seek by these words to excuse extortion—we simply want to hold up the mirror to a class who will be sure to see themselves reflected in it.

TREATING AN OLD MEADOW.

J. R. H., Sherburne, Chenango Co., N. Y., writes:—"I have an upland meadow, on a side-hill, facing east and north-east; soil a coffee-colored loam, resting on light, yellow subsoil of gravel and clay; under this, Utica slate. The meadow has been seeded down at different times from three to five years ago. It is very much overgrown with moss. I wish to know how to get rid of the moss, and how to keep clear of it. Is there no remedy? My neighbors tell me to break up and seed down again. Is this all I can profitably do? The land is not wet—is said to produce good crops, but at present the moss seems to have run out the grass."

It would probably pay to plow it deeply, cultivate it a year or two and re-seed it. If you are not inclined to do this, it may be made to produce something besides moss by harrowing it thoroughly, sowing grass seed early in the spring, and giving it a top-dressing of well composted manure and gypsum. And this scarifying the surface and top-dressing repeated, will keep it a good meadow almost indefinitely if at all adapted to the production of grass.

RIGHT vs. LEFT HAND PLOWS.

H. MARVIN, of Richland Co., O., writes the RURAL:—"I was brought up to a right-hand plow, but when getting up for self, procured a left-hand one, and, after twelve years practice, could not be induced to return to the right-hand one. And further, I never yet met any one having had experience with both, but decidedly preferred the left-hand one." All right; our correspondent's testimony is good so far as it goes; but he omits the important thing after all. Why do you like the left-hand plow best? What makes it better than the right-hand one? A man's opinions and preferences are worth little to the public who know nothing of him, personally, unless they are backed with good reasons. Will all correspondents remember this?

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.

PREVENTIVE MEDICINES.

PETER HATHAWAY of Milan, Erie county, Ohio, has favored us with a well written communication, in opposition to the views expressed by us (April 23d), in respect to the use of preventive medicines for sheep. We regret our want of space in this department to present his article entire, and in our abstract of it will aim to give each of his propositions fully and fairly. He cites the following supposed facts:—1, that "it is asserted that there is a region west where horses never have the heaves, and that horses taken there* with" it "speedily recover"—that "it has been suggested that rosin-wood is the medicine which prevents or cures:" 2, that "the Edinburgh Review relates" that a General and his staff escaped the deadly sickness which prevailed in the attacking army in the siege of Belgrade, by daily taking Peruvian bark infused in brandy: 3, that "the same work relates" that in the case of two British war vessels cruising off the coast of Africa, the crew of one suffered severely from coast-fever, while that of the other escaped—the "cause assigned" for this exemption being a defect in the cooking apparatus which kept the vessel filled with smoke between decks: 4, that it has been "demonstrated" in Ohio, that salting on the ground frequently is an infallible preventive of the bloody murrain, which was so fatal during the early settlement of the country: 5, that during the prevalence of yellow fever in Philadelphia, it was "observed" that some persons "surrounded by influences believed to be preventive," were exempt, &c.: 6, that "it is well known" that persons who have remained in cities during pestilence "have with success depended upon preventive medicine": 7, that "it is related" that every man on board of Capt. COOK'S ship, was sick during their stay at a certain Island, except a sail-maker who was intoxicated every day: 8, that in localities where agues are epidemic, "a skillful combination of tonic and cathartic medicine will prevent those diseases as well as cure in the incipient stages:" 9, that "many persons of consumptive habits have so lived as to die of old age, or at least have died in quite advanced life": 10, that "drugs applied outwardly have long been relied on to prevent the contagion of cutaneous diseases": 11, that "it has been asserted with the confidence of experience, that assafetida bound on a horse's bit and rubbed on his manger" exempt him "from highly contagious disease in an adjoining stall": 12, that "there is an old adage endorsed by the experience of many generations 'that prevention is better than cure.'"

We do not think that Mr. HATHAWAY has really answered any views put forth by us, admitting all his supposed facts to be true. We objected to the course of those "who drug and dose animals in perfect health, to prevent some future anticipated diseases—diseases, too, not particularly incidental to the locality, like grub in the head." We said: "The whole doctrine of medical preventives, as commonly understood, is based in error. If in perfect health, can I take anything which will prevent me from catching a cold or contracting a fever a week afterwards, if I become exposed to its exciting causes." And we added: "The remedy for the actual disease so far from being a preventive of that disease, if taken in health, would often prove rather a provocation of it, or of some other malady."

We did not assert nor intend to be understood that if malaria was depressing or disturbing the system and preparing it for the attack of disease, it would be improper to use remedies calculated to tone up or restore it to its normal condition. We did not doubt that malaria and even contagion might be removed or neutralized by purifying or disinfecting agents. We did not deny the efficacy of antiseptics. And above all we did not doubt the high expediency of combating the dangerous disease on the threshold, before even its first symptoms become visible to un instructed eyes. All the supposed facts cited by Mr. HATHAWAY will, we affirmed, be found to come under some of these heads, unless it is the 4th: and we beg to assure our

correspondent that it never has been "demonstrated" in Ohio or elsewhere, "that salting on the ground frequently is an infallible preventive" of "bloody murrain."

We spoke of the folly of dosing and drugging animals in perfect health, and not then exposed to any of the exciting causes of disease, in order to guard against future diseases when the exciting causes should be present. The "commonly understood" doctrine of preventives in such cases is, that certain substances guard against the attacks of certain maladies as a horse shoe, or slip of rowan, (mountain ash,) over the door, was once believed to guard against the entrance of witches! We knew a man who, in perfect health, and amidst perfectly healthy surroundings, physicked himself at regular intervals, because he considered it healthy to be physicked at regular intervals. We have known many men who considered Mr. HATHAWAY'S 7th remedy a sovereign preventive of nearly all the future ills that flesh is heir to! We have known not a few sheep farmers who periodically administered tar, sulphur, niter, etc., to perfectly healthy sheep, exposed to no unhealthy influences, and threatened by no disease whatever, because they considered these substances "healthy to sheep," and thus calculated to prevent their being attacked by disease. Against this class of preventives—against the administration of any kind of medicine to healthy animals amidst healthy surroundings—we entered our protest, and most earnestly do we repeat it. Under such circumstances the sheep wants only proper food and care and nothing more. We consider salt a portion of its proper food, and do not class it as a medicine.

We have a high respect for our correspondent, and would prefer to drop the discussion here: but we think it our duty to say something more. For the 2d, 3d and 7th facts adduced by him, he says they are related by the Edinburgh Encyclopedia,—or in the account of Capt. COOK'S voyage,—on whose authority is not mentioned. In the other nine of his specifications, he gives no authority whatever, not even his own; for he does not claim to speak from personal knowledge or experience. Is this the way to establish affirmative facts, intended for the foundation of a very important conclusion both in medical science and practical husbandry? Mr. HATHAWAY has as good a right, perhaps, as ABERNETHY, to offer an opinion or an argument on a great question in medical science: but when either he or ABERNETHY offer to give facts to the public as a basis of their conclusions, they are bound to offer better proof of them than to say "it has been suggested," "it is related," "it was demonstrated," "it was observed," "it is well known," &c., &c., without informing their readers who has suggested, or related, or demonstrated, or observed those facts, and what were the circumstances under which they did so.

We most decidedly object to any person's making a show of proving by actual facts a position affecting the life and health of men or brutes, in this loose and unsatisfactory manner. The man who takes hearsay, or prevailing opinions, or unsupported assertions, for facts, is very liable to be misled himself and to mislead others; and the greater his personal weight and character the greater is the danger of his infusing erroneous opinions into the minds of those not particularly acquainted with the subject. Whether Mr. HATHAWAY'S supposed facts are really such or not, we will not now pause to ascertain. This would open a branch of inquiry which we have not yet raised. We confess we think him mistaken in not a few of them.

*The implied contradiction between the italicised words in the different parts of the sentence is doubtless due to a mere slip of the pen; and the author's meaning would be expressed by substituting the words very rarely for never.

DEFERRED COMMUNICATIONS.

WITH an accession of new subscribers, we must again call the attention of correspondents to the fact that, with a department comprising but three or four columns of this paper per week, we cannot of course publish all their communications as soon as they are received. In determining their priority of publication we are governed by various considerations. Priority of date only controls where all other things are equal. We choose a particular article to publish, or a particular question to answer in this or that issue, because it is appropriate to the season, because it throws light on a question then attracting the notice of sheep breeders, because it imparts variety to our reading matter,

because it meets the immediate wants of some subscriber, or possibly because it just fills our unappropriated space, &c., &c. Accordingly, more important communications may be, and often are, postponed for these. We have a number of valuable ones which have been in our possession for months—awaiting a more fitting season for publication.

Our friends will understand that we propose to publish, reply to, or take other fitting notice of, all sensibly written communications on the legitimate topics of sheep husbandry—and none the less so when they are sent to us by plain, practical men, wholly unaccustomed to writing for the public press. Therefore, he who finds his article deferred will not necessarily infer that it is rejected.

We may be allowed, in this connection, to advert to those requests which we so often receive to reply to inquiries by letter rather than through the columns of this paper. The writers doubtless think that the topics they thus broach possess too little interest for publication—or they are reluctant to have public attention called to themselves or their affairs. They are generally mistaken in the first particular; and there is no occasion for their scruples in the last, so long as we do not refuse, when the real name and address of the writer is given to us (as a guaranty of good faith,) to suppress them or to publish with an anonymous signature, when requested so to do. These personal and private replies to letters which in reality demand no privacy, are beginning to consume much of our time, and to wear heavily on our health. In a few untalented cases where, as in regard to violent and rapidly spreading diseases, an answer to be of any use must be immediate, we will continue to reply by letter; but under ordinary circumstances, it must not be expected of us, and we trust that no friend or no considerate person, whether friend or stranger, will ask it of us.

BEST STOCK COUNTRY.

EDITORS RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In answer to your several questions relating to the different western localities for the breeding of sheep, I will make a statement of the advantages of this part of our planet for stock raising.

We are located near the line of Los Angeles, and Buena Vista counties, in California, in a very mild and even climate, where stock, in good, common seasons, hold fat the year round. The rains set in almost six weeks earlier here than they do as far north as Sacramento. Therefore, we have the advantage of putting our sheep and cattle into the San Francisco market at a time when the least demand is made for the shambles. To the answers:

1st. Free pasturage abounds all over this region by the thousands of acres; all, excepting the old Mexican grants, which are now owned by American settlers. The stock pioneers have generally secured the most favorable localities by Government entry, to cover the large springs and the most accessible points on the large and small streams of water. These locations can be held for one generation; no doubt.

2d. But very few persons have settled upon the grazing lands. There are bands of sheep around us numbering from two to six thousand head, and herds of cattle containing from one to three thousand head in this section.

3d. The make of the land is usually rolling prairie; near the Sierras, it is more broken and mountainous. There are some barren and some productive plains, producing alfalfa and other species of clover, which is the main dependence.

4th. The land is mostly watered by creeks, but many stock ranches depend wholly upon springs.

5th. Fodder is only necessary for working animals; we have but little weather cold enough to form ice.

6th. Grass and all vegetation starts as soon as the rains commence, in November generally.

7th. The stock live upon the dried grasses and browse until the rainy season. The pasturage then holds green till August.

8th. Fodder is derived from the large fields of wild oats, barley and wheat straw, and corn fodder.

9th. Man requires no shelter eight months in the year, except a blanket and the blue sky over him; and stock needs no more covering than nature provides them.

10th. None at lambing time; no very cold weather.

11th. If the flocks were small, the per centage of lambs would be equal to 120 lambs to every 100 ewes, but in large bands the increase is about eighty per cent. This depends upon the care of herders.

12th. It is better to fold the sheep at night in corrals. The small wolf—"cayote"—kills lambs, but rarely old sheep.

13th. Scab is the only disease we know of that prevails among the flocks of this State. Sheep are remarkably healthy the year round. There are many mineral springs that cures the scab; also, alkali dust kills it.

14th. The nearest market towns are Visalia on the north, ninety miles, and Los Angeles on the south, 130 miles.

15th. No churches or schools yet in this back country.

16th. No prevailing disease, except in the low savannah lands chills and fever, and other fevers occasionally. The land is mostly rich enough for all small grains, but none grown, except in favorable seasons, without irrigation.

17th. This country is more devoted to stock raising and mining. Corn and beans are raised and sold here this season at \$1.60 per bushel. We are 320 miles from San Francisco. We communicate by steam at Los Angeles. The best mode for families with small means is by the way of Salt Lake. Buy your teams near the Missouri River. All kinds of stock can be purchased here at reasonable rates; and as yet we have had no war drafts.

Good shepherds, with small means, can obtain

stock upon shares, or buy the stock and the ranch, camp equipage, &c., on very favorable terms. Our post-office address is Los Angeles, California. SOL. W. JEWETT.

Rio Bravo Ranch, Nov. 5, 1864.

CONDENSED CORRESPONDENCE, ITEMS, &c.

RALSTON'S COMBINED SHEEP RACK AND TROUGH.—We are requested to give our opinion of this. For a movable in-door rack, it has many good points. It prevents waste. Sheep do not pull hay out of it and drop it under foot, even as much as from the slatted box-rack. The leaves and seed are caught in the bottom, and are mostly consumed, as in the RICH wall-rack. In respect to preventing the stronger from robbing the weaker sheep, it stands on a par with both of the above highly approved racks. Like the RICH rack it has a trough of its own—and it is highly convenient for feeding grain, roots and cut feed. For cut feed we prefer it to any other. We have not tried it out of doors in rainy or snowy weather; but indoors, and where the sheep can be shut away while hay is being put in it, the RALSTON rack perhaps answers the combined purposes of a rack and trough quite as well as any other movable one now in use. It cannot, however, be used either as a wall or partition rack.

If all our readers do not remember what RALSTON'S rack is, we will mention that its prominent features are a broad trough of boards, with a horizontal slatted rack lying on it and hinged to one of its sides, so that it can be turned up to allow hay to be put in the trough. A railing runs along the middle of the rack lengthwise to prevent sheep jumping over or into it.

SCREENINGS OF WHEAT FOR SHEEP.—J. D. J. OF PENN Yan, inquires whether it would be safe to feed breeding ewes with the screenings of winter wheat, containing large quantities of chaff and chaff? We have never tried it. Wheat is a healthy feed for sheep, and so we doubt not it is chaff. With the qualities of chaff as food we are unacquainted. It is probably harmless. But we should much prefer to try no experiments of this kind on a flock of valuable ewes during gestation. Wheat screenings are apt to contain more or less smut (ergot) which would be hurtful to breeding ewes in any quantity, and very hurtful in large quantities.

ALPACAS.—Our correspondent from Carlton, Orleans Co. N. Y., inquires about "Alpaca Sheep." This animal belongs to the genus *Lama*, and is not therefore a sheep. It inhabits the mountains of Peru and subsists on coarse and scanty herbage. Its wool is nearly a foot long and the fleece is said to weigh from ten to twelve pounds. It has been several times introduced into the United States—with what precise results we are not informed, but we believe with not very successful ones. We should be happy to publish any facts in relation to these experiments which may be within the actual knowledge of any of our readers.

DOING UP TAGS IN FLEECES.—J. N. CRUCHILL, East Hubbardton, Vermont, inquires what is the custom and what is right in this particular. It is both customary and right to put the tags into the fleece, provided they are in the same condition with it in regard to cleanliness. That is, the tags should be washed before they are put into washed fleeces; but into unwashed fleeces, they may be put unwashed, if all adhering dung and filth are clipped away.

BUCKWHEAT AS SHEEP FEED.—R. R. SACKETT, Plymouth Chenango Co., N. Y., inquires whether buckwheat is a good feed for sheep. We have never tried it. There is a somewhat prevalent impression that it causes sheep to shed their wool, but we do not give much credit to it. We know that JOHN JOHNSON of Geneva feeds it to fattening sheep and approves of it for that purpose; and a more experienced or more skillful feeder we have never had amongst us. Have any of our readers fed buckwheat to breeding ewes, and if so with what results?

SORE EYES.—The cases of sore eyes described by HIRSH MOUTON of Cuba, N. Y., are doubtless merely ophthalmia—for treatment of which see *Practical Shepherd*, or back numbers of this paper. Mr. M. may rest assured that the disease he describes is not "grub in the head."

STAGGERS.—MR. G. K. SHELDON of Perry Center, N. Y., informs us that the ram teg purchased by himself and Mr. OLIN at the late State Fair, for \$80, is dead. The symptoms he describes are those of staggers, or hydrof of the brain.

SALE OF PAULAR LAMBS.—Messrs. LOAN J. and NARRIN BURGESS, Jr., purchased 20 ewe tegs from the flock of VINTANL RICH of Richville, Vt., for \$2,400. The purchase was made last fall.

Communications, &c.

ARE WE MAKING PROGRESS?

It seems eminently proper to ask ourselves this important question. If answered satisfactorily to our own minds, then, in what particulars have we made progress, what have been the principal agencies in producing this improvement, and what is required to further stimulate this advancement? These inquiries open so wide a field that I propose to touch but few topics at the present time.

It will be remembered in after ages as one of the most remarkable phases of the present century, that, at a time when, apparently, the whole vast energies of the Loyal States were devoted to the suppression of a gigantic rebellion, our manufactures were never in a more prosperous condition, our mechanics and artisans were never more busy, or obtained so good return for their labor—skilled labor in all departments of industry was never in better demand or received a richer reward. Even farmers are paying their debts, and some even, are supposed to be growing rich. The spirit of enterprise and improvement which has always characterized us as a people, has never been more active or intelligent than in the year that has nearly passed. I do not propose, at this time, to dwell upon the great progress that we, as a nation, have made in the science of war—of the vast improvements in guns and death-dealing missiles—of the world-renowned Monitors and Iron-clads nor the more peaceful conquests over time, distance, and the elements—Telegraphs, Steamships, Railroads, Steam Fire Engines, &c.; but I will confine myself to topics more or less connected with agriculture.

Notwithstanding the high price of lumber and all kinds of building materials, farmers, during

the past year, have been renovating and beautifying their homes, enlarging and repairing their barns and sheds, and rebuilding their fences.—They have brought an increased area of land under cultivation, and fitted it for improved machinery. They have expended more money in the purchase of new Reapers and Mowers, Grain-Drills and improved Farm Implements and Machinery, than ever before in a single year. They have taken an increased interest in the improvement of their breeds of Sheep, Cattle, and, in fact, all kinds of Farm Stock. The productions of the Dairy have been largely increased, and the cost of manufacturing materially lessened by associated and systematic effort. The culture of Tobacco, Cotton, Flax and Sorghum, in the more Northern States, has been considerably increased. Increased attention has been given to the cultivation of Fruit, particularly the Grape and the Pear. Farmers are, in a small degree, losing their old time prejudice against "Book-Farming"—agricultural books and papers are more generally read, and they are finding that, after all, it is not all trash; some of the suggestions, at least, are worth remembering.

Perhaps in no one thing has more improvement been made than in Sheep and Sheep Husbandry. The high price of Wool has been one cause of this advancement—but the writings of intelligent and practical breeders, that have found their way to the public eye, and discussions upon this subject at our Clubs and Fairs, have done much more. Without detracting from the merits of other eminent writers upon this subject, in my humble opinion, "Randall's Practical Shepherd," and, I may add, his valuable contributions to the columns of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, the past year, have done more to fix public attention upon this important branch of agriculture, than any other cause. It is to be hoped that the Sheep-breeders and Wool-growers of this country may long have the benefit of his intelligent and practical suggestions. If not in amount of production, at least in quality of staple, we are soon destined to take the front rank among the Wool-growers of the world. And why should not we occupy that position? It is an accomplished fact that we have (all things considered) the best Merino stock in the world and the most careful and intelligent breeders. Our whole country is, in some degree, favorable for Sheep husbandry, and our vast Prairies at the West and South-west, furnish a field fully equal to any country in the world for large operations.

Our greatest want now seems to me to be a discriminating market—not "middle-men" who buy by the pound, but experienced manufacturers or their agents, who will discriminate in favor of clean wool and against grass and dirt. And let our State and Local Agricultural Societies give liberal premiums, not upon pampered animals, kept under cover the year around for the purpose of retaining all the yolk and dirt in the fleece to give it great weight, but award them to the Sheep that excel in beauty of form, hardness of constitution, quantity and quality of washed wool, produced at the least expense of feed and care. Were these conditions complied with, we should soon witness a marked improvement in our flocks.

I hope this subject will be taken up by abler pens than mine, and pressed upon public attention until a reform is brought about. There are many other "signs of the times" that I would like to touch upon, but the length of this communication admonishes me that Editors usually "discriminate" in favor of short articles. B. BATAVIA, N. Y., Dec., 1864.

REMARKS.—The foregoing article was designed by the writer for the closing number of our last volume, but was necessarily deferred. The testimony it contains to the good influence of the Sheep Editor's work is of course published without his knowledge and consent.

PAYING FOR A FARM.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I am led to the following reflections, by the every day's observation of men that I am mingling with. Who has not noticed in these exciting times, when we are in the midst of a terrible rebellion, when money is flush, and the prices of every thing has become exorbitant, that men and women are rushing headlong after the luxuries of life, and are to be seen decorated, in silks and furs and jewelry of every description. These are trying times, and the times that "try men's souls," yet we seem to forget ourselves and rush on to extravagances that we had no idea of indulging in, and had resolved, "as for me and my house," we will "taste not, handle not" those things which only rush me deeper and deeper in debt. I trust that much rich instruction and benefit might be obtained by observing things as they transpire, by noting them as they pass under our observation. How readily can we perceive the difference in those we mingle with, in their views of propriety—those who are for show, and those who are seeking to apply their means to a better purpose. We can see it in every article of dress, from the hat to the boots of the gentleman, and from the hat to the garters of the lady. We can see it more plainly, in the common affairs of life at home, where the male portion are engaged in the labors of the farm. Here are to be seen the man and his boys, busily engaged in the labors of the day, with perhaps cast off hats and coats of former years, when everything was plenty and cheap, which are now, by the pressing demands of the times, looked up and worn, rather than add to the expense of buying anything new.

Such men and families need encouraging, and indeed, if they would only look to the right source, they would readily find it in those that have themselves once started in the world peniless perhaps, and without a friend to assist them. These have raised themselves by their industry and economy, to comfortable situations in life, and are always ready and willing to say a kind word of encouragement, and to use their

influence in behalf of those who are struggling to overcome the same difficulties.

Who has not noticed the indiscreet inquiries that are sometimes made in reference to our clothing; whether such and such are our best; and other matters relative to the amount of our trade at the stores, the inquirers being astonished at the low amount in comparison to theirs.

All this, my friends, is brought about by having it understood that you are paying for a farm.

There are other objects, my friends, besides that of paying for a farm that demands our attention. We have the widows and orphans of our friends who have left their homes and have died in defence of our country. Here is a noble work for all to engage in, that loudly calls for our attention, and that will probably absorb all that can reasonably be spared from our resources. This is a work that all can engage in, without any difference of opinion, since the objects upon whom blessings are conferred, admit the giving of every shade of value or kind, from "a cup of cold water," or a kind look, to the gifts of those who are able to give with a liberal hand.

It seems to me necessary in these times, that the attention of the public should be called to this subject, and I have therefore adopted the above heading to arrest the attention, trusting that a hint is sufficient to arouse the community to activity, and thereby draw their minds away from this rage for dress and amusements which is now eating us up like a cancer. S. T. BRADFORD Co., Pa.

REMARKS.—There is substance in the above article, and it should be read again, and acted upon. There was never a better time to pay for a farm—never more need of the practice of economy—never such demands upon our hearts and purses for benevolent actions, and probably never a time when money was so wantonly wasted.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Winter Feeding Cows.

We find the following in the *American Stock Journal*:—"For winter feeding, good clover hay and corn fodder, meal mixed with bran shorts, middlings, or canal, (the three latter names being given in different sections to nearly the same article, and varying in different mills from a very rich to a very poor feed.) Meal from a number of varieties of grain will be found more healthy than from any one kind. That from Indian corn will usually give a large quantity of rich milk at first, but in most cases will soon induce an excess of flesh or fat, and a corresponding decrease of milk. Many valuable cows have been rendered valueless for milkers by one season's high feeding on Indian meal. Cotton seed and oil-meal will have much the same effect. Sometimes good cows will show an inclination to take on fat and increase in milk on the commencement of excessive feeding on rich feeds.

For a cow not in calf, or the first six months she has gone with calf, four quarts per day of one-half middlings, and meal from equal quantities of corn, rye and oats, will be as much as the average of cows will bear and prove lasting and profitable; it should be given on cut fodder, or on cut hay, wet with hot water, so as to slightly steam, and fed in two feeds per day. Where roots can be raised with profit they will be found healthy, and will keep up a better flow of milk than most other kinds of feed, but they should be fed with other kinds. Wurzel and beets will increase the quality, but will not improve the richness, though the flavor will be benefited. Yellow carrots will give less increase in the quantity of milk, but they will improve both the quantity and quality of the butter, making it finer flavored and higher colored. Roots fed in large quantities alone will induce too large a flow of milk at expense of condition. One feed on roots and meal per day will prove better than either alone. Middlings of bran should be omitted when feeding roots, as both are loosening and may scour. Where there is a tendency to this, oatmeal is the best food, and it may be better to scald it.

Regularity of feeding is of the greatest importance for all animals, and is never more so than in feeding cows; they should have constant access to salt—rock salt is the best, and Turk's Island the best substitute; if they have it always before them, they will never receive injury from over-eating. They should be watered often and with water not too cold; the better plan is to have such arrangements as will give constant access to it, though if regularity is observed, the animal's appetite will soon accommodate itself to stated times. While the aim should be to make cows eat all the hay or fodder they can, they will fall much short of it if they are allowed to waste, or are fed more at once than they can eat clean in a reasonable time. Feed oftener, and less at a time, and they will eat much more in the aggregate, and waste much less. If it is found the supply given is too large, it should be removed as soon as the animal has become satisfied, as nothing destroys the appetite sooner than rejected food lying in the manger. For successful winter-dairying, a good, light, airy and comfortable stable is indispensable; care should be taken to keep it clean and well ventilated, guarding against currents of cold air blowing in the cows, and keeping their apartments too close and hot. Close, hot stables foster more diseases than exposure to cold."

Sorghum vs. Wheat.

A WRITER in the *Wisconsin State Journal* tells of a Dane county farmer who kept an exact account of all his farming operations during the past year. He found his sorghum and wheat crops to compare as follows:—After paying labor, rent of ground, expense of marketing, &c., his wheat crop paid \$2.50 per acre net profit; sugar cane, \$14.00; thus making the net profit of cane as compared with wheat in the ratio of five and three-fifths to one.

Rural Notes and Queries.

THANKS!—PATIENCE!—Our thanks are cordially tendered to the thousands who are flooding us with subscriptions, communications, advertisements and good wishes. If we had time and space we would fain make suitable acknowledgment,—but can only bow, hastily and awkwardly, to hosts of RURAL friends, near and distant. And as it is hard work to even open, glance at and attend to the more pressing business requirements of letters, we must be excused for not replying—as requested, and we desire—to scores of friends. Patience, please, until we can breathe freer!—but don't stop "clubbing" us while any in your vicinity are without the RURAL!

THE WEATHER.—Has been decidedly wintry thus far in January. The temperature for the first half of the month was 2½ degrees lower than the average for the past 28 years. The snow storm on the 10th and 11th was the heaviest for several years in this region;—but while it was snowing here, a heavy rain fell at Utica, 130 miles east. Before the 10th we had 4 or 5 inches of snow, and since the heavy fall (on 10th and 11th) other storms have occurred so that the depth of the "white mantle" is probably now from 18 to 20 inches. The weather is cold—this morning (Jan. 16) the thermometer marking 8° above Zero. Sleighing good and outdoor business lively.

PROMPTLY MAILED.—We promised that the numbers of this volume of the RURAL should be more promptly issued and mailed than were those of the last, and we are fulfilling the promise. Thus far this year the paper has been put to press one day earlier, and the edition mailed more speedily, than formerly. But agents and subscribers will remember that it is impossible for us to mail all papers in one package unless ordered at one time—at least until we get the names in type of mailing machine. We are at present obliged to mail some by machine, and others (recent orders) from letters, by hand,—hence the reason of sending different packages to same post-office. As soon as we get all names in type, each club will be mailed at one time, but until then we shall continue to mail late orders from letters on the day of receipt, instead of waiting to put names in type, for the reason that the additions to clubs are so numerous that we cannot put all in type immediately.

MONROE COUNTY AG. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of this Society, held on the 11th inst., the Treasurer reported a balance of \$906 24 in the treasury. No formal report was made by the President or Board of Managers. The following Board of Officers was elected for 1865: President—STEPHEN LEGGETT, Henrietta. Vice Pres.—Daniel Warner, Rochester; Lorenzo Babcock, Riga; I. H. Sutherland, Pittsford. Secretary—John Talbot, Rochester. Treasurer—F. W. Lay, Greece, (unanimously re-elected.) Directors.—To fill vacancies: Benj. Birdsall, Mendon; D. D. T. Moore, Rochester. Holding over: E. M. Parsons, Gates; A. C. Hobbie, Irondequoit; J. P. Ross, Ogden; L. D. Mitchell, Pittsford. The President, D. T. Moore, D. D. S. Brown, F. W. Lay, J. Murdoch, J. P. Ross, and the Members of Assembly for the county, were chosen delegates to the annual meeting of the State Ag. Society, to be held in Albany on the 8th of February proximo.

THE RURAL AT "THE FRONT."—We verily believe no paper has more ardent friends in the Union Army than the RURAL NEW-YORKER. For months we have been in almost daily receipt of subscriptions from soldiers "before Richmond," at Nashville, Chattanooga, Memphis, Vicksburg, New Orleans, Newbern, &c., and of late we are having order from Savannah. Many order the paper to "the front," and others to their families and friends at home. They speak favorably of the RURAL'S position in regard to the war, and encouragingly as to the prospects of our army in crushing the rebellion. Our last letter from Savannah is so lively that we give it, as follows:

FRIEND RURAL:—Here we are in the beautiful city of Savannah. We entered the place Dec. 21st. We have had a pleasant time on this campaign; no rain or "Johnnies" to bother us. We had plenty of sunshine, and with flour, corn-meal, chickens, fresh pork, sweet potatoes and honey, we lived "right up to the handle"—in fact we drew all our sanitarium from the State of Georgia. On leaving Atlanta we had issued to us three days' rations of bacon, and from there till we arrived here JEFF'S people furnished the rest. At this place I found the RURAL awaiting me with its clean bright pages; it was a rare treat, I can tell you, after getting out of the wilderness and swamps of Georgia. I send you the Savannah *Republican*, and \$2 to apply on my subscription to the RURAL.—SAMUEL MOORE, Co. A, 31st Iowa, 3d Brig., 1st Div., 15th A. C.

THE AGRICULTURAL PRESS.—A notice of changes—including births, resuscitations, consolidations, etc.,—among our agricultural contemporaries is necessarily deferred. But we can't wait even a week to greet the re-appearance of the *New England Farmer*, and welcome another addition to the Rural Family—*The Rural World and Valley Farmer*, semi-monthly, by N. J. COLMAN, St. Louis.

PROF. J. P. KIRTLAND.—In another place in this issue we give a portrait and sketch of the life of the late Prof. BENJ. SILLIMAN. The last Ohio Farmer announces the election of Prof. J. P. KIRTLAND of Cleveland, O., as a member of the American Academy of Science, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Prof. SILLIMAN. It is an honor worthily bestowed.

TO KEEP A HORSE'S TONGUE IN HIS HEAD.—What shall I do to make my young horse keep his tongue in his head when the bits are in his mouth?—J. H. M., Libertyville, Ill.

We have known young horses so to carry their tongue because it was sore. If this is the cause, the bits should be kept out until the tongue is well. Washing the mouth with alum water, or dissolved saltpetre, will heal it.

GALVANIZED IRON.—Where can I get galvanized iron, in strips 3-8 of an inch wide and 1-16 of an inch thick.—M. BAKER, Perry Center.

Address J. C. LEFFERTS, Galvanizing Works, 100 Beekman St., N. Y. City, and you will probably obtain the information you desire.

GAME FOWLS.—Our correspondent who wrote us about game fowls, a week or two since, is referred to E. N. BISSELL, Richville, Vt., for the information he desires.

CHEESE MANUFACTORY.—Will you, or some of your readers, that can speak from personal observation, or experience, please inform me at an early date, through the columns of your paper, the size of building or buildings necessary for the manufacturing of cheese from four hundred cows; also, the probable expense of fixtures for the same.—D. T. H., Glens Falls, N. Y.

CEMENTING IRON PIPE.—Can you or some of your numerous readers give a recipe through the RURAL for cementing iron pipe so that it will hold hot water? and oblige—A SUBSCRIBER, Howard, N. Y.

HORTICULTURAL.

ABOUT OUR FORESTS.

FUEL is scarce—especially wood—and brings a high price. The rail-roads want it. Their sheds are empty and some of the roads in this State are now burning green wood at a great sacrifice of their own interests and the public convenience. The New York Central, we learn, has been compelled to purchase its wood in Canada, paying for it of course in Canada currency or gold. Whether it then costs more to them than here, or not, we are not informed; but it must be an inconvenience because it requires transportation when the stock of the road is overtaxed already to handle the freight offered.

Now this demand will probably stimulate the further destruction of forests; and this should be looked upon by horticulturists with apprehension. The farmer must also feel the influence of their destruction, for it not only affects the beauty of the landscape, but deprives the horticulturist and the farmer of a protection and influence which they can ill spare. The climatic influence of forests is no new topic; and yet it is not sufficiently considered, apparently, by the classes referred to. At our horticultural gatherings, almost invariably, there is testimony given which proves how radical are the changes produced by the disappearance of our wood lands. The winds which have uninterrupted sweep, destroy the vitality of our plants, shrubs, vines and fruit trees—rendering them less productive, and in some cases and with some of the fruits, entirely unreliable. The forests gone, the soil is rendered less productive by the increased evaporation which results, and the consequent cold surfaces. Long and serious drouths, which seem to increase in length and severity each successive year, are not so much due to "providential causes" as to natural causes increased in their action by this destruction of forests, whose absence increases the extremes of summer and winter temperature, prevent the condensation of moisture in the atmosphere and disturb the order and character of the seasons.

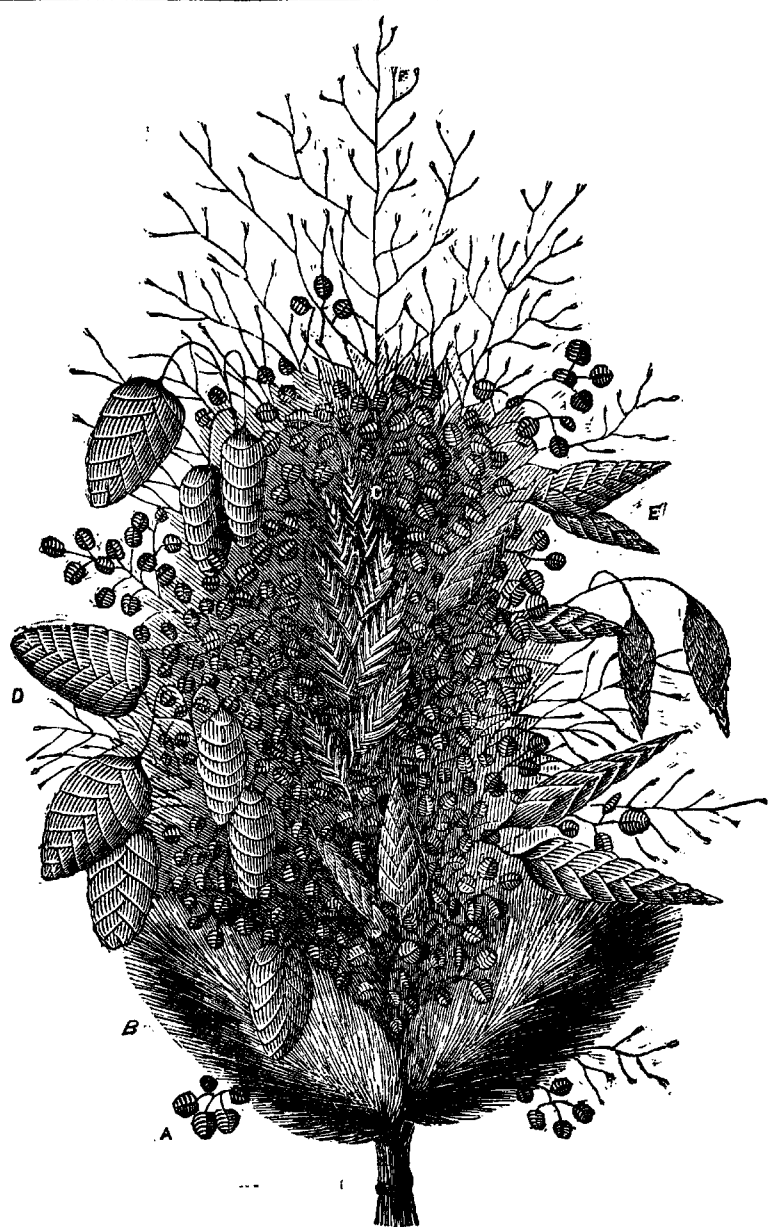
NOAH WEBSTER said in 1779:—"When the forest is gone, the reservoir of moisture stored up in its vegetable mold is evaporated, and returns only in deluges of rain to wash away the parched dust into which that mold has been converted. The well wooded and humid hills are turned to ridges of dry rock, which encumbers the low grounds and chokes the water-courses with its debris,—and except in countries favored with an equable distribution of rain through the seasons, and a moderate and regular inclination of surface—the whole earth, unless rescued by human art from the physical degradation to which it tends, becomes an assemblage of bald mountains, of barren, treeless hills, and of swampy and malarious plains. There are parts of Asia Minor, of Northern Africa, of Greece, and even of Alpine Europe, where the operation of causes set in action by man has brought the face of the earth to a desolation almost as complete as that of the moon; and though, within that brief space of time which we call "the historical period," they are known to have been covered with luxuriant woods, verdant pastures, and fertile meadows, they are now too far deteriorated to be reclaimable by man; nor can they become again fitted for human use, except through great geological changes, or other mysterious influences or agencies, of which we have no present knowledge, and over which we have no present prospective control."

We have seen it somewhere suggested, recently, that the planting of forests should be encouraged—that groves should be planted systematically—that this should be done, not only because of a prospective scarcity of fuel notwithstanding the apparent inexhaustibility of our coal resources, but because of the climatic influence that would result. We think the latter the more important reason, while the first is entitled to consideration because of the profit likely to result. Our population is increasing; with this increase the demand for fuel, and timber for economical uses also increases, and yet the supply is not only diminishing, but the cost of obtaining this supply is largely enhanced by its remoteness.

HORACE GRÆBLEY is reported to have said recently that his wood land is the only part of his farm that does not run him in debt, and yet its annual increase in value is probably greater in proportion to the capital invested and labor expended than any other portion. So, groves of forest trees of such varieties as shall secure, not only the most valuable wood for fuel, but the most desirable timber for manufacturing purposes will pay better for a long term of years than the same investment in seven per cent. bonds. Of course we refer only to localities where forests have disappeared sufficiently to affect both the climate and the supply of timber for use, seriously.

VICK'S SEED CATALOGUE FOR 1865!

The issue of this Annual has become a horticultural event; and as such, is worthy of notice. True, it is a business enterprise, but no more so than the publication of any book. It sustains a practical relation to success in floricultural effort for the coming year. It is not an ordinary seed catalogue, enumerating the names only of seeds the seedsman has for sale—seeds of plants of which the mass of cultivators know nothing, hence will not buy. It is a "Guide to the Flower Garden." True, this Guide is not published as a gratuitous and philanthropic contribution to the horticultural world. It is, rather, a recognition of a true business principle which we have before urged in these columns—that unless a man knows the use he may make of an article he will not invest money in it. Tomatoes were not cultivated until people learned that they were excellent for the table, how easily they could be grown, and how to cook and use them after they were grown. Since it has become



BOUQUET OF ORNAMENTAL GRASSES.

A, Briza geniculata; B, Lagurus ovatus; C, Brizopyrum siculum; D, Briza maxima; E, Bromus brizopoides; F, Agrostis nebulosa.

known that the grape could be successfully grown in almost any locality by the proper culture, and since the demand for knowledge of the best modes of culture has been generally supplied, its cultivation has been largely extended. If a man manufactures a garden implement of great merit, it has no value to gardeners until they learn its use and how to use it. If the gardener buys the implement without having first learned how to use it, after one or two trials and failures, to find its true use and value, he may condemn it; and yet it may be of great value to him, notwithstanding. So it is the dealer's interest to accompany his implement with the fullest directions for its employment. Doing so, he insures its good reputation and an increasing demand for it; neglecting to do so, he insures, often, the disaffection of the purchaser and an extended prejudice against it. So with flower and vegetable seeds: if the dealer distributes a description of the product of his seed, the kind of soil required, gives the mode of preparation, tells how and when to plant, and how to cultivate to secure success, his sale of seeds will be in proportion to the extent to which he distributes this knowledge; and his continued success will be in proportion to the accuracy and completeness of his directions, the quality of his seeds, and the realization of the results he predicted, by his customers. Of course, it will be seen that it is for the dealer's interest to make his directions as complete and accurate as is possible. We believe Mr. VICK has fully recognized this principle or policy, in the preparation of the catalogue before us. We know of no more complete Floral Guide, for the garden, published anywhere, by anybody. It is a book of about sixty pages, finely illustrated with colored plates and engravings of plants and flowers drawn from nature. It is entitled to a prominent place among current horticultural literature, and merits all the good words that can be said of it.

OSAGE ORANGE IN ILLINOIS.

A SPRINGFIELD, Illinois, correspondent of the *Scientific American*, talks as follows of the present position of the Osage Orange as a hedge plant, and of the prospective supply of plants for planting:—"Osage Orange hedges, old enough to bear fruit, are all very full this year; the fruit being well grown, many of them being three inches in diameter; although the severe cold of last winter killed thousands of peach trees, and cut off the fruit from peaches, apples, pears, plums, and grapes, showing conclusively that the Osage Orange is much harder than our fruit tree. There are hundreds of miles of Osage Orange hedge in the State of Illinois; and in ten years there will be thousands of miles of it. All the fruit made this year is being bought up for the purpose of starting plants for next spring's sales. One individual engaged in this business thinks he will realize in this way \$10,000 out of the seed he has secured up to this time. Since the war commenced it has been ascertained that the home-raised seed turns out to be a really better article than that brought from Texas; it not having gone through a scalding operation, and not being two years old before it gets to market. Our native seed will grow three feet the first season. Millions of pounds can be sold next season; our farmers showing decidedly that on the 'Western prairies' they have no fear of extreme cold, and will exert themselves to plant miles of 'Osage Orange hedging.'"

POMOLOGICAL GOSSIP.

Winfield Apple.—Described by Mr. S. Foster of Muscatine, Iowa, as one of the handsomest apples he has ever seen, and so say all who have seen it. It is a seedling, the original tree standing in Mr. Winfield's orchard, in his neighborhood. Tree, pyramidal shape, top high, lower branches spreading, thrifty, and quite hardy, having stood many of the hard winters of Iowa uninjured; quite productive, a fine crop every year, and some years a very large crop. Fruit, medium size, very round and fair, somewhat resembling Maiden's Blush, but not as oblate, nor as deep a blush, and more of the white waxen appearance—most beautiful; flesh, tender, pleasant acid, very good for cooking, best even in July when two-thirds grown. Sells readily, and considered the best market apple for August and September.

All Summer Apple.—From Conestoga, Lancaster Co., Pa. Introduced by Caspar Hiller, a few years since, who named it All Summer from the fact of its being in use from 20th of June till September. A handsome grower, regular bearer, not failing in five years. The trees commence bearing in the nursery, and seven apples have been counted on a four year old tree, which was growing as thrifty as any others around it that had none on. Fruit, small to medium size, nearly round; skin, greenish white, very clear pale bluish tinge on the sunny side; stalk, half an inch long, deeply imbedded; calyx, small, closed, set in a deep regular basin; flesh, very white, delicate, crisp, juicy, with a pleasant vinous but not high flavor. June to September.

The Kintony Blackberry.—This is the name of a new variety, about to be introduced to notice. It has been cultivated a few years, having been found in the mountains of that name. In the habit and vigor of the plant it resembles the Lawton, and is a most profuse bearer. The foliage is more coarsely serrate than the former, and the berries are longer and more irregular, some of them measuring one and a half inches long, and three inches in circumference. This description very nearly corresponds with the Dorchester, and like that kind, the berries are sweet, before they are quite ripe, and are in eating at the same time, viz.: from the last of July to the end of August. Probably it may be a desirable variety.

Pittstown Apple.—Introduced by Mrs. Van Namee of Pittstown, N. Y. The editor of the *Country Gentleman* says he has given it a fair trial, not only as a table fruit, but for stewing and baking, and it appears to be a fine variety. It appears to be intermediate between the Fall Pippin and Fall Orange. It is of rather large size, measuring three inches in diameter, each way, roundish, slightly oblong, handsome, smooth, and regular; skin, light yellow, often with a fine blush; stem, in a wide and deep cavity; calyx, with long segments in a wide wrinkled basin; flesh, yellowish white, tender, mild, sub-acid, slightly spicy, with a good or very good flavor.

The Peters Pear.—A new pear, raised in 1848, from the White Doyenne, by Rev. Absalom Peters of Williamstown, Mass. It is perfectly hardy, a vigorous grower, an abundant bearer, and gives crops every year. It bore the present year over a bushel of fruit. The pear ripens in Williamstown the first week in August, at the time of the Madeleine. It is, however, said to be a much better pear, about the size of the Ty-

son, highly colored, and promises to be one of the best early summer pears. Rev. Mr. Clift, who describes it in the *Agriculturist*, says it is pronounced by competent judges, very good, if not best.

A FLORIST'S BOUQUET.

TAKE a daisy, and look at it with a strong magnifying glass. You will see that it is made up, both border and middle, both rays and disk, of a number of little florets clustered together. Our ball bouquets are made after the same model. I have now to make one large circular flower with the separate florets in my basket. I first tie my bunch of box with string, and clip its top with shears, so that it resembles a circular pincushion or an artichoke bottom. It is the foundation of the structure; botanists would call it the receptacle of my composite flower. Here, I have bits of common rush, about ten or eleven inches long; there, I have bits of non-elastic iron wire, about as thick as a horse hair, some three inches long. With a twist of wire I attach each flower to the end of a rush, giving it thus an artificial stem. You see how quickly it is done, especially when one has three or four helping hands. We will now stick the rush pins into the box cushion—the flowers on their common receptacle. In the centre I put my *Gloire de Dijon* rose, surrounding it with a circle of *heliotrope*; next comes a circle of *Aimee Vibert*; next of *scarlet geranium*; next of yellow *calceolaria*, and next of fancy *pelargoniums*. The whole is surrounded with a loose and hazy framework of glistening and trembling *gypsophilas*. The floral surface is even and convex. The shears shorten the rushes to a convenient length, and the bouquet is slipped into a funnel-shaped holder or case of card-fringed with paper stamped into lace. All the scaffolding is hidden; the blossoms only meet the eye. As a finishing touch, the fuchsias are inserted round the edge, so as to droop like pendants over the lace.

But a bouquet so built cannot last long. Of course not. Putting it into water to preserve it would be as efficacious as putting your wooden leg into a foot bath to cure a cold. A vapor bath and a slight sprinkling, through the instrumentality of a tin box, or a cool wet towel, might refresh it a little. But, *que voulez vous?* 'Tis their destiny. To-night's bouquet graces the day after to-morrow's dust heap.—*All the Year Round.*

BLIGHT IN PEARS.

At a recent meeting of the Ohio Pomological Society Dr. KIRTLAND is reported as having talked of a new theory concerning the cause of Pear Blight, based upon microscopic investigations by Prof. SALISBURY showing that this disease is caused by the propagation and growth of minute fungi in the sap and albumen of the trees, and giving facts supporting the theory. As a remedy or preventive of these diseases in fruit trees, Dr. K. said the use of copperas, in solution, as a wash for the bark, or syringing the leaves and fruit, was found very valuable; also the application of old iron, blacksmith's sweepings, etc., to the roots. He expressed strong confidence that these applications would be found a complete remedy for the fire blight in Pear Trees, that worst scourge of the Pomologist.

Horticultural Notes and Queries.

FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK.—The Winter Meeting of the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York, will be held at the Court House in the City of Rochester, commencing on Tuesday the 24th day of January. Session to commence at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. Members, and all interested in the culture of Fruit are invited to be present and to bring with them specimens of fruits for exhibition.

AN OHIO GRAPE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION is projected, the object to be the gathering and collating and publishing of information relative to all matters pertaining to the Grape Vine—its fruits, uses, &c. Meetings to be held quarterly, or oftener, at different points, as the Society shall determine, and an exhibition of grapes and wine annually. All persons interested in this subject and willing to become members are requested to send their names to F. R. ELLIOTT, Cleveland, Ohio.

PLANTING STRAWBERRIES.—Proposing to plant a field of strawberries next season, I wish to know what month will be the best to insure a good crop the year after?—NORTHERN N. Y.

We should prefer good strong plants of last season's growth, and plant as early in spring as the soil is in condition. Keep off runners and pinch off fruit stems when they develop and they will be likely to produce well the succeeding season.

ABOUT TULIP MIXING.—I would like to inquire if different colored tulips will mix if planted in the same bed. Also, if double and single varieties will mix?—Mrs. R. L. DOOLITTLE, *Borodino, N. Y.*

If several varieties of tulips be grown in the same bed and produce seed, the product of this seed would doubtless be "mixed." The bulbs, however, are not affected by one another.

You may grow any number of varieties in the same bed for any number of years, without the slightest change in color or character, except such as might be produced by soil or culture.—B.

ORANGE TREES.—Will some of the readers of the *RURAL* tell me at what age Lemon and Orange trees should be budded; also, how long before they will bear, providing they are five or six years old when budded; and at what season of the year they should be pruned?—ADDIE WAKEMAN.

Seedling orange trees may be budded or grafted from the time they are as large as a common pen-holder, or say two years old from the seed. When too old and large to be worked on the main stem, budding may be performed on the young branches. In regard to bearing, oranges are somewhat like apples and pears; some bear at an earlier age than others. As a general thing, however, from 3 to 5 years growth after budding or grafting is required to bring them into bearing. The *Dwarf Oahuite Orange* is the best for house culture; blossoms and bears fruit constantly, even when only a few inches in height. Pruning should be done before new growth commences, but very little is needed, and may be done any time.—B.

Domestic Economy.

HOUSEHOLD LEAKS.

OUR readers are indebted to Mrs. HASKELL'S *Household Encyclopedia* for the following enumeration of household leaks. There are some, doubtless, who need no telling of this sort, while there may be others who will learn something by reading what follows:

"Much waste is experienced in the boiling, etc., of meats. Unless watched, the cook will throw out the water without letting it cool to take off the fat, or scrape the dripping-pan into the swill pail. The grease is useful in many ways. It can be burned in lamps mixed with lard; or, when no pork has been boiled with it, made into candles. When pork has been boiled alone, it will do for fry cakes, if cleansed. Again, bits of meat are thrown out which would make hashed meat or hash. The flour is sifted in a wasteful manner, or the bread-pan left with the dough sticking to it. Pie crust is left, and laid by to sour, instead of making a few tarts for tea, etc. Cake batter is thrown out because but little is left. Cold puddings are considered good for nothing, when oftentimes they can be steamed for the next day, or, as in case of rice, made over in other forms. Vegetables are thrown away that would warm for breakfast nicely. Dish-cloths are thrown down where mice can destroy them. Soap is left in water to dissolve, or more used than is necessary. If Bath brick, whitening, rotten-stone, etc., are used, much is wasted uselessly. The scrub-brush is left in water, pails scorched by the stove, tubs and barrels left in the sun to dry and fall apart, chamber pails allowed to rust, tins not dried, and iron-ware rusted; nice knives used for cooking in the kitchen; silver spoons used to scrape kettles, or forks to toast bread. Rinsings of sweetmeats, and skimmings of sirup, which make good vinegar, are thrown out; cream is allowed to mold and spoil; mustard to dry in the pot, and vinegar to corrode the easier; tea, roasted coffee, pepper and spices, to stand open and lose their strength. The molasses jug loses the cork, and the flies take possession. Sweet meats are opened and forgotten. Vinegar is drawn in a basin and allowed to stand until both basin and vinegar are spoiled. Sugar is spilled from the barrel, coffee from the sack and tea from the chest. Different sauces are made too sweet, and both sauce and sugar wasted. Dried fruit has not been taken care of in season, and becomes wormy. The vinegar on pickles loses strength, or leaks out, and the pickles become soft. Potatoes in the cellar grow, and the sprouts are not removed until they become worthless. Apples decay for want of looking over. Pork spoils for want of salt, and beef because the brine wants scalding. Hams become tainted, or filled with vermin, for want of the right protection. Dried beef becomes so hard it cannot be cut; cheese molds, and is eaten by mice or vermin; lard is not well tried in the fall and becomes tainted; butter spoils for want of being well made at first. Bones are burned that would make soap; ashes are thrown out carelessly, endangering the premises and being wasted. Servants leave a light burning in the kitchen when they are out all the evening. Clothes are whipped to pieces in the wind; fine cambrics rubbed on the board, and laces torn in starching. Brooms are never hung up, and soon are spoiled. Carpets are swept with stubs hardly fit to scrub the kitchen, and good, new brooms used for scrubbing. Towels are used in place of holders, and good sheets to iron on, taking a fresh one every week, thus scorching nearly all in the house. Fluid, if used, is left uncorked, endangering the house, and wasting the alcohol. Caps are left from lamps, rendering the fluid worthless by evaporation. Table linen is thrown carelessly down and eaten by mice, or put away damp and is mildewed, or the fruit stains are forgotten, and the stains washed in. Table cloths and napkins are used as dish-wipers; mats forgotten to be put under hot dishes; teapots melted by the stove; water forgotten in pitchers and allowed to freeze in winter; slops for cow and pig never saved; china used to feed cats and dogs on; and in many other ways a careless and inexperienced housekeeper will waste, without heeding the hard-earned wages of her husband; when she really thinks—because she buys no fine clothes, makes the old ones last, and cooks plainly—she is a most superior housekeeper. The next time an unthinking husband is disposed to be severe because some trifling matter has been neglected, he 'should put that in his pipe and smoke it.'"

STARCH FOR SHIRT BOSOMS.—Take two ounces of fine, white, gum-arabic powder, put into a pitcher, and pour on a pint of boiling water, and then, having covered it, let it stand all night; in the morning pour it carefully from the dregs into a clean bottle, cork it, and keep it ready for use. A tablespoonful of gum-water stirred into a pint of starch, made in the usual manner, will give to lawn or muslin a look of newness, when nothing else can restore them after they have been washed.—*Canada Farmer.*

TO CLEAN BROUZE SHAWLS.—Take two table-spoonfuls each of honey, soft-soap and alcohol. Spread the shawl on a sheet doubled several times, then with a sponge or cloth wet the part you wish to clean thoroughly with the mixture, and with clear, soft water rinse in two waters dry and press. LADY JANE.

LIP SALVE.—Spermaceti ointment half an ounce, balsam of Peru one quarter of a drachm. Mix. It is not *couleur de rose*, but it will cure—often with but a single application. Apply a thin coating with the forefinger just before going into bed.

CHEAP CIDER VINEGAR.—Take the water in which dried apples are washed and soaked, and after carefully straining, put it in a vessel; add a pound of sugar, or its equivalent in molasses, and

Ladies' Department.

THE MOTHER'S PRAYER.

They sleep. Athwart my white
Moon-marbled casement with her solemn mein
Silently watching o'er their rest serene,
Gazeth the star-eyed night.

My girl, sedate or wild
By turns,—as playful as a summer breeze,
Or grave as night on Star-lit Southern seas,—
Serene, strange woman child.

My boy, my trembling star!
The whitest lamb in April's tenderest fold,
The bluest flower-bell in the shadiest wold,
His fitting emblems are.

They are but two, and all
My lonely heart's arithmetic is done
When these are counted. High and Holy one,
Oh! hear my trembling call!

I ask not wealth nor fame
For these, my jewels. Diadem and wreath
Soothe not the aching brow that throbs beneath,
Nor cool its fever-flame.

I ask not length of life,
Nor earthly honors. Weary are the ways
The gifted tread, unsafe the world's best praise,
And keen its strife.

I ask not that to me
Thou spare them, though they dearer, dearer be
Than rain to deserts, spring flowers to the bee,
Or sunshine to the sea.

But kneeling at their feet,
While smiles like summer-light on shaded streams
Are gleaming from their glad and sinless dreams,
I would my prayer repeat.

In that alluring land,
The future—where, amid green, stately bowers,
Ornate with proud and crimson-flushing flowers,
Pleasure, with smooth white hand

Beckons the young away
From glen and hillside to her banquet fair,—
Shin, the grim she-wolf, croucheth in her lair,
Ready to seize her prey.

The bright and purpling bloom
Of Nightshade and Acanthus cannot hide
The charred and bleaching bones that are denied
Taper, and chrisim, and tomb.

Lord, in this midnight hour
I bring my lambs to thee. Oh! by Thy truth,
Thy mercy save them from th' envenomed tooth
And tempting poison flower!

Oh, Crucified and Crowned,
Keep us! We have no shield, no guide, but Thee!
Let sorrows come—let Hope's last blossom be
By Grief's dark tempest drowned.

But lead us by Thy hand,
Oh, gentlest Shepherd, till we rest beside
The still, clear waters, in the pastures wide
Of thine own sinless land!

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

SOMETHING ABOUT CAPS.

WHILE the gentle critics and reformers of the RURAL are so much engaged upon that very discussible subject, Dress, it has sometimes occurred to your correspondent as rather strange, that one important article, viz., Caps, should not attract a passing notice.

The subject in all its divisions might be altogether too comprehensive for the limits of this sheet (not the RURAL, but the foolscap,) so I propose to say nothing of the caps of military heroes emblazoned with the symbols of war; nor of those coquetish fantasies which are set jauntily over the curls of our fashionable belles; nor of baby caps, tiny and dainty; nor even of the mystical night cap—low be it spoken—but genuine, old-fashioned, grandmothers' caps, of blessed memory. What has become of them?

How beautiful they were, how becoming! How softly the snowy muslin or fleecy lace was adjusted over the silvery locks; and how lovingly the delicate blonde and tiny knots of ribbon nestled into and concealed the wrinkles of the faded cheeks, or shady-worn brow, developing that peculiar, venerable grace which needs none of the ornaments of youth to render it attractive.

A grandmother without a cap!—think of it! No sphere in which daughters and granddaughters may exercise their taste in plaiting folds of cambric or falls of lace; no tempting "strings" for uncertain, baby fingers to clutch at; no gilt box, containing the mystery of the "Paris cap," stored away—not always safely—beyond the reach of mischievous little hands. Alas! the children of the present day will never know the significance of such memories.

Now the writer is not one of those unhappy individuals who have a standing quarrel with dame Fashion. On the contrary, she has proved her devotion to the capricious goddess, by more than one sacrifice of taste and convenience. Besides, we all agree that within the last few years, the edicts of Fashion have accorded with the rules of common sense and comfort, much more frequently than formerly; but while we acknowledge this, we must protest when she lifts the snowy caps from our grandmothers' heads, and violates the sanctity of their venerable locks with appliances of lunar caustic, and decks them with some trumpery coronet of velvet and gilt, as much out of taste as would be a wig over the sunny curls of "sweet sixteen." Is age falling into disrepute that all its beautiful insignias is banished? Must three-score years borrow the adornments of twenty to give it dignity? Not so; not so; in this give us "reform." Let us beseege the Court of Fashion until she restores the cap, the most graceful, the most becoming, the most dignified article of feminine attire. MARY ESTELLE.

Rockford, Ill., 1865.

If an old lady is very feeble and very rich her dutiful relatives are not apt to forget that great age and infirmity entitle one to every possible attention.

WOMEN, LOOK HERE!

If it were justifiable to use hard words at all, the writer hereof would think it excusable when he hears women complaining of all the ills conceivable, and sees them go into the streets, or out to walk with only thin shoes and thin cotton stockings on their feet, and know they have no adequate protection for their limbs. But that is not the worst feature. It is far worse to see them send their children out equally exposed. *It is murder in the first degree.* We happen to know some women who have recovered health by learning how to make themselves comfortable—how to clothe their persons so as to keep the temperature of all parts of the body uniform. And we have known scores of poor women who went prematurely to their last rest because they never learned the comfort of being warmly clad. There are plenty of inhuman mothers left, who will sacrifice a child's health in order that she may "look pretty," or look as well as somebody's else child does. There are very few days pass that we do not see illustrations of this criminal vanity that not only make our heart ache, but bitter words come into our mouth. Feeling thus, we want the women who read the RURAL to carefully peruse the following from the pen of Dr. DIO LEWIS: It is sound common sense. It is truth.

"During the damp and cold season deficient dress of the feet and legs is a fruitful source of disease. The head, throat, and liver are perhaps the most frequent sufferers. The legs and feet are far from the central part of the body. They are not in great mass like the trunk, but extended and enveloped by the atmosphere. Besides, they are near the damp, cold earth. For these and other reasons, they require extra covering. If we would secure the highest physiological conditions, we must give our extremities more dress than the body. We men wear upon our legs, in the coldest season, but two thicknesses of cloth. The body has at least six. Women put on them four thicknesses under the shawl, which, with its various doublings, furnishes several more—then, over all, thick, padded furs; while the legs have one thickness of cotton under a balloon.

"They constantly come to me about their headache, palpitation of the heart, and congestion of the liver. Yesterday one said to me, 'All my blood is in my head and chest. My head and chest go bumpety-bump, my heart goes bumpety-bump.' I asked, 'How are your feet?' 'Chunks of ice,' she replied. I said to her, 'If you so dress your legs and feet that the blood can't get down into them, where can it go? It can't go out visiting. It must stay in the system somewhere. Of course the chest and head must have an excessive quantity. So they go bumpety-bump, and so they must go, until you dress your legs and feet in such a way that they shall get their share of blood. In the coldest season of the year I leave Boston for a bit of a tour before the lyceum—going as far as Philadelphia, and riding much in the night without an overcoat; but I give my legs two or three times their usual dress. During the coldest whether men may wear, in addition to their usual drawers, a pair of chamolis—skin drawers with great advantage. When we ride in a sleigh, or the cars, where do we suffer? In our legs, of course. Give me warm legs and feet, and I'll hardly thank you for an overcoat.'

"My dear madam, have you a headache, a sore throat, palpitation of the heart, congestion of the liver, or indigestion? Wear one, two, or three pairs of warm woolen stockings, and thick, warm shoes, with more or less reduction in the amount of dress about your body, and you will obtain the same relief permanently that you would derive temporarily from a warm foot-bath.

"I must not forget to say that a thin layer of india-rubber cemented upon the boot-sole will do much to keep the bottoms of our feet dry and warm."

LADIES SHOULD READ NEWSPAPERS.

It is a great mistake, in female education, to keep a young lady's time and attention devoted to only the fashionable literature of the day. If you would qualify her for conversation, you must give her something to talk about—give her education with this actual world and its transpiring events. Urge her to read the newspapers, and become familiar with the present character and improvement of our race. History is of some importance; but the past world is dead, and we have nothing to do with it. Our thoughts and our concerns should be for the present world; to know what it is, and improve the condition of it. Let her have an intelligent opinion, and be able to sustain an intelligent conversation concerning the mental, moral, political and religious improvement of our times. Let the gilded annuals and poems on the centretable be kept a part of the time covered with weekly and daily journals. Let the whole family, men, women and children—read the newspapers. —Godley.

A CURE FOR SCANDAL.

In order to cure scandal, take of good nature one ounce; of an herb called by the Indians "mind-your-own-business," one ounce; mix with "a little charity-for-others" and two or three sprigs of "keep-your-tongue-between your teeth;" simmer them together in a vessel called circumspection, for a short time, and it will be fit for use. Application.—The symptom is a violent itching in the tongue and roof of the mouth, which invariably takes place when you are in company with a species of animals called gossips. When you feel a fit of the disorder coming on, take a teaspoonful of the mixture, hold it in your mouth, which you will keep closely shut till you get home, and you will find a complete cure. Should you apprehend a relapse, keep a small bottle full about you, and repeat the dose on the slightest symptom.

Choice Miscellany.

POEMS UNWRITTEN.

BY ALFRED TENNYSON.

THERE are poems unwritten and songs unsung,
Sweeter than any that ever were heard—
Poems that wait for an angel tongue,
Songs that but long for a paradise bird.

Poems that ripple through lowliest lives—
Poems unnoted and hidden away
Down in the souls where the beautiful thrives,
Sweetly as flowers in the air of May.

Poems that only the angels above us,
Looking down deep in our hearts, may behold,
Felt, though unseen, by the beings who love us,
Written on lives as in letters of gold.

Sing to my soul the sweet song that thou livest!
Read me the poem that never was penned—
The wonderful idyl of life that thou givest
Fresh from thy spirit, Oh, beautiful friend!

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

SOCIALITY.

It is often said of persons, in a complimentary way, that they are sociable, meaning that they are friendly and talkative; but it depends somewhat on the character of a person's speech, as well as its quantity, whether their acquaintance is desirable or not.

Persons may be ever so well meaning, but if their conversation is only of the prevailing sickness, or the last horrible murder in the papers, unless you incline particularly to such kinds of entertainment, they will be likely to prove dull companions in the end.

Or if an acquaintance is simply prosy, and talks with as dignified an air as if he fancied himself to be delivering a lecture on some moral subject, without any of the familiar language which makes intercourse with friends so charming, you will be as likely to go to sleep during his discourse as you would on the cars while they were in motion, and wake up when he stopped. Or, if your caller should happen to be one full of his or her own petty cares, who will treat you to a history of all their little vexations, you will soon become tired, or irritable, or both; but no matter, you must hear all their plans for the present and future whether you will or not. Sometimes, too, you will hear nothing but bits of flying gossip about people you are not at all interested in from this kind of sociable people. But when a friend enters of about your own stamp, and you cannot speak without calling up a response from his mind, when your ideas and experiences correspond and your heart grows lighter with the friendly interchange of thought, you are enjoying one of the highest pleasures of social intercourse. Such hours need not be counted among the vanishing pleasures, for the recollection of them is agreeable to both ever after. B. C. D. Elkhor, Wis., 1865.

READER, did you ever sit by the table or fireside of a *vegetable* man or woman? You thought of plenty of sensible things that might be said, to an ordinarily communicable sort of human being, and "fellow sojourner through this vale of tears," and sighs and mutual dependencies, and relations; but to that stiff, stern, unapproachable, immaculate presence, you dared not utter a word. And so, for days and weeks, and perchance years, you live with this sublime frigidity, and have no interchange of thought, or sentiments, in common.

Such men and women make homes less cheerful and inhabitable than a house hewn from the granite ice of the arctic pole!

Give me the frank, genuine, social face and manners, before whom one may laugh and jest, and in whose presence one may take a long breath, and wink occasionally. And such a face is not inconsistent with true dignity of manner, and nobility of soul; and it is far easier and better to reverence their love than fear. One can appreciate *real* greatness and dignity, but from an uncomeatable, noncommittal statue, "good Lord deliver me!" QUEBEC.

SIMPLICITY.

THERE is no gift of expression that tells more than simplicity in its right place. A simple style of talking or writing is an engine of power in good hands, enabling them to undertake tasks forbidden to the world at large. It even fits a man for talking or writing about himself, which only persons endowed with the art of being plain, transparent and natural, ought ever to attempt. Simplicity, as we would view it here, is by no means a merely moral or negative quality. It is so in some cases; but it is then only noticed or appreciated for its suggestiveness. Children do not admire each other's simplicity; but we admire it in them, because what is uttered without thought or intention in the child is full of meaning to us. It was more than a simple, it was probably a stupid, little girl that kept reiterating, "We are seven;" but the words suggested deep meanings to the poet. The weeping child, apologizing at the sight of the unfolding handkerchief, "My tears are clean," meant no more than the literal sense of his words; but to the keener they brought thoughts of guileless innocence and of other tears that do leave a stain. After childhood no one can retain a simplicity worthy of admiration without some intellectual power. The unconscious simplicity of a child, when childhood is past, is disagreeable and painful, and is never recognized without a shade of pity or contempt.

Manly simplicity is intelligent, and knows what it is about. And though, to win our respect, it must of course be real, it may and often is only one side of a many-sided character; that is, the quality may attach to part and not to the whole of a man's nature.

The charm of full-grown simplicity always gains by, and we believe even requires, contrast. We must be a little surprised at a man's being simple before we can value the quality in him. Thus the style and manners of royal personages are generally simple, and there are doubtless plenty of reasons to make this probable, and a thing to expect; but persons dazzled by the pomp and circumstance of greatness are delighted with this simplicity, which they confound with humility, because it seems to them a striking contrast with state and splendor. So with the aristocracy of intellect and genius. It appears a fine thing for a great author or thinker to be artless and unaffected; and we like it because, if he chose to be pretentious, we could only say he had more right to be so than his neighbors; but the truth is, these people have not really the temptations to pretense that others, their inferiors, have. The world allows them so distinguished a place that there is no need of them to struggle and use effort in order to seem something higher and more important than they are. It needs a reliance on self to be perfectly simple in treating of self; and this reliance, as a conscious quality, it is scarcely modest to bring forward unless the world has given its sanction to self-estimate.—Saturday Review.

READERS AND WRITERS.

READING without purpose is sauntering, not exercise. More is got from one book on which the thought settles for a definite end in knowledge, than from libraries skimmed over by a wandering eye. A cottage flower gives honey to the bee, a king's garden none to the butterfly. Youths who are destined for active careers, or ambitious of distinction in such forms of literature as require freshness of invention or originality of thought, should avoid the habit of intense study for many hours at a stretch. There is a point in all tension of the intellect beyond which effort is only waste of strength. Fresh ideas do not readily spring up within a weary brain; and whatever exhausts the mind not only enfeebles its power, but narrows its scope. We often see men who have over-read at college, entering upon life as languidly as if they were about to leave it. They have not the vigor to cope with their own generation; for their own generation is young, and they have wasted the nervous energy which supplies the sinews of war to youth, in its contest for fame or fortune. Study with regularity, at settled hours. Those in the forenoon are the best, if they can be secured. The man who has acquired the habit of study, though for only one hour every day in the year, and keeps to the one thing studied till it is mastered, will be startled to see the way he has made at the end of a twelvemonth. He is seldom overworked who can contrive to be in advance of his work. If you have three weeks before you to learn something which a man of average quickness could learn in a week, learn it the first week, and not the third. Business dispatched is business well done, but business hurried is business ill done. In learning what others have thought, it is well to keep in practice the power to think for one's self; when an author has added to your knowledge, pause and consider if you can add nothing to his. Be not contented to have learned a problem by heart; try and deduce from it a corollary not in the book. Spare no pains in collecting details before you generalize; but it is only when details are generalized that a truth is grasped. The tendency to generalize is universal with all men who achieve great success, whether in art, literature, or action. The habit of generalizing, though at first gained with care and caution, secures, by practice, a comprehensiveness of judgment and a promptitude of decision, which seem to the crowd like intuitions of genius. And, indeed, nothing more distinguishes the man of genius from the mere man of talent, than the facility of generalizing the various details, each of which demands the aptitude of a special talent; but all of which can be only gathered into a whole by the grasp of a mind which may have no special aptitude for any.—Dyce, in Blackwood.

BEAUTIFUL SWISS CUSTOM.

THE horn of the Alps is employed in the mountainous districts of Switzerland not solely to the sound of the cow call, but for another purpose, solemn and religious. As soon as the sun has disappeared in the valleys, and its last rays are just glimmering on the snowy summits of the mountains, the herdsman who dwells on the loftiest, takes his horn and trumpets forth—"Praise God the Lord!" All the herdsman in the neighborhood, take their horns and repeat the words. This often continues a quarter of an hour, whilst on all sides the mountains echo the name of God. A solemn stillness follows; every individual offers his secret prayer on bended knees and uncovered head. By this time it is quite dark. "Good night!" trumpets forth the herdsman on the loftiest summit. "Good night!" is repeated on all the mountains from the horns of the herdsman and the clefts of the rocks. Then each lies down to rest.

A CAPITAL "MAINE LAW."—I noticed occasionally very long troughs which supplied the road with water, and my companion said that three dollars annually were granted by the State to one man in each school district, who provided and maintained a suitable water trough by the roadside, for the use of travelers,—a piece of intelligence as refreshing to me as the water itself. That legislature did not sit in vain. It was an oriental act, which made me wish that I was still farther down east,—another Maine law, which I hope we may get in Massachusetts. That State is banishing bar-rooms from its highways, and conducting the mountain-springs thither.—Thoreau's Maine Woods.

Sabbath Musings.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

COVET NOT.

BY RALPH BUSTIC.

Does your neighbor's domicile
Far surpass, in cost and skill,
Your unostentatious cot?
Covet not.

Has your neighbor glowing health,
Has he genius, has he wealth,
Has he blooming honors got?
Covet not.

Would you true contentment find,
Would you have a healthful mind,
Free from envy's leprous spot?
Covet not.

But there comes a voice sublime,
Ringing like a silver chime:
"Best of gifts, sweet Charity,
Covet ye."

Mich. University, Jan., 1865.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

THE ELASTICITY OF LIFE.

THERE is much in every day life which brings practically to view a most encouraging fact. Circumstances and experience seem interwoven with such an infinite number of finely wrought cords of extension, that a phase of life will take almost every aspect ere it will be destroyed. In other words, a cord of really ordered events will stretch to an infinite length ere it will break. The study of human nature develops this truth as the main-spring of action. Men build upon and around it as the ambitious astronomer clusters myriad stars around the nucleus in some bright constellation. Hopefully trusting in social strength, society vigorously pressed her car along, and although the wheels are sometimes cracked, the rails rusty, and the friction grates heavily upon the ear, she rushes zealously on, believing the circle is not closed up without some egress for escape from evil. And it is best so. Dependent in his independence, man learns humility in its truest form. Encircled as he is by mortal relations, he is drawn into sight of his relation in that great circle, whose center is the God of hosts. The child fostered by parental care commits in his ignorance or folly an error. Does banishment or condemnation follow? No, rather will the home circle close tighter around him, and every avenue for improvement is opened wide for the wanderer. A member of the human family becomes sadly straightened,—does society brand him readily an outcast? Nay, it has learned from experience that a chain is never stronger than its weakest link—*hominum est errare*—and not until the false one aims his blow at the very pillars of society's structure, will she rise up in condemnation, and that for his own as well as for the public good. Yet let us not mistake. Life, Society, Human Nature and God have claims on Purity, Honesty and Righteousness which can not be gainsayed by evil. The elasticity of life can stretch not wide enough to admit crime, persisted in. Its laws are too wisely rigid, to ever be perverted or deceived. With open arms for humanity, it cloaks itself against wilful depravity and libeled human nature. It seems to be the mind of God, expressed in the most emphatic manner, to encourage the discouraged, to strengthen the weak, to aid the erring and to redeem the lost. Human nature infused with a similar spirit makes room, by its laws, in God's world for the helpless, the erring and the outcast. Ah, blessed be that will, by whose power the elastic cord of life is made to measure and embrace the weakest as well as the strongest links of humanity MARY PRICE. Adrian, Mich., 1865.

NEED OF DIVINE AID.

"WALK before me and be thou perfect." Thus said God unto Abraham; and by these words we are instructed that to live in the presence of God is the way to perfection. Whenever we depart from that way it is by losing sight of God, and forgetting our dependence upon him. God is the light which we see, and the end to which we should aim. In all the transactions and different events of life, we should consider only the order of his providence, and should maintain a sense of his presence in the midst of all our affairs. "I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help." Depending upon our feet is not sufficient for our deliverance from the innumerable snares that surround us; the danger, indeed, is below, but the deliverance can only come from above; thither must we raise our eyes to him from whom our help cometh. We are continually encompassed by our enemies; nor are we, on account of our infirmities, in less danger from within; there is no hope for us but in Jesus Christ, who has overcome the world for himself and for us; his omnipotence will support our weakness.—Fenslon.

A HAPPY RECORD.—I had been in my class five years. Having come to the close of the year, I asked my children what they were now going to offer to the Lord for a new year's gift, when Annie, quite a little girl, said, "Teacher, I have given myself;" and another dear girl said she, too, was willing, if Christ would accept her; they were fifteen years old then, and I introduced them to the church. I cannot now describe my joy when I brought my first sheaves to the Lord. I have been looking over the names of my scholars, and can count six now written in the church books below; I trust the rest will be found in the Book of Life above."

BEING positive in judgment to-day is no proof that we shall not be of a different opinion to-morrow.

ALL ABOUT IT.

[Concluded from page 23, present number.]

"Our existence is too sacred a thing—our life of too much moment, to seal one's destiny hastily," she said musingly.

I fully realized the weight of her gentle rebuke. "You know the glory, the freedom, the passion of a letter, Miss GRAY—let these blessings be mine."

No matter for the answer, ZENOBI, enough that I have been the man most blessed, that ever read letters, or IK MARVEL's enthusiasm over them. I think CARLTON has been the fortunate recipient of a few—at least I believe so. I have daily thanked God for possessing his friendship, as it has been my stepping-stone to 'royal favor.' June shook off her robes into the lap of July, when at the earnest solicitation of CARLTON and his wife, JOSEPHINE came to spend a few days with them. I cannot now tell you of all those beautiful days—of the spirited dinner-talks or quiet evenings spent in the library or upon the verandah with its shading of vines and lattice.

"September came, with hair of gold," when I again sat in the pleasant sitting-room at farmer GRAY'S. In our common life, familiarity removes in a very great degree, the little sentinels that somehow are stationed around every individual, and we clasp their hands, smooth the shining folds of their hair, with a freedom and pleasantry that conveys only mere friendship. But with JOSEPHINE this was lost. Her face seemed to assume a holy light of spirituality—an almost unearthly look, while her white fingers, magical as were their touches, seemed like alabaster pendants that would soil with common handling. That evening, with stars looking down upon us, and the soft evening air lifting the hair from her brow, I said:

"I have been almost wondering, JOSEPHINE, that you did not marry CARLTON. I think he has the most beautiful soul of any man I ever knew."

"I almost wonder at your wondering—CARLTON did not need me."

"Then you believe that need makes right—or rather a sense of need gives us a right?"

"Yes, something of that."

"I have need of you, JOSEPHINE—will you not let this constitute my right to you?"

"You—you need me?—you."

"Yes—I need you. I need you for my Mentor. You have opened a new life to me, and you alone must hold the keys. I have done nothing, as yet, in life, to benefit anything or any one. With you I can do anything—everything; without you, I shall fall back into a worse soul degradation, if possible, than ever before. Can you not see my need of you?"

"Perhaps"—as if she did not quite see. "But I have been thinking what poor light and love may emanate from my life, were needed by others who, as yet, are but beginning to feel the proudest inheritance of all."

"I do not understand you, JOSEPHINE."

"I am going as teacher to freedmen and women, on one of the islands near Port Royal."

"You! JOSEPHINE—you! Why it seems like a wild thought!" And I took in at a glance the peerless woman at my side. And she, with her rich beauty, her rare refinement and attainments, voluntarily choosing a life of labor in a malarious clime, and among an uncouth, filthy, ignorant race—she, with her white garments unsoiled as the stars above us! "Oh, JOSEPHINE!" and my voice quivered with its weight of tremulousness. "But you will die there!"

"I may, that is true. But CHRIST died for us, and ought we not to be willing, if need be, to die for the good of his children—his suffering children?"

"Sacrifice, JOSEPHINE—I had scarcely thought of that. But CHRIST could take his life again!"

"My dear friend, if he takes mine he will give it to me again—purged of its dross."

"Ah! but I see no dross in your life! Is there no repeal?"

"I see no need of a repeal; I have always tried to do as I thought right. Does this seem wrong to you?"

"No, not wrong, that is not the word. You take life and light to freedmen, but leave darkness here!"

A silence ensued. It was she who broke it. "You said you needed me—and with that need gratified, you could do anything."

"Yes, yes, I could."

"Could you join with me in this labor of mine?"

How it all flashed across me! How stupid I had been! "Join with you? be with you? go with you? Oh! I had not thought of that! How blind I am! Yes—this, a grand thought! I may do somebody good yet. I thought I was to lose you, at last!"

And this was our plighting, ZENOBI—to work together, live together, love together, and with the mantle of well-doing around us, to become sanctified with something of CHRIST'S blessedness. We shall sail, immediately after our marriage, for Port Royal. Come a day or two in advance. I am anxious for you to see this one woman—this JOSEPHINE—who, in my estimation, has elevated the entire sisterhood to a plane of the noblest, sweetest and purest in God's creation. And now, my fair cousin, with happiness for you at my pen's point, I am, as much as I can be,

JOHN HAMILTON.

MISS ZENOBI HOLLINGSWORTH.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.—The Rochester Democrat in speaking of the reed organs that have of late become so deservedly popular, says:—"We cannot refrain from noticing one in particular which we deem superior to all others. We refer to the celebrated Cabinet Organ of MASON & HAMLIN. Our most distinguished organists and musicians concur in giving it the preference for power, purity of tone, quickness of action, variety of expression and ease and simplicity of operation. In fact, it is said to resemble more nearly the large pipe organ than any other instrument. This resemblance, and its remarkable quickness of action, adapt it to both sacred and secular music, and render it the most available and appropriate of all instruments for the family."

The Traveler.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ABOUT MISSOURI.

THE traveler from Missouri will at once tell you of her advantages of soil and climate, of prairie and forest, of her river navigation over all the States; also of her mineral wealth—coal-beds are numerous and extensive, and the superiority of the iron made of her ore is admitted to exceed that of even Norway! Much other information, general, local or minute, would prove her, conclusively, "the fairest of the border States, Virginia excepted," and "the prospective Empire State of the Great West," her big sister Illinois continuing to exist and thrive notwithstanding.

The Grand River country, affording so many facilities to its occupants, justly claims attention. Its bottoms are extremely fertile, its timbered lands valuable and furnishing for the herds of swine and cattle that range, them abundant mast—the hazelnut, hickory, butternut, black walnut, persimmon, acorn, etc. The frequent thickets that border the branches or dot the prairie are singularly productive of fruit; the rich, yellow plum, berries of various kinds, wild apples and grapes supply in part the place of the cultivated varieties. Nature is very prolific that want shall not intrude while the new-comer is making his home upon the unbroken field, consequently the orchard is often neglected, though the corn field and melon patch thrive.

Bacon, corn and tobacco are the principal exports; sorghum and other cereals are raised sufficient for home consumption. Cotton is grown to a limited extent, and is usually worked up for home wear during the winter days and evenings, independent of the gin or other machinery. Many families manufacture their own clothing—jeans of blue and butternut for the winter wear of the masculines, and plaids for the indoor species.

There is much true womanhood in the West—a good deal of it an Eastern export, by the way. There are many who have left homes of culture and refinement, and the many privileges that follow well organized society in the East, and enter upon a life outwardly less attractive and satisfying, with a heroic grace. Home comfort and domestic happiness absorb the smaller aims, and frugal industry is providing for the present and future. "We can do so much better for the children," is the mother's thought as she cheerfully toils, and her heart is thereby perfumed with a sacred sweetness; forgive her if, sometimes when the young, restless heads are in slumber, and their father, though "one of the best of men," is reading the last newspaper to himself, and the prairie winds beat with storm-brooding sound, her thoughts, like birds unfettered on a foreign shore, fly eastward, homeward, and bye-gones for the moment mock realities; a few tears burnish her work—the "aunt clothes" destined to look "amaist as well as new"—but a hymn or a prayer, silent, yet heard above, fortifies her spirits. And God will remember those for whom she labors. JOSEPHED, speaking of the ark she had woven for her babe, MOSES, is represented as saying,

With invocations to the living God I twisted every slender reed together, And with a prayer did every osier weave."

Society hereabouts has met with material changes for the past two or three years; many have left and many more are leaving. They belong to the class who refused to be comforted only under the Palm-tree flag, or withhold their support from the bushwhacker, or to sing John Brown, and as Unionism prevails, their narrow limits and "the same opinions still" fail to harmonize. Some find congenial homes in Illinois, many fit up emigrant wagons and cross the plains for one of the Pacific States, and some go to the mining countries for awhile. The majority of people coming in are from Ohio—often men of considerable wealth, who turn their attention to stock raising and the improvement of their homes. Prairie farms are apt to be deficient of water, which is remedied by artificial pools, a wise idea and an ancient one, for SOLOMON says, "I made me pools of water." If well constructed they are not subject to drouth during the summer. The abundance of streams in southern Missouri, its mild winters and its adaptation to wheat growing, will eventually render it a desirable location. Wheat is raised in the northern sections of the State but is liable to be winter-killed. Generally the houses are quite inconvenient; not warm enough for the coldest weather, without cellars, pantries and various requisites which belong to a house; fire-places are much used and throw a genial, hospitable look over the large rooms; children, they say, are much healthier when raised by them and where there are eight, ten, or a baker's dozen of olive plants to surround one's table, as is often the case, a worthier item to look after could hardly be desired.

Tenants are a distinct class, believing every one for himself; investing only in movable property they soon with ordinary thrift and luck gather a large number of horses, cattle and swine, which have plenty of outside range and are duly disciplined and reprobated by their owner's dogs, which vary in number according to his taste and the amount of canine duty to be performed.

Schools are well provided for by public funds, but among the lower classes one finds plenty of children and some adults that can neither read nor write.

Sabbath schools are held weekly for teaching the negroes and many of them learn with readiness.

Matrimony has all seasons for its own, from fourteen years old and upward, among females; the admiring lover must believe that nature,

"Her 'prentice hand did try on man, And then she made the lassies, O!"

The winter so far has been mild and open, except a few cold days; no snow has fallen as yet. The autumn was pleasant, even through November. But we have a great deal of wind from the north and northwest, at times quite severe. More anon.

M. J. C.

Biographical.

PROFESSOR BENJAMIN SILLIMAN.

BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, LL. D., one of the brightest luminaries in the scientific firmament, departed this life on the 24th day of November, 1864, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

Professor SILLIMAN was born in North Stratford, Conn., on the 8th of August, 1779. His father, Gen. GOLD SELLECK SILLIMAN, was a lawyer of distinction, and rendered important service as a Brigadier-General in the war of the Revolution. Mr. SILLIMAN graduated at Yale College in 1796, and in 1799 was appointed tutor. He studied law and was admitted to the bar of New Haven in 1802. Chemistry as a science was then almost unknown in America, being taught, even in its rudiments, only at Philadelphia and Cambridge; but the brilliant discoveries of LAVOISIER, SIR HUMPHREY DAVY, and others, had attracted much attention. Dr. DWIGHT, then President of Yale College, became interested in its introduction into the College Course as a regular department of instruction, and with that view offered to Mr. SILLIMAN in 1802 the new chair of Chemistry. He consented to abandon his profession and accept it, if he could be allowed time and opportunity for preparation for its duties. He accordingly passed a part of the next two years in Philadelphia, as a student with Dr. WOODHOUSE, and on his return to New Haven in 1804, delivered a partial course of lectures on Chemistry to the students of the College.

In the winter of 1805 he gave his first full course of lectures, and in the spring sailed for Europe to prosecute still further his studies in physical science, and to procure books and apparatus for the college for the illustration of chemistry and physics. He visited the mining districts of England, attended the lectures of eminent professors in London and Edinburgh, and attempted to visit France, but was stopped at Antwerp under the false charge of being an English spy. He returned after an absence of fourteen months, and resumed the duties of his professorship. His narrative of his tour was published in 1810, under the title of "Journal of Travels in England, Holland and Scotland in 1805-6" (3 vols. 8vo.; enlarged edition, 3 vols. 12mo., 1820), and being one of the earliest accounts of Great Britain by an educated American, attracted much attention on both sides of the Atlantic.

Immediately on the receipt of the account of Sir Humphrey Davy's discovery of the metallic bases of the alkalies, Prof. SILLIMAN repeated his experiments, and obtained, probably for the first time in the United States, the metals potassium and sodium, by the furnace process of Gay Lussac. In 1822, while engaged in a series of observations on the action of a powerful voltaic deflagrator on the model of Dr. HARE, he first established the fact of the transfer of particles of carbon from the positive to the negative electrode of the voltaic apparatus, with the corresponding growth of the negative electrode, and the retransfer when the charcoal points are shifted. This fact, with the fusion of the carbon in the voltaic arch, was one long disputed in Europe, but is now generally recognized.

In 1818 Prof. SILLIMAN founded the *American Journal of Science and Arts*, better known both in Europe and America as *Silliman's Journal*, with which his name is still connected, and of which for twenty years he was sole, and for eight years more, senior editor. This journal, at first a quarterly, but now a bi-monthly periodical, has for forty-six years been recognized at home and abroad as the chief repository of American physical science. In 1838, his son, BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, junior, became associated with him in the editorship of the work, and in 1846 it was transferred by the senior editor to Professors J. D. DANA and B. SILLIMAN, junior.

Professor SILLIMAN was one of the earliest American lecturers on scientific subjects to large miscellaneous audiences. He had for many years given public lectures in New Haven on chemistry, geology, and allied topics, to audiences of citi-



THE LATE PROFESSOR BENJAMIN SILLIMAN.

zens, and with excellent effect in promoting a taste for science and a desire for its advancement. In May, 1834, he was invited to Hartford to deliver a popular course on scientific subjects, and in September following to Lowell. In 1835 and 1836 he gave more extended courses in Boston and New York. In 1839 he opened the Lowell Institute of Boston by a course on geology, and in the three succeeding years followed with courses on experimental and theoretical chemistry in the same institution. He has also delivered repeated courses of popular lectures in Boston, Lowell, Salem, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Buffalo, St. Louis, Mobile and New Orleans, many of them illustrated by brilliant and interesting experiments. In 1830 Professor SILLIMAN published a text-book on "Chemistry" in two volumes, for the use of his students, and in the previous year he had published an edition of BAKERWELL'S "Geology," with notes and appendices, which in the course of ten years passed through three editions.

In 1853 he resigned his professorship, and was made Professor Emeritus, but at the request of his colleagues he continued to lecture on geology till June, 1855, when he gave his closing academic course. The simplicity and moderation of Professor SILLIMAN'S physical habits, and his constant activity, contributed to give him a firm and vigorous old age, free from mental or bodily infirmity; and to the last he took a great interest in the progress of science, humanity, and freedom, at home and abroad. He was a member of numerous American and European scientific societies.

The *Phrenological Journal* for January thus sums up the leading traits of Prof. SILLIMAN'S character:—"In person, Prof. SILLIMAN was large, tall and every way well proportioned. The framework was perfect, and had he engaged in muscular instead of almost exclusive mental labor, he would have become a very strong and a very athletic man. His brain was large, the quality good; the mind comprehensive; and he was eminently intellectual, highly moral and religious, and of a warm social nature. He was very sensitive in matters of honor, fond of praise, and became a very popular man. He was mirthful, hopeful, and joyous. His mouth turned up at the corners. Conciliatory, and very kindly disposed. He was much more intellectual and scholarly than executive—a man of peace, piety, and popularity, rather than a destructive or a radical reformer. He was by organization as well adapted to theology as to science, and had he entered the ministry would have become a bright and shining light."

ANECDOTES OF DR. FRANKLIN.

To Mr. Jefferson we owe two or three of the most amusing anecdotes of Franklin's life in France that have been preserved. One of these brings the learned Abbe Raynal and the naughty Polly Baker into unexpected conjunction. "The Doctor," says Mr. Jefferson, "and Silas Deane were in conversation one day at Passy, on the numerous errors in the Abbe's *Histoire des deux Indes*," when the author happened to step in.

After the usual salutations, Silas Deane said to him:—"The Doctor and myself, Abbe, were just speaking of the errors of fact into which you have been led in your history." "Oh no, sir," said the Abbe, "that is impossible. I took the greatest care not to insert a single fact for which I had not the most unquestionable authority." "Why," says Deane, "there is the story of Polly Baker, and the eloquent apology you have put into her mouth when brought before a court in Massachusetts to suffer punishment under a law which you cite, for having had a bastard. I know there was never such a law in Massachusetts." "Be assured," said the Abbe, "you are mistaken, and that it is a true story. I do not immediately recollect indeed the particular information on which I quote it; but I am certain that I had for it unquestionable authority."

John Adams records in his Diary, that, on his saying one day to Dr. Franklin that he thought he did not take as much exercise as formerly, Franklin replied:—"Yes; I walk a league every day in my chamber; I walk quick, and for an hour, so that I go a league; I make a point of religion of it."

Reading for the Young.

A MERCHANT'S STORY.

A MEMBER of a large mercantile firm recently gave me a bit of his early experience. Said he:—"I was seventeen years old when I left the country store where I had tended for three years, and came to Boston in search of a place. Anxious, of course, to appear to the best advantage, I spent an unusual amount of time and solicitude upon my toilet, and when it was completed I surveyed my reflection in the glass with no little satisfaction, glancing lastly and most approvingly upon a seal-ring which embellished my little finger, and my cane, a very pretty affair, which I had purchased with direct reference to this occasion. My first day's experience was not encouraging. I traversed street after street, up one side and down the other, without success. I fancied toward the last, that the clerks all knew my business the moment I opened the door, and they winked ill-naturedly at my discomfiture as I passed out. But nature endowed me with a good degree of persistency, and the next day I started again. Toward noon I entered a store where an elderly gentleman stood talking with a lady by the door.

"I waited until the visiter had left, and then stated my errand. 'No, sir,' was the answer given in a peculiarly crisp and decided manner. Possibly I looked the discouragement I was beginning to feel, for he added, in a kinder tone, 'Are you good at taking a hint?' 'I don't know,' I answered, while my face flushed painfully. 'What I wish to say is this,' smiling at my embarrassment:—"If I were in want of a clerk, I would not engage a young man who came seeking employment with a flashy ring upon his finger, and swinging a fancy cane." For a moment, mortified vanity struggled against common sense, but sense got the victory, and I replied, with rather a shaky voice, I am afraid, 'I'm very much obliged to you,' and then beat a hasty retreat. As soon as I got out of sight, I slipped the ring into my pocket, and walked rapidly to the Worcester depot. I left the cane in charge of the baggage master 'until called for.' It is there now, for aught I know. At any rate I never called for it. That afternoon I obtained a situation with the firm of which I am now partner. How much my unfortunate finery had injured my prospects on the previous day I shall never know, but I never think of the old gentleman and his plain dealing, without feeling as I told him at the time, 'very much obliged to him.'

OLD DOGS AND YOUNG DOGS.

"WHAT have they brought in?" asked the old cat of Tip, the worn-out terrier, who had just been in the yard to see the game bags emptied.

Tip, not observing Forrest and Bluff, two setters, following him, took his favorite place before the kitchen fire, and, stretching out his fore legs, laid his nose on his paws and said contemptuously:—"Miserable sport; hardly worth going out for."

"Such bags as we used to bring in," he continued; "that was something like sport. Thought nothing of a dozen hares and rabbits—scores of 'em—and pheasants till we were fairly tired of picking 'em up."

"Ah!" said the cat who was nearly blind, and almost asleep, "our days were different from these. I was telling the gray kitten's mother yesterday, that before I was her age I had caught as many rats as she had mice."

But Tip was not interested in the degeneracy of breed in cats. He went on still more oratorically on the lamentable change that had taken place among dogs and describing his own powers in his day. Forrest and Bluff listened quietly.

"Do not hear him," at last Bluff said; "now couldn't you believe he thinks there is not a dog worth following a gun!"

"Perhaps, Mr. Tip," said Forrest, "you carried off so much game in your time that you thinned the country and left none for us."

Tip looked disconcerted at this discovery of having more auditors of his than he had reckoned on, and, dropping his eyelids, pretended to be asleep.

"Never mind him," said Bluff, with a sly glance, for he knew he was shamming; "it's a way old dogs have got of fancying there must be an end of good sport now they are past it! They see double all the success they ever had and quite forget that they missed at any time. Poor old dog! we must not make the same mistake, Forrest, when we are 'in Tip's condition.'"

Whether it was the fire that was too hot, or the reflections of his two reprovers; somehow Tip found it more pleasant to change his place; and it was observed that after that time he looked modest when the bags were emptied, and was silent about the doings of his day.

No man and no woman is safe who has once formed the habit of looking to drink for solace, or cheerfulness, or comfort. While the world goes well they will likely be temperate; but the habit is built, the railroad to destruction is cut ready for use, the rails are laid down, the station houses erected, and the train is on the line waiting only for the locomotive; it comes to us; it grapples us, and away we go in a moment, down the line we have been years constructing, like a flash of lightning, to destruction.—Charles Reade.

BOYS AND GIRLS—Should remember that they do not study books simply to absorb and adopt other people's ideas, but that they may develop ideas in their own minds. The knowledge you get from books should be fruitful, otherwise it will be of little value to you.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



RAISE aloft our starry banner, Let her float in azure sky, Let the heavenly zephyrs fan her, Nerve our hearts to do or die!

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 21, 1865.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

From the West.

On the 8th inst., a scouting party captured, south of the Cumberland river, a notorious guerrilla leader, Jake Sly, and four of his men.

The Herald's Springfield (Mo.) correspondent says the Union garrisons have been withdrawn from all the posts south of that place, as far south as Fort Smith, Ark., by order of Gen. Canby.

A dispatch from St. Louis of Jan. 14, says Governor Fletcher issued a proclamation to-day declaring Missouri a Free State in accordance with the Emancipation Ordinance passed by the State Convention recently.

Hundreds of business houses and private residences are brilliantly illuminated to-night. Fire-works are exploding, bands of music are playing, and processions of thousands of enthusiastic citizens throng the streets to witness the grand spectacle.

The steamer Armada, from Evansville, reports Uniontown, Ky., in possession of guerrillas the 10th inst., who were firing into passing steamers.

From Wheeling, Jan. 13, we learn that the garrison at Beverly, West Virginia, were attacked on the morning of the 11th by a force of the enemy under Gen. Rosser. The town and a large portion of the force defending it were captured.

A later dispatch confirms the above, but states that the enemy have again returned from whence they came.

A Clarksburg, (W. Va.) dispatch says the rebels, after the attack on Beverly, retreated toward Loomisburg. Citizens report that they captured over 400 prisoners.

A dispatch from Cairo of Jan. 13, says that squads of deserters from Forrest's rebel command are daily coming here and taking the amnesty oath. A party of eight came in to-day.

Gen. Thomas and Staff were at Paducah, Ky., on the 10th inst. The following further particulars of General Grierson's raid are from a reliable source:—They brought in 700 prisoners, including two Colonels and several other officers, 1,000 able-bodied negroes, and 1,000 horses. They killed and wounded 150 men. Among the prisoners is Gen. Hobson.

A fortified place called Egypt, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, was carried by assault, and the garrison of 500 rebels captured, whilst Gen. Gardner was in sight with 6,000 infantry, which Gen. Grierson held at bay while Gen. Kagg's brigade captured the stockade. Grierson could not go to Catawba to release our prisoners, as directed by Gen. Dana, but struck for Granada, and then for Vicksburg.

Forty miles of Mobile and Ohio Railroad are so badly damaged, that Hood's army cannot repair it in months. New pontoons, new wagons, and a large amount of supplies, en route to Hood, were destroyed.

Besides the factories, a large amount of cloth, wool, leather and shoes were destroyed at Bankston. The railroad public property was burned at Granada; also, 300 wagons and 500 new English carbines for Forrest, and large quantities of ammunition. Gen. Grierson's loss was twenty-five killed and eight wounded.

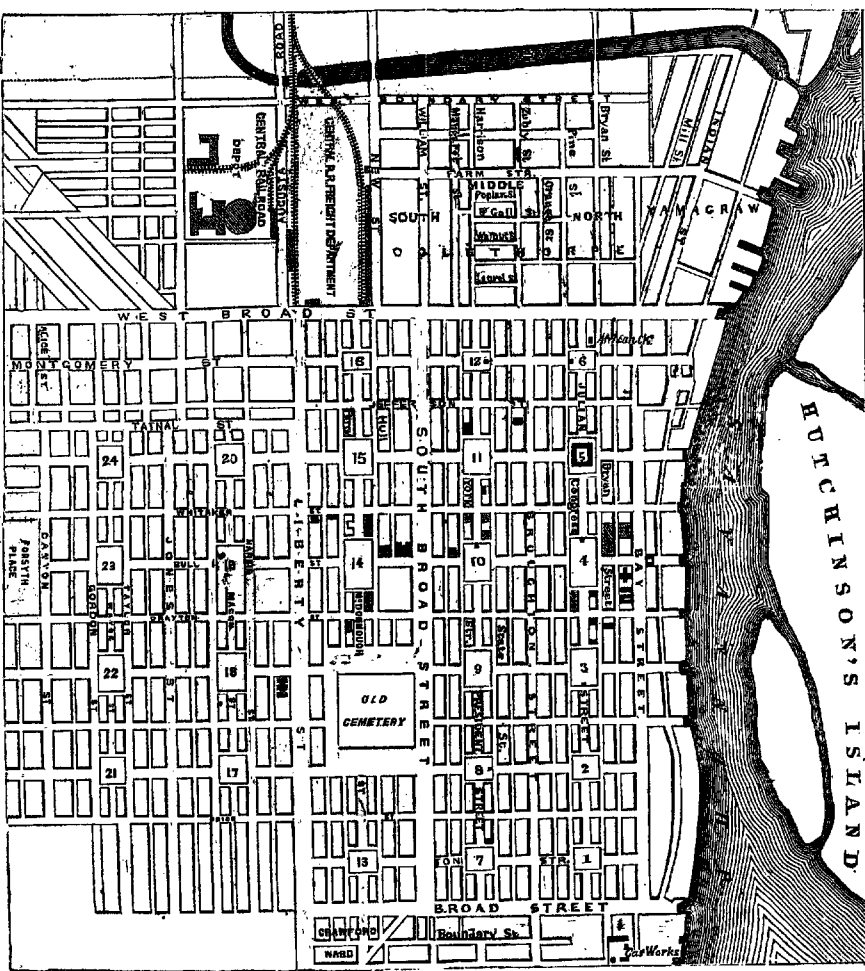
Admiral Lee, commanding the Mississippi Squadron, details to the Navy Department, in an official dispatch, the facts regarding the escape across the Tennessee river, at Bainbridge, six miles above Florence, Ala., of the remnants of Hood's defeated and demoralized army. The Admiral says that only the sudden falling of the water on the shoals and prevalence of fog, enabled the rebels to elude the gunboats. All the pontoons and other means of crossing below Bainbridge were destroyed, and thousands of Hood's men were consequently scattered through the woods on the north side of the river.

The Cincinnati Commercial of the 14th inst., has a dispatch from Nashville, which says the Tennessee State Convention has passed a resolution declaring slavery forever abolished throughout the State.

The Convention also passed a resolution prohibiting the Legislature from recognizing property in man—prohibiting it requiring compensation to be made to the owners of slaves. A resolution was also adopted abrogating the Declaration of State Independence, and the Military League made with the Confederate States in 1861, and abrogating all laws and ordinances passed in pursuance thereof.

All the officers appointed by the Acting Governor since his accession to office were confirmed.

These proceedings of the Convention are to be submitted to the people for ratification on the



THE PRINCIPAL PART OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

REFERENCE TO SQUARES.—1. Washington Square.—2. Warren.—3. Reynolds.—4. Johnson.—5. Ellis.—6. Franklin.—7. Green.—8. Columbia.—9. Oglethorpe.—10. Wright.—11. St. James.—12. Liberty.—13. Crawford.—14. Chippewa.—15. Orleans.—16. Elbert.—17. Troup.—18. Lafayette.—19. Madison.—20. Pulaski.—21. Whitefield.—22. Calhoun.—23. Monterey.—24. Chatham.

OUR engraving represents the principal part of Savannah, Ga., recently captured and now occupied by Gen. SHERMAN. From a description of this city in the American Cyclopaedia, we quote the following:—"Savannah, the largest city in Georgia, and capital of Chatham county, on the right bank of the Savannah river, 18 miles from its mouth, and 90 miles south-west from Charleston, in lat. 33 deg. 5m. N., lon. 81 deg. 5m. W.; population in 1850, 16,060; in 1860, 22,292. The city is built upon a sandy plain about 40 feet

above the river, with one narrow street below the steep bluff, the warehouses upon which open below on the level of the piers, and from the uppermost story on the other side upon a wide, sandy area called Bay street, which is divided by numerous carriage ways and rows of Pride of India trees. The whole city is regularly laid out with broad streets, closely shaded by rows of these trees, and at many of the principal crossings are open squares with trees." It is a beautiful city and has a fine harbor.

23d of February, (Washington's Birthday,) and on the 4th of March next an election is to be held for Governor and members of the State Legislature.

Nearly 300 delegates participated in the proceedings of the Convention, and the greatest harmony and good feeling prevailed.

Parson Brownlow was the unanimous choice of the Convention for Governor.

Late advices from Fort Smith say that troops have not yet left that post, and will be required to remain there to protect Government stores until the Arkansas river is so they can be removed. In the meantime it is hoped the President will revoke his order of evacuation.

Gen. Lane was re-elected United States Senator from Kansas on the 13th inst., for six years from the 4th of March next. The vote was 82 to 16.

From the South.

A REFUGEE who left Richmond recently, says that the report that Lee has sent troops to meet Sherman in South Carolina is confirmed, but that knowledge of all military movements is so kept that it is not known in the rebel army what troops, nor the number that have gone, although it is now three weeks since they started. The upper classes among the people of Richmond profess to be confident of the success of the Confederacy; but the poorer classes, who have severely felt the effect of the depreciated currency, are heartily sick of the war and anxious for any mode of relief.

The New York Commercial Advertiser of the 14th, says it is assured by a gentleman from Savannah that several Union County Conventions were being held in Georgia.

The Norfolk Old Dominion says the expedition up the Savannah river destroyed ten miles of the S. Carolina and Columbia railroad.

A company of the 4th cavalry, militia, was captured by Foster's troops near Hardeeville. They had been two weeks in service and did not like war. There is reason to believe that Sherman will attack Charleston before many days.

Another expedition of fifty vessels against Wilmington, was in sight off Fort Fisher on the 14th inst.

But little activity is apparent in the Army of the Potomac. There is a great freshet in the James river, and the water is rushing through the Dutch Gap Canal.

The N. Y. Herald's Shenandoah Valley correspondent, says the inhabitants are suffering from the scarcity of food, and rebel troops are quartered upon them, rendering their condition still more deplorable.

No new active military movements of importance have recently taken place in the Valley.

From the South-west.

LATE advices from New Orleans state that Gen. T. W. Sherman and staff had arrived at that city on the Morning Star.

The gunboat Rattler was destroyed by guerrillas while ashore, where she was driven by the late storm, between Vicksburg and Natchez.

Gen. Granger on the 22d of December was within twenty-eight miles of Mobile. His force had also met with great success in its operations from Mobile Bay to Jackson Co., Miss.

A letter from Mobile to a citizen of New Orleans, says fighting was going on in that vicinity on the 31st ult.

The Richmond Enquirer of Friday, the 13th,

contains the following from the Mobile Advertiser:

The Yankees, about 4,000 strong, are at Franklin Mills, at Dog river, without transportation. Their supplies are received by way of Dog river. Owing to the formation of the country, they are unassailable. Our forces are in the proper position to thwart any move they may make.

Details of the Union raid of Col. Robinson from Fort Barancas, Florida, to Pollard, Alabama, show it to have been very successful. The rebels attempted to check his advance, but were badly beaten and lost heavily.

The expedition sent from Cape Girardeau to Cherokee bayou, Arkansas, under Lieutenant Ravié, a few days since, killed nineteen guerrillas, captured a number of prisoners and fifty horses.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

MAJ.-GEN. BUTLER has been relieved by the President of his command on the James River, and ordered to report at Lowell, Mass. Gen. ORD, lately in command of the 24th Corps, has been assigned, by Gen. Grant, as his successor. The Senate having ordered an investigation into the causes of the Wilmington failure, Gen. Butler has been ordered to appear as a witness.

Since the 10-40 loan closed on Saturday, the 7th, returns have been made to the Treasury amounting to about \$37,000,000. This would leave outstanding about \$10,000,000 of the \$200,000,000.

In compliance with the request of the loyal citizens of Savannah, that city will soon be declared a port of entry, and therefore opened to commerce as soon as the obstructions in its water approaches are removed.

Late news from Richmond is to the effect that the Rebel Congress has appointed Peace Commissioners, and that they will soon make their appearance, (if permitted) at the White House.

The World's Washington special says it is rumored in that city that the Rebel Peace Commissioners had asked permission to cross our lines.

The United States Senate, by a vote of 31 to 8, adopted the Resolution to terminate the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty. As the House had previously acted, the thing will be done; and nine-tenths of our people will rejoice thereat.

A Washington dispatch says Secretary Fessenden has asked for a modification of the law so as to enable him to issue two hundred millions more of the 7-30 bonds.

The vote on the constitutional amendment bill has been postponed several days to allow of full discussion.

The Herald's Washington special says:—A leading peace Democrat, who has taken a prominent part in peace movements during the late election, and whose personal relations with the President have been very friendly, has gone to Richmond.

[It is announced that Gen. Singleton of Illinois, is the gentleman alluded to above.]

The Herald's correspondent mentions that Gen. Sheridan is to have a new and very important command.

Generals Weitzel and Ames, and other prominent officers who accompanied the recent Wilmington Expedition, will be summoned to testify before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, in reference to the matter; also Admiral Porter and other naval officers.

An agreement has been entered into between

our own and the rebel authorities, whereby all prisoners of war held in close confinement in irons as hostages on either side are to be released immediately and placed on the same footing as ordinary prisoners of war.

The Military Committee of the House of Representatives propose to confiscate the property of a drafted man who runs away, to the extent of the price of a substitute. This would be a just law.

The N. Y. Commercial's Washington special of Jan. 14, says:—The daily receipts of internal revenue this week averaged nearly one hundred thousand dollars.

NEWS FROM REBEL SOURCES.

The Millidgeville (Geo.) Record says the Geo. Legislature will be reconvened as soon as the State House can be repaired.

The Alabama Legislature adjourned after providing for the families of soldiers, providing clothing for the Alabama soldiers who are prisoners, and for the deficiency in the treasury.

The two Houses could not agree on a militia bill—the Senate being in favor of a sweeping bill, while the House insisted on certain exceptions. Joint resolutions against reconstruction were passed.

The Richmond papers are still indulging in glorification over the failure of the Wilmington expedition.

Mosby is said to be still alive and in a place of security, and his early recovery is anticipated.

In the sharp discussion now going on between the rebel newspapers, Jeff. Davis' meddling is charged as the cause of all their recent disasters, while some of them, in his defence, assail Gen. Lee as the marplot.

The Raleigh Confederate of the 2d, says the Federals, after considerable skirmishing, had advanced to within one mile of the rebel works at Kingston, in force.

The loss of a Confederate steamer at the mouth of the Rio Grande is confirmed.

The cutting out of the schooner Belle at Galveston, by a Federal expedition, is confirmed.

Part of the crew of a blockade-running schooner had been arrested, charged with the design of selling the vessel to the squadron.

Delegates from each of the Indian tribes friendly to the Confederates had arrived at Shreveport, requesting the shipping of cotton to provide necessaries for their families and arms for regiments now in the service.

The Federal fleet at Galveston consisted of one screw steamer and three gunboats.

Richmond papers are growing more bold daily in denunciation of Jeff. Davis, and demanding the appointment of Lee to the supreme command of the army.

The Examiner of the 9th says, Jeff's course is fast whirling the Confederacy into destruction.

Late rebel papers show that Davis has now on his hands quarrels with the Governors of Mississippi, Georgia and Alabama.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

AN Augusta (Ga.) paper estimates the amount of rice seized by General Sherman in his recent march through that State, at five hundred thousand bushels.

The Newburyport, Mass., fishermen were in luck last week, some of the boats catching from eight hundred to one thousand pounds of codfish within a mile of the shore.

A LINEAL descendant of Martin Luther has been in Germany lately to get his family from Schonbeck, to take them to this country, where he is chaplain in a Federal regiment.

The total amount of the sales, including rents of pews, in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, New York, of which Rev. Henry Ward Beecher is pastor, this year, was over forty thousand dollars.

THE new silver mines in Southwestern Idaho promise to rival those of Nevada. The first shipment from these mines of \$60,000 in silver bars was received at San Francisco a few weeks since.

A CORRESPONDENT with the Army of the Potomac suggests that rebel prisoners should be guarded by our men who have not tasted Southern hospitality in the prison pens of the South.

GEN. SHERMAN, in a private letter, says that if he had only possessed facilities for feeding them, he could have brought one hundred thousand negroes with him from his raid through Georgia.

THE official vote of California at the November election is published. The result is Lincoln 62,134, McClellan 43,841, giving Mr. Lincoln a majority of 18,293. The entire vote of the State is 105,975.

THE Czar of Russia offered 370,000 francs for the colossal statue of Hercules, lately discovered at Rome; but the owner preferred to sell it to the Papal Government for half the money offered by the Czar.

THERE is to be an International Exhibition at Dublin this year. The arrangements are progressing favorably. It is to enjoy the patronage of the Queen, and she has formally expressed a hope that it will succeed.

UPON careful calculation it is estimated that President Lincoln, in the two hours of levee on New Year's Day, shook hands with about seven thousand persons, men, woman, and children of all ages, rank and races.

COL. L. M. PECK, of the One Hundred and Seventy-third New York regiment, dismissed from the service by Gen. Banks, for alleged misconduct in the Red River campaign, has been restored by court-martial.

THE debts of the States of Maine, Massachusetts, Illinois and Michigan, as stated in the annual messages of the governors, are as follows: Maine, \$5,337,000; Massachusetts, \$22,893,000; Illinois, \$11,198,000; Michigan, \$3,541,000.

List of New Advertisements.

Dr. Poland's White Pine Compound—Geo D Swett, M.D. First Premium Family Gen Sewing Machine. Engraving—L. C. Mix. Iowa Grape Vines, &c.—J. Keech. Great Western Nursery—A. W. Maddocks. Farm for Sale—N. A. Woodward. Canvassing Agents—Walker, Wise & Co. 275 & 281 North B. Herrington & Co. Card Photographs—C. W. Woodward. Agents Wanted. \$80 per Month—J. S. Pardee.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Randall's Great Sheep Book—D. D. T. Moore. Atlantic Monthly—Ticknor & Fields. Brown's Bronchial Troches.

The News Condenser.

- Alexander Dumas is coming to this country. There is a temperance revival in San Francisco. John Ruekin has lately come in possession of a large fortune. The cathedral in Toronto pays \$15,000 for its chime of bells. The census shows a decrease of 50,000 Indians every five years. The Arizona Legislature offers \$100 bounty for every Apache scalp. The theaters of Paris took during the month of November \$360,000. John Fowler, the inventor of the English Steam Plow, died recently. Gen. Grant has subscribed \$500 to the Sherman testimonial in Ohio. A poor family in Cincinnati has fallen heir to a fortune of \$7,000,000. The leaders of fashion in Paris predict a very dull winter in social circles. Printing paper costs 60 cents a pound in gold at Denver City, Colorado. Gen. Butler has established a savings bank for freedmen at Norfolk, Va. Mrs. Kelly who was taken by the Indians in Minnesota has been given up. Two burglars have been convicted in London on the testimony of a parrot. About a million bushels of oysters are imported yearly from Chesapeake Bay. The fur trade of St. Paul, Minn., has grown from \$1,400 in 1844, to \$300,000 in 1864. The newly elected Lord Mayor of Dublin is a member of the Society of Friends. A recruit in Connecticut gave his name as Charles Brickett Parker Haddock Twilight. A Miss Chapin has been ordained pastress of a Universalist Church in Adrian, Mich. The College of New Jersey has conferred the degree of LL. D. upon President Lincoln. 27,000 Fejee Islanders now profess Christianity. Thirty years ago they were man-eaters. A monstache spoon, made after the fashion of a monstache cup, is the latest invention. The Maine papers announce the starting of the lumbermen for their homes in the forest. An industrious statistician has calculated that a tobacco cheser spits 525 gallons in 25 years. It takes 450 tons of coal at \$13.50 per ton to warm the Washington Senate Chamber one winter. It is stated that Gen. Grant had started for Nashville when the news of Thomas' victory arrived. A French Engineer professes to have found a canal route across the Isthmus that is a dead level. It is reported in Paris that certain young ladies of that gay city are enlisting for turkish harems. A citizen of Cincinnati has paid a fine of \$1,000 for not paying his income tax at the proper time. A New York company is working some very rich salt mines in St. Domingo. There is a mountain of it. A. T. Stewart of New York has lately paid an income tax of \$250,000 on a net income of five million dollars. Quan Ding, a political agitator in Cochinchina, who urged revolt against the French influence there, is dead. The State Prison at Auburn, with six hundred and fifty convicts, earned \$17,500 above expenses in the last year. Gen. Grant is said to favor such modification of the law as will abolish the system of paying bounties to or for soldiers. It is reported that ex-Senator Gwin, formerly of California, has been appointed by Maximilian Governor of Sonora, Mexico. It is officially decided that hereafter, in the public schools of Boston, girls shall in no case be subjected to corporal punishment. During the past eight months upwards of 400 papers have "died," in consequence of the exorbitant price of printing paper. Charles H. Powers, Esq., of East Jeffrey, N. H., has been appointed Consul to Canada. He receives a salary of \$1,500 in gold. There is some talk of building the Illinois and Michigan ship canal by private enterprise. The estimated cost is \$15,000,000. The editor of the Alta California has been presented with a sack of potatoes, containing three only, each weighing twenty pounds. The oldest member of the U. S. House of Representatives is Thaddeus Stevens of Pennsylvania, who is seventy-one years of age. Gen. McClellan will sail for Europe on the steamer China in February, having declined the offer of a private vessel from his friends. A Boston merchant recently paid the excise on 700 bbls domestic spirits, which amounted to sixty-six thousand three hundred dollars. A Wisconsin girl had one of her eyes gouged out by a cow recently, and then walked ten miles to see a physician. There's pluck for you. A professor of Natural History named Walker writes to the English papers that the Channel Islands are gradually sinking into the sea. It is stated that while only five revolutionary pensioners are alive, there are 1,418 widows of such pensioners alive and drawing pensions. The young ladies of the Lexington High School in Mass., have adopted the plan of wearing the gymnastic costume as their every day dress. A Louisville paper says the noted guerrilla, Sue Mundy, is of the masculine gender, and is the grandson of Ex-Governor Clark of Kentucky. San Francisco supports 45 periodicals, viz:—Ten dailies, twenty-two weeklies, eight monthlies, one semi-weekly, one tri-weekly and two annuals.

Special Notices

THE BEST READING

Of the day is found in the Monthly Magazines. Among these the

Atlantic Monthly

is placed at the head of all American Magazines. It enlists the best American writers, is thoroughly national in tone, and treats topics of living interest. Its price is low, being only Four Dollars a year, or 35 cents a number.



THE PRACTICAL SHEPHERD,

A COMPLETE TREATISE ON THE BREEDING, MANAGEMENT AND DISEASES OF SHEEP.

By Hon. Henry S. Randall, LL. D.,

Author of "Sheep Husbandry in the South," "Fine Wool Sheep Husbandry," etc., etc.

Published by D. D. T. Moore, Rochester, N. Y.

77 Sent, post-paid, to any address in United States or Canada, on receipt of price, \$2.00.

The Practical Shepherd. This great American work on Sheep Husbandry, will until further notice, be sold only by the Publisher and Club Agents of the RURAL NEW-YORKER...

The Practical Shepherd is a large 12mo. volume of 454 pages, handsomely illustrated, printed and bound. Price \$2, (post-paid, if sent by mail) which is cheap at present cost and prices of books.

ECONOMICAL HOUSEKEEPERS USE PYLE'S SALERATUS, PYLE'S O. K. SOAP, PYLE'S CREAM TARTAR, PYLE'S BAKING POWDER, PYLE'S BAKING SODA, PYLE'S STOVE POLISH.

Articles designed for all who want the best goods, full weight. Sold by best Grocers everywhere.

Each package bears the name of JAMES PYLE, Manufacturer, New York. 776-1st.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

Show Bills, Premium Lists, &c., sent free (with specimen numbers) to all disposed to act as Agents for the RURAL NEW-YORKER.

Remit by Draft. Whenever drafts can be obtained Club Agents are requested to remit them in preference to Currency or P. O. Money Orders.

Show the Paper. The best way to procure new subscribers is to show a number of the RURAL, so that it can be examined and compared with other papers.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office,

ROCHESTER, Jan. 17, 1885.

ALTHOUGH the sleighing is good there is little activity in the markets.

Flour, FINE, MEAL, etc.—Flour is without change since our last issue, ranging at \$10.00 wholesale, Buckwheat from \$4.40 to \$5.00 per 100 lbs.

GRAIN.—White wheat \$2.20 to \$2.50, red, \$2.15 to \$2.20. Corn, shelled, \$1.45 to \$1.50; in ear \$0.75 to \$0.80.

SEEDS.—Timothy, \$5.00 to \$5.50. Clover, \$1.00 to \$1.25. Beans, \$1.50 to \$2.00. Peas, \$1.50 to \$2.00.

MEATS.—Dressed hogs, \$10.00 to \$12.00. Beef \$8.00 to \$10.00. Mutton has advanced to \$20.00 per 100 lbs.

FOURAGE.—Timothy hay has advanced and sells quickly at a range of \$20.00 to \$25.00 per ton.

VEGETABLES.—Potatoes range at 70¢ to 75¢. Onions bring \$2.00 to \$2.50 readily.

FRUITS.—Green apples, \$1.00 to \$1.25 per bushel. \$3.50 to \$4.50 per bbl. Dried plums, 12¢ to 15¢ per lb.

DAIRY, etc.—Butter is plenty at 40¢ to 45¢. Cheese, 17¢ to 20¢. Eggs, 30¢. Lard, 23¢ to 24¢.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Green hides 8¢ to 10¢. Green calf skins 10¢ to 15¢. Pelts recently taken off, \$2.00 each.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—Ashes, Pot., \$11.00 to \$11.75. Cotton Middlings \$10.00 to \$11.00.

EXTRA STATE, \$10.15 to \$10.85; Fancy State, \$10.40 to \$10.85; Canada flour, \$10.00 to \$10.25; Western extra, \$10.50 to \$10.85.

St. Louis extra, \$11.00 to \$11.25; Rye flour, \$5.50 to \$6.00; Green hides, \$3.25 to \$3.50; dry, \$2.50 to \$3.00.

Barley firm, no quotations. Oats, \$1.00 to \$1.05 for Western. Western Rye, \$1.70 to \$1.75; Old Mesa Pork, \$14.00 to \$15.00.

New Mesa, \$2.75 to \$3.00; \$4.00 to \$4.25 for prime Mesa. Plain Mesa best, \$2.75 to \$3.00; Extra, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Hams 20¢ to 22¢; Shoulders, 18¢ to 20¢; Dressed hogs, \$16.75 to \$17.00, 20¢ to 24¢.

TORONTO, Jan. 12.—Flour, \$3.75 to \$4.00; 40 lb. Fall wheat, \$8.00 to \$8.25; spring do, \$8.00 to \$8.25.

Barley, 30¢ to 40¢. Rye, 60¢ to 65¢. Peas, 50¢ to 55¢. Hay, \$1.40 to \$1.50.

Straw, \$2.00 to \$2.25; Butter, 14¢ to 15¢; Eggs, 14¢ to 15¢; Hams, 20¢ to 22¢; Canned apples, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

Green hides, \$3.25 to \$3.50; dry, \$2.50 to \$3.00; Tallow, 6¢ to 7¢.

Green calfskins, 10¢ to 12¢; dry, 16¢ to 18¢; D. B. Green soap, \$1.00 to \$1.25; dry, 16¢ to 18¢; Lamb skins, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

Potatoes, 35¢ to 40¢; Apples, \$1.00 to \$1.25; Salt, \$1.00 to \$1.25; Pork, \$2.00 to \$2.25.

CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Beef Cattle received, 5,048. Sales range at \$10.00 to \$10.50.

Cows, received, 82. Sales range at \$3.00 to \$3.50. Veal Calves, received, 688. Sales range at \$3.00 to \$3.50.

Sheep and Lambs, received, 14,980. Sales range at \$4.00 to \$4.50 per 100 lbs.

Swine, received, 12,711. Sales still held, \$12.00 to \$13.00; corn-fed, \$13.00.

TORONTO, Jan. 12.—Flour, \$3.75 to \$4.00; 40 lb. Fall wheat, \$8.00 to \$8.25; spring do, \$8.00 to \$8.25.

Barley, 30¢ to 40¢. Rye, 60¢ to 65¢. Peas, 50¢ to 55¢. Hay, \$1.40 to \$1.50.

Straw, \$2.00 to \$2.25; Butter, 14¢ to 15¢; Eggs, 14¢ to 15¢; Hams, 20¢ to 22¢; Canned apples, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

Green hides, \$3.25 to \$3.50; dry, \$2.50 to \$3.00; Tallow, 6¢ to 7¢.

Green calfskins, 10¢ to 12¢; dry, 16¢ to 18¢; D. B. Green soap, \$1.00 to \$1.25; dry, 16¢ to 18¢; Lamb skins, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

Potatoes, 35¢ to 40¢; Apples, \$1.00 to \$1.25; Salt, \$1.00 to \$1.25; Pork, \$2.00 to \$2.25.

ALBANY, Jan. 14.—But little done because of the delay of stock trains by snow storms.

Sales of steers chiefly of inferior quality ranged at 60¢ to 65¢.

Sheep scarce and high—\$4.00 to \$4.50, the outside figure for fine wool averaging 100 lbs.

Hogs sell quick at \$18.00 and are not plenty.

Wool Markets.

BRIGHTON AND CAMBRIDGE, Jan. 11.—Beaves range at \$7.00 to \$7.50 for Working oxen, \$8.00 to \$8.50 per pair.

BUFFALO, Jan. 16th.—Live hogs are in fine request and firm at \$12.50 to \$14 per 100 lbs.—Courier.

TORONTO, Jan. 12.—Beaves, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per 100 lbs., for inferior to first class. Calves, \$3.50 each. Sheep, \$3.00 to \$3.50 each, by car load.

Wool Markets.

BOSTON, Jan. 12th.—The following quotations are from the Boston Advertiser:—Saxony choice, 1.10 to 1.15; Saxony fleece, 1.05 to 1.10; full blooded Merino, 1.00 to 1.05; three-fourths do, .90 to 1.00; one-half do, .80 to .90; Common, .60 to .70; Western mixed, .50 to .60; California, .45 to .50; Canada, .35 to .45; Pulled, extra, 1.00 to 1.10; Superfine, .90 to 1.00.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14th.—Domestic Fleeces are limited; the market is quiet; we quote Saxony at \$0.90 to 1.00; Merino at \$1.00 to 1.10; Native and one-half, \$0.80 to .90; one-half and three-fourths, and \$0.60 to .70 for Full Blood; Pulled at \$0.80 for No. 1; \$0.90 to 1.00 for Super and \$0.90 to 1.00 for Extra; California at \$0.45 for common Unwashed, and \$0.60 to \$0.70 for fine do.—Tribune.

BUFFALO, Jan. 16th.—Wool is quoted at 60¢ to 70¢ as to quality.—Courier.

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.

AGENTS WANTED.—One half profit. Address Box 617, Boston, Mass. 783-4t

\$80 PER MONTH.—Agents wanted in every town. It is something new and of real value. For particulars address, with stamp, J. S. FARDEE, Binghamton, N. Y. 783-3t

CARD PHOTOGRAPHS.—Dealers supplied at the lowest New York prices. Any subject you desire may be found at 126 State St., Rochester, N. Y. 783-3t

\$75 A MONTH.—Agents wanted to sell Sewing Machines. We will give a commission on all machines sold, or employ agents who will work for the above wages and all expenses paid. Address, D. B. HERRINGTON & CO., Detroit, Mich. 783-3t

WANTED.—CANNASSING AGENTS in every Town and County, to sell

Thayer's "Youths History of the Rebellion," elegantly illustrated. Price only \$1.50. Also Agents to canvass for the early Life of George Washington, Price \$1.50. Sample copies sent by mail on receipt of price. Apply immediately to WALKER, WISE & CO., Publishers, Boston, Mass. 783-2t

FARM FOR SALE.—The undersigned offers his farm for sale, consisting of 110 acres—twenty of it timbered and the rest tillable land, situated about two miles from Batavia village and within half a mile of a saw mill, grist mill, school house, &c. There are two barns, a horse barn, frame house and other buildings upon the place, and the value of the timber is estimated at \$20,000. Price \$50 per acre. For further particulars inquire of H. H. WOODWARD, Esq., at Rochester, or of the subscriber at Batavia, N. Y. N. A. WOODWARD. 783-2t

GREAT WESTERN NURSERIES,

TOLEDO, OHIO.

The subscriber offers for spring trade, a very large and fine stock of

Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Vines, &c.

To Nurserymen and Dealers unusual inducements are offered. Correspondence solicited. A. W. MADDOCKS. 783-2t

JONA GRAPE VINES, STRAWBERRY PLANTS

and White Peach Blow Potatoes. The best articles known. J. KEOCH, of Waterloo, will sell the above named articles as follows:—P. O. Boxes, Price, Russell's, 30 Plants at \$1; 100 do, \$2; 1,000 do, \$12. Duplicate thousands at \$10 per 1,000.

Buffalo Seedling, \$1 per doz, or \$5 per doz. White Peach Blow Potatoes, \$1.50 per bushel. No. 1, one year old vines at \$2.50 each, or \$25 per dozen. All vines rooted during January, 10 per cent premium on the amount will be paid in plants. Cash February 5 per cent. No premium after February. Cash to accompany orders. J. KEOCH. Waterloo, N. Y., January 9, 1885.

ENGRAVING.

Satisfactorily and promptly executed. Views of Public and Private Buildings, Book Illustrations, Horseshoe, Cattle, Sheep, and other Agricultural Implements, Seals, Wedding, Invitation and Visiting Cards engraved and printed in the best style. O. R. MIX, 60 Arcade, Rochester, N. Y. 783-2t

\$5 First Premium Family Gem \$5 SEWING MACHINE.

THE WONDER OF THE AGE.

The FAMILY GEM SEWING MACHINE, a most wonderful and elegantly constructed NOVELTY; is perfectly noiseless in operation; uses the straight needle; sews with Double or Single Thread, making the running stitch more perfect and regular than by hand; will gather, hem, ruffle, shir, tuck, run up breads, &c., &c. Requires no lubrication or change of stitch; is not liable to get out of order; will sew on any fabric; is simple in construction, and is so easily understood that a child can use it. Independent. It is one of the neatest and most useful gifts a household can receive. Its cheapness is remarkable. It is the Sewing Machine of the Future. See 31. It is the only one that has been witnessed the operation of this wonderful machine, which produces the running-stitch, with single or double thread, silently yet very rapidly. Exactly like hand-sewing, and undoubtedly will become much used.—N. Y. Tribune.

This ingenious and useful machine is perfect in its construction, and has none of the faults of the high-priced machines. No one will pay \$100 for a sewing machine, when this one can be bought for \$5. This wonderful machine was awarded the FIRST PREMIUM by the New York State Fair, showing its superiority over all others. Imitations or cheap copies of this Gem Sewing Machine are liable to prosecution. Agents of perseverance are wanted all over the world, and will be paid \$100 per month. Single machines, well packed, will be sent to any address, per express, on receipt of \$5. Descriptive Circulars sent free. Address all orders FAMILY GEM SEWING MACHINE CO., 102 Nassau Street, New York. 783-2t

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 \$250,000 per acre, delivered, at price. 783-4t A. F. CONARD, West Groves, Pa.

FARM FOR SALE.—I offer for sale my farm of 125 acres, with 100 acres of wood, in the town of Waterloo, N. Y. It is a beautiful place, with a fine view of the city, and is well adapted for a country residence. For particulars inquire of C. W. GRAY, 67 North St., Rochester, or the subscriber on sending \$1.00. JOSEPH S. GRAY. 783-2t

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. YEOMANS, Esq., J. H. CLAPP & CO., Bankers, F. E. SMITH, Esq., Messrs. W. M. LINCOLN & CO., Messrs. E. & W. SEARS. BOSTON, Mass. 783-2t

APPLE SEED, of first quality, the growth of 1884, for sale by J. A. ROOT, Skaneateles, N. Y.

JONA AND ISRAELI VINES for sale. Address REV. F. E. CANNON, Geneva, N. Y.

FARM FOR SALE.—One of the best Wheat and 24 acres and lying on the direct road to Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and 1/2 mile out of the corporation of Ann Arbor. It is rolling open land, with good buildings, fruit, wood, water, &c. For particulars inquire of F. A. SPALDING, Ann Arbor, Mich. 783-4t

DR. POLAND'S WHITE PINE COMPOUND,

The Great Popular Remedy for Colds, Coughs, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, Croup and Whooping Cough.

Cures Gravel and all Kidney Diseases.

There have been many severe cases in Boston and vicinity cured by the WHITE PINE COMPOUND, which can be referred to, and hundreds of cases of Kidney complaint cured by taking the WHITE PINE COMPOUND, have been reported by Druggists.

Among all the popular Medicines offered for sale, no one seems to have gained favor like the WHITE PINE COMPOUND. This Medicine, prepared by taking the WHITE PINE COMPOUND, has been reported by Druggists.

Some time in 1866, an individual, who purchased a bottle for a hard cough, was not only cured of the cough, but also of his Kidney complaint, and he has since remained well. This being truly a discovery, the fact was mentioned to a skillful physician, who replied, in substance, that the bark of White Pine was one of the best diuretics known, provided its active principle had been extracted. If the other articles entering into the Compound would effect this, a fortune was in the Medicine. The fortune has not yet been reached, but the hundreds of cases of Kidney diseases, including Diabetes, prove it to be a wonderful Medicine for such ailments. A large number of physicians now employ it, or recommend it for such use.

But while the White Pine Compound is so useful in Kidney inflammation, it is also a wonderful curative in all throat and lung diseases. It so quickly and soothingly relieves the throat, that hoarseness and soreness are removed as if by magic. Numerous cases have been reported to the originator, where relief in very severe cases has been experienced in one hour and a cure effected in two days.

There is a very natural reason for this. The bark, and even the leaves, or "needles" of White Pine contain eminent medicinal qualities. The Indians employed the bark of White Pine in treating diseases, and very large quantities of America by Europeans. One instance confirming this may here be given.

Some of the Indians along the shore were likewise attacked with the same complaint as the case we have just recovered. He therefore earnestly enquired about their mode of treatment, and they pointed out to him a tree, the bark and leaves of which they used in decoction, with signal result. Careful trial was made, and he was gratified to see that of his crew who were afflicted rapidly improving. This Tree was the White Pine.

The past year has given a great opportunity to test the virtues of the White Pine Compound. It has been an unusual year for the disease, and very large quantities of the White Pine Compound have been sold and used with the happiest effects. It speaks well for the Medicine, that the people living where it is prepared are high in its praise.

The Editor of the Manchester Daily and Weekly Mirror, in a leader of the Daily, thus writes of the Compound: "With signal result. Careful trial was made, and he was gratified to see that of his crew who were afflicted rapidly improving. This Tree was the White Pine."

TESTIMONIALS. A very large number of important testimonials have already been received from Physicians, Clergymen, Apothecaries, and indeed, from all classes in society, speaking in the most glowing terms of the White Pine Compound.

Dr. Nichols of Northfield, Vt., says: "I find the White Pine Compound to be very efficacious not only in coughs and other pulmonary affections but also in the cases of indigestion, debility of the stomach and other kindred organs."

Rev. J. C. Chase of Rumney, N. H., writes: "I have for years regarded your White Pine Compound as even more efficacious and valuable than ever. I have just taken the Compound for a cold, and it works charmingly."

Hop. P. H. Sweetser of South Reading, writes: "Having long known something of the valuable medicinal properties of the White Pine, I was prepared, on the recommendation of a friend, to give you a trial. It has been used in my family, for several years, for colds and coughs, and in some cases, of serious kidney difficulties, with excellent results. Several of our family have derived much benefit from the Compound. We intend to keep it always on hand."

FROM B. F. AIKEN. GOFFSTOWN, March 13, 1880.

DR. POLAND.—I wish to bear testimony to the value of your White Pine Compound, which I have used with me for several years. I was at the time I called on you in July last. My chief complaint was Inflammation of the kidneys. In addition to the usual symptoms, I suffered dreadfully from severe pain. I procured a bottle for my wife, and before I had taken two-thirds of the contents of one bottle, my pain had all left me. Though I had long been afflicted with this complaint, I long time, I have not had a return of it since, and have for many months past enjoyed excellent health.

White Pine Compound for Diabetes. Important Testimony from A. A. GOODRUE, Esq., of Bow, New Hampshire.

Mr. Ass. Goodhue, of Bow, N. H., was so prostrated by Diabetes, in March, 1854, that we were not any who saw him thought that he could possibly live another month. As a last resort he thought he would try the White Pine Compound. They procured a bottle for him, and he began to take it. He had not taken more than a few doses, when he was able to get up, and he was able to attend to his business. He has since enjoyed excellent health, and is now seventy years of age.

Letter from Rev. L. C. STEVENS, Pastor of the Baptist Church, Goffstown, N. H.

Dr. J. W. Poland.—My Dear Sir—You have asked me what I think of your White Pine Compound. I never before felt so much interest in a medicine. My father, a physician of the old school, early led me to serious suspicions of all nostrums of what he called "bearing the stamp of that fraternity." But these suspicions were removed, and he has since carefully acquainted myself with the leading principles of Hydropathy, Homeopathy, Thompsonianism, Eclectic, within the last twenty-five years; so that I feel at liberty on this ground to speak my convictions.

Then the sympathy which I feel for you, as a former Baptist pastor, obliged to relinquish the ministry merely on account of ill-health, but still cherishing the hope of your early years for this blessed work, and laboring to your utmost in other ways, to proclaim the glorious gospel, led me to me as a matter of duty to comply with your request.

In 1848 I became acquainted with Dea. Holmes Boardman, and may be driven by either Endless Chain or Lever Machine. Improvements in it over the machines in common use, consist of—1st. The saw always moves in a direct path to the center of the crank-wheel, which is made to be driven rapidly without bounding. 2d. The apparatus for rolling the log forward is operated by a screw on the crank-wheel shaft, avoiding the use of

THE WHITE PINE COMPOUND,

GEORGE D. SWETT, M. D., PROPRIETOR.

Will be manufactured in future at the NEW ENGLAND MANUFACTURING CO., under the supervision of Dr. J. W. Poland, M. D., under the supervision of Dr. SWETT will attend to the business department, to whom all orders should be addressed.

Sold by wholesale and retail dealers in medicine elsewhere. 783-5t6w

300 HEAD OF BLOODED STOCK FOR SALE CHEAP.

Comprising Devonshire, Durham (Short-horn) and Alderney—Bulls, Cows, Heifers and Calves; Cotswold, Leicester, Merino and South Down Sheep; captured by SHELDON in Virginia. A fine chance for farmers to obtain very choice stock at a low price. They will be shipped to any part of the United States. Address N. P. BOYER & CO., Agents, Coatesville, Chester Co., Pa. 781-4t

THOSE SENDING ARTICLES OF COMFORT TO SOLDIERS.

can in no way contribute so much to Health and Comfort, and at trifling expense, as by sending a box of FRANK MILLER'S LEATHER PATCHES, and WATER-PROOF OIL BLACKING. For sale at Shoe and other stores generally through the country. 781-6t

FARM FOR SALE.—88 acres of choice land six miles west of Geneva, Ontario Co., N. Y., about 15 acres of valuable timber on the farm. All the cleared land is arable, good for grain, and is thoroughly underdrained; six acres of orchard, all grafted and choice fruit; excellent out-buildings. The soil is sandy and productive. The greater part of the purchase price can remain on the premises for a term of years. H. DARROW, or CALDERBARK & McDONALD, Geneva, N. Y. 781-4t

FIRST CLASS FARM FOR SALE.—The subscriber offers his Farm for sale, containing 100 Acres of land 8 miles Northeast of the village of Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y., on the Ridge Road. Said farm is well watered and fenced, has 12 Acres of Wood, and is abundantly stocked with the best of Fruit of all the different varieties suitable to this climate. The subscriber on the premises. D. E. TYLER, Albion, N. Y. 781-3t

VICK'S ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL CATALOGUE OF FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SEEDS, AND GUIDE TO THE FLOWER GARDEN, FOR 1885 IS NOW PUBLISHED.

It contains ACCURATE DESCRIPTIONS of the leading Floral treasures of the world, with full directions for SOWING SEED, TRANSPLANTING and CULTURE, and a list of over SIXTY PAGES, beautifully illustrated, with about

THIRTY FINE WOOD ENGRAVINGS, AND TWO COLORED PLATES.

This Annual is published for the instruction of my customers, and to such it is sent free as soon as published. To all others price 10 cents, including postage, which is much less than the actual cost. Address JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y. 781-3t

WOOD-SAWING MACHINES.

I would call the attention of the Farmers to my new Drag Saw, which, by a simple contrivance, (patented April 21, 1883) draws up the log without stopping, enabling the operator to do a greater amount of work, and with less labor, than by the ordinary machine. I also build small Light Power, suitable for sawing wood, cutting feed, &c. &c. Also, Circular Saws, &c. J. C. MOUNT, Medina, Orleans Co., N. Y. 781-2t6w

TREES FOR SALE BY THE BLOCK OR OTHERWISE.

The subscriber has seven blocks of Trees, mostly Apples, 5 to 8 feet high, that must be sold this spring. Here is an opportunity to get trees at very low prices. Address A. FAHNESTOCK, Agent, Toledo, Ohio. 781-2t6w

COMSTOCK'S ROTARY SPADER.

Having purchased the exclusive right to manufacture and vend this GREAT AGRICULTURAL WANT, (throughout the United States, excepting the New England and some of the Atlantic and Pacific States), which has been so thoroughly and satisfactorily tested, I am now prepared to receive orders for them.

A boy 15 years old, with four good horses, can spade six to eight acres per day, eight inches deep, leaving the field in good condition for the next year. The spade is made of iron, and is so constructed that it will not break, and is so light that it can be used by a single man. It is so simple in its construction that it can be made by any one who can use a lathe and a planer. It is so simple in its construction that it can be made by any one who can use a lathe and a planer. It is so simple in its construction that it can be made by any one who can use a lathe and a planer.

Depots will be established at Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, and other Western and Southern cities, and I shall endeavor to meet the demand by manufacturing extensively; but orders should be sent early to avoid delay and disappointment.

For further information, price, &c., send for circular. J. C. BOWEN, Pittsburg, Pa., Flow Works, 782-1t

MASON & HAML

because it meets the immediate wants of some subscriber, or possibly because it just fills our unappropriated space, &c., &c. Accordingly, more important communications may be, and often are, postponed for these. We have a number of valuable ones which have been in our possession for months—awaiting a more fitting season for publication.

Our friends will understand that we propose to publish, reply to, or take other fitting notice of, all sensibly written communications on the legitimate topics of sheep husbandry—and none the less so when they are sent to us by plain, practical men, wholly unaccustomed to writing for the public press. Therefore, he who finds his article deferred will not necessarily infer that it is rejected.

We may be allowed, in this connection, to advert to those requests which we so often receive to reply to inquiries by letter rather than through the columns of this paper. The writers doubtless think that the topics they thus broach possess too little interest for publication—or they are reluctant to have public attention called to themselves or their affairs. They are generally mistaken in the first particular; and there is no occasion for their scruples in the last, so long as we do not refuse, when the real name and address of the writer is given to us (as a guaranty of good faith,) to suppress them or to publish with an anonymous signature, when requested so to do. These personal and private replies to letters which in reality demand no privacy, are beginning to consume much of our time, and to wear heavily on our health. In a few unusual cases where, as in regard to violent and rapidly spreading diseases, an answer to be of any use must be immediate, we will continue to reply by letter; but under ordinary circumstances, it must not be expected of us, and we trust that no friend or no considerate person, whether friend or stranger, will ask it of us.

BEST STOCK COUNTRY.

EDITORS RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In answer to your several questions relating to the different western localities for the breeding of sheep, I will make a statement of the advantages of this part of our planet for stock raising.

We are located near the line of Los Angeles, and Buena Vista counties, in California, in a very mild and even climate, where stock, in good, common seasons, hold fat the year round. The rains set in almost six weeks earlier here than they do as far north as Sacramento. Therefore, we have the advantage of putting our sheep and cattle into the San Francisco market at a time when the least demand is made for the shambles. To the answers:

1st. Free pasturage abounds all over this region by the thousands of acres; all, excepting the old Mexican grants, which are now owned by American settlers. The stock pioneers have generally secured the most favorable localities by Government entry, to cover the large springs and the most accessible points on the large and small streams of water. These locations can be held for one generation, no doubt.

2d. But very few persons have settled upon the grazing lands. There are bands of sheep around us numbering from two to six thousand head, and herds of cattle containing from one to three thousand head in this section.

3d. The make of the land is usually rolling prairie; near the Sierras, it is more broken and mountainous. There are some barren and some productive plains, producing alfalfa and other species of clover, which is the main dependence.

4th. The land is mostly watered by creeks, but many stock ranches depend wholly upon springs.

5th. Fodder is only necessary for working animals; we have but little weather cold enough to form ice.

6th. Grass and all vegetation starts as soon as the rains commence, in November generally.

7th. The stock live upon the dried grasses and browse until the rainy season. The pasturage then holds green till August.

8th. Fodder is derived from the large fields of wild oats, barley and wheat straw, and corn fodder.

9th. Man requires no shelter eight months in the year, except a blanket and the blue sky over him; and stock needs no more covering than nature provides them.

10th. None at lambing time; no very cold weather.

11th. If the flocks were small, the per centage of lambs would be equal to 120 lambs to every 100 ewes, but in large bands the increase is about eighty per cent. This depends upon the care of herders.

12th. It is better to fold the sheep at night in corrals. The small wolf—"cayote"—kills lambs, but rarely old sheep.

13th. Scab is the only disease we know of that prevails among the flocks of this State. Sheep are remarkably healthy the year round. There are many mineral springs that cures the scab; also, alkali dust kills it.

14th. The nearest market towns are Visalia on the north, ninety miles, and Los Angeles on the south, 130 miles.

15th. No churches or schools yet in this back country.

16th. No prevailing disease, except in the low savannah lands chills and fever, and other fevers occasionally. The land is mostly rich enough for all small grains, but none grown, except in favorable seasons, without irrigation.

17th. This country is more devoted to stock raising and mining. Corn and beans are raised and sold here this season at \$1.60 per bushel. We are 320 miles from San Francisco. We communicate by steam at Los Angeles. The best mode for families with small means is by the way of Salt Lake. Buy your teams near the Missouri River. All kinds of stock can be purchased here at reasonable rates; and as yet we have had no war drafts.

Good shepherds, with small means, can obtain

stock upon shares, or buy the stock and the ranch, camp equipage, &c., on very favorable terms. Our post-office address is Los Angeles, California. SOL. W. JEWETT. Rio Bravo Ranch, Nov. 5, 1864.

CONDENSED CORRESPONDENCE, ITEMS, &c.

RALSTON'S COMBINED SHEEP RACK AND TROUGH.—We are requested to give our opinion of this. For a movable in-door rack, it has many good points. It prevents waste. Sheep do not pull hay out of it and drop it under foot, even as much as from the slatted box-rack. The leaves and seed are caught in the bottom, and are mostly consumed, as in the RICH wall-rack. In respect to preventing the stronger from robbing the weaker sheep, it stands on a par with both of the above highly approved racks. Like the RICH rack it has a trough of its own—and it is highly convenient for feeding grain, roots and cut feed. For cut feed we prefer it to any other. We have not tried it out of doors in rainy or snowy weather; but indoors, and where the sheep can be shut away while hay is being put in it, the RALSTON rack perhaps answers the combined purposes of a rack and trough quite as well as any other movable one now in use. It cannot, however, be used either as a wall or partition rack.

If all our readers do not remember what RALSTON'S rack is, we will mention that its prominent features are a broad trough of boards, with a horizontal slatted rack lying on it and hinged to one of its sides, so that it can be turned up to allow hay to be put in the trough. A railing runs along the middle of the rack lengthwise to prevent sheep jumping over or into it.

SCREENINGS OF WHEAT FOR SHEEP.—J. D. J. of Penn. Yan, inquires whether it would be safe to feed breeding ewes with the screenings of winter wheat, containing large quantities of chaff and chaff? We have never tried it. Wheat is a healthy feed for sheep, and so we doubt not it is chaff. With the qualities of chaff as food we are unacquainted. It is probably harmless. But we should much prefer to try no experiments of this kind on a flock of valuable ewes during gestation. What screenings are apt to contain more or less smut (ergot) which would be hurtful to breeding ewes in any quantity, and very hurtful in large quantities.

ALPACAS.—Our correspondent from Carlton, Orleans Co. N. Y., inquires about "Alpaca Sheep." This animal belongs to the genus *Lama*, and is not therefore a sheep. It inhabits the mountains of Peru and subsists on coarse and scanty herbage. Its wool is nearly a foot long and the fleece is said to weigh from ten to twelve pounds. It has been several times introduced into the United States—with what precise results we are not informed, but we believe with not very successful ones. We should be happy to publish any facts in relation to these experiments which may be within the actual knowledge of any of our readers.

DOING UP TAGS IN FLEECES.—J. N. CHURCHILL, East Hubbardton, Vermont, inquires what is the custom and what is right in this particular. It is both customary and right to put the tags into the fleeces, provided they are in the same condition with it in regard to cleanliness. That is, the tags should be washed before they are put into washed fleeces; but into unwashed fleeces, they may be put unwashed, if all adhering dung and filth are clipped away.

BUCKWHEAT AS SHEEP FEED.—R. R. SACKETT, Plymouth Chenango Co., N. Y., inquires whether buckwheat is a good feed for sheep. We have never tried it. There is a somewhat prevalent impression that it causes sheep to shed their wool, but we do not give much credit to it. We know that JOHN JOHNSTON of Geneva feeds it to fattening sheep and approves of it for that purpose; and a more experienced or more skillful feeder we have never had amongst us. Have any of our readers fed buckwheat to breeding ewes, and if so with what results?

SORE EYES.—The cases of sore eyes described by HIRAM MOULTON of Cuba, N. Y., are doubtless merely ophthalmia—for treatment of which see *Practical Shepherd*, or back numbers of this paper. Mr. M. may rest assured that the disease he describes is not "grub in the head."

STAGGERS.—MR. G. E. SHELDON of Perry Center, N. Y., informs us that the ram teg purchased by himself and Mr. OLIN at the last State Fair, for \$800, is dead. The symptoms he describes are those of staggers, or hydatid on the brain.

SALE OF PAULAR LAMBS.—Messrs. LOAN J. and NAIEN BURGESS, Jr., purchased 20 ewe tegs from the flock of VIRTULIAN RICH of Richville, Vt., for \$2,400. The purchase was made last fall.

Communications, &c.

ARE WE MAKING PROGRESS?

It seems eminently proper to ask ourselves this important question. If answered satisfactorily to our own minds, then, in what particulars have we made progress, what have been the principal agencies in producing this improvement, and what is required to further stimulate this advancement? These inquiries open so wide a field that I propose to touch but few topics at the present time.

It will be remembered in after ages as one of the most remarkable phases of the present century, that, at a time when, apparently, the whole vast energies of the Loyal States were devoted to the suppression of a gigantic rebellion, our manufactures were never in a more prosperous condition, our mechanics and artisans were never more busy, or obtained so good return for their labor—skilled labor in all departments of industry was never in better demand or received a richer reward. Even farmers are paying their debts, and some even, are supposed to be growing rich. The spirit of enterprise and improvement which has always characterized us as a people, has never been more active or intelligent than in the year that has nearly passed. I do not propose, at this time, to dwell upon the great progress that we, as a nation, have made in the science of war—of the vast improvements in guns and death-dealing missiles—of the world-renowned Monitors and Iron-clads nor the more peaceful conquests over time, distance, and the elements—Telegraphs, Steamships, Railroads, Steam Fire Engines, &c.; but I will confine myself to topics more or less connected with agriculture.

Notwithstanding the high price of lumber and all kinds of building materials, farmers, during

the past year, have been renovating and beautifying their homes, enlarging and repairing their barns and sheds, and rebuilding their fences.—They have brought an increased area of land under cultivation, and fitted it for improved machinery. They have expended more money in the purchase of new Reapers and Mowers, Grain-Drills and improved Farm Implements and Machinery, than ever before in a single year. They have taken an increased interest in the improvement of their breeds of Sheep, Cattle, and, in fact, all kinds of Farm Stock. The productions of the Dairy have been largely increased, and the cost of manufacturing materially lessened by associated and systematic effort. The culture of Tobacco, Cotton, Flax and Sorghum, in the more Northern States, has been considerably increased. Increased attention has been given to the cultivation of Fruit, particularly the Grape and the Pear. Farmers are, in a small degree, losing their old time prejudice against "Book-Farming"—agricultural books and papers are more generally read, and they are finding that, after all, it is not all trash; some of the suggestions, at least, are worth remembering.

Perhaps in no one thing has more improvement been made than in Sheep and Sheep Husbandry. The high price of Wool has been one cause of this advancement—but the writings of intelligent and practical breeders, that have found their way to the public eye, and discussions upon this subject at our Clubs and Fairs, have done much more. Without detracting from the merits of other eminent writers upon this subject, in my humble opinion, "Randall's Practical Shepherd," and, I may add, his valuable contributions to the columns of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, the past year, have done more to fix public attention upon this important branch of agriculture, than any other cause. It is to be hoped that the Sheep-breeders and Wool-growers of this country may long have the benefit of his intelligent and practical suggestions. If not in amount of production, at least in quality of staple, we are soon destined to take the front rank among the Wool-growers of the world. And why should not we occupy that position? It is an accomplished fact that we have (all things considered) the best Merino stock in the world and the most careful and intelligent breeders. Our whole country is, in some degree, favorable for Sheep husbandry, and our vast Prairies at the West and South-west, furnish a field fully equal to any country in the world for large operations.

Our greatest want now seems to me to be a discriminating market—not "middle-men" who buy by the pound, but experienced manufacturers or their agents, who will discriminate in favor of clean wool and against grass and dirt. And let our State and Local Agricultural Societies give liberal premiums, not upon pampered animals, kept under cover the year around for the purpose of retaining all the yolk and dirt in the fleece to give it great weight, but award them to the Sheep that excel in beauty of form, hardness of constitution, quantity and quality of washed wool, produced at the least expense of feed and care. Were these conditions complied with, we should soon witness a marked improvement in our flocks.

I hope this subject will be taken up by abler pens than mine, and pressed upon public attention until a reform is brought about. There are many other "signs of the times" that I would like to touch upon, but the length of this communication admonishes me that Editors usually "discriminate" in favor of short articles. B. Batavia, N. Y., Dec., 1864.

REMARKS.—The foregoing article was designed by the writer for the closing number of our last volume, but was necessarily deferred. The testimony it contains to the good influence of the Sheep Editor's work is of course published without his knowledge and consent.

PAYING FOR A FARM.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I am led to the following reflections, by the every day's observation of men that I am mingling with. Who has not noticed in these exciting times, when we are in the midst of a terrible rebellion, when money is flush, and the prices of every thing has become exorbitant, that men and women are rushing headlong after the luxuries of life, and are to be seen decorated, in silks and furs and jewelry of every description. These are trying times, and the times that "try men's souls," yet we seem to forget ourselves and rush on to extravagances that we had no idea of indulging in, and had resolved, "as for me and my house," we will "taste not, handle not" those things which only rush me deeper and deeper in debt. I trust that much rich instruction and benefit might be obtained by observing things as they transpire, by noting them as they pass under our observation. How readily can we perceive the difference in those we mingle with, in their views of propriety—those who are for show, and those who are seeking to apply their means to a better purpose. We can see it in every article of dress, from the hat to the boots of the gentleman, and from the hat to the gaiters of the lady. We can see it more plainly, in the common affairs of life at home, where the male portion are engaged in the labors of the farm. Here are to be seen the man and his boys, busily engaged in the labors of the day, with perhaps cast off hats and coats of former years, when everything was plenty and cheap, which are now, by the pressing demands of the times, looked up and worn, rather than add to the expense of buying anything new.

Such men and families need encouraging, and indeed, if they would only look to the right source, they would readily find it in those that have themselves once started in the world penniless perhaps, and without a friend to assist them. These have raised themselves by their industry and economy, to comfortable situations in life, and are always ready and willing to say a kind word of encouragement, and to use their

influence in behalf of those who are struggling to overcome the same difficulties.

Who has not noticed the indiscreet inquiries that are sometimes made in reference to our clothing; whether such and such are our best; and other matters relative to the amount of our trade at the stores, the inquirers being astonished at the low amount in comparison to theirs.

All this, my friends, is brought about by having it understood that you are paying for a farm. There are other objects, my friends, besides that of paying for a farm that demands our attention. We have the widows and orphans of our friends who have left their homes and have died in defence of our country. Here is a noble work for all to engage in, that loudly calls for our attention, and that will probably absorb all that can reasonably be spared from our resources. This is a work that all can engage in, without any difference of opinion, since the objects on whom blessings are conferred, admit the giving of every shade of value or kind, from "a cup of cold water," or a kind look, to the gifts of those who are able to give with a liberal hand.

It seems to me necessary in these times, that the attention of the public should be called to this subject, and I have therefore adopted the above heading to arrest the attention, trusting that a hint is sufficient to arouse the community to activity, and thereby draw their minds away from this rage for dress and amusements which is now eating us up like a cancer. S. T. Bradford Co., Pa.

REMARKS.—There is substance in the above article, and it should be read again, and acted upon. There was never a better time to pay for a farm—never more need of the practice of economy—never such demands upon our hearts and purses for benevolent actions, and probably never a time when money was so wantonly wasted.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Winter Feeding Cows.

We find the following in the *American Stock Journal*:—"For winter feeding, good clover hay and corn fodder, meal mixed with bran shorts, middlings, or canail, (the three latter names being given in different sections to nearly the same article, and varying in different mills from a number of varieties of grain will be found more healthy than from any one kind. That from Indian corn will usually give a large quantity of rich milk at first, but in most cases will soon induce an excess of flesh or fat, and a corresponding decrease of milk. Many valuable cows have been rendered valueless for milkers by one season's high feeding on Indian meal. Cotton seed and oil-meal will have much the same effect. Sometimes good cows will show an inclination to take on fat and increase in milk on the commencement of excessive feeding on rich feeds.

For a cow not in calf, or the first six months she has gone with calf, four quarts per day of one-half middlings, and meal from equal quantities of corn, rye and oats, will be as much as the average of cows will bear and prove lasting and profitable; it should be given on cut fodder, or on cut hay, wet with hot water, so as to slightly steam, and fed in two feeds per day. Where roots can be raised with profit they will be found healthy, and will keep up a better flow of milk than most other kinds of feed, but they should be fed with other kinds. Wurzel and beets will increase the quality, but will not improve the richness, though the flavor will be benefited. Yellow carrots will give less increase in the quantity of milk, but they will improve both the quantity and quality of the butter, making it finer flavored and higher colored. Roots fed in large quantities alone will induce too large a flow of milk at expense of condition. One feed on roots and meal per day will prove better than either alone. Middlings of bran should be omitted when feeding roots, as both are loosening and may scour. Where there is a tendency to this, oatmeal is the best food, and it may be better to scald it.

Regularity of feeding is of the greatest importance for all animals, and is never more so than in feeding cows; they should have constant access to salt—rock salt is the best, and Turk's Island the best substitute; if they have it always before them, they will never receive injury from over-eating. They should be watered often and with water not too cold; the better plan is to have such arrangements as will give constant access to it, though if regularity is observed, the animal's appetite will soon accommodate itself to stated times. While the aim should be to make cows eat all the hay or fodder they can, they will fall much short of it if they are allowed to waste, or are fed more at once than they can eat clean in a reasonable time. Feed oftener, and less at a time, and they will eat much more in the aggregate, and waste much less. If it is found the supply given is too large, it should be removed as soon as the animal has become satisfied, as nothing destroys the appetite sooner than rejected food lying in the manger. For successful winter-dairying, a good, light, airy and comfortable stable is indispensable; care should be taken to keep it clean and well ventilated, guarding against currents of cold air blowing on the cows, and keeping their apartments too close and hot. Close, hot stables foster more diseases than exposure to cold."

Sorghum vs. Wheat.

A WRITER in the *Wisconsin State Journal* tells of a Dane county farmer who kept an exact account of all his farming operations during the past year. He found his sorghum and wheat crops to compare as follows:—After paying labor, rent of ground, expense of marketing, &c., his wheat crop paid \$2.50 per acre net profit; sugar cane, \$14.09; thus making the net profit of cane as compared with wheat in the ratio of five and three-fifths to one.

Rural Notes and Queries.

THANKS!—PATIENCE!—Our thanks are cordially tendered to the thousands who are flooding us with subscriptions, communications, advertisements and good wishes. If we had time and space we would fain make suitable acknowledgment,—but can only bow, hastily and awkwardly, to hosts of RURAL friends, near and distant. And as it is hard work to even open, glance at and attend to the more pressing requirements of letters, we must be excused for not replying—as requested, and we desire—to scores of friends. Patience, please, until we can breathe freer!—but don't stop "clabbing" us while any in your vicinity are without the RURAL!

THE WEATHER.—Has been decidedly wintry thus far in January. The temperature for the first half of the month was 2½ degrees lower than the average for the past 28 years. The snow storm on the 10th and 11th was the heaviest for several years in this region,—but while it was snowing here, a heavy rain fell at Utica, 180 miles east. Before the 10th we had 4 or 5 inches of snow, and since the heavy fall (on 10th and 11th) other storms have occurred so that the depth of the "white mantle" is probably now from 18 to 20 inches. The weather is cold—this morning (Jan. 16) the thermometer marking 5° above Zero. Sleighting good and outdoor business lively.

PROMPTLY MAILED.—We promised that the numbers of this volume of the RURAL should be more promptly issued and mailed than were those of the last, and we are fulfilling the promise. Thus far this year the paper has been put to press one day earlier, and the edition mailed more speedily, than formerly. But agents and subscribers will remember that it is impossible for us to mail all papers in one package unless ordered at one time—at least until we get the names in type of mailing machine. We are at present obliged to mail some by machine, and others (recent orders) from letters, by hand,—hence the reason of sending different packages to same post-office. As soon as we get all names in type, each club will be mailed at one time, but until then we shall continue to mail late orders from letters on the day of receipt, instead of waiting to put names in type, for the reason that the additions to clubs are so numerous that we cannot put all in type immediately.

MONROE COUNTY AG. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of this Society, held on the 11th inst., the Treasurer reported a balance of \$906 24 in the treasury. No formal report was made by the President or Board of Managers. The following Board of Officers was elected for 1865: President—STEPHEN LUGGERT, Henrietta. Vice Pres.—Daniel Warner, Rochester; Lorenzo Babcock, Rigra; I. H. Sutherland, Pittsford. Secretary—John Talbot, Rochester. Treasurer—F. W. Lay, Greece, (unanimously re-elected.) Directors—To fill vacancies: Benj. Birdsall, Mendon; D. D. T. Moore, Rochester. Holding over: E. M. Parsons, Gates; A. C. Hobbie, Irondequoit; J. P. Ross, Ogden; L. D. Mitchell, Pittsford. The President, D. D. T. Moore, D. D. S. Brown, F. W. Lay, J. Murdock, J. P. Ross, and the Members of Assembly for the county, were chosen delegates to the annual meeting of the State Ag. Society, to be held in Albany on the 8th of February proximo.

THE RURAL AT "THE FRONT."—We verily believe no paper has more ardent friends in the Union Army than the RURAL NEW-YORKER. For months we have been in almost daily receipt of subscriptions from soldiers "before Richmond," at Nashville, Chattanooga, Memphis, Vicksburg, New Orleans, Newbern, &c., and of late we are having order from Savannah. Many order the paper to "the front," and others to their families and friends at home. They speak favorably of the RURAL'S position in regard to the war, and encouragingly as to the prospects of our army in crushing the rebellion. Our last letter from Savannah is so lively that we give it, as follows:

FRIEND RURAL:—Here we are in the beautiful city of Savannah. We entered the place Dec. 21st. We have had a pleasant time on this campaign; no rain or "Johnnies" to bother us. We had plenty of sunshine, and with flour, corn-meal, chickens, fresh pork, sweet potatoes and honey, we lived "right up to the handle"—in fact we drew all our sanitariums from the State of Georgia. On leaving Atlanta we had issued to us three days' rations of bacon, and from there till we arrived here JEFF'S people furnished the rest. At this place I found the RURAL awaiting me with its clean bright pages; it was a rare treat, I can tell you, after getting out of the wilderness and swamps of Georgia. I send you the Savannah Republican, and \$3 to apply on my subscription to the RURAL.—SAMUEL MOORE, Co. A, 31st Iowa, 3d Brig., 1st Div., 15th A. C.

THE AGRICULTURAL PRESS.—A notice of changes—including births, resuscitations, consolidations, etc.,—among our agricultural contemporaries is necessarily deferred. But we can't wait even a week to greet the re-appearance of the *New England Farmer*, and welcome another addition to the Rural Family—*The Rural World and Valley Farmer*, semi-monthly, by N. J. COLMAN, St. Louis.

PROF. J. P. KIRTLAND.—In another place in this issue we give a portrait and sketch of the life of the late Prof. BENJ. SILLIMAN. The last Ohio Farmer announces the election of Prof. J. P. KIRTLAND of Cleveland, O., as a member of the American Academy of Science, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Prof. SILLIMAN. It is an honor worthily bestowed.

TO KEEP A HORSE'S TONGUE IN HIS HEAD.—What shall I do to make my young horse keep his tongue in his head when the bits are in his mouth?—J. H. M., Libertyville, Ill.

We have known young horses so to carry their tongue because it was sore. If this is the cause, the bits should be kept out until the tongue is well. Washing the mouth with alum water, or dissolved saltpetre, will heal it.

GALVANIZED IRON.—Where can I get galvanized iron, in strips 8-in. of an inch wide and 1-16 of an inch thick.—M. BAKER, Perry Center.

Address J. C. LEFFERTS, Galvanizing Works, 100 Beekman St., N. Y. City, and you will probably obtain the information you desire.

GAME FOWLS.—Our correspondent who wrote us about game fowls, a week or two since, is referred to E. N. BISSELL, Richville, Vt., for the information he desires.

CHEESE MANUFACTURE.—Will you, or some of your readers, that can speak from personal observation, or experience, please inform me at an early date, through the columns of your paper, the size of building or buildings necessary for the manufacturing of cheese from four hundred cows; also, the probable expense of fixtures for the same.—D. T. H., Gens Falls, N. Y.

CEMENTING IRON PIPE.—Can you or some of your numerous readers give a recipe through the RURAL for cementing iron pipe so that it will hold hot water? and oblige—A SUBSCRIBER, Howard, N. Y.

Ladies' Department.

THE MOTHER'S PRAYER.

They sleep. Athwart my white
Moon-marbled casement with her solemn mein
Silently watching o'er their rest serene,
Gazeth the star-eyed night.

My girl, sedate or wild
By turns,—as playful as a summer breeze,
Or grave as night on Star-lit Southern seas,—
Serene, strange woman child.

My boy, my trembling star!
The whitest lamb in April's tenderest fold,
The blindest flower-bell in the shadiest wold,
His fitting emblems are.

They are but two, and all
My lonely heart's arithmetic is done
When these are counted. High and Holy one,
Oh! I hear my trembling call!

I ask not wealth nor fame
For these, my jewels. Diadem and wreath
Soothe not the aching brow that throbs beneath,
Nor cool its fever-flame.

I ask not length of life,
Nor earthly honors. Weary are the ways
The gifted tread, unsafe the world's best praise,
And keen its strife.

I ask not that to me
Thou spare them, though they dearer, dearer be
Than rain to deserts, spring flowers to the bee,
Or sunshine to the sea.

But kneeling at their feet,
While smiles like summer-light on shaded streams
Are gleaming from their glad and sinless dreams,
I would my prayer repeat.

In that alluring land,
The future—where, amid green, stately bowers,
Ornate with proud and crimson-flushing flowers,
Pleasure, with smooth white hand

Beckons the young away
From glen and hillside to her banquet fair,—
Sin, the grim she-wolf, croucheth in her lair,
Ready to seize her prey.

The bright and purpling bloom
Of Nightshade and Acanthus cannot hide,
The charred and bleaching bones that are denied
Taper, and chiasm, and tomb.

Lord, in this midnight hour
I bring my lambs to thee. Oh! by Thy truth,
Thy mercy save them from th' envenomed tooth
And tempting poison flower!

Oh, Crucified and Crowned,
Keep us! We have no shield, no guide, but Thee!
Let sorrows come—let Hope's last blossom be
By Grief's dark tent drossed.

But lead us by Thy hand,
Oh, gentlest Shepherd, till we rest beside
The still, clear waters, in the pastures wide
Of thine own sinless land!

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
SOMETHING ABOUT CAPS.

WHILE the gentle critics and reformers of the RURAL are so much engaged upon that very discussible subject, Dress, it has sometimes occurred to your correspondent as rather strange, that one important article, viz., Caps, should not attract a passing notice.

The subject in all its divisions might be altogether too comprehensive for the limits of this sheet (not the RURAL, but the foolscap), so I propose to say nothing of the caps of military heroes emblazoned with the symbols of war; nor of those coquetish fantasies which are set jauntily over the curls of our fashionable belles; nor of baby caps, tiny and dainty; nor even of the mystical night cap—low be it spoken—but genuine, old-fashioned, grandmothers' caps, of blessed memory. What has become of them?

How beautiful they were, how becoming! How softly the snowy muslin or feecey lace was adjusted over the silvery locks; and how lovingly the delicate blonde and tiny knots of ribbon nestled into and concealed the wrinkles of the faded cheeks, or shady-worn brow, developing that peculiar, venerable grace which needs none of the ornaments of youth to render it attractive.

A grandmother without a cap!—think of it! No sphere in which daughters and granddaughters may exercise their taste in plaiting folds of cambric or falls of lace; no tempting "strings" for uncertain, baby fingers to clutch at; no gilt box, containing the mystery of the "Paris cap," stored away—not always safely—beyond the reach of mischievous little hands. Alas! the children of the present day will never know the significance of such memories.

Now the writer is not one of those unhappy individuals who have a standing quarrel with dame Fashion. On the contrary, she has proved her devotion to the capricious goddess, by more than one sacrifice of taste and convenience. Besides, we all agree that within the last few years, the edicts of Fashion have accorded with the rules of common sense and comfort, much more frequently than formerly; but while we acknowledge this, we must protest when she lifts the snowy caps from our grandmothers' heads, and violates the sanctity of their venerable locks with appliances of lunar caustic, and decks them with some trumpy coronet of velvet and gilt, as much out of taste as would be a wig over the sunny curls of "sweet sixteen." Is age falling into disrepute that all its beautiful insignias is banished? Must three-score years borrow the adornments of twenty to give it dignity? Not so; not so; in this give us "reform." Let us besiege the Court of Fashion until she restores the cap, the most graceful, the most becoming, the most dignified article of feminine attire.

MARIE ESTELLE.
Rockford, Ill., 1885.

If an old lady is very feeble and very rich her dutiful relatives are not apt to forget that great age and infirmity entitle one to every possible attention.

WOMEN, LOOK HERE!

If it were justifiable to use hard words at all, the writer hereof would think it excusable when he hears women complaining of all the ills conceivable, and sees them go into the streets, or out to walk with only thin shoes and thin cotton stockings on their feet, and know they have no adequate protection for their limbs. But that is not the worst feature. It is far worse to see them send their children out equally exposed. It is murder in the first degree. We happen to know some women who have recovered health by learning how to make themselves comfortable—how to clothe their persons so as to keep the temperature of all parts of the body uniform. And we have known scores of poor women who went prematurely to their last rest because they never learned the comfort of being warmly clad. There are plenty of inhuman mothers left, who will sacrifice a child's health in order that she may "look pretty," or look as well as somebody's else child does. There are very few days pass that we do not see illustrations of this criminal vanity that not only make our heart ache, but bitter words come into our mouth. Feeling thus, we want the women who read the RURAL to carefully peruse the following from the pen of Dr. Dio Lewis: It is sound common sense. It is truth.

"During the damp and cold season deficient dress of the feet and legs is a fruitful source of disease. The head, throat, and liver are perhaps the most frequent sufferers. The legs and feet are far from the central part of the body. They are not in great mass like the trunk, but extended and enveloped by the atmosphere. Besides, they are near the damp, cold earth. For these and other reasons, they require extra covering. If we would secure the highest physiological conditions, we must give our extremities more dress than the body. We men wear upon our legs, in the coldest season, but two thicknesses of cloth. The body has at least six. Women put on them four thicknesses under the shawl, which, with its various doublings, furnishes several more—then, over all, thick, padded furs; while the legs have one thickness of cotton under a balloon.

"They constantly come to me about their headache, palpitation of the heart, and congestion of the liver. Yesterday one said to me, 'All my blood is in my head and chest. My head and chest go bumpety-bump, my heart goes bumpety-bump.' I asked, 'How are your feet?' 'Chunks of ice,' she replied. I said to her, 'If you so dress your legs and feet that the blood can't get down into them, where can it go? It can't go out visiting. It must stay in the system somewhere. Of course the chest and head must have an excessive quantity. So they go bumpety-bump, and so they must go, until you dress your legs and feet in such a way that they shall get their share of blood. In the coldest season of the year I leave Boston for a bit of a tour before the lyceum—going as far as Philadelphia, and riding much in the night without an overcoat; but I give my legs two or three times their usual dress. During the coldest whether men may wear, in addition to their usual drawers, a pair of chamolis-skin drawers with great advantage. When we ride in a sleigh, or the cars, where do we suffer? In our legs, of course. Give me warm legs and feet, and I'll hardly thank you for an overcoat.'

"My dear madam, have you a headache, a sore throat, palpitation of the heart, congestion of the liver, or indigestion? Wear one, two, or three pairs of warm woolen stockings, and thick, warm shoes, with more or less reduction in the amount of dress about your body, and you will obtain the same relief permanently that you would derive temporarily from a warm foot-bath. 'I must not forget to say that a thin layer of india-rubber cemented upon the boot-sole will do much to keep the bottoms of our feet dry and warm.'

LADIES SHOULD READ NEWSPAPERS.

It is a great mistake, in female education, to keep a young lady's time and attention devoted to only the fashionable literature of the day. If you would qualify her for conversation, you must give her something to talk about—give her education with this actual world and its transpiring events. Urge her to read the newspapers, and become familiar with the present character and improvement of our race. History is of some importance; but the past world is dead, and we have nothing to do with it. Our thoughts and our concerns should be for the present world; to know what it is, and improve the condition of it. Let her have an intelligent opinion, and be able to sustain an intelligent conversation concerning the mental, moral, political and religious improvement of our times. Let the gilded annuals and poems on the centretable be kept a part of the time covered with weekly and daily journals. Let the whole family, men, women and children—read the newspapers.

—Godley.

A CURE FOR SCANDAL.

In order to cure scandal, take of good nature one ounce; of an herb called by the Indians "mind-your-own-business," one ounce; mix with "a little charity-for-others" and two or three sprigs of "keep-your-tongue-between your teeth;" simmer them together in a vessel called circumspection, for a short time, and it will be fit for use. Application—The symptom is a violent itching in the tongue and roof of the mouth, which invariably takes place when you are in company with a species of animals called gossips. When you feel a fit of the disorder coming on, take a teaspoonful of the mixture, hold it in your mouth, which you will keep closely shut till you get home, and you will find a complete cure. Should you apprehend a relapse, keep a small bottle full about you, and repeat the dose on the slightest symptom.

Choice Miscellany.

POEMS UNWRITTEN.

BY ALFRED TENNYSON.

THERE are poems unwritten and songs unsung,
Sweeter than any that ever were heard—
Poems that wait for an angel tongue,
Songs that but long for a paradise bird.

Poems that ripple through lowliest lives—
Poems unnoted and hidden away
Down in the souls where the beautiful thrives,
Sweetly as flowers in the air of May.

Poems that only the angels above us,
Looking down deep in our hearts, may behold,
Felt, though unseen, by the beings who love us,
Written on lives as in letters of gold.

Sing to my soul the sweet song that thou livest!
Read me the poem that never was penned—
The wonderful idyl of life that thou givest
Fresh from thy spirit, Oh, beautiful friend!

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

It is often said of persons, in a complimentary way, that they are sociable, meaning that they are friendly and talkative; but it depends somewhat on the character of a person's speech, as well as its quantity, whether their acquaintance is desirable or not.

Persons may be ever so well meaning, but if their conversation is only of the prevailing sickness, or the last horrible murder in the papers, unless you incline particularly to such kinds of entertainment, they will be likely to prove dull companions in the end.

Or if an acquaintance is simply prosy, and talks with as dignified an air as if he fancied himself to be delivering a lecture on some moral subject, without any of the familiar language which makes intercourse with friends so charming, you will be as likely to go to sleep during his discourse as you would on the cars while they were in motion, and wake up when he stopped. Or, if your caller should happen to be one full of his or her own petty cares, who will treat you to a history of all their little vexations, you will soon become tired, or irritable, or both; but no matter, you must hear all their plans for the present and future whether you will or not. Sometimes, too, you will hear nothing but bits of flying gossip about people you are not at all interested in from this kind of sociable people. But when a friend enters of about your own stamp, and you cannot speak without calling up a response from his mind, when your ideas and experiences correspond and your heart grows lighter with the friendly interchange of thought, you are enjoying one of the highest pleasures of social intercourse. Such hours need not be counted among the vanishing pleasures, for the recollection of them is agreeable to both ever after. B. C. D. Elkhorn, Wis., 1885.

READER, did you ever sit by the table or fireside of an ungrateful man or woman? You thought of plenty of sensible things that might be said, to an ordinarily communicable sort of human being, and "fellow sojourner through this vale of tears," and sighs and mutual dependencies, and relations; but to that stiff, stern, unapproachable, immaculate presence, you dared not utter a word. And so, for days and weeks, and perchance years, you live with this sublime frigidity, and have no interchange of thought, or sentiments, in common.

Such men and women make homes less cheerful and inhabitable than a house hewn from the granite ice of the arctic pole!

Give me the frank, genuine, social face and manners, before whom one may laugh and jest, and in whose presence one may take a long breath, and wink occasionally. And such a face is not inconsistent with true dignity of manner, and nobility of soul; and it is far easier and better to reverence their love than fear. One can appreciate real greatness and dignity, but from an uncomestible, noncommittal statue, "good Lord deliver me!" QUEBOHY.

SIMPLICITY.

THERE is no gift of expression that tells more than simplicity in its right place. A simple style of talking or writing is an engine of power in good hands, enabling them to undertake tasks forbidden to the world at large. It even fits a man for talking or writing about himself, which only persons endowed with the art of being plain, transparent and natural, ought ever to attempt. Simplicity, as we would view it here, is by no means a merely moral or negative quality. It is so in some cases; but it is then only noticed or appreciated for its suggestiveness. Children do not admire each other's simplicity; but we admire it in them, because what is uttered without thought or intention in the child is full of meaning to us. It was more than a simple, it was probably a stupid, little girl that kept reiterating, "We are seven;" but the words suggested deep meanings to the poet. The weeping child, apologizing at the sight of the unfolding handkerchief, "My tears are clean," meant no more than the literal sense of his words; but to the hearer they brought thoughts of guileless innocence and of other tears that do leave a stain. After childhood no one can retain a simplicity worthy of admiration without some intellectual power. The unconscious simplicity of a child, when childhood is past, is disagreeable and painful, and is never recognized without a shade of pity or contempt.

Manly simplicity is intelligent, and knows what it is about. And though, to win our respect, it must of course be real, it may and often is only one side of a many-sided character; that is, the quality may attach to part and not to the whole of a man's nature.

The charm of full-grown simplicity always gains by, and we believe even requires, contrast. We must be a little surprised at a man's being simple before we can value the quality in him. Thus the style and manners of royal personages are generally simple, and there are doubtless plenty of reasons to make this probable, and a thing to expect; but persons dazzled by the pomp and circumstance of greatness are delighted with this simplicity, which they confound with humility, because it seems to them a striking contrast with state and splendor. So with the aristocracy of intellect and genius. It appears a fine thing for a great author or thinker to be artless and unaffected; and we like it because, if he chose to be pretentious, we could only say he had more right to be so than his neighbors; but the truth is, these people have not really the temptations to pretense that others, their inferiors, have. The world allows them so distinguished a place that there is no need of them to struggle and use effort in order to seem something higher and more important than they are. It needs a reliance on self to be perfectly simple in treating of self; and this reliance, as a conscious quality, it is scarcely modest to bring forward unless the world has given its sanction to self-estimate.—Saturday Review.

READERS AND WRITERS.

READING without purpose is sauntering, not exercise. More is got from one book on which the thoughts settle for a definite end in knowledge, than from libraries skimmed over by a wandering eye. A cottage flower gives honey to the bee, a king's garden none to the butterfly. Youths who are destined for active careers, or ambitious of distinction in such forms of literature as require freshness of invention or originality of thought, should avoid the habit of intense study for many hours at a stretch. There is a point in all tension of the intellect beyond which effort is only waste of strength. Fresh ideas do not readily spring up within a weary brain; and whatever exhausts the mind not only enfeebles its power, but narrows its scope. We often see men who have over-read at college, entering upon life as languidly as if they were about to leave it. They have not the vigor to cope with their own generation; for their own generation is young, and they have wasted the nervous energy which supplies the sinews of war to youth, in its contest for fame or fortune. Study with regularity, at settled hours. Those in the forenoon are the best, if they can be secured. The man who has acquired the habit of study, though for only one hour every day in the year, and keeps to the one thing studied till it is mastered, will be startled to see the way he has made at the end of a twelvemonth. He is seldom overworked who can contrive to be in advance of his work. If you have three weeks before you to learn something which a man of average quickness could learn in a week, learn it the first week, and not the third. Business dispatched is business well done, but business hurried is business ill done. In learning what others have thought, it is well to keep in practice the power to think for one's self; when an author has added to your knowledge, pause and consider if you can add nothing to his. Be not contented to have learned a problem by heart; try and deduce from it a corollary not in the book. Spare no pains in collecting details before you generalize; but it is only when details are generalized that a truth is grasped. The tendency to generalize is universal with all men who achieve great success, whether in art, literature, or action. The habit of generalizing, though at first gained with care and caution, secures, by practice, a comprehensiveness of judgment and a promptitude of decision, which seem to the crowd like intuitions of genius. And, indeed, nothing more distinguishes the man of genius from the mere man of talent, than the facility of generalizing the various details, each of which demands the aptitude of a special talent; but all of which can be only gathered into a whole by the grasp of a mind which may have no special aptitude for any.—Bulwer, in Blackwood.

BEAUTIFUL SWISS CUSTOM.

THE horn of the Alps is employed in the mountainous districts of Switzerland not solely to the sound of the cow call, but for another purpose, solemn and religious. As soon as the sun has disappeared in the valleys, and its last rays are just glimmering on the snowy summits of the mountains, the herdsman who dwells on the loftiest, takes his horn and trumpets forth—"Praise God the Lord!" All the herdsmen in the neighborhood, take their horns and repeat the words. This often continues a quarter of an hour, whilst on all sides the mountains echo the name of God. A solemn stillness follows; every individual offers his secret prayer on bended knees and uncovered head. By this time it is quite dark. "Good night!" trumpets forth the herdsman on the loftiest summit. "Good night!" is repeated on all the mountains from the horns of the herdsmen and the cliffs of the rocks. Then each lies down to rest.

A CAPITAL "MAINE LAW."—I noticed occasionally very long troughs which supplied the road with water, and my companion said that three dollars annually were granted by the State to one man in each school district, who provided and maintained a suitable water trough by the roadside, for the use of travelers,—a piece of intelligence as refreshing to me as the water itself. That legislature did not sit in vain. It was an oriental act, which made me wish that I was still farther down east,—another Maine law, which I hope we may get in Massachusetts. That State is banishing bar-rooms from its highways, and conducting the mountain-springs thither.—Thoreau's Maine Woods.

Sabbath Musings.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
COVET NOT.

BY RALPH RUSTIO.

Does your neighbor's domicile
Far surpass, in cost and skill,
Your unostentatious cot?
Covet not.

Has your neighbor glowing health,
Has he genius, has he wealth,
Has he blooming honors got?
Covet not.

Would you true contentment find,
Would you have a healthful mind,
Free from envy's leprous spot,
Covet not.

But there comes a voice sublime,
Ringing like a silver chime:
"Best of gifts, sweet Charity,
Covet ye."

Mich. University, Jan., 1885.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
THE ELASTICITY OF LIFE.

THERE is much in every day life which brings practically to view a most encouraging fact. Circumstances and experience seem interwoven with such an infinite number of finely wrought cords of extension, that a phase of life will take almost every aspect ere it will be destroyed. In other words, a cord of really ordered events will stretch to an infinite length ere it will break. The study of human nature develops this truth as the main-spring of action. Men build upon and around it as the ambitious astronomer clusters myriad stars around the nucleus in some bright constellation. Hopefully trusting in social strength, society vigorously pressed her car along, and although the wheels are sometimes cracked, the rails rusty, and the friction grates heavily upon the ear, she rushes zealously on, believing the circle is not closed up without some egress for escape from evil. And it is best so. Dependent in his independence, man learns humility in its truest form. Encircled as he is by mortal relations, he is drawn into sight of his relation in that great circle, whose center is the God of hosts. The child fostered by parental care commits in his ignorance or folly an error. Does banishment or condemnation follow? No, rather will the home circle close tighter around him, and every avenue for improvement is opened wide for the wanderer. A member of the human family becomes sadly straightened,—does society brand him readily an outcast? Nay, it has learned from experience that a chain is never stronger than its weakest link—*humanum est errare*—and not until the false one aims his blow at the very pillars of society's structure, will she rise up in condemnation, and that for his own as well as for the public good. Yet let us not mistake. Life, Society, Human Nature and God have claims on Purity, Honesty and Righteousness which can not be gainsayed by evil. The elasticity of life can stretch not wide enough to admit crime, persisted in. Its laws are too wisely rigid, to ever be perverted or deceived. With open arms for humanity, it cloaks itself against wilful depravity and libeled human nature. It seems to be the mind of God, expressed in the most emphatic manner, to encourage the discouraged, to strengthen the weak, to aid the erring and to redeem the lost. Human nature infused with a similar spirit makes room, by its laws, in God's world for the helpless, the erring and the outcast. Ah, blessed be that will, by whose power the elastic cord of life is made to measure and embrace the weakest as well as the strongest links of humanity. MARY PRICE, Adrian, Mich., 1885.

NEED OF DIVINE AID.

"WALK before me and be thou perfect." Thus said God unto Abraham; and by these words we are instructed that to live in the presence of God is the way to perfection. Whenever we depart from that way it is by losing sight of God, and forgetting our dependence upon him. God is the light which we see, and the end to which we should aim. In all the transactions and different events of life, we should consider only the order of his providence, and should maintain a sense of his presence in the midst of all our affairs. "I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help." Depending upon our feet is not sufficient for our deliverance from the innumerable snares that surround us; the danger, indeed, is below, but the deliverance can only come from above; thither must we raise our eyes to him from whom our help cometh. We are continually encompassed by our enemies; nor are we, on account of our infirmities, in less danger from within; there is no hope for us but in Jesus Christ, who has overcome the world for himself and for us; his omnipotence will support our weakness."—Fenslon.

A HAPPY RECORD.—I had been in my class five years. Having come to the close of the year, I asked my children what they were now going to offer to the Lord for a new year's gift, when Annie, quite a little girl, said, "Teacher, I have given myself;" and another dear girl said she, too, was willing, if Christ would accept her; they were fifteen years old then, and I introduced them to the church. I cannot now describe my joy when I brought my first sheaves to the Lord. I have been looking over the names of my scholars, and can count six now written in the church books below; I trust the rest will be found in the Book of Life above."

BEING positive in judgment to-day is no proof that we shall not be of a different opinion to-morrow.