TWO DOLLARS A YEAR!

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.

VOL. XIII. NO. 2.}

#### ROCHESTER, N. Y., — FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1862.

Sadly disappointed and chagrined at the honesty

{WHOLE NO. 626.

#### MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER, THE LEADING AMERICAN WEEKLY RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE, With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

CHAS, D. BRAGDON, Western Corresponding Editor.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his r sonal attention to the supervision of its various departm 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 realously advocates. As a FAMILY JOHRNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal,—rendering it the most complete Agricultural, Literary and Family Newspaper

For Terms and other particulars, see last page.

# AGRICULTURAL.

#### THE WAR AND AGRICULTURE.

It may well cause anxiety among farmers, when they look forward to the season now near at hand for the commencement of their usual farm labor. The farmer who brings out his plow to begin preparing for his spring crops, may well pause and ask what is to be the condition of this country when the crop matures and he is to be paid for the labor now about to be expended. The dairyman may well pause as his cows begin to give out their treasures, and ask what is to be the prospect for sale of the butter, or cheese, or pork which is to be manufactured during the coming season. The sheep farmer may well pause, and ponder, and wonder if he is to find the same dull, stagnant market that met him so seriously the last year. All are accustomed to go cheerfully at their spring's work when they are dependent only upon the kind blessing of that good Father who has promised "seed time and harvest" to all who, by diligent industry, prepare for the reception of these blessings. But now, when the very foundations of society are broken up, when that peace and security which to the farmer more than any other is the "bright bow of hope," is threatened or overthrown, he may well take hold of his plow with serious thoughts.

the future is clouded cannot be disguised. That this great rebellion is causing a great change in the business relations of society is very manifest. That Government is expending vast sums of money daily, which, in the aggregate, must be counted by hundreds of millions of dollars, is a fact not to be doubted; and quite as certain is the fact that all this vast expenditure of treasure has yet to be met by the produce of the land. In other words, the farmers of the country in the end must pay the debt; for in whatever manner it may for the time be disguised, ultimately all national or public debts are paid from the cultivated lands of the country. The wealth of a country is the surplus of its agricultural products. Were the agriculture of this country to fail, or to become so feeble as to only furnish a bare subsistence to its population, all its other interests would be speedily bankrupt. Heavy taxation then, is before us, heavier than has ever yet been borne in this country. The articles of luxury, and many of necessity, will be high, and the products of the farm will not be advanced in proportionate value. But the duty of the farmer is plain, - the prospect, though clouded, is by no means dark. Cultivate all the land you can, and do it well. If possible, raise greater crops than last year, so that your surplus shall equal at least the increase tax that you will have to pay for the protection of the whole. Remember that war with its desolation, is far from your border, and that so long as it keeps its deadly blight from our peaceful homes, we can well afford to pay for the exemptions.

We have taken the dark side of the prospect. Let us look upon the bright one, for a bright and hopeful one there certainly is.

The wants of Europe have already absorbed the surplus of one, and are gradually absorbing the second, of the most abundant harvests which we have ever had on this Continent. The demand will not be abated until we reach another harvest at least. All our cereals will be in demand and at fair prices, and the next harvest will come in on empty granaries. We may, therefore, sow and plant in all confidence, even if war should continue on the scale of the present armament.

The low prices of butter and cheese during the last two years, have introduced these articles into foreign markets, where they were rarely seen before, and the demand has absorbed our surplus, and created an increased demand abroad. The products of the dairy, then, will meet a ready sale at fair prices, if we only strive to produce a first rate article. For it is by the excellence of our dairy articles in the foreign markets that we have been such successful competitors, and thus control an unfailing demand.

The exigences of the nation require a high tariff, | inhabitants."

which, from the very nature of things, must remain for many years. This will give permanence to manufactures, and capital will readily seek employment in manufacturing. All over the country we are, therefore, to have an increased demand for the products of our flocks and fields and herds at home The consumers will be rapidly increased, while the and we shall have a season of prosperity such as never has been seen in any country.

But over and above all this, we are to be improved in our morals, in our habits of economy, in those of thrift, and we shall come out of this great rebellion strengthened.

Let us all then endeavor, each in his proper sphere, to make what seems a great calamity a great National Blessing, and a kind Providence will crown our efforts with success.

#### IRISH AGRICULTURE.

THE present state of our country — the unhappy war made upon the Union by a horde of unprincipled slaveholding politicians and their silly dupes -the hatred of the London Times and three-fourths of the English papers towards the North, and their avowed sympathy with rebellion—the honest, manly sympathy of Ireland and the Irish people every where with the free North, and the present scarcity of food and threatened starvation in the "green isle," gives Americans an interest in the condition of Ireland that has not been felt-since long years ago we sent our ships on their errand of mercy to save the men, women, and children of that beautiful yet unhappy island from a horrible death. For some years the London Times has urged Irish landholders to abandon the culture of wheat and other grains, and even flax, and to lay down the whole growing stock and butter for the English market. That this course would rob the laboring people of a great part of the work upon which they depend for subsistence, was of course well known, for but little labor is required under such a system of agriculture; yet this sacrifice was not considered too great to carry out the notions of the Times, and furnish meat to England in exchange for her manufactures. Through the influence thus set to work, the plan has been adopted to some extent, and its ruinous effects are seen and lamented by the best agriculturists of Ireland. It has deprived many industrious men of labor and the means of subsistence been declared by the Times an evidence of pros- ground. In the London Gardener's Chronicle we perity, and the Irish Farmer's Gazette, one of our best European exchanges, says-

"In the estimation of the writers in the Times, a rapid and enormous decrease in the population of Ireland has been considered a sure indication of the rapidly improving and enormously increased prosperity of this country in every point of view; while the abandonment of tillage and the extension of permanent pasture has been no less lauded by them as the most beneficial agricultural change which could possibly have occurred."

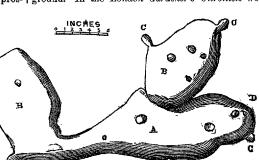
Feeling that its wild theories needed support from the attacks of the Irish

agriculturists, the Times pursued its favorite ind an engraving and description of a Fluke potato course, and last autumn sent a well-known English agriculturist as a commissioner to make a circuit of the Island, and report upon its agricultural condition, believing, no doubt, that the commissioner would see the necessity of serving his masters, and fully realize that his principal work was to sustain by facts and arguments the course the Times had pursued. Had a politician or barrister been selected for this work, all would have gone smoothly, no doubt, but a barrister's opinion on the agriculture of Ireland would of course have no weight, and therefore it became necessary that a well-known farmer should be chosen for this mission. Fortunately, farmers, as a general thing, have honest and truthful, and are not quick to take a hint that any dishonorable work is required of them. The commissioner entered upon his mission, and soon discovered that the opinions advanced by writers in the Times were calculated to do great ent policy. He found that while "in some localities the farming shows universal improvement, in other parts of the country no perceptible progress had been made, saving that a fearful amount of depopulation had left fewer families to share among them a larger stock of floating and movable wealth." And, as the conclusion of the whole matter, he considered it his business "to press the importance of enlarging the present proportion of plow land by breaking up inferior old pastures; it having been shown that the lighter soils-embracing one-half the entire surface of Ireland, and two-thirds of the area in cultivation - would furnish MORE MEAT AND STORE ANIMALS, besides the corn, dairy produce, and wool, if farmed as a mixture of grass and tillage land, instead of being purely grazed. And this addition of 4,000,000 acres to the labor-needing area would provide work for about 600,000 men, representing as heads of families probably 2,500,000

of its practical correspondent, the Times commenced a system of bullying towards Irish agriculturists, similar to that which for months has characterized its course toward America, and with bold impudence declares its opposition to the facts and opinions of its own commissioner, and that it has "no reason to producers will, if anything, decrease. The tariff doubt that the green island will one day present the will give permanence to our financial institutions, aspect of a vast pasture, studded with towns." In reviewing these articles, the Farmer's Gazette says-It is positively painful to follow the editorial writers in the Times through all their misrepresentations of facts, and their unmanly, pettifogging quibbling. They have been convicted of error by their own correspondent, but from pure obstinacythat kind of obstinacy which is engendered by the combination of pride and ignorance—they refuse to learn wisdom even from his pen. So far as we are concerned-to use what is now classical languagewe 'don't care two rows of pins' for the opinions of the Times on Irish agricultural matters; but there are some among us who are weak enough to see only through whatever spectacles that journal may choose to supply them with-who imagine it to be almost an inspired guide in all sublunary affairs; and there are others, we are sorry to say, who would rather listen to a chorus of Beelzebub's angels than the blithe whistle of a sturdy plowman. It is on that account alone we speak out; for we would desire to save the one party from the consequences of their blind infatuation, and the country from those which result from the line of conduct pursued by the latter. When Ireland realizes the fond wish of the Times, by becoming a vast pasture,' England may look to her own stability, chained as she will then be to a lifeless mass. On the other hand, if we improve the talents with which a bountiful Providence hath endowed us in what we undoubtedly enjoy, a fertile soil and island in permanent pasture for the purpose of genial climate, then, indeed, I eland will be England's right arm, and a mighty contributor to the nation's wealth. Let us, then, not submit to be bullied by the Times, to follow a course which has already produced much evil among us, and which, if persisted in, can only end in the general ruin of the country."

### THE POTATO.

It will be recollected by those who have been attentive readers of the Rural for some years past, that when discussing the raising of potatoes in the hill, we stated that the potato is not a root, but an and driven them from their homes to seek labor under-ground branch. As some proof of this, we and support in other lands. But even this has gave an engraving of potatoes produced above



upwards of two feet in length, and its examination, the editor remarks, will be very instructive, "be cause it assists in demonstrating the true nature of a potato; not that such proof is wanted by men of science, but because there is still a lingering belief in many minds that this veretable must be a root as it is commonly called. If anything can remove such an erroneous belief, the monster before us will do it, for it bears unmistakeable evidence of being an underground branch covered with buds. How is was formed is uncertain, the specimen not having been examined by ourselves; but it is probable that the base of the tuber was somewhere about \*, and that it was formed by three successive growths. not yet learned that it is not good policy to be Probably the first growth was from \* to D, which was what in Ireland is called the 'rose end,' in which vegetation is most active; this is shown by the direction of the notches, or imperfect leaves on the under side. The part between \* and p having been formed, growth seems to have been temporamischief, and recommended very urgently a differ- rily suspended. When renewed, the laterals B, B, were formed, and they being formed, growth was a second time arrested. Eventually, towards the end of the season a third attempt at extension was made, the result of which was the little knobs c c c c. All this is just what would happen in an ordinary branch budding repeatedly above ground, and has no resemblance to anything that occurs among roots. The difference between this potato tuber and a potato branch arises from the constitutional peculiarity of that plant to form gouty branches, and from the latter being produced in the midst of the mechanical opposition offered to regular development by a close pressed stony soil."

> UNPRODUCTIVE VS. WELL-TILLED FARMS. -A worn out and unproductive farm, like a bloated drunkard, is an unpleasant spectacle to look upon; but a well-tilled homestead, like a robust, healthy, temperate man, standing in his meridian strength, is one of the most pleasing objects that one can meet.

#### A CHAPTER ON POULTRY.

JUDGING from the tenor of several inquiries now before us, it would almost seem as though the fever which exhibited its violence in a passion for large breeds of fowls was passing away, and that those who have heretofore discarded anything but a mammoth feathered biped, are seeking for a "happy medium" between the gross and the diminutive in chickendom. To those who have queried us directly, and all others who may be seeking something of a like character, we recommend the following:

Where the Hamburg fowls originated is not definitely known. By some writers it is claimed that they originated in Holland, and by others that they first came from Hamburg, whence is derived their distinguishing title. Be this as it may, the places designated furnish at the present time the best specimens of the breed obtainable, for their highest development has been an object of great care among poultry-breeders

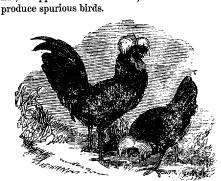


GOLDEN-PENCILED HAMBURGS.

Of the Hamburg fowl there are two distinct varieties, and these are again sub-divided into two each. The variety figured above is allied to the Silver-Penciled, (of which we may hereafter give an illustration,) and differs chiefly in having a yellowishbuff or a yellowish-bay ground color in its plumage where the other is white. Bement thus describes them:-"The cock has a rose comb about an inch and a half broad, with points of uniform height, and with a pike reaching far back; face well crimsoned round the eye; ear-lobe white; neck reddish yellow; upper wing-coverts, saddle-feathers and breast, light brown; thighs brown; tail black, with bronzed tint upon the feathers, well sickled, and very ample for the size of the bird; legs blue. The height is about eighteen inches, and weight averages nearly five pounds. The hen possesses a rose comb; face paler than in the cock; neckhackle yellow-buff, but not so free from stains as the Silver-Penciled; breast, wings and back, brownish-buff, accurately penciled with black; legs blue. Height

about fifteen inches, and weight about four pounds." All varieties of the Hamburg fowl are reputed to be excellent layers, little inclined to sit, possess flesh of superior quality, and their eggs are good as well as abundant. Among Hollanders, the Golden-Penciled are known as "Dutch every-day layers." The qualifications we have enumerated, together with their great beauty of plumage, have made them favorites with English amateur poultry-breeders living in the vicinity of large towns, who are short of room, and who require a constant supply of eggs rather than frequent broods of chickens.

In choosing this variety of fowl for breeding purposes, the person making a selection cannot be too tenacious in requiring that the cock should not have any marking of black except upon his wings,—if he has, disappointment will result, as he will inevitably

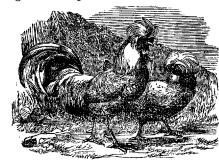


BLACK POLISH FOWLS.

For the purposes of the Poultry Fancier the Polish fowls are well suited. Their flesh is superior and their plumage very beautiful. The great point in this breed is the top-knot, which should be large compact, well-shaped, and full. In front of this is a small, bright red comb, divided something after the fashion of a pair of horns. The different kinds are distinguished by their colors. The cock and the hen are of the same color. His carriage is good the arched neck nearly meeting the tail, which is very full and erect, especially when he becomes excited. The breast is wide and prominent, while the short legs and generally compact form are no less pleasing to the eye than valuable in an economical point of view, as indicative, technically speaking, of the comparative small quantity of offal. A full-sized Black Poland cock should weigh from five to five and a half pounds.

When we turn to the hen we require the same color throughout, but the top-knot, of course, must

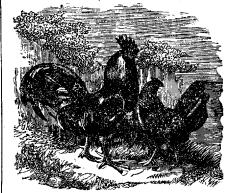
be perfectly white, globular, and free from broken colors. Her wattles are rounded and well developed; the ear-lobe white. In form, she is closer built than the cock, full-breasted, and should weigh about four pounds.



WHITE POLISH FOWLS.

MOWBRAY says "the Polanders are not only kent as ornamental, but they are of the most useful varieties, particularly on account of the abundance of the eggs they lay, being least inclined to sit of any other breed, whence they are sometimes called everlasting layers, and it is usual to set their eggs under other hens. They fatten as quickly as any other breed, and in quality similar to the Dorking; their flesh perhaps a little more juicy and of a richer flavor. They are a quiet, domestic fowl. neither quarrelsome nor mischievous, and their eggs of a good size, fine flavored, and thin shells."

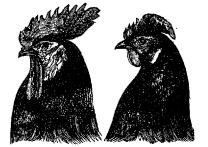
They do not lay quite so early in the season as some varieties, especially after a hard winter; but they are exceedingly good layers, and continue a long time without wanting to sit. They will sit, however, at length, and prove of very diverse dispositions; some being excellent sitters and nurses, others heedless and spiteful.



Among the most beautiful of all our fowls will be found the Black Spanish. When thorough-bred, the feathers should be entirely black, and when in good condition, these will display a greenish metallic luster. The comb is erect, brilliant scarlet, and serrated; clear, milk-white face and ear-lobes; dark blue legs; carriage lofty. Wattles of the hen small, but large and conspicuous in the cock, and, like the comb, light scarlet. The marked contrast thus presented renders the head of the Spanish cock as handsome as that of any other variety; and when they are genuine, the whole form is equally good. The cock bird should be strong and short in the legs as possible; his back, from tail to neck, short; tail large and ample. The weight should not be less than six pounds.

Spanish hens are also of good size and good figure. and are celebrated as layers. The head of the hen is neat, and of moderate size; eyes bright; comb single, very large and pendulous; face entirely white; neck of moderate length, neatly set on; body broad; wings of middle size; legs bluish-white; tail long and well squared; plumage of a glossy black, with handsome tints of green and purple, as in the cock, but less brilliant. Weight of the hen five pounds.

Inferior cross breeds of the Spanish fowl are often met with, and we would caution those wishing to increase their poultry stock against imposition, as such fowls are not worth keeping. Let the pure strain only be adopted. It may be preserved by the occasional introduction of males of the same race, and up to the mark in every point, which have descended by a collateral branch from the same root, and which have, therefore, only a remote connection with the stock to which they are admitted. It is thus that breeders may often benefit each other by mutual exchanges.



HEADS OF BLACK SPANISH COCK AND HEN

The great, and in fact the only, objection to this breed of fowls in our climate, is the fact that the large, thin, and beautiful combs, are very apt to freeze, and thus the great ornament is lost.



V SW D SWEET

# MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

SWEET POTATO CULTURE.

AL DYCAYS

I do not often find better grown sweet potatoes than I found and ate at Mr. BRUSH's place. Mr. B. is very successful in his culture of them, and his mode may be of interest to hundreds of your prairie readers, for the culture of this esculent is extending annually in the West.

Mr. B. plants the Nansemond variety; he believed it the best for this climate. The best way, he says, to prepare the ground for sweet potatoes, is to fall plow, deep. This kills the grub; and this he regards important, because, he says, he has lost fifty per centum of his crop by this pest when he has neglected to plow in the fall. In the spring, a day or two before planting, make high ridges, by plowing four furrows together - two each side. Then let the boys dibble in the plants eight or nine inches apart. This is Nansemond culture. It requires less room than other varieties, as it grows in clusters.

The ground is kept clean. When the potatoes are dug, they are piled in long, narrow, roof-like heaps, and covered two inches deep with dry dirt, and allowed to "sweat." They are then opened, allowed to dry perfectly, and are put in boxes - shoe boxes are best-or barrels-if barrels, only half filledand stored in a dry, well-ventilated room that is kept at a temperature of about 50°. They must be kept dry, and in as equable a temperature as possible. Many farmers keep them successfully in a dry, warm chamber. They do not harm if the temperature goes down to 35°; but it is better if kent equal. He does not store in sand, leaves, or any other substance: handles the tubers carefully. Mr. B. says, with fair care, it is not a difficult task to grow 160 bushels of the Nansemond per acre. He also says that the vines of the potato, on most soils, are sufficient manure, if plowed under; and the condition of his land improves with such culture. Light straw manure on uplands may be a benefit. but he would not recommend strong stable manure.

#### TO WESTERN DROVERS.

The RURAL has so large a circulation in the West that I deem it important to announce in its columns the change which has been made in the market days in this city (Chicago) for the buying and selling of live stock, from Saturday and Sunday, as heretofore, to Thursday and Friday of each week. The proprietors of the different cattle yards and the principal dealers have entered into such an agreement, (I learn by an evening paper,) thereby wiping out a disgrace that has long outraged the conscientious beef-eating and mutton-munching people of Chicago. It is therefore gratifying to be able to advertise the fact that the scales will no longer be opened on the Sabbath in Chicago for the weighing of stock.

#### AN EXPERIMENT IN FEEDING PIGS.

THE 25th of April last I put one pig in pen, and on the 14th of May another of the same litter. They were of the White Berkshire breed, with a small grade of Suffolk. These pigs were fed three times a day with sour milk and an addition of six ears of corn, until the 22d of August, when I commenced feeding with old corn, barley and peas, equal parts, mixed together and ground very fine. The meal was mixed with milk and left to sour. They gained gradually upon their feed until Sept. 2d. I then settled upon two bushels of feed for seven days, making 9 1-64 quarts of feed per day for the two. This feed was continued until Nov. 8th, when I put them upon old corn meal, ground fine and mixed with boiling water, and left to scald. They consumed two bushels of this feed per week until Dec. 9th, when they were butchered and dressed. After hanging ten hours, they weighed, respectively, 351 lbs. and 339

Thus we see the pigs were fed meal 109 days, at the rate of 16 lbs. per day for the two, making 1,744 lbs. of meal in all. This shows that it took a trifle over 21 lbs. of meal (with slops to mix with) to make one pound of pork. We also see that 1,744 lbs. feed worth 50 cts. per bushel, or 9 mills per lb., would amount to \$15.691. 690 lbs. pork at 4c. per 1b. (market price here) is \$27.60,—leaving a profit, aside from milk and the six ears of corn per day fo 99 days, (and trouble of feeding,) which manure would balance, and we find \$11.901 the amount.

These pigs were dropped the 23d of March and killed Dec. 9th, making them 261 days old,—showing an average gain of one pound five ounces per H. A. WHITTEMORE.

Fluvanna, N. Y., Dec. 16, 1861.

THANKS, friend W., for your model article,—so many facts, figures and conclusions in so small a compass.

### FATTENING HOGS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:-There seems to be a diversity of opinion as to what kinds of food are best adapted for fattening this class of stock, and a still greater difference of opinion as to how it should be prepared. I, like many other young farmers lack a great amount of experience, and am not wholly satisfied to do exactly "as our fathers did." or feel duty bound to abide by the old maxim. that "it is best to let well enough alone." I believe that every day should find us taking "advance steps" to the "march of improvement." Therefore, "respected seniors," give me your ideas upon this subject, endorsed by a thorough experience and a "nlain why."

Is ground or unground food the best for fattening hogs? Should it be cooked or raw? Fermented or non-fermented? May charcoal and ashes be fed to good advantage? Is a dark or light pen the best? Should it be a close pen, or with yard attached? Hoping that those "who know" will not soliloquize by saying that "at the present prices of pork he would risk very little in making experiments himself," I anxiously wait for a response.

### ABOUT DESTROYING WIRE WORMS.

Gates, Dec. 20, 1861.

EDS. RUBAL NEW-YORKER:—I am not a scientific farmer, but I have been a farmer's son, and am nothing else now. It so happens that in my peregrinations through the world, my communications with its obstreperous inhabitants, I "occasionally hear" and "frequently see" some things. For instance, I met, a few days since, somewhere, a farmer who affirmed, with all desired vehemence, that he knew from personal experience in repeated experiments that buckwheat would exterminate wire worms. He says that where they had congregated in such vast numbers as to end a wheat crop before it began, he has sown buckwheat, which met with no obstruction from the rebels, and thinks that they must have "died from the want of victuals to keep them from starving to death." I am a little incredulous in reference to this matter. The question is, | Great Valley, N. Y., 1862.

why has it not been made known to "all the world and the rest of mankind" before?-or, has it been to others, and "I alone blind?" If it be a fact that so great a plague may be so easily destroyed, is it not worth noting? Let those "in authority" speak -R. W. MCNEAL. I forbear.

Clarance, N. Y., Dec., 1861.

REMARKS.—An intelligent and experienced farmer, of over seventy, to whom we have just read the above, says the conclusion is sensible - that the worms die for want of sustenance. The "varmints" will not eat buckwheat, and the latter tends to destroy all other vegetation upon which they might subsist; hence they must leave or give up. He further avers that it is a mooted question whether the wire worm is the larvæ of some insect, or perfect within itself. It is generally supposed to have a period of three years before changing into a winged insect.

#### SHADING THE GROUND-SUGGESTION.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER: - I am but an occasional reader of the Rural, and therefore cannot claim a corner in your useful paper; but I will give a suggestion by way of answer to an article which appeared about a month since, accounting for the fact that shading ground will enrich it.

The writer of that article says that it is the "red worm" perforating the ground, and leaving a slime which enriches. I don't believe him. Nature has common store-houses for everything; one for light, the sun; one for water, the ocean, &c. Now, the great store-house for the gases to sustain vegetable life is high up in the air, beyond the reach of doing harm to animal life; and the long attenuated fingers of evaporation carefully gather the particles of water from the ocean, leaving the salt, (or the surface of the earth,) and bear them up until they become impregnated with these gases and again return them to earth in the shape of rain drops, which filter through the soil, leaving these gases, and cause vegetation to grow. The water reappears in springs, perfectly freed from these gases and returns to the ocean. The action of the sun, perhaps the light, causes these gases to rise upwards, and by shading the ground you only prevent their passing off. SUGGESTOR.

[North-Western Correspondence of the Rural New-Yorker.] GEODES FROM MISSISSIPPI BLUFFS

LOW PRICES.

This season may be called emphatically one of low prices. Corn — the great Western staple — has been selling all over Illinois and Iowa for six months past at prices ranging from eight to twenty cents per bushel, the old crop; and now the new crop is coming in at about the same figures. And as the hog-killing season arrives, it is manifest that the price of pork is going to be correspondingly low. From \$2.50 to \$3.00 may be regarded as about the maximum quotations at most of the points on the Upper Mississippi. Farmers may live, to be sure, at such prices; but how they may raise money and pay debts, or even taxes and interest, is a query that puzzles many of the most calculating. Corn is now going in large quantities to the distillers in this region at thirteen cents per bushel, for the husking of which the owner has to pay from forty to fifty cents per day to hands. Counting even a low price for the team to haul it, it will be easily seen that the margin over expenses for saving the crop is exceedingly small. The writer of this lately met with a farmer who was thus engaged, in order to raise money to pay for a fine team with which he was marketing his load. How long before he will reach the last payment I did not stop to figure.

### CORN BREAD.

Good corn bread is an article of prime necessity in most families, and should be in all; hence it should be nutritious and wholesome. Will some of your intelligent and practical housewives give. through the medium of the RURAL, the best mode of making and baking it? Can it not be made good, and sweet, and wholesome, without the use of soda or saleratus?

### AN INQUIRY - FLAX' COTTON

Much is said lately about the new processes for the manufacture of flax fiber, and its growth is strongly recommended by some of the papers. The prairies of the Northwest are supposed to be admirably adapted for the growth of this product; hence an article in the RURAL directing the mode in which it should be grown, and the best means of harvesting and preparing it for market, would be very desirable. Flax, as formerly grown, was invariably pulled up by the roots with the hand; and the labor of so securing even a small crop was very great. Now, is not some new agricultural implement needed for this work; or is it not feasible to cut by means of reaping or mowing machines already is

Another inquiry: Do the new processes of pre paring the fiber embrace also that of hemp, or of flax only? If the hemp fiber can be cottonized also, in the same way, it will add a greatly increased

impetus to the hemp culture in the Western States. Now that King Cotton is dethroned, let us use every due exertion to prevent his again assuming the crown.

### PUMPKIN PIE.

As this is the season for pumpkin pies - and every body likes good ones - will some one tell the readers of the RURAL what is the very best variety of pumpkin for that purpose? A reddish-colored autumnal squash I have, makes a better pumpkin pie (a misnomer) than any thing else with which I am acquainted — not excepting the far-famed Hubbard. Speaking of the latter, reminds me to say that the young plants of this variety were very much infested the past season with the bug. These insects will leave every thing else for the Hubbards; and it is a general complaint throughout this section that it was almost impossible to save a plant; hence Hubbard squashes are very rare in these parts this

FARMERS SHOULD GROW FLAX.-Please to recomnend all farmers to raise a piece of flax. Linen cloth can be made as well now as fifty years ago, and will answer for over-shirts and over-alls, and many other purposes that cotton has been used for. Our women will look just as well, and appear a little smarter, with checked aprons and dresses made of linen. Cotton has risen at such a rapid rate that few will be able to buy. The poor class of women can make linen cloth themselves, and the little boys and girls can be clothed with it. I would recommend, for the benefit of the people, that you tell them where they can obtain flax seed if you know. Instead of using the seed for oil, it should be saved for the greater benefit of the people.— H. LEECH,

#### Aural Spirit of the Press.

Let Farmers take Courage."

So says the editor of the Massachusetts Plough man. The farmer, in times of general trouble, is better provided for than ony other class, for he has the means of providing for his own wants - he can live on his own means better than any class which does not produce the necessaries of life, but depends on purchasing them of others. If prices are rather low it is because we have had a more favorable season for the products of the earth than usual. Farmers, therefore, must not be discouraged at what are thought to be low prices — for moner cannot fail to be abundant while we send away none to Europe: but, on the contrary, we send out farm produce, and receive in return a cash balance eack week.

#### Consumption of Hay.

THE Annual Register says that the hay, &c. consumed by different animals, does not vary greatly from three pounds daily for each hundred pounds of the animals. The following table is the result of various experiments, by different persons, and will he useful for farmers who wish to determine by calculation beforehand how their hay will hold out for the winter, 500 cubic feet of timothy hay, in a full bay, being about one tun:

	Pounds.
Working horses	3.08
Working oxen Milch cows (Boussingault's)	2.40
Milch cows (Boussingault's)	2.25
Milch cows (Lincoln's) Steers	2.40
Steers	3.08
Dry cows	2.40
Pigs (estimated)	3.00
Sheep	
Elephant	

#### Caution about Seed Corn.

WE observe this season, remarks the editor of the American Farmer, an unusual quantity of corn sprouting on the ear. It will be remembered that some seasons back there was immense loss to corngrowers by the failure of their seed to germinate. They should look carefully to this matter now, and select their dryest corn, and such as has been least affected by the weather. We have seen many ears of corn just from the shock, the germ of which has started and pushed its way through the body of the grain, sometimes making half an inch of growth, and again scarcely perceptible by a green speck on the surface. When one such grain is apparent, a great many may be started but not yet visible, and almost the whole ear is unfitted for seed. This occurs with ears otherwise perfectly fair and sound, and much loss may result if care be not used in selection.

#### The Potato Trade of Bangor.

THE potato trade seems to bid fair to divide the honors with the lumber business of Bangor, Maine. A correspondent of the Times furnishes the following statement concerning this important branch of business:

"There has been shipped from our city, of this year's growth, about one hundred and forty-five thousand bushels, for which there has been paid to the farmers of this county about fifty-eight thousand dollars. The average price paid has been about forty cents per bushel. There were brought to our city on the 14th of November last, over ten thousand bushels of potatoes, one firm taking in nineteen hundred bushels; and counting the teams from which they were taken, and allowing an equal number for the balance, it required four hundred single and double teams to bring them. The crop this year has been almost entirely free from 'rot,' and of the very best quality; and if the balance of the crop is kept through the winter free from frost, there will be not less than two hundred thousand bushels to be sold in the spring."

### Facts for Poor Farmers.

"Those farmers who have most difficulty to make ends meet, always plow most and keep most stock. Now these men take the true plan to always keep themselves poor, because their crops and stock are always poor and bring little." So writes John Johnston, in a letter to the Secretary of the N. Y. State Society; and he thus illustrates his statement: "It is good profit to raise 300 bushels of wheat but when it takes thirty as acres; raise that amount, it is raised at a loss. So it is with cattle and sheep. You will see the thinking farmer making four-year old steers worth from \$60 to \$80 each, and his neighbor's at the same age not worth over \$25 to \$40." His advice to the latter is, "If his land is exhausted, he should plow no more than he can thoroughly manure. Seed with clover and grass and let it rest, and that field will not only pay well for tillage, but it will furnish manure (if rightly managed) to make another field of the same size rich also." And then keep it rich; do not run it with grain until again exhausted, or the "latter end of that land will be worse than the first."

### Feed and Shelter your Milch Cows Well.

THE editor of the Boston Cultivator truly remarks that there is no domestic animal in regard to which there is generally so much neglect to provide properly, as the milch cow. The idea seems to be too common, that she may give milk for the greater part of the year, supporting at the same time a calf in the feetal state, with no more nor better food than is given to animals which have only their own bodies to support. The consequence is, that the milch cow is worn down by this unnatural tax on her system; her fat is taken away in butter; the substance of her muscles in cheese; and even her bones are weakened by the phosphate of lime which the flow of milk carries off. Surely, such a sacrifice deserves consideration and recompense, which it would be profitable to the farmer to bestow. If there is any animal which policy would dictate the good treatment of, it is the milch cow. It should be remembered that it is only the food she consumes, beyond what is required to support the natural wastes of the system, that can afford a surplus in the way of milk. Hence, the food which would barely support two cows, and leave nothing for the owner, if eaten by one cow, would enable her to return the value of one-half of it in milk. So that the advice of a close observer to a dairyman, to sell one-half his cows, to increase his produce of butter and cheese, had reason at the bottom of it. Cows should be well fed and sheltered; in fact, they should be kept in all respects in the condition that is well expressed by the word "comfortable."

### How to Raise Potatoes.

A REPORT in the Springfield (Mass.) Republican of the doings of a Farmer's Club, recently held at a Chicopee farm house, includes the following on the subject of potato raising:

One of the party, a large grower of potatoes, and who has at present about 1,500 bushels in store, gave his experience, as follows:- He prefers corn ground that has been manured the year previous.

Strong manure, he said, makes diseased potatoes. After plowing and harrowing unmanured ground, he marks out the rows, four at a time. In these rows he drops single pieces of cut potatoes eighteen inches apart. A medium sized potato is enough for four hills, or about six bushels of seed to the acre. Large seed potatoes give about one-fourth more product at harvest than small ones. Small potatoes have about as many eyes as large ones, but the sprouts from those eyes are not as large or vigorous.

The potatoes are covered about two inches deep. The potato vegetates slowly, and usually weeds start before the potatoes. When the potatoes have sprouted so as generally to show themselves above the ground, a hoeing machine is introduced, which covers the potatoes some two inches deeper and destroys the weeds like a plow. Subsequently the notatoes are hoed twice and receive no further care till digging. The common yield is about 200 bushels per acre. He digs with a hook, and from 30 to 60 bushels per day to a man. Davis' Seedlings are his favorites.

#### Packing Butter in Firkins.

In answer to an inquiry, a correspondent of the Country Gentleman thus details his method of packing butter in firkins, a mode for which he claims the merit of success:

I. In the first place, you ask in regard to churning. We use dog power, in warm weather about 53 deg. Fah., which gives the butter a good solid consistency.

2. When the butter comes, it is removed and washed with cold ice water until the buttermilk is all removed.

3. It is then salted—about one ounce of salt to a pound of butter-worked in thoroughly, and set in a cool place for twenty-four hours, when it is worked just sufficient to remove all the buttermilk.

4. It is then packed in the firkin and covered tight, so as to exclude the air.

5. When the firkin is filled, we put a cloth over the butter, put on a good covering of salt, and then put on water, which makes a brine. We keep it thus covered until it goes to market, it being the only way we could ever keep a dairy perfectly sweet through the season.

These rules strictly observed, I will warrant never to fail, if the butter is properly made.

We use good white oak firkins. The manner of preparing them before putting in the butter-fill them with cold water to soak four days; a handful of salt thrown in will make them better. When we get ready to put the butter in the firkin, we rub the inside all over thoroughly with salt, which forms a brine between the firkin and butter.

All the salt used about butter in any form should be good dairy salt, as there is more or less lime in other salt, which renders it unfit for butter.

Good soft water is also essential, as hard, limy water is very objectionable.

### Inquiries and Answers.

Removing the Scent from Skins.—Seeing the Rueal is possessed of all knowledge, I would suggest an inquiry in regard to the manner in which musk can be removed from the skin of the musk rat. As I have been fortunate enough in capturing several of the varmints, and wishing to convert the plans into a muffler, and not liking so strong a perfumery, I would like to know how it can be removed.—J. J. Knight, Townsendville, Seneca Co., N. Y., 1882.

CATHERING LEAVES FOR MANURE .- Very heartily do endorse the RURAL'S advice to gather leaves from the woods and put them in the barn-yard for manure, (I have done so for years past,) but cannot agree with you to haul them on a wagon. I use a sled with wood rack, and haul when there is about one inch of snow and ground frozen hard. The leaves can then be taken up in large flakes with a manure fork. I have alone hauled four large loads and done my chores in day. The leaves were raked into piles and winrows soon after they fell from the trees, while damp. If left till winter, they are apt to scatter to the four winds.—Alonzo Green, Amboy,

BARN-YARD MANURE FOR WIRE WORMS.—In answer to the query, I will say one word in regard to manuring corn in the hill for the benefit of those farmers troubled with the Wire Worm in many parts of our country. I found the past season that common barn-yard manure in the hill would prevent the Wire Worm destroying the corn. I left two rows in the field unmanured to ascertain the result in growth, and upon the second time hoeing, there was more than one-half difference in the growth. I commenced pulling it up to examine the roots, and found them nearly destroyed by the worms, while that by its side, which had the manure, was uninjured.—A Subscriber, Huron, Wayne Co., N. Y., 1862.

YELLOW BUTTER IN WINTER. - Seeing an inquiry in the RUBAL in regard to making yellow butter in the winter, I will give our method, which experience has taught us to be best we have tried, and at the same time very simple. Our butter cannot be distinguished from fall butter. Of course the first requisite is that the cows have good, wholesome food, water and care. When the milk is brought in, we have ready a kettl with hot water, over which set the pans of milk to heat. fill the pan, when we set it on, full. When it is nearly hot not scalding, we pour it in with another cold one, which will make it all warm enough, then divide the milk into pans leaving them about two-thirdsfull. Our pantry, or milk-room we keep warm enough for cream to rise all day. When we churn, scald the churn, then turn in the cream, churn ten or fifteen minutes, and the butter is done. We put nothing into the cream, only treat the butter after it is done as in summe We churn twice each week .- D., Hannibal, N. Y., 1861.

### Rural Notes and Items.

OUR ACKNOWLEDGMENTS are due and gratefully tendered to the numerous friends of the RURAL NEW-YORKER for the very successful efforts they are making in its behalf - to maintain and augment its circulation in their respective localities, and add to its value and interest by appropriate contributions to its pages. We had expected much from agent-friends and subscribers, but our anticipations relative to the opening of the new year have been more than realized, the subscription receipts and orders for the first week far exceeding our estimates. What happened at the RURAL Office on New Year Day, is thus chronicled by the Daily Union and Advertiser, a journal which somehow manages to give all local and other

events of importance!

Pleasant and Profitable New Year Calls.—Many of our citizens, and especially his honor the Mayor, were favored with numerous pleasant calls yesterday, receiving therewith the usual congratulations of the season. But our friend Moore, of the Rural New-Yorker, was the most popular and fortunate recipient of New Year greetings, for he received about two hundred calls before noon. These consisted mainly of remittances for the Rural Trom almost every loyal State and the Canadas. The "calls," though on paper, were very pleasant, the opening one (or first one opened,) from Lewis county, N. Y., containing a draft for \$100; and numerous others, as we were informed by a credible witness, were exceedingly interesting. While the greetings from various parts of this and the Western States were very cordial, those from New England and Canada were not as cold as their climate, Canada having concluded not to fight just yet, and New England being compelled to send to Western New York for the best rural and family newspaper. The cash receipts and orders aggregated nearly three thousand dollars, we learn—a very good beginning for the new year, and about a thousand more than neighbor M had estimated. If the Rural is not the most popular paper in town, it certainly is "round about," as the calls aforenamed, and which are continued today, abundantly testify. And we are not surprised at Moore's reply to a leading politician, who, on meeting him in the street (a year or more ago.), said he understood he (M.) was a candidate for Mayor. "No, sir, I have no aspirations for that position; but there is one office I want and intend to have." "Why, what is that?" nervously asked the politician. "The Rural New-Yorker Office," said he, pointing to the Union Buildings, much to the relief of his friend. Judging from its receipts, even in war times, we reckon M. has the best position.

CANADA WEST COMING !- For some weeks letters and remit ances for the RURAL from Canada West were few and light, compared with last season, and we anticipated that the excitement relative to war between the U. S. and Great Britain might possibly cause some thousands of firm friends to secede " from our subscription list - which would prove far more serious than the loss we sustained by the Southern Rebellion. Quite a number who had obtained handsome lists, wrote us despondingly, fearing to remit the money collected, and stating that many desirous of taking the paper were waiting for the war cloud to pass away. But our receipts during the past ten days indicate that the excitement is mainly over-that the people of Canada are prosperous and peaceful, and inclined to maintain amicable relations. The numerous friendly invitations extended the RURAL to visit their families are most gratifying, and we shall endeavor to "reciprocate" the kindness to the best of our ability. As evidence of the feelings entertained, and kind spirit manifested by Canadians, we quote the conclusion of a letter from a gentleman residing in Ontario Co., who remits for some thirty copies: - "I should have sent sooner, but noticing the warlike spirit which seemed to be manifested between Great Britain and the United States, I was fearful lest it would be of no use. Trusting, however, that these two nations may long work together, hand in hand, for the civilization and improvement of mankind, and that our Land and Country, as well as your own, may be freed and kept free from that worst of all calamities, 'War,' I remain, truly yours."

AGRICULTURAL TRANSACTIONS — New York and Illinois.—An evening's examination of the "Transactions of the N. Y. State Ag. Society, with an Abstract of the Proceedings of the County Societies," (Volume XX, for 1880,) has given us a most favorable impression as to the value and arrangement of its contents. We think no preceding volume has been so well edited, or contained (even when more space has been occupied,) such a variety and amount of interesting and useful information as is comprised in the 868 pages of the present. Were the printing and paper (which are both faulty, and embrace a decided variety of quality and shades of color,) equal to the general manner and matter of the volume, the whole would hear high commendation. \*Col. JOHNSON, the veteran Secretary, is certainly entitled to much credit for the admirable manner in which he has discharged the onerous labor of editing and arranging the work. We shall recur to the volume again, and make extracts from its pages.

- We are also in receipt of the "Transactions of the Illinois State Ag. Society, with Notices and Proceedings of County Societies, and Kindred Associations - Edited by JOHN P. REYNOLDS, Corresponding Secretary: Volume IV-1859-60." It is a handsome volume of over 700 pages, printed on uniform white paper (of a quality superior to that above noticed.) and appropriately illustrated. Of the contents we shall speak in future—after examination. From a cursory glance, however, we infer that the volume is in all respects creditable to the Society and State.

AN AGRICULTURAL MISSIONARY.—The Journal d' Agriculture Pratique says the Agricultural Society of Flemish, Prussia, has created a professorship to carry healthy ideas concerning agriculture into the villages. The German professor is to commence his operations by making himself acquainted not only with public functionaries, but also with practical farmers. He is to gather information on every subject in connection with the details of farming, and with regard to the different races of animals in the various departments. This agricultural missionary is also charged by the Society to get up clubs, schools, etc., etc., and to embody the results of his bservations in a clear and concise manner in a daily journal.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER IN GREAT BRITIAN .- For years the RURAL has had many appreciative readers in England, Scotland, and Ireland - principally persons to whom it was ordered by friends in the United States and Canada. Of late, and especially during the two past weeks, quite a number of copies have been thus ordered, with assurances that the paper is highly valued by those who have received it in various parts of Europe. Accompanying one order is a request to send our Show-Bill, &c., to facilitate the forming of a club. We cheerfully comply, without, however, expecting so favorable a result as our correspondent anticipates.

WHAT THE UNION ARMY CONSUMES .- It is stated that to feed the 600,000 troops now in the Union army, there is required each month 14,625,000 pounds of pork, or 24,375,000 pounds of fresh beef; 136,994 barrels of flour; 48,750 bushels of beans, or 1.050,000 pounds of rice; 1.950,000 pounds of coffee; 2,892,000 pounds of sugar; 195,000 gallons of vinegar; 12,449 bushels of salt; 8,580,000 pounds of potatoes. The supply of candles is 292,500 pounds each week, and of soap, 780,000 pounds.

GOOD ADVICE. TO FARMERS .- In a recent address to California farmers, Rev. T. STARR KING pithily and wisely said:— 'Farmers must crop less lavishly, and the Agricultural Societies must preach—as the indispensable gospel of economysmaller farms, more labor on them, and reverence for manure." Such advice is worth heeding in other States and Provinces beside California.

IN Prower Appoin A company don Mark Lane Express says:-"The Americans have driven our plow-makers out of the Australian, Indian, and Colonial markets, owing to their lighter and cheaper articles. Unless our makers bestir themselves here, by using steal instead of heavy castings, they will be likely to be 'beaten on their own ground."

MANUAL OF AGRICULTURE, for the School, the Farm, and the Fireside. Boston: Swan, Brewer & Tileston—1862.

An excellent work for this object is of very difficult execution. Very many attempts of even fine talents and acquirements have proved nearly a failure. The reason is very obvious to many a cultivated mind, which has shrunk from the trial. It is not because there is not the required amount of accessible knowledge, or that such a work is not greatly demanded, or that it will not accomplish immense go is because the selection requires peculiar tact and judgment, as well as thorough acquaintance with the most urgent intellectual wants of the young in "the School, the Farm, and the Fireside," and an interesting manner of presenting the topics to minds in all these three relations. The author that is thus qualified will live over his educational days again, and realize what he needed and longed for, but could not obtain in any book, and putting himself in the condition of the student pour out his treasures of knowledge for the younger mind in the way which would once have been a high gratification to him. If this is true, it will be easier to form a correct estimate of such a work, when executed, than to make the book itself. On this ground we take our stand, and say that this "Manual of Agriculture" has great excellencies, if not perfection. From the character and teachings of GBORGE B. EMERSON, the author of about half the book, this excellence we had expected, and are not disappointed. To enter into details is not necessary for this notice. Read the preface, and take in the fundamental facts, which shadow forth the subject and the execution. Then read, as you will with high pleasure, the following chapters, not neglecting in the least the introduction, and become a young chemist; then follow the teachings on the air and the gases in it; the atmosphere and the forces acting in it, and the instruments to show changes in it; water, and all its operations, and uses, and composition; and, to say no more, you will not stop there.

From the fourteenth chapter, except the twenty-first, the work is from another pen, that of CHARLES L. FLINT. The high position and writings of Mr. FLINT do not of course prove his qualification for such a work, but they lead us to expect it. The reader will not be disappointed, but gratified by the facts and the manner of exhibiting them. A great amount of knowledge, on the composition and structure of plants, on their growth and nutriment, and the important elements for their perfection, processes in farming, diseases and enemies of plants, products of the farm and dairy, and economy of household and farm, is presented with clearness, conciseness, and good taste; matter all important to the farming interest, and valuable to every one that intends to have any education beyond that of the most common school. The work must find a place in the schools over our State and

country. Only let the teacher have a tithe of the knowledge and tact properly expected to belong to him, the work will be invaluable as a text-book for a large class of pupils. There will be such a pleasure and profit that the question, we fear, will be, Why is there not more? We answer, first, make the best use and application of what is already given .- D.

### HORTICULTURAL.

PUBLIC GROUNDS.

THAT there has been great progress in every department of horticulture during the ten years past, the appearance of our orchards, and gardens, and fruit, and vegetable markets bear ample testimony. The demand at our nurseries for fine fruits and flowering plants has increased with unexampled rapidity; and our seedsmen find a ready sale for the choicest seeds of Annuals and Perennials, which are now being imported from Europe in large quantities. People are becoming acquainted with the really. good, and will be satisfied with nothing short of the best that can be produced.

In one respect, however, we are still much as fault. Our public parks, wherever we go, with a few exceptions, are a standing disgrace. Almost every city and village, of any size, has one or more parks, established to promote the health and pleasure of the inhabitants and the beauty of the town—to make it pleasant for the citizens and attractive to strangers. Now, we ask our readers, if one park in a thousand answers the purpose for which it was designed? With the exception of a few in our largest cities, instead of being a credit to the places where they exist, they are but "waste places"-an eye-sore to every person of taste. No one need to be astonished at this result, when we consider how these parks are got up. On determining to establish a "square," the ground is either purchased by the corporation, or donated by some generous individual, who foolishly imagines it will be an ornament to the town. It is then plowed two or three inches deep, fenced, and a few of the forest trees most easily procured are put into holes in the ground, the man engaged in this work being very careful to put the right ends in the soil, and not to waste labor by making the holes too large. The the first summer, and more follow, the second. Others blow over, and stand at a very improper angle for well-disposed trees. Occasionally one stands up, seeming determined to outlive all difficulties; but, unfortunately, the fence, never good enough to keep out pigs, becomes broken, and the cattle get in and browse away at pleasure, always, of course, selecting a thrifty tree if they can find one. The boys, too, try their jack-knives on the bark, and engrave their names very nicely, considering their youth and inexperience. This is the public park, as generally seen - the ornamental grounds of your city or village, kind reader, we fear.

Now, what should be done with such a park? Have a competent person make a plan of the ground, with broad walks meandering in every direction. After the plan is made and examined carefully and corrected, so that you are perfectly satisfied it is the best that could be designed for your grounds, then you are prepared for work. Dig up every dead, dying and unsightly tree, and trench the ground two feet deep with a spade, or, if large, subsoil as deeply as possible with the plow. Then, stake the walks according to the plan, and take the soil from them to the depth of about eighteen inches and use it in leveling off the surface and filling up any hollow places. Next, drag and rake the surface of the ground quite smooth, carrying all stones into the walks. Fill up the walks to within two or three inches of the surface with stones, pack them down level, and cover with fine gravel, which would be better for rolling occasionally, especially after showers. Border the walks with turf about six inches wide, and sow thickly Kentucky blue grass or red top and white Dutch clover. Plant tastefully with the finest shrubs and trees that will grow in the climate, taking especial care to obtain thrifty, well-formed trees - not being too anxious for those of large size. The work should be commenced as early as possible in the spring, though it would have been better had the grading been done the past summer, so that the planting could be accomplished early. After this is all done, place the park under the

duty to keep every thing about it in the neatest possible manner. Do this, and you will have a park of which you will have no reason to be ashameda delightful spot—a beautiful promenade, where hundreds will daily wend their steps as to enchanted ground. The stranger will stop a moment to admire, and the editor, on a flying trip, will make a note as he passes, and seek for no other evidence before transmitting it to the press that you are a people of taste and refinement. In many places a nurseryman or gardener can be found who, for a small compensation, will put the park in perfect order and keep it so. To him it will be a matter of pleasure and pride, as well as a standing advertisement of his care and good taste. We hope these hints will be heeded, and then we may anticipate with confidence a great improvement in our public grounds.

### THE PRIMULA FAMILY.

PRIMROSE, POLYANTHUS, COWSLIP, AND AURICULA

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:-These lovely domestic flowers, which, in the most northern countries of Europe, beautify the cottage homes of the humble, and shed their glowing colors when peeping from beneath the hawthorne hedges and in the fertile meadows of the opulent, combine so many natural beauties that they are always cherished, even by the aged, as the loved ones of early childhood. I have seen the hardy laboring mechanic burst into tears when viewing a bed of these flowers, exclaiming, "Do excuse me, for these were the flowers I played with at home in my childhood."

It is now more than thirty years since I began to make a collection of these classes of flowers. I intrusted their culture to gardeners, and they planted them, as is usual with other herbaceous plants, in the sunny borders. The result was, they gradually dwindled and died out, and although I made frequent importations and grew some from seeds, the same unfortunate result attended them all. At length, recalling to my mind that WM. PRINCE, my father, a very long time since, had a flourishing bed of Polyanthus plants in a northern border, where a high fence on the south side shut off the most of the sun's heat, I concluded to make an experiment in a similar way. I forthwith took the management of these plants on myself, and four years ago selected a bed in the most shady part of my garden, and caused all the plants to be removed to that spot. The transition acted like a charm—the plants threw out vigorous foliage and became greatly enlarged, and they have since produced a profusion of bloom that has been the amazement of the numerous ama-

induced me to increase the collection by importations and by seeds, and I have now above two hundred perfectly distinct varieties, combining every hue which nature renders it possible for these species to attain. By cultivating the plants in proximity, the Polyanthus, Cowslip and Primrose varieties have hybridized with each other, and from their seeds I have obtained above thirty varieties, in which the characters of the different families are completely blended—a result which, I believe, has not been attained in Europe.

The common practice in many gardens in Europe, and among the few amateurs here, of cultivating these plants in pots, as if they were tender, is an outrage upon nature. To treat them with tenderness, and even with winter protection, when growing in beds, is destructive to the plants. They must be treated in the most rustic manner, and, if the ground is frozen for months, not one plant will be injured thereby. I have seen them flourishing in open gardens at Montreal and Quebec. Indeed, when it is considered that the Auricula, and six other species of the Primula, are natives of Switzerland, that seven other species grow on the Pyrenees, and that five species are natives of Liberia, and others of Britain, Norway and Sweden, we may well be surprised that pot culture should have ever been adopted for any plants of these hardy Alpine races, whose successful culture only demands that we leave them to take care of themselves.

Flushing, January, 1862.

WE are much obliged to Mr. PRINCE for the above, on a subject upon which we had intended to say a few words. On the north side of a Norway Spruce screen at the nurseries of ELLWANGER & BARRY is a border of these flowers, entirely unprotected, and their fine growth and beautiful blossoms have been to us a source of interest and pleasure the past summer. The Primrose, the Cowslip, and the Auricula are associated with our earliest recollections of the flower garden, and it affords us great pleasure to park is now finished. Half of the trees die during know that they can be grown here as hardy border

#### WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

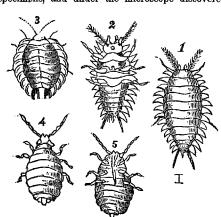
#### LETTUCE FOR WINTER MARKETS

Do you know how to get it? The writer has seen it grown in green-houses in the border under the plant stagings. But then it was badly "drawn." The heads were long, but solid. The other day, in looking about among the gardeners, a German, named M. MILLER, asked us to go and see his lettuce. He led the way to what I had supposed was a green-house - a lean-to house between 40 and 50 feet long, and 12 or 14 feet wide. Here, in borders, elevated on stagings to within a foot and a half of the glass, were growing hundreds of heads of lettuce, much of it ready for market. A portion of space was devoted to radishes and lettuce for transplanting to the borders, from which the first crop will soon be removed. This first crop is from plants transplanted from the garden. The novelty hereaway - and I am told by gardeners that it is new to them - consists in elevating the borders so as to secure stocky, symmetrical plants. This house has a brick flue in it, and has no front side-light.

A preliminary experiment last year proved profitable not only in the good prices secured for vegetables in mid-winter, but because the little house used enabled the gardener to propagate thousands of plants for transplanting to the hot-beds, at the same time that the neighboring gardeners were sowing seed in their hot-beds. Thus Mr. MILLER is first in the market, and he is secure against the disasters which occur to those who depend upon hotbeds alone. This kind of winter gardening is found very profitable indeed. Lettuce heads sell at sixty-two and a half to seventy-five cents per dozen; and radishes at proportional high rates. The quantity grown under this area of glass is large. The number of heads growing in this house the 15th of December, as estimated after partial count, could not have been less than four thousand - perhaps five thousand. Call it 4,000—and the capacity of the house is much greater especial charge of one man—and one more noted than that—and suppose that the minimum price as a man of taste than as a politician. Make it his given is obtained for the first crop, the proceeds will be over \$200. And we say nothing about the crop of rhubarb being forced in the lower border under the central staging, and the thousands of plants ready to take the place of the first crop, and go into the hundreds of square feet covered by sash outside. The reader may be sure that if it were not very remunerative, the parties who practice this mode of supplying winter salad would quickly abandon it.

### DESTRUCTIVE INSECTS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER: -- On Monday, December 2, 1861, J. B. GARBER, Esq., residing near Columbia, Lancaster Co., who is quite an amateur in cultivating rare plants, brought me the leaf of a species of guava. (Spidium aromaticum, as I judge it to be,) along the mid rib of which were a number of cottony patches caused by insects, and complaining of the mischief occasioned in his hot-house by them on various plants. I accordingly removed several specimens, and under the microscope discovered



1. Upper side. 2. Under side. 3. Dorthesia cataphracta 4, Upper; 5, Under side of the root parasite. I, Natural size.

them to be peculiar and quite new to me. Fig 1 is an upper side view, and Fig. 2 an under side view. These insects are clothed with a white waxen secretion, scale-like. The scollops around the outer margin of the ovate body induces me to judge they are closely related to the genus Dorthesia. Fig. 3 is copied from Westwood's Fig. of D. cataphracta (female.) The males are more elongated and narrowing toward the rear. I saw no winged specimens.

These are among the most injurious insects of small size that annoy the horticulturist and arboriculturist, and are too well known to many gardeners. The females by degrees assume the appearance of galls or scales; whence they are termed scale

is propagated, which happens usually in the month of July.

It is not my purpose to enter at length upon a description of this extensive family, the Cocci, but simply to illustrate this species, and call attention to it. I am not aware that it ever was described or | than half a day. In 1859, these trees began to bear figured, and in connection will state the curious fact | fruit, yielding twenty bushels, which was sold for that, on Monday, the 2d of December, I secured seve- fifty-five dollars, after paying expenses. In 1860, ral specimens each between separate pieces of glass, gummed air tight, on a piece of card having a circular hole cut in it.

What appears singular is, that while writing this, (the 10th day of December,) the insect is still alive and moving in its narrow abode, between the slips of glass, being the 9th day since its confinement. How long it may continue to live, I shall see. Ny entomological friend, Mr. S. S. RATHVON, and others, saw it move above last evening, and others to-day. This goes to prove how which pays a better profit upon the investment tenacious their life is. Without air, moisture, or Only about one-half of my trees have yet borne nourishment, it seems as active at this moment as it was nine days ago when taken from the leaf and | Plums the past season. Of course, the production caged up.

Mr. RATHVON also brought me a species of Aphis infesting the roots of the cotton plant. Fig. 4, upper Fig. 5, under side, magnified greatly. The scales are covered with a waxer secretion, in flakes of a white color. Antennæ apparently 5-6-jointed, suctorial apparatus rather long, with a dark colored tip; no horns or honey tubes on the body; in appearance much in character with the Temphigus Pyri, only that it does not eject the curled threads in the manner witnessed in specimens of that kind. The in patches in the chinks of the bark, both on the stem and root of trees, &c.

Mr. HARRIS speaks of some plant lice that live in the ground and derive their nourishment from the roots of plants; found on pulling up China Asters. which seemed to be perishing from no visible cause. He says, "whether these are of the same species as the Aphis radicum of Europe," he could not ascertain, as no sufficient description of the latter had ever come to his notice. Nor do I know whether those figures are the same as those noticed by Mr. HARRIS. I simply give the fact without attempting to give names, or declare them as new genera or J. STAUFFER. species.

#### THE NEW FRENCH ROSES.

Scores of new roses are sent out by the French every year. Some of them, perhaps one in a dozen, prove valuable, and in a few years become popular, and their names are as familian as "household words"-like Giant of Battles, La Reine, Caroline de Sansal, &c .- but the remainder are forgotten after a few years. A correspondent of the London Florist, who has made a sojourn among the rosegrowers of the continent, names about sixty new varieties that are to be sent out this winter and next spring as candidates for public favor. He says:

"I thought that the best service I could render

during my recent visit to France, was to obtain such information upon the subject of the forthcoming roses as might gratify my own curiosity, and be somewhat of a guide to them. I have made the best use of my eyes and ears that I could; have visited Margottin, Verdier, Marest, Touvais, Troulliard, Portemer, &c.; have obtained lists of the new varieties, and, in fact, done my best to get together some information on the point, and the conclusion that I have come to is, that we are not to expect any very striking addition to our lists this season. There are some which promise well, but when I say that there are, I verily believe, nearly a hundred new ones to come out, it will be seen how difficult is the task of selection, especially as one feels that under the most favorable circumstances not one-tenth of these will be retained in our lists; in such a case one must rely more on the known characters of the venders than on anything else. Men like Margottin and Marest will not wilfully deceive; they may be mistaken, but they regret it as much as the public when it is so. There was one matter in the cultivation of roses, which I heard from Troulliard, of Angers, which struck me forcibly as one likely to be of service to us, and that is to graft low on stocks of the Dog Rose raised from seeds. However excellent the Manetti may be for strong, vigorous growing kinds, I think no one can say that it is equally good. especially on strong soils, for the more delicate constitutioned kinds; for they, not having power to receive the sap, are soon overpowered, the stock begins to throw up suckers, and the rose languishes and dies; while stocks of the Dog Rose taken from the hedges, are, on the other hand, generally so defective in root, that they answer badly for that purpose, but by sowing seed of the Dog Rose you obtain nice healthy stocks, with abundance of fibrous roots, not too vigorous in character, and giving a fine healthy start to the rose, and is also more permanent than it is likely to be on the Manetti; it is, at any rate, worthy of the consideration of rose growers, and I am not aware that it has yet been tried in England.

### CULTIVATION OF PLUMS FOR MARKET.

WE have often called the attention of our readers to the importance of cultivating the Plum as a market fruit, particularly in districts where the peach cannot be grown, or is uncertain. This subject is beginning to attract the attention of practical men. The following we find in the Horticulturist, written by JAMES M. BARRET, of Canterbury, N. Y.:

So much has been said and written of late upon the Grape question, that I begin to fear that we may forget that other fruits can be successfully raised. I therefore propose to give you my experience in raising Plums, in which I have made a profitable experiment, willing that my fellow readers of the Horticulturist may go and do likewise, if they believe the Yankee maxim, that some things may be done as well as others, and that one man can do what another has done, if he tries.

In 1856. I set out with care what remained of seven or eight hundred Plum trees, which had been stuck out by contract two years before, and up to that time had refused to thrive. This transplanting revived them, and from that period I date the beginning of my experiment, which, including the present season, makes six years that they have been under treatment. The ground between the Plum trees has been regularly plowed and cultivated for the Raspberry crop, the product of which has paid all expenses, including \$50 per year ground-rent, for two acres and a quarter, and a profit besides. In 1859, I spread under each tree half a peck of common salt.

The black knot upon these Plum trees has appeared regularly every year, and has been cut out clean to teurs who have visited my grounds. This success | insects — being there fixed as a dead scale, covering | the healthy wood in the month of June, say within | some annuals, other perennials.

their eggs until a new broad of their minute offspring a fortnight after its first appearance, and while the excrescence was still soft. It is then easily removed without injury to the tree, the wound generally healing over the same season. For the last three vears this disease has decreased yearly. The past season I removed the whole from 640 trees in less the crop was nine bushels and one peck, which brought three dollars a bushel. In 1861, I gathered and marketed seventy-two bushels, for which received five dollars and twenty cents a bushel after paying expenses. The total receipts for the three years amount to four hundred and forty-eight dollars and seventy-five cents, after paying all expenses, and amounts to about three times the original outlay, including cost of trees, labor of setting, and transplanting. I know of no business fruit. Many of them produced from six to twenty may be expected to increase for many years.

The variety cultivated by me is the free-stone frost Plum, which is the most prolific. The clingstone is much the finest variety, holds good on the tree two or three weeks later, and brings a higher price in market.

The secret of my success may be summed up as follows:

1. By selecting varieties that are but little troubled by curculio, and that are marketed without damage to the fruit; these, being used for preserves, are latter are also of a brownish-yellow color, and found | gathered before they become soft and mellow enough to eat; consequently, they are not injured by transportation to market, and are sure to bring a good price.

2. By careful planting in ground previously prepared and mellowed, and kept so by yearly working.

3. By the use of salt as a manure. 4. By an unsparing use of the knife upon the black knot in the month of June of each year, instead of waiting until fall or the next spring, or perhaps neglecting it altogether.

In former years the Plum crop of this country was a source of profit to almost every farmer, but the curculio has attacked and destroyed the finer varieties of fruit, and the black knot made such havoc among the blue Plum trees as to discourage its culture. May we not hope to see this fruit again generally cultivated for market purposes?

### Horticultural Aotes.

THE PRACE ORCHARD.—This is the singular name of a new paper printed at Brunson Harbor, Michigan, two numbers of which we have received. It is printed in one of the finest fruit regions in the world, and the name, though strange, is appropriate. The editor says :- "On the North, East, and South of us, at intervals for miles, may be seen the fruit orchards for which this vicinity is so famous, which alone yield fortunes annually. By this, we do not desire it to be inferred that the territory immediately contiguous to this, and in the directions indicated, comprises all the celebrated fruit orchards of this region. South and Southeast of St Joseph-which lies but one mile from this place-may be seen some of the finest orchards in the country."

PROPAGATING PLANTS BY CUTTINGS .- We have recently read an explanation of an idea of Mr. Beaton that must be of ervice to amateurs who wish to propagate in a small way,and the principle may be applied by those who are not satisfied with less than wholesale practices. We have made the fol-



A common flower-pot (say four-inch) is taken, and prepared with drainage and saud for the cuttings in the usual way. This is set in another four-inch pot, which we have shown halves, and will only go down about three-fo way, resting on the lower one, as shown in a a. When being set in, putty or cement of any kind is set around at the junction a a, which will make the passage air-tight. This double not is then set in a saucer of water, so that the water shall only reach to the bottom of the upper pot. A section of the saucer only is given to show the water-line. The advantage of this plan is that when the pot is exposed to the sun, it becomes warm vanor is generated, and circulates around the inside pot, which makes as perfect a warm water tank on a small scale as one can have. On this plan, water will seldom or never be required on the sand,—all being applied to the saucer below The cuttings, unless very delicate indeed, will not require any bell-glass over them to check evaporation, which glass, after all, is useful in any case only at the expense of rapid growth,

### Inquiries and Answers.

THE ACONITUM AND LUPIN.—What is the name of the common Aconite, growing in some gardens—a pretty blue flower; and where can plants or seeds be obtained? Is it the Aconite used in medicine, and is the plant poisonous? Can the pretty blue Lupin of our hills be transplanted to our gardens? If so, is it not worthy of cultivation?—AMATEUR FLORIST.

The Aconite, or Monkshood, is a well-known handsom perennial plant, usually found in every good collection of perennials. There are several species, some white and yellow, but the best have dark blue flowers, which grow in long



spikes, as shown in the small engraving. The common variety referred to by our correspondent is A. napellus, and although a very beautiful, is a very poisonous plant, and extensively used in medicine, especially by homeopathic physicians. A. tenuifolium is a very fine variety. Plants can be obtained of nurserymen and florists, and seeds of our seedsmen. The common Lupin of our sandy hills is Lupinus perennis. It is difficult to transplant, and does not succeed well in common garden soil. There are a good many species and varieties

# Domestic Economy.

PLAIN FOOD.-AN INQUIRY.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:-What a pity it is that people will study, and invent so many "superb" and indigestible dishes of food, especially where flour is the principal constituent! Why are we not content to eat our grains, fruits, and meats, in a simpler and more wholesome manner, thereby saving a vast amount of labor and skill for better purposes, as well as preserving our health, and thus being able to do more good? Why not serve our meats, boiled or roasted, or broiled, in a plain, substantial manner-properly cooked, without extraordinary seasoning of spices, peppers, greases, &c., and so on? And our vegetables the same?

But this is idle talk to those who will cook and eat their rich cakes, preserves, pies, meats,—who know positively that nothing that people love can ever hurt them, and never do hurt them, though they are groaning with disease from head to foot, never seeming to remember, or to know, that our food is, of course, our blood and life, and should be selected and prepared with reference to life, and not solely to gratify the whims of a depraved appetite. Well, you who will, must eat your knick-knacks, and abide the consequences, but I am fully persuaded that coarse bread is most wholesome and delicious, and those who live on fine, white flour, deny themselves a great and simple luxury. Brown, or Graham flour, makes the sweetest unleavened bread I have ever tasted. However, I have often heard that the old-fashioned rye and Indian bread is excellent, and as some of my family wish to test it, will not some one skilled in the art give a recipe in the RURAL? Also, if it can be baked in a common stove oven, or in a brick oven, or bakekettle? I have a fire-place, and could get a kettle if it is necessary. L----p.

#### TOMATO CATSUP.

My DEAR RURAL:-- I was in Baltimore the other day, stopping with a friend, and partook very freely of the Catsup mentioned below. I liked it so well that I thought it should be upon every body's table, and Mrs.R. very kindly furnished me the following recipe, which I hope you will publish in the RURAL,-P.

MRS. RHODES' GREEN TOMATO CATSUP. - Take one peck of green tomatoes, and one dozen large white onions, slice them thin, and to a layer of them sprinkle a small quantity of salt, until all used up; weigh them and let them remain twenty-four hours, then drain them well from the brine. Weigh a quarter of a pound of mustard seed, an ounce of allspice, an ounce of cloves, an ounce ground mustard, an ounce of ground ginger, two tablespoonfuls of black pepper, two teaspoonfuls of celery seed, and a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and mix the spices all well together. Take your preserving kettle, and to a layer of the tomatoes and onions sprinkle a layer of your spices, adding to each layer one dessert spoonful of sweet oil. Cover them with vinegar, and let them boil slowly until they are done. For the above quantity two hours will be sufficiently long to cook them.

EXTRA LEMON PIE.—Three eggs, one good sized. cup of water, one a half cups of sugar, (cups, common size,) ten small crackers, rolled fine, one lemon, the yellow peel grated off. The peel underneath this is not to be used, but use the yellow, also the juice and inside, the latter cut fine. Separate the yolks from the whites, and give the former a thorough beating, to which add the water. Mix the above ingredients together, and bake about an hour, the same as custard or pumpkin. Beat the whites to a light froth, and add eight teaspoonfuls of white sugar, giving it another beating, to get the sugar well mixed. When the pie is done, take it from the oven, and spread the preparation over it, then put it in the oven again, and let it brown a little. Be sure and have the pie done before you add the preparation. If you go according to this recipe, you will have an excellent pic.—CHARLES E. AUSTIN, Norway, N. Y., 1861.

DESTROYING CRICKETS AND BEETLES.—I will tell you how I got rid of hundreds, by means of a common white glazed jar, about nine or ten inches high, put in the place they infest, with a slice or two of cucumber in it, and one live cricket as a decoy. They will hop in, and strange to say, have not the power to hop out. When the jar is one-third full of insects, have it filled with boiling water. I got rid of them by this simple method.

Black Beetles may be destroyed in the same way; but the jar should be rough outside, so that the insects can creep up. With a jar of this kind, glazed with white inside, we have seen a great quantity destroyed, without any bait or decoy; the beetles, from curiosity, or some other motive, creep in, but cannot creep out again.

Boiled Indian Pudding.—Take sweet milk of sufficient quantity for the pudding desired, salt to the taste, and stir in Indian meal till a little milk will rise on the top by standing. If too thick it will be hard. Fill a pudding crock and tie a cloth tightly over it. Put into boiling water sufficient to keep it covered and boil steadily three hours. Fruit may be added if desired. Serve with sweetened cream. This is an old-fashioned Connecticut pudding, such as my mother always used, and it dispenses with that unhealthy article, saleratus. It is excellent.-MRS. L. H. HIGBY, Piffard, N. Y., 1861.

Snow RICE CREAM. - Put in a stew-pan four ounces of ground rice, two ounces of sugar, a few drops of the essence of almonds, or any other essence you choose, with two ounces of fresh butter; add a quart of milk, boil from fifteen to twenty minutes, till it forms a smooth substance, though not too thick; then pour into a mold previously oiled, and serve when cold. It will turn out like jelly. If no mold, put either in cups or a pie-dish. The rice had better be done a little too much than not enough.— Ohio

GOOD BLACKING.—Boil three pints of beer with 2 oz. ivory black. As it boils, put in a dessert spoonful of sweet oil, 2 oz. brown sugar, and boil quietly till reduced to a quart.

GOOD BOOT BLACKING FOR POLISHING. - Will some Rural reader please tell us how to make it. P., Niagara, N. Y., 1862.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

Poor Biscuit.-Ladies, if you would avoid the mortification of having poor biscuit for tea, when you have company, use only D. B. DE LAND & Co.'s Chemical Saleratus. It will produce the same happy result everytime, so that you may know what to depend upon. You can get it of any respects ble dealer in the country.



# Padies' Department.

THE OLD COUPLE.

Ir stands in a sunny meadow, The house so mossy and brown, With its cumbrous old stone chimneys, And the gray roof sloping down.

The trees fold their green arms round it, The trees, a century old; And the winds go chanting through them, And the sunbeams drop their gold.

The cowslips spring in the marshes, And the roses bloom on the hill; And beside the brook in the pastures The herds go feeding at will.

The children have gone and left them; They sit in the sun alone! And the old wife's ears are failing. As she harks to the well known tone

That won her heart in her girlhood, That has soothed her in many a care, And praises her now for the brightness Her old face used to wear.

She thinks again of her bridal -How, dressed in her robe of white. She stood by her gay young lover In the morning's rosy light.

Oh, the morning is rosy as ever, But the rose from her cheek has fled: And the sunshine still is golden, But it falls on a silvered head

And the girlhood dreams, once vanished Come back in her winter time, Till her feeble pulses tremble With the thrill of spring-time's prime

And looking forth from the window, She thinks how the trees have grown Since, clad in her bridal whiteness, She crossed the old door-stone.

Though dimmed her eye's bright azure, And dimmed her hair's young gold; The love in her girlhood plighted Has never grown dim nor old.

They sat in peace in the sunshine, Till the day was almost done; And then, at its close, an angel Stole over the threshold-stone.

He folded their hands together -He touched their eyelids with balm; And their last breath floated upward, Like the close of a solemn psalm.

Like a bridal pair they traversed . The unseen mystic road That leads to the beautiful city, "Whose builder and maker is God."

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] COMPOSITION FOR FEMALES. - No. II.

Composition is not only a source of pleasure by increasing our conversational powers, but is a means within itself. How sweet to give form and expression to a cherished thought, one that had been stored away in the recesses of the heart as peculiar to ourselves; to see it stand out before us, clothed in beautiful and appropriate language, to go forth among unknown but kindred spirits and make an echo here, touch a chord of harmony there, until souls shall bless us to all eternity for having uttered beholds the perfection of his ideal in the chiseled marble. There it is, in all its beauty, that which he had never seen before, only dreamed of. It is no longer a fancy but a beautiful reality, a tangible creation. How does he rise in the scale of being, for it is his own, the work of his hand, and he exclaims "O! God, how great art Thou, for Thou hast

Thence we are led to see the desirableness of perfection in composition, for in proportion as the effort is imperfectly performed, it fails in force and effect. The least discord in a soul-stirring melody robs music of half its power, and to the practical writer, a trivial defect in the choice of language, or in the construction of a sentence, detracts wonderfully from the pleasure of its perusal. All are not calle upon to write for the public print, but enough opportunities arise in daily life to employ all the skill one may acquire in this direction. To be able to pen with precision, elegance, and effect, the many transactions of business, etiquette and friendship that come within the sphere of every one, requires no little practice in composing. Not one young lady in ten, who considers herself accomplished, moving perhaps among the "upper ten," can write a letter to her friend without some breach of grammatical and rhetorical rules, or inelegance of expression. She cannot express her mind fully and concisely upon any subject, hence many opportunities of correspondence are passed by that would have been fraught with the means of improvement, and epistolary writing is seldom what it should be

The choice of a subject is commonly the first difficulty that presents itself. But my dear Miss, whoever you may be, with all the great and glorious world about you, material and immaterial, celestial and terrestrial,- with that miniature world within, of hopes and fears, joys and sorrows,-have you nothing to write? An immortal being, and formed in the likeness of Divinity, one of those who are "created only a little lower than the angels," and nothing to say? A part of the one great heart of humanity that "like muffled drum is beating funeral marches to the grave," and you feel the great swelling throbs of anguish pressing here against your own, and there the quick joyous beats of gladness, while ever and anon the warm blood of youth courses faster on in azure veins by the chilly and sluggish stream that lengthens out the old man's three score and ten years' lease of life, and yet you have no word of consolation, or joy, or instruction, or comfort, to give. You live in a fallen world of sin, and have no voice of warning or entreaty to raise, that some might be turned from the error of their ways. Awake! Be up and doing. Take the first subject you think of, and with it ideas will commonly suggest themselves, forming a sort of nucleus, or ground-work, for the rhetorical edifice. Then decide upon the manner of treating the subject, which must depend in a great measure upon its nature, - the pupil, however, choosing that style most congenial or characteristic; observation authorizing us to identify the character of a person with that of his writings. Next, make out, as it were, a map or chart of the theme, separating it into appropriate heads or divisions. The pupil can always succeed best in this way, and seldom in any other. No piece of labor can be properly performed without a definite plan and its separate parts, and so in composition; or the foundation of the theme may find a place at the end and its expansion at the

for having system, each division being a subject in itself, referring each idea to its proper place. It is not always necessary or best that the heads of divisions should be obvious to any but the mind of the writer. The different parts may be blended together, one merging gracefully into another, the primary analysis serving only as a guide. These divisions will occur to most minds readily, though some care may be necessary at first in detecting them. Persons not much accustomed to thought may fail in securing first ideas in connection with any subject, and thus be unable to make the choice of one. Such should sit down and go to thinking, and hail the advent of an idea, assured that others will follow in its train, and you will soon have a collection that will astonish your indolent brain. Then designate it by any name you please, and rearranging it, throw out all those sentences foreign to the subject, add to it, analyze it, correct it, throw it away if it suggests a better; do what you will with it; you have something to begin with, something capable of improvement, something that says "try again," and you have achieved a great success.

But time is requisite to the success of the author. FANNY FERN seldom wrote any thing she could not complete at one sititng, which accounts for the superficial and perishable character of her effusions. In the full development of her perceptive faculties, she obtained a deep insight into human nature, but for want of time failed to show the reader more than the surface. Never be discouraged because unable to coin your heart-thoughts as rapidly as desirable. Many of the most celebrated authors have often been satisfied with composing two or three lines a day, measuring their progress not by the amount but the value of the matter. As a general thing we shall observe that the most voluminous and consequently the most rapid writers are not those whose works have been most immortalized. The same person cannot at all times write with equal execution. The mind is so intimately connected with the body in all its functions, that with the disability of one, there is a corresponding effect upon the other. Various causes operate to quicken the intellect and render vivid the imagination, as we write almost with an inspiration, astonished at our own powers. There are other times when it seems almost impossible to collect or concentrate thought. Washington Irving was subject to such extreme moods. Never lay down the pen thinking, "I can write better another time," but presevere, and a train of thought will soon present itself, for in no other way can command over our intellect be obtained.

After selecting a subject and preparing its divisions, it is well not to complete it at once, opportunity for reflection being necessary to insure correct ideas, and many valuable ones that would otherwise be lost. Many a beautiful effusion has gone from its birth-place over the wash tub to grace the most sumptuous parlors of our land. There are few who are able to write without cessation for a length of time, other duties claiming a larger share of attention, which so far from being a detriment to success as we are apt to suppose, is highly beneficial. Half the discipline to be derived from the exercise of composition is lost if we do not acquire the power of taking up the thread of discourse where we laid it down, not interrupted, but rather strengthened by intermission.

Every sentence should be carefully weighed as to what they could never express. We look upon such its clearness, perspicuity and unity, its mode of conan embodiment of thought much as the sculptor struction and grammatical propriety. A habit of always speaking correctly is the best way to insure ease in writing, and experience is the best school, with "Perseverantia vincit omnia" for its motto. JANE E. HIGBY.

### A WORD TO YOUNG LADIES.

Do not dismiss your habits of study when you cease to attend school. That crisis is often a hazardous one in the history of a young lady. If she has gained distinction there, without a radical love of knowledge, her improvement ceases with the excitement that sustained it. If a latent fondness for expensive dress and fashionable amusements was cherished in her period of classical education, she will rush into them with eagernes her previous restraint. Satisfied with past honors, and believing that she "has already attained, and is already perfect," she slumbers at her post, and, in a few years, perceives those outstripping her whose talents she once held in contempt. Every young lady who, at leaving school, entertains a clear and comfortable conviction that she has finished her education, should recollect the reproof of the venerable Dr. Bush to a young physician, who spoke of the time when he finished his studies. " When you finished your studies! Why, you must be a happy man to have finished so young. I do not expect to finish mine as long as I live." There is an affecting lesson in the death of that philosopher, who, after it was supposed that breath had forsaken him, faintly raised his head to listen to some improving conversation that was conducted in his chamber, and even drew the curtain, saying, "I shall be most happy to die learning something."—Mrs. Sigourney.

### CULTIVATE GOOD LOOKS.

A sound moralist says:-"It is to be admitted that the grace of the human aspect may be in no small measure enhanced by bestowing a little pains upon it. You, youthful matron, when you took your little children to have their photographs taken, and when their nurse, in contemplation of that event, attired them in their most tasteful dresses, and arranged their hair in its prettiest curls, you know that the little things looked a great deal better than they do on common days. It is pure nonsense to say that when beauty is unadorned it is adorned the most. Sir Bulwer Lytton, in his earlier writings, was accustomed to maintain that just as it is a man's duty to cultivate his mental powers, so is it his duty to cultivate his bodily appearance. And, doubtless, all the gifts of nature are talents committed to us to be improved; they are things intrusted to us to make the best of. It may be difficult to fix the point at which the care of personal appearance in man or woman becomes excessive. It does so unquestionably when it engrosses the mind to the neglect of more important things. But I suppose that all reasonable people now believe that scrupulous attention to personal cleanliness, freshness, and neatness, is a Christian duty. The days are past almost everywhere in which piety was held associated with dirt."

CHARITY, rightly understood, is the brightest grace of womanhood; the most beautiful flower in a garden where nature has planted her loveliest; but is a flower which may soon degenerate into a weed if not carefully watched, and which needs intelligent beginning. More and better matter can be written | culture to prevent a rank or sickly growth.

# Choice Miscellang.

MIDNIGHT-DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST.

BY E. B. ENSIGN. Softly! Tis dying — The old year has flown ;

Its funeral tone. Softly! Tis passing -Angels rejoicing

Will welcome the blest

Time's bell is tolling

Gently! Tis going The spirit has fled : Hark! hear the anthon, " We mourn for the dead."

Quickly!

Tis coming ---Another is here : With hopes bright and cheering We greet the New Year.

North Ridgeway, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] BREVITIES.

Or what use to give your child a great man's name? Rather, give him a common name and let him make it great if he will.

THEY but add to our sorrow who endeavor to comfort and console us with the reflection that what has happened cannot be helped. That is precisely why we mourn; if it could be helped what need of tears? Instead of continued, fruitless grieving over what might be helped, we should dry our eyes, go to work, and help it.

HYPOCRITES feel more concern about the opinion their neighbors entertain of them than honest men do. The truthful can afford to be either understood or misunderstood, because they have, for comfort, a consciousness of their own right intentions; false men, lacking self-respect, feel the need of others' good opinion, and can ill afford to be known as they

THE biography of a person in whom we feel a deep interest, seldom satisfies us. We can hardly learn too many particulars of our heroes; the least word or act of theirs gratifies our curiosity to know; a thousand things that, related of an indifferent person, would appear trivial and tedious, have an indescribable charm when told of these whose genius and power have raised them above common mortals.

EIGHTEEN hundred years ago it was not the highest praise that could be spoken of a man to say "he had not an enemy." As the Christian world understands it, the best man that ever lived had the cruelest of enemies; and was not that sublime pagan, Socrates, compelled to drink poison?

A COMPARISON of portions (and those not inconsiderable,) of the discourses claiming to be from the brain of the Very Rev. - with those of some other divines, afford examples of most remarkable literary coincidences. Is it not possible that they are instances of what Swift calls "digressing from one's self?"

THE practice of making public pledges to do or to refrain from doing certain acts, while it is in a high degree beneficial to those, in general, who are deficient in ability to keep resolutions made to themselves, has, perhaps, the lisadvantage of tending to beget a feeling of self distrust in the naturally self-

May not our habit of lamenting and bewailing the woes of life and the difficulty of living be traced, in part, to the melancholy songs and stories with which we are entertained in childhood? If they who have the care of the young would take pains to place before them only cheerful views of existence, grown people might be happier.

Passage from an Ethical Discussion.—Subject: The comparative guilt of Lord and Lady MACRETH — O----- thought Lady M. was less guilty than her husband, because she died of grief; whereas, M. maintained a hard, stubborn disposition after the commission of the crime. But, there was good reason why Lady M., though she did not herself do the murder, should yet feel the guiltier of the two. She might well have thought the principal burden of the crime rested on her; for it needed all her hateful eloquence to spur on MACBETH to do the wicked deed: while, on the other hand, M., besides a consciousness of guilt and a feeling of remorse, might also have entertained a feeling of resentment toward Lady M. for the injury she had done him in over-persuading him to commit the dreadful wickedness he shrunk from. It is easy enough to understand how these two feelings, operating together, would rouse a spirit of defiance such as MAC ветн exhibits. If Lady M. saw herself as she appeared to others, she could not but sink under the load of crime resting on her head. We might say that MACBETH was as wicked as he could be, but that Lady M. was capable of greater wickedness than he, and also capable of suffering remorse in proportion to the magnitude of her guilt. For is it not more wicked to pursuade another to commit a wrong act than it is to do it ourselves, since in the former case there are two criminals, in the latter only one? South Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

Home.—It is not the house, though that may have its charms; nor the field, carefully tilled, and streaked with your own foot-paths; nor the trees, though their shadows be to you like that of a "great rock in a weary land;" nor yet is it the fireside, with its cozy comfort; nor the pictures, which tell of loved ones; nor the books; but more than all these, it is the presence! The altar of your confidence is there; and adorning it all, and sending your blood in passionate flow, is the ecstacy of the conviction that there, at least, you are beloved; that there you are understood; that there your errors will meet even with gentle forgiveness; that there you may unburden your soul, fearless of harsh, unsympathizing ears;

OUT-DOOR LIFE.—Just as that poetry is the freshest which the out-door life has the most nourished, so I believe that there is no surer sign of the rich vitality which finds its raciest joys in sources the most innocent, than the childlike taste for the same out-door life. Whether you take from fortune the palace or the cottage, add to your chambers a hall in the courts of Nature. Let the earth but give room to stand on; well, look up. Is it nothing to have for your roof-tree-Heaven?

and there you may be entirely and joyfully yourself.

[Written for Moore's Bural New-Yorker.] A SUNDAY IN CAMP.

[MR. MOORE:—A soldier friend having sent me a description of a Sabbath in Camp, I thought perhaps it might be perused by the readers of the RURAL with interest, and to this end end it.—A RURAL READER.]

THE well known blast of our regiment bugle sounded forth upon the still morning air, admonishing every soldier that it was time for him to bestir himself and enter upon the duties of the day.

The strains of the bugle have scarcely died away, when the "Orderly Sergeant" is heard going from tent to tent, with the same old request "Come, boys, roll call; and after visiting each tent to learn if any are sick and wish to be reported to the surgeon, he begins to call the names, and the boys begin to fall in line to answer to their respective names. It is comical to see them as they crawl out of their bunks, scarcely awake, and half dressed, having indulged in an extra nap, and consequently given themselves little time to respond to the call. Others are prompt in their places, glad of a chance to laugh at some unfortunate one who gets "pricked" for not being in line soon enough; and when the like occurs a certain number of times, they have to do extra duty.

After roll call they gather around the Sergeant to see the mail distributed. All are anxious to receive some news from home, or perchance, as the case may be, from some "fair one" in the far North; but, alas! the majority of them turn away with a look of disappointment, for the mail was unusually small this morning.

Then comes the hour for breakfast, and all rally for the cook-house with their tin cups for coffee; but while they are enjoying their morning repast, the bugle sounds for "dress parade"—and as duty calls louder than hunger to soldiers, they must leave their breakfast and buckle on cartridge-box, &c., and fall in immediately. The parade usually lasts about half an hour, and then the boys have a chance to finish their meal. At ten o'clock they are again summoned to appear in line with knapsacks, overcoats, and all their marching equipage on, for inspection of arms, consisting of a thorough inspection of gun, knapsack, cartridge-box, &c., which takes about three-fourths of an hour. After this all military duty is suspended for the day, and the boys have the time to themselves, which is (by many) occupied in writing letters, reading, singing, &c.

Usually, the Chaplain goes to each tent, and kindly invites them to attend service at 3 o'clock. "In front of my tent, I would be glad to see you all present to-day." Some give him encouragement that they will attend; others (but not until he is out of hearing,) say, "I don't want to go; I must finish this letter." One says this, and the other that; and while they are contending who must go, and who stay, they are again interrupted; but this time the interruption is quite agreeable; for the cry is "dinner is ready." Then the cook-house is again the center of attraction, and each one returns with a plate of pork and beans, (a common dish in camp.) As the rations are usually ample, they make out a good dinner, so good that they feel more like taking a nap than going to meeting.

The hour of three reminds them of the Chaplain's

kind invitation to attend service, and they begin to make remarks as to who shall go. One starts and says, "Come, Jim and FRED, you will go, won't you?" "Well, I ---, no, 1 guess not. Yes, I will; I'll go to-day." "So will I, if you do," says Jim, "Come, IKE, you go, too." "No, I'll stay and watch "And I'll help him," says Rossie. "Hark," tent." says one. "Oh, the brass band is going to play at meeting." And while they are speaking, the beautiful strains of "Old Hundred" greet the ear.

The congregation has gathered, and consists of from 65 to 70 noble-looking soldiers. The Chaplain offers up a fervent prayer for the spiritual wellfare of the soldiers, and the prosperity of our distracted country; then all unite in singing,

### "One there is above all others," &c.

aided by the band, after which their attention is called to a few thoughts founded upon that portion of Scripture, "How shall we escape if we neglect so salvation?" &c. The sermon is bri prehensive, and practical, - beautifully adapted to the circumstances of the soldier. Again, the Throne of Grace is supplicated, that Gon's blessing may attend the truth spoken to the good of those who hear, and they sing,

### "Show pity LORD, O LORD forgive," &c.,

and conclude with the Doxology, the band taking the lead. The Benediction is pronounced and the gathering is dispersed.

The time from this till dark is occupied in various ways. Some meet together in friendly groups and talk over home scenes and remembrances, and some are engaged in singing familiar hymns and patriotic songs, such as "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean," 'The Star-Spangled Banner," and "Dixie for the Union." It is evening; the twilight has been eclipsed by the darkness of night, but it only serves to make the bright camp fire look the more cheerful; for one has been made in front of the Chaplain's tent, where a goodly number of soldiers have assembled to enjoy a prayer and conferance meeting, as is their usual custom Sunday evening. The exercises are conducted as the spirit directs,

#### "While heaven comes down the soul to greet, And glory crowns the mercy seat."

Too soon they are compelled to close for the evening roll call; and when the final blast is sounded for "tattoo," lights are extinguished, and a solemn calm pervades the encampment. Thus ended a Sabbath in "Camp Clara."

RURAL LIFE.—I confess that, when I pass through rural town, and see the laborers among the corn, and the boys driving their cattle, and the girls busy in the dairies, and life passing away quietly, I cannot avoid a twinge of regret that it would be impossible for me to be content with the kind of life that I see around me, especially as I know that there is one kind of pleasure - negative, perhaps, rather than positive—which that kind of life enjoys, and in which I can never share. Relief from great responsibilities, and contentment with humble clothing, humble fare, humble society, humble aims and ambitions, humble means and humble labors-ah! how many weary, overloaded men-how many disappointed hearts-have sighed for such a boon, and sighed knowing they could never receive it.—Timothy Titcomb.

THE HUMAN VOICE. - The sweetest music is not in the oratorio, but in the human voice when it persuading voice is in tune with these.—Emerson. | for the righteous and the good."

# Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] HEAVENLY TREASURES.

LAY not up for yourselves treasures upon earth. - Matthew 6: 19, 20.

> Lay not up on earth your treasure, Where the moth and rust corrode, Earthly treasures all are fleeting, And can have no sure abode.

Thieves may rob thy well-filled coffer, Fruits of weary years of toil; Fire, and flood, and fraud, and sickness Avaricious hopes may spoil.

But in heaven lay up your treasure, Naught of that can ere be lost; By no blighting disappointment Is that way to wealth ere crossed. But 'tis not material riches

Which to treasure there we seek; No, a life to goodness given, And a spirit pure and meek

And the silent tears of pity For earth's sorrowing ones that fall, And each secret deed of kindness Unseen angels mark them all;

And to heaven the faithful record They with loving hearts will bear; These the riches we should covet, This our heavenly treasure fair.

Geneva, Wis., 1861. B. C. D.

> [Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WAITING TO DIE.

Does it not seem dreadful, when every hope is gone, and all that renders life pleasant and cheerful, for the aged man or woman to sit down, waiting to die? Some may deem the thought a strange one, but have seen many old people who, to all appearance at least, have finished their work "long ago," and they sit day after day patiently and calmly,some do, not all,—waiting for the grim messenger that calls but once, and the heart, however earthloving or weary, is stilled forever.

"I long to die," we hear the aged remark. "I have out-lived my usefulness; my children, that J loved and cherished in youth, need my love and care no longer; they have children to claim their time and affection. I am past labor and all that makes life desirable. I long to be free from the pains and infirmities of old age. "Long to be," says the Christian, "where the weary shall find rest."

But to the aged sinner, who looks back upon a long life crowded with evil acts and deeds, whose every aim and purpose has been selfishness, to the exclusion of all that is good and noble, to one who can recall no acts of kindness, no deeds of benevolence, who ever turned a deaf ear to the cry of the needy, or with a sanctimonious whine snarled out to the pleading voice of charity, "Stand aside, I am more righteous than thou,"-to such, when the spring-time of youth and the vigor of manhood have gone by, and old age sets his seal upon them, how wretched and fearful must be the thought—the stern reality - waiting to die! Not so to the aged Christian, who has taken the Book of Life as his guide and the man of his counsel, who has followed as closely as frail, erring mortals can, the holy and beautiful example of Him who went about doing good, to one whose influence is pure and unsullied, who has lived not wholly for himself but for the good of others,-to die is not dreadful,-it is joyful waiting the Father's time. It is but to lay aside the clay tenement that has grown old and burdensome with the cares and toils of a long pilgrimage for the spotless robes, "washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb."

Blessed thought! There is a Land where the eye never grows dim, nor the cheek pale, nor the brow furrowed, nor the firm step feeble, there is no waiting to die in Heaven. AGNES PATTERSON. Forestville, N. Y., 1862.

### THE AGED SERVING GOD.

MAY the old servants of God be dismissed from waiting on him? No; their attendance is still required, and shall be still accepted; they shall not be cast off by their Master in time of old age. Therefore, let not them desert his service. When, through the infirmities of age, they can no longer be working servants in God's family, yet they may be waiting servants. Those that, like Barzillai, are unfit for the entertainments of the courts of earthly princes, may yet relish the pleasures of God's courts as much as ever. The Levites, when they were past the age of fifty,

and were discharged from the toilsome part of their ministrations, yet still must wait on God, must be quietly waiting to give honor to him, and to receive comfort from him. Those that have done the will of God, and their well-doing is at an end, have need of patience to enable them to wait till they inherit the promise; and the nearer the happiness is which they are waiting for, the dearer should the God be they are waiting on, and hope shortly to be with eternally. -Matthew Henry.

PROMPTNESS IN DUTIES.—There is always a joy in duties performed, and promptness in the execution heightens that joy. To wait and look on a business we ought to do at once, enervates and disheartens; to arise and do it immediately, strengthens and enlarges the heart. Delay begets hesitancy and timidity; direct performance brings zeal and courage. That they wait upon the Lord renew their strength; but they that postpone till to-morrow present duties, are weaker for them to-morrow than o-day. Promptness in duties, then, gives greater strength for new duties. Enduring hardness as a good soldier in one campaign, qualifies the Christian or more manly feats in the next. We grow on food and exercise morally the same as we do physically. Christian fortitude helps develop that noble, full stature of character and life which the gospel enjoins - gives grace to discipleship, and energy and efficiency to the churches.—Morning Star.

DOES THE WORLD HATE PIETY?-In answer to this question, the celebrated Sydney Smith says:-"It is not true that the world hates piety. That modest and unobtrusive piety which fills the heart with humane charities, and makes a man gentle to others and severe to himself, is an object of universal love and veneration. But mankind hate the lust of power when it is vailed under the garb of piety; they hate cant and hypocrisy; they hate advertisers speaks from its instant life-tones of tenderness, and quacks in piety; they do not choose to be truth, or courage. The dratorio has lost its relation | insulted; they love to tear folly and impudence to the morning, to the sun, to the earth; but that from the altars which should only be a sanctuary

# Aseful, Scientific, &c.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] EYES AND GLASSES.

In a late RURAL, some variety of eyes and the glasses adapted to them, and even necessary for distinct vision, were mentioned. Of the two, shortsighted or long-sighted, children or young persons the latter are more likely not to get the strongly convex glasses they need for their benefit. Most of those who sell glasses do not understand the defect or the abnormal condition of their eyes, and hence they fear the convex glasses will prove injurious in the end. I have known the seller, in his good intentions, discourage their use by young persons. While children of fourteen years or a little older, are made by the glasses of their grandfather of seventy years to see perfectly well, I have never heard of an instance where they proved injurious in after years. Indeed, it cannot be shown on any reasonable ground that their use is at all dangerous. The good fact too is, that such eyes gradually become better or more like the normal, and hence they will need less convex glasses in after life, as old persons who had normal eyes need the more convex till they reach eighty years or more.

The immediate cause of those abnormal eyes is not as obvious. Some children are born nearsighted, and others long-sighted. In some cases the change has been the result of disease. I knew one girl at twelve years with normal eyes, who became long-sighted immediately after having the measles, and when at the head of a family she used glasses so convex that the seller declined to sell them to her, till she said, "I take the responsibility; for I cannot fear to use the glasses that show me the world in such beauty." Some persons have been made nearsighted by the study of Greek by lamp light, or by being employed on minute objects, as embroidering or very fine sewing; for, to magnify the object it is brought nearer the eye, till the eye is fixed in nearsightedness. It would seem that the muscles of the eye became habituated to continuing the lens of the eye to that short distance.

The eyes of the Albino belong to the long-sighted class, so far as I have seen them. While they have the usual globular form of the eye-ball, they require more convex glasses than are found in common spectacles, even such as have a focal distance of only two or three inches, though the man of seventy years uses those of focal distance from twelve to eighteen inches. The lens in the eye of the Albino must have too little convexity, too little refracting power, or too great distance from the retina on the back part of the eye, or some of these, in order to require such convexity in the glasses as that of two and a half inches. With this case I have been familiar, and rejoiced as I saw the benefit conferred upon such a one by this discovery. The Albino has a horizontal vibration of the eyes which no glass can remedy. This carries the letters back and forth, if he is reading, which he learns to correct, when necessary, by stopping the vibration by the slight pressure of the finger on the lid of the eye. In reading Greek, however, this vibratory motion so mixes the letters, that distinct vision is almost impossible. But he has learned what to do even in that case. By the vibrating motion, the letters seem to go backand forth; but by turning the page one quarter round and thus looking at it, the letters stand still. Thus he reads with ease. The page being white except the letters, the vibration of the spaces between the letters makes no difficulty, as the letters are and appear to be at rest. If the vibratory motion had been vertical, or up and down, the letters would not appear to run into each other from the distance of the lines, and the defect would be much diminished. Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 31, 1861.

An Extensive Library.—There was once in a certain part of India such a voluminous library that a thousand camels were requisite for its transport, and a hundred Brahmins had to be paid for the care. The king felt no inclination to wade through all this heap of learning himself, and ordered his well-fed librarians to furnish him an extract for his private use. They set to work, and in about twenty years' time produced a nice little encyclopedia, which might have been easily carried by thirty camels. But the monarch found it still too large, and had not even patience enough to read the preface. The indefatigable Brahmins began, therefore, afresh, and reduced the thirty cargoes into so small a substance that a single ass marched away with it in comfort; but the kingly dislike for reading had increased with age, and his servants wrote at last on a palm leaf, "The quintessence of all science consists in the little word Perhaps! Three expressions contain the history of mankind: they were born, they suffered, and they died. Love only what is good, and practice what you love. Believe only what is true, but do not mention all that which you believe."

THE TRUE THING.—The end of all learning is to make us wise. Wisdom is not a one-sided, but comprehensive culture of heart and mind, soul and body. The end of wisdom is use. If it does no good it is not wisdom, but something else. Wisdom comes from a good natural understanding, enriched by the dressing of large and wise thoughts, Good books there be, which nourish the mind, as food does the body. In morbid states the stomach may be consumed by the precise activity of the very secretions and chemical agents which give it power. This may serve to intimate to us that the mind. without its fit nutriment and proper digestion, by which it should act, and obey its natural law, may consume itself away. Get wisdom by thought, by observation, by reading, by action.

MELODEON.- We venture to say there are few words in the English language, of only eight letters, the letters composing which can be made to spell correctly so many words as the letters composing

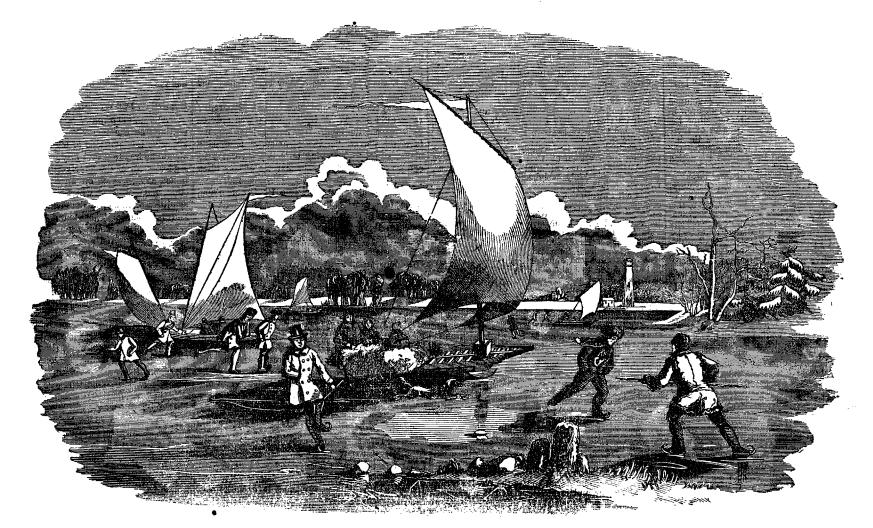
ielodeon:					
me, men, melon, mole, mode, model, toon, mend	lo, lone, lee, led, lend, lemon, loom,	do; doe, don, done, dole, demon, dome, em, doom,	on, one, old, olden, ode, omen, odeon; mood,	no, nod, none, need, eel, eden, edom, end.	

Those having leisure may add several other words

not here given.

DON'T READ WITH TIRED EYES. - The momen the eyes feel tired, the very moment you are conscious of an effort to read or sew, lay aside the book or needle, and take a walk for an hour, or employ yourself in some active exercise not requiring the close use of the eves.

To prevent fatiguing them, rest them frequently for half a minute or so, while reading or sewing, or looking at small objects, by looking at things at a distance or up to the sky.



WINTER SCENE --- SKATING AND ICE BOATING ON TORONTO BAY.

upon the Bay of Toronto, Canada West, where the demonstrable on the same principle of the resolution sports of the skater are united with excursions of the of forces, as the sailing of a ship. It consists simply ice-boat. These are infinitely preferable to coasting, of planks nailed together, upon the bottom of which inasmuch as there is no Cissiphus-like toiling up hill skates or pieces of thin iron are fastened. A mast for the purpose of riding down again. The ice-boat is then erected in the fore part, and large sails

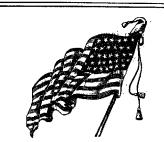
THE illustration above represents a winter scene | teeth of the wind as a sloop, and its motions are | by means of which the ice-boat may be turned with | thick buffalo skins, the ladies and gentlemen find the utmost certainty and rapidity. The velocity happy amusement. It is a beautiful sight to see wind, exceeds belief. It would be a match for an express locomotive, running at its highest speed, to overtake them, at times. Seats are arranged on the small birds which are frequently seen hovering in can be propelled on any tack and as nearly into the attached. An oar is stuck out behind for a rudder, ice-boats, and there, covered comfortably up with the wake of a falcon.

other's tracks on the wide bay, each of them attended by a knot of skaters, reminding one of the troops of

with which these boats are sometimes driven by the twenty of these boats, crossing and re-crossing each

# Aural Aew-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



"LIGHT of our firmament, guide of our Nation, Pride of her children, and honored afar, Let the wide beams of thy full constellatio Scatter each cloud that would darken a star! Up with our banner bright, Sprinkled with starry light, Spread its fair emblems from mountain to shore. While through the sounding sky Loud rings the Nation's cry-Union and Liberty! one evermore!'

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 11, 1862

### THE WAR'S PROGRESS.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

The Mason and Slidell Seizure.

In our last issue we gave the opening correspondence on the part of England and our own Government relative to the seizure of Mason and Slidell. We now give the reply of Secretary Seward, which was followed by the release of the Rebel Embassadors. After a brief review of the instructions to Lord Lyons, Mr. Seward remarks:

The British government has rightly conjectured, what it is now my duty to state, that Capt. Wilkes, in conceiving and executing the proceedings in question, acted upon his own suggestion of duty, without any direction, or instruction, or even foreknowledge of it, on the part of this government. No directions had been given to him, or any other naval officer, to arrest the four persons named, or any of them, on the Trent, or any other British vessel, or on any other neutral vessel, at the place where it occurred or

The British government will justly infer from these facts, that the United States not only have had these facts, that the United States not only have had no purpose, but even no thought, of forcing into discussion the question which has arisen, or any other which could affect in any way the sensibilities of the British nation. It is true that a round shot was fired by the San Jacinto from her pivot gun when the Trent was distantly approaching. But as the facts have been reported to this government, the shot was nevertheless intentionally fired in a direction so obviously divergent from the course of the Trent as to be quite as harmless as a blank shot, while it should be reparded as a signal. be regarded as a signal.

So also we learn that the Trent was not approach

ing the San Jancinto slowly when the shell was fired across her bows, but on the contrary, the Trent was, or seemed to be, moving under a full head of steam,

as if with a purpose to pass the San Jacinto.

We are informed, also, that the boarding officer (Lieutenant Fairfax,) did not board the Trent with a large armed guard, but he left his marines in his boat when he entered the Trent. He stated his instructions from Capt. Wilkes to search for the four persons armed in a respectful and courteous though persons named, in a respectful and courteous, though decided manner, and he asked the captain of the Trent to show his passenger list, which was refused. The lieutenant, as we are informed, did not employ The lieutenant, as we are informed, did not employ absolute force in transferring the passengers, but he used just so much as was necessary to satisfy the parties concerned that refusal or resistance would be unavailing.

So also, we are informed that the Captain of the Trent was not at any time, or in any way, required to go on board the San Jacinto.

These modifications of the case as presented by Commander Williams are based upon our official

Commander Williams are based upon our official

Thave now to remind your Lordship of some facts which, doubtless, were omitted by Earl Russell, with the very proper and becoming motive of allowing them to be brought into the case on the part of the United States, in the way most satisfactory to this

government.
These facts are, that, at the time the transaction occurred, an insurrection was existing in the United States, which this government was engaged in suppressing by the employment of land and naval forces; that, in regard to this domestic strice, the United States considered Great Britain as a friendly power, while she had assumed for herself the attitude of a neutral; and that Spain was considered in the

same light, and had assumed the same attitude as Great Britain.

It had been settled by correspondence that the United States and Great Britain mutually recognized as applicable to this local strife these two articles of the declaration made by the Jongress of Paris in 1856, namely:—That the neutra or friendly flag should cover enemy's goods, not contraband of war, and that neutral goods, not contraband of war, and that neutral goods, not contraband of war, are not liable to capture under an nemy's flag. These exceptions of contraband from avor were a negative acceptance by the parties of he rule hitherto everywhere recognized as a partof the law of nations, that whatever is contraband isliable to capture and confiscation in all cases. Janes M. Mason and — McFarlane are citizens of the United States and residents of Virginia. John Slidel and George Eustis are citizens of the United States and residents of Louisiana. It was well known at Havana when these parties embarked on the Trent, that James M. Mason was proceeding to England in the affected character of a Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James, under a prefenied commission from Jefferson Davis, who has assumed to be President of the insurrectionary party in the United States, and McFarlane was going with him in a like unreal character of Secretary of Legation to the pretended mission. John Slidell, in similar circumstances, was going to Paris as a pretended Minister to the Emperor of the French, and George Eustis was chosen Secretary of Legation for that simulated mission.

The fact that these persons had assumed such characters has been since avowed by the same Jefferson Davis in a pretended message to an unlawful and insurrectionary Congress. It was, as we think, rightly presumed that these Ministers bore pretended credentials and instructions, and such papers are, in the law, known as dispatches. We are informed by our consul at Paris that these dispatches, having escaped the seach of the Trent, were actually conveyed and delivered to the emissaries of the insurrection in England. Although it is not essential, yet it is proper to state, as I do also upon information and belief, that the owner and agent and all the officers of the Trent, including the commander, Williams, had knowledge of the assumed characters and purposes of the persons before named, when they embarked on that vessel. The fact that these persons had assumed such

Your Lordship will now perceive that the case be fore us, instead of presenting a merely flagrant act of violence on the part of Capt. Wilkes, as might well be inferred from the incomplete statement of it that went up to the British government, was undertaken as a simple, legal, customary and belligerent proceeding by Captain Wilkes, to arrest and capture a neutral vessel engaged in carrying contraband of war for the use and benefit of the insurgents.

The question before us is, whether this proceeding was authorized by and conducted according to the law of nations. It involves the following inquiries:

1st. Were the persons named, and their supposed dispatches, contraband of war?

2d. Might Captain Wilkes lawfully stop and

earch the Trent for these contraband persons and 3d. Did he exercise that right in a lawful and

proper manner?

4th. Having found the contraband persons on board and in presumed possession of the contraband dispatches, had he a right to capture the persons? 5th. Did he exercise that right of capture in the nanner allowed and recognized by the law of

If all these inquiries shall be resolved upon in the affirmative, the British government will have no claim for reparation.

I address myself to the first inquiry, namely:

Were the four persons mentioned, and their sup-cosed dispatches, contraband? Maritime law so generally deals, as its professors say,

Martime law so generally deals, as its professors say, in rem, that is with property, and so seldom with persons, that it seems a straining of the term contraband to apply it to them. But persons as well as property may become contraband, since the word means, broadly, "contrary to proclamation, prohibited, illegal, unlawful." All writers and judges propositions may be a military nersons in the service pronounce naval or military persons in the service the of enemy, contraband. Vattel says, war allows us to cut off from an enemy his all resources and to hinder him from sending ministers to solicit assistance, and Sir William Scott says, "You may stop the Embassador of your enemy on his passage." Dispatches are not less clearly contraband, and the bearers or couriers who undertake to carry them fall

under the same condemnation.

A subtlety might be raised whether pretended ministers of an usurping power, not recognized as legal by either the belligerent or the neutral, could held to be contraband. But it would disappea on being subjected to what is the true test in all cases, namely, the spirit of the law. Sir William Scott, speaking of civil magistrates who were arrested and detained as contraband, says:

"It appears to me on principle to be but reason able that when it is of sufficient importance to the enemy that such persons should be sent out on the public servise at the public expense, it should afford equal ground of forfeiture against the vessel that may be let out for a purpose so intimately connected with the hostile operations."

same light, and had assumed the same attitude as had a right, by the law of nations, to detain and the safety or the existence of a nation, depend on the Great Britain.

search the Trent.

The Trent, though she carried mails, was a contract or merchant vessel, a common carrier for hire.

Maritime laws know only three classes of vessels—vessels of war, revenue vessels, and merchant vessels. The Trent falls within the latter class. Whatever disputes have existed concerning a right of visitation or search in time of peace, none, it is supposed, has existed in modern times about the right of a belligerent in time of war to capture contraband in neutral and even friendly merchant vessels, and of the right of visitation and search to determine whether they are neutral and are decumented as of the right of visitation and search to determine whether they are neutral and are documented as such according to the law of nations. I assume in the present case, what, as I read the British authorities, is regarded by Great Britain herself as true maritime law, that the circumstance that the Trent was proceeding from a neutral port to another neutral port does not modify the rights of the belligerent captor. ent captor. The third question is whether Captain Wilkes ex-

ercised the right of search in a lawful and proper manner. If any doubt hung over this point, as the case was presented in the statement of it adepted by the British government, I think it must have already passed away before the modifications of that statement which I have already submitted.

ment which I have already submitted.

I proceed to the fourth inquiry, namely: Having found the suspected contraband of war on board the Trent, had Capt. Wilkes a right to capture the same?

Such a capture is the chief, if not the only, recognized object of the permitted visitation and search. The principle of the law is, that the belligerent exposed to danger may prevent the contraband persons or things from applying themselves, or being applied, to the hostile uses or purposes designed. The law is so very liberal in this respect, that when contraband is found on a neutral vessel, not only is the contraband forfeited, but the vessel, which is the vehicle of its passage or transportation, being tainted, also becomes contraband, and is subjected to capture and confiscation.

and connection.

Only the fifth question remains, namely: Did
Capt Wilkes exercise the right of capturing the contraband in conformity with the law of nations?

It is just here that the difficulties of the case begin. What is the manner which the law of nations prewhat is the manner which the law of nations pre-scribes for disposing of the contraband when you have found and seized it, on board of the neutral vessel? The answer would be easily found if the question were, What shall you do with the contra-band vessel? You must take or send her into a convenient port and subject her to a judicial prose-cution there in Admiralty, which will try and decide the question of beligerency, neutrality, contraband cution there in Admiraty, which will try and decide the question of belligerency, neutrality, contraband and capture. So again you will promptly find the same answer if the question were, What is the man-ner of proceeding prescribed by the law of nations in regard to the contraband if it be property, or things of material or populary value?

things of material or pecuniary value?

But the question here concerns the mode of procedure in regard, not to the vessel that was carrying the contraband, nor yet to the contraband things which worked the forfeiture of the vessel, but to contraband persons.

ontrapand persons.

The books of law are dumb. Yet the question is simportant as it is difficult. First, the belligerent as important as it is difficult. First, the belligerent captor has a right to prevent the contraband, officer, soldier, sailor, minister, messenger, or courier, from proceeding in his unlawful voyage, and reaching the destined scene of his injurious service. But, on the other hand, the person captured may be innocent, that is, he may not be contraband. He therefore has a right to a fair trial of the accusation against him. The neutral State that has taken him under its flag, is bound to protect him if he is not contraband, and is therefore entitled to be satisfied upon that important question. The faith of that State is pledged to his safety, if innocent, as its justice is pledged to his surrender, if he is really contraband. Here are conflicting claims involving personal liberty, life, honor, and duty. Here are conflicting national claims involving welfare, safety, honor, and empire. They require a tribunal and a trial. The captors and captured are equals, the neutral and the belligerent State are equals.

While the law authorities were found silent, it was

uggested at an early day by this government that you should take the captured persons into a conyou should take the captured persons into a conversion to try the controversy. But only Courts of Admiralty have jurisdiction in maritime cases, and these courts have formulas to try only claims to contraband chattels, but none to try claims concerning band chattels, but none to try clams concerning contraband persons. The courts can entertain no proceedings and render no judgment in favor or against the alleged contraband men. It was replied, all this is true; but you can reach in these courts a decision which will have the moral weight of a judicial one. By a circuitous proceeding convey the suspected men, together with the suspected vessel, into port, and try there the question whether the vessel is contraband. You can prove it to be so by proving the suspected men to be contraband, and the court must then determine the vessel to be contraband. If the men are not contraband, the vessel traband. If the men are not contraband, the vessel will escape condemnation. Still there is no judg-ment for or against the captured persons. But it was ment for or against the captured persons. But it was assumed that there would result from the determination of the court concerning the vessel a legal cer-tainty concerning the character of the men. This with the hostile operations."

I trust that I have shown that the four persons who were taken from the Trent by Captain Wilkes, and their dispatches, were contraband of war.

The second inquiry is, whether Captain Wilkes with the proper place of the main paramount public one, and possibly it may make the fortunes,

the safety or the existence of a nation, depend on the accident of a merely personal and pecuniary litigation.

Moreover, when the judgment of the Prize Court upon the lawfulness of the capture of the vessels is rendered, it really concludes nothing, and binds neither the belligerent State nor the neutral upon the great question of the disposition to be made of the captured contraband persons. That question is still to be really determined, if at all, by diplomatic arrangement or by war.

One may well express his surprise when told that

arrangement or by war.

One may well express his surprise when told that the law of nations has furnished no more reasonable, practical, and perfect mode than this of determining questions of such grave import between sovereign powers. The regret we may feel on the occasion is nevertheless modified by the reflection that the difficulty is not altogether anomalous. Similar and equal deficiencies are found in every system of municipal law, especially in the system which exists in the greater portions of Great Britain and the United States. The title to personal property can hardly ever be resolved by a court without resorting to the fiction that the claimant has lost, and the possessor has found it; and the title to real estate is disputed by real litigants under the names of lisputed by real litigants under the names of

imaginary persons.

It must be confessed, however, that while all aggrieved nations demand, and all impartial ones concede, the need of some form of judicial process concede, the need of some form of judicial process in determining the character of contraband persons, no other form than the illogical and circuitous one thus described exists, nor has any other yet been suggested. Practically, therefore, the choice is between that judicial remedy, or no judicial remedy whatever. If there be no judicial remedy, the result is that the question must be determined by the captor himself on the deck of the prize vessel. Very grave objections are against such a course. The captor is armed, the neutral is unarmed. The captor is interested, prejudiced, and perhaps violent; the neutral, if truly neutral, is disinterested, subdued and helpless. The tribunal is irresponsible, while its judgment is carried into instant execution. The and helpiess. The tribunal is irresponsible, while its judgment is carried into instant execution. The captured party is compelled to submit, though bound by no legal, moral, or treaty obligation to acquiesce. Reparation is distant and problematical, and depends at last on the justice, magnanimity, or weakness of the State in whose behalf and by whose authority the State in whose behalf and by whose authority the capture was made. Out of these disputes reprisals and wars necessarily arise, and these are so frequent and destructive that it may well be doubted whether this form of remedy is not a greater social evil than all that could follow, if the belligerent right of search were universally renounced and abolished forever.

But carry the case one step further. What if the State that has made the capture unreasonably refuse to hear the complaint of the neutral or to redress it? In that case, the very act of capture would be an act of war, of war begun without notice, and possi-

In that case, the very act of capture would be an act of war, of war begun without notice, and possibly entirely without provocation. I think all unprejudiced minds will agree that, imperfect as the existing judicial remedy may be supposed to be, it would be, as a general practice, better to follow it than to adopt the summary one of leaving the decision with the captor, and relying upon diplomatic debates to review his decision. Practically, it is a question of choice between law, with its imperfections and delays, and war, with its evils and desolutions.

olations.

Nor is it even to be forgotten that neutrality, Nor is it even to be forgotten that neutrality, honestly and justly preserved, is always the harbinger of peace, and is therefore the common interest of nations, which is only saying that it is the interest of humanity itself. At the same time it is not to be denied that it may sometimes happen that the judicial remedy will become impossible—as by the shipment of the price vessel, or other circumstances. shipment of the prize vessel, or other circumstances which excuse the captor from sending or taking her into port for confiscation. In such a case the right of the captor to the custody of the captured persons, and to dispose of them, if they are really contraband, so as to defeat their unlawful purposes, cannot reasonably be denied reasonably be denied.

What rule shall be applied in such a case? Clearly the captain ought to be required to show that the failure of the judicial remedy results from circumstances beyond his control, and without his fault. Otherwise he would be allowed to derive advantage

from a wrongful act of his own. from a wrongful act of his own.

In the present case, Captain Wilkes, after capturing the contraband persons and making prize of the Trent in what seems to us a perfectly lawful manner, instead of sending her into port, released her from the capture, and permitted her to proceed with her whole cargo, upon her voyage. He thus effectually prevented the judicial examination which might otherwise have occurred. If, now, the capture of the contraband persons and the capture of the contraband versel are to be regarded, not as two separable or distinct transactions under the law of persons. ble or distinct transactions under the law of nations. but as one transaction, one capture only, then it follows that the capture in this case was left unfinished, or was abandoned. Whether the United States have a right to retain the chief public benefits of it, namely, the custody of the captured persons, on proving them to be contraband, will depend upon on proving them to be contraband, will depend upon the preliminary question whether the leaving of the transaction unfinished was necessary, or whether it was unnecessary, and, therefore, voluntary. If it was necessary, Great Britain, as we suppose, must-of course waive the defect, and the consequent failure of the judicial remedy. On the other hand it is not seen how the United States can insist upon her waiver of that judicial remedy, if the defect of the

capture resulted from an act of Captain Wilkes, which would be a fault on their own side.

Capt. Wilkes has presented to this government his reasons for releasing the Trent.

"I forbore to seize her," he says, "in consequence of my being so reduced in officers and crew, and the derangement it would cause innocent persons, there being a large number of passengers who would have been nut to great loss and inconvenience as well as

being a large number of passengers who would have been put to great loss and inconvenience as well as disappointment from the interruption it would have caused them in not being able to join the steamer from St. Thomas to Europe. I therefore concluded to sacrifice the interests of my officers and crew in the prize, and suffered her to proceed, after the detention necessary to effect the transfer of those commissioners, considering I had obtained the im-portant end I had in view, and which affected the interests of our country, and interrupted the action interests of our country, and interrupted the action of that of the Confederates."

I shall consider first how these reasons ought to

I shall consider first how these reasons ought to affect the action of this government, and secondly, how they ought to be expected to affect the action of Great Britain. The reasons are satisfactory to this government so far as Captain Wilkes is concerned. It could not desire that the San Jacinto, her officers and crew, should be exposed to danger and loss by weakening their number to detach a prize crew to and crew, should be exposed to danger and loss by weakening their number to detach a prize crew to go on board the Trent. Still less could it disavow the humane motive of preventing inconveniences, losses, and perhaps disasters, to the several hundred innocent passengers found on board the prize vessel. Nor could this government perceive any ground for questioning the fact that these reasons, though apparently incongruous, did operate in the mind of Captain Wilkes and determined him to release the Trent. Human actions generally proceed upon mingled and sometimes conflicting motives. He measured the sacrifices which this decision would cost.

It manifestly, however, did not occur to him that the manifestry, however, did not occur to him that beyond the sacrifice of the private interest (as he calls them) of his officers and crew, there might also possibly be a sacrifice even of the chief and public object of his capture, namely, the right of his government to the ensirely and disposition of the captured persons. This government cannot censure him for this oversight. It confesses that the whole

him for this oversight. It confesses that the whole subject came unforseen upon the government as doubtless it did upon him. Its present convictions on the point in question are the result of deliberate examination and deduction now made, and not of any impressions previously formed.

Nevertheless, the question now is not whether Captain Wilkes is justified in what he did, but what is the present view of the government as to the effect of what he has done? Assuming now, for argument's sake only, that the release of the Trent, if voluntary, involved a waiver of the claim of the government to hold the captured persons, the United States could, in that case, have no hesitation in saying that the act which has thus already been approved by the government, must be allowed to draw its legal consequences after it. It is of the very nature of a gift, or a charity, that the giver cannot, after the exercise of his benevolence is past, recall or modify its benefits.

is of the very nature of a gift, or a charity, that the giver cannot, after the exercise of his benevolence is past, recall or modify its benefits.

We are thus brought directly to the question whether we are entitled to regard the release of the Trent as involuntary, or whether we are obliged to consider that it was voluntary. Clearly, the release would have been involuntary had it been made solely upon the first ground assigned for it by Capt. Wilkes, namely, a want of a sufficient force to send the prize vessel into port for adjudication. It is not the duty of a captor to hazard his own vessel in order to secure a judicial examination to the captured party. No large prize crew, however, is legally necessary; for it is the duty of the captured party to acquiesce and go willingly before the tribunal to whose jurisdiction it appeals. If the captured party indicates or proposes to employ means of resistance which the captor cannot with probable safety to himself overcome, he may properly leave the vessel to go forward, and neither she nor the State she represents can ever afterwards justly object that the captor deprived her of the judicial remedy to which she was entitled. But the second reason assigned by Capt. Wilkes, as he explains himself, acted from combined sentiments of prudence and generosity, so that the release of the prize vessel was not strictly necessary or involuntary.

Secondly—How ought we to expect these explants

necessary or involuntary.

Secondly — How ought we to expect these explanations by Captain Wilkes of his own reasons for leaving the capture incomplete to affect the action of the British government. The observation upon this point which first occurs is, that Captain Wilkes' explanations were not made to the authorities of the captured vessel. If made known to them, they might have approved and taken the release upon the condition of waiving a judicial investigation of the whole transaction, or they might have refused to accept the release upon that condition. But the case is one not with them, but with the British government. If we claim that Great Britain ought not to insist that a judicial trial has been lost because we vountarily released the offending vessel out of we vountarily released the offending vessel out of consideration for her innocent passengers, I do not see how she is to be found to acquiesce in the decision which was thus made by us without necessity on our part and without knowledge of conditions or consent on her own.

The cupstion between Creat Pritain and assessing the contract of the contra

The question between Great Britain and ourselves, thus stated, would be a question not of right and of law, but of favor to be conceded by her to us in return for favors shown by us to her, of the value of which favors on both sides we ourselves shall be the judge. Of course the United States could have no thought of raising such a question in any case. judge. Of course the United States could thought of raising such a question in any case.

I trust I have shown, to the satisfaction of the

British government, by a very simple and natural statement of the facts and analysis of the law applistatement of the facts and analysis of the law applicable to them, that this government has neither meditated ner practised, nor approved any deliberate wrong in the transaction to which they have called its attention; and, on the contrary, that what has happened has been simply an inadvertency, consisting in a departure by the naval officer, free from any wrongful motive, from a rule uncertainly established, and probably by the several parties concerned either imperfectly understood or entirely unknown. For this error the British government has a right to expect the same reparation that we as an independent State should expect from Great Britain, or from any other friendly nation, in a similar case.

I have not been unaware that in examining this I have not been unaware that in examining and question, I have fallen into an argument for what seems to be the British side of it against my own country. But I am relieved from all embarrassment on that subject. I had hardly fallen into that line of argument, when I discovered that I was really defending and maintaining not an exclusively British interest, but an old, honored and cherished ish interest, but an old, honored and cherished American cause, not upon British authorities, but upon principles that constitute a large portion of the distinctive policy by which the United States have developed the resources of a continent, and thus, becoming a considerable maritime power, have won the respect and confidence of many nations.

These principles were laid down for us in 1804, by James Madison, when Secretary of State in the administration of Thomas Jefferson, in instructions given to James Monroe, our Minister to England. Although the case before him concerned a description of persons different from these who are instituted. Although the case before him concerned a description of persons different from those who are incidently the subjects of the present discussion, the ground he assumed then was the same I now occupy, and the arguments by which he sustained himself upon it have been an inspiration to me in preparing this reply.

upon it have been an inspiration to me in preparing this reply.

"Whenever," he says, "property found in a neutral is supposed to be liable on any ground to capture and condemnation, the rule in all cases is that the question shall not be decided by the captor, but be carried before a legal tribunal, where a regular trial may be had, and where the captor himself is liable to damages for an abuse of his power.

Can it be reasonable then, or just, that a belligerent commander, who is thus restricted, and thus responsible in a case of mere property, of trivial amount, should be permitted, without recurring to any tribunal whatever, to examine the crew of a neutral vessel, to decide the important question of their respective allegiances, and to carry that decision into execution by forcing every individual he may choose into a service abhorrent to his feelings, cutting him off from his most tender connections, exposing his mind and his person to the most humilitating discipling and his life itself to the greatest. exposing his mind and his person to the most humili-ating discipline, and his life itself to the greatest dangers? Reason, justice, and humanity unite in protesting against so extravagant a proceeding."

If I decide this case in favor of my own government, I must disallow its most cherished principles, and reverse and forever abandon its essential policy.

The country cannot afford the sacrifice. If I main-

tain those principles and adhere to that policy, I must surrender the case itself.

It will be seen, therefore, that this government could not deny the justice of the claim presented to us in this respect upon its merits. We are asked to do to the British nation just what we have always insisted all nations ought to do to us. The claim of the British government is not made in a discourted to the British government is not made in a discourted and the British government is not made in a discourted to the British government is not made in a discourted to the British government is not made in a discourted to the British government is not made in a discourted to the British government is not made in a discourted to the British government is not made in a discourted to the British government is not made in the British government is not made to the British govern the British government is not made in a discourteous manner. This government, since its first organiza-tion, has never used more qualified language in a similar case.

similar case.

In coming to my conclusion, I have not forgotten that if the safety of this Union required the detention of the captured persons, it would be the right and duty of this government to detain them. But the effectual check and waning proportions of the existing insurrection, as well as the comparative unimportance of the captured persons themselves, when dispassionately weighed, happily forbid me from resorting to that defence.

Nor am I aware that American citizens are not in any case to be unnecessarily surrendered for any

any case to be unnecessarily surrendered for any purpose into the keeping of a foreign State. Only the captured persons, however, or others who are interested in them, could jointly raise a question on that ground

that ground.

Nor have I been tempted at all by suggestions Britain refused to yield other nations, and even to ourselves, claims like that which is now before us. Those cases occurred when Great Britain, as well as the United States, was the home of generations which with all their peculiar interests and passions have passed away. She could in no other way so effectually disavow any such inquiries, as we think she does now by assuming as her own the ground upon which we stood. It would tell little for our claims to the character of a just and magnanimous people, if we should so far consent to be guided by the law of retaliation as to lift up buried injuries from their graves to oppose against what national consistency and the national conscience compel us to regard as a claim intrinsically right. Those cases occurred when Great Britain, as well

Putting behind me all suggestions of this kind, I prefer to express my satisfaction that by the adjustment of the present case upon principles confessedly ment of the present case upon principles confessedly American, and yet, as I trust, mutually satisfactory to both of the nations concerned, a question was finally and rightly settled between them which heretofore exhausted not only all forms of peaceful discussion, but also the arbitrament of war itself, for more than a half century alienated the two countries from each other, and perplexed with fears and apprehensions all the other nations.

The four persons in question are now held in military custody at Fort Warren, in the State of Massachusetts. They will be cheerfully liberated. Your Lordship will please indicate a time and place for receiving them.

receiving them.

I evail myself of this occasion to offer to your

Lordship a renewed assurance of my very high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Ship Island—How it was won from the Rebels.

As this little island seems destined to become the scene of important movements for crushing the rebellion, and as the peculiar proclamation of Gen. Phelps has already turned public attention toward it, we give a description of it and its surroundings as furnished by a soldier to the Eastern press:

Ship Island is situated in longitude 89°, and a little north of latitude 30°, and is the property of the State of Mississippi. It is about sixty miles from New Orleans, nearly the same distance from the North East Pass, at the mouth of the Mississippi river, forty miles from Mobile, and ninety from Fort Pickens. It lies between Horn Island on the east, and Cat Island on the west, and is distant about five miles from each. Some ten or twelve miles have been prtty thoroughly scattered. to the north, on the mainland of Mississippi, are the towns of Balexi, Pascagoula, and Mississippi City. These towns are favorite summer resorts for the wealthy planters and merchants of the Gulf States, and, in consequence of a bar off their shore, are now the places of refuge for rebel gunboats.

Ship Island is somewhat undulating and extends in a slight curve about seventeen miles east northeast, and west south-west. At West Point (the western end) where Fort Massachusetts is located, the island is a little more than an eighth of a mile wide, and is a mere sand spit, utterly barren of grass or foliage of any kind. The eastern end, or East Point, is about three-quarters of a mile in width, and is well wooded with pine, cedar, and live oak. The whole island contains a fraction less than | Since Pope's rapid operations last week there is a two square miles of territory. Excellent water can be obtained in unlimited supply by sinking a barrel anywhere on the place. The great advantage of

this is too palpable to require comment. When the rebels evacuated the island they left some thirty-six head of cattle. They are now grazing on the eastern end of the island, (they would starve to death at West Point, unless, as somebody suggested, they were provided with green spectacles,) and are in a very fair condition. Besides the cattle, there are droves of hogs running about loose, and any quantity of racoons. So numerous are the latter that the sailors and marines from the fort will tree ten or a dozen of them together in the day time, and then kill them with their cutlasses as they drive them down. Soldiers are not slow at following any such example, and already they have increased and varied their government rations with the oily meat of this much abused animal.

Like most of the islands in this latitude, this place contains a pretty well assorted stock of reptiles and vermin, but with two thousand men on so small an area, it will not be long before the alligators, snakes, and other "most unpleasant bodies" will bid adien to these scenes, and take an early train for that place where there are no armed men to molest them.

At the western end of the island are situated the fort, lighthouse, and the few houses which escaped the incendiary efforts of the rebels. The houses consist of one good sized, well built brick house, which, after considerable repairs, would make very comfortable headquarters for the commander, or an excellent hospital for the sick, and three or four huts for cooking houses, &c. The lighthouse has been a fine one, but the rebels burnt it so thoroughly, breaking the glass and carrying off the lamp, that it is unsafe and likely to fall at any moment. It is round and built of stone.

The sand at West Point is of a beautiful quality, and in the dim light of early morning or evening resembles, in the purity of its whiteness, the spotless drifts of snow which now cover the hills and valleys of New England. Coming suddenly upon deck before sunrise, the illusion is perfect, and one almost forgets that he is in a country where a frost is a seven years' wonder. But pleasant as it is to to look upon, it is wretched stuff to walk in; it is so soft and deep that a five or six mile march is dreadfully exhausting.

The island possesses a very superior harbor, into which nineteen feet can be carried at ordinary low water. It is situated north of the west end of the island. The anchorage, with water equal to the depth on the bar, is five miles long, and averages three and a quarter miles in width. The harbor is safe for the most dangerous storms in the gulfthose from the eastward and southward-and might be easily entered during these storms without a pilot, if good lighthouses were placed in proper positions. The rise and fall of the tide is only from

twelve to fourteen inches. The manner in which our blockading fleet obtained possession of Ship Island is thus related by a correspondent of the Hartford Courant: On the western end of the island, commanding

the channel, is a fortification, commenced by the United States Government some time ago, and abandoned for want of further appropriations. This fort the rebels took possession of and manned it with about 1,200 troops. They built houses and shanties, covered the fort with sand bags, mounted six heavy rifled guns, and were, in fact, prepared to resist quite a navy. A U. S. gunboat was ordered up to spy out the land. Not having force enough to attack the rebels, the commander adopted a clever strategem. Having on board several prisoners, taken in a fishing schooner, the officers filled their ears with stories of a large fleet coming down to blow the Ship Island fort into the Gulf! Then. when they were sufficiently impressed with the magnitude of the fleet that was to destroy them, they let the prisoners escape. It worked like a charm. Early the second day after the departure of the prisoners a beautiful scene was there to the beholders through the morning shadows. The whole cand was in a blaze. The gun-boat went up soon after, and found the rebels evacuating. Not long afterwards the Stars and Stripes were floating from the staff that had been poluted by the Confederate symbol of treason. The report copied by a New York paper from the New Orleans Picayune, speaking of "the immense Lincoln fleet" that watched their debarkation, corresponds with the "yarn" impressed upon the rebel prisoners. Thus was won one of the most important stations on our Southern blockade, with one steamer of ninety men and four guns.

#### Department of Kansas.

THE report in a recently published letter from St. Louis, in regard to a Texas expedition being fitted out at Fort Leavenworth, to be under the charge of Gen. Hunter, with Generals Lane and Denver as sabordinates, is correct in essential particulars. General Lane is at present engaged in the discharge of his duties as a Senator of Kansas. •He will leave this position only to take exclusive command over a column organized with a view to demonstrate to the country the correctness of those principles to which alone he believes the war can be brought to a successful close, and the rebellion terminated and permanently overthrown. This position it is generally understood, is cordially endorsed by the Administration.

Repors from the Indian country show war as fairly begun between the loyal Indians against the Texans and rebel half breeds. In a fight in the Cherokee country it is reported that Cooper, Texan General, and McIntosh, the leader of the rebel Creeks, were killed. The loyal Indians lost 14.

#### Department of Missouri.

DISPATINES received at Headquarters on the 2d inst., annunce the capture of the notorious Jeff. Owens, Col. Jones, and 50 of their bridge burning gang, near Iartinsburgh, Adrian County, by Gen. Scofield, commander of State Militia. The various gueriella banks along the North Missouri railroad

One of our men captured by the rebels and carried to Springield, has just returned to Otterville, having left theformer place on Christmas. He says Price with 8,000 men had taken all the horses in Springfield for his troops, turning women and children into the stricts. He had unloaded his wagons and was making preparations for a long stay. The people of Arkansas refused to allow Price to enter that State with any other troops than those regularly enlisted in the Confederate service, and he had only 1,500 men in that service. The country north of Springfield was full of men returning from Price's army, who said they were determined to return home and take the oath of allegiance. Price would be left with only his regiment of Confederate troops. perfect quiet in all the region between the Missouri and Osage rivers, not even a rumor of rebel camps or squads being heard.

### Department of the Ohio.

DISPATCH received on the 3d inst., from Louisville, Ky., states that up to the latest advices from General Buell's army, no engagement had taken place between the Union forces and the rebels It was expected, however, that but little time would elapse before either a decisive battle would be fought or some rapid running done. The rebels were reported to have taken their position, and the Unionists were within one and a half days march of

The Green River Bridge is completed. Federal reconnoisances are made almost daily

south of the river. The rebels have retired before Colonel Garfield in Eastern Kentucky.

Colonel Garfield is advancing upon Prestonburgh. General Schoepff made ineffectual attempts to draw Zollicoffer from his Somerset entrenchments. There is no prospect of an immediate general

engagement there. All the Kentucky banks located where rebel dominion prevails have been consolidated under Henry J. Lyons, of Louisville, as President, who

has authority to run them for the C. S. A. The Journal has information that Generals Johnston's and Buckner's forces have torn up the Louisville and Nashville Railroad for three-quarters of a mile, about four or five miles beyond Green River, piled up the cross ties, laid the rails upon them, and set fire to the whole mass, repeating the same operation at different distances all the way to Glasgow Junction, besides felling as many trees as possible across the track, and were engaged in blowing up the tunnel, which is about 300 feet long, near the Junction.

Thursday week a small scouting party of Federals went below Paducah, losing a William Owens, whom the rebels threatened to hang. The Federals arrested there Robert Wolfolk, a prominent rebel of Paducah, and sent word to the rebels that his fate would be determined by that of Owen's. Wolfolk's wife has gone to Columbus to get orders from Gen. Polk for the exchange of the men.

The Journal has a letter from Columbus giving an account of a slight skirmish in Adair County, in which the rebel loss was five killed and the Federal

Humphrey Marshall, leading 6,500 troops, is near Prestonburgh, and it is expected he will soon march towards Maysville. General Buell has ordered Brigadier General

Garfield forward. A battle is expected very shortly. Attachments were filed in the Chancery Court on Saturday, under the law subjecting the property of rebels to confiscation who remain in the Southern Confederacy thirty days after the passage. Pro-

Buckner, ex-Minister Preston, and Edward Crutchfield to the amount of \$20,000 each, and in smaller sums against several others.

A great fire occurred at Nashville, which consumed \$700,000 worth of property, on the 22d ult. C. Q. Armstrong's pork house, formerly of this city, contributed materially to the progress of the flames, and the stored shells exploded terrifically.

#### Department of Western Virginia.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Cincinnati Gazette, writing from Summersville, Va., under date of Dec. 22d, says that portions of companies B, E, and H, about one hundred and fifty men, with Major E. B. Andrews, all of the Thirty-Six Ohio, which is stationed at S., started on an expedition a few days since, the object of which was to investigate the condition of things in the vicinity of Meadow Bluff and Lewisburg. They found no enemy in that region in force. Major Andrews destroyed the barracks, one hundred and ten buildings at Meadow Bluff, which had been evacuated, with some tents, and a few army stores. Floyd's troops are said to have been ordered to Richmond.

The Major returned yesterday, bringing in two notorious rebels, one of whom was a guide to a company of rebel cavalry. He also captured onc hundred head of cattle, over one hundred South-Down sheep, eighteen horses, a number of mules and working oxen, twenty-eight rifles, four holster pistols, and a quantity of powder horns. The Confederate mills were also seized. No prisoners taken except four men, notorious as in active sympathy with the rebellion.

Some of the property was taken from the farm and summer residence of W. H. McFarland, a wealthy banker of Richmond. He has a son in the rebel army. His nephew is the Secretary of Legation to Mason, and was captured with him by Commander Wilkes.

The people of that region were bitter in their complaints against the treatment they had received from the Confederate army, and the rebellion in Western Virginia is considered entirely hopeless. The moral effect of the expedition, it is believed, will be excellent.

A special to the Cincinnati Gazette, from Huttonsville, Virginia, says an expedition consisting of 400 of the 5th Ohio, 300 of the 2d Virginia, and 40 of Bracken's Cavalry, which was sent out by Gen. Milroy, to attack Huntersville, was a complete success. They attacked the enemy on the morning of the 4th inst., consisting of 400 cavalry and 350 militia. After skirmishing an hour, the enemy retired with a loss of 80 killed and wounded. On our side none were lost. Eighty thousand dollars worth of army stores and clothing was captured and destroyed.

The Commercial's dispatch says Huntersville was the depot of supplies in Western Virginia. Their cavalry were armed with Sharpe's carbines, and attacked us two miles from Huntersville. We drove them from point to point, and finally they beat a hasty retreat from town, as we charged through it. Their supplies, consisting of 350 barrels of flour, 300 salted beeves, 3,000 lbs. salt, large quantities of sugar, coffee, rice, bacon, and army clothing, worth from \$28,000 to \$30,000, were entirely destroyed. We captured a large number of Sharpe's carbines, sabers and pistols. The stars and stripes were left floating over the Court House. Our troops returned to Huttonsville in fine spirits.

### Department of the East.

OFFICIAL information received at the Medical Department of the army of the Potomac, states that the mortality is less in proportion to the number than in any American city. The department has the official list of 117,000, and the health of this large body of men, notwithstanding their exposure, is better than the health of an equal number of men anywhere in the United States.

Official advices from Williamsport state that detachments of the 13th Massachusetts and 1st Maryland participated in the route of the rebel forces on the 31st ult. Our men buried 29 of the enemy, and it is supposed many afterwards died of their wounds, Our loss was five wounded and none killed.

The vessels of Gen. Burnside's fleet were inspected on the 3d inst., by Gen. Porter and Col. Sackett, by order of Gen. McClellan. They report accommodations ample and arrangements were excellent for the transportation of troops to the fleet. The men were paid off on the 4th inst. \$700,000 were distributed, three-fourths of which were sent to their families.

Six rebel prisoners were sent to headquarters on the 3d inst., by Col. McLane, Provost Marshal at Alexandria. They were taken by our pickets on the left wing of the army. Their information is deemed of high value, and stringent measures were taken to prevent all communication with them. The rebels are expecting an advance from our army along the whole line. They are more than ever demoralized by discords among their public men.

Gen. Magruder is believed to have been relieved of his command at Yorktown, and Gen. Wise, who has been quiet since his return from Western Virginia, is expected to assume command there, or if not there, at Frederick.

A scouting party, from 700 to 800 strong, composed of six companies of the 20th New York regiment, and three companies of Harlan's cavalry, left Camp Hamilton, near Fortress Monroe, on the 3d inst., under command of Acting Gen. Weber, accompanied by Majors Begesoe and Carting, of General Wool's staff. About two miles beyond Little Bethel the infantry halted, and the cavalry proceeded toward Big Bethel. When six miles this side they met the rebel mounted pickets, which were driven in. The cavalry gave chase, but were unable to overtake them. On arriving at Big Bethel, the place appeared to be deserted. It had apparently been occupied by 3,000 to 4,000 men, including 2,000 or 3,000 cavalry. Breastworks were found nearly half a mile in extent, and pierced for 12 guns. After a short stay the scouting party returned.

The steamboat George Washington left Old Point at 11 o'clock on the 3d inst., and proceeded up James River, about nine miles beyond Newport News, where the rebel steamer Northampton was met with the Union prisoners from Richmond. They stepped on board under the protection of the National flag, as the roll of their names was called, and such happy looking men are seldom seen. Cheer after cheer arose from each boat as they approached, and the band of the 4th artillery played Home, Sweet Home," which added to the enthusiasm. As the boat passed Newport News, the crews of the United States frigate Cumberland and Congress manned the rigging, and the troops at Camp Butler crowded the beach and the wharves, and sent over the water their shouts of welcome. The George Washington arrived at Fortress Monroe cesses were issued against the property of General on her return at about half-past five o'clock, and the which are, perhaps, too free to be made public.

Baltimore boat, which was detained for the purpose, took the released prisoners to Baltimore. The number released is 240, nearly all of whom were taken at the battle of Bull Run.

Advices from Port Royal indicate that Commodore Dupont is preparing for a new naval demonstration. Gunboats are concentrating, and large numbers of men and launches are practicing in the work of assisting and landing of troops. About 10,000 troops can be spared from Hilton Head in addition to General Stevens' brigade, to operate against Charleston, Savannah, or the rebel force at Coosawatchie. News by the Ariel from Port Royal, on the 1st instant, is interesting. The British steamer Fingal attempted to run the blockade at Savannah, but was foiled. She got ready to make her way through Warsaw Sound, but information having been received from a deserter, the gun boat Ottawa was dispatched to the Sound, and on her arrival the rebel Mosquito fleet of Tatnall came down to attack her. After a brisk engagement a shell was put through one of Tatnall's vessels, when he returned.

A Spanish schooner without a name, but laden with a valuable cargo of Havana cigars, shoes and other stores, was chased, run aground and burned at Cumberland Iulet, on the 15th ult., by the boats of the Bienville and Alabama. Her cargo was taken off, the crew having previously fled to the woods.

The Richmond (Va.) Dispatch of the 3d inst. says private telegram has been received here, dated Mobile, yesterday, which states that Picayune Butler is at Ship Island; also, that the Federals have nominal possession of Bloxi, and it is believed that they will occupy all the towns on the coast in that region. They captured two cannon at Bloxi. It is stated that they landed there from 5,000 to 7,000 troops; and further, that they express the determination to push forward their forces to Jackson. Sixteen vessels are reported at Ship Island.

The Charleston Mercury has a dispatch stating a large force of the United States army had landed on North Edisto, and had seized Railroad station No. 4 on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad.

The official report of Commodore Dupont, in relation to sinking the stone fleet, has been received at the Navy Department. The substantial part of the document consists in the report of Charles Henry Davis, who had command of the fleet. In this report Capt. Davis says:

"On the night of my arrival off Charleston, the light house was blown up, by which the purpose of my visit was essentially promoted. After the bar had been rounded out two ships were sunk, one on the eastern and one on the western limit of the channel, which served to limit the field of operations. After all the ships which were to be sunk—sixteen in number—had been brought here and in a position to be easily moved, they were towed in by smaller steamers and placed upon and inside the bar, in checkered or indented form, lying as much as possible across the direction of the channel in several lines some distance apart, and they are made to nearly overlie each other so that it would be difficult to draw a line to them in the direction of the channel, which would not be intercepted by one of the vessels." nel, which served to limit the field of operations.

Commander Davis says he was guided by several principles in chosing the place and manner of sinking the vessels, viz:

1st. The bar was selected because it is the princi-

lst. The bar was selected because it is the principal and culminating point of the natural deposits in this line, by adding the material contained in the hulks to those already placed there by nature. It may be expected that the natural forces which aggregate the latter will tend to keep the former in their assigned position.

2d. By putting down the vessels in an indented form it was intended to create a material obstruction to the channel without seriously impeding the flow of water. If it were possible to build a wall across the channel, the river, which must flow to the sea, would undoubtedly take another and similar path, but if on the contrary the blocking up of the natural channel is only partial, the water may retain part of its old course and require the addition only of new channels of small capacity.

its old course and require the addition only of new channels of small capacity.

3d. This mode of sinking vessels is intended to establish a combination of artificial interruptions and irregularities, resembling on a small scale those of Hell Gate or Holmes' Hole, producing like them eddies, whirlpools, and counter currents, such as render the navigation of an otherwise difficult channel hazardous and uncertain.

The Vanderbilt, from Port Royal on the morning f the 3d arrived in brings 36,097 pounds of cotton. General Stevens' brigade advanced on main land on the 1st. and took possession of the rebel batteries after a short resistance, assisted by the gunboats in shelling them. General Stevens followed up to within six miles of the Charleston railroad. A flag of truce from the rebels requested permission to bury the dead, and an hour was granted for the purpose, when they fell back on their fortifications, which are said to be very extensive, and defended by 10,000 to 12,000 men under General Polk. Their loss is unknown. Our force was 4,500, and had eight wounded, including Major Watrous, of the 8th Michigan, who was mortally wounded. General Stevens now holds possession of the main land, and

### awaits re-enforcements from the North to proceed. AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

THE rumors current in the newspapers that further trouble may be expected with England, arising from the blockade of Charleston and Savannah with stone hulks, are regarded here as entirely unfounded.

Gen. McClellan's health continues to improve. The Government has taken measures to obtain cotton seed from Port Royal, in order to plant it in Illinois and other Western States.

The Navy Department is sending out specifications, inviting proposals from shipbuilders throughout the country for the construction of iron-clad steam batteries. The Government is very anxious that this class of war vessels should be immediately constructed:

It is doubtful whether all the correspondence between this and European Governments, touching the rights of neutrals and belligerents on the ocean, called for by Senator Sumner's resolution, will be communicated to the Senate. Enough will be made public, however, to show that Russia, Spain, and the smaller maritime powers, are almost ready to accede to Mr. Marcy's doctrine, by which private property is guaranteed the same immunity on the sea as on the land; that France is not far behind them; and that Great Britain alone, despite her recent championship of neutral rights, stands by her own precedent. The publication will, without doubt, contribute to the success of a movement in the right direction, already on foot in England. The earliest letters date back to 1856, soon after the Congress of Paris adjourned. Some of the ablest in the selection are from Mr. Mason, the successor of Mr. Faulkner. Mr. Pickens' dispatches from St. Petersburg are full of interesting conversation on the subject, between himself and Gortschakoff,

# MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

The whole subject will probably be discussed when the resolution is answered.

A Sub-Committee of Ways and Means are engaged in preparing a general tax bill, which will be the basis of a national currency. The Committee's idea is to raise money enough to sustain the credit of the Government, though the tax may, for the time being, seem more than heavy. The Committee is also maturing a tariff bill, the provisions of which will largely increase the duties on many articles of general consumption.

It is not probable that there will be a favorable report from the committee on Mr. Gurley's confiscation and emancipation bill. The views of the committee are generally adverse to it, and instead of it a bill prepared by the committee, predicated upon by the Government. the suggestion of the President's message in regard to this subject, will be soon reported. This committee is also in favor of removing the restriction limiting the President to call for only 500,000 volunteers, and propose to authorize him to bring into the service whatever number of troops the War Department and the Commanding General shall require for the vigorous prosecution of the war.

The opinion of Comptroller Whittlesey, acquiesced in by Secretary Chase is, that according to the present law regulating the compensation of members of Congress, they can receive mileage only for regular sessions; therefore mileage for the July extra ses sion remains to be provided for by future legislation. Several Senators were paid their two mileages before the opinion was officially furnished for Ministerial guidance.

The agent of the Government who superintended the removal of Mason and Slidell from Fort Warren to the British gunboat Rinaldo, returned on the 4th inst. No papers were exchanged between the agent and the English commander, in connection with the delivery and reception of the Rebel Commissioners.

The Committee on Ways and Means will report and ask the immediate passage of the bill authoriz- the rebels, and eighty are loyal. ing the issue of \$100,000,000 Demand Treasury Notes, reimbursable for all public and private dues and debts, and making them legal tender and exchangeable for six per cent, bonds, and also making | chusetts for thirty cents a pound. them exchangeable for all demand notes now issued.

There is a well-founded belief of serious difficulties to the Rebel government at Charleston, amounting almost to an insurrection, by reason of the apparent abandonment of the South Carolina coast to National invasion, and the immense destruction of property that owners have willingly consigned to the flames. They have destroyed not less than \$10,000,000 worth of cotton, which, at last accounts, they were deploring, as they supposed the blockade was about to be raised by England, and they might have shipped and sold it. They were holding Jeff. Davis responsible for these disastrous losses, and many citizens were bold enough to say that the old government was better than the new.

#### FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN. -- President Lincoln's message claims great attention, notwithstanding that public feeling was deeply engrossed with the death of Prince Albert. The silence of the message on the Trent affair was the subject of much conjecture and comment. It was generally regarded as a loophole for escape, and gave rise to some hopes of peace although the general construction was warlike.

The Times argues that by the studied silence the President has left himself a door for retreat, but thinks the chances of peace undoubtedly diminished. It also says nothing can be more ungracious than the President's treatment of foreign powers. For their forbearance a gracious and courteous acknowledgement was due. It also devotes an article to the report of the Secretary of the Navy, which it treats with ridicule, and denounces as an unparalleled crime the project of blocking up ports by sunken vessèls.

The Post treats the message as undeniably warlike, and though remarking on the silence relative to the Trent affair, says it was scarcely within ordinary scope of the message. It also charges the President with ingratitude in dealing powers.

The News considers his silence as indicative of caution and prudence and favorable to peace.

The Star also justifies his silence, and praises his clearness, force, and ability.

The Herald takes a contrary view; fears peace is almost hopeless.

Parliament meets the middle of January.

The death of Prince Albert caused most profound sensation. Great sympathy was expressed for the Queen, who bore her bereavement with much fortitude.

Passengers by the Asia report that the blocking up of Charleston harbor with stone is likely to lead to difficulty with European powers. It is further rumored that England's warlike preparations will continue, in view thereof, and that the surrender of Mason and Slidell are not the whole of England's demands.

FRANCE.—It was current at Paris that the French government had sent notes to Russia, Prussia, and Austria, suggesting the common mediation of the great powers between England and America.

The Paris Bourse was a shade firmer on the 20th

inst.—closed at 67f. 25c., for rentes. The Temps asserts that a dispatch has been received from Seward, saying that the American government is ready to guaranty every facility to neutrals, compatible with the rights of belligerents, and would give any satisfaction in case of the infraction of any rule that had been adopted. This dispatch was dated before the Trent affair, but it is considered as showing peaceful intentions of the American government.

ITALY.—Signor Patozzi had tendered his resignation of Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies; but the Chamber unanimously expressed a desire that he should retain his post, at least until the close of the session.

Spain.—The government bill levying import duty on raw cotton, had been laid on the table in Cortes. The American Minister has left Madrid on leave of absence.

TURKEY.—The monetary panic had subsided, and the Government suspended financial operations.

Fuad Pacha had returned to Constantinople, and Halem Pacha had been appointed his provisional successor in Svria.

India.—The Bombay Mail, of November 26, would probably reach London in season to go forward per the Asia.

Cotton goods were firm, and advanced at Bombay. The export of cotton from Bombay to England, during the present year, was estimated at 920,000

Sir Charles Wood had decided to remove the sea of government from Calcutta to Hills.

### The News Condenser.

- One of the latest inventions is an iron-shod boot. — A street railway for Valparaiso, Chili, is soon to be laid down.

- Sunday preaching is inaugurated at Barnum's Museum New York. - The Massachusetts war bill against the Government is

\$3,200,000. - The disbursements in Missouri since the war began exceed

\$18,000,000. - Orders have been issued for the sending of heavy artillery

to Portland, Me. - The cotton from Port Royal is shortly to be sold at auction

- The total number of deaths in Philadelphia, during the

vear 1861, was 14,210. - It is reported that Carl Schurz is about to resign his pos

tion as Minister to Spain. - The banking capital of Vermont is \$3,910,000; an increa

of \$40,000 over last year. - The French National Exhibition of 1865 will be the

greatest ever undertaken. - Rome is voted the capital of Italy by the Italian Parlia

ment; aves, 232! nays, 79. - John C. Le Grand, ex-Chief Justice of Marvland, died in Baltimore on the 28th ult.

- A Turin correspondent of the Independance states that Mazzini is dangerously ill.

- The Countess-Dowager Grey, widow of Earl Grey, died in London on the 26th ult.

- Seventy-five thousand stand of arms arrived on the Teuto nia-all new and excellent.

- Silver is selling at 25 per cent. premium at Richmone Va., and gold at 35 per cent.

- Sir Christopher Wren, while building St. Paul's, received salary of only £200 a year.

- Icebergs, upward of 200 feet in height, have been seen recently off the coast of Maine. - Thirty of the counties of Kentucky are in possession of

-The banks of Providence, R. I., and Hartford, Conn.

have suspended specie payment. - A hundred bales of cotton were recently sold in Masse

- A fire in Hornellsville last week destroyed property to

the amount of \$8,000 or \$10,000. - Failures have occurred in Chili, since January last, that

will sum up beyond \$20,000,000. - From Oswego to Fondulac, we have not a single fortifica

tion which could bear a day's seige. - The last Chinese exploit was murdering two Protestar

Missionaries, near Cheefoo, Oct. 17. - Chas. H. Foster, appointed by the President U. S. Mar-

shal for N. C., has gone to Hatteras.

--- Two million dollars' worth of cotton has already been gathered by our forces at Port Royal.

- The Kingston (C. W.) News says the release of Mason and Slidell does honor to Mr. Seward.

- It is proposed to start a military school at Detroit, under

the auspices of the State Government. - The Richmond papers admit that the battle of Drainesville

was a serious disaster to the rebel cause. - The first consignment of goods for the Internation

Exhibition of 1862 has arrived in London. - The venerable Josish Quincy recently met with an acci-

dent which will lay him up for some time. - Chief Justice Thomas S. Williams, of Hartford, Ct., died

sunday week, aged 84 years and 6 months.

- Of over forty overcoats thrown away by the retreating rebels at Drainesville, only two were woolen.

- The Port Royal negroes do not bear out the general ides of negro laziness. They are very industrious.

- The new State Reform School of California was opened the 2d ult. J. C. Pelton is the Superintendent.

- They are burning corn for fuel in Logan Co., Ill., and corn t 7 cents per bushel is cheaper than coal at 20 cents

- The two salt companies at Bay City, Mich., have, it is stimated, exported 4,000 barrels of salt the past season. - The American hoe company of Winsted are about to

esume work in the manufacture of sabers and bayonets - For the protection of our commerce, ships-of-war have

been ordered to the China sea and up the Mediterranean.

- There are now from 5,000 to 7,000 more negroes on the islands about Beaufort than when our troops first landed

- There begins to be a disposition apparent in various parts of the country to throw Canada money out of circulation

- The South Carolina Legislature have elected Robert W.

Bartwell and James L. Orr Senators to the rebel Congress. - Since the commencement of the war, upward of 2,500

fugitive slaves have found shelter and protection in Kansas. - The new tariff bill went into effect on the 25th ult., and applies to goods in bond the same as importations after that

date. - An English newspaper describes a new lock in process of manufacture in Wolverhampton, having 244,140,625 combi-

nations.

in prison at Knoxville for refusing allegiance to the Confederate flag. - It seems, from the transfer of Union prisoners further

South, that Richmond is not deemed altogether safe from the Union army. - The amount expended by the Government in the pur-

chase of fire-arms since the beginning of the rebellion, is \$22,000,000. — The French Government is said to be building very costly

lines of steamers to run between France, the West Indies, and this country. - The Legislature of Mississippi purpose, by enactment, to

forbig the growing of another crop of cotton until the present is disposed of. - The Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser of a late date says no

less than seven attempts were made to set fire to that city within two days. - Gen. Halleck having assessed 60 rich secessionists in St.

Louis \$10,000, they refuse to pay, standing on their "Constitutional rights."

- The commissary stores, including a portion of the ordnance department, in Nashville, were burned on the 22d ult. Loss \$1,000,000. - The powder manufacturing company at Bennington, Vt.,

are fulfilling a second order for one thousand barrels of gunpowder for the government. - A great negro insurrection is reported in Mississippi, and

an immense amount of property has been destroyed-\$150,000 on the Quitman estate alone.

- Among the banks in New York refusing to suspend species payment, are the Bank of Commerce, Mercantile, Leather Manufacturers', City, Chemical, and America.

HON. ALFRED ELY "AT HOME." - HON. ALFRED ELY, M. C. from this District, who has been a prisoner at Richmond since the battle of Bull's Run-and whose exchange for Mr. FAULKNER, and arrival in New York, was noticed in our lastreturned to his home in this city on Saturday the 4th inst. Mr. E. was received at the depot by an immense concourse of his fellow citizens, and made an appropriate reply to the reception address of Mayor Nash. Since his arrival at home Mr. Ely has been called upon and congratulated by numerous friends. He is in excellent health and spirits, showing little indication of either mental or physical suffering from the long and vexatious imprisonment to which he has been subjected.

#### Publisher's Notices

ADBREE TO TERMS .- We endeavor to adhere strictly to subscription terms, and no person is authorized to offer the RURAL at less than published rates. Agents and friends are at liberty to pive away as many copies of the Rural, as they are disposed to pay for at club rate, but we do not wish the paper offered, in any case, below price.

FREE COPIES. PREMICES. &O.-We give only one free copy to each person competing for premiums, however large the list procured; but those who do not compete for any premium, are entitled to an extra free copy for every ten subscribers over twenty. Most agents understand our offers correctly, and remit accordingly, but as some suppose we give both extra copies and premiums, we make the above statement that none may be

THE RURAL IS MAILED PROMPTLY to all new subscribers, every rder being attended to on the day of its receipt. But, whil receiving from 1,500 to 2,000 names per day, as at present, we must necessarily mail several packages to each of many post-offices—for, while, or just after, mailing the regular packages, we frequently receive additions at the same offices, and these are of course sent by themselves. We have had additions to some lists every day for a week past, and of course sent as many different packages. This will explain (what some do not see to understand) why we can not send all copies for each postoffice together - a thing which we shall do as soon as possible At present, however, we do the best we can—mailing what portion of our list it has been possible to put in type, by machinery, and the remainder (from entry books and letters)

- Another thing. We are endeavoring toarrange our mailing routes so that all papers will reach their destination as directly and speedily as possible, and will thank Post-Masters or other to inform us of any delay, or omissions to send by the mos direct routes. By mailing earlier and faster than formerly, and sending by the most direct routes, we hopemost subscribers will eceive each number of the RURAL on or before its date.

A GOOD ROOK PREMIUM \_After examining the Manual of A good how I keen and a good of the same of the concluded it to be the bost work on the subject (especially for Boys and Young Men) which we could offer to those forming clubs, and purchased two hundred copies for distribution as premiums. We wish every Boy or Young Man who reads this paper could have, and would carefully peruse, the Manual; and to enable many to easily obtain it, we will send a copy, postpaid, to every person remitting \$5 for a club of three sub-scribers, or \$8 for a club of five. For \$10 we will send six copies of the Rural, with a free copy of the paper, and also the above We will also send the Manual, and a free copy, to every person (competing for no other premium) who renits \$15 for club of ten, \$21 for a club of fifteen, or \$25 for a club of twenty, whether the subscribers areold or new. "Do You Hear That?" \*\* If any persons prefer "Lossing's Pictorial History of the U.S., (price \$1.) or a dollar package of choice imported Flower eeds, we will send either, post-paid, instead of the Manual.

BE BRIEF.-In writing us on business, please be at brief as consistent. At this season we receive from 200 to 30 or more letters per day, and it is no easy task to read all carfully and ive each proper attention;—even the opening and gancing at he contents of each, (which the writer of this tries to do,) is somewhat laborious. The short letters are always ead, while the long epistles cannot at once receive the time rquired; so rest. Brevity and accuracy are the great essentials c a business letter, and no other matter should be given on thesame sheet or half sheet. If you send an inquiry or article forpublication with a business letter, pray do not mix them on the same page, or even opposite pages, unless so that we can sepsate without injury to either—for one goes to clerk and the otter to editor.

ABOUT CLUB TERMS, &c .- We endeavor to adhre strictly to our club rates, which require a certain number of subscribers to get the paper at a specified price—say ten to ge it at \$1.50 per inquiries, we would state that, in cases where fpm four to six copies are ordered at \$1.50 each, with a reasonale prospect of filling up a club of ten, we will send them—and then the club s completed shall send extra copy, &c. We also end twelve to the person sending is laboring for and is confident of obtaining a full club. This will accommodate those who do tot wish to wait.

proclaimed in former volumes, that the Rura; New-Yorker is not a dollar paper—that it is never furnished to clubs, however large, at less than our published rates. When we can afford such a journal as this for a less figure, the fact will be an nounced. Meantime, those who write us that "other papers' can be had for a dollar, are advised that, if they prefer a re-print, or trashy sheet, to an original, useful and pure journal for the family, it is an easy matter to practice such economy.

BACK VOLUMES.-Bound copies of our last volumes will be ready in a few days—price, \$3; unbound, \$2. We would again state that neither of the first five volumes of the Rural can be furnished by us at any price. The subsequent volumes will be supplied, bound, at \$3 each—or if several are taken, at \$2 50 each. The only complete volumes we can furnish, unbound, are those of 1859, '60 and '61 - price, \$2 each.

SELECT YOUR PREMIUMS.—If those forming clubs will specify the premiums preferred, where they have the choice, and name Express Office (in cases where they are to be sent by Express,) in the letters containing their remittances, we shall be saved some trouble, and perhaps subsequent scolding. We desire to

DIRECT TO ROCHESTER, N. Y -All persons having occasion to address the Rural New-Yorker will please direct to Roch ester, N. V., and not, as many do, to New York, Albany Buffalo, &c. Money Letters intended for us are frequently directed and mailed to the above places. Please note.

OUR EXTRA PREMIUMS .- There is yet time to compete for the Extra Premiums for clubs of 10, 20, 24 and 40 subscribers. The list of offers was given in Rural of Dec. 7th, 14th, 21st ultimo.

For TERMS and other particulars, see last page.

## Markets, Commerce, &c.

### Rural New-Yorker Office, ROOHESTER, January 7th, 1861.

THE changes noted to-day are few. Corn is drooping a little. Pork is on sale in fair quantity, and the extreme is \$4.25 \ cwt. with a range down to \$4,00. Hams (smoked,) are worth only 71/2 cents \$2 fb. Lard is a trifle higher. Eggs from 13 to 14 cents \$2 Potatoes bring from 40 to 45 cents 🏳 bushel.

Rochester Wholesale Prices. Flour and Grain.

Flour, winter wheat, \$5.25(96.50) Honey, box.

Flour, spring do, 5.00(26.25) Candles, box...

Flour, buckwheat. 175,22.00 Candles, extra. 10@11c 914@10c 12@12c Candles, box... 93&010c
Candles, extra 12012c

Fruit and Hoots.
Apples, bushel. 37055c
10c, dried \$110... 6064\$c
Peaches, do 16015c
Cherries, do 14016c
Plums, do 16015c
Potatoes. 40045c

Mides and Skins.
Slaughter. 5065\$c
Calf. 607c
Sheep Pelts. \$1.2x02.00
1 Lamb Pelts. 75c(3).25
5 Clover, bushel. \$4.004.50
Timothy 2.0002.50
Wood, soft. 3.0003.00
Coal, Lehigh 7.0007.00
Coal, Scrunton 5.5005.50
Coal, Char 7.0007.00
Coal, Scrunton 5.5005.50
Coal, Shamokin 5.5005.50
Coal, Char 7.0007.00
Coal, Scrunton 5.5005.50
Coal, Shamokin 5.5005.50
Coal, Char 7.0007.00
Coal, Strunton 5.5006.50
Coal, Shamokin 5.5005.50
Coal, Char 7.0007.00
Coal, Strunton 5.5006.50
Coal, Shamokin 5.5006.50
Coal, Char 7.0007.00
Coal, Strunton 5.5006.50
Coal, Char 7.0007.00
Coal, Strunton 5.5006.50
Coal, Char 7.000012.00
Straw, tun. 5.0006.00
Straw, tun. 5.0006.00
Codfish, duintal, 4.0004.50
Codfish, quintal, 4.0004.50
Codfish, quintal, 4.0004.50 Geese Ducks P pair Dairy, &c. 

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, JAN. 6.—FLOUR—Market steady and without material change in prices, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption. Sales at \$5,200.69, 50 rejected; \$5,500.85,55 for superfine State; \$5,700.69 for extra State; \$5,500.65,55 for superfine State; \$5,700.69 for extra State; \$5,500.65,55 for superfine State; \$5,700.69 for extra State; \$5,500.65,55 for superfine State; \$6,00.06,69 for shipping brands extra round hooped Ohio, and \$6,150.68,75 for trade brands do,—market closing quiet. Some sales of choice extra State were made at \$5,80 Canadian flour without change, with a moderate business doing; sales at \$5,400.555 for superfine, and \$5,800.675 for common to choice extra. Rye flour is quiet and steady; sales at \$3,000.425, for inferior to choice. Corn meal steady and without any material change in price; sales at \$3,45 for extra Western; \$3,00 for Jersey, and \$3,27½ for Brandy wine.

Grand-Wheat market may be quied quite firm, with a more active business doing for export and home consumption. Sales Chicago spring at \$1,220,132 damaged do. at \$1,00; fair winter red Western at \$1,41; red Jersey at \$1.45; red Long island on private terms, and Wisconsin at \$1,35. Rye quiet and firm, with sales at \$2,005c. Barley remains dull and quiet at 720,75c.—Barley malt is selling at 85c for prime. Pees continue quiet and nominal at 85c for Canadian. Corn market without material change, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption. Sales at 60,651c for poor mixed Western; 64c for goed to prime shipping do; and 65c for very choice do; 70c for white Western, and 65c for Jersey yellow. Oats quiet and firm.

er; sales at 41@42c for Canada, and 42@43c for Jersey, Western and State.

Provisions—Pork rules steady and active. Sales at \$12.00@
12.50 for mess, and \$8.00@8,60 for prime. Beef very firm; sales at \$4@4.60 for country prime; \$5.00@5.50 for country mess; \$10.000.12 for repacked mess, and \$13.70@14.00 for extra mess. Prime mess beef in moderate demand; sales at \$19.023. Beef hams quiet and steady; sales at \$14.00@15.00. Cut meats are quiet and steady; sales at \$14.00@15.00. Cut meats are quiet and steady; sales at \$14.00@15.00. Cut meats are quiet and steady; sales at \$1.00.00 giear do. Smoked meats continue quuet and nominally unchanged. Dressed hogs in fair demand; sales at \$1.00.00 giear do. Smoked meats continue quuet and nominally unchanged. Dressed hogs in fair demand, with sales at \$4.00.00 giear do. Smoked meat continue quuet and for the following for the sales at \$1.00.00 giear do. State. Cheese continues quiet at \$1.00.00 for Ohio, and 16.020 for State. Cheese continues quiet at \$5.00 for pote and; sales at 12.020 for common to prime.

ABURS—Outet and steady at \$6.00 for Pote and at \$6.00 for Aburs—Outet and steady at \$6.00 for Pote and at \$6.00 for Aburs—Outet and steady at \$6.00 for Pote and at \$6.00 for Aburs—Outet and steady at \$6.00 for Pote and at \$6.00 for Aburs—Outet and steady at \$6.00 for Pote and at \$6.00 for Aburs—Outet and steady at \$6.00 for Pote and at \$6.00 for Aburs—Outet and steady at \$6.00 for Pote and at \$6.00 for Pote a

nors—Seeauy, with a moderate demand; sales at 12@20c for ASHES — Quiet and steady at \$6,00 for Pots and at \$6,00 for Parls.

ALBANY, JAN. 6.—FLOUR AND MEAL—A quiet market for Flour, with scarcely the usual retail business doing. GRAIN—Wheat quiet and unchanged. Corn in limited request at 6tc for mixed Western. Rye dull. Barley steady with sales of car lots, two-rowed State and Western at 65c, and Lake Shore at 75c. Oats dull.

Shore at 76c. Oars cuil.

RUFFALO, Jan. 4.—FLOUR—The market is quiet, the demand being confined entirely to the wants of the home trade.—Sales, since yesterday afternoon, at \$5.00 for extra Ohio; \$6.25 for choice extra Indiana, and \$5.506,575 for double extras. GRAIN—Wheat, market dull and heavy; Milwankee and Northwestern club is held at \$1 from store. Corn still quiet at 45c for small logs from store. Oats, market nominal at 28c. Barley, three or four car loads have changed hands within as many days at 45c. Other grain quiet and nominal at previous quotations.

tions. Provisions—Quiet at former quotations, viz.—\$11,50 for heavy, and \$10,50 for light mess pork. No prime offering. Mess beef scarce and none offering. New smoked hams quiet at 76,000 for large and smoked shoulders at 41,600 for Lard quiet at 72,600 for Jackson 1005—Receipts light and market quiet, and we resume our quotations, at 31,603 for Canadian, and 31,604 for Western.

#### THE PORK MARKETS.

OINOINNATI, Jan. 1.—Hogs advanced 15c, closing firm at \$3,200,3.30. The *Price Gurrent* furnishes the following weekly summary of the trade:

The receipts the past week, the season, and for some previous seasons, were as follows:

asons, were as follows: Total for the week,	33 141
Previously reported,	282,700
Total this season,	315.841
Same time last year.	300.077
Same time in 1859,	404.126
Same time in 1858,	
Same time in 1857	302.698
Same time in 1856	328.855
Same time in 1855	
Same time in 1854,	328.885
Same time in 1853	275,665
Same time in 1852	
Same time in 1851	344.188
Same time in 1850	311.592
Same time in 1849	
There is a large number of hogs in the	country still to com

in, which are being held back for better prices, and we may look for pretty liberal receipts the coming week. After this date last season there were received here 133,000 head. At the majority of places the packing is ahead of last season.—Guzette.

of places the packing is ahead or last season.—trazec.

ST. LOUIS, JAN. 1.— But little has been done this week in the hog market, and receipts have dwindled down to nothing. Packers were paying a shade betten prices yesterday and to day, but the market was bare of hogs. The large receipts expected from North Missouri were cut off by the destruction of tha rail-roads in that portion of the State, and packers look mainly for a supply the balance of the season from Illinois. This market continues to be equal to any other in the West at which to dispose of hogs advantageously, and our packers are prepared to pay as high prices and as good money as the best of other markets. War with England being for the present averted, pork may look up, and an improved feeling is already manifesting itself.—Democrat.

#### THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Dro. 31.—The current prices for the week a ll the markets are as follows: BEEF CATTLE. First quality, Ordinary quality, Common quality, Inferior quality, #2 cwt. \$9,50@10,00 8,50@9,50 7,50@8,00 6,00@7,00 First quality,
Ordinary quality,
Common quality,
Inferior quality, ..\$45,00@50,00 ...40,00@45,00 ...30,00@35,00 ...25,00@30,00 VEAL CALVES First quality, \$7 b 55/66 c
Ordinary quality, \$4/65 c
Common quality, \$4/65 c
Inferior quality, \$4/64/3 Prime quality, \$\frac{3}{2}\$ head \$5,00\(\text{26}\),00 Ordinary, \$4,00\(\text{26}\),00 Ordinary, \$3,22\(\text{26}\),00 Inferior, \$2,50\(\text{26}\),00 Inferior, \$2,50\(\text{26}\),00 First quality. 334@4 c Other qualities, 3 @334

ALBANY, JAN 6.— BEEYES.—The supply is good for the season, fully up to the demand, and the average quality is fair. Although there are none in the yards that can be classed as strictly premium, there are more droves of prime extra than were here last week, and several bunches have been sold at 50 % h, live weight, and within a fraction of that figure. Holders of light and rough think the market is ½c lower on that description of stock. Some of the latest sales made indicate this; but the better grades suffered no preceptible decline.

RECHITS.—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

Cor. week

ı		This week.	Last week.	last year.
	Cattle	2.448	2.262	2.354
	Sheep		3.150	2,914
	Hogs	234	1,440	
	Prices — It will be seen our quotations:			alterations in
į	·	Thi	s week.	Last week.
ı	Premium,	5	@5 c	5 @5 c
í	Extra	4 3/6	@4%c	436@4%c
	First quality,	38/	(6)43%c	3%(@4%c
	0	017	> 5.27	2638263

SHEEF — Found ready sale at an advance of 12c \$\frac{2}{2}\$ head on the ruling rates of last week. Sales during the week 2,700 head at prices ranging from 3\frac{2}{2}c \$\frac{2}{2}\$ h, for coarse common to \$6 \$\frac{2}{2}\$ head for choice extra 1,000 head averaging 93\frac{2}{2}016 hs, sold at 4\frac{2}{2}\frac{2}{2}0 h.

Last market day two lots of fancy brought \$4,10 \$2 100 IIous—Last market day two lots of fancy brought \$4.10 \tilde{10} \tilde{10}. To-day it is difficult to realize \$4 for the same quality; and it is safe to say that the decline on all grades is equal to 10c \tilde{7} 100 \tilde{10} as compared with last week's prices. Several droves changed hands Saturday at 3\tilde{3}\tilde{60}3\tilde{6}c for fair to prime corn-fed. Sales of the week about 10,000 head; about the same number was shipped through.—Alias and Argus.

CAMBRIDGE, JAN. 1.—At market, 701 Cattle, 650 Beeves and 51 Stores, consisting of Working Oxen, Cows, and one, two and 51 Stores, consisting of Working Oxen, Yows, and one, two and three years old.

MARKET BEEF—Extra (including nothing but the best large fat stall-fed Oxen) \$6,25(6,75; first quality, \$6,0006,00; second do, \$6,7506,75; third do, \$4,0009,50; ordinary, \$—@—WORKING OXEN—\$80, \$1000120.

COWS AND CALYSS — \$25(6,48

COWS AND CALVES—\$25(a)48
STORRS—Yearlings, \$-(a)-; Two years old, \$16(a)17; Three years old, \$18(a)20.
SEREP AND LAMES—1,650 at market. Prices in lots, \$3,00(a)4,-00 each; extra, \$5, \$5.0(a)6,00, or 4% (a)5/c \$7 lb.
HIDES—6%(a)7c \$7 lb. Tallow—6%(a)7c.
PELITS—\$1,22(a).50. Calf Skins—7(a)8c \$7 lb.
Veal Calves—None.
SWINE—28 at market.

SWINN—28 at market.

BRIGHTON, JAN. 2.—At market, \$25 Beef Cattle, 150 Stores, 5,000 Sheep and Lambs, and 600 Swine.

BREF CATTLE—We advance our quotations to correspond to sales; although the supply was abort, the small advance was hard to realize:—Prices, extra, \$6,78,07,00; first quality, \$6,900, \$7,508,000 do, \$5,500,600; third do, \$5,000,600; third do, \$5,000,600; third do, \$5,000,600; third do, \$5,000,600; \$650, \$800,600, WORKING OXEN—A few sales only noticed; \$65, \$800,600.

MILIOU COWS—\$37,000; common, \$22,025.

VEAL CALVES—\$3,00, \$4,000,450.

STORES—Yearling, \$7(20)0; Two years old, \$14(20)7; Three years old, \$18(20)2.

STORES—Yearling, \$7(2)10; Two years old, \$14(2)21; Three years old, \$18(2)22.

HIDES—65%(70 %) ib. Tallow—6(2)6%; C.
PELTS—\$1(2)1,37 each. Calf Skins—7(208 %) ib.
SHENF AND LAMBS—\$2,12(2)2,52; extra, \$3,25(3)5,50
SWINE—Shoats dull; several sales at 45(2)4%; c; a lot of York at 5c.; at retail, 1(2)7c Fat hogs, 3%,2,3%(2)4%; c.

### THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—Domestic Fleece Wool has been in good request during the week at full prices; many holders have received orders to withdraw their stocks at anything short of 50c, even for one-fourth and half-blood Merino, in view of a possibility of war with England; some 1,200 bales of Michigan and Wostern Heeces, shipped to Liverpool for a market, are being returned, and a portion has been sold, to arrive, at 50c. Foreign Wools of some descriptions have rapidly advanced also, but the upward tendency of all kinds has been arrested since the amicable adjustment of our political differences with Great Britain. The stock of all kinds, however, is light, and prices are firm.—California is scarce, and most of the receipts in prospect have been sold to arrive. The transactions include 200,000 hs. native fleece at 43@00c. 2,000 Canada Lamb pulled at 47c; 2,000 hs Canada pulled, extra, at 52c; 10,000 hs. native pulled at 48@50c; 150 hales East India washed at 32c 37c for medium; 69 do. unwashed Syrian at 22c, 22 do. washed Smyrna at 53c; and a small lot of Donskoi at 24c, time and interest, and 130 do. unwashed Smyrna on private terms. We quote:

Domestic Fleece \$7 h.

American full-blood Merino

American full-blood Merino

American half and Merino

50,002

Extra pulled

46,005

Superfine pulled

46,005

Superfine pulled

66,005

No. 1 pulled

66,005

Feruvian washed

58,024

No. 1 pulled.
California fine, unwashed.
California common do.
Feruvian washed.
Valparaiso unwashed.
South American common washed.
South American Entre Rios do.
South American unwashed.
South American unwashed.
South American unwashed.
East india washed.
African unwashed.
African washed.
African washed.
Smyrna washed.
Smyrna unwashed.
Mexican unwashed.

BOSTON, JAN. 1.—Prices of wool are very firm, and high rundes more inquired for at higher prices. The sales have been 50,000 hs. fieece and pulled at 47% 6052 for fleece, and 46,254 or No. 1 and extra pulled. In foreign wool not much activity. The sales have been 600 bales Mediterranean and South Ameri-

can at full prices.

Saxony and Merino, fine, 48@52 | Texas,
Full blood, 48@50 | Smyrr
1/2 and 1/2 blood, 50@35 | Do. ur
1/2 common, 50@52 Syriar
Pulled, extra, 50@54 | Cape,
Do. superfine, 47@56 | Crime
Do. No. 1... 44@46 | Buen
Do. No. 2... 20@35 | Perux
Western mixed, 40@50 | Cana Texas,
Smyrna, washed,
Do. unwashed,
Syrian,
Cape,
Crimea,
Buenos Ayres,
Peruvian, washed,
Canada,

### Married.

In Fairport, on Christmas evening, by the Rev. I. Fargo, W.M. NEWMAN and Mrs. SUSAN A. LEONARD, daughter of the late Rev. C. NELSON, and sister of the bridegroom's former lamented companion.

#### Died

In this city, on the 4th inst., OCTAVIUS P. CHAMBERLAIN, wed 59 years.

#### Advertisements.

L' ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance-THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 52% cents per line of space. Special Notices (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line.

The immense circulation of the Rural New-Yorker ull twenty thousand more than that of any other similar journal—renders it by far the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium f its class in America. This FACT should be borne in mind by all Nurserymen, Manufacturers, Wholesale Dealers Land Agents, &c., &c., who necessarily depend upon the People of

BEARDLESS BARLEY for sale at \$4 per bushel, or smaller quantities at the same rate. It is Spring Barley.

J. C. RAYMOND, Penn Yan, Yates Co., N. Y. MALE AND FEMALE AGENTS
M wanted, to sell Union Stationery Packages and Popular
Books. No risk and heavy profits.
CHALLEN & SON, Philadelphia, Pa.

DENMANSHIP TAUGHT BY MAIL, by our new process, as thoroughly and chean as if present, 50 Visiting Cards sent for \$1. C. A. WALWORTH, Professor of Penmanship, National Mercantile College, Philadelphia, Pa.

"HOW TO MAKE MONEY BY AD-ROBERTSON & CO., 82 & 84 Nassau St., New York

N. Y. containing seventy-five acres of Choice Land, about nine of which is wood land and the balance all tillable and under good cultivation, situated two and a half miles from Dreeden, on Seneca Lake, and five miles from Penn Yan, the county seat of Yates County. This farm is beautifully located, with a gentle slope to the east, and has a fine view of Ovid, the State Agricultural College, and many miles of the east shore of Seneca Lake. On the farm is a convenient Dwelling Houses, a good Barn, nearly new, new Shed, and other Out-buildings, two Wells of excellent water, Cistern, a LARGE ORCHARD, Good Praces, &c.

Finces, &c.

Price, \$60 per acre. One half or more of the purchase money can remain, on bond and mortgage, for a term of years. Title perfect.

Possession given on the first of April 2014. perfect.
Possession given on the first of April next, or the stock and tools will be sold with the farm at a reasonable price and possession given immediately. The address of the present owner will be furnished on application, by letter or otherwise, to D. D. T. MOONE, Publisher of Rural New-Yorker, Rochester, N. Y. 624-cow3t.

#### METROPOLITAN GIFT BOOKSTORE, NO. 26 BUFFALO ST., ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

The largest and most liberally conducted establishment of the kind in the United States. All Books sold at the Publisher's Prices, and a Gift given with each purchase, varying in value from 50 cents to \$100. Descriptive Catalogues mailed free to any address upon application. Liberal inducements offered to Agents getting up clubs.

500 PIECES

### CARPETINGS!

New and Elegant Carpetings! Comprising many new styles never before in this market.— OUR STOCK is complete in every department, from the ROYAL MEDALLIONS to the very lowest priced Carpet made. Elegant Carpets,

or Drawing Rooms, Parlors, Dining Rooms, Halls, Libraries, Chambers, Kitchens, Offices, Churches, School Houses.

# In fact, the best assortment of all kinds of CARPET ROOM GOODS to be found in any own house is this country. We have purchased much larger than usual, in anticipation of the rise of Carpetings in consequence of the new Tariff, and the great call for low priced.

WOOLS FOR ARMY USES, A fact that should be borne in mind by all persons about buying a new Carpet; as all goods purchased by us after this will cost from 10 to 20 cents per yard more than now.

OUR STOCK IS THE LARGEST IN VARIETY to be found in any Retail House in this State, and at prices that connot fail to suit the CLOSEST BUYERS.

OUR STOCK IS THE LARGEST IN VARIETY to be found in any Retail House in this State, and at prices that connot fail to suit the CLOSEST BUYERS.

OUR STOCK IS THE CARPET STOCK IS THE STO

TOWLER'S PATENT STEAM PLOWING MACHINERY.—Patent Rights for States and Counties, and Machines, are now for sale. Descriptive Pamphlets sent, post free. Apply to R. W. EDDISON, 608 South Delaware Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

APPLIK STOCKS.—1,000,000 one year, and 2,000,000

APPLIK STOCKS.—1,000,000 one year, and 2,000,000

Our Stocks are unsurpassed, and we offer them for cass at the above war prices.

ENSIGN & FORD,

614-tf Ohio Nurseries, Toledo, Ohio. Otho Nurseries, Toledo, Otho.

POCHESTER LIGHT CARRIAGE
FACTORY, No. 145 Main St., Rochester, N.
Y.—I have now rented a portion of the Carriage Factory formerly occupied by Elliott & Lodewick, where I will manufacture all kinds of light Carriages and Sleighs of the lightest and improved styles. Great attention will be paid to all kinds of repairing. I will make to order any kind of Carriage wood-work for any other establishment, and will sell to them lower than they can manufacture.

J. HUGH McDONOUGH.
Rochester, N. Y., Sept. 14, 1861.

A GENTS WANTED to SELLE Factored and trust-worthy men to sell Trees, &c., from our Nurseries at liberal

wages.

WEGGE AND DEALERS furnished with Nursery Stock, of all descriptions, at the lowest otholesake rates.

HOOKER, FARLEY & CO., 584f Rochester Wholesake Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y

Books for Ruralists. THE following works on Agriculture, Horticulture, &c., may be obtained at the Office of the RURAL NEW-YORKER. We can also furnish other books on Rural Affairs, issued by American

publishers, at the usual retail prices, - and shall add new works Allen's Diseases of Domestic Animals 75
Alien's Kurai Architecture 1 25
Allen on the Grape. 1 00
Am. Architect, or Plans for
Country Dwellings. 6 00
American Florist's Guide. 75
Barry's Fruit Garden. 125
Blake's Farmer at Home. 1 25
Boussingault's Rural Economy. 125 Dadd's Modern Horse Doc. 190
Do. Ans Cattle Doctor 190
Do. Anstomy and Physiologo Golden Parks 200
Do. Calored plates. 200
Do. Prize Essay on Manures 25
Darlington's Weeds and Useful Plats. 150
Dary's Devon Herd Book. 100
Domestic and Ornamental Poultry. 100
Do colored plates. 200
Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees. 1175
Downing's Landscape Garden Plats 1180
Dary's Devon Herd Book. 100
Do. colored plates. 200
Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees. 1175
Downing's Landscape Garden Plats 1180
Dary's Devon Herd Book. 200
Downing's Fruits and Fruit Stephens's Down Hook. 200
Downing's Fruits and Fruit Stephens's Book of the Farm 2 vols. 350
Do. Rural Essays. 350
Do. Rural Essays. 350
Essats 200
Downing's Landscape Garden Plats 200
Downing's Landscape Gar dening 3 50
Do. Rural Essays 3 60
Eastwood's Cranberry Culture 50 AgriCulture 25 Smith's Landscape Gardening. Theer's Principles of Agriculture 25 Smith's Landscape Gardening. 1 25
Culture 26
Smith's Landscape Gardening. 1 25
Theer's Principles of Agriculture 25
Smith's Landscape Gardening. 1 25
Theer's Principles of Agri-Culture 200
Thomas' Farm Implements 100
Thempson's Food of Animals Gardener... 50
Family Doctor by Prof. H.
S. Taylor, 125
Farm Drainage, (H. F.
French) ... 100

Family Doctor by Prof. H.
S. Taylor,
S. Taylor,
Farm Drainage, (H. F.
French)
Fessenden's Farmer and
Gardener
Do. Am Kitchen Garden 50
Field's Pear Culture 100
Flint on Grasses
Genenon on Milch Cows 60
Herbert to Horse-keepers 125
Hooper's Boy & Gun, paper, 25
Do. do. cloth Roore 50
Hough's Farm Record 50
Kidder's Guide to Aplartan
Science, 50
Kidder's Hough's Elements of AgToculture 50
Kidder's Guide to Aplartan
Science, 75
Kidder's Guide to Aplartan
Science, 75
Kidder's Guide to Aplartan
Science, 75
Kidder's Hough's Elements of AgToculture 50
Kidder's Hough's Elements of AgToculture 75
Kidder's Hough's Elements 75
Kidder's Hough's Elements

mail, post-paid, on receipt of the price specified. D. D. T. MOORE, Rochester, N. Y.

A A AC

bales.

## MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

#### [Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] COLUMBIA.

BY AMANDA T. JONES.

COLUMBIA, thou peerless one. Through glory's gates exulting enter; For thou art Freedom's morning sun, Of all her stars the shining center. The King of kings, whom worlds revere Bent down, and from the darkness won thee; Placed thee in thine effulgent sphere, And set his radiant seal upon thee Columbia! Columbia!-

Blest land where tyrants flourish never -On thy green soil we bend the knee, And hall thee Gon's and ours forever

Ah! well we know JEHOVAH'S love. When all earth's Eastern flowers did wither, Bade the swift breezes westward move To waft the seed of Freedom hither. Wild roared the blast — the hardy germ By secret dews of eve was nourished: Soft sang the wind - erect and firm It rose, and by the waters flourished. Columbia, etc.

Eden of earth! thy generous clime Gave Freedom's plant sun, wind, and shower; It bloomed - the brightest rose of time, And on our hearts we wear the flower. With loval blood in every vein, In spirit free, though bond in letter, We link our golden Union chain, And bless the Power that forged the fetter. Columbia, etc.

Queen of the seas! when o'er the flood Came armies, mad with thirst for slaughter, Upon thy hills our fathers' blood For love of thee ran down like water And when the blatant cannon stormed, By Treason's dastard hand directed, At once thy patriot-legions swarmed, And every stream their swords reflected. Columbia, etc.

Live on, unshamed and unenslaved, When all that seek thy hurt have perished! By Freemen won, by Freemen saved, And by the Gon of Freemen cherished! Heaven's crystal gates, thou peerless one, Uplift their heads to bid thee enter; For thou art Freedom's morning sun, And all her stars around thee center. Columbia! Columbia! Bright land where tyrants flourish never With reverent love we hend the knee. For thou art GoD's and ours forever

Buffalo, N. Y., 1861.

# The Story-Teller.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE HEIR OF REMSTEAD PLACE.

BY F. H. STAUFFER.

AUTHOR OF "UNDER A CLOUD," &C. [Continued from page 12, last week.]

CHAPTER III. ALONE!

How sad and drear it sometimes is to be alone! Alone with agonizing and self-accusing thoughts; alone with unsatisfied yearnings; alone in the dreary wandering back through memory to the beautiful long ago; alone—and all so calm, so still, the very beating of the heart seems to fall upon the

PAUL DEVAREUX sat alone. No solemn silence brooded on the air, for the rain beat sharply against the casement, and the storm scarce for a moment lulled. Now and then a quick clap of thunder, or a prolonged roar, added to the fierceness of the night; and precursing either, flashes of lightning shot across the sky, glimmering brightly even in that high old attic.

On the bed, in the cold embrace of death, lay his mother. One arm was thrown in a half circle around her head, while the other hand rested where, in its sudden coldness and stiffness, it had dropped from the hand of PAUL. Her lips were slightly apart, as if she were yet murmuring earnest words love and faith: the lids of her eyes were merely drooped, just as if they had involuntarily closed before the awakening light of which she had spoken: while upon her face lingered a sweet expression of resignation and hope. Her spirit had assumed its eternal embodiment. The grandeur of the soul that had suffered and was strong, that had been tempted and vet did not fall, twinkled a star in the firmament of God's brightness, crowned with honor and glory forever.

PAUL sat in a profound reverie. Thought was busy with his soul, and the changes of light and shadow on his face revealed their alternations of pleasure and bitterness. And so he was the true heir of Remstead Place? to the titled lands, the noble mansion, the sloping lawns, the blossoming orchards, the luxuriant gardens? He could hardly realize the fact - he hardly knew whether he ought to feel happy or sorrowful. And then came thoughts of MIRIAM, and his course of action toward her from the change of circumstances. The property was his, and he could honestly, justly accept of her offer to share it with her. But it was the principle from which she had acted that came up against her in the eloquent pleading of love. The past sacrifice of her love to her pride—the immolation of the gushing affections of her young heart upon the altar of fashion and avarice—these came up against her. No. she was still in the refining fire, and he would watch and wait until she came thence purified. One year had passed, and he would allow another to go by ere he asserted his claims or divulged his secret. He had been schooling his heart, and wild, thrilling, ecstatic as his love had been, he learned to look upon it without tremor or dread: and it came to him like a heantiful dream of the past—a picture vapors. And at times, when it would come up to him as a reality, he would bring her to mind in the light she appeared at the last interview; and thus arrayed in the hideousness of her haughtiness and pride, she stood before him a "deformed beauty," and he almost turned away with a shudder.

But in his reverie beside the dead, it does not seem strange that the memory of MIRIAM should have been tinted with something of its olden beauty. To wed her now would not cause upbraidings from the voice of his integrity; could she not have mourned in self-reproach, have repented, and be yearning for the sweet reunion again? Ah! love is an eloquent pleader; its voice is the voice of melody; its bribe is the full happiness of life; and its inspiration is the inspiration of the impassioned soul.

And MIRIAM!

She, too, sat alone, engaged in communion with her own soul on that night of tempest and storm. The lightning in her vicinity was more vivid and do so by virtue of your office -"

frightful, and the peals of thunder more quick and startling. As is usual with such storms, it was soon over, and a sort of drowsy yet regular and continuous rain followed.

The thoughts of MIRIAM were upon PAUL - PAUL the beloved—PAUL the spiritually beautiful. And once, as if a magnetic current had been established between their minds, she saw a cold, dim attic, with a corpse lying upon a snow-white counterpane, and kneeling by the bed was one with the dark locks and kindly face of PAUL DEVAREUX. She started, pressed her hands upon her brow, and then the vision vanished.

Ah! had not PAUL prophesied right that quiet eve upon the veranda? Her restlessness at one time, and her vacant, aimless movements at another, fully attested it. Her tapered fingers could not draw from her guitar the witching sounds of the long ago; and the song died upon her lips or wandered into a plaintiveness that made her heart ache. Seldom stood her neighing steed at the gate; it was so dull, so monotonous to ride; the long, shady groves had lost their beauty, for PAUL was not there! The dreamings of the poets no longer contained the rich gems the deep, musical voice of PAUL had held up so gloriously to her mind. Her eyes read, but her heart did not understand. And often the letters seemed to shapen themselves into earnest, truthful, loving words that PAUL may once have said, treasured never to be forgotten in the soul. Yes, she loved Paul still; with a more calm, solemn, brooding love; and had he come into the room just then, she would have knelt at his feet, no more to be an alien from his confidence and affection.

PAUL seemed more beautiful and glorious than ever to her in the integrity of his soul. Time had wrung the bitterness from her breast; and to be steeped in the very wretchedness of poverty would have been preferable to her present dissatisfied yearning - if Paul were to share that wretchedness

The sun rose beautifully the next morning over the storm. The birds twittered, the flowers opened their velvet petals, and the river had learned some deeper monotones. MIRIAM sat in the parlor. She was arrayed in a plain white dress, her hair tastefully arranged and in harmony with the pale, quiet, spiritual beauty of her face. Her lips were expressive of resolution, and there was much of earnestness and thought in her liquid eyes.

Soon a short, portly gentleman entered the rooma middle aged man, with red face, red hair, red whiskers, and a remarkably red waistcoat. He was puffing like a porpoise, and giving expression to ccentricities in every word and movement.

"Good morning, Mr. Morgan," said MIRIAM;" "take a chair."

"Thank you"—and out came a red handkerchief of inexpressible dimensions, which didn't remove any of the redness from his face. "It's warm: it's very warm; it's positively warm; no, it's hot! My head seems on fire, and if I were to stick it into a bucket of water it would s-p-l-u-r-phiz! It's a fact; but what is wrong, now?"

"I have a little matter that I wish you to attend to for me, if it is not too troublesome."

"Your commands are never troublesome, never annoving, never executed with displeasure. What a cool air comes in at that window. It is quite refreshing; it is positively refreshing! Well?"

"Would it be asking too much to request you to take charge of the estates for one year?"

"There it is again! So dreadfully afraid of imposing on me. I am provoked—positively provoked. But why do you ask this?"

"I am going to Europe."

"To Europe? Why, you are a little goose." "Thank you," said MIRIAM, smiling at the abruptness and eccentricity of her friend. "You will think me more of a goose still, when you hear further of my intentions. I want you to have this notice published in the different papers." As MIRIAM spoke, she handed him a slip of paper.

In went the handkerchief and out came the specs Mr. Morgan took a pinch of snuff, crossed his legs, pushed back his chair, and opening the paper read aloud:-

Notice.—The heirs of Remstead Place, Orange county, New York, are notified that they can have immediate and peaceable possession thereof. The right of possession is hereby voluntarily relinquished to the stronger and prior right of heirship. Call on, or address,

CALEE F. MORGAN,

No. — Beekman street, N. Y.

"Humph," grunted Mr. Morgan, shoving back his specs and again having recourse to the handkerchief. "This. is refreshing, positively refreshing You were right; you are really more of a goose than I thought you were."

"Will you do this for me. Mr. MORGAN?" "No!" was the abrupt answer.

"Emphatically no?"

"Yes-emphatically and positively No." "Then I shall apply elsewhere," calmly returned

MIRIAM. Mr. Morgan rose to his feet, and after passing once around the room, stopped in front of Miriam "Miss Lee," he said, "are you insane?"

"I am in earnest." "No, you are not. It is a whim - a positive

whim — a superlative whim." "The sense of right and duty, Mr. Morgan, is no

whim." "Right? duty? humph! There is no such a thing as right, any more. It is an obsolete term and

attribute. But where do you get this sense of right?" "Within my own soul, Mr. Morgan." "It is simply an impulse,"

"If it is, it is a holy, earnest impulse. Men often err from judgment-women rarely from impulse. But I do not wish to argue the question. You know, too, what is right, and I do not want you to drive me from my purpose by your sophistry and on the clouds, that passed away with their shifting | quibbling - your law phrases and contorted definitions of right. My mind is made up; I am as immovable as a rock." "A large rock, Miss Lee?"

"You are disposed to be facetious, this morningpositively' facetious. But, once for all, will you do this favor for me? You shall be remunerated."

"Since you are in earnest, and cannot be driven from your purpose, I consent. Your will shall be my law. Pardon me if I have been coarse and abrupt."

"I have nothing to pardon, Mr. MORGAN. I have known you for years - and that is enough. My father's friends are my friends, Mr. Morgan." "Thank you, thank you, MIRIAM; allow me to

call you MIRIAM. Peace to the ashes of the dead!" and the lawyer brushed an honest tear from his eye. "I shall proceed regularly and energetically in this matter.'

That is what I wish. You are fully empowered to

"And the stronger virtue of your will, MIRIAM." "Yes, bless you for the words, Mr. MORGAN. I am strong; my will is a virtue now. I am doing right, and I shall be rewarded for it. I have enough to support me while traveling; it will do me good; it will inspire me with hope; it will bring the warm flush to my cheeks. I shall correspond regularly with you, Mr. Morgan - in a friendly, business-like way, you know. Keep me advised of what is going on; and when the true heirs appear, and you are satisfied in your own mind of the validity of their claims, give them immediate possession. My address

while abroad is to be an inviolate secret." "And if Mr. DEVAREUX should ask?" questioned Mr. Morgan, shrugging up his shoulders.

"It is not likely that he will ask. If he does, do not tell him until I consent." "Which will be in your first letter home."

"Be still, Mr. Morgan," said Miriam, with a blush mingled with a look of pain upon her face. "I may be very sensitive to your jests.

Mr. Morgan apologized - and in a few minutes afterwards was riding from Remstead Place, moralizing on the different phases in society, and wiping his very red face with his very red handkerchief.

#### CHAPTER IV.

A YEAR HAD IASSED.

A year of joys and sorrows, of clouds and sunshine, of accessions and disappointments. MIRIAM was still a sojourner in Europe. Almost every city and place of bearty, novelty, or consequence had been visited by her. London, Edinburg, Dresden,

Constantinople, Venice, Naples, Rome, and Paris. In the latter city of beauty and interest, of intrigues and inconsistencies, of alternate revolution and lethargy, we again bring her before our readers. She was aguest at the Hotel St. James, in the Rue St. Honore, that hotel so thoroughly English in its noise and bistle: its accommodations and its prices.

She sat by the window with something of an air of sadness and weariness. Traveling had done her good. Her form had developed more fully in its beauty; her cheeks were round and ruddy; her eyes were more brilliant and vivacious, and bathed in the earnestness of thought. Her whole air was that of a calm, contented, self-possessed woman.

Yet she was weary of Paris - and her thoughts were tumed toward the sunny shores of her own beloved laid. Thither she was slowly making up her mind to end her steps. Almost every place of note in popuace-heaving Paris had been visited; the Jardin es Plantes, with its birds, beasts, and flowers, a practical lecture upon natural history; the galleries of the Louvre, awakening the innate taste for the art and conveying the history of the country by the events they commemorate; the Tuilleries, the Champs Eyssees, St. Cloud, Versailles with its palaces and paks - all these MIRIAM had visited - and on that dayshe had even entered the low gray stone building, the Morgue, that city of the suicidal dead -that last rfuge of passion, misery and crime.

The room which MIRIAM occupied was plainly furnished. "here were two large airy windows, with red andwhite curtains; a fine mirror between the windows a round marble-topped table in the middle of the room, a snug bed with befrilled pillows and dragery to match the windows, a clock and flower vases of the mantel, and a beautiful piece of carpet before the hearth, and another by the bed. Upon the table lay two letters yet unopened. At last, as if wear, of her silent meditations, MIRIAM left the window, sat down by the table, and slowly opening one of the letters, she began to read. It was one from Mr. Morgan, filled with his usual eccentricities, his "positive" assurances, his abrupt admonisions, his playful raillery. The closing part of the letter, however, made her cheek blanch, and a low cry to escape from her lips. The extract ran as follows:

"Well, MIRIAM, as I have told you several times before, the heir has appeared, and the homestead has been passing by a regular process into his hands. To-day the last legal conventionality was entered into, and by the time this letter reaches you the heir of Remstead Place will have taken full possession thereof. I hove taken the top to the procession thereof. session thereof. I never told you who the heir was, neither have you ever expressed the slightest curiosity about the matter in your letters. It is now both my pleasure and my duty to inform you. I can almost imagine that I hear your heart beat fast and thick — that I see your cheeks flush and your and thick,—that I see your cheeks flush and your eyes grow brilliant, positively brilliant, as I whisper his name. MRIAM, it is your beloved, your betrothed, your worshiped PAUL!"

"PAUL DEVAREUX! O, my Goo!" cried the girl wildly, clasping her hands in agony together, now pressing them heavily upon her white forehead, and then swinging them vacantly backward and forward as she slowly paced up and down the room. "PAUL DEVAREUX! O, this is bitter! With one fell swoop this has wrecked my hopes, and obliterated all my dreams of beauty and grandeur. O, woe to me, woe to me! How I wish I were dead!"

How black it must be within the soul, how dark and dreary without, how bleak and uninviting the long dim vista of the future,-when the heart whispers that iniquitous prayer, "I wish that I were dead!"-how weary of life, how bereft of all energy, how shorn of all that makes existence worth a struggle or a prayer! [Conclusion next week.]

### POWER OF THE WILL.

CHILDREN often rise in the morning in anything out an amiable frame of mind. Petulant, impatient, quarrelsome, they cannot be spoken to or touched without producing an explosion of ill-nature. Sleep seems to have been a bath of vinegar to them, and one would think the fluid had invaded their mouth and nose, and eyes and ears, and had been absorbed by every pore of their sensitive skins. In a condition like this, I have seen them bent over the parental knee and their persons subjected to blows from the parental palm; and they have emerged from the infliction with the vinegar all expelled, and their faces shining like the morning-the transition complete and satisfactory to all the parties. Threequarters of the moods that men and women find themselves in are just as much under the control of the will as this. The man who rises in the morning, with his feelings all bristling like the quills of a hedgehog, simply needs to be knocked down. Like a solution of certain salts, he requires a rap to make him crystalize. A great many mean things are done in the family for which moods are put forward as the excuse, when the moods themselves are the most inexcusable things of all. A man or a woman in tolerable health has no right to indulge in an unpleasant mood, or to depend upon moods for the performance of the duties of life. If a bad mood come to such persons as these, it is to be shaken off by a direct effort of the will, under all circumstances.—"Lessons in Life."

THE busybody labors without thanks, talks with out credit, lives without love, and dies without tears.

# Wit and Humor.

[Re-published from a former Volume, by Special Request.]



#### DISASTROUS EFFECTS OF TERRA-CULTURE,

First Farmer.—In the name of wonders, neighbor Sмітн, what have you got there?

Second Farmer.-Why, you see last year I paid \$1 for the secret of terra-culture, and this year it will cost me \$1,000 to get my farm rid of these pumpkins, and the trunks of corn stalks which we have commenced chopping down this morning. Don't forget to come to the logging bee!

An Inference.-To a servant who had lived many years with a clergyman, his master took occasion to

"John, you have been a long time in my service: I dare say you will be able to preach a sermon as well as I."

"O no, sir," said John, "but many an inference I

have drawn from yours." "Well," said the clergyman, "I will give you a text out of Job - let me know what you infer from

it — 'And the asses snuffed up the east wind.'" "Well," said John, "the only inference I can draw from this is, that it would be a long time before they would grow fat upon it."

Don't Jump.-Never jump out of a third story window when there is any means of escape.

Never jump at conclusions. Try to avoid jumping out of the frying pan into

Never jump off the dock because you are in debt or in love. You'll get wet if you do.

Never jump at a flash of lightning - you can't

"Does the razor take hold well?" inquired a donkey, who was shaving a gentleman from the country.

"Yes," replied the customer, with tears in his eyes, "it takes hold first rate, but it don't let go worth a cent."

A STORY is told of a person asking another one whether he would advise him to lend a certain friend money.

"What! lend him money! You might lend him

# an emetic, and he wouldn't return it."

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Vorker AGRICULTURAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 36 letters. My 6, 9, 2,  $\overline{56}$  is a kind of soil.

My 4, 11, 33, 20, 5 is a very useful domestic animal. My 14, 27, 33, 10, 1, 18, 28, 23, 3, 28, 33, 1, 6, 13 is one who

My 30, 2, 11, 33, 18, 21, 35, 33, 36 is much needed on every farm.

My 7, 26, 1, 24, 29, 18, 22, 33, 25, 34, 33 is a kind of potato

My 11, 17, 31 is a kind of grain. Mx 33, 9, 12, 13, 8, 33 is part of a building.

My 32, 19, 29, 18, 14 is a kind of wood.

My 33, 15, 8 is a kind of grain.

My 16, 30, 23, 23, 11, 7 is to plow, harrow, and break, withou sowing.

My whole is a sentence pronounced by God upon Adam and

nis posterity. Mesopotamia, Ohio, 1861.

Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

C. N. BATES.

A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS. l is a number, a letter, and a small but useful article. 2 is an animal and a covering for the hand.

3 is an adjective and a gentleman's name. 4 is a color and a lady's name. 5 is a color and something used in winter when riding. 6 is two colors.

Z is a woman, a letter, and a covering for the foot. 8 is wealth and a lady's name. 9 is an animal and an accidental movement.

10 is religious persons and a covering for the head. 11 is a lady's name and a place where metals are found. 12 is a woman, a preposition, the definite article, and a sheet

of water. 13 is a hard substance and a color. 14 is a kind of cloth and a fine shrub 15 is a bird and an article used in riding.

16 two ladies' names. 17 is a part of the day and something much sought after when it signifies fame. 18 is a vehicle and a country

December, 1861. Answerin two weeks.

FRANK E. HORTON.

#### DECAPITATIONS. BEHEAD a household article and leave a part of a gun.

Behead a craft and leave a grain. Behead a tumor and leave a subst Behead a fruit and leave a part of the body Behead a stream and leave a bird. Behead a number and leave a part of the day. Behead a joiner's tool and leave a short road Behead a domestic article and leave a part of a house. Behead a pack of goods and leave a beverage.

Behead a coffer and leave an animal.

Behead a deep utensil and leave a fierce bird. Behead a piece of furniture and leave the name of a shepherd Answer in two weeks.

> For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. GEOMETRICAL PROBLEM.

A SEMI-CIRCUMFERENCE of a circle is drawn with a radius qual to 10. Suppose another arc to be drawn within the former, cutting it at its extremities with a radius equal to 14,142 (which is the square root of twice the square of 10.) Required, the area of the crescent thus formed. Batavia, N. Y., 1861. J. REAMER, JR.

Answer in two weeks

#### Advertisements.

MANUAL of AGRICULTURE.

Prepared under the direction and published with the sanction of the MASSACHUSETTS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE. MASSACHUSETTS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE,
An Elementary Treatise, comprising the Principles and Practice
of Agriculture, including the Composition of Soils, the Atmosphere, Water, Manures, etc., the Preparation of
Lands, the Culture of Special Crops, the Principles
of Rotation, the Diseases and Enemies of Growing Plants, the Choice and Management of
Farm Stock, and the General Economy
of the Farm and the Household.

FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS, FAMILIES, AND
FARMERS.

BY GEORGE B. EMERSON, For many years connected with the Massachusetts Board of Education, and author of a valuable Report on the Trees and Shrubs of Massachusetts; and

CHARLES L. FLINT, Secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, author of a Treatise on Milch Cows and Dairy Farming, Grasses and Forage Plants, etc.,
ILLUSTRATED BY MANY ENGRVINGS.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, after a careful evision of the work, passed the following resolution: "Resolved. That this Board approve of the Manual of Agriculture submitted by its authors, Messrs. George B. Emerson and Charles L. Flint, and recommend its publication by these gentlemen as a work well adapted for use in the schools of Massachusetts."

The Manual P. Manual P.

From Hon. MARSHALL P. WILDER From Hon. MARSHALL P. WILDER.

\* Most cordially do I recommend the book as being admiarbly adapted to the use of schools, and equally valuable to the cultivators of the soil. I take great pleasure in commending it not only to the people of Massachusetts, but to the farming community throughout our country."

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

From The Montreal Transcript. "One of the most useful books of the kind we have ever met with."

From The Barnstable Patriot.

From The Gazette, Montreal. "The plan of the work is admirable, and the writing has the terit of being both clear and concise."

Price 75 cents. Copies sent by mail on receipt of the price.
A liberal discount made to Schools, Academies, or Public nations.

HUBBARD & NORTHROP

POPULAR SALES ROOM,

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

A CHOICE AND COMPLETE ASSORTMEN') OF

A CHOICE AND COMPLETE ASSORMENT OF
European and American Dress Goods,
Black and Fancy Dress Silks,
Broche and Woolen Long Shawls,
Broche and Woolen Square Shawls,
Broche and Woolen Square Shawls,
Broche and Paramettas,
French Merinos, (best assortment in Rochester,)
French Merinos, (best assortment in Rochester,)
French and American Prints and Ginghams,
House Furnishing Goods, Woolen Blankets,
Lace and Muslin Drapery, (Yard or Set,)
Wrappers and Drawers, (Ladies' and Gentlemen's,)
White Goods, Embroideries, Hosiery, &c.

Bleached and Brown Sheetings and Shirtings, Tickings, Denims and Towelings, At less than the present New York prices.

Notwithstanding the general stagnation in almost every de-partment of business during the last few months, it is with nuch satisfaction that we are able to record the fact that our efforts to maintain our former amount of business have been entirely successful, and in some departments the sales have in-creased over those of any previous year.

Which we should be happy to exhibit, confidently believing that they would be appreciated by the most economical purchaser. We are also extensive manufacturers of

Every desirable grade of Cloth and Beaver CLOAKS, of the most approved and Fashionable Styles, are now offered by us in great variety. We are also prepared

For those who prefer selecting their own Cloths.

We have taken great pains to perfect arrangements appertaining to this popular branch of our business, and we are every month acquiring more and more popularity in the Manufacturing Department.

OUR PRICES, ALWAYS SATISFACTORY.

HUBBARD & NORTHROP, Nos. 69 & 71 Main Street, Rochester, N. Y

\$150. PIANO-FORTES. \$150. fine new 7-octave PLANO-FORTE, full iron frame, over-strung, rosewood case, warranted for five years, for \$150, cash; and rich molding cases, with carved legs and lyre, from \$175 to \$200, of as good work and material as has been sold for \$400 or \$500 by the old methods of manufacturing. We warrant them to stand in tune better than any Plano ever made. We invite all to examine these new instruments at our factory, corner of Canal and Hudson Streets, New York.

GROVESTEEN & HALE. Hudson Streets, New York.

I would advise my friends and all in want of a good, substantial Piano, to examine GROVESTEEN & HALES new 7-octave Pianos. I have had the care, the past year, of more than 200 Pianos of different makers, and these stand in tune better than any I ever saw; the touch and tone are fine—good as any costing double that money [624-4t] J. PRIESTLY, New York.

### MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY WEEKLY, IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY,

D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y. Office, Union Buildings, Opposite the Court House, Buffalo Street.

TERMS IN ADVANCE:

Two Dollars a Year.—To Clubs and Agents as follows:-Three Copies one year, for \$5; Six, and one free to club agent, Three copies one year, for \$0; Six, and one free to club agent, for \$10; Ten, and one free, for \$15; Fifteen, and one free, for \$21; Twenty, and one free, for \$25; and any greater number at same rate—only \$1.25 per copy. Club papers directed to individuals and sent to as many different Post-Offices as desired. As we prepay American postage on papers sent to the British Provinces, our Canadian agents and friends must add 12½ cents per copy to the club rates of the RURAL. The lowest price of copies sent to Europe, &c., is \$2.50—including postage.

THE above Terms and Rates are invariable. Therefore, any person who is not an agent, sending the club rate (\$1.50 or \$1.25) for a single copy (the price of which is \$2,) will only receive the paper the length of time the money pays for at full single copy price. People who send us less than published rates, and request the paper for a year, or a return of the money, cannot be accommodated—for it would be unjust to others to comply, and a great inconvenience to return remittances. The only way to get the RURAL for less than \$2 a year,

is to form or join a club. THE CASHSYSTEM is strictly adhered to in publishing the RURAL - copies are never mailed to individual subscribers until paid for, and always discontinued when the subscription term expires. Hence, we force the paper upon none, and keep no. credit books, long experience having demonstrated that the

CASH PLAN is the best for both Subscriber and Publisher. Additions to Clubs are always in order, whether in ones, twos, fives, tens, twenties, or any other number. Subscriptions can commence with the volume or any number: but the former is the best time, and we shall send from it for some weeks, unless specially directed otherwise. Please "make a note of it."

OUR INDUCEMENTS for obtaining subscribers to the Thirteenth Volume of the RURAL, for 1862, are of the most Liberal and Substantial character. Premium Lists. Show-Bills, &c., sent free to all disposed to act as agents.

ANY person so disposed can act as local agent for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and those who volunteer in the good cause will receive gratuities, and their kindness be appreciated. No Traveling Agents are employed by us, as we wish to

give the whole field to local agents and those who form clubs. SEE PUBLISHER'S NOTICES on preceding page.

From The Ohio Farmer. "The plan of the work is excellent, and the matter equal to the plan. Had we the power, we would have it taught in every school in America."

"It may be safely accepted as a standard work upon all that t professes to teach. We recommend it to all our farmers as a most useful hand book."

Institutions.

A liberal discount will also be made to Agents.

Every farmer and every man who cultivates a garden should have this book.

SWAN, BREWER & TILESTON,

625-0

No. 131 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

Are now offering, at their

Nos. 69 & 71 Main St., Marble Buildings,

EVERY DEPARTMENT CONTAINS BARGAINS!

LADIES' CLOTH GARMENTS.

TO MANUFACTURE GARMENTS TO ORDER, AT A FEW HOURS' NOTICE.

SHORT-HORNS.—I have for sale a few Bulls and Bull Calves, Cows and Heifers. The Young Stock by the Duke of Gloster (11332,) and Grand Duke of Oxford (16134, JAMES O. SHELDON, 623-9t White Spring Farm, Geneva, N. Y.