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AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER,

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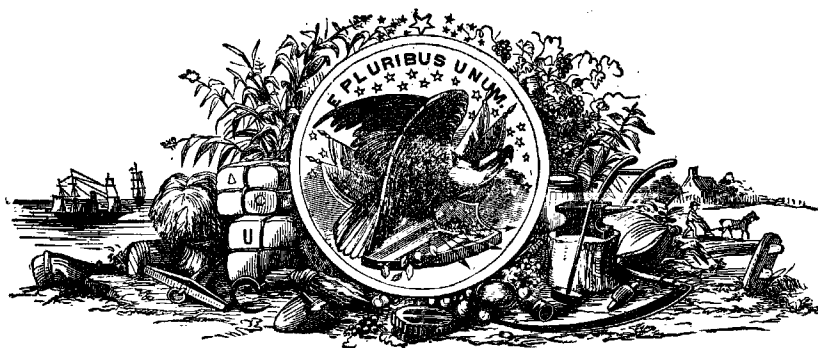
HOME INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRY AND TOWN RESIDENTS,

EMBRACING DEPARTMENTS DEVOTED TO

AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS AND SCIENCES, DOMESTIC AND RURAL ECONOMY, LITERATURE,

EDUCATION. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE, THE MARKETS, &C., &C.

ILLUSTRATED WITH BEAUTIFUL AND COSTLY ENGRAVINGS.



CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,

WITH AN ABLE CORPS OF ASSISTANTS AND CONTRIBUTORS.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

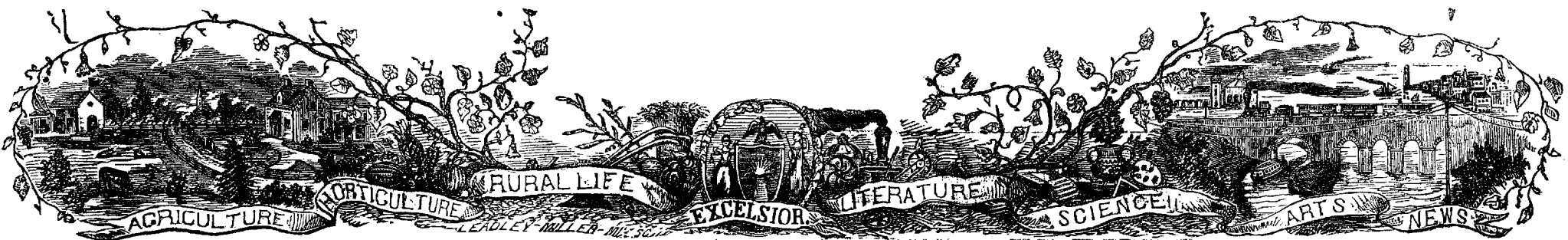
VOLUME XII, 1861.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, AT ROCHESTER, NEW YORK,

BY D. D. T. MOORE, OPPOSITE THE COURT HOUSE, BUFFALO STREET.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

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AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.
CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

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 personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently instructive and entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the 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 in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

VOLUME XII—INTRODUCTORY.

For the twelfth time it becomes our duty to invite an introductory article for a New Year and Volume of the RURAL NEW-YORKER—and the present one must be penned very hastily, amid the cares, labors and constant interruptions of the busiest season we have experienced in over twenty years of journalism. Hence, if we fall short of your expectations, reader—if we offer nothing original, striking, eloquent, or otherwise worthy the occasion—please bear in mind that what you now read is the crude production of one whose brain and physical energies have been overtaxed by constant labor, and the frequent and unavoidable demands attendant upon the enlargement and improvement of the Contents and Appearance of this Journal. Indeed, if you have ever demolished a long-cherished dwelling and constructed upon its site a new and modern edifice—being very particular to have the latter a decided improvement, internally and externally—you can perhaps, to some extent, appreciate the ordeal through which we have recently passed; though (having experienced both vexatious labors,) we think the rebuilding and enlargement of a house an easy task compared with the reconstruction and expansion of a newspaper, the entire material being new, and the time for the revolution limited to a few days instead of several months. In one case the skill and labor of masons, carpenters, painters, &c., are employed in succession, and if mistakes are made, days and weeks can be occupied, if necessary, in making amends;—but in the other, the science, handwork and power of type-founders, paper-makers, writers, engravers, printers, pressmen and steam-presses, must be brought into requisition nearly at the same time, while no day can be permitted in any department. And if there is a "failure to connect" here and there (and such things are unavoidable in a provincial town, even in the Metropolis of Western New York,) resort must frequently be had to the telegraph wires (the mails being too slow) to "hurry up" this and that indispensable article. A, no!—building a new house on the ruins of an old one—or even getting married, and going to house-keeping for the first time—is no "circumstance" to which we (vulgar parlance) "course of sprouts" to which we of the RURAL Office have been subjected during the past two weeks. But we are saying too much before we fairly begin what was intended to be included in this article.

In presenting the initial number of a new year and volume, our first and bounden duty is to tender sincere acknowledgments to each and all who have in any wise contributed to the remarkable success and prosperity of the RURAL NEW-YORKER—to the tens of thousands whose confidence, encouragement and support have enabled us to thus materially enlarge its pages and render its Style and Contents correspondingly tasteful, entertaining and valuable. Those to whom we are under obligations are numerous, and widely-scattered throughout this broad Union, (including the would-be Southern Confederacy) the Canadas, &c.—indeed, over every civilized portion of the Western Continent—and therefore our acknowledgments must be somewhat Cosmopolitan in aspiration. All who are familiar with the past course of this journal are probably so familiar with the platform to which it has uniformly adhered, that any declaration of principles would be superfluous in this connection—yet the many thousands whom we now address for the first time are entitled to an announcement of our aims and objects, and these we will give as concisely as possible, by repeating what we have said aforesaid, and in such other remarks as seem pertinent to the occasion. As we remarked, substantially, in commencing its eleventh volume, the first number of the RURAL NEW-YORKER was issued with full faith in the intelligence and wisdom of the RURALISTS of this happy land. We then resolved, whether success or failure, prosperity or adversity crowned our efforts, to furnish a journal devoted to

the dissemination of light and truth and the destruction of their opposites, and never permit a line to appear in its pages calculated to do evil, or cause a blush on the cheek of purity. Each year has added thousands to its readers and supporters (the best evidence of its merit and sterling value,) until now we can truly affirm there is no Agricultural and Family Journal in the world with so many warm, working friends—none with so long an array of subscribers, and none that is exerting an influence so large, wide, and beneficial. Commensurate with the progress of the RURAL has been the advancement of the Agricultural, Horticultural, and kindred Industrial Interests of the Country. All conversant with the history of the past eleven years are, however, aware that no equal period has developed such "Progress and Improvement" in the Art that feeds and clothes the world, and we need not dilate upon the subject. During this period farmers and their families have made rapid strides, and hosts of those now engaged in cultivating farms, orchards, or gardens, or in breeding or caring for any of the various useful domestic animals, are reading, thinking, studious, and communicative on the branches with which they are familiar. And it is to such men that the Agricultural Press of America is, to a large extent, indebted for its present prosperity and usefulness—for a circulation and power which is doing more to make the fortune of the People and Country than any other influence of equal expense.

In regard to the future of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, we can only say to all subscribers (old, as well as those now being enrolled on our list,) that we shall endeavor to render it in all respects worthy its motto, "Excelsior," and a valiant advocate and promoter of the objects it has long sought to advance—"Progress and Improvement." With more space, a vast increase of subscribers, and greater facilities than ever before, we enter upon a new year and volume with augmented confidence that we shall be enabled to render this journal eminently beneficial to individuals and communities, and highly promotive of the best interests of the country. Embracing many important Departments, each of which we strive to make, in the course of a year, as complete as any distinct paper or book on the subject, the labor and expense bestowed upon the RURAL can hardly be realized by one unacquainted with journalism,—yet we hope to make its merits and value so manifest as to be appreciated by every careful reader. To make the whole paper valuable and acceptable, while its various parts shall be useful and complete, we employ the best talent, and that best adapted to the several departments. Indeed, as we have said on a similar occasion, our object from the commencement of the RURAL NEW-YORKER has not been to furnish either an Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary or News journal,—but rather to combine all these, and thus present a paper unequalled in Value, Variety, and Usefulness of Contents. Our earnest desire has ever been to make it an honest, independent, reliable and eminently useful RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER—correct in its teachings on Practical Subjects, instructive and entertaining to members of the Family Circle, of high moral tone, and entirely free from deception and quackery, even in its advertising department. Such was our platform before the RURAL paid expense, and it is the same now, when receiving an average (as we have for the past week) of about two thousand subscribers per day.

Appreciating our indebtedness to the thousands who have thus far seconded our efforts, and the increasing thousands who are now subscribing for and extending the circulation of this journal—augmenting its sphere of usefulness in school districts, hamlets, villages and cities throughout the States, Territories, and British Provinces—we enter upon the arduous and responsible labors and duties of a New Year and Volume in the hope of being able to discharge them with such fidelity as to merit a continuance of the confidence and support already so largely and generously accorded to the enterprise in which we are engaged.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES—ANNUAL MEETINGS.

As the Annual Meetings of most of the State, County, and Local Agricultural Societies are to be held during the ensuing few weeks, we beg to call the attention of Farmers, Horticulturists, Mechanics, Manufacturers, and all others interested in the proper management of such associations, to the importance of attending and participating in the proceedings on such occasions. Members who feel an interest in the prosperity and perpetuity of these Societies—who desire to see their reputation and usefulness maintained and increased—are especially bound to be present at the annual meetings, and speak and vote for such measures, and men for officers, as will further their views of right and progress in future management. And they should scrutinize the past action of managers—know what has been done, and at how great an expense. All officers worthy of their positions prefer to have members take this course, instead of omitting their duty and ignorantly complaining, or insinuating suspicions, that some things are not right—that money has been foolishly expended during the year, that this or the other man just elected a member of the board is not fit for the position, or that some other screw is loose in the management of the Society, or action at the annual meeting.

"The best time to pay money is when it is due," is a remark sometimes heard in financial circles—and

the best time to find fault about or with the management of associations is at meetings where the officers are present to render an account of their stewardship, and the books and other documents are open to investigation. As we remarked some months ago—in an article discussing the causes of the late retrogression of Agricultural Exhibitions—"there is too much selfishness manifested by members of Agricultural Societies. Most of the 'high privates' neglect to attend the annual meetings, at which the officers are elected, and then complain either of the persons chosen, or the manner in which their duties are discharged. They seem to make grumbling a special business, and some are apt to imitate a certain army in Flanders if things do not square exactly with their individual notions. They give little and exact much. If they don't get the best premiums, or all for which they compete, the committees are *blessed*, while the whole board of managers find themselves in a hornet's nest. No matter how much time and money the managers devote to the discharge of their duties, they get little help or sympathy from those who consider it their privilege and duty to find fault. We fear the millennium will never come to officers of Agricultural Societies—for the more they strive to do their duty the more unhappy may be their lot on this mundane sphere. No doubt there are errors in the management of many Societies, but if those who complain of the sins of omission and commission, would attend the annual meetings and use their efforts to elect good men and true, and stand by them after election—instead of compelling a few men to do all the work and receive all the abuse as well as glory—there would be far less cause of complaint."

We wish this subject could be brought home to all our readers interested—so that they may not only think but act thereupon. Agricultural Societies are now numerous throughout the country, having largely increased in numbers, influence and usefulness during the past few years, and regarded as great auxiliaries to improvement in the Rural, Mechanical and kindred Arts. Their design and professed objects have ever been laudable and noble, and many of the most intelligent and public spirited citizens have aided in their formation and successful continuance. Let them be maintained, and their popularity and usefulness augmented everywhere. This can only be done by seeing that they are properly managed—and the best time to correct errors, or institute reforms, is at the annual meetings, as already suggested.

THE DAIRY.—No. I.

In the articles which I may from time to time write upon this subject, it is not proposed to go into an elaborate disquisition upon the breeds of cattle, and the best grasses and their cultivation. Most of the region in this State properly adapted to this branch of farm husbandry, is already occupied by intelligent farmers. They have their cows, and pastures, and meadows; and their annual experience, and, above all, accumulation of capital, is tending to improve, rather than stand still or retrograde. Hints and suggestions may be given which will be of service, for there are a great variety of opinions, and diversity of practice, in all sections. There are good, bad, and indifferent dairymen; so there are good, better, and best among their products, the result generally of causes which it is their power to control, so that all, if they choose, can be among the best.

Dairying may be divided into three branches: Butter, Cheese, and Milk, and in one division or the other, they form the leading business of the farmers upon upwards of twenty of the twenty-six millions of acres in this State. Its importance may be inferred from the facts disclosed by the Census of 1855, which shows the whole number of cows to have been 1,068,427. The products of the year previous were as follows:

Butter	31,293,073 lbs.
Cheese	33,944,249 lbs.
Milk, sold	20,968,861 gallons.

These totals, large though they appear, do not by any means represent the aggregate of the cow's value to the farmer.

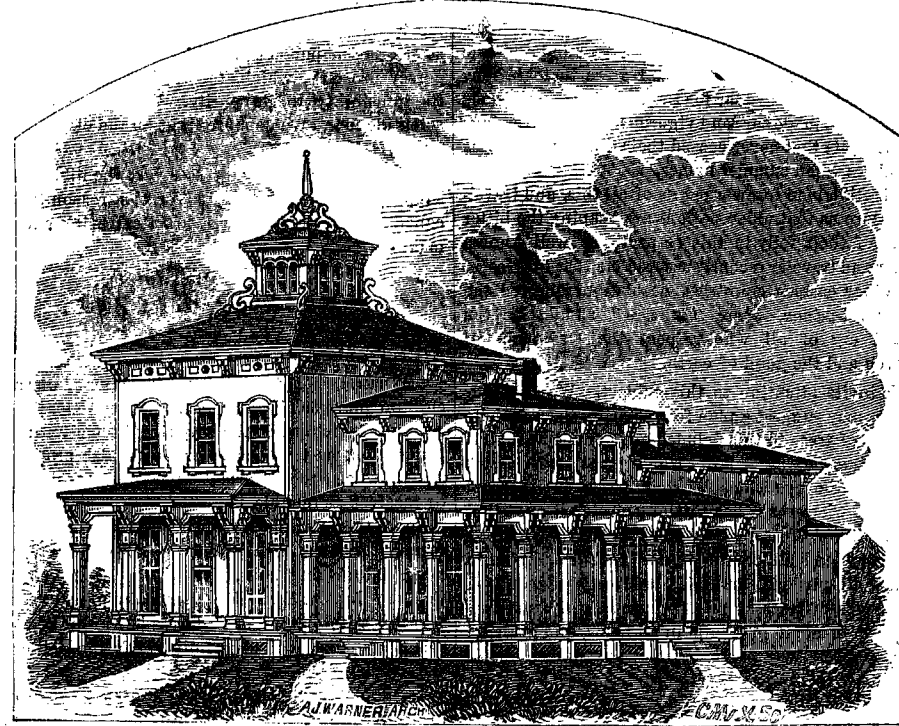
The experience of the best milk-men has shown that the average of cows will give 550 gallons of milk in a year; and 5 quarts of milk will make a pound of cured cheese, or 14 quarts will make a pound of butter. If we take cheese as the standard, and at 8 cents per pound,—the current rate for many years past,—then milk is worth to the farmer one and a half cents per quart at the lowest estimate, which would make the annual product from the cows \$35,268,091. In the best dairy regions, and among the best farmers, the cows produce over \$40 per head annually. The products of the dairy represented in the Census, therefore, do not convey the true value of the cow, because they merely refer to the amount sold, and not to that consumed in the family.

Compare it with other branches of farming, and we shall see how much more important the dairy is than all the grain grown in the State. Thus, in the same year there was raised:

	Bushels.	Value.
Indian corn	19,290,991	\$9,646,346
Winter wheat	7,059,049	8,828,511
Spring wheat	2,083,253	2,083,253

Total value of the three leading grain crops, \$20,558,110

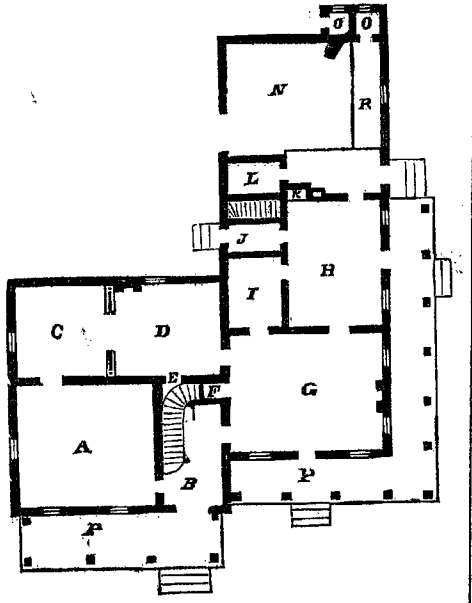
In the further treatment of this subject I propose to consider the cow as a manufacturer of herbage into milk, and the various modes adopted to prepare the products of milk for market.



A WESTERN NEW YORK FARM HOUSE.

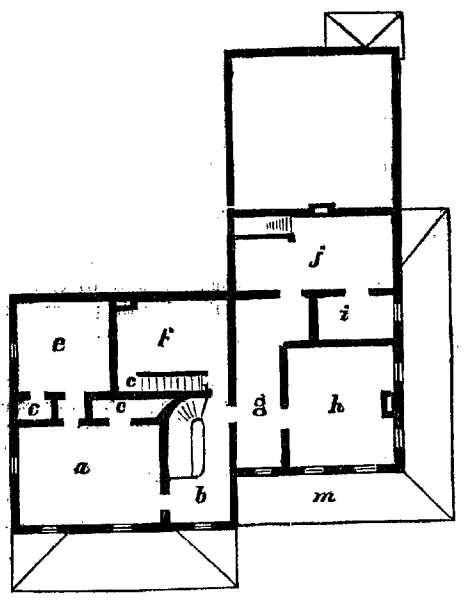
The accompanying engravings give a correct view of the elevation and the plans of a house just completed by EMMONS H. GIFFORD, Esq., of Ontario Co., N. Y., on his farm in Phelps. It was designed and the architectural drawings made by A. J. WARNER, Architect, of Rochester, N. Y., and built by RUEL TAYLOR, of Newark. The building is of wood with the frame filled in with brick, which renders it as warm as a brick building. The rooms are conveniently arranged, and sufficiently large. The house is well proportioned in every particular. The main building is 28 by 30 feet, with posts 25 feet high. The main wing is 20 by 23 feet, with posts 18 feet high. The other wing is 20 by 30 feet, with posts 13 feet high. The rooms on the principal floor of the main building, and the sitting-room in the wing, are 10 feet in height. The kitchen and pantry 8½ feet. The rooms in the second story of the main building are 9 feet high, and those in the wing 7 feet. Nearly all the rooms are finished with butternut lumber, and varnished, giving the wood-work its natural appearance.

The cellar, occupying the entire foundation, except the wood-house, is divided into three rooms, and separated by stone walls. The floor throughout the cellar is made of cement. One room is used for fruit and vegetables, one for milk, butter and cheese, and other provisions, and the third is a hall leading to the other two. Adjoining this hall is a large cistern. The milk room is lathed and plastered, which keeps it cool and prevents dampness. This house in appearance is tasteful and sufficiently ornamental, and standing, as it does, on a beautiful eminence overlooking a large extent of country, is much admired by all who see it. And although more expensive than a majority of farm houses, the cost is not a loss to the owner, as he has a farm that will warrant the outlay.



FIRST FLOOR.

A, Parlor—17½x17½ feet; B, Hall—9x14 feet; C, Bed Room—11x11 feet; D, Bed Room, or Nursery—11x15 feet; E, Closet; F, China Closet; G, Dining or Sitting Room—16x19½ feet; H, Kitchen—12½x16½ feet; I, Pantry—6½x10 feet; J, Hall; K, Sink; L, Meal Room; M, Platform; N, Wood House—14x19 feet; O, O, Water Closets; P, Piazzas; R, Walk, or passage way to Water Closets.



SECOND FLOOR.

a, Parlor Chamber—14x17½ feet; b, Hall—9x17½ feet; c, e, d, Closets; e, Bed Room—11x11 feet; f, Bath or Bed Room—9x15 feet; g, Hall—6½x22 feet; h, Library—12½x15 feet; i, Bed Room—8½x10 feet; j, Kitchen Chamber; m, m, Roofs of Piazzas.

The entrance to the attic and observatory is from the stairs in the bath-room. The slop drain from the house passes under the water-closets and from thence to the manure cellar. The parlor and front hall are heated by a furnace in the cellar. The entire cost of the building was three thousand dollars, and it is considered a very fine one for the money.

THE FORESTS.

MERCIFUL and munificent everywhere, and always, our Heavenly Father's goodness is conspicuous in the forests. With gorgeous tints, and ever varied forms of beauty, to please the eye and gratify the taste, they answer myriad purposes in the commerce and business of mankind.

The Oak, emblem of power, answers for strength and durability. The Cedar defies decay. The elastic Hickory yields and reconsiders. The tall Ash of the lowlands, and the fruitful Chestnut, open to the wedge and make enduring fences. The Pine, a richer gift than emeralds,—strong, light, durable, fit for the mast of a mighty ship, or the delicate mouldings of a ducal palace. Beech and Basswood, exact opposites; like diverse characters among men, fill their appointed places. The Walnut, Maple, Cherry, Rosewood, Mahogany, colored as exquisitely as RUBEN'S canvases, and bearing the diamond's polish, subserve the purposes of usefulness and ornament in the poor man's cottage and emperor's palace. Even the knotty excrescence is scooped into a bowl, or rounded into a maul.

In form, as in texture, the tree anticipates its uses. The bent ribs of the ship, and the tall flag-staff; the buttress of a vast edifice, and the willow of a ladies basket, were modeled for our convenience by Infinite Goodness and Wisdom.

Richer than the mines is the forest's wealth!—richer in other qualities than in those we have named. Furnishing, as it does, materials for our edifices, our ships, our implements and machinery, it performs a still higher office in the wondrous mechanism of our globe. This, however, will form the subject of another article. We will here only assert, in general terms, what science and experience have made evident, that forests exert a powerful influence upon climate, soil, productions, and, consequently, upon man himself.

It should have occurred to every one, long before this, that the fact that many trees were made, was proof that many trees were wanted. Where trees and shrubs were omitted by Nature's Architect, it was the symbol of desolation, the doom of barrenness, the disfranchisement of man,—a notice that the simoom and the sirocco should reign there. Almost universally the favored portions of the earth,—the latitudes

where men love to dwell,—were bequeathed to them with a thick covering of trees. These are regarded by the majority of mankind as an innovation, a blunder, a mistake, a nuisance to be abated. The fact that they were put there by Him to whom all secrets are known, all causes and all consequences revealed, passes for nothing. We, who could never make a world, nor the smallest thing in it, feel competent to doctor one that is made!

Has our experiment of setting up for ourselves been so eminently successful as to encourage further experiments in that direction? Are we stronger, healthier, happier, than our progenitors when first created?

With a liberal belief in "progress," we are not going to make up faces at mankind. It can't be concealed, however, that human affairs are a good deal out of joint,—enough so to convince us that serious mistakes have been committed. Touching the subject in hand, we have hurricanes and tornadoes, extremes of heat and cold, withering droughts and desolating floods, directly traceable to the removal of the forests. All our old citizens know that where once the brook murmured through the year, and the ox feasted on luxuriant vegetation in winter months, the frosts, inexorable as doom, now hold in their iron grasp through successive months, the stream, the soil and its products. Where once furs and overcoats were never a necessity, the winds hold frequent carnival, and the driving storms are a terror and a plague to man and beast. Grains and grass that are now abandoned as too tender for the climate, when woods were plenty, made sure and vigorous growth. Springs and rivulets that never ceased their flow, are now dry as Sahara when summer comes.

Scientific men forewarned us of all this, and travelers assure us that older nations are reaping the bitter fruits of their folly in this respect. A well known writer and traveler recently assured me that in Greece, and other eastern countries, desolation followed the ax. "Woodman, spare that tree," should be the united cry of all who respect the Ordinance of Heaven and the good of earth.

We invite attention to this subject. We hope our friends may suggest a plan for restoring the requisite amount of trees to this deluded and denuded country. Tree Associations,—how would that do? First, Trees by the roadside. Second, Trees to intercept the wind wherever it has a "long stretch," or strikes hard. Third, Trees adjusted to prevent drift upon railroads, and all thoroughfares. Fourth, Trees to protect all gardens, grapeyards, and orchards. Fifth, Barriers of trees at regular intervals of from one-fourth to one-half of a mile in all fields, and prairies, unless specially protected by hills and mountain ranges. That's our motion,—who seconds?—H. T. S.

RURAL NOTES BY S. W.

MY FRIEND, D. T. MOORE:—Who would have believed, a few short weeks ago, that even bellicose South Carolina would so soon secede from our glorious Union, to suffer alone the penalty of so great a blunder? But, if generous treatment does not bring her back, and she commits no overt acts, she must, like Ephraim, be "let alone for a season," at least no man should "cast the first stone" who has indirectly participated in the profits of slave-grown cotton.

It is truly refreshing, at this time of panic and monetary derangement, to see, not only farmers, but their wives and daughters, and many villagers, coming into SUTHER'S to renew their yearly subscriptions to the agricultural and city papers. It would do you good to see the rural feminines come in, and, without saying a word, walk up to the alphabetical pigeon-holes and take out their RURAL NEW-YORKER. The present mail will probably give you a material earnest that the new year's subscription to the RURAL will not be affected by hard times in fertile little Seneca. [Aye, friend SUTHER has "reported progress"—sending over a hundred subscribers in his first letter.]

I well remember when, in the day of small things, almost every farmer who was asked to take an agricultural paper felt his infallibility insulted. But that day, like the dark ages, is past and gone I hope for ever and ever; and now every farmer (except him who believes that all he does not know is not worth learning, or ip the more comfortable doctrine, that "ignorance is bliss," not only takes the papers, but he feels that they are indispensable to his mental comfort and instruction.

Your reply to a correspondent who did not believe in composting manures was to the point. How can it be that any observant farmer has not discovered the very great benefit, both mechanical and chemical, of composting manure, as the true means of both increasing the quantity and adding to the value of the manure? I have often thought that farmers as a class were the most economical of men, and so they are in social expenditure; but in relation to the main chance, that which enriches the soil of their farms and gives them the remunerating crops, they are often more reckless and wasteful than almost any other class in community. I mean in the making, saving and application of manures. How often I have seen farmers hard at work hauling out barn-yard manure that had been both washed and fire-funged until it did not contain one per cent. of nitrogen! A tith of the labor now expended in loading and hauling such an inert mass, would have saved that manure with all its organic matter intact. No wonder so many farmers complain of the expense of feeding and fattening farm stock, when no systematic efforts are made to compost and make the most of the rich but wasting manure. I once asked a farmer what kind of farm stock he found most profitable. He replied, "My breeding sow. I sell her pigs at a few weeks old for roasters, at from \$2 to \$3 each, and the sow is so good a compost of dry peat and sea weed that she makes fifteen ox cart loads of manure in a year."

TILE FOR ROOFING.

EDITORS RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I am not a practical writer, but am a practical brick and drain tile maker, and as such, by your leave, will give some ideas suggested to my mind by the communication of Wm. LYMAN, Esq., in a late number, on the subject of roofing tile. He says, "I am yet to believe that good sand and good clay well mixed, and brought to an incandescent or white heat," "can admit, contain, or communicate moisture sooner than glass,—and at a white heat, siliceous alumina are fused, carbon is incorporated, and the compound is a vitrified mass, incapable of communicating moisture." All this is very true with regard to such materials as are commonly used in the manufacture of brick and tiles; but does not Mr. L. know that to heat a tile of the dimensions he proposes, viz., twenty-four by

eighteen inches, and five-eighths of an inch in thickness, to fusion—in other words to melt it—would certainly destroy its form? The comparison of the large platter is not a good one, for the reason that it is not sufficiently fused in baking to injure its form; and were it not for its glazing, would be as porous as a hard burned tile.

Raising the heat to just the right degree to make a tile impermeable to moisture, without at the same time warping or destroying its shape, or completely fusing it, is too difficult to be attempted by any of the present known methods of burning; and if we occasionally find a perfect one in this respect, it is merely accidental. The reason, then, why roofing tile are porous, is because the heat required to make them non-porous, or to vitrify them, will destroy their form; and as, when laid, they are exposed to complete saturation with water, its expansion by freezing will be likely to separate their particles during our severe winters.

Bricks being more compact in form, will bear more intense heat than a large, thin sheet of the same material, and still retain their shape sufficiently for practical purposes; but there is a limit even to brick, which cannot be passed without reducing them to a shapeless mass. Good judgment and much experience is required in burning brick or tile in order to reach the point of partial fusion, or of the necessary shrinkage to make them of the required hardness when cool.

ROBERT JAMESON, Mineralogist of Edinburgh, says alumina, (which I suppose to be pure clay,) is infusible. Mr. LYMAN says it is fusible at a white heat,—which is right? My own experience would incline me to agree with Mr. L.; but perhaps I have never seen or used pure clay, except, it may be, the New Jersey fire clay, which, for aught I know, may owe its infusibility to its purity. Will some practical scientific man give us more light on the clay subject? Clay, N. Y., Dec., 1860. J. A. CRAWFORD.

OUR correspondent expresses just the difficulty we supposed to exist, and it was for this reason that we called for information from practical brick and tile-makers.

The Bee-keeper

A Profitable Apiary. We find, from time to time, in many of our agricultural journals, large, and sometimes incredulous accounts in regard to the profits of bee-culture; and hence it seems to be necessary to furnish proper testimony when such information is given, that it may be received as reliable.

To do this, I would say, without further preliminary remarks, that the apiary of which I am about to state a few astonishing facts, is in the town of Alabama, Genesee Co., N. Y., and is owned by CHAUNCEY S. HARRINGTON, whose P. O. address is Akron, Erie Co., this State, who will cheerfully verify the following statements, if necessary:

Mr. H. had in the spring of 1859 five stocks of bees in the Week's hive, which is provided with a surplus honey chamber holding two boxes, and will, when full, contain about 25 lbs. These stocks that season gave five swarms, which were saved; four put into the Langstroth movable cone hives, and the other into the Week's hive. All of these wintered well,—so that last spring, 1860, Mr. H. had ten good stocks. How much surplus honey Mr. H. had last season I am unable to say,—he had quite a quantity however. The increase, it will be obvious, was quite ordinary.

The ten stocks this season, 1860, gave seventeen swarms, which were saved. All, with the exception of six, were put into the Langstroth hives. Mr. H. has this season taken off from the hives of the ten stocks and seventeen swarms, 836 lbs. of surplus honey, the most of which was disposed of by contract at 14 cents per pound.

836 lbs. surplus honey at 14 cents per lb. \$117 04
17 swarms, exclusive of hive, \$5 each. 85 00
Profits of the 10 old stocks. \$202 04

Or \$20-20-100 per stock! The Week's hives—8 in number—gave 213 lbs. of surplus honey,—27 lbs. each, nearly. The Langstroth hives—13 in number—gave 623 lbs of surplus honey,—48 lbs. each, nearly. It will also be observed that only 21 colonies produced surplus honey; 21 colonies, 836 lbs. honey, 40 lbs. each, nearly.

I presume some one is now ready to inquire:—"Have the colonies honey enough to winter them with safety? Have these colonies been fed?" In reply to these inquiries, I would say that I visited Mr. H. and his apiary a few weeks since for the express purpose of ascertaining these points. Mr. H. and myself thoroughly examined each colony, and estimated that the colonies would average at least 30 lbs. of honey, nearly every frame being filled with comb and honey. As 25 lbs. is generally sufficient to winter a colony of bees, even in an exposed situation, there will be no danger of losing any bees for want of food. There seems to be but little difference in the weight of each colony in the Langstroth hives, as by the means of the frames Mr. L. has been enabled pretty nearly to equalize their contents. Mr. H. informs me that the fields in his vicinity were literally covered with white clover, which secreted an abundance of honey nearly the whole season, thereby affording his bees extraordinary facilities for laying up large and almost fabulous stores of honey. Mr. L. says that no honey nor liquid of any kind was fed to his bees. Were it not I apprehend that some of the foregoing statements may, by some, be discredited, I would give the profits of one or two of his best colonies. It may perhaps be the better way, all things considered, to let what has been said suffice.

In conclusion, let me remark, that the foregoing statements in reference to the honey, were condensed from a memorandum which Mr. H. keeps expressly for the purpose of knowing the exact profit of each colony. M. M. BALDRIDGE, Middleport, Niagara Co., N. Y., Dec. 4, 1860.

A New Queen from an Old Hive. MR. EDITOR:—Having noticed in your paper of the 15th inst. some curious facts relating to the habits of bees, I am induced to state an occurrence which some years since fell under my own observation in Ohio, where I then resided. I have stated the facts to several gentlemen acquainted with the habits of bees, none of whom had ever heard of a similar occurrence. I have not in any other way made the case public for fear of its being regarded as a large story, but will now make a simple statement of what fell under my own observation, and you can make such use of it as you may deem proper.

A pretty large swarm left the parent hive quite early in the day and soon clustered near the top of a small locust tree, without any limbs, which had been set out a few days before near my apiary. It was simply a bare pole some eight or ten feet in height. As I did not like to saw off the top and thereby injure the tree I held a hive a little below the swarm, and a friend struck the opposite side of the tree with a mallet. This process jarred them into the hive very well,

which I immediately placed upon a table standing near. The bees were very quiet, but soon all descended from the hive and remained quietly under it upon the table till near the close of the day. Towards evening, suspecting that the queen bee might be either injured or killed, I passed a small stick slowly under the swarm two or three times, and thereby removed the queen bee, which was dead, probably killed by the blow upon the tree. The bees very soon went up into the hive, and were placed in the apiary three or four feet from the parent hive, another hive being between the two. There they quietly remained during the whole of the next day, and until between twelve and one o'clock on the day following, with no movement, except occasionally one would come out and either fly away or return to the hive without taking wing. And now comes what may be regarded by some as an almost or quite incredible part of the story. While I was standing within a few feet of the apiary, I noticed a commotion in the parent hive, and soon a small colony came out of it and passed by the intervening one and entered into the new hive, very few of the bees taking wing at all. In less than half an hour from that time the new swarm was lively and at work, and in a few days the hive was well filled.

How the new swarm communicated to the parent hive the loss of their queen, and induced them to furnish another, which the above facts would seem to indicate was done, I am unable to explain, but if similar occurrences are known to have taken place, I would like to see a statement of the circumstances attending them. Wm. SLOCUMB, Rochester, December 24th, 1860.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Quincy in Hogs. A WRITER in the Baltimore Sun says that this disease, if not taken in hand at once on discovery, is very apt to prove fatal. Many hogs have been lost from want of proper care and proper remedies. He gives his experience as follows:—"I had two fine ones attacked with this disease, but I could find no one who could tell me what to do for them. The progress of the disease was very rapid. In one case, especially, I noticed in the morning, at feeding time, that he had no appetite; in a few hours I perceived his throat was swelling, but was at a loss to account for it; by night he seemed unable to stand, his throat and neck swelled to an enormous size, and his breathing became very difficult, and by the next morning he was dead; in a few days his death was followed by that of another, and another. On prosecuting my inquiries, I ascertained it to be the quincy, and was advised to mix flour of sulphur in their feed, which I did, and have not lost any more, nor have they been troubled with the disease."

Dwarf Broom Corn. S. BURNETT, of Vincennes, Ind., gives to the Ohio Farmer his experience with Dwarf Broom Corn last year, from which it would seem not to be "just the thing" for those who farm with an eye to profit. He says:—"Dwarf Broom Corn has received some attention from cultivators, the past season. I procured seed and planted in May, on good, well-prepared corn land, two rows thirty rods long and cultivated well. It grew to the height of four or five feet, and headed much like the common variety, except the brush did not push entirely out of the last leaf sheath, but left three or four inches enveloped. At cutting time, it was found that the part of the brush thus involved, and the stalks attached, were mildewed, brown and red, whereas it should have been bright green, or white, in order to sell well in market. Besides, it was three times as much trouble to cut as the common, having to cut the stalk, then strip off the leaf; and it is too low to table for drying, so it must be laid on the table ground. I think I shall not raise any more dwarf broom corn; but if any one else wishes to try it, he is welcome to what seed I have."

Salting Wheat in the Mow. W. P. COOPER, of Lancaster, Pa., in an essay on Cutting and Harvesting Grain, published in the Farmer and Gardener, says, in storing wheat in a mow, he commences on one side, places the sheaves in regular layers, with the butts outside, tramping heavily on the butt of each as it is laid down. The next layer is placed with the tops lapping about half way over the first, care being taken to keep the heads or tops uppermost. When the entire space of the mow is covered in this way, common ground salt is sprinkled all over the mow on the top of the layer, at the rate of four quarts to every twenty dozen sheaves of wheat—a larger proportion of salt if the sheaves are very large. During the sweating, the salt is dissolved and absorbed by the grain and straw. The effect of this practice has been to make the grain brighter, and bring two or three cents more per bushel than that which was not salted. Millers say the yield of flour is larger and whiter. Cattle eat the straw freely. It is a most effectual remedy against the barn weevil. Experience has proved this to be a fact.

Care of Grindstones. THE American Agriculturist says perhaps there is no farm implement which is more useful and so little esteemed as the grindstone. If it was kept under shelter and otherwise properly taken care of, one of these instruments should last almost a man's lifetime, instead of wearing out in a few years. No grindstone should be exposed to the weather, as it not only injures the wood work, but the sun's rays harden the stone so much as in time to render it useless; neither should it be run in water, as the part remaining in the water softens so much that it wears away faster than the other side, and many a "soft place" in a stone has arisen from this cause alone, and not from any inequality in the grit. The proper way is to allow the water to drop on the stone as it is needed, either from a cast-iron water cup, or (what answers very well) an old white lead keg, supported above the stone with a spike near the bottom, which can be driven in when not needed, and if kept filled with water will last a long time. Finally, the stone should not be allowed to get "out of round," as no tool can be properly ground unless the stone runs true; if it should become uneven, get some one to turn it, and with a nail rod raise it down until it becomes perfectly round. Greasy or rusty tools should be well cleaned before grinding, or they will choke up the grit. If this should occur, a little sharp sand and water on a board kept against the stone while turning, will clean it off and sharpen up the grit.

Good Keeping vs. Sheep Ticks. MANY remedies are resorted to for the purpose of ridding sheep of ticks, and it is not unfrequently the case that the remedy is worse than the evil to be removed. A correspondent of the Country Gentleman gives a remedy—or rather a preventive—which serves a double purpose; that is, keeping off the tick, and at the same time improving the condition

of the sheep. How seldom it is that we see a well-conditioned animal of the bovine race infested with lice in the spring, while animals poorly fed and cared for, seldom escape. We advise every farmer who has a flock of sheep to read the following, and take counsel therefrom:—"Some twelve years since I began a new flock of sheep, by the purchase of twenty head from a large flock that were in rather poor condition. I fitted a loose stable with boards and floor, in which they were kept nights and stormy days, having boards hung on hinges at the sides, that could be opened and shut at pleasure, for the purpose of ventilation. The result was, my sheep gained all winter without grain of any kind, or roots, and in the spring not a tick was seen on any of them. Such has been my practice from that time to the present, and some years have wintered eighty—commonly about forty or fifty—have never fed any oil meal, and have never seen a tick on either sheep or lamb during the whole of that time. I think the doctrine of protection from cold, wet storms in late fall, winter, and spring, with good care and keep, will eradicate all the ticks in America. An experience of twelve years is satisfactory to me at least. Now is the time for those that raise ticks and wish to get rid of them, to prepare a shelter for their sheep, and see that they are taken care of in our cold, wet storms, and all will be safe. Such at least is my experience."

Inquiries and Answers. SCAR ON THE EYE-LIDS OF CATTLE.—Will some of the RURAL's numerous correspondents inform me what is the matter with my cattle, and the remedy? They seem to be affected with a scab, commencing on the eye-lids, and spreading in a circle around the eye, causing them to look very singular and feel very disagreeable. I presume, judging from their actions,—W. W. CHAPMAN, Brookfield, Eaton Co., Michigan, 1860.

TANNING RAWHIDE.—Noticing an article commending the use of prepared rawhide for many little matters about the house, and particularly for the tanning of the eye-lids, and spreading in a circle around the eye, causing them to look very singular and feel very disagreeable. I presume, judging from their actions,—W. W. CHAPMAN, Brookfield, Eaton Co., Michigan, 1860.

The article referred to was taken from an agricultural exchange, and appeared in the RURAL of Dec. 8th. Its tenor is doubtless fresh in the memory of our readers, and we hope they will favor the writer of the above query by furnishing the desired information.

To KILL SORREL.—In a recent number of the RURAL, T. E. BRIDGER wishes to know how to kill sorrel. I would inform him that it can be killed by once plowing in the month of July, August, or fore part of September, providing the ground is very dry at the time of plowing. About the 1st of September, 1859, I plowed several patches of sorrel (in all, near two acres), on my farm, and during the past season I have not been able to find a single plant. Plowing when the ground has much moisture in it, will be of no benefit.—ABRAHAM THOMAS, Ripon, Fond du Lac Co., Wis., 1860.

WHAT AILS THE OX?—Will you, or some of your numerous subscribers, tell me what ails my ox, or what I shall do for him? Early last spring he had the horn distemper, and was doctored accordingly. He works well, eats well, runs well, but still keeps poor.—W. L. S., Gaines, N. Y., 1860.

From so incomplete a description of the peculiar difficulty, or disease, to which your animal is subject, we cannot point out a remedy. It may be the result of the distemper—it may arise from improper medical treatment at the period of his sickness—or it may be the fruits of some other malady. Please to furnish us a more complete diagnosis, and we will be happy to respond. Meanwhile the patient and his case are in the hands of our agricultural readers, and some of them may unravel the enigma.

FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP.—As my sheep are troubled with the hoof ail, or rot, and I cannot find any remedy for it, I thought I would drop you a few lines to see if you had any recipe for curing. If you have any, by inserting it in the columns of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, you will much oblige.—CYRUS CALVIN, Abington, 1860.

We give the experience of two practical sheep-breeders upon this topic, one of whom represents "Down East," and the other the "Great West." The representative of Yankeeedom says it can be cured effectually by the following method.—Lay bare and scrape the hoof most thoroughly, ridding it of all offensive matter by means of a sharp knife. 2d, Then apply a strong decoction of tobacco, in which has been dissolved as much blue vitriol (pulverized) as will dissolve, to which is added a small portion spirits turpentine. The vitriol is a caustic—the tobacco is healing—and the turpentine is penetrating. In slight affections, two applications, five or six days apart, will effect a cure. In severe cases, it must be followed up for a few weeks. I have known sheep that walked on their fore-knees, not being able to touch their fore-feet to the ground, completely cured by this remedy. Remember that the knife performs an essential part in the cure; use it thoroughly. Butter of antimony, lime, alum, white lead, vitriol, and other caustics, have been used and failed. The tobacco is needed to heal.

Our Western friend says his remedy is simply nitric acid and copper. Take about ten ounces for a hundred sheep, and put ten coppers into it,—it will generally eat one copper to an ounce. It is to be put on with a feather, after the feet have been well pared down. I have tried spirits of turpentine and blue vitriol, and boiling tar, but saw no benefit until I tried the nitric acid and copper. I cured my flock of 200 with one application.

Doings of Agricultural Societies. THE ANNUAL MEETING of the U. S. Agricultural Society is to be held at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, on the second Wednesday, (9th) of January, 1861. State and other Ag. Societies are cordially invited to send delegates.—The Annual Meeting of the N. Y. State Ag. Society, will be held at the Agricultural Rooms, Albany, on Wednesday, Feb. 13th, 1861.—That of the Vermont State Ag. Society, at Rutland, Jan. 10th, inst.—That of the Monroe Co. (N. Y.) Ag. Society, at the Court House, Rochester, Jan. 9th.

THE KENTUCKY STATE AG. SOCIETY held its annual meeting Dec. 5th. Reported balance of \$5,000 in Treasury. Officers elected: President—Col. L. J. BRADFORD, Bracken Co. Vice Presidents—Dr. Swigert, Franklin Co.; Dr. J. A. Tomlinson, Mercer Co.; Dr. David King, Logan Co. Directors—R. V. Scott, Franklin Co.; Abram Buford, Woodford Co.; O. H. Burbridge, Bourbon Co.; Wm. Warfield, Fayette Co.; George L. Foman, Mason Co.; Gibson Mallory, Jefferson Co.; W. A. Cooke, Mercer Co.; S. T. Drane, Shelby Co.; Geo. J. Barry, Garrard Co.; J. B. O'Bannon, Jefferson Co.; J. B. Garrick, Barren Co.; J. S. Phelps, Christian Co.; J. J. Taylor, Henderson Co.; R. C. Harrell, Union Co.; Willis B. Macon, Lyon Co.

THE N. H. STATE AG. SOCIETY'S annual meeting was held Dec. 26th. Reported financially prosperous. Officers elected for 1861: President—W. F. ESTES, Dover. Secretary—A. Young, Dover. Treasurer—F. Spaul, Manchester. Directors—J. S. Walker, Claremont; J. North, Durham; J. Preston, New Ipswich; W. Harriman, Ferris; N. S. Berry, Hebron.

CATYUGA Co. (N. Y.) AG. SOCIETY.—At the recent annual meeting, held at Auburn, the following officers were elected for 1861: President—ANDERSON M. CLARK. Vice President—N. C. Simons, (and one for each town in the County.) Secretary—John G. Hooper. Treasurer—L. C. Mann. Directors (to fill vacancies)—John B. Cuykendall, Oswego; Robert Bell, Aurelius; Joseph L. Taylor, Mentz.

ORLEANS Co. (N. Y.) SOCIETY.—Meeting held on the 10th ult. Officers elected: President—DAVID N. HAZEN, Murray. Vice President—Abner B. Bailey, Murray. Treasurer—Willard F. Warren, Albion. Secretary—Oscar F. Burns, Albion.

OSWEGO Co. (N. Y.) SOCIETY.—The Society having Fair Grounds at Oswego Falls held its meeting on the 6th ult., when the following officers were elected: President—AARON G. FISH, Fulton. Vice Presidents—Robert Oliver, Oswego City; Norman Rowe, New Haven. Treasurer—S. G. Merriam, New Haven. Executive Committee—John Reeves, E. Cathcart, L. A. Horey. The Society located at Mexico held its annual meeting on the 26th ult., but we have not received the proceedings. [Our readers will remember that Oswego has two County Ag. Societies.]

SECRETARIES OF AG'L SOCIETIES will confer a favor by furnishing us the proceedings of their annual meetings, as we wish to publish lists of new officers, and note all important matters pertaining to such organizations. Please give us the facts and figures—names of officers, state of treasury, etc.—as concisely as convenient.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Many communications, inquiries, etc., sent us within the past few days (with business letters, and often on the same sheet), are yet unexamined. Friends will bear in mind that we are receiving several hundred letters per day at this season, and exercise patience. If those sending articles and business letters at the same time, will the former on separate sheets, they will save us both time and labor, and their favors receive earlier attention.

Rural Notes and Items.

"HAPPY NEW YEAR" TO ALL RURALISTS!—Aye, to Correspondents, Agents, Subscribers, and even borrowers and other outsiders. We would find address each of the first three classes at some length, but neither time or space admit of more than a brief paragraph to all. Correspondents who have written for our pages on practical subjects, have our thanks for their favors. We hope to frequently hear from them, and others, on useful topics with which they are familiar. But, though we have more space than hitherto, we must still enjoin brevity and conciseness. In writing for publication herein, please omit all circumlocution, or talk about the merits of the RURAL, and pitch into your subject at once—giving the gist of the matter with the necessary facts and figures, in as few and expressive and comprehensive words and sentences as possible. Be as plain and practical as possible—that is, write just as you would talk to a friend, for it is not necessary to get on stilts and use large, dictionary words to be an instructive writer. Do this, friends, and thus not only "teach one another," but, by occupying little space, give others a hearing—remembering that we wish to give the views of many, and allow the discussion of various subjects, in each issue. —Agent-Friends (those who are voluntarily aiding our circulation) are doing so nobly this season that we bend lower than ever before under the weight of obligation. But while we stoop they are enabling the RURAL to rise higher than ever before—for they are giving us the confidence and means to excel all former efforts. They not only see that there is no secession from our list, but are securing large accessions almost everywhere—in the East and West, North and South—as numerous remittances daily attest. Go on, good friends of the RURAL and its Objects! The enlarged paper will enable you to keep the ball moving, and we will cheerfully send you extra numbers for specimens, or duplicate those you lose or soil in procuring subscribers.—Subscribers can at this season greatly promote the circulation and usefulness of the paper by showing it to non-subscribers and saying a good word in its behalf. Many are quietly using their influence in aid of the RURAL (either by forming clubs or joining their efforts with others,) and we trust all its friends—new subscribers—as well as those long registered on our books—are disposed to do likewise so far as convenient and consistent. For terms to clubs, inducements, and other particulars, see Publisher's Notices, &c., in appropriate departments of this number.

GOOD SAGE CHEESE.—is a rare article in this market, but we know where it is (or was recently) obtainable. For instance, some weeks ago we received a sizeable box, with heavy contents—and on examination discovered a huge sage cheese from the Dairy of Hon. T. C. PETERS, of Darien, Genesee Co. Since then quite a number of friends whose pedal extremities have been placed beneath our cherry or black walnut (dining table), have voted that cheese to be prime, and it is just that the decision be thus publicly recorded. [Judging from the quality of this product, we have no doubt Mr. P.'s series of articles on the Dairy, commenced in this number, will be both practical and instructive.]

—More recently, we have been favored with a fine sage cheese from Mr. CHAS. S. MACK, of Lockport—another friend who has discovered our good taste! Being already well supplied, Mr. M.'s favor was most kindly disposed of among our associates, who report favorably as to its quality, though it lacks that flavor and richness which age would impart. Fear it will not keep, or be kept, long enough to test those qualities.

DOG SHOW IN ENGLAND.—A late number of the London Field gives an interesting account of a Dog Show recently held in Birmingham, which attracted a good deal of attention from the lovers of the canine race. The pointers and setters were the most numerous, amounting to over one hundred, and representing the best blood of the three Kingdoms. The hounds were not numerous, though there were some good deer and greyhounds. Spaniels were well represented, and the curious were gratified by a sight of two deer hounds. The ladies were particularly attracted by the little fancy, or what the English call toy dogs, while their brothers and husbands showed more interest in the mastiffs, bulldogs, Newfoundland and sheep dogs. Among the foreign dogs shown were three Alpine mastiffs, one Cuban mastiff, one St. Bernard dog, a Russian terrier, an Indian terrier, and two Maltese dogs.

ABOUT ASHES.—Ash-Buyer.—Any ashes to sell to-day? Farmer.—No, sir. Ash-Buyer.—Give you eight cents, in cash, a bushel. Farmer.—Can get twenty-five cents a bushel. Ash-Buyer.—Guess you are mistaken. Farmer.—Guess I ain't. Ash-Buyer.—Who'll give it? Farmer.—SMITH, at the Red Mill. Ash-Buyer.—Smith don't buy ashes, nor never did. Farmer.—Yes, but I put the ashes on my corn and wheat, and the ashes make grain, and then SMITH buys them at all that I said!

WISCONSIN AG'L TRANSACTIONS.—We are indebted to Mr. Secretary HOTT for a copy of the "Transactions of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, with Reports of County Societies, and kindred Associations." This is the fifth volume issued by the Society, and comprises the Transactions of 1858-59. It is a handsome volume of 555 pages, ably illustrated with portraits of prize animals, a map of the Penokee Iron Range, &c. The reports, essays, &c., are well arranged and valuable—and quite interesting, as showing the progress of Rural Improvement in Wisconsin.

A SHORT ARTICLE ON MANURES.—You must throw your manure out under the eaves, put y an eye-trough to carry off the water. Never leave your horse manure for a single day in a pile where it will heat. Distribute it under a shed with hog or cattle manure, or dirt, or draw it out into the field, and put in very small piles. Examine your sheep sheds, and see that your sheep manure don't heat. Use next to no litter, and it will pack and not heat; or spread over it muck liberally, or any sack and plaster.—H. T. S.

THE WEATHER during the holidays has been quite comfortable for the season—pleasant, but cloudy—the temperature being generally below the freezing point, and rarely rising above it. It is a remarkable fact that the temperature of 1860 exceeded the mean of the 24 years by nearly two degrees—the mean of the year just closed being 48.2 degrees. So reports our "Clerk of the Weather," who is good authority.

LECTURES AND ADDRESSES on Rural Subjects are in order at this season, and will draw attention to the announcement of HENRY C. VAIL, Esq., who is a competent writer and speaker. Knowing the difficulty which officers of Ag. Societies, Clubs, &c., often experience in procuring speakers, we take pleasure in being able to refer to one so well qualified as is Mr. V. to promptly respond to invitations.

HORSES AND BUTTER.—A traveler in India relates that the horses of the Meer of Scinde are fed each morning, after being watered, a pound of coarse sugar and a pound of clarified butter, which are made into balls—that the horses eat greedily after being once used to it. The writer notes that it fattens the horses prodigiously.

THE MAINE FARMER commences its 29th volume in an entire new dress, figure head, &c., and a better arrangement of departments than heretofore. The Farmer is edited, as of yore, by Dr. E. HOLMES, who always renders it interesting and valuable. "Long may it wave." Published at Augusta, Me., by HOMAN & MANLEY, at \$2 per annum.

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HORTICULTURAL.

TREES FOR PROTECTION.

ACTION OF ILLINOIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

No subject is more important to the Horticulturist at the present time than the best means of providing shelter for orchards and gardens. Formerly it was thought that shelter was only important for the prairies of the West, but of late we have ascertained that shelter, if not absolutely necessary, is of great advantage to fruit culture at the North, and many of our extensive fruit culturists are planting belts of trees for the protection of their grounds. Our Western friends are beginning to take hold of this matter in earnest, and a good portion of the last session of the Horticultural Society of Illinois was devoted to the discussion of the best trees for shelter. We give a report of this part of the proceedings.

Cottonwood.—Mr. OVERMAN opened the discussions on *Deciduous Trees* for economic purposes. In this list, *Cottonwood* took the lead, as being a rapid grower, easily propagated from cuttings, valuable for fuel and fencing purposes (though not of first quality for either), not liable to insects that do it damage, endures the tramping of cattle on the soil about it, also their rubbing against the trunk. The leaves of the Cottonwood are infested by a fly that deposits its larva when they are tender. They hatch out in June in great numbers, but are not of any permanent injury. They are also infested by a large green worm, which is repugnant to the sight, and unfits them for shade trees near dwellings. The Cottonwood was recommended for planting in groves, for purposes of protection to farm buildings, and for shade for animals.

Golden Willow.—Mr. PHENIX introduced the *Golden Willow*. It is a desirable tree wherever it is hardy enough for culture; probably all through the State. It is easy of propagation, and the timber is valuable for posts, and even for rails; it will grow rapidly and of large size. Its rapid growth and its beauty recommend it. Mr. OVERMAN heartily endorsed the *Golden Willow*. Mr. WHITNEY had eight hundred *Golden Willows* in one grove, on dry ground; it does better in wet; it makes firewood as well as Cottonwood, and can be split; it is good for charcoal. It has a good effect upon wet land by absorbing its moisture; makes wet pastures better. Can hedge with it by driving stout limbs, five feet long, into the ground about fifteen inches. These should be set not far apart, and in wet ground, or along trenches; cater to eat the sprouts. The *Ozler Willow* does better on dry soil, but does not make large trunks. Mr. OVERMAN spoke of a *Grey Willow* from Pennsylvania, as most rapid in growth, and a valuable tree.

The Society voted to recommend the *Golden Willow* for the same purposes as the *Cottonwood*.

Silver-Leaf Poplar.—On the *Silver-leafed Poplar* a warm discussion arose. It was strongly advocated on account of its ease of propagation from cuttings, rapid growth, and the rare beauty of its foliage, but was strongly objected to on account of its tendency to sucker in cultivated grounds. It was recommended only for roadside cultivation.

Silver-Leaf Maple.—The *Maples* were considered by several as the most worthy of cultivation of all forest trees grown from seed. The *Silver-Leaf Maple* was admitted to be eminently useful for shade, protection, fuel, and for furniture, as well as beauty. Mr. GALUSHA, having had much experience with this tree, was called upon and said: The seeds ripen in May, varying according to the season; they should be gathered soon after they fall, for bugs eat out the kernel. He gathered them from the surface of streams, from eddies and bays in the shore; had taken up a bushel in fifteen minutes. The seed must be planted almost immediately; between layers of moss, they may keep for a week, but generally only three or four days. He planted in a line in well pulverized soil, thrusting them with the thumb and finger to the depth of the wing, from two to four inches apart; they may stand two years; they seldom form tap roots. In the first season they grow eighteen inches; had had them grow four feet. Mr. HUGGINS, of Macoupin, said the seeds in his county drop in April; he could keep the seed two or three weeks; he had them gathered dry by boys. The ground is prepared as for corn, and the seed is dropped and covered one inch deep. Too little moisture will kill either before or after planting; the seed must never dry nor sprout before planting. The tree bears seed early, even in its fifth year; from five eight-years-old trees he had obtained two bushels; it grows fast, as fast as the locust, and gives shade earlier in the spring. Some of the five just named were ten inches in diameter.

Scarlet Maple and Sugar Maple.—The *Scarlet Maple* had also many friends. The *Sugar Maple* was warmly approved as a shade tree, though a slow grower. The rare beauty of the changing foliage of the maples at the approach of autumn entitle them to a place among the favorites for lawns and roadside cultivation. They are not liable, except in a few isolated cases, to the attacks of borers, or other insects.

Ash Maple.—The *Ash Maple* or *Box Elder* was spoken of as a desirable tree, both useful and ornamental, and easily cultivated. It may be raised from slips. Mr. CLARK, of Brighton, has cultivated it successfully; it is hardy, and grows well; he had trees of four feet in height from cuttings the first season.

The Elms.—The *White and Red Elm* were approved of as trees for shade and ornamental and economic purposes. Of all American trees the Elm has the decided preference. Its historic associations, the gracefulness of its drooping branches; its value for timber; rapid growth and ease of cultivation, all commend it to public favor. The *Red Elm* is most enduring when exposed to the weather. It splits freely, lasts well as fence posts, and makes good railroad ties, &c. Mr. FREEMAN said: The *Winged* or *Cork Elm* grows abundantly in the South, and was endorsed for ornamental purposes.

Tulip Tree.—The *Tulip Tree* received much notice. Mr. OVERMAN thought it the most magnificent tree, and has the first place as an ornamental tree, for yards. It is free from all objection. It is said to be hard to transplant, but this is because of delaying too long; when very young it may be easily taken up. Its roots spread far, had seen them one hundred feet from the trunk. He had known it injured by the severe frost. The seed is in a cone; if obtained from immature trees it is defective. The seeds must be sown very thick in the spring; in the fall of the first year they must be taken up and protected. It cannot be propagated by cuttings or layers. This is of the *Magnolia* family. Its flowers are like a tulip; a tree ten years old may flower, being thirty or forty feet high. It produces much honey. The wood is fine for inside work in house carpentry. The *Tulip* was recommended as an ornamental tree, and the *Linden* for general purposes, all through the State.



FLOWERS OF THE DIANTHUS HEDDEEWIGI.

Chestnut, Black and White Walnut.—The *Chestnut, Black and White Walnut* were endorsed for economic uses. They make fair growth and are useful for fence posts, rails, timber in buildings, bridges and ties. The first pays for growing them. Farmers cannot plant too many for their own use on their estates.

Evergreens.—An interesting discussion on *Evergreens* was entered upon. A few contended for the *White Pine*, as the most valuable of that family, but were obliged to give way for the greater merits of the Scotch and Austrian varieties.

Mr. GALUSHA thought the difficulty of transplantation exaggerated; he would as soon transplant them as apple trees; the only trouble is that the roots must be well taken up, and kept moist; water thoroughly at planting, if the soil is dry, never afterward, then mulch thoroughly. Dr. KENNICOTT stated that they grew well throughout the State, as well as anywhere upon earth. Had transplanted 800 Scotch and Austrian pines last spring and lost no tree; he puddled them both in digging and in setting. Dr. SCHROEDER had repeatedly taken up one for a Christmas tree in the winter and reset it; one has endured three transplantations.

The *Scotch and Austrian Pines* were recommended for general cultivation.

While the attractive features of the *Balsam Fir* were admitted, it was also allowed that they are most fine when young; with age the lower limbs drop off, and it becomes unsightly. The *Hemlock* is our most beautiful *Evergreen*, but the most difficult to raise. The *Red Cedar* is adapted to the temperate zone. It will never flourish well far to the North nor to the South. It is at home on our river bluffs; makes a good cheap screen, and is good in lawns. The *Arbor Vitae* is adapted to the same latitude nearly, and is recommended for low screens. A dwarf or prostrate *Juniper* growing along the banks of Lake Michigan and elsewhere at the North, was endorsed for lawns. But of all *Evergreens* named, the *Norway Spruce* was admitted to be the most valuable for shade, ornament, high screens and economic purposes. It is a cheap tree, is easily grown from the seed, and safely transplanted.

Early Spring and August and September were designated as the proper times for transplanting evergreens.

TWO FINE NEW JAPAN PINKS.

DIANTHUS HEDDEEWIGI.

The lovers of flowers in England were much excited by the exhibition at the Royal Botanic Society's show in 1859, of a new and beautiful Japan Pink, which formed one of the principal attractions among the novelties, and obtained a medal in testimony of its distinguished merit. It was obtained from Japan by M. HEDDEEWIG, nurseryman of St. Petersburg, from whom it receives its name, *Dianthus Heddeewigi*. Mr. H. sold seeds to some of the leading English nurserymen, and HENDERSON & SON raised the first plants which were shown as stated. The reputation of the flower had preceded it, and there was the greatest anxiety evinced to see the flowers.

The *Illustrated Bouquet* thus describes it—"In its growth, *Dianthus Heddeewigi* forms a neat compact plant, growing from thirteen to sixteen inches high, and by good cultivation branching freely from the base. In some specimens the stems are of a uniform purple tint, while in others they are deep green; the leaves are linear-oblong; the numerous flowers are terminal, borne singly on the branches of the stem, are single, and from two to three and a half inches in diameter, close, compact, five-petaled, and salver-like, with fringed margins. The predominant color is crimson, varying in the richest conceivable shades and varieties, some plants producing self-colored, others parti-colored flowers, the former veiling with the finest dark velvet and dusky tints, and these seem gradually blending in others with rich carmine and violet crimson; the center of each flower is picturesquely marked with a broad radiating dark zone or ring, the rich velvety colors of which are exquisitely relieved by the central silvery gray centers. It is easily cultivated; the plants thrive luxuriantly in any rich garden soil, or in a compost of friable loam and leaf mold, with little sand. Seeds sown in autumn, and wintered in a cool green-house or frame, will produce plants which will flower when turned out into the ground in summer; and seeds sown in spring will form a succession to bloom all the autumn and early part of winter in the house."

Seeds were obtained in this country in the winter

of 1860, and the past summer proved equal to the representations as given in foreign engravings, and to the high expectations raised in regard to its beauty and value. Our engraving shows the form and general appearance of the flowers, but give no idea of the rich and delicate coloring.

DIANTHUS LASCINIATUS.

This is another new and magnificent Japan Pink, which we had in flower the past season. The *Illustrated Bouquet* says "this magnificent Japan Pink is derived from the same source as the *D. Heddeewigi*, and distinguished from it by its taller growth, rather larger leaf joints, and its remarkably large and superb flowers, which are from three to four inches in diameter. It produces single and double-blossomed varieties. The petals have large lacinated tooth-like fringes at the margin, from a half inch to an inch in depth, which are very elegant, and produce a fine appearance. The colors vary from pure white and carmine rose to brilliant shades of dark crimson, with radiating zones or belts of richer hue toward the center. The seedling varieties also include rich self, crimson and maroon tints in higher and lower degrees of maturity. The light colored ones are at times finely stained with rose and violet crimson, while the dark ones are rendered very effective by mottled veins and streaks of white.

It is cultivated in the same way as *D. Heddeewigi*. Seeds sown in autumn produce plants which will bloom in a cool green-house all the following spring; and sown in April, and the plants put out into the open ground, will bloom magnificently all the autumn; making with the former one of the most effective and gorgeous displays in the garden. In pot culture, the soil should be good loam and leaf mold, with an admixture of sand."

Horticultural Notes.

DEATH OF HON. SAMUEL WALKER, OF MASS.
It is with pain we announce to the readers of the RURAL the death of the Hon. SAMUEL WALKER, of Massachusetts. Although we have had reasons for some months to anticipate the sad event, its realization is none the less afflictive. Mr. WALKER was one of the most enthusiastic and intelligent horticulturists in the country. For more than thirty years he was an active member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and at one time its presiding officer. He was also one of the most efficient members and officers of the American Pomological Society, and for several years Chairman of its general Fruit Committee, in which position he labored most earnestly and successfully to lead on the Society to noble deeds for the advancement of pomology, the very boldness of which caused younger men to hesitate and pause. To him belongs the honor of first recommending and urging forward the revision of the general fruit catalogue, so as to recommend lists of fruits suited to the different States or localities; and as this favorite work, which had been delayed for two years, was about to be commenced, his spirit took its flight to a better land. Hon. MARSHALL P. WILDER announced the death of Mr. WALKER before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in the following appropriate words:

"An inscrutable and all-wise Providence calls me to make known to this Society the afflictive dispensation which has removed from us another of our shining lights, and again thrown the mantle of sorrow around us. "I allude, sir, to the demise of the Hon. Samuel Walker, who died at his residence in Roxbury, on the evening of Tuesday last, and whose precious remains were borne by us, yesterday, to his favorite Auburn, and there committed to the bosom of his mother earth—earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust—a spot which was ever dear to him, and which will forever be hallowed in our affections. "Mr. Walker was one of the earliest and most influential members of this Society. For nearly thirty years he has been deeply interested in its objects, and ardently devoted to its welfare. Among the offices which he has held were those of Treasurer, Vice-President, and President—and during this long period his name has annually been associated with us in some official capacity. "He was of foreign birth, but was truly American and national in his feelings. He was one of the founders of the National Pomological Society, for many years a Vice-President, and at the time of his death, the Chairman of the General Fruit Committee of that association. He also held offices of honor and trust in his own city and county, and in the Commonwealth. "Mr. Walker was, in most respects, a model man. In perception, quick and accurate—in taste, intuitive and refined—in manners, unassuming, courteous, and polite—in duty, conscientious, faithful, judicious—in life, earnest, exemplary, and practical. As a friend and companion, he was genial, sympathetic, and confiding. His heart was full of love to others, and often have I heard him remark—'He that would have friends must prove himself friendly.' "Few men have taken so lively an interest in the prosperity of our institution, and few have been more constant at our business meetings. Who does not remember his cordial greeting, his suavity of address, and his cheerful smile?"

Best Six Varieties of the pear, for family use, on the pear stock, for an orchard of one hundred trees:
Bloodgood 5 Swan's Orange 15
Bartlett 10 White Doyenne 25
Belle Lucrative 10 Winter Nells 25

Best Twelve Varieties on the pear stock:
Madelaine 5 Flemish Beauty 5
Bloodgood 5 Swan's Orange 10
Rostiezer 3 White Doyenne 20
Sterling 5 Oswego 15
Bartlett 10 Lawrence 15
Belle Lucrative 5 Bourne, Oswego 25
Best Varieties on the quince stock.—Bloodgood, Doyenne d'Or, Rostiezer, Stevens' Genesee, Belle Lucrative, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Duchesse d'Angoulême, Bourne Die, Glout Moreau, Vicar of Winkfield, Doyenne d'Alençon.

Best Varieties, and the number of each, for a pear orchard of one hundred trees—if for family use and market combined:
Madelaine 5 Flemish Beauty 10
Bartlett 15 Swan's Orange 10
White Doyenne 15 Vicar of Winkfield 15
Winter Nells 10 Tyson 5
Bloodgood 5 Sterling 10

Best Varieties on the quince stock.—If strictly for market:
Madelaine 5 Flemish Beauty 10
Bartlett 15 Swan's Orange 10
White Doyenne 15 Vicar of Winkfield 15
Winter Nells 10 Tyson 5
Bloodgood 5 Sterling 10

Metinks I see his very form as he was wont to stand at this table, I hear his gentle and persuasive voice encouraging us to rise higher and higher in the scale of human excellence, and to make stronger and stronger the bonds of friendship and peace which unite us together. But no, Mr. President, he is dead he is gone! We shall no more feel the warm grasp of his friendly hand! He will no more greet us with cordial salutation! We shall no more listen to his wise counsels and friendly teachings! His mortal has put on immortality! His pure spirit has ascended to those celestial fields where 'he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither.' "Time will not permit me to enumerate the many virtues of our deceased friend, or to speak of his public services in other departments of life. In a word, he was universally esteemed and respected. None knew him but to love him, and those who knew him best, loved him most."

TREATMENT OF CATAWBA GRAPE VINES.—I noticed a communication in your paper of the 1st ult., over the signature of "C. C. Mercer Co., Pa., 1860," alleging that the writer had procured a Catawba grape vine, and set it out in the latter part of November, and asks you if he "did right," and whether "it will need protection during the coming winter." Having had considerable experience in the cultivation of the Catawba variety of grapes, allow me to answer his question. Assuming the climate in Mercer Co. to be as favorable for the ripening of this fruit as Genesee Co., N. Y., I would recommend "C. C." to bend over the end of his vine and tie it to a stake, so as to carry the main stem on a horizontal line. Then go to a carpenter's shop, or planing mill, and get a bushel of pine shavings, (any other light, combustible stuff will do as well), put them under the Catawba and set them on fire—it won't hurt it a mite. I have a number in fine bearing—one of them, only four years old, had about two bushels of beautiful grapes on last autumn, and would have ripened, if the season had been two months longer. The burning process I am sure will help mine, and they will get that, or some other equally effective treatment as soon as spring opens.—C.F.B. T., Le Roy, N.Y., 1860.

It is only once in a great number of seasons that the Catawba ripens here, and then only in favorable situations. The past autumn we saw better Catawbas than ever before, but it cannot be relied upon in this section.

A NEW TOMATO.—The *Gardeners' Chronicle* of November 24 thus notices a new tomato, recently produced in France:—"It appears in a circular from Messrs. Vilmorin that they are offering seeds of a new upright tomato, which requires no support. This plant is said to be entirely different from the kinds previously known. Its stem is two feet high or more, quite upright, and so remarkably strong and stiff as to be strictly self-supporting—a highly commendable quality. It branches less than the common greatest tomato, is less leafy, and does not want so much pinching. The leaves are rather curled, much puckered, very firm, and closely placed on the sturdy branches. Their color is a remarkably deep shining green. It does not bear so freely as the common tomato, but its fruit, which is of the same color, is larger and more regularly formed. In earliness, it is intermediate between the Early Red (*rouge halve*), and the Great Red (*rouge grosse*.) It was raised from seed by Grenier, the gardener of M. de Fleurius, at a place called the Chateau de Lays, wherefore it is to be called the *Tomate de Lays*."

We cannot say that this will be a very great acquisition, but is worthy of trial, and we shall endeavor to obtain seeds for the purpose. A little brush placed around the plant when young, is all our common tomato needs, and if the earth is drawn well toward the stem, forming a mound, the branches may lay on this, where the fruit will ripen earlier than if more exposed. Shortening the tops, or cutting out a portion of the shoots, will prevent too much shade. Whether particularly valuable or not, this upright tomato will be curious.

ANNUAL REPORT OF HORTICULTURAL AND AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—We have on our table a pamphlet of about 150 pages, of which the above is a part of the title. It was compiled, with a good deal of labor, by WM. P. SHREFFARD, of New York, who is agent for many of the nurseries and seedsmen of Europe, and is designed to furnish his customers with a more complete description of European seeds and plants than can be obtained in ordinary catalogues. It contains a great amount of information of value to the gardener.

SHADE TREES IN PARIS.—It has been calculated that Paris, at present, covers a space of 78,000,000 yards. It contains 148,000 trees, occupying a space equal to 336,890 square yards. The trees consist of horse-chestnuts, elms, acacias, lime trees, and others. It is estimated that these trees cover, with their shade, a space of 220,200,000 yards, sufficient to protect 1,588,000 individuals from the rays of the sun.

FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK.—The Annual Meeting of this Society will be held in the Court House of the city of Rochester, on the 9th instant. After the ordinary business, the Society will, as usual, discuss questions interesting to Fruit Growers. The Session will probably continue two days, as usual. An exhibition of winter fruit will be made. We learn that some of the best Pomologists in the country will be present.

BEST PEARS FOR MICHIGAN.—Will you please publish a list of what are deemed the best most profitable pears for a market orchard of standard trees, embracing a succession from the earliest to the late keeping varieties, and the number of each you would advise planting for an orchard of four thousand trees?—AN OLD SUBSCRIBER, Kent Co., Mich., 1860.

We cannot better answer the question of our correspondent than by publishing an extract from the Report of the Chairman of the Fruit Committee of the State of Michigan, as presented to the Pomological Society, at its late meeting in Philadelphia:

Best Six Varieties of the pear, for family use, on the pear stock, for an orchard of one hundred trees:
Bloodgood 5 Swan's Orange 15
Bartlett 10 White Doyenne 25
Belle Lucrative 10 Winter Nells 25

Best Twelve Varieties on the pear stock:
Madelaine 5 Flemish Beauty 5
Bloodgood 5 Swan's Orange 10
Rostiezer 3 White Doyenne 20
Sterling 5 Oswego 15
Bartlett 10 Lawrence 15
Belle Lucrative 5 Bourne, Oswego 25
Best Varieties on the quince stock.—Bloodgood, Doyenne d'Or, Rostiezer, Stevens' Genesee, Belle Lucrative, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Duchesse d'Angoulême, Bourne Die, Glout Moreau, Vicar of Winkfield, Doyenne d'Alençon.

Best Varieties, and the number of each, for a pear orchard of one hundred trees—if for family use and market combined:
Madelaine 5 Flemish Beauty 10
Bartlett 15 Swan's Orange 10
White Doyenne 15 Vicar of Winkfield 15
Winter Nells 10 Tyson 5
Bloodgood 5 Sterling 10

Best Varieties on the quince stock.—If strictly for market:
Madelaine 5 Flemish Beauty 10
Bartlett 15 Swan's Orange 10
White Doyenne 15 Vicar of Winkfield 15
Winter Nells 10 Tyson 5
Bloodgood 5 Sterling 10

PRESERVING SUMMER FRUITS.—Is there any known method of preserving summer fruits fresh until winter—that is, in their natural state, and not subject to heat or other agents which change their qualities? An answer in your columns will be gratefully received.—E. R. D., Keeseville, N. Y.

No method is known that will do this. The best we can do is to place fruits in a temperature as low as possible, without freezing, and where there is no change. In this condition, they will keep a long time. But it is about as difficult to imprison the fragrance of the rose as the aroma and delicious flavor of our summer fruits.

TO MAKE A WINE COLLAR.—Can you inform me of the best plan to build a wine collar? I had a little rather late year judgment, but if you have no plan, perhaps some of your numerous readers can inform me through your valuable paper.—C. O. VALENTINE, Jackson, N. Y., 1860.

ALTHOUGH our space is greatly enlarged, we find several communications and many answers to inquiries in type which we are compelled to omit until the next number.

Domestic Economy.

HOP YEAST, PUDDING, INDIAN BREAD.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing in a late issue of your journal an inquiry for a recipe for good hop yeast, I send mine, which I know to be excellent. Take about twenty-five good sized potatoes; pare and boil them soft; then mash and strain through the colander. To one handful of hops put one quart of water; let boil up; then strain and pour on the potatoes; add a teaspoon of sugar, a little salt, and when about milk warm put in a teaspoon of yeast. Let it stand in a warm place till light; then pour it into a jar; cover tight; set in a cool place, and it will keep from four to six weeks. Those who do not like the hop taste could use clear cold water instead of the hop water.

KNICKERBOCKER PUDDING.—One cup of suet, chopped fine; 2 cups of raisins; 2 of sweet milk; 4 of flour; 2 of molasses; 1 teaspoon of cream tartar; half as much soda; 1 teaspoon salt. Steam two hours. Serve with rich sauce.

INDIAN BREAD.—One quart of sour milk; 1 quart of meal; 1 pint of flour; 4 teaspoon of molasses; a heaping teaspoon of soda, and also of salt. Pour into a two quart basin, previously greased. Set into a steamer; close tight and steam three hours. Try it, ladies. I am sure you will find it to be good. CLARA S. WHITNEY. Oswego, N. Y., 1860.

PANCAKES WITHOUT SALERATUS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In looking over a late issue of your journal I saw an inquiry how to prepare buckwheat without saleratus; and as I sympathize with DOROTHY, and any other ladies who may not know how to make buckwheat cakes without using the "detestable article," I will give you my mode, which I think good. I use a stone vessel. Take about two quarts of warm water, add a pint of sweet milk, a little salt, and a tea-cup full of good hop yeast; stir in flour until you have a good batter,—let it rise until quite light, then bake on a griddle. Leave about a pint of the batter, to raise the next batch, and you will have better cakes afterwards than at first. I generally set mine at night, just before I retire, and I have nice light cakes for breakfast.—Mrs. E. S. DE WITT, West Millgrove, Wood Co., O., 1860.

[In answer to the business inquiry of Mrs. E. S. D. W., we would say yes. The persons indicated can have the RURAL transferred when they have changed their place of residence.]

TAKE two quarts warm water, a little salt, one tea-cup of hop yeast, flour to make a stiff batter. Set in a warm place, and when light, thin with sweet milk. When baked brown you will call them extra.—Miss R. A. A., Phelps, N. Y., 1860.

COOKING THE APPLE-PIE MELON.—Having seen several inquiries in the RURAL NEW-YORKER as to how the Pie Melon should be used, I will give my experience in the preparation of it. When the melon is ripe, slice and pare it as you would a pumpkin, and having taken out all the seeds, stew it until it becomes soft, and easily mashed, then drain off all the water and season highly with sugar, lemon-juice and rind, grated nutmeg and butter. Bake on pastry as you would pumpkin pie. They can hardly be distinguished from green apple pie, if properly made. The melon will keep in a cellar till January or February, if not allowed to freeze. There may be other and more palatable ways of preparing the Pie Melon. If any one can give a better plan than the above, they will greatly oblige—A VIRGINIA HOUSEKEEPER, King George Co., Va., 1860.

WATER-PROOF COATING FOR WALLS.—Take 1 part (by weight) of beeswax, and 4 parts of linseed oil, boiled for several hours with litharge (the drying oil of the painter), and 2 parts of rosin. These are heated to boiling, and thoroughly mixed; they are then applied with a brush to the walls. A portable furnace should be employed to dry it, and several coats, one over the other, should be put on. This composition is applicable to the walls of basements built of brick or stone, and any person can make and apply it. There are many damp and unhealthy houses which may be rendered far more comfortable and healthy by such an application to the walls of the lower apartments.

WEEPING SINEW.—A correspondent of the RURAL asks for a recipe to cure "Weeping Sinew." I obtained the following from an Indian doctor, and was cured by it. Have known, also, of other instances of its effecting a cure of that troublesome disease. Take 4 pint of boiling water; put into it about one gill of live angle worms; add a quantity of the green part (that next the wood), of elder bark, and thicken with corn meal sufficient to make a good poultice. Apply this poultice to the affected part, as warm as can be endured, for twenty-four hours, and a cure will result. IRA RICHARDSON, Albion, N. Y., 1860.

COOKING EGG-PLANT.—Seeing a call for a recipe for cooking Egg-Plant in the RURAL NEW-YORKER, I send you the following:—Peel and slice the plant, soak in salt and water 10 minutes, then steam 5 minutes. Make a batter of 1 pint of sweet milk, 4 cup of butter, 2 eggs, 1 teaspoonful of cream of tartar, 4 do. of soda; mix with flour to the consistency of batter cakes; dip the slices and fry in butter to a light brown. We call them delicious.—Mrs. W. E. BARRY, Chicago, Ill., 1860.

CHARCOAL FOR BURNS.—The Gazette Medicale of France says that, by an accident, charcoal has been discovered to be a sure cure for burns. By laying a piece of cold charcoal upon a burn, the pain subsides immediately. By leaving the charcoal on one hour, the wound is healed, as has been demonstrated on several occasions. The remedy is cheap and simple, and deserves a trial.

HOW TO MAKE SAUSAGE.—Fifty pounds of meat; 1 lb. salt; 4 lb. pepper; 4 lb. of sage; 1 teaspoonful cayenne pepper. The above is mother's rule, and it can't be beat, in our estimation.—LIBERT M. K., Hopewell, N. Y., 1860.

BREAKFAST ROLLS.—Will some of the readers of the RURAL give us a recipe for making breakfast rolls.—LOUISE L. MACDON, N. Y., 1860.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
IT IS A TRUTH-TELLING LABEL that is upon DE LAND & Co's Saleratus, and it gives us great pleasure to say that this brand of Saleratus is making many friends among the intelligent householders of this vicinity. Its perfect purity ought to recommend it, certainly. It can be procured from most grocers and storekeepers. Manufactured and for sale at wholesale, at the Fairport Chemical Works, Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] SUNSHINE. BY LIBBIE M. KNAPP.

I don't believe this world of ours is such a gloomy place As my Aunt KERRY oft declares, with melancholy face; There's sunshine all along the way for those who choose to spy it.

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

"The over-dressing of American ladies in the streets, at hotels, and in the churches, is a subject of general remark among travelers from abroad, as well as sensible people at home."—RURAL NEW-YORKER.

petent critics, and will take the advice of the witty writer she mentions:—"Never don't do nothin' which it isn't your Fort." Our correspondent has broached the subject,—the ladies have the matter in charge,—and we will be glad to have them discuss its influence upon their sex, in a philosophical and hygienic point of view, through the columns of the RURAL.

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

THERE is a certain class of persons who seem to be inveterate foes of decency, as far as the returning of borrowed articles is concerned. Have you ever, gentle reader, been blessed with one of these "borrowers" for a neighbor? If you have, you doubtless know what it is to measure out homeopathic doses of tea, starch, sugar, and all the et ceteras of house-keeping.

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

HAVE you ever known days that were black? Have you ever known days in which everything went wrong, as though some invisible hand turned your life topsy-turvy? Did every sharp instrument you handled pierce or cut you of its own accord? Did some undiscoverable individual throw your neatly-arranged work into confusion, and abstract the book in which you were deeply interested?

TO FAULT-FINDING PARENTS.—There are times when it is necessary to censure and punish; but very much more may be done by encouraging children when they do well. Be, therefore, more careful to express your approbation of good conduct, than your disapprobation of bad. Nothing can more discourage a child than a spirit of incessant fault-finding on the part of its parents; and hardly anything can exert a more injurious influence upon the disposition, both of the parent and child.

LOVE.—This is the great instrument and engine of nature, the bond and cement of society, the spring and spirit of the universe. It is of that active, restless nature, that it must of necessity exert itself; and like the fire to which it is often compared, is not a free agent to choose whether it will heat or no, but it streams forth by natural results, and unavoidable emanations, so that it will fasten upon an inferior, unsuitable object, rather than none at all.

WOMEN AS THINKERS.—"Trust the first thought of woman, not the second," is an old proverb; and Montaigne says that "any truth which may be attained at one bound, woman will reach, but that which needs patient climbing is the prize of man."

FEMALE SOCIETY.—"Without female society," it has been justly said, "the beginning of men's lives would be helpless—the middle without joy or pleasure—the end without comfort."

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] "WHEN MY SHIP COMES IN."

Oh, a welcome sight it will truly be When my ship comes sailing over the sea! The sea that divides the Present and the Past, From the boundless Future and the vast Ideal.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WHY DO MEN WRITE?

ALL the world are either book-makers or book-readers, and the number of authors increases so rapidly that it will soon be difficult to tell which constitutes the larger class. Historians and essayists, novelists and poets, court the public favor; metropolitan presses groan beneath their burdens, and provincial shelves bend with the weight of their constant accumulations.

A much larger class write for the pecuniary rewards now bestowed on literary efforts. We have penny-a-liners in abundance, and a fine array of talent attached to the daily and weekly press. But we refer especially to that respectable profession, whose wants are supplied, and whose debts are paid, by the products of their pen.

WHAT IS A "SPLURGE?"—Rev. Dr. Cox has given the following, which, it strikes us, well defines the term by illustration:—"The word 'splurge' is a coinage, probably, not yet in any dictionary; yet meaning, as if a great rock of the mountain, disintegrated from its summit, should rush and bound, portentous and avalanched, into a sylvan lake at its foot, there making an uproarious splash, boring its way through the parted and the frightened waves, and after dashing the spray in all directions, burying itself in forgotten repose under congenial mud at the bottom; so gone forever from sight, from thought, from upper air, and all the ways of men; thus meaning—the low aim of making a considerable sensation at least once in society."

weary pilgrims were blessed by his kindness, never asked other reward. The authors of two religious works which are read and prized by all christians, will ever remain unknown. Though many a weary pilgrim on life's pathway, strengthened by copious draughts from pure fountains of truth, would gladly pay them a grateful tribute, it is sufficient for them to know that some fainting soul has had its faith renewed by glimpses of the heavenly land unfolded in their books.

Occasionally an author has written only for usefulness, and, despising popular applause, has been fully rewarded with the consciousness of having done good. Such motives are the purest and noblest of which we can conceive. An unmixed desire to do good, causes them to write, and the same religion which taught them that "it is more blessed to give than to receive," also taught them to desire not earthly fame or worldly wealth, but the approbation of Him "who seeth in secret" but rewardeth openly. Angelica, N. Y., 1860.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WHY DO YOU WORRY?

DON'T you know that multitudes of human beings turn away from the many blessings of their lot, and dwell and brood upon its worries? Don't you know that multitudes persistently look away from the numerous pleasant things they might contemplate, and look fixedly, and almost constantly, at painful and disagreeable things? You sit down, my friend, in your snug library, beside the evening fire. The blast without is hardly heard through the drawn curtains. Your wife is there, and your two grown-up daughters. You feel thankful that, after the bustle of the day, you have this quiet retreat where you may rest and rest yourself for another day, with its bustle. But the conversation goes on. Nothing is talked of but the failings of the servants, and the idleness and impudence of your boys; unless, indeed, it be the supercilious bow with which Mrs. Snooks that afternoon passed your wife, and the fact that the pleasant dinner party at which you assisted the evening before at Mr. Smith's, has been ascertained to have been one of a second-chop character, his more honored guests having dined on the previous day.

TRUE AND FALSE GOOD-BREEDING.—It is truly said that a little gentleness is a dangerous thing. There are no such sticklers for etiquette as the would-be fashionable, who have heard of good society, but have never seen it. Having no innate good-breeding, they hedge in their lives with conventionalities and rules borrowed from the "Handbook of Politeness." It is unsafe to do an original and spontaneous act in their presence, or let fall a remark that's not correctly common-place, if you would beware of offending their fastidiousness. On the other hand, there's no such freedom anywhere as in really good society. Truly well-bred persons never act by rule, or fear giving offence by the freedom of their conduct and conversation. It is the high tone of their behavior that preserves them from vulgarity, not the observance of etiquette. Innate politeness and nobility of character show themselves in every gesture, in every accent of the voice and glance of the eye; humble dress and occupation cannot conceal them; neither can vulgarity put on those high qualities, though it be clad in purple and gold, and housed in a palace.

BEAUTIES OF SHADOWS.—The shadows all day long play at silent games of beauty. Every thing is double, if it stands in light. The tree sees an unrevealed and slender self lying darkly along the ground. The slender stems of flowers, golden rods, wayside asters, meadow daisies, and rare lilies, (rare and yet abundant in every nice, level meadow,) cast forth a dim and tremulous line of shadow, that lies long all the morning, shortening till noon, and creeping out again from the root all the afternoon, until the sun shoots it as far eastward in the evening as the sun shot it westward in the morning. A million shadowy arrows such as these spring from Apollo's golden bow of light at every step. Flying in every direction, they cross, interlacing each other in a soft network of dim lines. Meanwhile, the clouds drop shadow-like anchors, that reach the ground, but will not hold; every browsing creature, every flitting bird, every moving team, every unobscured traveler writes itself along the ground in dim shadow.—Henry Ward Beecher.

DEPENDENCY.—The race of mankind would perish, did they cease to aid each other. From the time the mother binds the child's head, till the moment that some kind assistant wipes the death damp from the brow of the dying, we cannot exist without mutual help. All, therefore, that need aid, have a right to ask it of their fellow mortals. No one who has the power of granting it can refuse it without guilt.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WAITING FOR THE FERRYMAN.

In the sweet Summer of the year, Beneath life's noon-day glare, I wait for one who draweth near, My spirit home to bear.

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

FOR ye have sold yourselves for naught, and ye shall be redeemed without money.—BIBLE. How direct, simple, and beautiful, is this passage from the Bible. Where, out of the Scriptures, shall we look for one of equal truth and beauty? It contains one of the saddest truths that ever forced itself upon the heart, and a promise more precious than gold to poor, sin-burdened humanity. Truly we have sold ourselves for naught. We have forfeited our future interests, fraught with the weight of an eternal duration, for the trifling good of earth-born life. We have sold them for earthly possessions. Houses and lands, costly apparel and gay equipage, have looked brighter to our blinded vision than the "incorruptible inheritance."

The Educator.

[Written for Moore's Rural New Yorker.] HOME EDUCATION.

THERE has been much speculation among philosophers and learned men in regard to the real and ultimate designs of education. It is perfectly orthodox everywhere in community, in regard to the professional man or woman,—they must be educated. The dear and important interests of the people must not be placed in the hands of the unlearned and unskillful. And then, men and women must be well educated, who are called to meet the public demands of busy, active life.

No man can administer to the intellectual or moral demands of the public mind, destitute of the power of education. This sentiment is received as orthodox everywhere. Without the advantages which a good education affords, people cannot well meet and conquer the ills and stern necessities of human nature. Theology, medicine and law are sciences which it is popular to study. Quacks are a living terror to those who would see the machinery of life move on in undisturbed harmony and order. Hence, when a young man or woman, impelled by the higher instincts of nature, is seen pursuing, earnestly and assiduously, a course of study, the questions are heard, "What do they intend to become?" "What are they fitting themselves for?" "Surely they cannot be wasting so much of their precious time without some specific purpose?" An efficient and useful practice of medicine, theology, or law, requires much study and knowledge. It is a most glaring error to admit that an ignorant man can reach real eminence in any of the "learned professions." Common experience, however, proves that many who are called learned, seem to have very little success.

Another fact is very evident. Were there more careful, earnest study among the masses, there would be far less occasion for the practice of the "learned professions." The real enlightenment and elevation of society looks toward a time when there shall be far less incumbents of the "learned professions." But all education that does look to the elevation and purifying of the home circle, is most sadly deficient. In the light of the home circle must arise all true reforms. Were I able, in the zeal and strength of hope, to rear a superstructure of intellectual and moral purity in our land, I would begin at the domestic hearth. I would not commence in the public throng. Were the mighty ocean to be emptied of its flood, it would be folly to chain its giant surges as they go dashing over its dark bosom. Just arrest the raindrop before it falls to the earth, cut off the course of the merry streamlet as it goes singing to the sea, and how soon would the "vast deep" reveal its world of mysterious life and death.

Step into the homes of our country and sit down by the hearthstone. Over many is gleaming the light of intelligence and beauty,—in many you may discover the refining light of home education,—you will find the mother and wife amply fitted to fill her station. She is qualified to instruct and guide her sons and daughters. They feel her controlling influence. Her feelings and emotions have been trained and disciplined, her affections are strong, genial and resolute. She was not educated for some ideal mission. She did not squander her younger years away upon the fooleries and frivolities of pride and fashion. There was more importance attached to the real pressing demands of life, than to the width or number of the flounces upon her dress. When Miss Brown,—who had the most ample means of administering to every passion and vain desire,—was spending her life in positive idleness, she was endeavoring to discipline and strengthen her mind by self-denial. She was engaged in teaching, impelled by her thirst for real knowledge, and by the strong power of maternal love. She has contended nobly with the ills and misfortunes of life, and has conquered. And now she is prepared, by a course of reasonable discipline, to adorn the noblest station of life.

There are some such homes. There are homes in which the beautiful machinery of domestic government seems to move with regularity and order. Every member of the household understands and maintains his relative duties, and from such homes radiate those cheering influences which honor God and bless mankind. But there are very many sadder pictures of domestic education. There are many homes in which the refining power of discipline and education is not felt. The domestic hearthstone, instead of being a nucleus around which cluster love, virtue and refinement, seems a repelling power, and an object of necessity rather than of love and beauty.

The mother and wife has been most sadly disappointed in regard to her real mission. She finds herself almost entirely destitute of that education requisite to adorn her station. Instead of meeting her duties with a cheerful and resolute will, her spirit complains that life's burden rests so heavily upon her. A shadow darkens that household,—there is no music there,—the hours pass heavily on,—there is jargon in the motions of domestic life. This is all the result of home education.

Were I asked for a panacea for all the moral ills which infest the world,—were I to give a remedy, effectual and efficient for moral disease,—were I asked what would arrest the mighty tide of sensuality and licentiousness pouring over our land, I would say, purify and educate the home circle. Educate your daughters to become competent and efficient wives and mothers, and educate your sons to become the worthy husbands of such daughters. This will do more than all the statute enactments or police arrangements in our land. J. W. BARKEE. Buffalo, N. Y., 1860.

FALSE EDUCATION.

Shame upon historians and schoolmasters for exciting the worst passions of youth by the display of false glories! If your religion hath any truth or influence, her professors will extinguish the promontory lights, which only allure to breakers. They will be assiduous in teaching the young and ardent that great abilities do not constitute great men, without the right and unremitting application of them; and that, in the sight of humanity and wisdom, it is better to erect one cottage than demolish a hundred cities. Down to the present day we have been taught little else than falsehood. We have been told to do this thing and that; we have been told we shall be punished unless we do; but at the same time we are shown by the finger that prosperity and glory, and the esteem of all about us, rest upon other and very different foundations. Now, do the ears or the eyes seduce the most easily, and lead the most directly to the heart? But both ears and eyes are won over, and alike are persuaded to corrupt us.—Walter Savage Landor.

He that knows useful things, and not he that knows many things, is the wise man.

[Written for Moore's Rural New Yorker.] WHAT MADE THE DIFFERENCE.

As the winter term of our district schools has begun, let me ask you, parents and pupils, to take a glance at the schools of a year ago in your vicinity, some of which were good, others bad, and tell me what made the difference. Doubtless your ready answer is,—why, some were fortunate enough to secure good teachers, while others were not, either because they were afraid to open their purse strings far enough, or could not spend time to look up one. Are you, my friends, very sure that your answer is the correct one? Have you studied the matter carefully, and sifted it thoroughly? If you are right in believing that the teacher only is responsible for the reputation of your schools, will you tell me why we heard so many remarks like the following:—"I don't see why Jones can't teach just as good a school as Smith." "I should think Jones would keep first-rate order, he is so stern and unfinching in other places." "I haven't been in to see, but they say the scholars do just as they please. I wish I had hired Smith, for they say 'that their school beats anything else in town.' I would, but I didn't suppose Jones would fall here, though he hasn't had the name of keeping first-rate order."

As you don't seem to find the exact difficulty in Jones, let us look at the circumstances of the two, a little. You all consider Jones equal to Smith at anything out of the line of teaching. Each taught his first term in some out-of-the-way place, and we never heard much about it. The second term, Smith was engaged in a well regulated school, with a large number of earnest, intelligent scholars, and parents who were determined to have their children know something, and their school a good one. Jones taught in a tumble-down house, belonging to a district where education was below par, and school taxes a grudging investment, and, as a natural consequence, a lot of scholars that knew but little, and cared less about learning any more. That he failed to acquire the name of being a good teacher in such a place need not surprise any one. That Smith would have done any better in the same place remains to be proved.

The third term, Smith enters No. 4 with the reputation of being a good teacher, and keeping first-rate order, which his school of the previous winter, united with his own energy and perseverance, gave him, and a successful course is confidently expected by all concerned. And a successful course they have, not so much because Smith is a better teacher than Jones, as because all the component parts are expecting and therefore doing all in their power to make it a good one, and putting down the few fault-finding remarks of the dissatisfied ones until they, too, give it up, and go with the rest in saying Smith "can't be beat, nor equaled even." Jones, just as earnest and efficient, but with the reputation which his school of the preceding winter gave him still clinging to his name, enters your school amid shakes of the head, doubts expressed and unexpressed, and eyes opened wide to see if there should be the least bit of disorder. Some of the scholars are for fun; others stand outside and wait to see if the school is to be a good one or not; others go inside, but instead of devoting their time to study, sit, watch the rest, and go away saying, "it was so noisy they couldn't learn anything, and the school was a miserable one."

Why was it a miserable one, I ask? You say, "Jones is a fine young man, a first-rate fellow, but he hasn't the faculty to get along in the schoolroom." I say it is because he is almost the only one in the district ready to work,—the rest of you are carefully watching for the failure that must inevitably come, if the teacher has no one to help him. You might as well expect the sculptor (with whom the teacher is so often compared,) to embody the beautiful designs which his soul creates, with his block of marble set up by the wayside, and every passer-by permitted to hack it as he pleased, as to expect even the most perfect of teachers to mold a character of beauty and symmetry during the short time the scholars are under his supervision, unaided by their own efforts and the hearty co-operation of their parents.

But you, scholars, are not blocks of inanimate marble,—you are immortal beings, like your teacher, and like him, responsible to yourselves, your country, and your Creator, for the use and improvement of those powers which He has given to your keeping. If you would have a good school the present winter, be ready to do your part, and believe me it is no small part you have to do, for you are just as much a factor of the school as your teacher,—it is just as necessary that your part should be well done as that his should be. And if you cannot each do quite as much toward forming the character of your school, you can do infinitely more towards forming your own. It is upon your own exertions that your advancement mostly depends. I do not wish to take one iota from the responsibility resting upon the teachers' efforts, but I do say that you can learn in almost any school if you will and if you do. I want it to be understood that I have reference to the large scholars, or first classes, in these remarks, the smaller ones seldom trouble any teacher.

To the parents I would say, when you catch yourselves in the act of finding fault with your teacher, pause and go to the schoolroom and compare his discipline with your own, and if he is not overruled any worse than you are, go away and hold your peace, leaving him to manage the school un molested by your opposing influence, if you will not give him your support. MAY MYSTLE. Albion, N. Y., 1860.

EDUCATION IN VERMONT.—The State Teachers' Association, adopted, during the last session, the following resolution:

Resolved, That when qualifications are equal, and equal services are rendered, male and female Teachers should receive equal compensation.

From a report on the progress of Common Schools in the State, we learn that the whole number of children in the State is 89,900; of schools, 2,754; of teachers, 4,885. Average attendance, 47,000, or about 50 per cent. More than 17,000 have attended no school at all. Instances of tardiness, 890,000; cases of corporal punishment, 9,882. Only 126 districts have a dictionary of any kind; 115 have globes; 310 have outline maps. Whole expense during the year, \$406,000.

EDUCATION IN WISCONSIN.—The annual report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction in Wisconsin, gives the number of school districts in that State as 4,110; number of male attendants, 194,834,—being about two-thirds of the children of school age in the State; average monthly wages of male teachers, \$24.20; ditto female teachers, \$14.84; total receipts for school purposes during the last year, \$574,183.97. There are 1,176 district libraries in the State, containing an aggregate of 36,939 volumes. The amount of money raised for the libraries was \$2,003.91. There are also 161 select and private schools in the State, exclusive of incorporated academies, attended by 7,326 scholars.



WASHINGTON'S HEAD-QUARTERS AT NEWBURGH.

PROMINENT among the places made memorable by Revolutionary events, are the Highlands upon the Hudson, from Haverstraw to Newburgh. Here we find the scenes of councils, battles, sieges, triumphs, and treason, giving an interest in the locality to every lover of freedom, and especially claiming the homage of the American heart. Newburgh, and New Windsor, then a small village two miles below the former town, were the chosen quarters of WASHINGTON at different times, from December, 1780, until the conclusion of the war in 1783, and a portion of that time was the cantonment of the American army, thus making Newburgh a conspicuous point in the history of the war. At the close of 1780 the army was cantoned at three points, Morristown and Pompton, in New Jersey, and at Phillipstown, in the Hudson Highlands. WASHINGTON established his head-quarters at New Windsor in December, 1780, where he remained until June, 1781, when the French, who had quartered during the winter at Newport and Lebanon, formed a junction with the Americans on the Hudson. In April, 1782, he established his head-quarters at Newburgh, two miles above the village of New Windsor, occupying the stone house, a view of which we present to our readers, as an interesting relic of revolutionary times, where he continued most of the time until November, 1783, when the Continental army was disbanded. The house is substantially built, of stone, and the

main part is over one hundred years old, though an addition was made to it as late as 1770. It was in possession of the HASBROUCK family from the time of its erection until within about ten years, when it was purchased by the State of New York for the purpose of securing its preservation as a relic of the Revolution. It was placed in charge of the trustees of Newburgh, who were required to spend a certain amount in repairs, ornamenting the grounds, &c. The house has accordingly been thoroughly repaired, some of the modern alterations within have been changed, and the whole appearance of the edifice is as much like that of the era of the Revolution as it is possible to make it. A family resides in the mansion for the purpose of receiving and attending visitors. Properly preserved, this relic of the Revolution will doubtless withstand the destruction of time for another century. The timbers are sound, the walls massive, the roof and the weather-boards on the gables well preserved.

Lady WASHINGTON was a resident of "Hasbrouck House" during the summer of 1783, and in gratification of her taste for gardening, cultivated a large space in front of the house. Mr. EAGER, the historian of Orange County, says that within his remembrance, the brick borders of her flower-beds remained. For the above facts we are indebted mainly to LOSSING'S Field Book of the Revolution.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

THE MICROSCOPE.

WITH the help of his microscope, man can enter into a world unknown to the ignorant, and altogether invisible to the unassisted eye. In every plant and flower which adorns the field, in every leaf of the forest, in the seeds, prickles, and down of all vegetables, he perceives beauties and harmonies, and exquisite contrivances, of which, without this instrument, he could have formed no conception. In every scale of a haddock he perceives a beautiful piece of work, admirably contrived and arranged, and in the scale of a sole, a still more diversified structure, which no art could imitate, terminated with pointed spikes, and formed with admirable regularity. Where nothing but a speck of moldiness appears to the naked eye, he beholds a forest of mushrooms with long stalks, and with leaves and blossoms distinctly visible. In the eyes of a common fly, where others can see only two small protuberances, he perceives several thousands of beautiful transparent globes, exquisitely rounded and polished, placed with the utmost regularity in rows, crossing each other like a kind of lattice-work, and forming the most admirable piece of mechanism which the eye can contemplate. The small dust that covers the wings of moths and butterflies he perceives to consist of an infinite multitude of feathers of various forms, not much unlike the feathers of birds, and adorned with the most bright and vivid colors. In an animal so small that the naked eye can scarcely distinguish it as a visible point, he perceives a head, mouth, eyes, legs, joints, bristles, hair, and other animal parts and functions, as nicely formed and adjusted, and endowed with as much vivacity, agility, and intelligence, as the larger animals. In the tail of a small fish or the foot of a frog, he can perceive the variegated branchings of the veins and arteries, and the blood circulating through them with amazing velocity. In a drop of stagnant water he perceives thousands of living beings of various shapes and sizes, beautifully formed, and swimming with wanton vivacity, like fishes in the midst of the ocean. In short, by this instrument he perceives that the whole earth is full of animation, and that there is not a single tree, plant, or flower, and scarcely a drop of water, that is not teeming with life and peopled with its peculiar inhabitants. He thus enters, as it were, into a new world, invisible to other eyes, where every object in the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms presents a new and interesting aspect, and unfolds beauties, harmonies, contrasts, and exquisite contrivances, altogether inconceivable by the ignorant and unreflecting mind.—Dick.

SECURE SLEEP, REGULAR SLEEP.

DR. CORNWELL, of Philadelphia, contributes to the November number of the Educator an article on sleep, from which we make the following brief extract:

No one who wishes to accomplish great things should deny himself the advantages of sleep or exercise. Any student will accomplish more, year by year, if he allows himself seven or eight hours to sleep, and three or four for meals and amusements, than if he labors at his books, or with his pen, ten or twelve hours a day. It is true that some few persons are able to perform much mental labor; and to study late at night, and yet sleep well. Some require but little sleep. But such individuals are very rare. Gen. Pichegru informed Sir Gilbert Blane that, during a whole year's campaign, he did not sleep more than one hour in twenty-four. Sleep seemed to be at the command of Napoleon, as he could sleep and awake apparently at will. M. Guizot, a minister of France under Louis Philippe, was a good sleeper. A late writer observed that this facility for going to sleep after extreme exertion and mental exertion was prodigious, and it was fortunate for him that he was so constituted, otherwise his health would have materially suffered. A minister in France ought not to be a nervous man; it is a fate to him if he is. After the most boisterous and tumultuous sittings at the Chamber, after being baited by the opposition in the most savage manner—there is no milder expression for their excessive violence—he arrives home, throws himself upon his couch and sinks immediately into a profound sleep, from which he is undisturbed till midnight, when the proofs of the *Moniteur* are brought to him for inspection.

The most frequent and immediate cause of insanity, and one of the most important to guard against, is the want of sleep. Indeed, so rarely do we see a recent case of insanity, that is not preceded by want of sleep, that is regarded as almost a sure precursor of mental derangement. Notwithstanding strong

hereditary predisposition, ill health, loss of kindred or property, insanity rarely results, unless the existing causes are such as to produce a loss of sleep. A mother loses her only child, the merchant his fortune, the politician, the scholar, the enthusiast, may have their minds powerfully excited and disturbed,—yet, if they sleep well, they will not become insane. No advice is so good, therefore, to those who have recovered from an attack, or to those who are in delicate health, as that of securing, by all means, sound, regular, and refreshing sleep.

ORRIS.—Place on a sheet of white paper a piece of blue silk about four inches in diameter, in the sunshine; cover the center of this with a piece of yellow silk about three inches in diameter; and the center of this with a piece of pink silk about two inches in diameter; and the center of the pink silk again cover with another circle of green silk about one inch in diameter; then cover the center of the green silk with a circle of indigo about half an inch in diameter; in the center of the whole make a black dot with a pen. Then look steady for a minute, on this central spot, and closing your eyes, hold your hand about an inch distant before them, and you will appear to see the most beautiful circle of colors that imagination can conceive, which colors will appear not only different from the colors of the silk, but will keep perpetually changing.

PROTECTION FROM LIGHTNING.—The beech tree is said to be a non-conductor of lightning. So notorious is the fact, that the Indians, whenever the sky wears the appearance of a thunder storm, leave their pursuits and take refuge under the nearest beech tree. In Tennessee the people consider it a complete protection. Dr. Becton, in a letter to Dr. Mitchell, states that the beech tree is never known to be struck by atmospheric electricity, while other trees are often shattered into splinters. May not a knowledge of this afford protection to many when exposed?

The Young Ruralist.

STAMENS AND PISTILS OF FLOWERS.

EDITORS RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Will you please give a very young farmer a little information about the Stamens and Pistils of flowers, so that I can understand in what way our squashes and other things become mixed when several kinds are grown together, as this subject has been talked over a good deal here? Also, does the mixing affect the vegetable the first year, or only the seed, so that they show the mixture when planted and grown the next season?—G. F. S., Grand Prairie, Illinois, 1860.

It will be remembered by some of the readers of this department, that in the early numbers of last year we published some very sensible and instructive articles from an OLD GARDENER, and had promise of others, which promise the old gentleman did not fulfill. The reason assigned for this neglect was the charms and labors of the garden. Spring came, and the pen was dropped for the spade and the transplanting trowel. But the obligation is still acknowledged, and for the purpose of securing its fulfillment we handed the above to our old friend, who responds in his usual style.

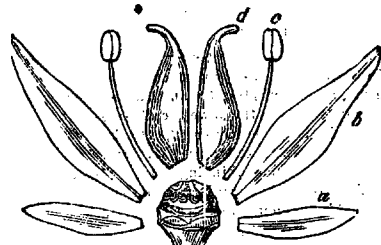
REMARKS OF THE OLD GARDENER.

EDITORS OF THE RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I fear that by my neglect I have forfeited your good esteem, and perhaps a complimentary copy of the RURAL. The latter money would purchase, the loss of the former I should very much regret, and the more so because I feel it would not be without cause. It is pleasant for an old man to talk and relate the experience and observation of over fifty years spent in the garden, but writing is a different thing. The fingers lose their suppleness long before the tongue. That proverbially unruly member holds out to the last. But industry and perseverance has been my motto for many years. I have taught it to many youth that have been under my care and instruction, and I must not prove false to my principles at this late day. So, I will take courage, and reply to the young correspondent of Illinois. I like to instruct the young best, because they are willing to receive instruction; but it is hard to instruct one who has grown up in ignorance. An ignorant man is wiser in his own conceit than ten intelligent men. I am glad sometimes that men don't live always, and that their ignorance and pride die with them. The next generation I think will be more intelligent, and consequently more modest than the present. But, I must restrain my disposition to ramble, which is well enough in talking, for words are cheap, but printers' ink and paper costs money, and every line and word should be of value. The mixture of varieties of fruits, flowers, vegeta-

bles, &c., is produced through the flower and the seed. As a general rule, the mixture only affects the seed and not the fruit. A Greening and a Spitzenburgh apple tree may be grown together for any number of years, and each tree will produce its kind true and pure; but if the seed should be sown and trees grown from them, the fruit produced by the young trees would be not true, but be new varieties, perhaps resembling the old kinds, but of this there is no certainty. Seed of a yellow and a green squash may be planted near together, even in the same hill, and no mixture will be seen if the seed is pure; but plant seeds saved from these squashes, and nearly all, and perhaps every one, will be mixed and spotted, and striped with yellow and green.

If we plant a red and white perennial flower together, say peonies, they will remain true for any number of years, but plants grown from their seeds will show mixture. There are some people who think the mixture affects the fruit as well as the seed, and some very wise persons argue that a mixture may be produced in plants without either flowers or seeds; but this is very unreasonable; and when such inquiring young readers as your friend of Illinois become men, such notions will be scarce.

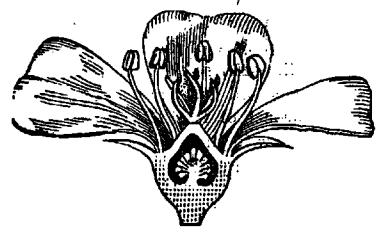
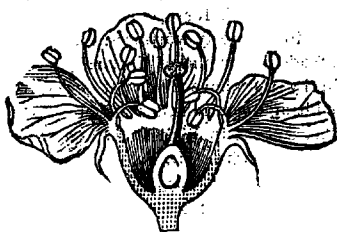
A flower is made up of several parts, each having a particular office to perform. First, the calyx, which is the outer circle of green leaves seen in almost all flowers; second, the corolla or inner circle of leaves of bright colors, which gives the flower its beauty; third, a set of stamens, each looking like a cap on a slender stem; and in the center of the flower, the pistils. I give a drawing of a flower dissected so that its parts may be more plainly seen—a is a part of the calyx, b part of corolla, c stamens, d pistils.



It must be remembered that nature works for an object, and the object of the flower is the production of seed. The flower, therefore, is made up of those parts which are useful in accomplishing this end. Some of the parts are essential to the production of seed, as no seed can be produced without them, while others are only of use to protect and support these essential parts. From this fact botanists divide the flower into two parts, or the organs into two classes, the Essential and the Protecting.

The Protecting Organs are the calyx and corolla. The calyx is the circle of green leaves at the base of the flower, or the union of the flower with the stem. This in some flowers is composed of several leaves, and each one is called a sepal. In the engraving above, a is one of the sepals forming the calyx. The corolla is the colored leaves of the flower, which give it its principal beauty. Each one of these colored leaves is called a petal, the corolla being therefore formed of a number of petals. Thus far I have no doubt every young reader can understand; but if not, read again carefully until the facts stated are well fixed in the mind.

The Essential organs of the flower are the stamens and pistils. The stamens are the fertilizing organs, and the pistils are fertilized by them, and bear the seeds. In the engraving above, c is the stamens and d the pistils. To make the matter more plain, I give engravings of two flowers cut in halves lengthwise; the first the flower of the cherry, and the latter the common purslane.



These show the stamens and pistils as they grow, and the connection of the pistils with the seeds below.

A stamen consists of two parts, the stalk, which is called the filament, and seen in the small engraving at a, and the anther, b. The anther is a little cap, and generally has two cells filled with a yellowish dust which botanists call pollen. At the proper time the anther opens and the yellow dust falls on the pistils, fertilizing them and causing them to bear seeds. If the anthers were cut off before the dust falls, the flower would never have any seed, unless some of the pollen should fall on the pistils from other flowers.

The pistil is divided into three parts—the ovary, style, and stigma. The ovary is the hollow case, or pod which contains the half formed seeds waiting to be fertilized by the pollen of the stamen. The engraving shows the ovary cut across and separated a little so that the seeds may be seen. The style is the long points, three of which are shown in the engraving. In some flowers there is but one, and in others more. The cherry flower given above, has but one, while the purslane has many. In some flowers the style is quite short, while in others it is very long. The stigma is the point seen

at the top of the style in the engraving, and very distinctly seen in the flower of the cherry. It is soft and open, and upon this the pollen falls and is conveyed to the ovary, forming seeds. I have endeavored to make this matter very plain to young readers, and if I have succeeded in giving the information desired by your correspondent, and needed by many others, I will continue the subject. But those who wish to thoroughly study the subjects, should obtain GRAY'S Lessons in Botany.

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OUR NEW DRESS AND ENLARGEMENT.

THE NEW DRESS in which the RURAL appears was furnished by NATHAN LYMAN, of the Buffalo Type Foundry, than whom, as we have said before, there is no more prompt or honorable dealer in printing materials. The type, rules, etc., were all manufactured expressly for us, and are of the best quality and styles obtainable. But we hope the new suit will speak for itself, and need no commendation. Our new vignette heading was designed and engraved by Mr. GEORGE FRAUNBERGER, of this city. Good judges pronounce it the most beautiful and appropriate vignette for a Rural Newspaper yet produced, and we think it will be greatly admired.

REMITTANCES—EXCHANGE—DISCOUNT.

THE CURRENCY of several of the Western States is greatly depreciated, just now, while exchange on the East is exorbitant in many localities. In answer to inquiries from Western Agents, we would say that we will abide by our announcement as to "The Money we Receive," (see next page), yet hope they will do the best they can in remitting. Our first choice is drafts on New York, &c., (less reasonable exchange,) or New York or New England money; next, Canada, Ohio and Michigan bills; and last (if our friends can do no better,) bills on the best solvent banks of other States. Postage stamps are good for fractional or any amounts.

By the way, some of our Western friends remit too much. Several Agents have recently paid the exchange on drafts, whereas, the cost of exchange should be deducted from the amount to be remitted. A gentleman in Missouri sends us \$2 in Illinois money and 20 cents in stamps to pay discount!

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER AS A PRESENT.—In cases where a subscriber sends the RURAL to a friend or relative as a present, we only charge the lowest club rate—\$1.25 per year. Our lowest price for copies thus sent to Canada is \$1.37, and to Europe \$2.25. Many are ordering this volume as a New Year's Present to distant friends, thinking it a most valuable gift, and it is certainly one which will remind the recipient fifty-two times of the kind remembrance of the donor.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 5, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Matters at Washington.

PROMINENT among the subjects of interest is the abstraction of State bonds from the office of the Secretary of the Interior, and which we briefly noticed in the last RURAL. The telegraph on the twenty-seventh ult., gave us the following:

The developments concerning the immense robbery in the Interior Department, have produced a profound impression, without exciting any extraordinary surprise, as all the parties known to be, or suspected of being implicated, have long been under suspicion. Mr. Godard Bailey, the clerk who abstracted the bonds from Charleston, South Carolina, though his appointment is nominally charged to Alabama in the Blue Book. His relations toward the Secretary of the Interior have been most confidential. Among his familiars he has been regarded as a man of reckless and dissipated habits. It is now ascertained that the amount purloined is exactly \$370,000; for, while there are drafts on the War Department, made by Messrs. Russell, Majors & Co., and accepted by Secretary Floyd, deposited for a corresponding amount, and believed to be utterly worthless, these drafts were ostensibly made on account of the transportation contracts held by the above firm, not really rendered. They were kiting operations, intended to raise money, and have been adroit in Wall street and other marts for the last six months. Mr. Bailey's reason for confessing his abstraction was, that he expected Mr. Thompson would retire from the Cabinet, and might not be able to clear himself from complicity when the discovery came to be made, as it eventually must be. It was to save him from suspicion when he was not guilty. All the coupons of the bonds were cut off and retained in the safe, so that the robbery might not have been detected but for the circumstances stated. The bondsmen of Mr. Bailey surrendered him to-day, and he is now in jail.

On the 27th, the President received notice that Major Anderson had evacuated Fort Moultrie; the Major giving as reasons therefor a desire to allay the dissension about the post, and at the same time strengthen his own position. General Scott declares that Major Anderson's movements had been made without consulting with him, and whether in accordance with instructions from a President, he could not say. He considered that in a strategic point of view, Major Anderson had done perfectly right, as he is now in a strong position which was not the case at Fort Moultrie, where his small force could have been overcome in a short time. The act of the Major is generally commended, for this among other reasons, that while Fort Moultrie was comparatively weak, and might provoke an assault by the mob, the impregnable defences of Fort Sumter place it beyond such contingency, as it could be reduced only by regular and protracted siege, thus avoiding an immediate collision.

The Postoffice Department continues to receive resignations of postmasters in South Carolina, who give as their reason that they are out of the Union.

The Commissioners from South Carolina had a session with the Cabinet on the 28th ult. The Commissioners, in view of the alleged stipulation on the part of the President, that the garrisons at Charleston harbor, should not be augmented, nor the military status of the posts changed, requested the President to inform them whether Major Anderson's movements were in consequence of any order issued by him or from the War Department. The President responded negatively, and said that Major Anderson had acted on his own responsibility. The Commissioners then requested the President to remand Major Anderson to Fort Moultrie. They demand that the troops be withdrawn immediately or this shall be their last interview, and they will return to South Carolina and prepare for the worst.

The proposals for the \$5,000,000 loan in Treasury notes, under the recent act of Congress, were opened on the 28th ult., at the Treasury Department. The bids were for less than \$2,500,000 at an average of 12 per centum interest.

The Senate crisis committee of thirteen had before them on the 29th ult., Mr. Douglas's proposition, as presented to that body on the 24th. Also one by Mr. Bigler, viz: The establishment, by the Constitution, of the line of 26 degrees 30 min.; eight Senatorial Governments to be established north, and four south of that line, the geographical area being greater in

the former than in the latter. When each Territory has population sufficient for one Representative in Congress, it is to be admitted as a State by proclamation of the President, thus removing the question from Congress; Slavery to be interdicted north and tolerated south of that line. The Committee also considered the proposition of Mr. Rice for the establishment of a similar line, to admit all the territory north of this line as one State, to be called Washington, and all the territory south of this line as one State, to be called Jefferson, and admitted with slavery. All these were rejected. The Committee finding they cannot agree on any recommendation, will report to the Senate at an early day.

The House Select Committee considered the proposition of Mr. Adams, of Mass. An amendment to the Constitution prohibiting Congress from passing a law interfering with slavery in the States where it exists, was agreed to by nearly a unanimous vote, the several dissenters considering that the Constitution gives that security already.

An address or recommendation has been prepared by authority, to submit to the members of the border Slave States for their signatures, requesting their respective States, by enactment or otherwise, to appoint commissioners to meet at Baltimore on the 10th of February, for conference relative to the secession of all the Cotton States, and devise a programme of action for the border States in case of such an emergency. It is thought, however, that not all the members will sign it, but still there will be enough from each delegation to induce a favorable response from their respective States.

Mr. Holt, the Postmaster General, has sent orders to the Sub-Treasurer at Charleston to remit all the balance, \$55,000, on the Post Office account in his possession immediately to the credit of that Department. If this order is not complied with at once, he will demand of the federal government to enforce his orders. He is also determined, as before suggested, to suppress mail matter to and from South Carolina, if the mails are interfered with in that State.

The telegraph this (Monday,) morning provides us with the following highly interesting intelligence:

The Cabinet has just adjourned, after a protracted session of six hours. The affairs at Charleston were the subject under consideration. Secretary Floyd stated to the President in writing that unless Major Anderson was withdrawn from Fort Sumter he would not remain in the Cabinet. Secretaries Thompson and Thomas were understood to entertain the same view, but the events of the day changed their minds somewhat. The President determined, after full deliberation, not to withdraw Major Anderson, and Mr. Floyd's resignation was therefore accepted.

Among the persons named as Mr. Floyd's successor is Benj. F. Butler, of Mass., who has been in confidential consultation with the President for several days. A serious division occurs in the Cabinet, and a break up may at any hour be anticipated. Recent and highly important intelligence from the South, received by the Government, may precipitate the event.

The Secretary of the Treasury has just received a dispatch from Charleston, stating that the revenue cutter in the port of Charleston had been seized by the authorities, and that the captain, who is a native of Charleston, has resigned. This intelligence was immediately communicated to the Cabinet. The Navy Department at 2 o'clock received a dispatch from Lieut. James P. Foster, commanding the slave Bonita, which was carried into Charleston, stating that his prisoner, the Captain of the slave, had been taken before a State Judge, by a writ of habeas corpus; that the Judge remanded the prisoner to his custody on the ground that he had no jurisdiction, and that on his way to the Bonita with his prisoner, he had been taken by force from his custody by a mob.

The Secession Movement.

The latest advices from Texas state that Gov. Houston will convene an extra session of the Texas Legislature on the 21st of January, to consider the present crisis. The Convention of the people will be held on the 28th of January. The secession feeling is in the ascendant.

Advices from Jacksonville, Florida, dated 24th ult., show that four-fifths of the delegates elected to the State Convention will go for immediate secession.

Gov. Magoffin, of Kentucky, has called an extra session of the legislature for the 17th of this month, to consider the distracted condition of the country.

All is quiet in North Carolina. Most of the members of the legislature have gone home. Meetings are being held in the various counties, at which Union sentiments are prevalent, but hope is thought well nigh gone.

The Alabama Convention will have a large majority in favor of secession.

Our latest advices from Charleston left the Convention still in session. An ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to Amend the Constitution of South Carolina in respect to the Executive Department," was passed in the Secret Session of the Committee on the 27th ult. It provides as follows:

First.—That the Governor have power to receive Ambassadors, Ministers, Consuls and Agents of Foreign Powers, to conduct negotiations with foreign powers, to make treaties by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to nominate all officers by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint Ambassadors, Public Ministers, and Consuls, as the General Assembly may previously direct, and also all other officers whose appointment has not otherwise been provided for by law, to fill vacancies during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which expire the end of the next session of the Senate, to convene the Senate whenever he thinks it necessary, provided nevertheless during the existence of the Convention that all treaties, directions for the appointment of Ambassadors, Ministers, Consuls, &c., be subject to the advice and consent of the Convention.

Second.—That the Governor immediately appoint four persons, with the advice and consent of the Convention, who, with the Lieut. Governor, shall form a council, to be called the Executive Council, whose duty it shall be to advise with him.

All obligations of secrecy in regard to the above ordinance were withdrawn.

The Convention also passed an ordinance, which reads as follows:

Whereas, It is due to our late confederates in the political Union, known as the United States of America, as also the citizens of South Carolina engaged in commerce, that no abrupt or sudden change be made in the rate of duties on imports into the State; and

Whereas, It is not desired by this State to secure advantages in trade to her own ports above those of any other of the slave holding States, her late confederates in the said Union;

Whereas, This ordinance, for considerations indicated, is designed to be provisional; therefore we, the people of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare, ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, First, That all citizens of this State who at the date of the ordinance of secession were holding office connected with the Customs under the General Government of the United States within the limits of South Carolina, be and they are hereby appointed, to hold under the government of this State exclusively, without any further connection whatever with the Federal Government of the United States, the same offices they now fill until otherwise directed, and that they receive the same pay and emoluments for their service. Second, That until this Convention, or General As-

sembly, shall otherwise provide, the Governor shall appoint to all vacancies which may occur in such offices.

Third, That until it is otherwise provided by this Convention, or General Assembly, the revenue collection and navigation laws of the United States as far as may be practicable, be, and they are hereby adopted and made laws of this State, saving that no duties shall be collected upon imports from the States known as the United States of America, nor upon the tonnage of vessels owned in whole or in part by the citizens of the said States, saving and excepting the act of Congress, adopted on the 3d of March, 1857, entitled an act authorizing the deposit of their respective national vessels with the consuls of their respective nations, which said act is hereby declared to be of no force within the limits of this State.

Fourth, All vessels built in South Carolina or elsewhere, and owned to the amount of one-third by a citizen or citizens of South Carolina or any other slave holding Commonwealth of North America, and commanded by citizens thereof, and no other, shall be registered as vessels of South Carolina, under the authority of the collector and Naval Officer.

Fifth, All official acts of the officers aforesaid, in which it is usual and proper to set forth the authority under which they act, or style of document issued by them or any of them, shall be in the name of the State of South Carolina.

Sixth, All moneys hereafter collected by any officer aforesaid, shall after deducting the sum necessary for the compensation of the officers and other expenses, be paid into the Treasury of the State of South Carolina for the use of said State, subject to the order of this Convention, or of the General Assembly.

Seventh, The officers aforesaid shall retain in their hands all property of the United States in their possession, custody or control, subject to the disposal of the State, who will account for the same upon a final settlement with the government of the United States.

A dispatch from Charleston states that the proposed State loan of \$400,000 is already paroled out among the wealthiest men of the State, mostly at Charleston, and each one is expected to furnish his share, under the penalty of being considered disaffected.

Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney were taken possession of by the South Carolina Militia on the night of the 27th. Capt. Humphries holds possession of the arsenal. Castle Pinckney and Fort Moultrie are occupied by State troops, under instructions of the Governor of the State to hold peaceable possession of these forts, and for the purpose of protecting the government property. Castle Pinckney and Fort Moultrie were held by about twelve men, who peaceably surrendered. There was no collision and none was anticipated when the troops left the city to garrison these forts.

The following statement of the evacuation of Fort Moultrie by Major Anderson is from the Charleston Courier:

The evacuation of Fort Moultrie commenced a little after sundown on Wednesday. The men were ordered to hold themselves in readiness with knapsacks packed, but up to the moment of leaving had no idea of abandoning the fort. They were reviewed on parade and were then ordered to two schooners lying in the vicinity, when they embarked, taking with them all necessary stores, &c. Several trips were made during the night under cover of which a great portion of the provisions and camp furniture were transported. A great portion of the labor expended on Fort Moultrie was upon the citadel or highest position. This citadel Major Anderson had strengthened in every way—loopholes were cut and everything so arranged that in case a well concerted attack was made, he would have retired from the outer bastions to the citadel and afterwards blown it up. In other portions of the fort, for this purpose, mines had already been sprung and trains laid ready for the application of the match.

The barracks room and every other part of the fort that was indefensible would have been blown up at a touch. Under the ramparts of the fort fronting Fort Sumter were nine 8-inch columbiads mounted on wooden carriages, and as soon as the evacuation was complete, these carriages were burned and the guns thereby dismounted. These guns, as well as those constituting the entire armament, were spiked before the fort was abandoned. This is the only damage done to the fortifications, further than cutting down a flag staff and breaking up of ammunition wagons to form ramparts on the walls of the fort. Confusion could not have been more complete had the late occupants retired in the face of a besieging force. The entire place was littered with odds and ends and fragments of war declarations. The spiked guns, and those dismounted by the burning of the carriages, will soon be in position to respond to any hostile demonstration against the place.

From the Pacific Side.

CALIFORNIA.—As often as two or three times per week, some company with a nominal capital stock, ranging all the way from \$500,000 up to several millions, files articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State, elects officers, and appears to be earnestly preparing to commence silver mining. Some of them comprise men of wealth and character, while many are doubtless stock jobbing speculators.

Some fine specimens of coal, resembling in appearance the West Hartly coal, are on exhibition at San Francisco, and purport to have been brought from the newly discovered mines about 80 miles from Carson Valley, where a company have claimed 3,000 acres of land, covering the mine, and are prepared to commence developing. The coal is very much needed in the Washoe silver mines, as other kinds of fuel for smelting purposes are scarce and difficult of access.

The Keystone Co., who have been some months engaged in opening the new copper mine in Calaveras Co., claim to have struck, during the past week, the richest vein ever discovered on the Pacific coast, being nearly as fine as the best copper of Lake Superior. The vein was struck 35 feet below the surface, and appears to be inexhaustible. Arrangements are making to ship the ore to Baltimore, and it is believed that it can be put in eastern markets cheaper than the Lake Superior article.

The Fremont mines at Mariposa are regularly reported as yielding at the rate of \$70,000 per month, but the expenses are not given, so that the actual profit cannot be calculated.

The Republican papers charge that a secret organization is concerning measures for the establishment of an independent Republic on the Pacific coast, in case of the dissolution of the Union. The charge does not seem to be sustained by evidence.

OREGON.—Reports are published that members of Lieutenant Mullen's Wagon Road Expedition have discovered gold at the head waters of the Columbia River, and also on the tributaries of the Missouri, while making the passage through the country this year.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—There is nothing of interest from British Columbia.

The steamer Otter had arrived at Victoria from Frazer River, with \$20,000 in gold.

The Americans in Victoria generally observed the 29th Nov. as Thanksgiving day.

Trade at Ports Hope and Yale is represented as lively, the merchants being busily employed in packing goods for the upper country. The prospects for the spring trade were flattering.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Honolulu dates of Nov. 1st

have reached San Francisco via Victoria. The news is four days later. A complete change in the American Consulate office was made at Honolulu on the 27th of October. G. W. Earden, Consul, and T. T. Dougherty, Deputy Consul, were removed pursuant to order from Washington, and F. L. Hawks appointed to the latter position. The latter appointment was followed by the removal of the physician and surgeon of the hospital.

News Paragraphs.

THE Mobile Tribune says that Captain S. S. Taylor, has rigged out a schooner, mounted two heavy guns, and taken on board fifty hardy, active, well drilled sea-rovers, with which he intends to defend the Alabama coast.

In October, at Pesth, Hungary, an old man made his appearance who was supposed to have been killed in battle thirty years before. All his relatives but one were in the grave.

BRITISH capitalists hope to make money out of the deranged state of our affairs. It is said that one English banking house has a million of dollars now on its way to this country for investment in property which has been depreciated by the panic.

A NUMBER of young men at Bridgeton, Pennsylvania, have associated themselves under the name of "Zouave Oddities," for the purpose of sawing and splitting wood for destitute families. They work with a will, and the results of their labor have thus far been very beneficial.

It is feared that some cases of actual starvation among the families of laborers working in the Brooklyn Navy Yard really exist. No money having been received from the Treasury lately, payment could not, of course be made, and from the provision dealer to the landlord, all refuse any longer to trust the poor workmen.

CAPRERA, the island home of Garibaldi, is a small island just off the northeast coast of the island of Sardinia, and is nearly due west from Naples. It measures about five miles from east to west, and is less than that distance across. The island affords good pasturage, and until its occupancy by Garibaldi, had no permanent inhabitants.

A VERY old craft has come to her end recently on the English coast—the Flying Fish, wrecked off Fley. She was built at Whitby, in 1783, and was consequently seventy-seven years old. Mr. Edmund Woolvorton, the master and owner, has weathered the storms of seventy-one winters, having spent sixty of them at sea, and fifty on board the Flying Fish.

HOW THE FRENCH VUE DISUNION.—The Presse of December 4th, has a strong article on the subject of a "Southern Confederacy, which may seek 'moral support' from European powers. That paper says that 'France, who abolished slavery herself, cannot even seem to protect it in other countries,' and closes its article in the following terms:—'For the American Union, separation is suicide; it is the murder of a great nation and a great principle. France cannot lend a hand to this suicide and this murder. She has helped to make this people—she will never help to destroy them. Such are, we are convinced, the sentiments of our Government.'

DISCOVERY OF COAL IN UTAH.—According to the Salt Lake correspondent of the New York Times, there is no doubt that coal exists in large quantities in the Great Basin of Utah. On the Weber river, a tributary of Great Salt Lake, from the western slope of the Wahsatch range, coal is now regularly mined, and selling at the pits for \$5 per ton; though the price in Salt Lake city is \$25, on account of the expense of transportation. The discovery is one of the utmost importance, as it will remove the chief obstacle to the construction of the Pacific Railroad, that of a supply of fuel for locomotives.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—It is again reported that the passport system between England and France is to be abolished.

The bullion in the Bank of England had decreased £2,000,000 during the month.

The London Times says the President's Message is an evasion of all responsibility, and contrasts Buchanan's timid policy with the bold action of Jackson. The Globe characterizes the message as an appeal to the North to make concessions to the South.

It is reported that 40,000 weavers are actually starving at Coventry, England.

The London Times calls attention to the new article of commerce from America, viz: Oil from Union wells in Western Pennsylvania.

FRANCE.—The monthly returns of the Bank of France shows a decrease in cash of two and three-fifths millions of francs.

The Archbishop of Lyons has published a lengthy pamphlet against stamp imposition on pastoral letters treating of political matters. He denounces the imposition as humiliating and not to be submitted to.

AUSTRIA.—The Hungarian conference opened at Grau the 19th, and promptly adopted the electoral vote of the fourth.

ITALY.—An attempt had been made to assassinate Colonel Dunn, of the Sicilian army, which gave rise to a rumor of Garibaldi's assassination.

The bombardment of Gaeta had recommenced. Francis II. calls upon the garrison at Gaeta to defend it to the last. The French fleet would leave soon. The Province Riterdo continued insurrectionary.

It is reported that the French were preparing to evacuate it.

The Bavarian Minister at Turin having been recalled, the Sardinian Minister at Turin was also recalled.

The Pontifical troops are about to march against the town of Potontero, to overthrow the Provisional Government established there.

CHINA.—Intelligence was received at the Foreign office through St. Petersburg, dated Pekin, Nov. 19. It states that a peace was concluded with China on the 26th of October, and the ratifications of it were exchanged on the 5th of November. The French and English troops had evacuated Pekin, and the Emperor was expected to return to the Capital immediately.

The allied army commenced their advance on the same day that Pekin was taken. The summer palace of the Emperor was taken and completely sacked, affording an immense amount of spoils. The chief share of the plunder appears to have fallen to the French. A quantity of the treasure taken is to be divided between the French and English. Some private property is said to have sold their shares for 30,000 francs. The entire British share, including both treasure and private property, is estimated at about \$300,000. The Tartar army is still in the field, though the Emperor has fled.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—The Liverpool breadstuff market had an advancing tendency. All qualities had slightly advanced.

Breadstuffs.—Flour firm at an advance of 6d; wheat advanced 2d; corn firm at an advance of 6d@1s. Provisions dull; pork quiet; lard quiet at 70s. London breadstuffs firm at an advance of 1@2s for both wheat and flour.

The News Condenser.

- The Earl of Aberdeen is dead.
—Women exceed men in England by 800,000.
—Garibaldi has retired on an income of £280.
—A Garibaldi Club has been organized in Chattanooga, Tenn.
—A large deputation are to invite Garibaldi to visit England.
—A copy-right treaty has been concluded between England and Sardinia.
—The total loss of life on the lakes, during the past season, is stated at 560.
—With the exception of Queen Isabella, no Bourbon now reigns in Europe.
—It is said that \$325,000 of "Peter's pence" had arrived at Rome from America.
—The New York restaurants sell, on an average, 63,126 1/2 square feet of pies daily.
—The total taxable property of Texas, for the year 1860, amounts to \$201,827,584.
—Glass was broken in 2,300 houses, in Leipsic, by the hail on the 27th of November.
—Mr. Fickens, the new Governor of South Carolina, was the late Minister to Russia.
—The total amount of the State debt of Pennsylvania, Dec. 1st, 1860, was \$37,000,000.
—Calcium lights have been tried on the New York skating pond, and was found to succeed.
—The Library of the Mechanics' Institute at Quebec, has been sold to pay for rent and gas.
—The receipts of grain of all kinds in Chicago, since Jan. 1st, amount to 34,375,000 bushels.
—The Jamaica people are discussing the policy of annexing that colony to the United States.
—Fremont's mines in Mariposa yielded the amount of \$11,883 in gold bars, in six days' run.
—Dorothea Dix, the philanthropist, is in New Jersey, visiting the prisons and poor houses.
—Within a few weeks, some 1,700 negroes from the coast of Africa have been landed in Cuba.
—Garibaldi's Island of Caprera lies near to Elba and Corsica, and contains 2,500 inhabitants.
—A woolen factory has been started at Cleveland, Ohio. It is the first of the kind at that place.
—The total cotton crop of North Carolina for the last year was 182,907 bales, valued at \$9,000,000.
—White oak is the newest substitute for whalebone in umbrella ribs, and is said to be superior.
—The revenue of the Island of Jamaica shows an increase on the year ending October 30, of \$80,000.
—Forty thousand head of cattle, worth \$1,000,000, have been sent East from Iowa, in the past year.
—The Trumansburg News tells of a man who now resides in Ullyses, Tompkins Co., who is 108 years old.
—About one hundred and fifty thousand sheep have been driven out of Vermont and sold since July last.
—The policemen of New York have a line of 863 1/2 miles to guard. A force of 400 more men is asked for.
—Gold, in considerable quantities, has been discovered at San Juan, in the Rio Grande District, New Mexico.
—The Brazilian Corvette Dona was lost on the coast of Morocco, with 22 of her officers, and 100 of her crew.
—Another English Prince will shortly visit this country. It is Prince Alfred, the second son of Queen Victoria.
—The Prince of Wales has kept a diary of all his adventures in the cities of British America and the United States.
—It is stated that a certain military tailor in Paris has received an order to prepare 3,000 Hungarian uniforms.
—The once national and popular air, Yankee Doodle, was hissed in the Memphis (Tenn.) Theater, the other night.
—A smart Yankee is coining money in Havana, by a microscope and telescope, stationed in the Plaza d'Armas.
—Ralph Farnham, the last survivor of the battle of Bunker Hill, died last week, aged 104 years, 5 months, and 19 days.
—The number of matches manufactured in the United States, daily, is estimated at 35,700,000; at a cost of \$3,000.
—One John Burnham, of Wisconsin, it is said, has just inherited a fortune of \$22,000,000 from an English ancestor.
—In Boston, there is a woman eight feet high, and large in proportion. She is estimated to weigh upward of 500 pounds.
—Within one week, four persons died in Danville, Vt., whose united ages were 321 years; one was 79, two 80, and one 82.
—A few of the English provincial papers think the election of Lincoln one of the effects of the visit of the Prince of Wales.
—The bill to abolish slavery in Nebraska passed the legislature of that Territory, on the 10th ult., by a vote of 35 to 2.
—From returns received from the towns in Massachusetts, about 35,000 dogs were licensed in 1859, paying a tax of \$38,000.
—California possesses 400 saw mills, erected at a cost of \$2,500,000. One-half are propelled by steam, the remainder by water.
—The sum total of subscriptions received by the committee in New York, for the relief of the Syrian sufferers, is \$25,979.93.
—There are now on the Atlantic ocean no less than ten ocean mail steamers, on their way to New York, Boston, and Portland.
—The annual trade in snuff, during the days of ancient Rome, is said to have reached, in our money, a value of \$4,000,000.
—While boring for oil at Youngstown, Ohio, a vein of salt water was struck, three quarts of which produced a teaspoonful of fine salt.
—It is estimated that, on the 1st inst., there will be 400 miles of railroad in Texas, and still the work has but fairly commenced.
—A hand car, containing 20 laborers, was run into by a locomotive on the Hackensack road, on the 19th ult., and one person killed.
—The number of slaves in Maryland is found to have been diminished more than 15,000 since 1850. The whole number is about 75,000.
—An English Baronet is now a gas fitter in New York. His name is William Norwick,—perhaps we ought to say Sir William Norwick.
—Every year France imports between 11,000 and 12,000 horses, at an expense of about 18,000,000 francs, and still the supply falls short.
—An English company have proposed to the Italian Government to establish a regular steamboat service between Italy and America.
—Forty-two young Persians, between the ages of 14 and 30, are now pursuing the regular course of studies in the various colleges of France.
—William Henry Owendon, the British Consul, died at Baltimore, on Monday week, of a disease of the brain brought on by a severe cold.
—The dying advice of the empress dowager of Russia is reported to have been:—"Don't, Alexander, don't make any alliance with Austria."
—The British Queen's thanks to the American people for their kindness to her son have been communicated by Lord Lyon to Secretary Cass.
—The surgeon to the London Zoological Society recently successfully extracted a broken tooth from the jaw of the large male hippopotamus.
—The Georgia House has passed a bill compelling negroes to make choice of a master by the 1st of May, 1861, or be sold by the sheriff into slavery.
—The coroner of New Orleans reports 85 murders during the year, 32 suicides, 100 accidental deaths, 79 deaths from intemperance, and 106 cases of drowning.
—On Thursday week, a large black bear was mutilated by the cow-catcher of a locomotive near Wheeling, Va., and subsequently killed. He weighed 280 pounds.

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THE LITTLE BOY THAT DIED.

[DR. CHALMERS is said to be the author of this beautiful little poem, written on the decease of a young son whom he greatly loved.]

I AM all alone in my chamber now,
And midnight hour is near,
And the faggot's crack, and the clock's dull tick,
Are the only sounds I hear.

The Story-Teller.

SOWING THE WIND AND REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

CHAPTER I.

"ARE you ready, HIRAM?" said Mr. OVERMAN, calling to his clerk, who remained seated at his desk, intent on a column of figures.

"Not quite. I must balance my cash," replied the young man.

"How long will it take?" asked Mr. OVERMAN. "Not long. I'm nearly through." And the clerk bent down over the cash-book more intently.

Mr. OVERMAN, who had closed the front windows and keyed the shutters, now walked the floor for two or three minutes, waiting for his young man to complete the work in which he was engaged. But an error had crept into the day's business somewhere, and a balance was not reached on the first trial. A slight murmur of disappointment gave Mr. OVERMAN an intimation of this fact.

"Can't you make it balance?" he said, walking to where the desks were placed, by a window in the back part of the store, and standing by his clerk. "It doesn't come out right on the first trial," was answered, "so I must go over it again. I'm sorry to keep you waiting, sir."

"I promised to be home early," said Mr. OVERMAN. My wife has company. So, here's the key. Be careful about this window, HIRAM; and be sure that the bolt is well sprung in the lock,—you know it has a bad trick of catching half way sometimes. Leave the key at my house as you go past."

The young man promised to observe strictly; and Mr. OVERMAN left him to the work of balancing the day's account with cash. It was sundown, and nearly half an hour of twilight remained. Ten minutes were spent in adding up the columns of figures again, and getting at the amount of money which should be on hand. Then the cash was counted, and the sum added to the balance in bank.

"One hundred dollars over." Something of satisfaction blended with the disappointment that was expressed in his voice. Twice he counted over the bills and coin in the cash-box, and then set very still, his thought running back through the day's transactions in search of some clue to the error. None could be found.

"There's a mistake in the figures somewhere, and I must discover it," he said, with a long sigh; and bent over the pages of the cash-book again.

"Ha! Three, is it? Let me run that column up again." A thrill of excitement was in his low voice. "Three it is, and my footing is two. That will make the hundred dollars. All right!"

He lifted from the desk an erasing knife, and laid its edge over the numeral 3; but his hand lingered. A thought, suddenly thrown into his mind, caused him to hesitate. Then the knife was laid down. He sat absorbed and motionless for several minutes. In that brief time an evil counsellor had prevailed over the young man. His hand was not steady as it moved to the cash-box; and there was a visible tremor of the bank bills as they passed hurriedly through his fingers. One hundred dollars were selected and laid in a pile on the desk; the balance was returned to the box.

Why does the young man start, and glance around in that half fearful way? It was only the cat's light footsteps that came to his ears, as she moved across the floor. How changed his face! The forehead, so smooth and open a little while ago, is out by three or four lines between the eyebrows. His lips are held tightly together, and express pain as well as resoluteness of purpose. There is a shadow over the light of his intense eyes. He glances, now from the window, and now looks around the store suspiciously; then his eyes come back to the pile of bank bills which were laid off from the rest. With a sudden movement he clutches the money and thrusts it into his pocket; shuts the cash-book, and places it, with the cash-box, in the fire-proof, which he locks. His motions are rapid beyond their wont, indicating unusual excitement of mind, as he closes and bolts the shutter, and locks the door. He forgets Mr. OVERMAN'S injunction about the tricky lock, and only half springs the bolt. He is not thinking of duty; but of the hundred dollars that lie wrongfully in his pocket. A single act has obstructed the old right habits of mind. False from will in higher things, oblivion as to common duties comes in legitimate order.

Mr. OVERMAN is standing in his door as HIRAM comes in sight. The storekeeper is a kind-hearted, unsuspecting, but careful man, who makes it a point to look pretty closely after his own affairs. He is not much behind his clerk in arriving at the store each morning, and generally looks up with his own hands, at the day's departure.

"Did you get the balance?" he asked, as he took the key from HIRAM.

"Yes, sir." But it was not the clear, confident, cheerful "Yes, sir," that usually fell from his lips. He was painfully aware of this; so much so, that a shudder of fear ran along his nerves, lest suspicion

should be awakened. He turned off quickly, and without looking up directly into Mr. OVERMAN'S face.

His landlady remarked his defect of appetite, and changed manner, at supper time, and asked if he were not well.

"A little headache," he answered, evasively, and with falsehood.

HIRAM FOSTER was twenty-three years of age. He had been in the employment of Mr. WESLEY OVERMAN, as clerk and salesman, for nearly two years, and had his entire confidence, which, until now, had never been abused. He was a young man of some intelligence, and desirous to rise in the world above his present condition. Up to this time his salary had not exceeded four hundred dollars, and it took about all of this to meet his annual expenses. The prospect of rising in the world had not, therefore, looked very bright; and of late, HIRAM had fretted thereat considerably. One cause of this lay in a recent awakening of his heart to new and tender experiences. Love had crossed his path. HELEN PRESCOTT, the minister's charming daughter, had thrown over him a spell as sweet as it was irresistible. Her father, a man of education and cultivated tastes, thought higher than a storekeeper's clerk for his favorite child; but love obeys its own impulses—looks to persons, not conditions. So, as HIRAM advanced, she responded in tender acquiescence, and at the time our story opens, he had told his love to willing ears.

As no objections could be raised to the young man's character, which stood without reproach, Mr. PRESCOTT, the father of HELEN, demurred on the score of HIRAM'S position in the world. He was a clerk, receiving but a small salary,—not more than sufficient for his own maintenance,—how was he to support a wife and family? The answer, as in all such cases, was ready. The young couple were content to wait until HIRAM could push his way to a more advanced position.

But, "content to wait," though on the young man's lips, was not in his heart. No, he was not content to wait. Every day he grew more and more restless in thought; and more discouraged at the unpromising aspect of his affairs. Before it would be safe to venture upon marriage, he must have an income of at least seven or eight hundred dollars, and be in the way of advancement toward a substantial citizenship. Patient duty in the present, as the prerequisite of a happy and prosperous future, was not the creed by which he was trying to live; but, in looking too restlessly ahead, from dissatisfaction with the present, he was opening the door for temptation; and we have seen how, when the tempter found him, in an unguarded moment, he fell. Alas! When the feet turn aside from right paths, who can say into what deserts and wildernesses they may be doomed to wander?

From the supper table, HIRAM went to his room, the door of which he fastened carefully on the inner side. This was an unusual precaution. But HIRAM carried with him a new consciousness that involved fear. He drew a deep breath, as if trying to relieve his bosom from a weight. Then he sat down by the table where he had placed his lamp, and thrusting his hand into his pocket, drew therefrom a roll of bank bills, the rightful property of Mr. OVERMAN. He had partly unfolded them, when a shade of anxiety fell suddenly on his face, and he glanced suspiciously toward the window of his room, crumpling the bills at the same time in his hand, and so concealing them. Rising, he went to the window and looked out, taking careful note of the situation and aspect of two or three houses in the neighborhood, in order to be sure that he was not in the range of observation. Then, after closing the shutter, and drawing an inside curtain that shaded half the window, he sat down again to the table from which he had just arisen, and relaxing the firm grip with which he was holding the bank bills, spread them out before him.

A change in look and manner now became apparent. There was a certain lighting up of his face, as from pleasant excitement, and a quick movement of the hands as he counted over the money.

"One hundred dollars." He spoke in a low murmur of sound; and then, as if thought had become active in some direction of interest, set very still for a long time. His closely shut mouth, fixed, withdrawn gaze, and compressed brows, showed that his mind was intent on themes, to him, of the highest moment. There was no fear, weakness, or repentance on his almost rigid countenance; but an aspect of fixed determination. He had passed the Rubicon, and was looking forward, not back. A new way had suddenly opened before him—a new way to that advancement in the world on which he was to build, in the future, his temple of happiness. Mr. OVERMAN was not a suspicious man, and, of late, had trusted him more and more implicitly. Mr. OVERMAN was not a ready accountant; and so, the books were all in his hands. Formerly, Mr. OVERMAN had been careful in his daily examinations of the cash account, but it was a rare thing for him to look over it now, and when he did do so, it was in so cursory a manner, that an error might lie just before him and not be seen. All this was thought of by the dishonest clerk, and in it he found encouragement to press forward in an evil way. There came a low rap on the door. HIRAM FOSTER started, turned a little pale, and clutched at the bank bills that yet lay upon the table.

"What's wanted?" he asked, the strangeness of his voice startling his own ears.

"Here's a letter for you?" It was a servant who replied.

HIRAM slipped the bolt, trying to do it noiselessly, and partly opening the door, received a letter from the servant's hand. It was contained in an ordinary brown envelope, and the direction, "HIRAM FOSTER," was in a bold business hand, the familiarity of which made his heart leap and tremble. He re-bolted the door, and sitting down by the table, broke the envelope. The enclosure read,

"I wish to see you, HIRAM. Call around after supper. WESLEY OVERMAN."

An instant paleness overspread the young man's face; his lips fell apart; beads of perspiration came out upon his forehead; his heart sunk with terror. Was it possible that some one had observed him, through the window, at the store, and communicated his crime to Mr. OVERMAN! That thought, flung into his mind, caused a deep shudder to go down to his very interior consciousness.

"What can he want with me?" he said, rising from the table, with a look of anxiety in his face. The money was still held tightly in his hand. To dispose of this money was the next question. He dare not take it with him, for, if Mr. OVERMAN had received any intimations of the truth, its presence on his person might transpire, and his ruin be hopelessly consummated.

"This is a doubtful and dangerous business!" Ah! if with that conviction, HIRAM FOSTER, and that acknowledgment, you had said, in irrevocable decision,—"I will stop here, and go back to the right way!"

There was, he felt, as much danger in leaving the

money as in taking it with him. If his room should be searched, his trunk would not escape; so he feared to hide it there. One place after another was thought of, and decided against. He was in a maze of perplexity. At last, folding the notes in a piece of paper, he crept under his bed, and placed them beneath the furthest bed-post.

"No one will ever think of going there," he muttered, in an undertone, as he crept forth from his bodily humiliation, fit emblem of that mental humiliation and disgrace into which all come who are forced by crime into stooping duplicity and concealment.

CHAPTER II.

Mr. OVERMAN'S house was distant only a few streets from where his clerk resided.

"What can he want with me?" was the anxious and oft-repeated question of HIRAM FOSTER, as he walked slowly, and with busy thoughts, toward his employer's residence. It was the first time he had asked to see him in the evening. Something, therefore, of more than ordinary import was in the summons.

At Mr. OVERMAN'S door he stood, with a heart beating confusedly, for some moments, before venturing to ring the bell. When shown into the parlor, he found Mr. OVERMAN alone. The first glance at his kind face dispelled every fear. Not even the faintest shadow of a suspicion was there.

"Sit down, HIRAM," said he, in a pleasant tone of voice. "I've sent for you in consequence of having heard something this evening which has interested me."

The young man tried to be altogether at his ease, but it cost him an effort. He looked, but did not venture to speak, an inquiry.

"What I have heard," said Mr. OVERMAN, "concerns you and HELEN PRESCOTT. Ah! I see the tall tale color in your face, and am glad of it. HELEN is a dear, good girl. I know her well, and it pleases me that you have chosen so wisely. Has the matter been spoken of to Mr. PRESCOTT?"

"Yes, sir."

"And he gives consent?"

"Not a full, out-spoken consent, sir," replied the young man. "He makes no opposition, however."

"No opposition! Why should he?"

"I am only a poor clerk, you know."

"Humph! A poor clerk! Has the minister never read POPE?"

"Honor and shame from no condition rise, Act well your part; there all the honor lies."

That is wherein true manhood and high honor repose. Right action ennobles. Be true, faithful, just, HIRAM, and you stand the peer of any one!

"The man's the gold for a' that."

The young man's eyes dropped to the floor. He felt rebuked.

"When do you think of getting married?" asked Mr. OVERMAN.

"Not for a long time yet," answered HIRAM.

"Why defer so indefinitely the happy day?"

"My income is too small."

"Four hundred dollars a year?"

"Yes, sir."

"I was receiving no more when I got married."

"The times are more expensive," replied the clerk.

"We are expected to live differently now, than when you were a young man."

"There's something in that," said Mr. OVERMAN.

"Pride is expensive. Our superfluities cost us more than our necessities. We live too much in other people's eyes; and too little within ourselves. But, the world's ways are enticing, and we cannot go easily against the current of things. Four hundred dollars will not do; so, HIRAM, as you are a faithful, honest, intelligent young man—true to my interests—I will make it six, with a promise of something better, if business holds good. It was to say this that I sent for you. Get married, and be happy."

If, twenty-four hours previous to this time, Mr. OVERMAN had thus spoken to his clerk, what a different and purer element would have been in the pleasure that made his heart leap up and swell—sending bright blood to his cheeks, and luster to his gladsome eyes. There would have been a different tone in the ardor with which he took the extended hand of his kind-hearted employer, and pressed it tightly in both of his.

"How shall I thank you?" he answered, and as he said so, he felt that he was acting beyond his real feelings. Two hundred dollars advanced of salary! It was something better than he had been receiving,—but not on six hundred dollars would he venture to marry HELEN PRESCOTT, whose father's objections to his humbler condition in life had piqued his pride. But his feelings suffered no depression on this account; for, had he not another source of income?

"Faithful"—"honest"—"true to my interests." It was only by the strongest effort of will that HIRAM could keep his eyes on the face of Mr. OVERMAN, as these words were spoken in his praise. For a moment or two, it seemed as if he would lose all control of his countenance, and let shame reveal itself in red confusion. He felt sure that guilt looked out of his unsteady eyes, and so let them drop to the floor.

"Fix an early wedding day, HIRAM," said Mr. OVERMAN, in his free, off-hand manner. "There's nothing to interpose now. If HELEN'S father makes any objection, I'll manage him. A little high strung, is he? Humph! Your ministers, and lawyers, and doctors, have, generally, a weakness in that direction. They seem to think themselves made of finer stuff than most people. Living so much among books has, I imagine, something to do with the fancy. But, Mr. PRESCOTT is a good, sensible man; and we'll have no trouble with him."

As soon as it was possible, without showing indecorous haste to get away from the rebuking presence of Mr. OVERMAN, HIRAM FOSTER retired. He felt strangely bewildered and oppressed, as he gained the street. He had been like one bound and in fear; now, there was a partial sense of freedom, and a removal of dread—but the haunting terror only went off, so to speak, a little way, and there stood still, large, indistinct, and vaguely threatening. There had occurred, within the space of a few hours, a great change in his inner, or spiritual, relations. What they were, he did not comprehend. Nay, his thought did not even dwell on the new mental phenomena that were transpiring. He was a more passive than an intelligent subject—feeling, but not comprehending. Tranquillity, and that sense of security which the innocent enjoy, were gone; and in their place was a sense of impending danger. Hope looked onward to the future that was opening with brighter prospects; but strange, threatening shadows hung over the beauty and brightness that lay in the smiling beyond. As he walked onward, in the calm starry evening, it seemed as if a shadowy form were moving along just behind him. Two or three times he stopped and turned around, each time appearing to catch a glimpse of something that flitted or faded like a phantasmagorical image.

HIRAM FOSTER'S mind was in no condition for an interview with his betrothed on that evening. A great crisis in his life had come—nay, been passed; and the disturbed elements needed time for re-adjustment.

So, he returned to his room, and spent the evening alone. But there the haunting presence which had hovered so near, in shadowy companionship, as he returned from his interview with Mr. OVERMAN, sat down close beside him. He almost felt his breath upon his cheek; and his hand upon his hand as he clutched the bank bills so dishonestly obtained. A cold shudder crept along his nerves. But with the shrinking terror that accompanied this sense of an evil, invisible presence, came no repentance—no thought of retracing the wrong step which had separated him from good—no rebuke, of conscience. Onward, in deliberate purpose, as fertile suggestions of dishonest means came flooding in upon his mind, he looked, and schemed, and resolved. And there, alone in his room—no, not alone, for all the while a dark, evil, invisible companion was close beside him—he sat until after midnight.

More than one who looked into HIRAM FOSTER'S face on the next day, noted a change, and felt as if a hand had been laid upon them, pressing them away to a distance. Of these was HELEN PRESCOTT'S father; a man of great purity of character, and sensitive to individual spheres. [To be continued next week.]

Wit and Humor.

LITTLE JOKERS.

WHY are fixed stars like wicked old men? Because they scintillate, (sin till late.)

WHAT musical instrument has had an honorary degree conferred upon it? Fiddle D. D.

WHY cannot the Emperor Napoleon insure his life? Because no one can be found who can make out his policy.

It is said that if you stop up rat-holes with old search warrants, every knowing rat will leave the premises.

WHY does a coal barge weigh less than an empty sack? Because, if the one is a light weight, the other is a lighter.

WHO is it that is in two situations at once? A lover, for when he is beside his fair one he is usually beside himself.

A BRILLIANT young gentleman remarked to a lady with whom he was bowing, "I think, Miss, that you would make a capital baker." "Indeed, sir, why?" "Because you make such excellent rolls."

An old count paid his addresses to a rich heiress. On asking her hand in marriage, he frankly said to her, "Mademoiselle, I am very old, and you are very young; will you do me the honor to become my widow?"

A garrulous fop, who had annoyed, by his frivolous remarks, his partner in the ball-room, among other empty things, asked whether "she had ever had her ears pierced?" "No," was the reply; "but I have often had them bored!"

"DIDN'T you tell me, sir, you could hold the plow?" said a farmer to a green Irishman, whom he had taken on trial. "Arrah, he aye, now!" said Pat. "How the deuce can I hold it, and two horses drawing it away from me! But give it to me in the barn, and be jabers, I'll hold it with anybody!"

A CLERGYMAN, visiting a school house at the Monson almshouse, the other day, made some remarks to the children, in which he endeavored to illustrate the sinful condition of men in a familiar way. "You know," said the clergyman, "that the negroes at the South are serving their masters. Now, we, sinful creatures, are serving a master who is worse than a slave driver, and can any boy tell me who that master is?" "Yes, sir," said one of the lads, "it is James Buchanan."

BANKRUPTCY ILLUSTRATED.—Two merchants were standing in Wall street discoursing on bankruptcy, when one of them saw a real live Yankee lumbering down street with a knife and stick in his hands.

"Now for some sport," said one of the merchants. "We'll ask his opinion on bankruptcy, or rather his ideas." He hailed the Yankee with "Hallo, friend, can you tell us the meaning of bankruptcy?"

"Well, I reckon I kin—and skin me if I don't."

"Please explain."

"Well, you fust lend me a five for about three minutes."

"Here it is—now proceed."

"Well, now, I owe Zeke Smith five cents, Sam Brown, the tailor, five dollars for this 'ere coat, and you five."

"Well," said the merchant, "now give me my five."

"Oh, git out, I'm bankrupt, and you come in for a share with the rest," and he left the astonished merchant to whistle for his five.

SA(LLENT WIT.—Jones was riding up in Westchester county, and saw a board nailed up on a post in the yard of a farm house, with the sign painted on it—"This Farm for Sale." Always ready for a little pleasantry, and seeing the woman in checked sunbonnet picking up an apronful of chips at the wood pile in front of the house, he stopped, and asked her very politely, when the farm was to sell. She went on with her work, but replied to his question instantly, "Just as soon as the man comes along who can raise the wind!" Jones hit Dobbie's a sudden cut with the whip and dashed on.

A HINT TO GARDENERS.—The latest invention is an instrument to prevent poultry from scratching up the gardens. It is something like a long spur, attached to the hind part of a rooster's leg. The instrument is so arranged that when the fowl is about to scratch the earth, the spur catches in the ground before the foot has fairly descended, and obliges it to bring its foot down quickly and harmlessly in front of the place where it aimed at. The fowl, thereupon, tries the other foot with a like result. It keeps on trying, and before it is aware of it, the machine has walked it right out of the garden.

A DOUBLE PRESCRIPTION.—A gentleman, wrote to Dr. Francis, of New York, last week, the following note:

"Dear Doctor.—I caught cold yesterday, and have got a little horse. Please write what I shall do for them."

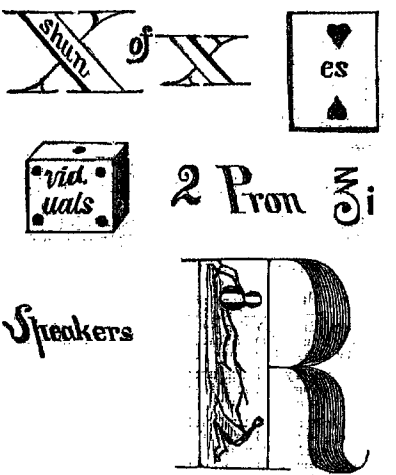
"Dear P.—For the cold, take half a pound of butter candy. For the little horse, buy a saddle and bridle, and ride him out of town, the first time we have pleasant weather."

Corner for the Young.

FLORAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 72 letters. My 58, 42, 37, 48, 62, 4, 14, 29, 60 is a beautiful perennial. My 1, 10, 17, 55, 49, 3, 9, 57 is a popular annual. My 62, 47, 36, 19, 61, 14 is a bulbous-rooted plant. My 19, 42, 51, 27, 66, 11, 30, 29, 1 is an elegant indigenous biennial. My 53, 68, 67, 45, 15, 44, 22, 52, 5, 21, 12, 7 is a handsome tropical annual. My 54, 31, 18, 23, 67, 42, 39, 48, 60 is a hardy, showy border flower. My 8, 24, 38, 68, 29, 12, 24, 55 is a highly-esteemed bulbous-rooted flower. My 69, 64, 40, 67, 33, 22, 13, 20, 43, 60 is a well-known annual. My 19, 46, 22, 70, 6, 49, 2, 16, 24 is a deserving annual. My 70, 29, 49, 67, 49, 71, 30, 29, 80 is a showy border flower. My 25, 65, 1, 32, 26, 37, 67, 60 is common in most gardens. My 50, 38, 68, 9, 1, 49, 72 is an old-fashioned flower. My 7, 59, 37, 29, 35, 13 is an ornamental flower for rock work. My 19, 42, 28, 14, 5, 67, 4 belongs to the genus Primula. My 23, 71, 67, 60, 41 is a beautiful little perennial. My whole is a couplet well worthy the attention of those who cultivate flowers. Franklin Square, N. Y., 1860. ANNA STAAR.

ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



Answer in two weeks.

MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM.

A GENTLEMAN had three pieces of land, the first in the form of a square, the second in the form of a right-angle triangle, and the third in the form of a rectangle. The shorter side of the rectangle is equal to just half the side of the square—the longer side is equal to the hypotenuse of the triangular piece, and the base of the triangular piece is equal to the side of the square. Now, the area of the rectangle, together with the area of the triangle, is equal to four times the square of the shorter side of the rectangle; and the perimeter of the rectangle, together with the perimeter of the triangle, minus twenty-five, is equal to the perimeter of the square. What is the length of the side of the square, and the length of the sides of the triangle and rectangle, and also the area of each? Verona, Onei. Co., N. Y., 1860. S. G. CAGWIN.

Answer in two weeks.

CHARADE.

My first's a king of ancient date, Who in the East did reign, And wished to chase the Israelites When on their way to Canaan. My second you will often see Running down the volcano's side, Spreading, in its onward, fiery course, Destruction far and wide. My whole's the name of a battle field, Where British valor shone, And added to the English arms Both honor and renown. Answer in two weeks.

A RIDDLE.

WHICH was created first—hands or feet? Pana, Ill., 1860. D. B. FAIRB.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 571.

Answer to Grammatical Enigma:—Simple pride for Battery makes demands. Answer to Charade:—Boat-swain. Answer to Mathematical Problem:—From the last station, 5 miles; from the earth, 3 miles.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELLENCE LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

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

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AGRICULTURAL.

WHAT DOES AG'L SCIENCE INVOLVE?

WHEN we talk of agricultural science, we include in our discussion, or ought to, every thing which gives man power over the forces of Nature, and enables him to bring these forces to bear to increase the quantity or the quality of the animal or vegetable products of the earth which are useful, or may be made useful, to man. If this be true, and the statement is almost self-evident, there is laid out before the intelligent farmer a range of observation, study and thought, as extensive as that demanded by either of the learned professions. Scientific Agriculture lays under tribute almost the whole field of physical inquiry. The Botanist selects from the wild plants of the forest those adapted to the use of man, and gives the laws by which they may be improved by culture. The Chemist gives the analysis of plants, pointing out their constituent elements, and determines what portions have been derived from the earth and what portions from the air. He analyses soils and claims to determine the adaptation of each to the various products required, and to point out also the means of supplementing deficiencies by manures. Mechanical science gives him the principles by which natural agents, such as air, water, steam or gas, may be made to accomplish or lighten the farmer's toil, and add in ten thousand ways to his profit, convenience and comfort. Electricity gives him the law by which he can protect the fruits of his toil from the lightning. Meteorology gives him the laws by which the amount of rain, heat and cold in different districts is controlled. Physical Optics explains the subtle processes by which the fruits and flowers are colored and clothed with beauty, and enriched with odor and flavor. Time would fail us in alluding to the manifold relations of all the physical sciences to the farmer's pursuit. Our only object is to show how vast is the field of labor to him who would mark out the points of contact between Agriculture and General Science. The great object of a journal like ours is to gather up from all sources whatever light the labors of men engaged in the different scientific pursuits can throw upon Agriculture. We do not profess to publish a scientific journal, in the strict sense of the term; but we do propose to collect from all the sources, foreign and domestic, whatever can be found, adapted to be practically useful to our numerous readers. We are determined to incur the expense requisite to secure the assistance and ideas of the cultivators of special departments of science so far as they bear on farming. We have made arrangement for the reception of English, French and German journals of Scientific Agriculture, so that our readers can have the results of the last foreign as well as American thinking to put to practical tests and trial for themselves. Our plan does not admit of long, cumbersome discussions upon matters purely theoretical, but we shall seek to give short, pithy and practical results of experiments and thought drawn from all parts of the world, in a shape to be easily remembered and easily applied by the enterprising farmer, whose hands and head are too full of present and practical matters to study labored treatises or scientific journals for himself. Our object shall be to give every reader the means of getting the control of the natural forces on his farm, and compelling them to do his bidding—so that he can lay the earth, air and water, and the innumerable agents of nature even, under tribute, and compel them to fill his pinnacles with blushing fruits, his garners with golden grain, and his barns with fatted and strong horses, fine woolled sheep, and cattle abounding in weight and beauty. Civilization is the control of man over nature. Man is placed upon earth in a condition of conflict with the exuberant, untamed forces of matter around him. When Nature and its forces get the upper hand, man is a savage, and the earth a forest or a desert. When man, intelligent, moral, educated and industrious, gets the upper hand of nature, earth is a garden

of wealth and beauty, the support of a society supplied with all the elements of earthly wellbeing. This getting the upperhand of nature is the noble goal of a true farmer's ambition. With this end in view, he is the true civilizer. With the means of accomplishing this great and worthy result, Agricultural Science supplies him. We intend to make the RURAL NEW-YORKER the distributing reservoir of these rills of special investigation, discovery and experiment. We propose to facilitate exchanges between the thinker in his laboratory or study, and the farmer at his bedside. We intend to make it an educating, civilizing, elevating force, whose power shall be felt by the seventy thousand families whom we intend to visit during the year. We intend to be wide awake and thoroughly alive to every thing which ought to interest or elevate our readers, and to furnish them with its quintessence, clearly expressed, condensed and ready for instant use. Such, by God's blessing on enterprise and industry, we hope to make our paper for the coming year. Our aim is high; if we fail in reaching the mark, it shall not be for the want, on our part, of good will, energy, or persistent effort.

MECHANICAL CONDITION OF THE SOIL.

CONNECTED with the vocation of the farmer are certain forms of labor which are directly applied to the soil. Previous to the deposit of those germs from which are expected the rewarding harvest, he must drain, subsoil, plow, harrow, and perform other lessons of toil, or the fate of the seed that fell by the wayside, and upon the stony places, will inevitably result. The operations we have mentioned, are recognized necessities among tillers of the soil,—the virtue of such a plan of procedure is not questioned,—yet very many either do not fully realize the importance attached to each of these processes, or else inertness and inactivity have such control as to make their acts belie their entire belief. A considerable number of farmers are said to have only a *talking or writing* interest in their profession. At the meetings of the Club, or upon paper, they can be both seen and heard, but you may search their farms over and barely find trace of the progression so much vaunted. These men are stumbling-blocks, and if they would only note the fact that our busy, jogging world judges from deeds, they would spurge less and perform more. With this class we have naught to do, or to offer,—but we desire to comment briefly upon some of those peculiar labors which mechanically affect the condition of the soil, hoping that we may thus call forth the rich stores of experience possessed by those with whom it will be to perform. The field is a large one, and there are thousands of practical men in the RURAL family who can furnish just such information as the masses require.

The plow, harrow, and cultivator, are the implements adopted for pulverizing the soil. Pulverization is the first principle, and the object in view is to permit the roots of plants to roam freely, and have all needed space for procuring a sufficiency of nutriment during the various stages of growth. Plowing is the common mode to effect this purpose, and is, as yet,—although inventive minds are seeking for something better and cheaper,—the most economical. The plow is the type of civilization,—in its form may we read the domestic history of the nations who have brought it into service,—and we desire no better index to individual farm culture than can be furnished by a few moments spent in the tool-shop, and the room devoted to the storage of agricultural machinery. Farmers have their preferences in this matter, as in all others, but every one will admit the necessity of using a first-class article. Without this, the desire to perform thorough and complete work will prove of no avail.

When all things are in readiness, the question arises,—how shall we plow? The main feature in the query before us, is depth vs. shallowness. There are a few whose fortune it is to be possessors of a loamy, light, naturally open soil, and the success which has attended their skinning plan for a series of years, has made them converts to the shallow process,—and there are thousands who have found buried treasures by going beam-deep in the search. We have always adhered to the belief that deep plowing is an important requisite upon nearly every farm in order to realize the greatest profit from the soil, and have advocated it as "sound doctrine" through the columns of the RURAL. Indeed we incline to the opinion that the mode in which this operation is performed will, as a general thing, prove indicative of success or failure upon the part of the proprietor—that men will reap the seed of reward very much as they plow. To quote J. L. CAMPBELL, Professor of Physical Science in Washington College, Va.,—"the one who scratches the surface to the depth of only three or four inches, will soon find both himself and his farm growing poorer; while the one who is not satisfied with breaking and cultivating less than twelve inches in depth of his land, will, most probably, soon find it necessary to 'pull down his barns and build greater.'"

The advantages arising from deep plowing may be briefly stated as the following:—First, It affords greater range to the plants in seeking the pabulum needful to growth and development. Below the point of disturbance by the plow, rootlets make but little progress. Second, An unbroken subsoil, especially when it is clayey in texture, is almost impervious to moisture, and when the plowed surface

has become saturated with falling rain, the surplus water must flow off, carrying with it many of the elements of fertility. Third, A deeply plowed soil is one of the most effective agents man can call into service during protracted drouths. The rain penetrates deeper, the roots go down looking for food, and in the process of evaporation moisture is carried upward, thus supplying the roots of the plants nearer the surface.

A few words concerning the subsoil plow, and we have done with this branch of our subject. The advantages already claimed for deep plowing will generally follow its operation. Upon worn-out lands the beneficial effects arising from subsoiling have been made very apparent, as in addition to its increasing the depth of the tillable surface, and augmenting the supplies of moisture, it brings up, and into use, the fertilizing properties which have become exhausted, oftentimes renewing the life and value of a district,—giving to the possessor of barren acres a reasonably fertile domain. Compact, heavy soils, however, if undrained receive but a tittle of the good that would otherwise result, and upon such we do not think the process would prove sufficiently remunerative.

With the use of harrow and cultivator our readers are posted, and they are also cognizant of the effects produced by each. The latter implement, however, is not held in that esteem by the majority to which we think it is entitled upon its merits. A Western New-York farmer of our acquaintance, considers it an active remedial and manual agent, and keeps it in motion nearly through the entire growing season. If there is any virtue in a friable surface soil, he is determined to possess it; at all events, he will not allow the weed to institute a system of wholesale piracy upon his cruising grounds. His farm is one of the cleanest it has ever been our pleasure to view, and after an experience of some years, he is very well satisfied with the results for his care and expenditure of time, labor, and money.

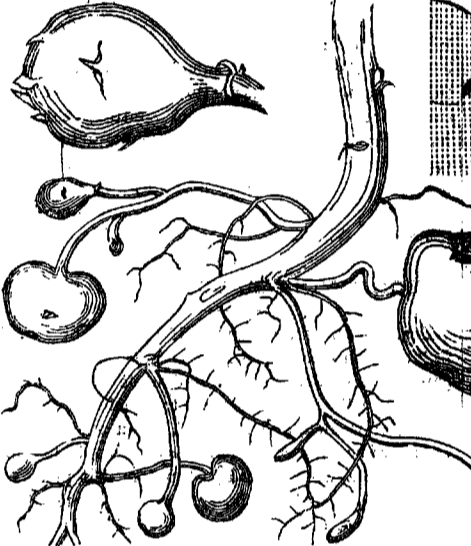
It was our intention to speak somewhat upon draining at the present, but lack of space forbids a development of the subject. This topic, together with all others bearing upon agricultural interests, will meet with full discussion in the new volume of the RURAL upon which we have entered, and we ask our readers to furnish their practice and experience, in order that the light and knowledge so much needed may be diffused throughout the land.

DO POTATOES MIX IN THE HILL?

On this subject we entertain opinions founded on our own observation and experience, and on the laws of vegetable physiology. These opinions we have expressed in answers to the inquiries of correspondents, and have endeavored very briefly to give the reasons for our belief. It is one of those questions which we cannot hope to settle satisfactorily to all, for some have observed what they consider sufficient proof that varieties will mix if the sets are planted near each other. No theory, however absurd, can be started but some are ready to furnish proof of its correctness from actual observation. Had the Messiah presented the question to the people of this day which he did to the Jews some 1800 years ago—"Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?"—some would be ready to reply in the affirmative, and declare that they had seen it done. It is extremely easy to be mistaken, and the process of jumping at conclusions is cheap and expeditious. An experiment carefully and thoroughly tried is valuable, but a carelessly conducted experiment is not only worthless, but worse than useless, if it is relied upon to establish truth. And yet the latter way of testing things is so easy and convenient that it is generally adopted. Now, we do not believe that potatoes can by any possibility be made to mix by being grown near each other, yet in the RURAL of December 15th, we published a communication from F. KELLOGG, of South Avon, N. Y., in which it was stated that he had by planting the Blue Mercer and Long Pinkeye in the same hill produced potatoes one-half of which was Long Pinkeye and the other Blue Mercer. By dividing these potatoes where the two varieties seemed to unite, and planting them separate, the white parts produced Long Pinkeyes and the dark parts Blue Mercers. We did think at the time there was some mistake in regard to this, but we barely stated that we had been unable to mix varieties of potatoes by joining them together, although we had tried hard and long to do so; and that it was not only contrary to our experience but all our ideas on vegetable physiology. Although we did not suppose this language would surprise anybody, we find that the *Attica Atlas* expresses very great astonishment thereat, and devotes a column and a half to the work of showing that we know but very little about the matter. We would copy this, but for its length, and the fact that a large portion is entirely foreign to the matter in dispute.

A few days since, Mr. KELLOGG presented us with several of the potatoes grown as described above. That which was claimed to be a Long Pinkeye, we found to bear some resemblance to that variety, but it was yellow fleshed; the so called Blue Mercer was a dark, roundish potato, not having the slightest resemblance to that sort. It may be the Scotch Grey. From these facts we infer there has been some mixture besides mixing in the hill. There are a few facts which seem to indicate a change to the casual observer, and which are used as

proof of such transmutation as is advocated by our correspondent, and which needs a little explanation. Any parti-colored potato, like the Mercer or Peach Blow, becomes lighter by being grown for a few years in a light sandy soil, and darker by being planted in heavy or clay soil. By planting the light colored parts of the Mercer and rejecting the dark, it can be grown nearly or entirely white. Many persons have observed their potatoes that were nearly or quite pure become mixed after a number of years so as materially to injure their quality for market. It is always found, too, that the mixture is of an inferior sort. No one ever planted a common sort and after a few years found that about half were of a better kind. We need not tell farmers that the best varieties of



potatoes are comparatively unproductive, while the common coarse sorts yield abundantly. Nothing is more common than to find potatoes mixed, and if different sorts are grown in succeeding years on the same ground, it is next to impossible to prevent this result. We will suppose that a farmer commences to plant a variety of first class potatoes, but one in a hundred is of some common sort yielding double the quantity of the better variety, and he continues to plant as they are produced, without selecting for seed: in seven years, more than one-half are of the common kind; and in fourteen years, he has less than one good potato for a hundred of the common. We have suffered from this kind of mixture in the hill, and have learned to guard against it.

All plants become hybridized or mixed through the flowers, which contain the sexual organs. This hybridization affects only the seeds. The seeds of an apple or pear will not come true on account of this hybridization, and from other causes which at present it is not necessary to mention. The florist will grow a white and a red peony in close proximity for a number of years, and no change will be produced. The tubers of each, when transplanted, will produce flowers exactly like the plant from which they were taken. But plants produced by seeds will show the mixture. The tuber of the potato, plant, or the potato, is not a root. It has no fibrous roots like those which are attached to the beet or the carrot, and obtains for itself no nourishment from the soil. It is simply an enlargement of the underground stem or branch, in which is stored up a large quantity of nutritious food for the nourishment of the young plants. If, then, potatoes mix, it is a mixture of branches.

We give an engraving which truly represents the underground growth of a potato plant, showing shoots just beginning to enlarge at the points, others half-formed, and the fully formed potatoes. At the upper part of the cut, at the left, is a small, half-formed tuber, magnified, in which the leaves of the shoot are seen, and under these are the eyes which are the buds of these branches. By cutting the tuber so as to divide the eye, the bud will be seen, as in the section at the right.

On this point we give a paragraph from Gray's Botany:—"The potato-plant has three principal forms of branches:—1. Those that bear ordinary leaves, expanded in the air, to digest what they gather from it and what the roots gather from the soil, and convert it into nourishment. 2. After a while a second set of branches at the summit of the plant bear flowers, which form fruit and seed out of a portion of the nourishment which the leaves have prepared. 3. But a larger part of this nourishment, while in a liquid state, is carried down the stem, into a third sort of branches under ground, and accumulated in the form of starch at their extremities, which become tubers, or depositories of prepared solid food;—just as in the Turnip, Carrot, Dahlia, &c., it is deposited in the root. The use of the store of food is obvious enough. In the autumn the whole plant dies, except the seeds (if it formed them) and the tubers; and the latter are left disconnected in the ground. Just as that small portion of nourishing matter which is deposited in the seed feeds the embryo when it germinates, so the much larger portion deposited in the tuber nourishes its buds, or eyes, when they likewise grow, the next spring, into new plants. And the great supply enables them to shoot with a greater vigor at the beginning, and to produce a greater amount of vegetation than the seedling plant could do in the same space of time; which vegetation in turn may prepare and store up, in the course of a few weeks or months, the largest quantity of solid nourishing material, in a form most available for food."

We have given our readers our opinions on this subject, and we do not think carefully tried experiments will prove them incorrect.

HIGH FEEDING.

My friend, JOHN JOHNSTON, in a late RURAL, administers his "annual" blister to such customers as neglect proper attention to their stock.

If I should give my unqualified approval of all that he says, I should not violate my conscience and convictions much, but I prefer to be a little more specific. Mr. JOHNSTON, says "No farmer can afford to let his stock stand still, and what is far worse, let them get poorer from the first of December to the first of May, or later." (The time of "growing poorer" is not quite accurately stated—more flesh is lost in this climate from November 15th to December 1st than in any month of the year.) Now, this is very quietly said, and many readers will pass over it with no further idea than this,—fat cattle are very good in their way. But on second thought it will occur that Mr. JOHNSTON's programme is a wide departure from the faith of "our fathers,"—so much revered in politics, you know.

A sorry, downcast look, with bolder and bolder projections, as spring advanced, was always deemed orthodox for cattle. "Spring poor," was one of the "household words,"—it almost aspired to the dignity of an institution,—was about as sacred, and as little to be departed from, as Washington's "farewell address."

Mr. JOHNSTON, by a bold innovation, sets that all aside,—he thinks it no harm,—nay, he decidedly enjoins, that cattle should keep no "fats," for their country's or their owner's sins! Thanksgiving, and plenty, is to run straight through the winter months.

Well, if we make them work up the straw, and the corn-stalks (a little the worse for wear in these wet frosty seasons), it will take "a heap" of grain to keep the stock of the country gaining through the winter months! Let us see. By the census of 1850, it appears that the cattle, horses, mules, sheep and swine of the State of New York eat up six million eight hundred bushels; and the corn, oats and buckwheat raised in this State the same year amount to forty-seven million six hundred thousand bushels. Now, all I have to say at present is that, in my judgment, every bushel of these grains produced in our State would not suffice to keep the domestic animals of the State gaining through the winter,—this I adduce to justify my remark to which Mr. JOHNSTON alludes, that his plan "would sensibly affect the department of commerce."

I will resume this subject next week.—H. T. B.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FARMING.

He who thinks he has mastered the profession of farming, must have a very exaggerated notion of his own abilities, or a very imperfect idea of the difficult and complicated nature of the business in which he is engaged. A mariner may sail along the surface of the sea, without thinking or knowing aught of the wonders or the mysteries of the great deep, and the farmer may move along in the old way, without knowing, or striving to know, anything of the philosophy of farming. He may, at the end of the year, find that he has made nothing beyond the support of himself or family, or that he has saved a few hundred dollars, and if he is satisfied with this knowledge, he may sit down content; but if he desires to increase his profits,—to find out in what way he can make meat, and grain, and butter, or cheese, in the cheapest possible manner, he opens a field of inquiry in which he can exert all the powers of mind, and labor until the end of his days. To compensate him for his anxiety and toil, if he does not succeed in adding largely to his wealth, he will have the satisfaction of adding a little to the stock of human knowledge. For several years I have been engaged in investigating this subject in connection with the ordinary labors of the farm, and I can in some measure appreciate the importance of this difficult work. Truly did the RURAL say, a few weeks since, that there is no business requiring such varied acquirements, as much knowledge, and so much good judgment, as farming. It is an easy matter for a manufacturer to ascertain how much wool will make a yard of cloth of a certain description, and what will be its cost; but it is not so easy for a farmer to ascertain how much grass, or hay, or grain, will make a pound of wool, or in what way it can be made at the least possible cost.

The farmer, as a manufacturer, is beset with difficulties, of which ordinary manufacturers know nothing. I made one hundred bushels of corn, and sold it for fifty cents a bushel. I kept a strict account of labor, cost of manure, marketing, &c., and found that it cost me three shillings a bushel. This, at first sight, would seem to be a plain matter, and a paying business. But one of my near neighbors grew corn on a similar soil, that cost him about five cents per bushel less than mine, while the crop of another cost him full eleven cents more, which was about all it brought in market. I set about to ascertain the cause, with great zeal, but found that patience was much more necessary than zeal. I had made a shilling a bushel by growing corn, but the next season's crop gave me some reason to believe that I had exhausted my soil to the full value of the profit on

the crop. It is no difficult matter for the merchant to examine his cash box or bank account, and see how matters stand; but the farmer may exhaust his capital which consists mainly in a fertile soil, without ever dreaming of the mischief he is doing. In fact he may all the time imagine he is making money. I have had proof enough of this in my own observation and experience. I know a farmer living on the chestnut loam that abounds in my neighborhood, who purchased six years ago. When he took possession, his land was in good condition, as it had received some manure and had been well clovered. Potatoes were high and the soil well adapted for their growth; so wishing to make money quick, he planted very largely, raised a fine crop, which sold at good prices for shipping. Having kept an account of cost, the profits of the first year were found to be large. Success the first year prompted a similar course the second. The crop was not as good as the first, but still paid well. In about three years the soil was so impoverished that it would not pay for culture under this system, and two years of labor and expense were required to bring the soil to its proper fertility. This sadly detracted from the profits of two or three seasons of apparent success. I find the effect of the crop on the soil is a very important matter, in reckoning profit and loss.

When produce is used for food, the difficulty is complicated, for then we have to ascertain the comparative value of each. And here great care is required to arrive at a correct result. Of some articles of food produced in large quantities, the greater part is water, which can be obtained cheap at the pump. Other articles contain but little water, though yielding small crops. Of the dry matter contained in crops, all is not equally nutritious. Here is an inviting field for investigation and experiment. Nutritious or highly concentrated food cannot be served to all classes of animals with the same advantage. There is a difference in their digestive organs, and this difference it is well for the farmer to understand, as far as possible. Another important matter is the best condition in which to give food to produce the desired result at the least cost. These, and many other important questions, should engage the attention of every thinking farmer. In my next I will speak of one or more of these points in detail. There are doubtless others able to convey far more information than I can, and to such I would say, give us all the light you can possibly impart. CEREES.

BURNED CLAY FOR ROOFING, ROADS, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I cannot exactly adopt the language of the sailor who sent his petition heavenward in a storm as follows—"Thou knowest it is seldom I ask a favor, but set me safe on shore this time, and it shall be a long time before I ask another"—but if you will give me a patient reading and thoughtful consideration, I will agree not to trouble you again unrequested, upon this subject. You published my letter of November. This I did not expect. I supposed I might write you a friendly letter without the world's knowing it; but I do not regret it; indeed, I thank you for it, if it shall result in agitating a question on which I have spent much thought. When you speak of sheets of clay mortar 24 by 18 inches thick, it does not to me convey the meaning I intended. I meant to be understood, 24 by 18 inches and 1 inch thick. Again, I know of no such place as "Perryburg" in Wyoming County. I meant to write Varysburg, a village in the town of Sheldon, Wyoming County. [Friend LYMAN's former letter was published because we supposed such was his desire.—ED.]

I have ambition—(not to appear before the public as a writer for any paper, as it is not my vocation)—but if I could, by any means, be instrumental in bringing about what appears to me to be feasible and a great improvement, it would gratify that ambition wonderfully. I believe that all buildings could be advantageously covered, and almost finished, by burned clay, as well as all sidewalks, and curbstones. And, if I am right in the opinion that good sand and good clay, well mixed and well burned, is as hard as any stone, then pavements, arches, the roadway for wheels, and the foundation for railroads, telegraph poles, wharves, abutments, fence posts, &c., could be made, not only cheaply, but permanent and everlasting, from this article.

If such results are attainable, is it not a duty we owe to our day and generation, to investigate, experiment, encourage, and give our influence toward their successful accomplishment. The publication of my letters warrant me in the belief that you do not consider them the emanation of an addled brain, notwithstanding your condemnation of the roof as leaky. I have to favor my idea, the opinion of your Scotch Engineer, that if the crack is filled with mortar that has hair incorporated, it will not leak. It is my opinion that if the mortar is pressed in as it gives off its moisture, so that it shall be filled hard, it will not leak; but if it does, and there can be no arrangement for underdraining, why I suppose we must give it up; but, until it is tested, I shall retain my present belief. The retention of mortar between brick, in buildings, warrants the belief that it would not get out there, if clenched on the inside. What protection against fire, if the inside wall and the outside covering were of incombustible material, as well as the door and window sills, caps and stiles, &c.?

Acting upon the idea, during the last summer, I moulded and dried a brick, 24 by 18 inches, and 2 inches thick, and had it burned hard, and I believe it is the largest brick in the world. At any rate, it is too large for any gentleman to carry in his hat. I have it now, but from my want of experience I used a poor article of sand and not enough, or from its situation in the kiln, by sustaining a great weight, it cracked on the edge and is not presentable. But, it establishes the fact that it can be done, as it did not warp. What a beautiful sidewalk would such brick make, how durable and fixed, and the surface could be made as smooth as the best polished marble, and how advantageous for the corners of brick buildings.

Reach from your shelf a book of 600 pages, lay the book upon your table, holding it perpendicular. You will perceive that if a wheel was to roll upon the edge of the leaves it would move without jar, and but little friction, and if the wheel was inclined to the right or left from any cause, it would return to the center when the cause was removed. Imagine this book eight inches thick and one mile long, and, if instead of the book, it was mortar, and sustained in that position, it would dry, and if it could be burned hard, it would stand the wear of many a loaded wagon. Now, place on each side of this book, four inches from it, journals that would rise four inches above the book you hold, then across from one journal to the other place the ledger, so as to leave a space four inches on the sides, and four inches on the top. Suppose these to be unguiltably and of the same length as the one inside, viz: one mile, and covered as with the ledger; and suppose this four inches on the sides and top charged with coal, and a fire made at the mouth, and a stove pipe at the other end, 50 or

60 feet high, would it not draw? Would it not burn? and if so, would it not convert the eight inches thickness of mortar into hard brick? If so, choose your grade and try it. You will laugh at this, I know; but have a little patience. The mortar, delivered, would cost about \$1 per cubic yard, the boxing could be used a thousand times, the coal you can compute; but if completed, what a track would it present for a wheel—no jar for the carriage, load or passenger. If it cracked, as it probably would, in drying, these cracks would serve as drains for any accumulation of water. There would be no decay. The same process could be used for the foundation of a railroad over and through indentations of the earth.

If I have written enough to give you my idea, I am pleased. Should you believe, as I do, that there is merit in these suggestions, the next thing is to spread them before minds capable of investigation. JOSIAH WOODWORTH did not consider it beneath his research to look into the manipulation of clay. At your next Cabinet meeting, should you lay this subject before it and ask, is there an *Excelsior* in the ceramic art? it might lead to discussions that would result in evolving great truths.

I have tried to interest manufacturers, and although they agree to my suggestions, their brains seem to be impregnated with their business—*mud*. I lay this before you, because your situation is such that if you *very* believe my thoughts valuable, your disposition, business, and inclination, would lead to its development. I am not favorably located, and I am too far advanced in life to enter into the active development. If, therefore, the spreading of these ideas upon paper, and bringing them to the notice of manufacturers, will not induce a fair trial,—why, so be it; but if, by this letter, or any other means, they should be induced to test the matter, I feel assured they will be successful, and furnish to the world a better, more enduring, safer and cheaper article for a thousand purposes, than is now used.

You may ask, what is novel, what is new in my plan? Can't anybody do it that pleases? I answer, I do not believe they can; for beyond the drying of a surface of about 12 by 14 inches, I have never seen tile. By repeated trials I succeeded. Mould and lay down any thickness of mortar, and evaporation and percolation commences, the surface parts with, and the bottom receives moisture; therefore the surface contracts, while the bottom, if not expanded, retains its dimensions; and as the power of cohesion in the bottom of the mass is not sufficient to draw the particles together as desiccation progresses, cracks commence on the surface and continue through, rendering the whole worthless. Contract and prevent this, and you may dry any given surface. I have moulded and dried a fence post 5 by 5 feet, and 2 by 5 feet, both 64 feet long, successfully and repeatedly. Moscow, N. Y., 1860. WM. LYMAN.

LABOR-SAVING IN-DOORS—TO H. T. B.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—If I know that "H. T. B.," the man who puts so many pieces in your nice paper wasn't a bachelor, I would write to him about his late article in reference to machines for the benefit of women, and not trouble you about it; but I am sure he is an old bach. May he be looking around for a woman, and just put in that piece for palavering, courting talk, to make the women think he has great sympathy for them. If he is not, it seems to me he must, long ere this, have found out that the "lords" had not only tried their hands at improved implements for domestic labor-saving, but had been eminently successful therein.

Let's see. First that "old oaken bucket" no longer hangs in the well to be lifted by almost superhuman efforts over the high curb, made so to keep the cattle out. Next, the old iron dinner-pot of near a hundred pounds, has been melted up, and makes a whole set of cooking utensils, nicely adapted to an elegant stove, (standing in the place of the old jam-bless fireplace with tug-pole and trammels), well calculated to facilitate all the operations of cooking and baking. Then the coffee-roaster, which SUSAN or JAMES can turn so easily while the coffee is brewing,—and the mill to grind the spices as well as coffee,—and the paring machine, which splits the parings and cores all about,—and the mince mill, cutting the meat for pies as well as for sausages. Even the castors on the large table saves many a hard lift. O, there's the churn, which the dog, or old "Dick" makes the butter in,—not to mention the butter-workers. The rain water is now drawn down from the loft by turning a finger faucet, instead of being lifted up stairs, with all the slops to be mopped up.

Why, sir, but a little while ago, hand cards, and wheels, and looms, were almost exclusively depended upon to clothe the family,—now where are they? "Echo answers, where?" And here, as the crowing glory, see the knitting machines, that make a stocking in five minutes, and the sewing machines that make a shirt in fifteen. And yet, "H. T. B." knows of little to aid the domestic hand, save the washing machines hung out to dry on the clothes bars. Strange! passing strange!

Now, sir, if he isn't a bach, why, I pity,—O! how I do pity the poor woman that is bound to the man full fifty years behind the age. See her toiling almost incessantly to provide the necessities of life for her family. O! I do hope "H. T. B." has found out there is a substitute for the cards, and the old bucket, and the dinner-pot!

I shouldn't so much object to writing to an old bachelor if it wouldn't make so much talk; for, as I am getting pretty near to old maid-dom, folks would say she wants to get him,—and that I don't, anyhow. I had rather be an old maid to eternity, than marry a man who pays so little attention to domestic comforts as does "H. T. B." OLD MAID. Cayuga County, N. Y., 1861.

SUFFOLK COUNTY, LONG ISLAND.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Although some of the first settlements of New York were made in this County, thousands and tens of thousands of acres of its lands still remain in their original wild condition; and within forty miles of the city of New York, the fox digs his hole, and the wild deer roams over the plains as of old. The great pine barrens, which form the southern half of Long Island, are the most remarkable feature of this County. These barrens, or pine plains, as they are called, which comprise the south part of this County, are level or gently undulating, sloping gradually from the middle of the Island southward to the sea, and were originally covered with a heavy growth of pitch pine, which has mostly disappeared, and given place to a thick undergrowth of the scrub oak, *quercus ilicifolia*. This scrub oak, of which so much has been said in connection with these lands, is a small, branching shrub, usually attaining the height of four or five feet, and producing immense quantities of acorns, which are often so abundant as to prostrate the branches to the earth. It has large, strong roots, which form the chief

obstacle to clearing the land, and thirty or forty cart loads are often removed from a single acre.

Much has been recently said in regard to the agricultural capacity of these plain lands, and many attempts have been made at cultivating small pieces, none of which have been very successful, however. The stories of enormous crops raised here, which have been circulated in various parts of the country, have been manufactured mostly by land speculators and other interested persons, and I do not know of a single successful example in this town (Islip), where most of them are said to have been made. There is no doubt that this land may be cultivated and large crops raised, but the thing will not pay at present. On the line of the Long Island railroad, about Thompson Station, some land has been cleared and cultivated, and on the road from there to Suffolk Station, two miles east, considerable land has been cleared and cultivated the past season, but the results are not such as to induce emigrants to come here. The cultivation of the cranberry on these sandy plains is now attracting some attention, but what the result will be it is too soon to say. The village of Modern Times, a group of Socialists, is situated on the plains about half a mile east of Thompson Station, and here numerous experiments have been tried in cultivating the soil, particularly with the small fruits, but with only partial success. The truth is, the soil is naturally sterile, and can only be reclaimed by the use of lime, ashes and immense quantities of manure. All the native plants are such as are common to barren soils, as the scrub oak, *Quercus ilicifolia*, which is the characteristic plant, the pitch pine, *Pinus rigida*, the wild indigo, *Baptisia tinctoria*, sweet fern, *Comptonia asplenifolia*, several species of *Vaccinium*, &c. Nothing can be done here without a large capital, as it will cost about fifty dollars per acre to clear the land and bring it into cultivation, and no returns can be expected the first, and but little the second year.

This has been recommended as a good fruit-growing country, but experience does not confirm it. Apples do very well if well manured and properly cultivated, but it is too cool for grapes and peaches. The latter do occasionally produce small crops, but the fruit will not bear comparison with that grown on the north side, and west end of the island, while grapes will not grow at all unless protected. It is a fact not easily accounted for, that frosts occur on the plains much later in the spring and earlier in the fall than in the cultivated districts or the north side of the island. This is supposed by some to be owing to the large amount of herbage which covers the ground and keeps it shaded. The only advantage this region has, is its healthy climate and near proximity to New York, which is easily accessible by the Long Island Railroad; but notwithstanding this, and although no one wishes to see this portion of the island inhabited more than I do, I cannot see any inducements for a farmer to make this his home so long as there are so many better places lying waste and uncultivated. Suffolk Co., L. I., N. Y., 1861. *

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Spaying a Mare.

The Maine Farmer says that Dr. DADD, V. S., has recently performed the novel operation of spaying a mare, (removing the ovaries.) The mare was six years old, and belonged to CHARLES H. BALLARD, of Hartford, Vt. We believe this is the first case of the kind in this country, if indeed it is not the first ever tried, and Mr. BALLARD is entitled to much credit for offering so valuable an animal for the benefit of science, as it has been generally supposed that an operation of the kind would prove fatal. The animal was under the influence of sulphuric ether, and the operation proves entirely successful, ten days having elapsed since it was performed. The object to be attained in this particular case, was to render the mare docile, as she had heretofore been nearly unmanageable during her periods of heat. Physiologists are of opinion that removing the ovaries, if successfully performed, will render the animal mild and gentle.

About Cribbing Horses.

In answer to a query, whether the evil propensity of cribbing is not caused by the present manner of feeding horses, Mr. J. FULTONTON writes to the N. H. Journal of Agriculture, as follows:—"I have had the misfortune of having a cribber for the last eight years, and I have studied the habit, (for such I think it may be,) have read most of the authors upon the subject, and have also tried most of the remedies recommended for a cure, but have not been successful in finding a remedy, or fully satisfied myself of the cause of this evil. It will not do any good to 'pitch in the hay,' for they will do as often crib with their mouth full of hay as at any time. A real cribber does not bite, but bears down with the upper teeth, accompanying it with an unnatural grunt. Thinking that the present mode of constructing cribs might increase, if not cause the habit, I took it out and fed in the old way on the floor. This is a preventive while in the stable, but like the tobacco user who has been deprived of his 'precious morsel' for a time, the cribber when he has a chance will lay hold of the first post or fence that he can get at. If turned into the pasture hungry, he must have a 'chaw' before eating. This is about all the 'light' I have obtained after eight years study. If any one has more, I hope he will 'let it shine.'"

Crops, Weather, &c., of 1860.

In an article reviewing the season of 1860, the Boston Cultivator says:—"In reference to this country, the year closed must be recorded as one of bountiful production, in nearly all crops. In regard to the United States and the British Provinces, it is probable that the quantity of breadstuffs of last year's growth was much greater than that of any previous year. But while the country in general has been thus favored, a few districts present a painful contrast. A portion of the territory of Kansas was visited by a drouth of such severity that most crops failed to return the value of the seed. In a limited section of the Valley of Lake Champlain, an unprecedented drouth prevailed, which, with the devastations of great swarms of locusts (grasshoppers) caused nearly a total failure of all crops except wheat. The section that suffered most, is comprised by that portion of Vermont bordering on the lake, southward of Burlington and extending eastward nearly to the Green Mountains.

"In a meteorological view, the season was marked by a dry spring,—affording an early and very favorable seedtime,—and excepting the drouth of a few sections, a general seasonableness of rain, with a temperature during the summer months, considerably lower than the average. The coldness of the weather through June, July and August, was the subject of constant comment, frequently accompanied by the remark that the luxuriant growth of vegetation under such a temperature, was a mystery. It may be stated in this connection, that in the British Islands and over a considerable portion of

continental Europe, the season was remarkable for frequent and heavy rains, with a temperature so low as to greatly retard the growth of some crops. The result of this wet and cold weather was to lessen the yield of the grain crops of Britain to a considerable extent, and to cause an increased demand for American wheat."

How Canada Prize Butter was made.

The winner of the Silver Medal for the best butter shown at the Provincial Exhibition, at Hamilton, C. W., gave the process of making it, as follows:—"My dairy consists of eight cows, which are milked regularly twice a day. I use earthenware pans, which are scalded with hot water and then cooled with cold water every time they are used. I let my milk stand forty-eight hours; I stir my cream every morning, churn twice a week, and use a box churn. I bring my cream out of the cellar over night and let it stand till the temperature is about 60°, then it generally takes from forty to sixty minutes churning. When the globules of cream begin to break, I put a little cold water into the churn, and continue to do so until the butter is well gathered. I have my butter tray well scalded with boiling water, and rinsed with cold water, then take the butter out of the churn with a wooden ladle, and first work out the butter-milk; secondly, wash it well with clear cold water, and thirdly I work in the salt in the proportion of about one pound of salt to twenty pounds of butter; after which I wash it again with cold water, and let it stand in the butter tray in the cellar till evening, then work it again and leave it till morning, then work out all the water possible. It is then ready to pack in the firkin. The manner in which I prepare the firkin for use is as follows:—I first put a handful of salt and one of bran into the firkin, and also one pail of scalding water, and cover it close for an hour, after which I empty it and fill with cold water, and let it stand a day, then empty and rub well with salt; the firkin is then ready for use. I pack the butter with a wooden ladle; when the firkin is full I put a cloth on the butter and cover the cloth with a thick layer of salt to keep the air from the butter. I use the common salt, rolled, and I consider it the best."

Putridity of Wells.

We had a well of beautiful water, says the Connecticut Homestead, soft and cool, which all at once began to taste and smell as if the dead body of some animal were undergoing the process of decomposition in it. We gave it a thorough examination by the aid of a looking-glass, but could discover nothing. We descended to the water, but found no animal or vegetable matter in a putrid condition, and we were forced to the conclusion that the water was of itself putrid. Having reached this conclusion, we set our wits to work to devise a remedy; we remembered that only still water became so. We thought the reason of the continued purity of the latter must be because of its continued agitation, bringing all its particles continually in contact with the atmospheric air when it absorbed the oxygen to the necessary degree for re-invigoration of any property lost in sustaining its teeming, infinitesimal life. Upon this fact we based our action and remedy. We hired a man to work thoroughly the chain pump in the well, working with all his might for two hours, during which time he scarcely diminished the depth of the water. It was not longer than twenty-four hours before the water was as sweet and good as ever. We believe that it was the thorough agitation of the water by pumping, extending to the very bottom of the well, that effected the cure.

Again, we now have a cistern filled with rain water from the roof, which passes through a filter in reaching the cistern. A week ago the water in the cistern became putrid, tasting and smelling, we can't tell how bad. We remembered the experiment with the well, and the supposed reason of its cure; so we procured a long pole, and thoroughly stirred it up, agitating the water as much as possible, perhaps working at the job fifteen minutes. In twenty-four hours the water was sweet and wholesome again.

Inquiries and Answers.

FIRE-PROOF PAINT, OR WASH.—Will the RURAL EDITOR, or some of the RURAL SUBSCRIBERS, inform me of a recipe for making a fire-proof paint, or wash?—A SUBSCRIBER, Champlain City, Illinois, 1860.

PILES IN HOGS.—Will some of the readers of the RURAL inform me, through its columns, what will cure the piles in hogs? I lost two of my best hogs with that disease the past fall.—E. D. STONE, Ninnington, Minn., 1860.

WILL TWIN CALVES BREED?—I have a nice heifer calf, twin to a bull, and would like to know if there is any prospect that I can breed from her? I have heard it said that it depended on which came first. If any of your numerous readers can give me any information on the subject, through the RURAL, I will be much obliged to them.—W. D. P., Peoria, Wyoming Co., N. Y., 1860.

BREEDING THE HORSE.—Will the editors of the RURAL NEW-YORKER inform me as to the supposed quality of blood a horse possesses, and how much can be drawn from one in cases of sickness?—ALPHEA, Kalamazoo Co., Mich., 1861.

An ordinary-sized horse contains, on an average, from twenty to twenty-four quarts of blood, and he can better afford to lose four quarts than a human being can one pint. In cases of acute inflammation, we have heard of eight or ten quarts being taken—in fact, the animal was bled until he laid down, and this depletion was claimed to be advantageous, and would have been renewed, had not the disease rapidly subsided.

FLATULENT COLIC IN CATTLE.—A three year old steer of mine has been taken sick, and I send to the RURAL NEW-YORKER for an appellation of the disease, and a remedy. There is a very evident enlargement of the abdomen. The animal is almost constantly either in the act of lying down or getting up; there are gaseous discharges, and he strikes his belly with his hind feet as if in great suffering. What is the difficulty, and what the cure?—A. W. P., Genesee Co., Penn., 1861.

We think that the difficulty is flatulent colic, a disease which is generally occasioned by a derangement of the digestive organs, whereby the food, instead of being converted into nutritive matter and assimilated by the body, undergoes fermentation, and evolves carbonic acid gas. A considerable pain always accompanies it. We recommend the following prescription from DADD on the Diseases of Cattle:—"This species of colic can generally be relieved as follows:—Take one ounce of hyposulphite of soda, dissolve the same in a quart of water; then add tincture of ginger and tincture of gaultheria, of each, one ounce. Drench the animal with the same. Clusters of soap suds, to which a little salt may be added, should be thrown into the rectum occasionally. The belly should be well rubbed with coarse straw, and in severe cases, I should rub some mustard, moistened with vinegar, on the lower part of the abdomen. After a lapse of two hours, should the patient appear unrelieved, a second dose of the colic draught may be given; generally, however, one dose is sufficient."

TO REMOVE FILMS, CHAFF, OR FOREIGN SUBSTANCES FROM THE EYES OF CATTLE.—Noticing an inquiry upon this subject, in a late issue of the RURAL, and having had considerable experience, I forward my method. Take a fresh water clam shell, lay it upon the coals, cover with fire, and as soon as burned, take it out. When cold, pulverize, and sift it through gauze, fine lace, or sheer muslin, that no particle may remain to irritate the eye. Cut a goose quill at both ends, fill half full of this powder, raise the eyelid, and blow it in. Leave it to its own course, and it will do its office. It is seldom necessary to repeat the operation. Anything of less consequence will require less powder.—H. C. ROSE, Wayne Co., N. Y., 1860.

Rural Notes and Items.

FARMERS' SONS—The Best Business.—While busily engaged in opening letters a few mornings ago, (with over a hundred "sealed proposals" before us,) we became interested in the conversation of two prominent farmers, residents of adjoining counties in this region, who happened to meet in our office and renew a former acquaintance. One, a pioneer farmer of this county—who has wisely trained his sons to the pursuit which has given himself health, wealth, and advanced age—asked the other as to the family of a deceased friend, also an agriculturist. The reply was that the oldest son was in a store at M., the second in a store at A., the third in a store at G., and the youngest (too juvenile for business), was yet at home on the farm. (We did not interrupt the conversation, but mentally hoped the youngest son would have sense enough to remain on the farm and become an independent, self-reliant cultivator of the soil, instead of resorting to selling tape, calico, &c., for a livelihood, in the hope of wearing fine clothes and becoming a merchant. And then our thoughts were so busy with the subject suggested that we lost all knowledge of the further conversation of the friends, both of whom are sensible and experienced, and have written many and able articles for this journal. Our thoughts took somewhat this shape:—Three sons of an industrious, worthy farmer, hope to live easier, and in better—or at least in more fashionable style—than their honored sire. They look upon farming as drudgery—upon the position and life of a merchant as one of greater respectability and ease. They expect to acquire a competency in a very few years, or to become so rich that they can retire. Ah, young men, you ought to consider that when so many farmers' sons are rushing to the ranks of merchants, lawyers, physicians, &c., the chances of attaining and retaining position or wealth must be very limited. (Right here we were interrupted by a call from a city friend—a professional—who, on learning what we were writing, thanked God that his city-bred son had not only concluded to become a cultivator of the soil, but had already entered upon and liked the business. And this reminds us that many city men ardently wish their sons to become farmers and horticulturists, in the belief that such occupation is surer, healthier, and more conducive to happiness than any other.] Young men should remember that, though a few—also how very few!—business and professional men succeed, the many fall of securing even a competency for old age, while thousands, who commenced life with high hopes, and better prospects than the three young men above referred to, annually become bankrupts, or die in poverty and obscurity! Let them bear in mind that the Farm is the natural nursery of Health, Virtue, and Contentment, while it guarantees a competency, if not wealth—and that, as a general rule, every young man who leaves it for the counter, desk, physic, or law, foresees a certainty for an uncertainty.

THE RURAL'S PROGRESS—Large Lists of New Subscribers.

We have often asserted the belief that the RURAL NEW-YORKER had the most ardent, active, and substantial agents of any journal in the Union, and during the past month the truthfulness of the statement has been rendered more apparent than ever before. Did time and space permit, we could give figures, and extracts from hundreds of letters, showing that our friends excel in their efforts and influence in support of the RURAL,—but we can only briefly illustrate the subject at present. The clubs for 1861 are much larger than hitherto—and the large lists are by no means confined to this State. For instance, among those received or mailed previous to Christmas Day, we notice that Canada West, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and Connecticut, are quite prominent. The largest list (over 400) was from H. BOWEN, Jr., of Orleans Co.; the second (368) from H. C. BINGHAM, of Brant Co., C. W.; the third from L. WARNER, Orleans Co.; the fourth from Wayne; fifth from Monroe; sixth from Steuben; seventh from Wayne; eighth from Yates; ninth from Erie Co., Pa.; tenth from Winnebago Co., Ill., &c., &c. (We cannot give the exact figures now, but shall soon publish (either in the RURAL or a Supplement), a large list comprising the names and residences of agents, and the number of subscribers obtained by each.) The best arranged large list we have received this season is that of Mr. BINGHAM, of Canada, who sent 353 names at one time, (he has sent others since), all in admirable style—for which our clerks vote an extra premium. Most of the lists are in good shape, but Mr. B.'s takes the palm.

Mr. W. H. HOUSE, of Yates Co., sent 147 subscribers in his first letter—of which eighty-one were new subscribers—all arranged in good order. He writes that the list was obtained solely by his own exertions, and accompanies it with an affidavit that all the subscribers, except one, reside within ten miles of his residence! That will do for one district in "Little Yates." Mr. H. closes his letter thus—"If any agent for the RURAL has got more new subscribers for the same territory, you will please send me his name, and I will forfeit a new hat." Well, we reckon several have done as well in proportion to the number sent, but can't yet say as to the territory—for each of the large lists named above comprise from one-fourth to one-half new subscribers! Indeed, the tenth one—from Mr. G. E. TERRY, of Winnebago Co., Ill.—is mostly new. Of the 106 subscribers sent us in his first letter, (84 of which were at one post-office,) over three-fourths are new subscribers. We are receiving many clubs of ten to fifty from places where we had only one to three or five subscribers last year.

—But we must stop, though we would find mention scores of instances of unusual and unexpected encouragement. We are proud of the RURAL's friends, grateful for their generous efforts, and trust our readers will be glad to receive this brief report of their successful action.

THE DOGS INTERESTED IN "SECESSION."—The Hartford Courant has this pithy allusion to the absorbing political topic of the day as connected with, or likely to affect, an important branch of home industry:—"The course of events at the South may cost three-fourths the dogs in Connecticut their mundane existence. If we have any trouble in getting cotton, it will be the clear policy of this State to kill off, by a peremptory dog-law, every animal for which the owner is not willing to pay a reasonable sum per annum for the pleasure of his society, and then cover our hills with sheep, and raise wool and mutton, instead of buying South Carolina cotton. Nothing but the sheep-destroying dogs prevent us from having a hundred thousand more sheep than can now be found in the State. If they only knew it, the dogs of Connecticut are vitally interested in 'secession.'"

THE BEEF EATEN IN NEW YORK CITY.—It is printed in a metropolitan exchange that the Annual Cattle Showless show the capacity of the people of New York city to swallow annually over 150,000,000 pounds of beef alone, at a cost to the butcher of at least \$12,000,000. The number of beef cattle received during 1860 was 226,747 head; the average weight dressed was @7¼ cwt. The average price was \$8.15 per cwt., which is at least one cent per pound cheaper than in 1859, and one cent and a half less than in 1858. The total number of live stock slaughtered last year in this city was 1,107,882 head. If they were placed together compactly on a road of 15 feet in width, the mammoth drove would cover 220 miles.

MORE PRIZE SHEEP IMPORTED.—The Boston Cultivator states that "SAMUEL THORNE, the well-known stock-breeder of Dutches Co., N. Y., who is now in England, has purchased of JONAS WEBB, at 210 guineas, the yearling South-Down ram which took the first prize at the Royal Agricultural Society's last Show. He has also purchased of Mr. WEBB ten ewes. We understand that they have all arrived safely at Mr. THORNE'S FARM. These valuable additions can hardly fail to make Mr. T.'s flock the nucleus for improving over a large part of the country."

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1862.—Late English papers announce the completion of arrangements which insure the progress of the International Exhibition of 1862. Lord GRANVILLE, the Marquis of CHANDOS, and MESSRS. T. BARRING, C. WENTWORTH DICK, and T. FAIRBAIRN, have accepted the position of trustees, and satisfactory security has been deposited in the Bank of England to assure the needful advances.

THE MEAT EATEN IN PARIS IN 1859 amounted to 56,507,021 kilograms, exclusive of game of all kinds, which amounted to 1,259,274 kilograms more, which, altogether, is equal to 177,008,295 pounds, all of which is taken accurate account by the Parisian police, who are in charge of this department.

HORTICULTURAL.

THE CURRANT.

We published an article some time since on The Family of Currants, written by Wm. R. Prince, in which Mr. P. charged the English with neglect of this valuable fruit, and even with ignorance of what their neighbors, the French, are doing for its improvement. This article has received a good deal of attention in England. Prof. LINDLEY responded in the London Gardener's Chronicle, and we gave his reply in the RURAL of Nov. 3d. Mr. RIVERS, the celebrated English nurseryman, has undertaken the defence of his countrymen in the same journal, and below we give his article. We are compelled to believe that English nurserymen pay little attention to the Currant, as all who have ordered plants from that country will readily believe. Orders for the Cherry Currant cannot be filled, or are filled with anything but the variety desired, and we have known large orders for the White Grapes, filled with White and Red Dutch and half a dozen other sorts. This, too, has been done by those who were supposed to be the most honorable and correct in their dealings. Our nurserymen, therefore, think they have just cause of complaint.

MR. RIVERS ON W. R. PRINCE'S "CURRANT FAMILY."

Mr. Prince, Flushing, United States, has quite a talent for cataloguing, if we may judge from his catalogue of strawberries, which contains the names of 158 select varieties, besides fourscore "rejected varieties," among which are "Myatt's Eliza and all his other seedlings." Poor Mr. Myatt! Mr. Prince's catalogue of grapes rivals his strawberry catalogue in the number of varieties described. I flattered myself that I had been for some years rather energetic in collecting and proving varieties of currants; but if, as you state in Number 36, Mr. Prince enumerates 60 varieties, I am, as compared with him, slow, very slow. The catalogues of the large French nurserymen for the year 1869, enumerate about 20 sorts, exclusive of three or four kinds of Black currants. I am, therefore, quite at a loss to account for the fact of my transatlantic cousin having got together such a collection of currant names. Some of your readers may not know that although currants do not differ much in their nature—for they are nearly all too sour—they do in their names, and so I will venture to give a list of varieties, all of which have borne fruit here:

- RED CURRANTS. 1. Red Dutch, 2. Long-bunched Red Dutch, 3. Long-bunched Red, 4. Red Grape, 5. Willow's Red Grape, 6. Victoria or Ruby Castle, 7. Prince Albert, 8. Knight's Sweet Red, 9. Knight's Early Red, 10. Knight's Large Red, 11. Champagne, 12. Striped-fruited, 13. Fertile de Pallua, 14. Fertile d'Angers, 15. Red Gondouin, 16. La Hative, 17. La Versailleise, 18. La Fertile, 19. Cerise, or Cherry, 20. Imperial Red, 21. Napoleon Red, 22. Cerise a longues Grappes, or long-bunched Grapes, 23. Gloire des Sablons.

- WHITE CURRANTS. 24. White Dutch, 25. White Grape, 26. Transparent White (Blanche Transparente), 27. Imperial Jaune, 28. Napoleon White, 29. Applon, 30. Cerise Blanche, 31. White Gondouin.

- BLACK CURRANTS. 32. Black Naples, 33. Black Black, 34. Black Bang-up, 35. Yellow Fruited, 36. Caucasian (La Causeuse), 37. Common Black.

Mr. Prince beats me by 23 sorts. I should like much to see his list, and I hope you will publish it in your columns so that we may dissect it. I could, I think, make up a list of 60 names, for I have about 250 seedlings, raised from the Transparent White, some of which have produced red fruit, and others white and yellowish fruit of varied characters. I might have named 20 or 30 of these, and thus have beaten Mr. Prince, but I prefer to be slow.

As we are reproached for having produced so few sorts of currants, it is perhaps quite proper that a few words should be devoted to the above list, to point out the origin and qualities of some of the varieties enumerated, and particularly to show Mr. Prince that he knows but little about English currants.

No. 1 is probably of Dutch origin, as I have received it from Belgium under the name of Rouge de Hollande and Rouge d'Anvers. This is probably the best sort known, as it is (for a currant) very full flavored when cooked, and a most abundant bearer.

Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 are all English varieties, more or less remarkable. Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5, produce large berries and remarkably long bunches; they are very ornamental, but on the whole, too acid. It is probable that the bright skies of America may improve them.

No. 6 is now a well-known variety, rather late in ripening, and valuable as succeeding the Red Dutch. No. 7 is a sort with no particular flavor or quality, except being much like No. 6.

No. 8 deserves much more attention than it has ever received. It is not sweet, but its acid is much less powerful than that of other Red currants, and this quality may probably be more fully developed if seedlings are raised from it. A Red currant, sugary, and yet piquant, would set our cooks raving.

No. 9 begins to color and becomes fit for use some eight or ten days before No. 1, and about the same time as No. 16, which is larger in its berries, but more acid. No. 10 is a fine large sort, giving bunches and berries nearly equal to No. 17.

About thirty years since, the Horticultural Society distributed cuttings of the Striped-fruited currant; this is No. 12, which gives pretty but small worthless fruit. No. 21 is either the same or a seedling from it, and was sent out at rather a high price by Monsieur Gloude, a nurseryman at Sablons, France, three or four years ago, and is also worthless. Nos. 13 and 14 are most abundant bearers, but intolerably sour. No. 15 is a remarkable sort; its leaves are so large and its habit so peculiarly robust, it would serve as a stock on which to graft the more weak-growing sorts, as half standards; it gives abundance of fruit, which are late, and so sour that the thought of eating a bunch forces one to make a wry face.

Nos. 16, 17, and 18 are varieties raised from No. 19, by M. Berkin, of Versailles. No. 17 is a most robust grower, and gives very long bunches and large berries. If it were less acid and like No. 1 in quality, it would be the finest currant known. It is, however, quite worthy of culture. No. 18 deserves its name, for it is a prodigious bearer, but like its congeners and its parent, No. 19, is too acid. Nos. 19 and 22 are both alike; they give short bunches and very large berries, which are very acid. Nos. 20 and 21 are alike; they give bunches and berries of moderate dimensions, and are not worthy of much notice.

Of the White currants, No. 24 is one of the best; No. 25 sometimes produces larger berries, which are paler in color; the tree is more horizontal in its growth than No. 24. No. 26 seems to be a seedling from No. 24; when highly cultivated it gives bunches and berries of a very large size, but under ordinary culture it cannot be distinguished from it. Nos. 27 and

28 are the same as No. 24. No. 29 is a curious variety with deeply cut leaves, which I presume are the attraction, for its small bunches and small berries are not so. No. 30, which should rival its red namesake No. 19, is a worthless variety, giving berries of the smallest size, and No. 31 comes under the same category.

Of the Black currants, No. 32 is by far the sweetest and best flavored; it is not, however, a good bearer, and seems to require a warm soil and climate; in this respect No. 33 is greatly its superior. Nos. 35 and 36 are names that tell in a list, for they count for two varieties. No. 35 gives berries of a dull yellowish green, scarcely eatable; a man must be in a dry, hot, hungry place, to enjoy them, and those of No. 36 could not be eaten by any "human" even under such circumstances. I have written this (I fear too long) article to disabuse your readers of the impression Mr. Prince might give them, that we English have raised but few varieties of currants, and know but little about them. It will be seen, on referring to my list, that we have originated as many (or even more) varieties of currants as our neighbors, the French, if we reckon, as we should do, Nos. 13 and 14, 19 and 22, 20 and 21, 27 and 28 to be the same kinds under different names.

MR. GLOUDE CORRECTS MR. RIVERS.

Mr. GLOUDE, as will be seen by the following note to the editor of the Gardener's Chronicle, considers Mr. RIVERS entirely at fault in his description of the Gloire des Sablons Currant:—"Mr. RIVERS publishes a very interesting article on currants, in which, however, I notice a mistake, which I beg to correct. Mr. Rivers, in speaking of my seedling currant, states that it is either the same as No. 12, (Striped-fruited) or a seedling from it, but equally worthless. It is neither the one nor the other, being raised by myself, in the year 1854, from the seeds of the old Champagne or Flesh Colored currant. The seedling tree is still in my garden, and fruits not only abundantly, but is well worth the description at first published of it. If, therefore, Mr. Rivers found it worthless, or identical with another sort, he cannot possess the true one; at any rate he has never been supplied by me direct."

WINE FROM NATIVE GRAPES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In the RURAL of December 15th, I noticed an article on wine manufactured from the Isabella and Clinton grapes, wherein you gave the Clinton the preference, but stated that that lacked sugar, and cane-sugar must be supplied, or we have vinegar instead of wine. Now, I believe it is generally conceded, that if we intend cultivating the grape for wine, we must rely on our native grapes, and new varieties raised from their seed. At Cincinnati they pretend to say that they have found this great desideratum in the Catawba grape, and that wine has been made from it, equalling, if not excelling, some of the best foreign brands. Here, especially, we shall have to rely on some other kind, from the fact that the Catawba does not ripen sufficiently well in most seasons to make a good wine. In this part of the State, especially in the towns that border on Lake Erie, the Isabella takes the lead at present as a wine grape, a large majority of all that are used for that purpose being of that kind.

Wine made at this place received the first premium at the N. Y. State Fair held at Syracuse. This was made from the Isabella grape, and without the addition of sugar. Mr. JOSEPH FAX, of Portland, is the most largely engaged in the making of wine of any other in this county, having a vineyard of some twelve or fourteen acres, mostly Isabella. This wine meets with a ready sale, and at remunerating prices.

At this place, in and near the village, some twelve or fourteen acres have been added to the grape culture (mostly Isabella), within some two or three years, consequently we are progressing, slowly it may be, in the cultivation of the grape.

In the next place, so far as the quality of different wines are concerned, some allowance will have to be made for what we term a taste acquired by the use of a particular kind for a time, and in order to maintain this in part we quote from LONGWORTH. He says,—"We have prejudices to overcome, for a prophet is not honored in his own country. We become fond of the flavor of particular wines from the continued use of them, as some of our citizens have of the bilgewater taste of the Spanish Manzanilla. Our domestic wines have a flavor of their own, and with wine drinkers accustomed to the particular flavor of other wines, it will require time to form a taste for them. It was so with our German population. For a time they gave a decided preference to German wines. They now prefer the domestic." And again, grapes for wine should remain on the vines until very ripe, "dead ripe," as some express it, and in case they are sound and well ripened, sugar is not required in the making of the wine.

As to the advantages of the country resulting from the cultivation of the grape in a pecuniary, social and moral point of view, I shall defer remarks to some future number. GEO. SHERMAN. Westfield, N. Y., Dec., 1860.

EVERGREENS.

At this season, when deciduous trees are all brown and leafless, the value of evergreens for protection or ornament is most apparent, and the importance of planting them most fully realized. Scarcely a dwelling in the country but has some exposed side or corner which a row, perhaps a double row, or cluster of thick-branched evergreens would greatly shield from sweeping winds, and at the same time, serve the purpose of an elegant ornament to house and grounds. As the time when the need of anything is most pressing is felt is generally the best time to calculate the ways of supplying it, it is proposed that we consider now, in winter, how to dispose our evergreen defences so as best to answer the ends of beauty and utility.

In the first place, nothing looks more stiff and ungraceful than to see evergreens all of one variety planted in a single straight line along the fence, parallel with the front of the house, especially if the yard be so narrow as to admit but one row of trees. Evergreens of the same kind are so uniform in their growth that if set in a row, they present a much more monotonous appearance than an equal number of maples or elms disposed in the same manner. But if they are to be placed in a row in front of the house, and there is to be a line of other trees also, by all means plant the maples and other similar large-growing trees next the fence, and the evergreens inside. As a rule, it is in better taste to have the smallest trees nearest the house. Again, if you plant double or triple rows of evergreens, avoid placing the trees in the several rows exactly opposite each other, but rather so that a tree in any row shall stand opposite a point midway between two trees in the next row. This makes a denser shield against the wind, and produces a much better effect.



SPIRÆA LANCEOLATA.

AMONG the numerous flowering shrubs that adorn the garden during May and June, there is nothing more desirable than the LANCE LEAVED SPIRÆA, (Spiræa lanceolata.) It is sometimes, and very appropriately, called the GARLAND SPIRÆA, and its slender drooping branches, when in bloom, are perfect wreaths of flowers of snowy whiteness. The shrub attains a height of four feet or more, with slender, spreading branches, and long, lance-shaped leaves, slightly lobed and toothed. The flowers are produced in clusters, or corymbs, forty or fifty in number, as shown in the engraving. These clusters are somewhat globular in form, and are produced on lateral shoots four or five inches long, the whole

length of the branches, and so close as to form a perfect wreath. This Spiræa we cannot recommend as new or novel, but we can recommend it as worthy of a place in every collection of shrubs. And it is because that so valuable a plant is so much neglected and seldom seen in gardens and door-yards, that we bring it to the notice of readers, our attention being called to the matter by an inquiry in another column. We had never seen a good drawing of this flower, and last season directed our artist to make an engraving of two or three of the clusters, exhibiting their form, manner of growth, &c., which we now publish for the benefit of all lovers of flowers.

But, whether your evergreens are to stand in rows, or groups, or singly, interspersed with other trees, be sure to give them room enough to spread out their branches as widely as nature intended. An evergreen, trimmed up so as to leave the body bare to the height of six or eight feet, is robbed of more than half its beauty. It should send out branches immediately above ground, and when allowed to grow thus, the lower limbs in time cover quite a large surface. One of the evils of planting evergreens near a fence is, that after a few years the longest limbs, those next the ground, must be removed; then, after growing a while longer, another row of branches around the tree needs to be taken off, and so on till the lowest limbs are above the top of the fence.

Perhaps the best, and as cheapest protection for a garden, is a fine belt of evergreens along the side or sides most exposed to cold winter winds. Some of the most rapid growing varieties, like the Norway Spruce, would, in a few years after planting, attain sufficient size to be of considerable use. Tender varieties of the peach, grape, raspberry, &c., would doubtless be greatly benefited by such a screen, while its presence would add a noble and striking ornament to the finest garden, besides attracting hosts of birds to destroy noxious insects and make the region vocal with their music. Indeed, some specimens of the different varieties of pines, firs, spruces, &c., arranged in handsome form, would, of themselves, make a charming winter garden. The rarest flowers cannot exceed in beauty and interest a collection of this sort, even in summer; and, especially when the snows of winter gather on their branches in such diversity of curious but always graceful shapes, the figures of the snow-blossoms varying according to the forms of the leaves and twigs they grow on, they present to the sight objects of surpassing loveliness. A. South Livonia, N. Y., 1860.

POISONOUS PLANTS.

IGNORANCE of the true character of many of Nature's products, often leads to disastrous and fatal results. This is especially so in the case of poisonous plants, wild, or everywhere cultivated. Comparatively few persons know that the flowers of the Daffodil, the seeds of the Laburnum, the roots of the Scarlet Runner, the leaves of Fool's Parsley, the spray of the Cypress and Yew, the berries of Belladonna, and many other familiar plants, are extremely dangerous; how many a child has been poisoned by such things while the cause remained unsuspected. The common Acacia is now added to the list, as will be seen by the following extract from the Botanische Zeitung:—"Dr. J. MOLLER, in the Zeitschrift für Naturund Heilkunde in Ungarn, relates the case of a little girl, eight years old, who was made seriously ill by eating a fresh root of the Acacia tree, which she mistook for liquorice. The appearances of the disorder were extremely similar to those which result from eating the berries of Belladonna. A strong emetic of sulphate of copper removed the danger; lemonade and black coffee being afterwards administered. The next day all symptoms of indisposition disappeared, and only the depression consequent upon such attacks remained behind. The physician who was called in considered the following circumstances worthy of remark: Before being poisoned the child was suffering from intermittent fever, which did not reappear after the attack. It is, however, uncertain whether the fever was removed by the emetic or by the eating of the Acacia roots; if by the latter, the action of the Acacia would resemble that of Belladonna. Dr. MOLLER adds that a similar case of poisoning had occurred to himself in the instance of two children chewing fresh dug up roots of this Acacia (Robinia Pseudacacia,) but that also terminated favorably."—Gard. Chron.

Horticultural Notes.

COLORED PLATES.—You are, or mean to be, I doubt not, down on hedges, and, as a nurseryman needing colored engravings of fruits and flowers for the use of agents, I ask what is the use of their having but one sort of fruit or flower on a page, as is now the case with most of the plates furnished us, so that we must have a purse like a sub-treasury vault, (under not the present administration, I admit,) to buy a decent assortment, and then a horse and buggy to cart the book around after it is bought! Now, sir, I go in for less blank paper to these sad plates—less duplicate large fruits, and comparatively useless leaves and branches, so that a book of twenty-five plates of the ordinary size shall afford something of a decent assortment, which it is now utterly impossible to get with four times that number. Why not group the fruits and flowers—for instance, one plate of summer apples or pears, another of fall, another one or two of

winter—a plate of choice June roses, another of Hybrid Perpetuals, another of Bourbons, Noisettes, Teas, and so on, throughout the list. Let the makers charge more for each, if they wish, but give us some chance to get an assortment into portable shape. Respectfully asking you to insert this in your grumbler's corner, and feeling confident (with your approval,) of a speedy improvement, I remain—ANTY-HUMBVO, Oct. West, New Year's Day, 1861.

When the present horticultural editor of the RURAL took charge of the Horticulturist in January, 1863, soon after the death of the lamented DOWNING, he introduced colored plates in that journal, and every lover of art, as well as every judge of fruit, will acknowledge that no plates of fruits and flowers published in this country, either before or since, can bear any comparison to those given in the volumes of the Horticulturist when under his management. Indeed, Europe has produced nothing in the way of colored fruits to excel them. The color and growth of wood, form and color of leaves, &c., were given with the greatest accuracy, and such details were necessary for the information of the pomologist; but these plates were never designed for the use of nurserymen or their agents. We were, however, solicited to allow our engravings to be used in this way, and gave the engraver permission to supply all who desired, without compensation to us. This was the origin of the colored plate business. Dealers have since added to the number, and many of the plates are quite inferior, while few are just what we would like to see them. The improvement suggested by our "Out West" friend, who is one of the best nurserymen of the Great West, is important.

INTRODUCTION OF COFFEE TO THE WEST INDIES.—There may be now seen in one of the hot-houses of the Museum of Natural History, in Paris, a coffee tree in full bearing. At the beginning of the last century, under the reign of Louis XIV., a plant of this kind was brought from Holland, and placed in the Royal Garden, where it thrived, and several offshoots were obtained from it. One of them was confided to the care of a French naval officer, named DeClieux, to carry it to Martinique. The vessel became short of water during the voyage, but DeClieux shared his allowance with the plant, and kept it alive. On reaching the colony, the seed it produced was divided among a few of the planters, and it afterward became generally cultivated. Such is the origin of the vast plantations which now cover the West India Islands, and the warm countries of the American continent. The hot-house at the Museum, where this plant is growing, is kept by four stoves to a heat of 76°, which is precisely the temperature of the natural climate.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—We are indebted to A. FROST & Co. for fine Camellias, and to ELLWANGER & BARRY for most delicious Easter Beurre pears.

Inquiries and Answers.

PLANTING DWARF PEARS.—I am going to set out a dwarf pear orchard in the spring, and I want your advice on one point. FIELD says, in his work on pears, that "if the trees have not been transplanted or root-pruned, select those of two or three years' growth, and plant them in deep, rich ground, in rows four feet distant, and three feet apart in the rows." * * * By pursuing this plan, they receive better care, grow faster, and are not liable to damage." Now, the ground intended for the orchard is a clover lay, seed sown last spring; but can be put in deep and fine earth before planting. Is it best to set them out permanently, in orchard style, or put them out in a garden for a couple of years, according to FIELD? His arguments are that we save the use of the ground for two years, and get far better trees than if set in an orchard at first. What is your opinion?—R. R. R. Our advice is to plant the trees where they are to remain, at once. They will grow just as fast in the orchard as in the garden; in fact, they will never know the difference, unless you tell them. By doing this, you save the trouble of removal, and the loss of a year's growth; for the trees, as a general thing, make but little growth of wood the first season after removal. The saving of ground is of but little account to a farmer, for almost any kind of a low crop could be grown between the rows for a few years.

HONEY LOCUST FOR HEDGING.—I am in want of a good, substantial hedge fence, would like it ornamental, and, at the same time, defensive and durable. The Osage Orange freezes out with us. I have seen most beautiful specimens of the Three Horned Honey Locust—do you know any objection to them for a hedge? Is its wood durable for posts?—N. H. MARTIN, Binghamton, N. Y., 1860.

The Honey Locust makes a tree of considerable size, and when set close for a hedge, the plants are apt to die out from crowding. The late A. H. ENNS, of Cincinnati, who experimented with hedge plants for over twenty-five years, abandoned the Honey Locust, becoming satisfied that "it is not a plant which will bear crowding, or subjection to the hedge form." Others, and among them Mr. REID, of Elizabethtown, N. J., the well known nurseryman, considers the Honey Locust the very best plant for farm hedges. He says, after twenty years' trial, he is satisfied that "it is more easily kept, and better adapted for a farm fence than any other yet used." The wood is coarse grained, and is not durable.

THE WHITE SPIRÆAS.—Two years ago I saw, in one of the nurseries of Rochester, as well as in some of the gardens in your city, a beautiful white spiræa, with branches covered with snowy flowers, like snow-wreaths. I did not take the name, not noticing any other variety, and the next autumn, while sending for other things from a nursery, ordered a white spiræa. My plant has done well, but it grows larger than I expected, and the flowers are of a dull white, instead of that clear white that I had reason to look for. Now, I think I must have the wrong kind. Please tell me the name of the one that I have tried to describe.—JULIA G. R., Annapolis, Ind., 1861. The variety you want is no doubt the Spiræa lanceolata, or Lance-leaved Spiræa. We had a drawing taken of this old favorite when in flower, which you will find, with description, in another column. What you have is probably Spiræa ulmifolia.]

Domestic Economy.

PRESERVING BUTTERMILK, &c.

OCTOBER and November is the time to save milk. Have an oak cask, or stone crock, scald it and clean perfectly, put in the milk as soon as churned, till you get the quantity wished for. Keep it in a cool, dry place, and keep it covered. When you add to it, if there is a scum, take it off. Keep the cask clean at the surface of the milk. Every pail of milk you put in add one quart of water, and stir it through. The milk will settle and the water rise on the top. When the water becomes acid, or there is any scum on it, it must be removed, then add the same quantity of fresh water and stir it through again. The milk will become thick and rich. When you wish to use the milk, after pouring off the water, stir and take out as much as you wish to use. When it has time to settle again, add fresh water and stir as before. This will save the buttermilk all winter.

It is not generally known that buttermilk, by adding soda or saleratus enough to take off the acid, with the addition of a little butter or cream, and then using the same ingredients as in sweet milk, will make puddings, fritters, or any kind of batter, equal to sweet milk.

COTTAGE TEA CAKE.—There are so many rich and superb recipes coming out in the RURAL, I will now give one that the most indigent may have the pleasure of enjoying, and an epicure would consider a luxury, if he would fast long enough to get an appetite. Pare some potatoes, boil them, and as soon as done enough to mash, take them out, pour out the water, put in the potatoes, with the addition of a little salt, pound speedily, add some flour, and pound in while hot, then turn on your moulding-board. Be careful not to have it stiffer than soft biscuit. Put your griddle on the stove, greased as for buckwheat cakes, roll out the dough half an inch thick, cut in small squares, bake and turn as buckwheat cakes. As soon as done turn them into a pan, and put on another course to bake. Now split, butter, cover, and so continue till you have them all baked. Take a knife and turn bottom upwards, keeping them warm that they may be saturated with butter. They are very nice and wholesome. H. C. Rose, Wayne Co., N. Y., 1861.

SOAP AND WASHING FLUID.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I copy a few recipes which I have found useful and economical, especially when the soap-barrel is found to need replenishing, before spring opens.

To make matchless soap, take one gallon of soft soap, to which add one gill of common salt, and boil an hour. When cold separate the lye from the crude. Add to the crude two lbs. sal soda, and boil in two gallons soft water till dissolved. If you wish it better, slice two lbs. common bar soap and dissolve in the above. If the soft soap makes more than three lbs. crude, add in proportion of the sal soda and water.

ANOTHER MODE.—Take three lbs. of common bar soap, slice it up, add two lbs. sal soda; boil them in two and a half gallons of soft water till dissolved.

WASHING FLUID.—To one gallon of boiling soft water add one lb. sal soda and six ounces unslaked lime; stir well together and let stand three hours, then drain off and bottle for use. To be used with common bar soap and will not injure the clothes. Newark Valley, N. Y., 1861. ANCOLLA.

HOW TO MAKE CIDER WINE.—In a late issue of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, I saw an inquiry as to the manner of making Cider Wine. A friend of mine has some beautiful wine made as follows:—For a barrel of thirty-one and a half gallons, take fifty lbs. of sugar, two quarts of old Bourbon Whisky, stir well, and bung it, leaving a small vent by boring a small hole through the bung. After a short time, say two or three weeks, stop this vent, and let it stand until about the middle or last of January, then bottle. Be sure the bottles are stopped tight. The cider should be new,—before it works.—ALFRED FISHER, Pawtuxet, R. I., 1861.

RED INK.—The most beautiful red ink used is made by dissolving common carmine in diluted liquid ammonia. The carmine is a preparation of cochineal, which may be produced by boiling ground cochineal in soft water for half an hour; then straining the liquor through a cloth, and pouring into it a little alum or hydrochlorate of tin. A beautiful red coloring matter soon precipitates to the bottom of the vessel; the excess of water is then poured off, and the precipitated matter is dried in cakes, thus forming the unrivalled carmine of the painter.

COARSE BREAD.—Dr. TUCKER, in the Maryland Medical Journal, denies that coarse bread is useful in dyspepsia. On the contrary, he says it relieves the constipation at the risk of aggravating the real difficulty. He believes cold and stale wheat bread to be most digestible, and therefore the best for dyspeptics. How are we ignorant, common people ever to know what to eat, if the doctors can't agree themselves about it?

STOPPING CRACKS IN STOVES.—Noticing a call for a recipe for stopping the cracks about a stove furnace, I would recommend the following: Take good slaked lime and the cinders on a blacksmith's anvil block, sift them through a coarse sieve, mix with the white of eggs to a thick paste, and it will last a long time. Lime and cinders equal quantity.—W. W. F., Cascadaga, N. Y., 1861.

TO MAKE HARD SOAP FROM SOFT.—Seeing an inquiry in a late number of the RURAL NEW-YORKER for making hard soap from soft, I send the following, which I know to be superior. Take 7 lbs. good soft soap; 4 lbs. sal soda; 2 ozs. borax; 1 oz. hartshorn; ½ lb. rosin,—to be dissolved in 22 quarts of water and boiled about 20 minutes.—S., Hannibal, N. Y., 1860.

CLOTH FOR WINDOW SHADES.—Will some one, through the columns of the RURAL, give directions for preparing cloth and painting window shades with oil paints, also the kind and quality of cloth that is best?—RURAL READER, Mendon, N. Y., 1860.

TOMATO CATSUP.—CEMENT FOR FRUIT JARS.—Will some of the RURAL readers please send a recipe for making Tomato Catsup. Also, for making cement used in sealing fruit jars.—B. P. A., Newtown Conn.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

DO YOU LIKE good, sweet, light, and wholesome bread, cake, pastry, biscuit, &c.? You can have it by using DE LAND & Co.'s Saleratus. It is perfectly pure, healthful, and can be relied upon to do any day what it will do another, and give perfect satisfaction. Sold by most dealers, and sold at wholesale by the principal grocers everywhere. Manufactured and for sale at wholesale, at Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. FADED AND DEAD.

By Mrs. S. P. Haddock.

Where are the green leaves, where are the flowers, That brightened with beauty the long summer hours...

Where are the rosy cheeks, where are the eyes, Blue as that ether veil we call the skies...

Where is the rose-wreath braided for me, Memory of young life, childhood's bright gleam...

Earth, I am weary of thee and thy gems, Weary of watching the birds and the stems...

Michigan, Jan., 1861.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. THE DEAD WIFE.

The best artist who ever placed chisel on a marble block had never accomplished anything so beautiful...

But one there was, whose sad heart saw no beauty in it all. Surpassing beauty might be revealed to others...

There are sorrows in this world wilder, deeper far than are believed, 'neath they have entered the heart...

My husband, will you always love your MARY, will you think of me sometimes when the snow lies heaped and cold on my grave?

They took her from his arms, they laid her back on the pillow, and this was all. All! Oh, Heaven, if this be all, and naught beyond!

"Dead, at the residence of her husband, Mrs. Albert Wilde, aged 18 years. A month ago to-day we announced their marriage. Thus mourning follows rejoicing."

The world never knew that it was worse than dying to part with her, never knew how he deluded himself with the hope that it was a strange dream from which he would soon awaken...

In our ignorance concerning the ways of the Infinite, we would almost dare to question the mercy which could take one dearer to us than life itself to the Better Land...

Hillsdale, Mich., 1861.

THE FAMILY.—The family circle is God's blessed ordinance, and is the sweetest, the happiest, and the most hallowed spot on earth.

Our life is determined for us—and it makes the mind very free when we give up wishing, and only think of bearing what is laid upon us...

THE "BACHELOR'S RELIEF SOCIETY."

Oakland, Oregon, Nov. 27th, 1860.

Eds. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—A well written letter I have just received from a distinguished lady residing in Bowling Green, Ky.

She informs me that she could come herself, and also accompany her a circle of excellent young ladies, fitted to act in the various capacities named...

On reading the letter of my fair correspondent to two young and prosperous merchants in this village, they raised their hands and voices and shouted...

"There is a world where every night My spirit meets and walks with thine; And hopes, I dare not tell thee, light, Like stars of love, that world mine."

Let Mrs. JAMES G. HANDY, of Bowling Green, Ky., rest assured that if she comes to Portland with one score, or twenty scores, of amiable, virtuous, intelligent ladies...

P. S.—Let any young or middle-aged ladies desirous of contributing themselves to aid and advance the interests of this novel, yet noble and humane society, communicate with Mrs. HANDY, at Bowling Green, Ky.

BE A MOTHER TO YOUR CHILDREN.

Be a mother to your children; be a companion for your boys and girls. The follies of the young are too often manifestations of the sins of the mother...

"My ear is pained, My soul is sick with every day's report Of wrong and outrage with which earth is filled."

A mother! The fashionable woman whom we once met dancing wantonly at a city ball, when her only child lay at home sickening with scarlet fever...

Every sensible man, as well as every good Latinist, must agree with me that Foot is the chief end of the Pedestrian, and of course everything which concerns the ease and comfort of that member...

After such an array of logic as that, let no one dare to criticise me for my choice of subject.

More than a stocking, sometimes, I assure you madam. The subject may well commend itself to all classes of mankind who think. To the Antiquary, the boots of all ages might furnish a motive for years of collecting.

Now AND THEN.—Living was cheap enough in olden time. Socrates was supposed to have lived upon an income of seventy-five dollars; but he lived worse than a slave.

GOOD MANNERS.—Good manners are blossoms of good sense, and it may be added, of good feeling too; for if the law of kindness be written in the heart, it will lead to that disinterestedness in little as well as in great things...

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. PAUSE AND REFLECT!

HARK YE! for the winds are wailing, sadly wailing o'er the lee, And methinks they bear upon their mournful warnings to the free.

"Oh! ye heirs of blood-bought freedom, will ye break our golden chain, Will ye madly clasp the viper that would make you slaves again!

"We to thee, below'd Columbia! we to thee, our cherished land, When thou see'st a son of freedom falling by a brother's hand!

"Then shall tyrants hiss upon thee as thy reign of power is o'er; They will mock thee in thy anguish as thou fall'st to rise no more.

Shall the world's eye strike Columbia, famous land of WASHINGTON, As a weak and hapless babe that your bleeding father's wound?

"Shall your sun be veiled in darkness e'er your day has reached its noon, Shall your boasted power and honor wear the sable pall so soon?

"Shall your Eagle droop his pinions even while his piercing eye Can glance proudly o'er the nations, or arrest them with his cry?

No! the world shall look upon him, noble bird of Liberty,— As a harbinger of safety, as the watchword of the Free!

"Shall this glorious Union sever,—will it break its pledge of love, Will it vacillate? No, never, while the heavens remain above!

Yes, and many who are writhing neath a harsh usurper's hand, May, with joy, accept a refuge in our broad and goodly land;

Where no usurpation darkens,—where no tyrant dares to come! Farmington, N. Y., 1861.

THE PEDESTRIAN—No. I.

UNDER favor of the Editor, I am going to relate to you, in these papers, some of the things I have seen and heard in my walks. You, my kind readers, will find our stroll sometimes taking us amid the walls and pavements, the wealth and poverty of the city; and, anon, leading us across the meadows, pastures, and brooks of the country.

I cannot promise to give you any account of valorous deeds of war, nor dangers braved by land or sea. Not that I have never met any such;—having once been sorely battered and bruised, in my younger days, in a stubborn contest with SANDY McDOUGAL, concerning a slate pencil; and again having been once, with one other, cast adrift on the Erie Canal upon a rude raft without oar or pole, where we were nearly run down by a huge "line boat" that came bearing down upon us.

Every sensible man, as well as every good Latinist, must agree with me that Foot is the chief end of the Pedestrian, and of course everything which concerns the ease and comfort of that member, must in the same degree concern the Pedestrian.

Each in his hidden sphere of joy and ease, Our hermit spirits dwell and range apart; Our eyes see all around in gloom, or glow,— Hues of their own, fresh borrowed from the heart.

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of that quality, they may betake themselves to the vendors of "Thrilling Romances," who, for a couple of dimes, will give them such a collection of ghosts, hobgoblins, and men of strange adventure, as shall transport them quite off their feet and render such a sober going thing as a boot unnecessary.

Whatever be the fashion, there are always many kinds of boots to be seen in the streets, for every one makes to himself a fashion in that. In the first place, there is the dandy boot, which is the model of the fashion.

There are more sensible boots than the others, however; they are chiefly worn by men who are engaged in business and have no time for fopperies. There is the "Rowdy" boot, thick in soles and upper, stub-footed, and looking clumped, to borrow an adjective.

There are shoes, long, short, heavy, light, good, bad, and indifferent. Shoes there are which tie, lace, button, and, worst of all, shoes with elastic bands.

But there is also the sensible boot. This is always made of the best leather and costs the highest price. It is broad and loose, and respectability lurks in every wrinkle.

It is broad and loose, and respectability lurks in every wrinkle. The soles are long, but thick, and do not turn up in front. The owner of such a boot is well off in the world, is out of debt and lives well.

If then you love comfort, reader mine, wear such as these and you may walk as you will, secure that no misplaced corn shall invade your well used foot, and with its small torture spoil your patience.

With good boots, and long walks, gentle reader, may'st thou defy the grim monster a thousand years!

WE talk about houses, my friend: we look at houses; but how little the stranger knows of what they are! Search from cellar to garret some old country house, in which successive generations of boys and girls have grown up, but be sure that the least part of it is that which you can see, and not the most accurate inventory that ever was drawn up by appraiser will include half its belongings.

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Sabbath Musings.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker. THE TWO ANGELS.

By MARGARET MLIOTT.

I HAD sweet voices in the night, And lo! my room was filled with light. Two angels stood beside my bed,— One at the foot,—one at the head.

The one was calm, and stern of face, Yet clothed with a celestial grace.

The other, fair, and sad, and sweet, Like her who sat at Jesus' feet.

The angel spake—"Come thou with me And list thou what thy doom shall be.

Thou hast done evil all thy days, And earnest took the place of praise.

Of such the Master spake the doom "Whither I go ye cannot come!"

"Nay," said the other, "he shall live, For much the Master doth forgive,

And much forgiveness works much love, And love to labor quick doth move.

Labor and love shall thus atone For all the evil he hath done."

The voices ceased, and in my room The light still banished all the gloom.

Trembling, I bade my heart be still And wait to know the Master's will.

The voice said sweetly as before, "Thou art forgiven, sin no more."

Since then I walk as though alone Yet seeing th' Invisible One,

And with a witness of earth, Longing, I wait my heavenly birth.

Gainesville, N. Y., 1861.

THE WISH AND THE PRAYER.

"LET me die," said a little beggar-girl, lying upon a bed of straw; "let me die; earth is fair and beautiful, but what availeth it me? I am but a beggar-girl, with no food, no raiment, no shelter, no friends to love and pity me; for, alas, who feels for a beggar,—let me die."

"Let me die," said an orphan boy, languishing upon his bed of rags,— "let me die; everything is beautiful, nature is arrayed in her loveliest green, but it only brings to remembrance the time when I was the happy child of dotting parents. Now I am an orphan, with no kind father to provide for me, no mother to bathe my heated brow and alleviate my sufferings, no sister to smooth my pillow and minister to my wants, no brother, nor any one to love,—let me die."

"Let me die," said a wounded soldier, who had been in the field of battle amid the deafening shouts of victory. "I die contented. O, my country forever," and he breathed out his life in the arms of victory. And when the dreadful news had reached the ears of a fair-haired girl, far removed from the din and strife of war, she clasped her hands in agony exclaiming, "O, let me die. I wish for life no longer, for he is dead who was dearer to me than life itself—the peaceful rays of the setting sun are even now smiling upon his grave, and the evening breeze singing his funeral requiem,—without him life is a blank,—let me die."

"Let me die," muttered a drunkard, rocking to and fro upon the cold damp floor of his gloomy hovel; "there is nothing in the future worth living for; my health is destroyed; my character,—the brightest jewel ever committed to mortal charge,—is blasted, and my mind is racked with unheard of tortures,—let me die."

"Let me die," whispered a dying Christian, casting her eyes upward, "O let me die; I can see the pearly gates, and I long to enter. I can see the streets of gold, the river of crystal, the unfading flowers of Paradise, the angelic host with their golden harps."

And then before his glorious throne, Who ruleth earth and sky, Sighed forth, like trembling music's tone, "Oh, Father! let me die."

And even the old clergyman who sat by her bedside, as he listened to the breathings of that gentle spirit, to the glowing descriptions of the "Celestial City" that fell from her lips, softly murmured, "Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace." OMEGA. Columbus, Pa., 1861.

FEAR OF GOD.—There is no grace whereof I find so general a want, in myself and others, as an awful fear of the infinite majesty of God. Men are ready to profess and affect a kind of familiarity with God, out of a pretence of love, whereas, if they knew Him aright, they could not think of Him without dread, nor name Him without trembling. Their narrow hearts strive to conceive of Him according to the signifying of their own strait and ignorant apprehensions; whereas they should only desire to have their thought swallowed up with an adoring wonder of His divine incomprehensibility. Though He thunder not always, He is always equally dreadful. There is none of His works which doth not betray Omnipotency. I blush at the sauciness of vain men, that will be circumscribing the powerful acts of the Almighty within the compass of natural causes, forbearing to wonder at what they profess to know. Nothing but ignorance can be guilty of this boldness. There is no divinity but in an humble fear; no philosophy but a silent admiration.—Bishop Hall.

A CLEAR CONSCIENCE.—How bravely a man can walk the earth, bear the heaviest burdens, perform the severest duties, and look all men square in the face, if he only bears in his breast a clear conscience, void of offence towards God or man. There is no spring, no spur, no inspiration like this. To feel that we have omitted no task and left no obligation unfulfilled, this fills the heart with satisfaction and the soul with strength.

USEFULNESS.—How barren a tree is he that lives, and spreads, and cumbers the ground, yet leaves not one seed, not one good work to generate after him! I know all cannot leave alike; yet all may leave something, answering their proportion, their kinds.

The Traveller.

LETTERS FROM CALIFORNIA.

New Series.—Number One.

The State Fair—Great Gathering of People—City of Sacramento, and the Sights—The World represented—Agricultural Horse-Races—Exhibition of Camels—Political Displays, Fireworks, etc., etc.

SACRAMENTO, Oct. 10, 1860. The State Fair came off in this city for 1860. It was of eleven days' continuance! The great occasion attracted thither thousands of all classes. The city was too narrow for all the sleepers, but with warm nights, and a queenly moon, a blanket, and six feet by two of earth, afforded tolerable quarters for hundreds, accustomed to the rough and tumble of pioneer life. This was my first visit to this city; the second in size in California. Ten or twelve years since it was the hunting ground of the "Digger" Indians. Here, at that time, Capt. SUTTER had erected an adobe fort, the ruins of which still attract visitors, and also a quay on the river; and it became a kind of general head-quarters for emigrants coming to the country, and a rallying point for the miners after the discovery of gold. Now it is a city of 16,000 inhabitants, with several streets more than a mile in length, thickly built up, and commanding a large and flourishing trade!

I am not going to tell your readers much about the stock, and fruit, and mechanical inventions, all of which far surpassed in extent and merit my expectations; but something of "Life Illustrated,"—life in its wildest, gayest, merriest moods, as it appears in California.

The occasion was made one grand holiday for everybody. At every corner, "Brother JONATHAN" was ready with every ingenious device to catch an honest "bit." There were showmen and show-women, who, for two "bits," would treat you to a sight of real mermaids, and sword-fish, and electric eels, and tropical snakes, and American lions, and oriental monkeys, that could sit in a chair and use knife and fork, and sip water from a tumbler, and wipe their fingers (paws) upon a napkin, with all the grace of a dandy, or a disciple of Lord CHESTERFIELD. There were views through telescopes, microscopes, keleidoscopes, horoscopes, and some other scopes. There were games of chance under a large canvas tent, near the entrance to the stock grounds, where any fool could get a chance to lose what he staked. The games were various, and, together with the stacks of gold piled on the tables, and the music that was perpetrated on the viol and banjo in the rear of the tent, it was not difficult to create an excitement, and scores would venture up, stake a week or a month's earnings on a throw of dice upon a doubtful game of painted pasteboard.

By 10 o'clock A. M., the streets would be overflowing with men, women, and children, all looking neat and tidy, and bent on having a "good time." There were musicians of all sorts,—harps, and horns, and hand-organs with monkeys, and monkeys without hand-organs, women with violins, and boys with accordions, rent the air distractedly with their instruments and their voices. There were dancers in strange costumes, and pretty Spanish girls with peaches, three for two bits, or jewelry to be raffled for,—there were Italians with bagpipes pironetting through the streets with troops of boys following them; and "Joans" (Chinese) with shaved heads and long cues dangling behind, topping in wooden shoes, with trowsers of blue, large enough to take in a whole family of Celestials; there were dancing dogs and jugglers performing remarkable feats, with plates and hoops, and brass rings, which they would throw into the air and catch upon a false nose like the horn of a rhinoceros,—there was a circus of wooden horses, and for one "bit" you could mount those wooden steeds and prance round the course, outwining the style of JOHN GILPIN, and coming out of it with far less kicks and scratches,—there were chariot races, where dashing women, arrayed in Roman costume, standing erect in Roman chariots, drove two horses each, around a mile course, for a purse of \$1,500, and there were present some 6,000 people—not to mention the thousands dogs—to look on, and witness the strife between these bold and daring specimens of the gentler sex! There were races between footmen, and races between equestrians, and the contagious spirit caught men and boys, and fired with the wild spirit (and quite likely some other spirits), they would ride galloping through the streets, as though the fate of the nation depended on them.

One day we sat in our window until late in the morning, noticing the various nations represented on the street. Jews, Christians, Germans, Irish, Celestials, Africans, Hawaiians, Mexicans, Diggers, and Yankees, all in hot haste to the great reservoir of human life,—the mammoth tent on the stock ground. We finally joined the throng pouring into the mel-strom, and soon found ourselves inside the Pavilion, where we stood so close together that we resembled the straws in a field of grain, head coupled with head. A sudden movement in the crowd would sway us to and fro, like a gust of wind, and then the feathers and ribbons would flutter like the poppies and wild flowers in a wheat field. The center was devoted to gymnastic exercises. The Society had offered a prize of \$50 to the best gymnast. This called out remarkable feats of strength and agility. They were dressed in white, yellow, and flesh-colored tights, and looked as supple as so many eels. The funny fellows would reach up and take hold of a horizontal pole, suspended at each end by long ropes, and pass their bodies first over and then under, and then over and next under, for eight or ten times in succession, with such rapidity, that they looked more like carriage wheels in rapid motion, than like persons! One fellow suspended himself from a similar rod twenty feet from the ground, by hooking his feet over the pole, then with his head down he hung a hoop on his under jaw, and another fellow placing the hoop under his chin, suspended his whole weight to the first, whose feet, still hooked over the rod, held up both! Another took hold of two pins in an upright post, placed his head against the post and threw his body and legs out at right angles with the timber. Here he not only supported his own weight, but allowed another person weighing 175 pounds to stand upon his ribs for some moments!

These and numerous other feats entertained the crowd for two hours, when the band struck up a stirring air, and all came down from their seats, and joining those on the ground, took up their line of march to dinner. "SAMBO" was there, of course, discouraging cracked music on the streets, with his bone fiddle; the learned pony, and talking birds, and fortune tellers, too, were there, who could tell you whom you loved, and who loved you, and there were sham battles acted, at which, after prodigious feats of arms, tremendous peals of musketry, and much waving of gun-powder, with beating of drums and waving of banners, the Americans always remained masters of

the field. The curtain fell, and we proceeded to see the Arabian Giant, who is 23 years of age, seven feet six inches in height, and weighs 442 pounds. He is of the finest physical proportions, not corpulent, a Jew, and is very communicative and agreeable. With our height of six feet, we could stand under his arms, and failed to stretch the crown of our head up to his chin, by several inches. He is a lusty looking chap—a fine specimen of the genus homo.

FIGHTS THAT PLEASE THE MILLION.

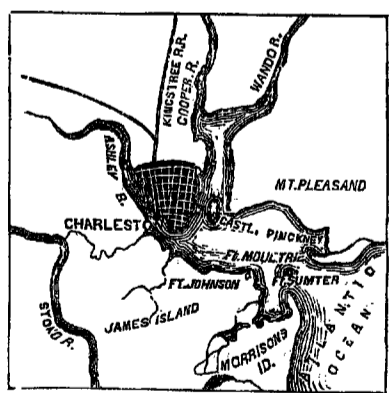
We flowed onward with the tide, passed many shows, stopped where fancy took us, and moving onward as inclination prompted. We visited the circuses and laughed at the clown—saw the fat woman, and the woman with a beard, and the small boy with whiskers and moustache, and men climbing greased poles with prizes on top, and we laughed to see the cunning fellows take ashes out of their pockets and rub the soles of their feet. We visited the open air theaters and saw wizards, mountebanks, horse tamers, and wife tamers. Punch was there full of glee, and only BARNUM and TOM TUMBS were lacking to make it complete. But the camels—belonging to somebody—I cannot omit. There were 12 or 13 of them in number, brought from the Amoor River, and designed to be propagated and used as pack trains in carrying supplies to the mountains. They have not all recovered from their long sea voyage, and some of them are quite thin in flesh. Humps are coupled with high condition. A poor camel has scarcely any humps. A fat one has large, full humps. They were objects of attraction, and thousands visited these exotics at all hours of the day. From these we passed on and jostled our way along through a hum of human life, like the far-off sound of the sea, and through much edging, and pressing, and pulling, and persuasion, we made our way from place to place until night came, and the city blazed forth like an eastern bride bedecked with jewels.

THE PROCESSION AND FIRE-WORKS.

The grand feature of the evening was a torch-light procession of the Republicans, accompanied with speeches and fire-works. Never have I seen a longer procession, or a richer display of transparencies and banners. One wagon, drawn by sixteen oxen, had on one end a gang of stalwart men splitting rails and getting out tips for a Pacific Railroad, and on the other a blacksmith shop in full blast, making rails and spikes. Another wagon, drawn by several handsome steeds, had a printing press in full operation. The enthusiasm was intense. From every direction,—from tower and dome, from housetop, roof, balcony, and window—the lights flashed out, presenting a scene of enchantment surpassing anything of which I had dreamed. It was an occasion written in light. As we walked down Main street toward the point of gathering, where stern men were to address the thousands of citizens and strangers, we gave ourselves up to the current, and floated with the great human river (for it was like nothing else,) which rolled undisturbed through the streets. The evening was fine, still airs were gently murmuring a requiem to the departed day, and woman was there in all her loveliness to add lustre to the occasion. The speaking was of a high order, characterized by humor, logic, poetic allusion, and most persuasive eloquence. But the center of the lesser glories was in the fire-works. I never saw anything half so radiant before. It was like a grand fairy palace built of gems and gold. The streets were hung with globe lamps of blue, and green, and red, gleaming like jewels! As I looked over the place and saw the thousands of spectators who, silent and absorbed with the scene, hardly uttered a word, and saw everywhere around us this excessive, unnatural light, filling all the air, it produced an impression I shall never forget,—a sort of semi-joyous ecstasy like that which I have sometimes felt in dreams, as if I might suddenly awake and find it all an illusion. But the fire-works, which the sky rent with fiery darts, and great showers of red, white, and blue, came raining down upon the earth, and boquets of flowers, and sheaves of golden grain, entwined with flowers, and silver stars blazed up high in the heavens, putting out all the stars of Nature, and proclaiming to thousand eyes, the peace, prosperity, and glory of a country, whose rich inheritance is *unswerving Freedom*. It was a sight such as I never expect to see again; and so, tired, and yet entertained, I reluctantly wended my weary way hotelward, and gave myself to the embrace of soothing sleep.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

CHARLESTON AND ITS DEFENCES.



At this time, when one of the sister States forming our great family Union, has determined to leave the family mansion in a "huff," and carry off with her not only her own proper baggage, but all the family furniture and fixings that she may consider necessary to set up house-keeping on her own account, a little information in regard to her temper and behavior, the family property that she would like to possess, we know will be interesting to our readers. We therefore take pleasure in presenting a map of the harbor and fortifications of Charleston; and such facts as will give a proper understanding of the present position of things in South Carolina, will be found recorded in our News Department, as they transpire.

FORT SUMTER.

Fort Sumter is one of the most powerful military works in the United States. It is built on an artificial island, immediately within the mouth of Charleston Bay, between Fort Moultrie and the site of old Fort Johnson, of Revolutionary memory, and equidistant from those points about three-fourths of one mile. The ship channel leading from the sea to the city of Charleston is between Forts Sumter and Moultrie, and is entirely commanded within half range by them. Between Forts Sumter and Johnson the water is very shallow, only available for vessels of very light draft, and then only at high water. The artificial island on which Fort Sumter is built is constructed of the refuse

from the granite quarries of New England. Ten years were consumed in its completion, at a cost of half a million of dollars.

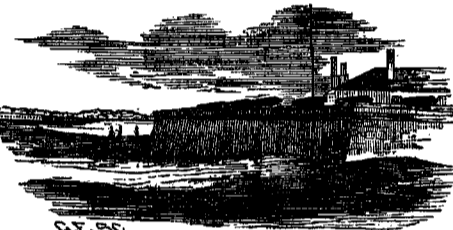
The fortification is of a pentagonal form, built of solid brick masonry. The walls are fifty feet in height, and from eight to ten feet in thickness, and pierced for three tiers of guns, besides having necessary loopholes for musketry, and designed for an armament of one hundred and forty pieces of ordnance of all calibres. Two tiers of the guns are under bomb proof case-mates, and the third or upper tier open, or, in military parlance, *en barbette*—the lower tier for forty-two pounder Paixhan guns, the second tier for eight and ten inch Columbiads, for throwing solid or hollow shot, and the upper tier for mortars and twenty-four pound guns. The full armament of the fort, however, had not arrived there when Major Anderson took possession, and it is fair, therefore, to suppose that all the available ordnance will be distributed throughout as judiciously as possible. It is thought that with the present armament of the Fort the guns would be capable of throwing six thousand pounds of shot at each discharge.

In a defensive or strategic point of view, Fort Sumter radiates its fire through all the channels from the sea approach to Charleston, and has a full sweep of range in its rear, or city side, ample to repel any attack from that quarter. The Fort is sufficiently out of range from a land artillery attack, so that all apprehensions for breaching it may be put at rest. The maximum range of the guns from Sumter is three miles.

This Fort is the strongest Fort of its size in the world, and could only be taken by starving out the garrison. It is conceded that it would require a continuous bombardment of six months with guns of the heaviest metal to destroy Fort Sumter, and then it could only be done, if at all, by chipping off the masonry piece by piece. This Fort commands the entire city and harbor of Charleston, as well as Fort Moultrie itself. It can only be entered by an enemy by the embrasures, which an attacking force must crawl through, one at a time, and hence two men at one of these could defend it against five hundred.

The fort at the present time has officers' quarters and barracks for seven hundred men, its regular war garrison. There is an ample supply of shot, powder and shells, for one year's siege, and a large amount of miscellaneous artillery stores. The garrison is amply supplied with water from artificial wells. The fort is now under the command of Major Robert Anderson, of Kentucky. The present force, recapitulated, is as follows:

Table listing military personnel: Officers (9), Band (15), Artillery (65), Laborers (170), Total (249).



FORT MOULTRIE.

Fort Moultrie is an inclosed water battery, having a front on the south, or water side, of about 300 feet, and a depth of about 240 feet. It is built, with salient and re-entering angles on all sides, and is admirably adapted for defence, either from the attack of a storming party, or by regular approaches. Below we give a rough diagram of the line of fortifications:

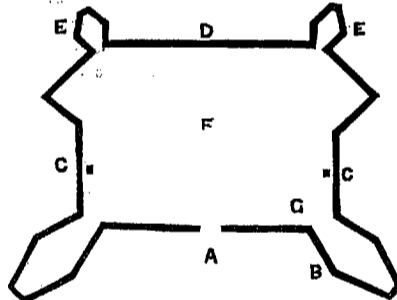


DIAGRAM OF FORT MOULTRIE.

A. Gate. B. New abutment, commanding the approach to the admission. C. Old sally-ports, now closed up with masonry. D. Portion of the moat already finished. E. E. Newly erected bastionette, commanding the moat. F. Furnace for preparing hot shot. G. Powder magazine.

The outer and inner walls are of brick, capped with stone, and filled in with earth, making a solid wall 14 or 16 feet in thickness. The work lately in progress consisted in clearing the sand from the walls of the fort; ditching it around the entire circumference, and erecting a glacis; closing up the postern gates in the east and west walls, and, instead, cutting sally-ports, which lead into strong outworks on the south-east and south-west angles, in which were 12-pounder howitzer guns, enabling the garrison to sweep the ditch on three sides with grape and canister. The north-west angle of the fort has also been strengthened by a bastionette, to sustain the weight of a heavy gun which will command the main street of the island. The main entrance has been better secured, and a trap-door, two feet square, cut in the door, for ingress and egress. The height of the wall from the bottom of the ditch to the top of the parapet is 20 feet. The ditch is from 12 to 15 feet wide at the base and 15 feet deep. The nature of the soil would not seem to admit of this depth being increased, quicksand having been reached in many places. The work on the south side is nearly finished. The counterscarp is substantially built with plank, and spread with turf. The glacis is also finished. It is composed of sand, and covered with layers of loam and turf, all of which is kept firmly in place by the addition of the sections of plank nailed to uprights sunk in the sand, and crossing each other at right angles—making squares of 10 feet each. The purpose of the glacis, which is an inclined plane, is to expose an attacking party to the fire of the guns, which are so placed as to sweep it from the crest of the counterscarp to the edge of the beach.

CASTLE PINCKNEY.

Castle Pinckney is located on the southern extremity of a narrow slip of marsh land, which extends in a northerly direction to Hog Island channel. To the harbor side the so-called castle presents a circular front. It has never been considered of much consequence as a fortress, although its proximity to the city would give it importance, if properly armed and garrisoned. There are about fifteen guns mounted on the parapet; the majority are eighteen and twenty-four pounders. Some "Columbiads" are, however, within the walls. There are also supplies of powder, shot and shell.

In connection with the foregoing, a brief sketch of Major ROBERT ANDERSON, whose name has almost become a household word in consequence of the position assumed by him at these forts, the details of which have been given in recent issues of the RURAL, will doubtless prove interesting.

Major Anderson was born in Kentucky, in September, 1805. In personal appearance he is about five feet nine inches in height; his figure well set and soldierly; his hair thin and turning to iron gray; his complexion swarthy; his eye dark and intelligent; his nose prominent and well formed. A stranger would read in his air and appearance determination and an exaction of what was due to him, yet he is always agreeable and gentlemanly, firm and dignified. On the first day of July, 1821, he entered the military academy at West Point, whence he graduated July 1, 1825, taking a high position in a large class. His first commission was that of brevet Second Lieutenant of the second artillery July 1, 1825, and he was subsequently promoted Second Lieutenant in the Third regiment, dating from the same day. From May to October, 1832, he was acting Inspector General of the Illinois Volunteers, in the Black Hawk War. In June, 1833, he was promoted First Lieutenant, and between 1835 and 1837 was Assistant Instructor and Inspector at the United States Military Academy. In 1838 he became Aid-de-camp to Major General Scott, and in the following year published "Instructions for Field Artillery, Horse and Foot, arranged for the service of the United States," which has been highly approved. For gallantry and successful conduct in the war against the Florida Indians, he received the brevet of Captain, bearing date April 2, 1838. July 7, 1838, he became Assistant Adjutant General, with the rank of Captain, which he relinquished subsequently on his being promoted to a captaincy in his regiment, Oct. 1841.

In March, 1847, he was with the Third regiment of artillery in the army of Gen. Scott, and took a part in the Vera Cruz siege—being one of the officers entrusted, by Gen. Bankhead, with the command of the batteries. This duty he performed with signal skill and gallantry, and he continued with the army until its triumphal entry into the city of Mexico, in September following. During the operations in the valley of Mexico, he was attached to the brigade of General Garland, which formed part of General Worth's division. In the attack on El Molino del Rey, on the 8th of September, where he was wounded very severely, his conduct was the theme of especial praise. Captain Burke, his immediate commander, in his despatch of September 9, says—"Captain Robert Anderson, (acting field officer,) behaved with great heroism on this occasion. Even after receiving a severe and painful wound, he continued at the head of the column, regardless of pain and self-preservation, and setting a handsome example to his men, of coolness, energy and courage." General Garland speaks of him as being, with "some few others, the very first to enter the strong position of El Molino." In addition to this testimony to his bearing on that occasion, we have that of General Worth, who particularly directed the attention of the Commander-in-Chief to the part he had taken in the action. "For gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Molino del Rey" he was promoted to the brevet rank of Major, dating from September 8, 1847. October 5, 1857, he was promoted to the position of Major of the First artillery, which he now holds.

This is certainly a good record for a soldier. The last service of Major Anderson, previous to his taking command of Fort Moultrie, was as a member of the commission appointed by Congress to inquire into the manner of instruction at the West Point Military Academy. The labors of that commission have already been laid before Congress.

HISTORY OF NULLIFICATION.

THERE have been ten special attempts to defy the authority of the Federal Government since its formation.

The first was in 1782, and was a conspiracy of some of the officers of the Federal army to consolidate the thirteen States into one, and confer the supreme power on Washington.

The 2d was in 1787, called "Shay's Insurrection," in Massachusetts.

The 3d was in 1794, popularly called "the Whisky Insurrection of Penn."

The 4th was in 1814, by the Hartford Convention of Federalists.

The 5th, on which occasion the different sections of the Union came into collision, was in 1820, under the administration of President Monroe, and occurred on the question of the admission of Missouri into the Union.

The 6th was a collision between the Legislature of Georgia and the Federal Government, in regard to certain lands given by the latter to the Creek Indians.

The 7th was in 1820, with the Cherokees in Georgia.

The 8th was the memorable Nullifying Ordinance of South Carolina in 1832.

The 9th was in 1842, and occurred in Rhode Island between the "Suffrage Association" and the State authorities.

The 10th was in 1856, on the part of the Mormons, who resisted the Federal authority.

GOD'S PLAN IN GEOGRAPHY.

The physical geographer now claims that the particular arrangement of seas, continents, mountains, and rivers, which the earth has received, is the very best that could be given for the purposes to which the earth is destined. As the divine wisdom is manifested in the order and adaptation of the parts of the human body, of animals and of plants, so there is an object in the particular shape the continents have been made to assume. Everything works in harmony with a divine plan, which we claim to be beginning to comprehend.

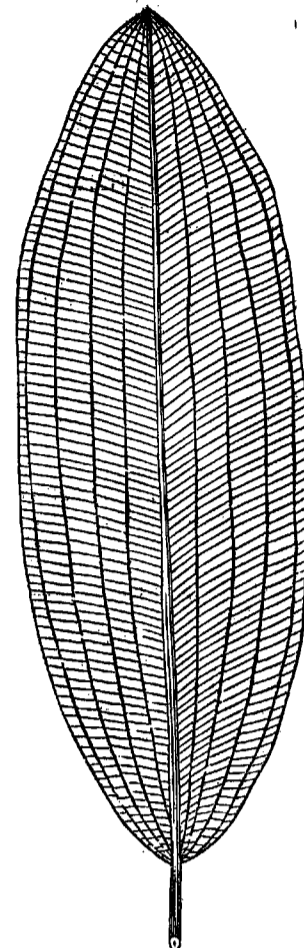
Change the position of Asia and Europe, and you would have ruin and death. Ireland, now always green, would have the climate of Labrador. Compare the British Isles, Norway and Sweden, with the corresponding latitudes upon our own coasts, and we see the dreadful consequences. Take away the Andes, which arrest the rain-clouds, and South America, that most wonderfully watered continent, would be a desert. Take away the Rocky Mountains, or change their direction to east and west, and we have our own fertile country ruined. Elevate our southern coast so as to change the direction of the Mississippi, and what mischief would ensue!

There is literally a face to nature, as there is a face to man. As we have our circulation of the blood, so there is the circulation of the earth's great heart of fire, the circulation of the waters and the ventilation of the air. We have yet to consider these varied shades of nature in their relations to each other, and to man and animal life. But we are not to stop here. The physical geographer claims that the influences bearing upon the intellect of man can be explained by the peculiar arrangement of the earth's surface. We know that civilization has marched from east to west, from Asia to Europe, and even across the Atlantic to the new world—growing and expanding in its course. We can see what has been developed in Asia and in Europe, and may predict something for America.—Prof. Doremus.

The Young Ruralist.

LACE LEAF, OR LATTICE PLANT.

NOTHING is more captivating to the inquiring, youthful mind than the investigation of the wonders and curiosities of the vegetable world. ELLIS, in his work on Madagascar, describes a very curious plant, growing on the island, with a leaf like lace or lattice work. Its botanical name is *Ouvirandra fenestrata* Mr. E. thus describes it:



"The Ouvirandra is not only a rare and curious, but a singularly beautiful plant, both in structure and color. From the several crowns of the branching root, growing often a foot or more deep in the water, a number of graceful leaves, nine or ten inches long, and two or three inches wide, spread out horizontally just beneath the surface of the water. The flower-stalks rise from the centre of the leaves, and the branching or forked flower is curious; but the structure of the leaf is peculiarly so, and seems like a living fibrous skeleton rather than an entire leaf. The longitudinal fibres extend in curved lines along its entire length, and are united by threadlike fibres or veins crossing them at right angles from side to side, at a short distance from each other. The whole leaf looks as if composed of fine tendrils, wrought after a most regular pattern, so as to resemble a piece of bright green lace or open needlework. Each leaf rises from the crown on the root like a short, delicate-looking, pale green or yellow fibre, unfolding its feathery-looking sides, and increasing its size as it spreads beneath the water. The leaves in their several stages of growth pass through almost every gradation of color, from a pale yellow to a dark olive green, becoming brown or even black before they finally decay; air-bubbles of considerable size frequently appearing under the full formed and healthy leaves.

It is scarcely possible to imagine any object of the kind more attractive and beautiful than a full grown specimen of this plant, with its dark green leaves forming the limit of a circle two or three feet in diameter, and in the transparent water within that circle presenting leaves in every stage of development, both as to color and size. Nor is it the least curious to notice that these slender and fragile structures, apparently not more substantial than the gossamer, and flexible as a feather, still possess a tenacity and wiriness which allow the delicate leaf to be raised by the hand to the surface of the water without injury."

On a late visit to Philadelphia, we learned that one of these plants had been procured by JAMES DUNDAS, Esq., of that city, and was then growing in the tank of his fine Victoria house. With an old friend, formerly of this city, we made a visit to the beautiful residence of Mr. D., where, although in the centre of a populous city, we found a well kept garden, with lawn, walks, fountain, and a magnificent plant house—altogether a most complete establishment. Our friend gave us an introduction to the gardener, Mr. FOLLOCK, whom we found to be a very intelligent and polite gentleman, willing to take a great deal of trouble for our gratification, and ready to afford us all necessary information. Any one could see by the sparkle of his eye how well he loved his plants and flowers. We took out our pencil and made a few notes and a drawing of a leaf, which we now present to our young readers. At first we thought our drawing rather imperfect for an engraving; but having observed in the *Gardener's Monthly* an engraving somewhat like our own, we concluded to place our drawing in the hands of our engraver. The description of Mr. ELLIS is exceedingly full and interesting.

HOW TO FIND SUCCESS.—"That you may find success," said Rev. Charles Brooks, in an address to boys, "let me tell you how to proceed:—To night begin your great plan of life. You have but one life to live, and it is measurably important that you do not make a mistake. To-night begin carefully. Fix your eye on the fortieth year of your age, and then say to yourself: At the age of forty I will be a temperate man; I will be an industrious man; an economical man; a benevolent man; a well-read man; a religious man; and a useful man—I will be such an one; I resolve, and I will stand to it. My young friends, let this resolution be as firm as adamant; let it stand like the oak which cannot be wind-shaken."

DISSIMULATION.—Dissimulation in youth is the forerunner of perjury in age; its appearance is the fatal omen of growing depravity and future shame. It degrades parts and learning, obscures the lustre of every accomplishment, and sinks us into contempt. After the first departure from sincerity, it is not in our power to stop; one artifice unavoidably leads to another, till, as the intricacy of the labyrinth increases, we are left entangled in our snare.

WHEN you dispute with a fool, he is very certain to be similarly employed.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Home Comfort—James Morrison, Jr.
Crested Grape Vine—J. M. Goodwin & Bro.
Fort Edward Institute—Joseph E. King.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 12, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

The committee on the part of the border States, Mr. Crittenden chairman, had a second meeting on the night of the 5th inst., and at 12 o'clock adopted the following propositions.

The line of 36° 2 min. shall be run through all the existing Territories of the United States, and that north of the line Slavery shall be prohibited.

The following resolutions were adopted on the 3d inst., as expressive of the views and feelings of the Committee of 33.

Resolved, That we recognize Slavery as now existing in fifteen of the United States, by the usages and laws of these States, and we recognize no authority, legally or otherwise, outside of a State, when it so exists, to interfere with Slavery in such States.

Resolved, That we recognize no such conflicting interests in the composition, or sufficient cause from any source for a dissolution of this government; that we were not sent here to destroy, but to sustain and harmonize the institutions of the country, and to see that justice is done to all parts of the same.

A dispatch to the N. Y. Times on the 5th inst., says that evidences of a purpose on the part of the Secessionists to seize upon the public property here, and usurp the Government at its Capital, have become so clear that energetic measures are taking to defeat their plans, and repress the treason.

Secretary of War Holt has appointed Capt. Chas. Stone, on recommendation of Gen. Scott, to be Inspector-General of Militia in the District of Columbia.

The Navy Department has received dispatches from the Commander of the Pacific squadron, communicating intelligence of the probable loss of the sloop-of-war Levant, which had not been heard from for one hundred days.

Major Anderson informs the Government that reinforcements are not needed at Fort Sumter.

A special dispatch to the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser says: There is a much better feeling in Washington. It is well understood that acting Secretary of War Holt, and Attorney General Stanton, are at liberty to take whatever measures they may deem necessary for the public good.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—The Pacific Railroad bill being the special order, and Mr. Baker having the floor on unfinished business, the Pacific Railroad bill was made the special order for Saturday.

Mr. Mason proposed a resolution of inquiry that the Secretary of War give the Senate the copy of any orders issued from the Department to the officers commanding the fortifications in South Carolina since the 1st of November.

Mr. Davis offered resolutions authorizing the President on application of any State, either through convention or legislation, to withdraw federal garrisons

and take needful security for the safety of public property remaining, directing the President to recognize any State to keep troops and ships of war, and giving permission to all parties concerned by proclamation. Laid on the table and ordered printed.

Mr. Seward presented a petition of the citizens of New York, asking for the passage of the Pacific Railroad bill.

On motion of Mr. Gwin, the Pacific Railroad bill was taken up.

Mr. Rice then offered an amendment providing for another route from Minnesota to Puget Sound.

Mr. Polk moved to amend so as to make the route run from the mouth of the Kansas River.

Mr. Polk's amendment was agreed to. Ayes, 35, nays 23.

Mr. Bragg offered an amendment that the acts of the corporation be submitted to Congress and approved before the bill takes effect.

Mr. Benjamin was opposed to conferring the privileges of the bill on any close corporation. They ought to be given to any citizen of the United States choosing to take advantage of them.

The discussion was further continued by Messrs. Davis, Baker and others. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—On motion of Mr. Sherman an amendment was adopted appropriating \$20,000 in addition to the proceeds of the sale of the old furniture, for refurnishing the President's House. Also, \$4,000 for introducing the Potomac water therein.

Among other amendments adopted, was one appropriating \$136,000 for the purchase of a government Printing Office, provided it be ascertained by the Attorney General to give good title.

Mr. Adrian asked leave to introduce resolutions approving the act of Major Anderson, and promising support to the President in enforcing all laws in sustaining the Union.

Several members explained their votes, when the resolution was adopted by 124 against 56.

The House then passed the Indian appropriation bill.

The House took up the resolution offered by Mr. Davis, of Ind., on Monday, instructing the Committee on Judiciary to inquire into and report to this House at any time, what legislation, if any, has become necessary on the part of Congress in consequence of the Secession position assumed by South Carolina.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The Senate met at 11 o'clock on the 2d inst., when the Governor's Private Secretary presented the Governor's Message, which was read.

Mr. Spinola offered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, Treason, as defined by the Constitution of the United States, exists in one of the States of the Confederacy, and whereas, it is a religious, as well as a patriotic duty of each State, in its sovereign capacity, as well as that of each citizen, to make every necessary sacrifice for the preservation of this Union of States as they were united by Washington and his associates; and whereas, the State of New York is now, and ever has been, and ever will be, unalterably and uncompromisingly in favor of the Union as it is; therefore,

Resolved, (if the Assembly concur,) That the Governor of the State be and he is hereby directed, in the name of the People of the State of New York, to tender the President of the United States the services of the Militia of the State, to be used in such manner as the President may deem best to preserve the Union, and enforce the Constitution and laws of the country.

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be and are hereby requested to inquire into the condition and efficiency and available strength of the military forces of the State, and to report to the Senate at the earliest possible day, what legislation, if any, is necessary to render that branch of government fully effective for any exigency that may arise, and if requisite, that said Committee report a bill to raise \$10,000,000 to properly arm the State.

Mr. Spinola's resolutions, with parts of the Governor's Message relating to national affairs, were referred to a Select Committee of five.

ASSEMBLY.—The Assembly met on the 2d at 11 o'clock. The Annual Message of the Governor was presented by Mr. Doty, Private Secretary, and was read and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Annual Reports of the Superintendent of the Banking Department, and Auditor's and Commissioners of the Canal Fund, were presented.

Mr. Robinson moved to refer that portion of the Governor's Message referring to Federal relations, to a Committee of nine. Adopted.

Mr. McDermott offered concurrent resolutions deprecating the election of a sectional President, but denying the right of secession, pledging the power of the State to uphold the rights of the South, and at the same time to maintain the Constitution and the laws, declaring it the duty of the people to acquiesce in the election of Lincoln, and calling on the President to avert a national disgrace, the result of any act of violence that would prevent his inauguration.

Mr. Benedict introduced concurrent resolutions eulogistic of the conduct of Major Anderson, and authorizing and requesting the Governor to procure and cause to be presented to him a sword, as a gift from the State of New York. Laid over.

The Governors on Secession.

As the Legislatures of the various States generally convene on or about the 1st of January, and the Messages of the Governors are respectively handed in, it is interesting to note the expression of opinion upon the great topics which now agitate the Union.

New York.—The question is entered into at considerable length by Gov. MORGAN, but we can only make a brief extract, as follows:

The complications which environ the question of a speedy adjustment of existing national difficulties, are not the result of any new and unexpected causes, but are the slow growth of a generation. The events of the past year, among which is the significant disruption of the Charleston Convention in April last, have served to produce a more general conviction that there exists an active and influential class of politicians at the South, deliberately conspiring to destroy the American Union, and construct from the ruins a Southern confederacy.

But I do not question the sincerity of all who threaten secession; on the contrary, I accept the declarations of many as those of earnest and determined men; and while I have faith that time will essentially modify their views, change their purposes, and prevent them from rushing madly to inevitable destruction through the paths of treason, civil war, and proslavery dictation, that this patriotic commonwealth should not hold a position of indifference, but that we should deliberately consider our relations to the questions of proposed secession, as well as the duties which such an event may force upon us.

There has been but little important business transacted by the Carolina Convention during the past week. The President of the Convention received a telegram, on the 5th inst., from Mayor Monroe, of New Orleans, which is as follows:

The citizens of New Orleans fully sympathize with the city of Charleston, in the perils to which she is exposed, and will not fail to support her when the occasion requires.

Mr. Hudson offered an Ordinance that all power necessary to make Postal arrangements and enact Postal laws, be vested in the General Assembly. Passed.

Mr. Curtis offered a resolution that the late Commissioners to Washington be requested to prepare, at their earliest convenience, a written statement of their oral communication to this body, communicating the result of their recent attempt at negotiations with the President of the United States for the delivery of the forts and other State property.

Collector Colcock advertises that all vessels from ports outside of South Carolina, must enter and clear at Charleston.

The President of the Convention has appointed Commissioners to Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas and Georgia. None to Texas.

In secret session, an ordinance was passed defining and punishing treason. It declares, in addition to former definitions, that treason shall consist in levying war against the State, adhering and giving aid to enemies; and the punishment is death, without the benefit of clergy.

An ordinance was also passed providing that all judicial power heretofore delegated to the Courts of the United States, shall be exercised by State Courts. And another, that all power heretofore delegated to Congress, shall be vested in the general Assembly, excepting that during the existence of this Convention, this power shall not extend to duties and imports, the Post Office, declaration of war, treaties with other countries, the rights of citizenship and treason.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 7th inst., has a long letter from Gov. Wise. His leading positions are for an immediate call for a State Convention; a prompt resumption, by the Convention, of all the powers hitherto delegated to the general government, as may be necessary for State protection, especially the position of the forts, &c.

Gov. Ellis, of North Carolina, has dispatched troops to seize Fort Macon, at Beaufort, the forts at Wilmington, and the United States Arsenal at Fayetteville.

The Legislature of Delaware met at Dover on the 2d inst., and organized by choosing Dr. Mortan, of Sussex, Speaker of the Senate, and Mr. Williamson, of New Castle, Speaker of the House.

Hon. H. Dickenson, Commissioner from Mississippi, was received, and addressed both Houses in a strong secession speech, taking ground in favor of South Carolina and secession, and inviting Delaware to join in the Southern Confederacy. He claimed the right of the Southern States to secede, and said if they were not allowed to do so, war was inevitable.

After the speech, the House adopted, unanimously, the following resolution, in which the Senate concurred by a majority:

Resolved, That having extended to Hon. H. Dickenson, Commissioner from Mississippi, the courtesy due him as a representative of a sovereign State of the Confederacy, as well as to the State he represents, we deem it proper and due to ourselves and the people of Delaware, to express our unqualified disapproval of the remedy for the existing difficulties suggested by the resolutions of the Legislature of Mississippi.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—There had been severe snow storms in various parts of England, blocking the Railroads. At Northumberland the snow was preceded by a violent thunder storm. The same phenomena occurred at the Isle of Wight, and in Cornwall. At the latter place the lightning did much damage, the tower of Kenyon church being demolished, and a woman struck dead in the road.

A terrible colliery explosion occurred at Hutton on the 29th. Twenty miners were killed.

FRANCE.—A dispatch from Baron Gros to the Emperor Napoleon, confirms the announcement of peace in China; the ultimatum of Shanghai being accepted and ratifications exchanged. France receives 69,000,000 francs indemnity; 4,000,000 being paid down. Emigration of Coolies is permitted. The churches, cemeteries, &c., belonging to the Christians throughout the Empire, are to be restored to them. A Te Deum was sung in the Cathedral in Pekin, on the occasion of the restoration of peace.

It appears, from a letter of Gen. De Montauban, the French Minister of War, that the Emperor's Palace was not sacked by the French army, as previously reported. On the contrary, nothing was touched until the arrival of the English, when an equitable division of the spoils was made, under Commissioners from both armies.

HUNGARY.—Political fermentations continue in Hungary. Count Teleki, a Hungarian refugee, had been arrested in Dresden, with a false passport, and delivered up to Austria.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadstuffs.—Market firm and advancing. Flour on Friday was firm at the full rates of 146 3/4 for best quality, with a fair consumptive sale. Really fine sugar, and choice coffee bring 13 1/2 over the quotations. Red jeans from 11 1/2 to 13, and white 13 1/2 to 14. Corn continues in active demand, at an improvement on the week fully 1 1/2 per cent. Mixed and yellow 58 1/2 to 60. White 58 1/2 to 60. Provisions.—York quiet and unaltered. Lard, with a few arrivals, is dull and lower, being offered at 98, without buyers.

The News Condenser.

- The lottery business in the South is gradually dying out.
The Pawnee Indians are making trouble on the Plains again.
It is understood that Gov. Weller accepts the position of Minister to Mexico.
Nearly eight millions in specie have arrived from Europe since December 15.
The white male population of South Carolina, over 20 years, is about 47,000.
Lord Palmerston, now aged 76, is the real, though secret, dictator of England.
The beggars in France are licensed. Any one begging without a license is punished.
Arizona papers praise their Territory as the best stock country in the United States.
Col. Rudler, the filibuster, is said to have been pardoned by the Government of Honduras.
The number of army invalids receiving pensions is 4,846 and the amount paid, \$438,066.61.
Concord, Massachusetts, has exactly the same number of inhabitants now that it had in 1850.
A panther was killed near Kingston, Cal., recently, which measured 11 feet 4 inches in length.
Soup Houses were opened in Philadelphia on Christmas. Only 11 persons called the first day.
The amount of our claim against Peru is \$160,000, and it may cost us \$18,000,000 to collect it.
The 240th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims was celebrated with eclat at Charleston.
The students have all left Madison (Tenn.) College, and the property has been levied on for debt.
Eight counterfeiters were captured at Jonesboro, Ill., last week. They are in prison at Chicago.
Victor Emanuel has had a magnificent reception at Palermo. Over 400,000 people were present.
Luther Cary, of Cooper, Me., lost his entire flock of sheep, 12 in number, by the wolves, a few days since.
The Government of Holland has completed its plan for the abolition of slavery in the Dutch colonies.
The Bank Commissioners of Illinois have made a call on the banks of that State for additional security.
There are but four post-offices in Minnesota, the incumbents of which are appointed by the President.
When Mississippi secedes, there will be no trouble collecting of revenue. She has no port of entry.
A scarcity of corn, amounting to starvation, is predicted for some parts of Alabama in less than two months.
Hon. Wm. A. Palmer, ex-Governor of Vermont, died at Danville, Vt., December 3, in the 90th year of his age.
In California, sewing machines are exempt from seizure—the same of mechanics' tools and farmers' implements.
The badges which the secessionists are wearing about Washington and the South, are made in New England.
Sorghum molasses was very extensively made in New Jersey, last year, with a great improvement in its quality.
The Florence correspondent of the Providence Journal says that 80 American families are domiciled in that city.
The steamship Northern Light, from Aspinwall, arrived at New York, on the 3d, with nearly \$1,500,000 in specie.
The N. Y. Tribune states that, within a month, 3,000 slaves have been taken from vessels fitted out at that port.
Daniel Ayre, Esq., editor and proprietor of the Herkimer Co. Journal, at Little Falls, died in that village, on the 1st inst.
During the past season, nine fishing vessels and seventy-five fishermen have been lost from the port of Gloucester, Maine.
A Fair for the benefit of the Sailors' Snug Harbor, at Boston, last week, realized \$13,000. That will do for a panic season.
Twenty-five thousand pounds sterling have been raised and expended in building a tabernacle for Mr. Spurgeon, in London.
Vermont will retain her three members of Congress under the new apportionment—the third through a large fraction.
Geo. Cardwell, a colored man, who was a member of the Liberator Congress, is now steward of the St. Charles Hotel, at Keokuk.
A little boy, who was bitten by a dog in Norwich, Ct., last summer, died from the poisonous effects of the wound, on the 10th.
Strange panthers had better not go to Richmond, Va., as the Mayor is now empowered to send them to work in the chain-gang.
William McGregor, a lunatic, killed himself, on Tuesday week, by jumping from the mast-head of a propeller, at Chicago, Ill.
A little daughter of J. O. Williams of Winchester, Mass., was smothered to death by being wrapped too closely in bed, on Sunday week.
A sick man was fatally burned in Philadelphia, a day or two ago, by his bed taking fire in a hot brick placed in it to warm his feet.
Muskets, numbering 300,000, from Springfield armory, have been distributed in Southern States by the Secretary of War, the past year.
A telegraph operator in Louisville, Ky., received 133 words on Saturday week, in two and a half minutes—a feat never before equaled.
Daniel McGrath, 110 years old, 6 feet 6 inches high, husband of two wives, and father of 18 children, died last week at Montreal, C. E.
The first premium at the State Fair of Wisconsin, for an elegant work stand, was recently awarded to an inmate of the State Prison of that State.
It has been ascertained that the number of horses taxed in the State of Virginia is 352,000, and that their value is estimated to be \$24,000,000.
In the Memphis market, cotton is a drug. The amount of the staple at that point alone is estimated to be of the value of three million dollars.
At the top of the mast of a vessel lately wrecked off Deal, England, is a sea gull's nest, which, with the aid of a glass, is visible from the beach.
It is a very significant fact that Massachusetts five per cent. stocks bring in England from one to two per cent. more than United States six per cent.
It is proposed to construct in Paris a magnificent Turkish mosque and a Turkish hotel. The object is to attract as many Mussulman travelers as possible.
Forty-two of the county treasurers of Illinois are a little "faultry" in their accounts, and will be proceeded against by the State authorities.
Five hundred spars have been got out this season in Saginaw Co., Mich., for English ship builders. For choice lumber Saginaw is not surpassed.
It is four thousand miles from Cape Race to San Francisco, and news has traveled this distance in the almost miraculously short time of nine days.
Miss Sarah Johnson is under arrest in Detroit under charge of stealing five dollars from one lover to pay the minister for marrying her to another.
The Province of New Brunswick contains fifteen million acres of land not yet cleared, about ten millions of which are still in the hands of the government.
Advices from Tepic, in Western Mexico, state that the large American cotton factory at Santiago, near Tepic, had been destroyed by the Tosa Indians.
The value of goods imported into Montreal, in the last eleven months, is \$15,106,000, or \$248,000 less than in the corresponding months the previous year.
In Philadelphia there are swindlers who watch the obituary columns of the newspapers, and gain a livelihood by presenting fraudulent claims to survivors.
The whole cost of the pleuro-pneumonia affair to Massachusetts, is \$62,000, of which sum \$33,000 were paid for dead cattle, and \$19,000 to living legislators.

The Publisher to the Public.

PUBLISHER'S SPECIAL NOTICES.

EXPLANATORY.—The last of this week's RURAL is put to press a day later than usual, (as was last week's) in consequence of the delay incident upon enlarging the paper, changing to new material, and printing an enormous edition. Our printers and pressmen are working extra hours, (the steam presses running night and day,) in order to get "up to time," and we hope the next number will be issued and mailed in the season.

THE CURRENCY of several Western States is greatly depreciated, just now, while exchange on the East is exorbitant in many localities. In answer to inquiries from Western Agents, we would say that we will abide by our announcement as to "The Money we Receive," (see item below,) yet hope they will do the best they can in remitting. Our best choice is drafts on New York, &c., (less reasonable exchange,) or New York or New England money; next, Canada, Ohio, and Michigan bills; and last (if our friends can do no better,) bills on the best solvent banks of other States. Postage stamps are good for fractional or any amounts.

THE BOOKS READY.—The books we offer as Specific Premiums are now ready for delivery or mailing, and will be promptly forwarded to all who become entitled to them—or as soon as we know their wishes. Those who are offered a Selection will oblige us by stating their preferences, and giving Post-Office or Express address.

THE RURAL is published strictly upon the CASH SYSTEM—copies are never mailed to individual subscribers until paid for, and always discontinued when the subscription expires. Hence, we force the paper upon none, and need no credit books, experience having demonstrated that the Cash System is altogether the best for both Subscriber and Publisher.

NO TRAVELING AGENTS are employed by us, as we wish to place the whole field to local agents and those who form clubs. And beside, we wish it distinctly understood that all persons traveling through the country, professing to hold certificates from us, ARE IMPOSTORS.

THE DOCUMENTS FREE.—Specimen numbers of our new volume will be sent free to all applicants. We shall take pleasure in also sending, free and post-paid, our large Show-Bill for 1881 (beautifully colored by hand.) Prospectus, &c., to any and all persons disposed to aid in extending the circulation of the RURAL NEW-YORKER. Reader, please send us the addresses of such of your friends, near or distant, as you think would be likely to subscribe or act as agents, and we will forward the documents accordingly.

LOOK SHARP, FRIENDS!—If those ordering the RURAL write their full names of persons, post-offices, &c., correctly and plainly, we should receive less scolding about other people's errors. Our clerks are not infallible, but most of the errors about which agents complain are not attributable to any one in the RURAL Office. People who forget to date their letters at any place, or to sign their names, or to give the name or address for copies ordered, will please take things calmly and not charge us with their sins of omission, &c.

THE MONEY WE RECEIVE.—Bills on all solvent Banks in the U. S. and Canada taken at par on subscription to the RURAL, but our agents and other friends will please remit New York, New England, or Canada money, when convenient. Postage stamps can be remitted for fractional parts of a dollar. For all amounts over \$5 we prefer drafts on either New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Albany, Rochester, or Buffalo, (less exchange,) payable to our order—and all such drafts may be mailed at the risk of the Publisher. If our friends throughout the Union, British Provinces, &c., will comply with these suggestions so far as convenient, the favor will be appreciated.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER AS A PRESENT.—In cases where a subscriber sends the RURAL to a friend or relative as a present, we only charge the lowest club rate—\$1.25 per year. Our lowest price for copies thus sent to Canada is \$1.50, and to Europe \$2.25. Many are ordering this volume as a New Year's Present to distant friends, thinking it a most valuable gift, and it is certainly one which will remind the recipient fifty-two times of the kind remembrance of the donor.

CLUBBING WITH THE MAGAZINES, &c.—We will send the RURAL NEW-YORKER for 1881 and a yearly copy of either The Atlantic, Harper's, or any other \$3 magazine, for \$4. The RURAL and either The Horticulturalist, Honey's Magazine, or any other \$2 magazine, for \$3. Canadian subscribers must add the Atlantic postage.

ASSOCIATED EFFORT leads to success in canvassing for periodicals, as well as in other enterprises. For instance, if you are forming (or wish to form) a club for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and cannot fill it up in your own neighborhood, get some person or persons a few miles distant to join with or assist you—adding their names to those you may procure, and sending all together. Please think of this, and act upon the suggestion if convenient.

IN consequence of its large and increasing circulation, we are obliged to put the last form of the RURAL to press earlier than formerly, and advertisements should reach us on Monday to secure insertion the same week.

Special Notices.

BRONCHIAL COMPLAINTS, &c.

REV. D. P. LYVENOR, Editor of the Chicago New Covenant, says of Brown's Bronchial Troches:—"We have frequently had occasion to test the efficacy of Brown's Bronchial Troches, and have invariably found them to answer the purpose for which they are recommended.—From our own personal experience and observation, we know them to be a superior remedy for colds, coughs, and bronchial complaints."

NOTE.—We publish the above statement as reading matter, because we have confidence in the Troches, having tried them frequently, and always with success.—Cincinnati Christian Herald.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE, Rochester, Jan. 9, 1881.

The usual dullness which follows the Holidays is very perceptible at present, and consequently there is but little change in prices, and transactions are light. FLOUR is as last quoted, and the supply of the retail demand is all that is doing by our millers. GRAIN.—The only change is in Rye, which has advanced a few cents per bushel. MEATS.—Beef is a little better in price, and prime will readily bring \$6.00 per 100 pounds. Pork is readily taken at our quotations. Shoulders are drooping. Lard is in a little brisker demand, and is 1 cent per pound better price.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

Table listing prices for Flour, Corn, Rye, Wheat, and other commodities. Includes items like Flour, winter wheat, Spring wheat, Corn, old, Rye, 60 lbs, Wheat, Genesee, etc.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—The market continues dull and inactive, and since our last the only sales we hear of are some 15,000 lbs. fleeces and a small lot of California, on terms not made public. In foreign we hear of nothing doing. We quote nominally:

Table listing wool prices for American Saxony fleeces, Merino, and other types. Includes items like American Saxony fleeces, Merino, American full-blooded, etc.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—FLOUR—Market is 10c better, with only a limited export demand. Sales at \$3.25, \$3.25, \$3.25 for superfine; \$3.50, \$3.50 for common to medium extra; \$3.75, \$3.75 for holders are generally little more doing. Hoop Ohio—closing dull and a shade easier; sales at \$3.00, \$3.00 for common to choice extra.

GRAIN.—The export demand scarcely so active, and market was quoted a shade easier. The firmness of freights naturally check shipping demand. Sales Chicago spring wheat at \$1.15.

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance.—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 50% cents per line per day. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER commences its Twelfth Year and Volume with an edition of over SEVENTY THOUSAND! Though the columns are wider than formerly (giving more words per line), and the circulation much larger, we do not purpose to increase the Advertising Rates before the 1st of March or April, when they will probably be advanced to 50 cts. a line.

THE PORTO GRAPE.—The Wine Grape of America. Send for a Circular. B. W. SYLVESTER, Lyons, N. Y.

THE MOST SPLENDID CHANCES EVER offered Agents and NO HOME! Particulars mailed FREE. Address Box 382, Syracuse, N. Y.

THE CRAWFORD COUNTY RECORD, publishing office at Conneautville, Pa., by JOHN W. PATTER, at \$1.00 per year. It is one of the best advertising mediums in Western Pennsylvania. Try it.

FARM WANTED ON SHARES, or would undertake the management of a farm for wages. Address 174 West 12th Street, New York.

NURSERY STOCKS FOR SALE. Jan. 5, 1881. 150,000 first quality Apple Seedlings. 50,000 Quince Stocks. BENJAMIN BUSH, West End Nursery, Rochester, N. Y.

\$150 PER MONTH AND NO HUSBAND. Medicine or Book Agency, but something new and of real value. Particulars sent free. Address J. S. PARDEE, Binghamton, Broome Co., N. Y.

TO NURSERYMEN.—Just received 25 dozen new pattern Grafting Knives, made expressly to order, and warranted, at No. 3 Buffalo Street, Rochester, N. Y. N. B. PHELPS.

ONLY FIFTY CENTS! ONE YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE Good Templar, The official organ of the order, is only FIFTY CENTS!

Those desiring a live, wide-awake, temperance paper, should address B. H. MILLS, Upper Allen Hill, N. Y.

110 EDUCATION—EXCELLENCE—110 with Economy. Examine the claims of the Fort Edward Institute, at Fort Edward, Washington Co., N. Y. For small supply, with steady demand, affording many advantages in both the solid and ornamental branches. A Graduate Course for Ladies. Commercial or Classical Course for Young Men. For more particulars, send for our Circular. Cost per year for Board, furnished room, fuel, washing and Common English branches, \$10. Spring term begins March 2nd. Good Studies, and other advantages. Address as above, Rev. JOSEPH E. KING, Principal.

A BOOK WHICH SHOULD BE PURCHASED.—THE ILLUSTRATED HORSE DOCTOR. Being an accurate and detailed account of the various Diseases to which the equine race are subjected; together with the Latest Mode of Treatment, and all the requisite Prescriptions. Illustrated. 636 pages, 8vo. cloth, \$2.50; sheep, \$3. Will be sent free by mail on receipt of price. D. APPLIN, PUBLISHERS, 448 & 449 Broadway, New York.

THORLEY'S FOOD FOR CATTLE. CONVERTS THE Poorest Hay or Straw INTO A SUPERIOR PROVENDER. Whole barrels containing 48 feeds with measure \$14. Half barrels containing 24 feeds with measure \$7. Has contained 12 years. A Pamphlet containing testimonials mailed free. DEPOT, 21 BROADWAY, NEW YORK. Agents wanted in every City and Town. 574-261

"CREVELING" GRAPE VINES. The Subscribers have for sale "CREVELING" GRAPE VINES (for plate of which see "Horticulturalist" of November, 1880,) which they offer to all who want good early fruit. Indifferently they are raised in the American Pomological Society, in Philadelphia, last fall, and caused many to prefer the Creveling to the Logan, Isabella, &c. Wherever grown with the best care, they are found to ripen earlier and sweeter, and to ripen earlier and sweeter, and to ripen earlier and sweeter. It ripens last of August and first of September.

PRICES.—Good two-year old Vines, \$1.00 each. Good young Vines, 50 cents each. Or, if ordered, we will send you a reduced price. Address P. M. GOODWIN & BRO., Kingston, Dutchess County, Pa.

Report of Chas. Downing and others, Committee of the American Pomological Society—Fall of 1880.

"Creveling," Bloomsburg, or Catawissa, by Mr. Goodwin, of Kingston, Pa. Ripens early in September. A good, early, blue grape, with a peculiar red on the stem when separated from the fruit.

PETER B. MADD, Esq., (Editor of the Horticulturalist,) in a letter inclosing a copy of the above report, writes:—"I want to say more about it. It is an excellent early Grape, and I have been recommending it."

THE CROWNING POINT REACHED IN 1860. Years the Public have desired just what the Inventor has achieved in the NEW AND BEAUTIFUL COOKING STOVE. (Adapted for Wood or Coal,) called THE Home Comfort.

It is so perfect in all its parts, and made so completely airtight, that even the damper and draft-door are water-tight. It is the latest and best of its kind, and is so constructed that the Fire Box, keeping a constant and rapid current of air through all the doors and draft-doors, and in fact a REAL AIR-TIGHT COOKING STOVE.

It will Bake, Broil, Boil, Roast, Steam, Fry and Heat at one and the same time, and do it with the same ease that an ordinary Stove would do either separately. In fact, it may be classed with the best of its kind, and is so constructed that an ordinary Stove is warranted to give entire satisfaction or returned and the money refunded.

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Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance.—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 50% cents per line per day. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER commences its Twelfth Year and Volume with an edition of over SEVENTY THOUSAND! Though the columns are wider than formerly (giving more words per line), and the circulation much larger, we do not purpose to increase the Advertising Rates before the 1st of March or April, when they will probably be advanced to 50 cts. a line.

THE PORTO GRAPE.—The Wine Grape of America. Send for a Circular. B. W. SYLVESTER, Lyons, N. Y.

THE MOST SPLENDID CHANCES EVER offered Agents and NO HOME! Particulars mailed FREE. Address Box 382, Syracuse, N. Y.

THE CRAWFORD COUNTY RECORD, publishing office at Conneautville, Pa., by JOHN W. PATTER, at \$1.00 per year. It is one of the best advertising mediums in Western Pennsylvania. Try it.

FARM WANTED ON SHARES, or would undertake the management of a farm for wages. Address 174 West 12th Street, New York.

NURSERY STOCKS FOR SALE. Jan. 5, 1881. 150,000 first quality Apple Seedlings. 50,000 Quince Stocks. BENJAMIN BUSH, West End Nursery, Rochester, N. Y.

\$150 PER MONTH AND NO HUSBAND. Medicine or Book Agency, but something new and of real value. Particulars sent free. Address J. S. PARDEE, Binghamton, Broome Co., N. Y.

TO NURSERYMEN.—Just received 25 dozen new pattern Grafting Knives, made expressly to order, and warranted, at No. 3 Buffalo Street, Rochester, N. Y. N. B. PHELPS.

ONLY FIFTY CENTS! ONE YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE Good Templar, The official organ of the order, is only FIFTY CENTS!

Those desiring a live, wide-awake, temperance paper, should address B. H. MILLS, Upper Allen Hill, N. Y.

110 EDUCATION—EXCELLENCE—110 with Economy. Examine the claims of the Fort Edward Institute, at Fort Edward, Washington Co., N. Y. For small supply, with steady demand, affording many advantages in both the solid and ornamental branches. A Graduate Course for Ladies. Commercial or Classical Course for Young Men. For more particulars, send for our Circular. Cost per year for Board, furnished room, fuel, washing and Common English branches, \$10. Spring term begins March 2nd. Good Studies, and other advantages. Address as above, Rev. JOSEPH E. KING, Principal.

A BOOK WHICH SHOULD BE PURCHASED.—THE ILLUSTRATED HORSE DOCTOR. Being an accurate and detailed account of the various Diseases to which the equine race are subjected; together with the Latest Mode of Treatment, and all the requisite Prescriptions. Illustrated. 636 pages, 8vo. cloth, \$2.50; sheep, \$3. Will be sent free by mail on receipt of price. D. APPLIN, PUBLISHERS, 448 & 449 Broadway, New York.

THORLEY'S FOOD FOR CATTLE. CONVERTS THE Poorest Hay or Straw INTO A SUPERIOR PROVENDER. Whole barrels containing 48 feeds with measure \$14. Half barrels containing 24 feeds with measure \$7. Has contained 12 years. A Pamphlet containing testimonials mailed free. DEPOT, 21 BROADWAY, NEW YORK. Agents wanted in every City and Town. 574-261

"CREVELING" GRAPE VINES. The Subscribers have for sale "CREVELING" GRAPE VINES (for plate of which see "Horticulturalist" of November, 1880,) which they offer to all who want good early fruit. Indifferently they are raised in the American Pomological Society, in Philadelphia, last fall, and caused many to prefer the Creveling to the Logan, Isabella, &c. Wherever grown with the best care, they are found to ripen earlier and sweeter, and to ripen earlier and sweeter, and to ripen earlier and sweeter. It ripens last of August and first of September.

PRICES.—Good two-year old Vines, \$1.00 each. Good young Vines, 50 cents each. Or, if ordered, we will send you a reduced price. Address P. M. GOODWIN & BRO., Kingston, Dutchess County, Pa.

Report of Chas. Downing and others, Committee of the American Pomological Society—Fall of 1880.

"Creveling," Bloomsburg, or Catawissa, by Mr. Goodwin, of Kingston, Pa. Ripens early in September. A good, early, blue grape, with a peculiar red on the stem when separated from the fruit.

PETER B. MADD, Esq., (Editor of the Horticulturalist,) in a letter inclosing a copy of the above report, writes:—"I want to say more about it. It is an excellent early Grape, and I have been recommending it."

THE CROWNING POINT REACHED IN 1860. Years the Public have desired just what the Inventor has achieved in the NEW AND BEAUTIFUL COOKING STOVE. (Adapted for Wood or Coal,) called THE Home Comfort.

It is so perfect in all its parts, and made so completely airtight, that even the damper and draft-door are water-tight. It is the latest and best of its kind, and is so constructed that the Fire Box, keeping a constant and rapid current of air through all the doors and draft-doors, and in fact a REAL AIR-TIGHT COOKING STOVE.

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It

SONG OF OLD TIME.

BY ELIZA COOK.

I WEAR not the purple of earth-born kings, Nor the stately ermine of lordly things; But monarch and courtier, though great they be, Must fall from their glory and bend to me. My sceptre is gemless! yet who can say They will not come under its mighty sway? Ye may learn who I am—there's the passing chime, And the dial to herald me—Old King Time!

The Story-Teller.

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

SOWING THE WIND AND REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

CHAPTER III.

"How much money is there in the cash-box?" asked Mr. OVERMAN. It was on the morning after HIRAM had abstracted one hundred dollars. The young man's heart gave a quick, strong beat, that sent the blood in oppressive engorgement to his lungs. He did not trust his voice in an immediate reply; but gained time by going, with a deliberate motion, to the iron safe, from which he took the cash and check books. Laying these open on the desk before his employer, he took a small piece of paper, and, with a pencil, deducted the sum standing to their credit in bank from the balance called for by the cash-book.

"I'm afraid of debt, HIRAM," answered the young girl. "Father was in debt once, and I can never forget the trouble of mind through which he passed, until the final dollar was paid." Don't think of buying a house. I could not bear to see you troubled as my father has been. "Never fear for me, HELEN. I shall take good care not to be in trouble from this account. Whenever I take upon myself an obligation, it will be with so fair a prospect, that no embarrassment can follow. You must go around and look at these cottages. If they please your fancy as they have pleased mine, one them shall be our dove's nest. Leave all the ways and means to my providing. I will secure the home, and you shall fill it with sunshine. And thus they talked on, as lover's will talk, of their future, in which a heaven of enjoyment awaits their advancing steps. But, in each mind was a consciousness that some change had occurred; that, instead of being internally nearer, they stood further off from each other than at their last meeting. So strong was this impression with HELEN, that after parting with HIRAM, she fell into a musing, half-dissipated state, that increased until her eyes grew dim with tears, and she went weeping to her pillow. Mr. OVERMAN'S kindly-manifested interest in his clerk was genuine. When his mind went out in favorable regard towards any one, his generous nature led him to confer benefits. He liked the minister—who was a true man—and the daughter had always been one of his favorites. As soon as it became known to him that HIRAM FOSTER was HELEN'S accepted lover, he was almost as much pleased as if one of them had been his own child. In a few days he called to see Mr. PRUSSOTT, and spoke in such hearty praise of the young man, that all opposition to an early marriage was removed; and the time fixed some three or four months distant. One of the cottages on the new street was taken, with the knowledge and approval of Mr. OVERMAN, who negotiated a purchase with the builder, obtaining from him a long extended time of payments in quarterly sums. Nor did his generous interest stop here. More than half the neat furniture that adorned the cottage in which HIRAM installed his bride on their wedding day, was the gift of Mr. OVERMAN.

Time passed on. This marriage would have been blessed beyond the usual degree, had it not been for HIRAM'S secret sin. HELEN was a tender, loving, dutiful wife, whose heart, like a vigorously growing vine, was all the while putting forth tendrils, and seeking to grasp the heart of her husband. But, though he never repelled; was never unkind; somehow, tendril after tendril failed to gain the support after which it reached forth eagerly, and curled back feebly and helplessly upon itself. Only here and there were attachments made, and they held on with such a strain, that weariness and trembling fear came often, — too often, — instead of sweet security and repose. The young wife was never certain of the mood in which her husband would return at day's decline. Sometimes he would come home with cheerful countenance—sometimes with a shadow on his face—sometimes with words on his lips that made her heart leap up with pleasure—sometimes in silence and seeming coldness. Often she would watch his face, as he sat lost in thought, and feel a shrinking fear, as its expression altered from one strange aspect to another; sometimes lighting up with a sudden gleam, and sometimes retreating as suddenly into shadow and darkness. If, on these occasions, she intruded upon him, he would seem annoyed or confused. He did not often speak of his worldly prospects; when he did so, it was in a general way, and in a tone of encouragement. For three years they occupied their little cottage on the new street, by which time the payments on account of the purchase were all completed. Many tasteful improvements in the grounds had been made during this time; walks laid out, trees and shrubbery planted, a small summer-house built, and also an addition to the cottage—this addition was to the extent of a single room, to be used as a breakfast and sitting-room. HIRAM wanted to have the addition two stories, which would have made the cost at least a hundred and fifty dollars more; but, his prudent wife urged his abandonment of this plan so strongly, that he gave it up. Her dread of seeing her husband fall in debt was very strong; so strong that she had known little true enjoyment of the tasteful things with which he was steadily surrounding her, and which she felt could not be obtained, under their limited income, without certain embarrassment. "I'm afraid you'll get into trouble, husband, dear," she would say, now and then, as she saw his mind beginning to run on some new expenditure. "Don't go in debt. We've all that is required for enjoyment. There's no true possession in anything not justly our own. Debt robs of beauty even the choicest picture or statue." "Don't fret yourself for nothing, dear," he would answer. "I'm as much afraid of debt as you are, and shall not put myself in anybody's power. My salary is a thousand dollars, you know; and, thanks to your prudent house-keeping, I am laying up a few hundred every year." If HELEN had carefully counted up the cost of living for the three years, adding to this the twelve hundred dollars paid for the cottage, and nearly as much more expended in improvements and additions, she would have been appalled at the result; for this startling fact would have been revealed: Against an income of six hundred dollars for the first year, eight hundred for the second, and one thousand for the third,—twenty-four hundred dollars in all,—stood an expenditure of forty-three hundred dollars; showing a called for deficit of two thousand dollars! And yet, HIRAM FOSTER owed no man, in a legal and acknowledged form, anything; but, on the contrary, held stock certificates in a sound banking institution, located three hundred miles away, to the value of fifteen hundred dollars. But of this property his wife knew nothing. That was his own secret. "HIRAM!" The young man had locked the fire-proof and put on his coat. It was after sundown, and the front windows of the store were shut. Mr. OVERMAN had seemed dull and distant all day, and was now sitting in the back part of the store, not seeming to notice the usual preparations for going home. His utterance of HIRAM'S name gave the young man a start. It did not take much now to give him a start. The evil are always in fear. "The wicked flee when no man pursueth." "Sir!" His back was towards Mr. OVERMAN, but he turned only in part around. "I have a word or two I wish to say, HIRAM; it's been on my mind for some days." The heart of HIRAM FOSTER leaped with alarm. Poor heart! It had become habitually afraid. It was no longer a brave, calm heart, beating on in conscious innocence. No—no. Alas, poor heart! The rustle of a garment; a sudden step behind; an unusual tone of voice, or look, from Mr. OVERMAN—these, and a hundred other insignificant things, had power to send through it a pulse of terror. "Sit down—there," HIRAM had not ventured to speak in response, but stood in silence, and with his face a little turned away. He took a chair, and drew it towards Mr. OVERMAN. The imminent peril that seemed impending, gave him power to control his exterior. "HIRAM, I'm afraid you're living a little too free for your income. It has been on my mind to say this for some time." The young man could not keep the blood back from his face. It rushed there, crimsoning it to the brows. "I see you've been putting an addition to your house; now this has cost at least three hundred

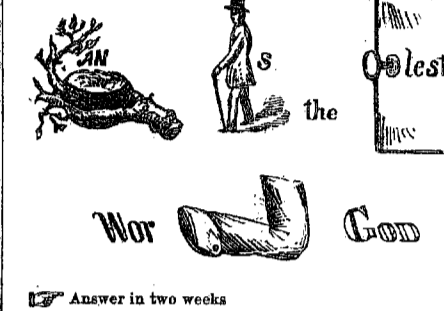
dollars. You'll get in debt, if you have not already involved yourself, as surely as the sun shines." "We live very frugally," answered HIRAM, his voice so hoarse and unnatural that the words almost choked him. "And you know my salary is a thousand dollars." "And that brings me to another thing I must say," remarked Mr. OVERMAN. "Something is wrong in the business, I'm afraid. Some miscalculation, or some leak. Things are not working out in the old way. My payments crowd me more closely than in former times. I have to borrow, frequently, from day to day, and this worries me." Mr. OVERMAN'S eyes were fixed steadily on HIRAM'S face; their expression was severe; and HIRAM saw doubt, if not suspicion, in them. "I'm sorry to hear you say this, Mr. OVERMAN. I thought everything going on prosperously." The clerk's answer was not well considered. He felt that he must say something, and uttered what first came to his lips. "You must have been blind then," said Mr. OVERMAN, with some impatience of manner. "Things are not going on prosperously. I'm losing instead of making money. There's a leak somewhere, and it must be found." "I can't imagine where there can be a leak," replied HIRAM, "unless it is in pricing the goods. You've been cutting down the profits, you know." "And largely increasing the sales," said Mr. OVERMAN. "No, it's not there." "Our stock of goods is heavier than usual," Mr. OVERMAN shook his head. "No; it doesn't lie there." "If there's a leak it should be found," said the young man, emphatically. His first tremors were passing away, and he was gaining steadiness of tone, and confidence of manner; and "I'll do all in my power to reach the cause of evil." How closely duplicity and lying follow upon the steps of crime! They are its natural offspring. A man may not enter the ways of evil, without the companionship of lies. "The leak must be found!" Mr. OVERMAN'S manner was imperative. "For more than a year I've had a troubled impression that something was going wrong. It has haunted me day and night. And now, in looking my affairs in the face, doubt is no longer admissible." "I'm sorry." There was an affectation of sympathy in HIRAM'S voice. "Very sorry, sir; and if there's anything I can do in the matter, you know that only your word is required. Just say in what direction you would have me work, and I'll neither rest night nor day until a result is reached." "One thing is clear," answered Mr. OVERMAN. "Expenses will have to be reduced. And, to begin, HIRAM, your salary must be cut down. I shall not complain if you seek for and find a better situation—indeed, it would give me pleasure, instead of regret, to see you in the service of another person, if with decided advantage to yourself. You have a wife and two children, and must look to them. But as things are, six hundred dollars is all the salary I can afford to pay. I'm sorry, but cannot help myself." "I shall not leave you, Mr. OVERMAN." There was so much feeling in the young man's voice, that his kind hearted employer was deceived, and the vague suspicion which had crept into his mind, cast out. "You have been so generous, that I would despise myself if I turned meanly away and thought only of my own affairs when things seemed going wrong with you. I can live on six hundred dollars a year, thanks to the prudence and economy of my wife; or, on five, if necessary. So do not let this trouble you, Mr. OVERMAN. In every possible way I will help you in the work of reducing expenses, and in finding out the leak, if any exists." "You meet me in the right spirit, HIRAM. It is what I should have expected," said Mr. OVERMAN. But there was a dead level in his voice, that failed to give assurance to the young man's heart. "You can go home, now. I will ponder these matters to-night, and come to some conclusions by to-morrow." [To be continued next week.]

Corner for the Young.

GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 58 letters. My 28, 5, 22, 30, 12, 6, 40 is a large island situated on the equator. My 35, 40, 17, 5, 42, 54 is a river in Germany. My 66, 41, 44, 23, 38, 42, 5, 16, 37 is a city in England. My 22, 11, 44, 62, 30 is a small island in the Mediterranean Sea. My 16, 65, 14, 49, 49, 23 is a city in Asiatic Turkey. My 39, 45, 3, 38, 4, 51 is a city in Maine. My 18, 14, 55, 49, 13, 50, 38 is a town in Ohio. My 7, 11, 6, 19, 30, 27, 9 is a country in Asia. My 8, 2, 36, 46, 47, 26, 45 is a river in China. My 24, 20, 30, 39, 43, 38 is a river in England. My 38, 28, 31, 33, 4, 22, 56, 38 is a small island near the Western coast of Africa. My 44, 23, 67, 13, 2, 46 is a city in England. My 68, 32, 25, 14, 3, 27, 21 is a city in Ireland. My 29, 45, 55, 34, 63, 43, 11, 58 is an island near the coast of Wales. My 10, 40, 55, 39, 23, 48, 32, 33 is a city in England. My 1, 4, 55, 44, 26, 21, is a town in New York. My whole may be found in the book of Exodus. Napoleon, Ohio, 1860. J. HERBERT. Answer in two weeks.

ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



Answer in two weeks. For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 14 letters. My 1, 14, 12, 8, 7, 1 is to be found in every town. My 2, 8, 5, 1, 14, 3, 12 is the name of a vessel. My 3, 8, 4 is an animal. My 4, 6, 13, 2 are the trouble of every housekeeper. My 5, 14, 3, 10, 6, 13, 2, 5 is that for which men are paid. My 6, 12, 9, 11, 7 is the name of an ill-treated American. My 7, 14, 8, 1 is what every housekeeper should be. My 8, 4, 14, 3, 8, 13, 11 is my home. My 9, 6, 13, 2 are what you should avoid. My 10, 8, 3, 6, 2, 9 is the style of this enigma. My 11, 9, 10, 8, 7, 13, 2, 4, 14, 12, 1, 6, 12, 5, 13, 6, 2, 7, 13, 14 is one of the glories of the American people. My 12, 14, 3, 10, 2 is that which all need in these times. My 13, 11, 3, 9, 5 are dangerous playthings. My 14, 12, 9 is what you have come to. My whole is important to all subscribers to the RURAL NEW-YORKER. "PETER." Plymouth, Luzerne Co., Pa., 1861. Answer in two weeks.

POETICAL ENIGMA.

This word of two syllables you easily may Apply in more senses than one in a day. The M, C, who wishes a seat to obtain, Must actively try it, or seek it in vain; In lady who chooses fine work to produce, In cushion, chair, slipper, must find it of use; The hero who chafes for his country to fight, After work in the trenches, sees it with delight. Answer in two weeks.

A PUZZLE.

Not Y in u r o u n I, or U L c what a fool u b. Palmyra, Jef. Co., Wis., 1860. W. B. Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 572.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Love thy neighbor, as thyself. Answer to Geographical Enigma:—Truth is mighty, and will prevail. Answer to Mathematical Problem:—The greater is 75; the less 25.

Wit and Humor.

LITTLE JOKERS.

WHEN is a sailor not a sailor? Answer—when he is a board. INDIANS may be considered the "copper-faced" type of mankind. WHAT is the worst kind of fare for a man to live on? Answer—war fare. You have a splendid ear, but a very poor voice, said the organ-grinder to the donkey. WHAT means of conveyance by land, and what by sea, are ladies fondest of? Buses and smacks. HAPPY is the husband whose wife never asks him for any jewelry, save black diamonds.—Punch. The young lady with "speaking eyes" has become quite hoarse, in consequence of using them too much. Two men undertook to see which would run the fastest. One was a constable and the other was a thief. DON'T undertake to throw cold water on your wife's darling schemes, unless you want to get into hot. "MANY," asked Charles, "what animal dropped from the clouds?"—"The rain, dear," was the whispered reply. THE money-mania is fond of money because he owes all his importance to it. He is nothing without it, and very little with it. SOME malicious person asserts that the letters M, D., which are placed after physicians' names, signify "Money Down." "Do you believe, Sir, that the dead ever walk after death?"—"No doubt of it, Madam; I have heard the 'Dead March in Saul.'" WHEN his cousin Chagotte Dunne was married, Jones said "It was Dunne before it was begun, Dunne while it was doing, and it was not Dunne when it was done." Two men made a bet as to who could eat the most oysters. One ate four hundred and ninety-nine, the other ate five hundred and won. How many did the winner eat? A GENTLEMAN, just married, told Foote that he had that morning laid out three thousand pounds in jewels for his dear wife. "She is truly your dear wife," replied the wit. In the Mississippi Legislature a proposal was made to alter the name of a county and call it Cass county. A member, by way of burlesque on the old Michigander whom it was proposed thus to commemorate, moved as an amendment that the first letter should be omitted. Upon this the original proposer said it was the first instance he had ever known of a member having the assurance to name a county after himself.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,

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Subscription—Two DOLLARS A YEAR. To Clubs and Agents as follows:—Three Copies one year, for \$5; 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—with an extra free copy for every Ten Subscribers over Twenty. Club papers directed to individuals and sent to a many different Post-Offices as desired. As we pre-pay American postage on papers sent to the British Provinces, our Canadian agents and friends must add 12 1/2 cents per copy to the club rates of the RURAL. The lowest price of copies sent to Europe, &c., is \$2.50—including postage. Agents who take Special Premiums for clubs formed previous to April 1st, are also entitled to one extra (free) copy of the paper for a club of either Six at \$10, Ten at \$15, or Twenty at \$25;—and those who do not complete for or under the premium can have an extra copy for every ten subscribers over twenty. Any one who has formed and received premium another club, or receive a free copy of the paper for every additional ten subscribers forwarded. The above Terms and Rates are invariable, and those who remit less than specified for a single copy or club, will be credited only as per rates, and receive the paper accordingly. Any person who is not an agent sending the club rate (\$1.50) 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. Advertising—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 50% cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded), Sixty cents a Line. The RURAL NEW-YORKER has a far larger circulation than any similar journal in the world, and is undoubtedly the best advertising medium of its class in America. 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. SEND for the NAMES—Now is the time to forward lists of subscribers for 1861, and we hope agent-friends will "hurry up" the names as fast as possible. VOLUNTARY AGENTS FOR THE RURAL—Any and every Subscriber or reader is requested to act in behalf of the RURAL, by forming clubs or otherwise. Now is the time for its friends to manifest their interest in the paper and the cause it advocates, either by obtaining new subscribers, or inducing others to act in its behalf. If any lose or wear out numbers in showing the paper,—that's the best way to get subscribers,—we will duplicate them in order to make their files complete for binding. The Enlargement of the Rural New-Yorker was announced some weeks ago. We promised to enlarge it one-sixth, but have in fact performed much more, for, according to the figures of printers, the RURAL now contains ONE-FIFTH MORE READING, the increased amount equalling eight columns of our old measure, or over a page and a half in each number!

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR. "PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT" [SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

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

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 personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the 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 in America.

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AGRICULTURAL

FARMING EAST AND WEST.

In an article designed to induce attendance on the Agricultural Lectures in New Haven, *The Homestead* utters the following significant language:

"We are going to have a use for all that we know or can learn about agriculture. There is going to be a closer strife than ever between Eastern and Western farmers, and the battle will be won by those strong in the knowledge of their profession."

There can be no doubt but our contemporary's point is well taken. If a contest between East and West in the matter of farming is to be entered into, there will be need of more theoretical and practical science than can be got from Prof. FOSTER and his collaborators, to enable the East to come out victorious. The West has better land, a better climate, more enterprise, and equal intelligence. There are many men of leisure in the Eastern States who have become rich in other pursuits, who work farms for occupation and amusement, whose results in the way of fancy agriculture are praiseworthy. But such men do not get a living from their farms. Their farms are pets, like their horses or boats, upon which they spend their income for amusement and exercise. When we come to look at the farms in the New England States, which are cultivated in good faith as a means of livelihood, they cannot for a moment bear a comparison with our own part of New York and the older States of the Northwest. Here, men cultivate farms with the confident expectation of becoming wealthy. The relation of the farmer in all financial matters to the manufacturer and the merchant is altogether different from what it is at the East. Consequently there is more capital employed on farms, and also in general a higher order of intelligence is devoted to agriculture as a business. This may sound strange to those who have been bred in the conviction that all the forces of civilization diminish in the inverse proportion of their distance from the site of the Charter Oak or Bunker Hill Monument. It is an undoubted truth that our friends in Connecticut "have a use for all they can know or learn about agriculture." That we have a better soil and climate for farming and horticulture than they, is no credit to us, and no disgrace to them. But our Eastern periodicals must wake up to the truth that we, in the West, are their equals in knowledge of scientific farming and in skill to put it to practice. We are aware that the prejudice obtains in New England that a sound, liberal, professional, or practical education can hardly be obtained out of her limits. New England is not yet aware that it is becoming provincial, and from the nature of human progress cannot maintain the position relatively to the West, that it did twenty-five years ago. It is a fact that she no longer controls the finances or the trade of the United States. She no longer leads, as formerly, the science or scholarship of the country. She no longer leads in politics. Though her civilization was the first to ripen, it does not follow that it still holds its place in advance. She must recognize the fact that she does not give an adequate career to the enterprise of her own sons,—that the vigorous, the bold, the enterprising, leave her soil for a wider sphere of activity. By the law of natural selection, the least vigorous are left, while the strong seek for conditions of life adequate to develop their conscious internal power. The Yankee man, like his fruit and cattle, thrives by transplanting. The New Englander in the West shows the good points of the old stock, but he shows them raised to a higher power. The California and Kansas migrations took away twenty years' growth of talent and enterprise from New England.

There are multitudes of villages in the older Eastern States which have been almost stripped of their young men by these migrations. Compare for a moment those who go, with those who stay. It is self-evident that the dash, the pluck, and ambition of such a village, as a general rule, goes away, while

the timid, the weak, and unenterprising stay at home. Man is the joint product of internal force and external conditions. Let a young man be subjected to the intense activities of new Western life, and he is enlarged, elevated, invigorated. Go to a town meeting in any of those old towns at the East—look at the boys as they come in; you can tell almost at a glance who among them will go West, and who settle on the old homestead. Look at one with an eye like a hawk; muscles of steel and whipcord, a brain full of electricity, with a step and action as if he had a ten-horse power steam engine in him; you may be sure that he is already laying up money to buy his time of his father, with his face already set like a flint towards the Rocky Mountains. The time is already upon us when the intellectual and moral, as well as industrial leadership of our land, is to be sought for out of New England.

Light and power will be sought from the West instead of the East. Even within a few days, we have responded to orders of clubs as large as fifty, for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, from the old State of Connecticut. Trees and flowers are already sent East by thousands on thousands from Monroe County. Last year one of our nursery establishments sent twenty thousand rose plants to the city of Boston alone. In what we have said we have not the slightest disposition to underrate the glory or the excellencies of New England. We would aim only to correct the notion so confidently put forth, that the West must look East for all high education, science, culture, and scholarship—that in our own and the Western States there are not all the elements for the highest precept and example in agriculture and the mechanical arts: We bid the Homestead God speed in its efforts to promote good farming in Connecticut, and hail it as a worthy fellow laborer in a good cause.

THE DAIRY—NO. II.—THE COW.

In the present state of society in civilized countries, it would be difficult to determine which class of animals,—the cow, the sheep, or the hog, is the most useful, or could be dispensed with at the least inconvenience to man. Perhaps the hog should not be included in the category, since good olive oil can be made from cottonseed oil, and the sunlight in coal is being bottled up for daily, or rather nightly use, in the shape of Kerosene or Stone Coal oils.

My award would favor the cow first, and the second premium would be to the sheep. No animal upon the farm can return so much value to the farmer on capital invested as the cow. And if any man were told, for the first time, how much a well fed cow could earn in a year, he would consider the statement simply absurd. It is true the value is much enhanced by locality, for a cow near a great market, where milk can be sold at a high figure, will pay a higher per centage upon her value and keeping, than one on the hills of Cattaraugus. Still, when compared with other branches of farming, the cow everywhere pays a wonderful profit upon the capital she represents.

The dairyman's success depends upon his cow. If he have a choice animal, that gives him a large quantity of milk, it is evident that for the food consumed he is getting a larger yield from the land than would be the case with an inferior one. But one thing is manifest in all the dairies which have been examined in this State,—there is not a single one where the farmer makes the most judicious use of his cows. No one seems to be aware of the burthen which he places upon her, nor how much he loses by not aiding her to the best of his abilities in bearing it. The Israelites, when in bondage and compelled to find their own straw and deliver their regular tale of bricks, had not a harder task than is everywhere allotted to the patient, toiling cow.

To comprehend the extent of that task, let us examine, in the first place, the constituent elements of milk. The question before us then is, "What is milk?" The answer would depend upon locality, in a good degree, if left merely to the knowledge of the milkman, or the consumer. In New York, for instance, among the masses it would be defined a bluish, whitish liquid, that has a tendency, when left at rest, to deposit a good deal more substance at the bottom than on the top. If the milkman were to define it, he would call it still-slops, diluted and strained through the cow, and slightly improved by the addition of a little starch and water.

But if seen and tasted when drawn from the cows under up among the mountains of Delaware county, where the cow feeds upon the richest herbage, and drinks from the purest streams, it would be defined an opaque fluid, of a white color, sweet and agreeable to the taste, composed of a fatty substance representing butter, a caseous substance, for cheese, and a watery residuum.

These constituents vary in different animals. The following table, from the analysis of HENRY and CHEVALIERE, exhibits the milk of several animals in its ordinary state:

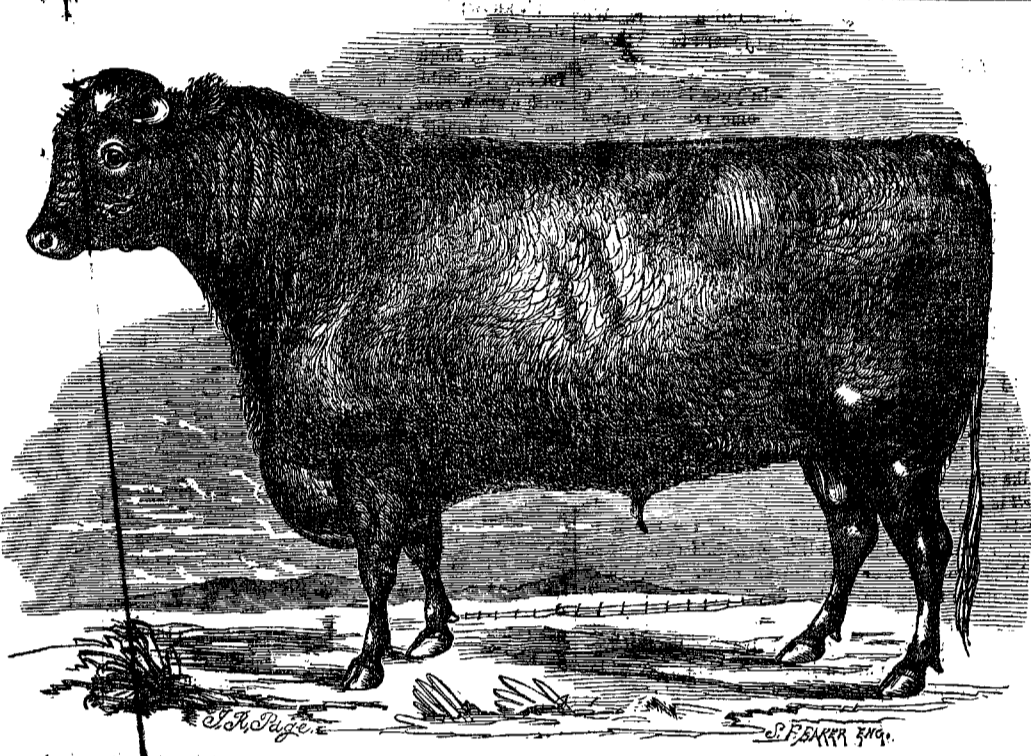
	Woman.	Cow.	Jass.	Goat.	Ewe.
Casein (cheese),	1.52	4.45	1.82	4.08	4.50
Butter,	13.55	3.13	0.11	3.32	4.30
Milk sugar,	6.50	4.77	6.03	5.28	6.00
Saline matter,	0.45	0.60	0.34	0.58	0.68
Water,	57.98	87.02	81.85	82.80	83.62
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

In view of the large proportion of water which nature has put into the composition of the milk, it would seem rather unfair to further dilute it before it

"APRICOOT'S GLOSTER."

AMONG the breeders of Short-horn Cattle in this State, Mr. S. P. CHAPMAN, of Madison County, held a prominent position for several years. He had an excellent herd, and bred many fine animals. On retiring from the business (to discharge the duties of a responsible county office,) Mr. C.'s herd was disposed of at public sale, and a number of its best and most promising members passed into the possession of other breeders. The one here represented is said to be a superior animal, and his pedigree (which we copy from the American Short-horn Herd Book) indicates good blood,—an item considered important by most stock men.

Pedigree of Apricot's Gloster.—Red, bred by S. P. CHAPMAN, Clackville, Madison Co., N. Y., the property of Messrs. BUTTS & CASS, Manlius, Onondaga Co., N. Y., calved Jan. 15, 1858, got by Duke of Gloster (11382) out of imp. Apricot, by 3d Duke of York (10186).—Anna, by 4th Duke of Northumberland (3649).—Anna, by Short Tail (2621).—Acomb, by Belvedere (1706).—a cow bought of Mr. BATES, Kirkleavington, England.



passes into the hands of the consumer. Perhaps erroneous opinions are formed on this subject.

HADLLEN gives the analysis of forty pounds of milk, reduced to dry material.

Dry material, 5.20 of which was—	
Fats casein,	2.00
Butter,	1.25
Sugar,	1.75
Mineral matter,	1.20
	5.20

As the secretion of milk in the mammalia is designed by Nature for the reproduction and sustenance of the race, all the food consumed beyond that required for the sustenance of life in the parent is absorbed in the milk, and that becomes rich, or poor, or scant, or abundant, just in proportion as the food is abundant and nutritious, or scant and of a poor quality. If, then, it be the object to make the cow the most useful, by the richness and abundance of her milk, she must be supplied with that kind of food which will furnish for use the elements found most abundant in her milk. She must have a certain amount of food to enable her to maintain her body in its normal state. It is claimed that three per cent. of her live weight daily will accomplish this. But to supply the drain upon her system, in the milk she is expected to furnish, she must have additional food, and it is in the power of the farmer to so adapt that food to her wants that she shall not only maintain herself in good condition of body, but maintain a large flow of milk, rich in the elements of butter and cheese.—P.

HIGH FEEDING.

FARM stock, as well as farmers, should always maintain a condition of healthy development,—that condition is incompatible with a very low, or a very high state of flesh, and is measured and determined very accurately by the strength and vigor of the subject.

The low state of flesh is deplorably common, and justifies all the interest and anxiety of our friend JOHN JOHNSTON in regard to it,—the high, or excessively fleshy condition, generally occurs when animals, for commercial purposes, are made to assume great rotundity and sleekness. So, also, young animals, like young children, are frequently petted and pampered, to be neglected afterwards; but it remains true that mankind lean very generally to the poor side. From birth to maturity, growth should never cease, nor should the strength and vigor of the animal be permitted to decline.

I deem it proper, however, to re-affirm some positions heretofore taken, viz: First—It is better to keep an animal, not employed in labor, in the proper condition, without grain, when that is possible. Second—This is sometimes possible with animals peculiarly adapted to take on flesh, when they can be furnished in summer with plenty of good grass, and in winter fed very judiciously with excellent hay, adding, perhaps, apples or roots. Third—Immense loss occurs from raising poor grass, curing it in a poor way, and feeding it in poor style.

When, therefore, Mr. JOHNSTON lends his high authority to the orthodox doctrine of keeping animals in good order, I would be glad if he would leave no body to infer that the result should be attained mainly by a large consumption of grain. I may be permitted to refer to Mr. POWELL, of Livingston Co., who is known hereabouts as a "good feeder," and yet it is known that he feeds grain very sparingly, and so of everything else. Just enough at just the right time, is his motto—a point of incalculable importance. Racks should sometimes be empty, and should never be excessively filled.

In grain districts, it may be an object to work in a good deal of straw and stalks, and in that case the amount of grain mentioned by Mr. JOHNSTON is not too large,—say a half-pound of corn, or beans, or other grain, to a sheep per day; but I do know that Merino sheep can be kept with first-rate hay twice a

day and straw once a day, in first-rate order, upon less than half a pound of grain per day.

If Mr. JOHNSTON keeps long-wooled sheep or grades, feeding them with particular reference to market, he doubtless adopts the right practice, subject, however, to some modification with different sheep and different circumstances.

Having said this much, I wish to say, with most decided emphasis, that the depreciation of our stock during our long and severe winters, by which we lose their growth and their flesh, keeping them through long months at great expense, while they go down hill every day, is a frightful loss, which, if paid by the Insurance Companies, would sink every one of them below resurrection. I say, then, keep all your stock in thrifty, growing condition, and use as much grain as you find necessary to secure that result.—M. B.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FARMING.

The mechanic who undertook to put up a building, could lay little claim to sense or philosophy unless he commenced at the foundation. A good manure hill, in my view is the foundation—the corner stone—of all good farming. Occasionally, some correspondent of the agricultural papers—some fanciful theorist, no doubt—will argue that manure is not of much consequence, that tillage is everything. It would be just as sensible for the jockey to say that feeding of a horse was of no consequence, currying was everything. Both important, but feeding is that which supports life. The past summer, I was in Philadelphia, and happened, one evening, to be in a meeting of practical gardeners. Some one spoke rather lightly of the value of manure, when the gardener of Girard College arose, and stated that he had a family of five hundred to feed. He found that the ease with which he was able to do this, depended upon the amount of manure he had on hand at the commencement of operations. With abundance of manure, he could supply all wants with ease; but if the manure was short, he was obliged to work hard and accomplished less. When manure was scarce, he worked to disadvantage and wasted labor.

I know a gentleman in Herkimer County, who bought a farm at a low price, for it was considered so poor as to be worthless. It would not grow grass or corn, and there seemed no way to commence improvement. He bought guano one season and made a crop of corn, which cost about all it was worth, but it was fed out, and the manure put on the soil. This laid the foundation of other crops, and now the farm is one of the most fertile in the county—made so with manure produced on the farm, with the exception of the first purchase of guano. This farmer is a true philosopher, and some of the readers of the RURAL have, no doubt, heard him relate his experience at agricultural meetings.

A farmer, not a score of miles from your sanctum, Mr. Editor, grew potatoes on a light loam, occasionally turning under clover until they got so small and so few in number, that they would not help suggesting the use of a comb to get them out. I advised manure. This is my remedy for almost all complaints. If the ground is drained and don't produce crops, I know what the trouble is. I was told all the manure produced upon the farm was used. But, on inquiry, I found that there was no composting, no effort to increase the manure pile—no gathering muck or leaves—no drawing of ashes—no saving of liquid manure. I proposed a remedy. The next lot, at planting time, received good dressing of compost in the hill, and there was no cause to complain of a small crop.

A good many farmers who about half of their manure, or rather they do not make half as much as they might. It is just about well to throw manure into the creek, as to throw it out of the stable in summer time, and let it lay to burn. It should be mixed with some material that will prevent its rapid

fermentation and destruction. Common earth and swamp muck will do this. The farmer should think as much of his manure pile as he does of anything about his premises. I knew one farmer who really seemed to appreciate a manure heap. He would take his visitors to see his pile of compost with as much satisfaction as the lady would show them to the parlor, or exhibit her flower garden. As he stood over it with his eyes glistening with delight, he would thrust his hand down deep, pull out a handful of the black looking compound, rub it in his hands, and exhibit it to his friends, saying—"capital stuff, that, sir—capital stuff." He was a philosopher. No cart or wagon and team was idle on his farm. Some headlands needed cleaning up, or the ditches by the road-side were partially filled and overgrown with grass, and must be cleaned out, or a load of ashes or muck could be obtained somewhere,—all of which he declared would make "capital stuff."

Now, be it understood that a farmer who is thus looking out for his manure pile, will make three times the quantity and "better stuff" with the same land and stock, than the farmer who uses the manure he obtains without any efforts to increase the quantity, or any special regard to the quality. But it may be said that by putting two lots of manure together, or a quantity of mold with manure, we create nothing. That each will contain all the elements of fertility separate that they would united. This is true. The object of the union is to prevent the loss of valuable elements, and also to bring them to a condition to be conveniently used, and in a state fit for the food of plants. In my next I will speak of the different sources of obtaining manure open to the farmer, the comparative value of each, with such remarks upon the best methods of saving and applying as I think will be of value to my agricultural friends. CERES.

TILE FOR ROOFING.

OUR correspondents, it would seem, are determined to give this subject a thorough discussion in the columns of the RURAL. Our first article was in answer to the inquiry of a correspondent of Illinois. We then gave a few facts showing the way in which tile were made and used in Europe, and the objections to their use in our climate. This brought out a response from Wm. LYMAN, Esq., who seems determined if possible not only to roof our houses with burnt clay, but to cover and line them, and furnish caps and floors and fence posts, and a variety of other articles, of the same material. In reply to our objection, that tile would become destroyed from freezing when filled with moisture, which they will absorb very freely, our correspondent argued that hard burning, so as to vitrify the material, would make tile as impervious to moisture as glass. A practical brick maker replied that this could not be done by any known process, as such severe burning would destroy the form of the tile, leaving it a shapeless mass. In our last we gave another article from Mr. L., the import of which our readers will remember.

A large portion of our country is destitute of lumber, while it is becoming scarce in all sections; shingles at best are of short duration and objectionable on account of fire; tin and slate are too expensive for common use; many of the patent roofing materials have failed to satisfy expectations; and if brick clay can be made into tiles so as to form a cheap and durable roofing material, we shall hail proof of the fact with a good deal of pleasure. The discussion of the question can do no harm and may result in good. Formerly nearly all the buildings in England and other portions of Europe, except those of the most costly character, were covered with tiles.—Latterly slate has been more generally used, and now we believe form the covering of the majority of the better class of new buildings. The tiles used are of two forms, one called Plain Tiles and the other Pan Tiles. Plain Tiles are flat sheets and generally made about ten inches long, six inches wide, and five-

eighths of an inch thick. The rafters are set pretty close and covered with lath, as for plastering, though further apart. The tiles are laid on these laths, in mortar. Each tile has at one end a hole to receive a wooden pin by which it is secured to the lath. An overlap of from six to eight inches is given.

This our readers can perceive will make a durable roof in a temperate climate, if the tiles are well burned. It is, however, very heavy, and would require much better support than we often give in our cheap frame houses.

Pan Tiles have their outline of a parallelogramic form; they are straight in the direction of their length, but curved in their cross section, as seen in engraving. They are 9 inches long and 7 inches across, in a straight line, and half an inch thick, and they have a small projection or tongue formed at their upper end, by which they are hung on the laths. They are laid on laths, either dry or on mortar; overlapping laterally, the down turn of the one covering the upturn of the other, and overlapping longitudinally about three or four inches. In both pan and plain tiling, large concave tiles are used to cover the ridges and hips, and gutter tiles are also used for the valleys.

Of the cost of tiles, as compared with shingles, we are not able to form an estimate, but we greatly fear our severe frosts following thaws and rain would destroy the tiles in a short time. We believe there is a barn near Geneva covered with tiles that have stood well for a number of years. The following communication is from an old English maker. We think, however, he is mistaken in regard to the thickness of tiles:

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In your issue of the 24th of November, you make some remarks about roofing materials, with which I can not find much fault, excepting the thickness of tiles. You say the pan tile is half an inch, and the flat tile five-eighths thick; which should be just the contrary. In your issue of the 15th of December, you have a letter from Wm. LYMAN, Esq., of Moscow, N. Y., in which he says he has ideas which he would be glad to have controverted if incorrect. Now, I am not very competent to give you all the information you ask, not having worked at either brick or tile-making for many years. But, if no better comes to hand, you can use as much of this as you choose. In looking over Mr. LYMAN'S letter, I do not know how to criticize it. Common pan tiles, put to the heat of a kiln, would be a vitrified mass. Burning the tile well is a very difficult job.—I never knew but one instance of an overheat, and many of the tile were blistered and spoiled, just like Mrs. L.'s cakes when she has too quick or too hot an oven. The bricks were made to lay ten inches by five and two and a half. The pan tile was made, I think, fourteen inches long, eleven inches broad, and five eighths thick, and the flat tile ten and a half inches long, six wide, and half an inch thick. These last were always laid more than double, and to break joints, as we lay shingles. I have seen some flat tile rounded some at the bottom end, and about seven inches broad.

A cross section of the pan tile is the segment of a circle, with what we call a wing, eight inches chord, perpendicular two inches. What you call a tongue, we used to call a knob. It is about one and three-

fourths inches long, seven-eighths of an inch broad, and five-eighths of an inch thick, running across the back of the top of the tile to catch the lath. I suppose you mean that a pan tile will cover nine by seven, equal to sixty-three inches. I believe you are within the mark, and that they will come near ten by eight, or eighty inches. Ridge tiles are made without a wing or knob, and the same at each side. The ends are also alike.

I believe there is no clay but that is more or less porous, and I do not think that pan tiles can be profitably made to suit this climate. You remark that "all the tile that we have seen used in Europe is burned only about as much as our common brick." You are right. Now, in building, one-half, or in some cases where the walls are thick, not more than one-third of the brick are exposed to the frost, and those who understand their business may generally pick out as many hard brick as will do from our common brick. But, with the tile it is different. Every tile is exposed to the frost, and I have never seen or heard of a brick or tile kiln being burnt where there was not a part, perhaps a fifth, or a quarter of them, that would not stand our winter frost. But, I can speak only as to the climate of St. Lawrence county and parts adjoining. I have lived here nearly forty-three years, and have never been further south than New York city, and was never there in cold weather. Perhaps in the southern parts of Illinois there may be clay, and coal too, to burn with, where a profitable business could be carried on in tile-making, sending none but the hardest burnt northward, and lighter burnt southward. They do not need to be vitrified, or burnt black, to stand a hard frost.

A full set of workmen at pan tile making was three,—a mess-maker, moulder, and washer-off,—also a miller, who wheeled the clay into the mill-house, from the clay hole where it had been wheeled to in winter, and turned twice over and tempered, first with a wooden shovel, with about two inches of iron across the end of it, and made sharp to cut clay easy; secondly, with a wooden shovel, after which it was leveled and holes filled up, and the whole heap covered with sand about four inches thick,—the sand very clean, clear of stone or shell. One thousand was a day's work for three men.

A pan tile shed might be sixty yards long, more or less, built on pillars about two feet square and ten feet apart, and six or seven feet high. Between each two pillars, were two loose shutters, they neither went close to the top or the bottom, but so as to keep off rain and let in air, and they laid on the ground in dry weather. There were three alleys lengthwise, each about six feet wide with shelves on each side. The shelves were inch boards, about fifteen inches wide and fifteen by sixteen feet long, and five inches apart, or a brick on edge between, and about fourteen or fifteen shelves in height, or about seven or seven and a half feet high. It took one and a half

brick across a shelf at each end, and also in the middle. The pan tiles were put on the shelves upside down to dry, as shown in the drawing. The washer off rounded the top of the tile each way from the knob, when he shaped the wing.

The tile kiln was a parallelogram. The one where I worked had ten fires, five on each side; it held ten thousand pan tiles; had, I believe, thirty-two chimneys, built in rows. The walls were three feet thick, of brick. The floor of the kiln was level. It appeared

ance was rows of bricks on edge, set four or five inches apart, open to the bottom where the fires lay. These rows were all arched below the floor, above the fires, five arches on each length of brick. In filling a tile kiln, we began with brick, three rows, fifteen inches high, all very open, so that we could not walk on them without boards or planks. There was also brick on edge all round between the pan tiles and the wall, put in as wanted when putting in the tile. Then four rows of pan tiles, one above another, and a brick flat above the tile, and so on till the kiln was full, so that in burning no tile touched the kiln floor or sides, and all the upper arch or roof was above the brick. The kiln door-way was in the middle of one end, and before lighting the fires, was built up with a double wall of loose brick, and seven or eight inches between filled in with loam well beat down.

We had a peep-hole in the wall above the door-way, where we could see all over the top, inside, at the time of burning. It is necessary they should be examined at least every half hour. By looking in, we could regulate our fires and know when to close up. Sometimes a chimney would draw down, and the place under, on the top of the tile, would become black, and we had to cover the top of that chimney with a couple of bricks. It took three days and two nights to burn a kiln, beginning early the first day. Two men could carry on a small establishment. The expense of making an establishment would be different in different localities, and any person could make a calculation for the locality he is in, better than a stranger. As to how long a slate roof will last, I don't know; but I have, I believe, seen roofs a hundred years old. I think tin will not rust here near so much as in England. Straw makes a warm covering for sheds or stables; but I don't like to live in a house with a straw roof; they are too musty. They would be objectionable also, where wood fires are used, on account of sparks.

Yours, G. C. MORRISTOWN, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.

FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In your paper of the 5th inst., CYRUS LYON asks for a cure for hoof-rot or foot-rot in sheep. About five years ago my flock, of about 100, were much affected, so much so as to walk upon their knees most of the time. I tried the following remedy, which was given me by Hon. A. B. DICKINSON, of this county, and have not seen any indication of the disease since. He told me that he had tried it often and never knew it to fail.

Procure a shallow trough eight or ten feet long and about eight inches wide in the bottom. Place between two yards, in such manner that sheep passing from one to the other will be obliged to traverse the bottom the whole length; which is best done by making a tight board fence from the top of each side of the trough and the whole length thereof, a little inclined outward, but not enough so as to enable the sheep to get a foothold upon the inclined plane and thus escape the bottom of the trough. Dissolve ten pounds sulphate of copper (blue vitriol) in about four gallons of water, put it in the trough and drive or call the sheep from one yard to the other through the trough, every other day, until they have wet their feet in the solution five or six times, and a cure will be effected. The liquid may be drawn off and saved for future use.

I prefer this mode for the reason that a hundred can be doctored in this way in the time requisite to handle one sheep when they are taken separately, and I believe it equally effectual.

Painted Post, Steu. Co., N. Y., 1861. W. J. GIBBERT.

The Bee-keeper.

How to Feed Weak Swarms.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I have some late swarms of bees which I wish to winter, and I think they have got enough honey and but little bee-bread. Will you let me inform me, through the columns of the RURAL, how I can most successfully feed them?—JOHN B. LOTTREIDG, Cuba, N. Y.

HERE certainly seems to be a bee-keeper in a dilemma. Rather a late hour, however, to ask for such information. Feeding bees should generally be over by the last days of October. If obliged to feed bees after the middle of November, it will generally be the better way to take them up; for if by this time, they have but a scanty supply left, it will cost nearly as much to feed them as they are worth, to say nothing of the trouble incurred. However, we will do what we can under the circumstances for our correspondent, as he seems desirous to enter his bees if possible. Now, if Mr. L. had only taken the precaution to have stated the kind of hives his swarms are in, it would have saved some unnecessary remarks. As different directions must be given for different kinds of hives, i. e., hives with movable frames and hives without frames,—this seems to be necessary.

If the swarms are the common *septus* box hives, we would say, move them at once to good, dry, dark cellar, where the temperature may be uniform; and then commence feeding by placing empty combs under the hive and also in the surplus honey chamber, which are to be kept supplied with honey, or what is cheaper and equally good, a preparation made as follows:—One-third part honey, and two-thirds coffee sugar—the sugar first dissolved by warm water. After the sugar is dissolved, then add the honey—the mixture should be well stirred, and nearly the consistency of honey. If the hive be not provided with a chamber, it may be invented, and the empty comb be filled with honey, or the preparation laid directly on the combs upon which the bees are clustered. The bees will not leave the hive if the cellar be perfectly dark. It would be folly to attempt to feed bees unless they can be kept at such a temperature as to induce them to go in search after honey for them. If this cannot be done in the cellar, they may be moved to a warm, dark room in the house, where they should remain till they have stored enough in the hive proper to last them a month or more,—this will depend upon the amount of comb there is in the body of the hive—when they may be returned to the cellar. The less bees are disturbed and the more uniform the temperature, the less honey they will consume, and the better they will winter.

If the hives have frames, we should say the better way would be to unite the contents of any two swarms. There will be but little contention among the bees, provided they be thoroughly sprinkled with diluted honey scented with a few drops of peppermint essence. As bees distinguish each other by their scent, they will therefore not be able to distinguish "friend from foe." Again, if some colonies are strong, and have more than 25 pounds of honey,—the amount necessary to enter a good swarm,—the excess may be taken away by means of the frames, and given to the destitute swarms. This method of feeding bees—by removing frames of comb—is the best and safest known. If by bees from other hives are not attracted to the hive thus fed, as no scent is emitted by the honey as when fed in the ordinary way; no labor is required from the bees, and but

little time and labor are required from the keeper. Should the swarms be united and then need feeding, they must be moved either to the cellar or room, and fed by placing comb with honey in the chamber. By proper care and attention to these directions, there will be but little danger in wintering bees having a scanty supply of stores.

The above was mislaid, and is not, therefore, as seasonable as we could desire, but the facts stated are of permanent value.

Production of White Wax.

THE last number of *The Technologist*, a valuable scientific journal published in London, contains a paper by the editor, P. L. SIMMONDS, Esq., on the trade in beeswax, from which we extract the following:

There are two kinds of wax found in commerce—yellow or unbleached, and white, or purified and bleached. The bleaching of wax is effected by exposing it in thin laminae to the action of the light and air, by which it becomes perfectly white, scentless, hard, and less greasy to the touch. To accomplish this, it is first broken into small pieces and melted in a copper cauldron, with water just sufficient to prevent the wax from burning. The cauldron has a pipe at the bottom through which the wax, when melted, is run off into a large tub filled with water, and covered with a thick cloth to preserve the heat till the impurities are settled. From this tub the clear melted wax flows into a vessel having the bottom full of small holes, through which it runs in streams upon a cylinder, kept constantly revolving over water, into which it occasionally dips. By this the wax is cooled, and at the same time drawn out into thin sheets, shreds, or ribbons, by the continual rotation of the cylinder, which distributes them through the tub. The wax thus flattened is exposed to the air on linen cloths, stretched on large frames, about a foot or two above the ground, in which situation it remains for several days and nights, exposed to the air and sun, being occasionally watered and turned; by this process the yellow color nearly disappears. In this half-bleached state it is heaped up in a solid mass, and remains for a month or six weeks, after which it is re-melted, ribboned, and bleached as before—in some cases, several times—till it wholly loses its color and smell. It is then again melted for the last time, and cast with a ladle upon a table covered over with little round cavities, into the form of discs or cakes of about five inches in diameter. The moulds are first wetted with cold water, that the wax may be the more easily got out; and the cakes are laid out in the air for two days and two nights, to render them more transparent and dry.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Warning the Horse-Bits.

THE *Ohio Cultivator* says that when a horse's bits are full of frost they should be warmed thoroughly before placing them in the mouth. Not to do so is very cruel. Touch your tongue or even a wet finger to a very cold piece of iron, and you can appreciate the importance of this hint. It may be a little trouble to do it, but it should be done. The frost may be taken out conveniently by placing the bits in water.

Mulching Winter Wheat.

OUR exchanges, says the *Maine Farmer*, are recommending a plan adopted by Dr. C. HARRIS, of Wilmington, in Delaware, for mulching, or protecting winter wheat. It is, to sow buckwheat with the wheat in the fall. This will grow up to some height, say one or two feet, before the frost kills it. It then judges about the wheat and forms a protection to it, catching the snows and preventing the frost from throwing up and breaking the wheat roots. Something like this was practiced twenty-five or thirty years ago, with tolerable success, in this State, by the late CHARLES VAUGHAN, of Hallowell. He sowed oats with his wheat, which, when killed by the frost, formed a very good mulch, or covering, to the crop of wheat during the winter.

A Hint to Dairymen.

In a late issue of the *Country Gentleman*, the editor remarks that he has often met with notices of good cows, and a large dairy composed of such would prove highly profitable, but too often a few poor animals throw the balance on the wrong side. For instance, a farmer in Massachusetts, keeping 10 cows, found they averaged 1800 quarts to the cow, but the five best averaged 2000 quarts, leaving 1200 quarts to each of the five poorer ones. The best cows gave a profit of \$18 each; the poorer ones were kept at a loss of \$14 each—thus destroying nearly the whole profit of the dairy. No man can afford to keep a poor cow at the expense of a better one; he should rather fatten for beef, or give away, even, than to pursue such a course of dairying. Let every cow's value be tested, and those that do not come up to the point of profit should go to the shambles.

Cheap Cisterns and Cheap Filters.

How to obtain a sufficient quantity of water for the use of cattle, has been a puzzling question to many farmers. A correspondent of the *American Farmer* thinks he has solved this problem. He says: Instead of incurring the great expense of excavating wells, stoning them, and supplying expensive pumps for obtaining water for the ordinary purposes of a farm-house or barn, a much cheaper and more satisfactory arrangement will be found in the use of my cheap mode of constructing cisterns and filtering the water. A cistern of the dimensions that I shall describe, will hold one thousand gallons, will cost but eight dollars, and its capacity may be doubled for less than fifty per cent. additional cost. One of the sizes above named will be found sufficient for farmers' families generally, and will insure soft water, which is rare in wells.

Directions for Excavating Cisterns.—Stake and line out a plat near the building 8 x 18 feet; excavate this 1 foot in depth; then set the lines in 18 inches on all sides; then excavate all within the lines, or 5 x 15 feet, to the depth of 4 feet in the middle, making the middle level some 9 inches in width, sloping the banks on all the sides and ends to the lines last placed, which will make a section of the pit either way V shaped, except that 9 inches of the bottom will be level.

In digging the banks, use care not to disturb the soil not thrown out. When the digging is completed, plaster the bottom, or level part, with a good coat of cement mortar, and place a board on it to stand upon to do the balance of the work, cutting the board in two equal parts before laying it on the mortar. This done, plaster the entire surface on the ground to the lines last named, then remove one-half of the board and stand on the balance and build a 4-inch brick wall across the pit, about the middle, laying the bricks, which should be set, (common salmon brick,) in cement, but plastering neither side.

Lay the wall to the line, then remove the balance of the board and put a coat of mortar where it laid. The cistern is now complete, save the covering; this may be done by laying plank, over the whole bedding on the surface of the first excavation, in mortar, or splitting logs from the woods and laying them flat side down, and closing the joints with mortar. The pump pipe should be laid into one end, and the leader pipe from the house gutter laid into the other, before it is covered. This done, return earth enough to cover the surface at least one foot deeper in the middle than the surrounding ground; level it off neatly and sward it, and you have a complete filtering cistern for eight to twelve years.

Doings of Agricultural Societies.

STATE SOCIETIES.

CONN. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The 9th annual meeting of this Society, recently held at New Haven, was well attended. Officers elected: President—E. H. HYDE, Stafford. Vice-Presidents at Large—R. Battell, Norfolk, and John T. Norton, Farmington. Directors at Large—Charles F. Pond, Hartford Co.; Randolph Linsley, New Haven Co.; James A. Bill, New London Co.; George Osborn, Fairfield Co.; Benjamin Sumner, Windham Co.; Abijah Catlin, Litchfield Co.; Levi Cole, Middlesex Co.; R. B. Chamberlain, Tolland Co. Cor. Secretary—H. A. Dyer, Hartford. Rec. Secretary—T. S. Gold, W. Cornwall. Treasurer—F. A. Brown, Hartford. Chemist—S. W. Johnson, New Haven. The Society voted that no fixed salaries be paid its officers. Also, after a long discussion, to hold a Fair this year, if an appropriation should be made by the Legislature.

VIRGINIA CENTRAL AG. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of this Society, held at Richmond, JAMES LYON, Esq., the President, verbally reported the action of the Executive Committee during the past year. He stated the conditions upon which the last Fair was held in connection with the State Society—referred to the vast improvements made on the grounds of the Society—and gave outlines of the financial operations. The Society then elected the following board for 1861: President—JAMES LYON (unanimously re-elected). Vice Presidents—Wm. C. Rives, Albemarle; Wm. H. Macfarland, Richmond; Philip St. Geo. Cooke, Powhatan; Henry Cox, Henrico; Joseph M. Sheppard, Henrico; Abram Warwick, Richmond; William Wirt, Westmoreland; James Galt, Fluvanna; Dr. W. T. Walker, Goochland; Hill Carter, Charles City. Executive Committee—J. L. Davis, Henrico; Wm. B. Standard, Goochland; Wm. M. Harrison, Charles City; Dr. J. N. Powell, Henrico; John A. Selden, Charles City; William C. Wickham, Hanover; H. C. Cabell, B. W. Haxall, R. Archer, Robert Edmond, and Charles Dimmock, Richmond; Fendall Griffin and Sherwin McRae, Henrico; R. B. Haxall, Orange.

NEW YORK LOCAL SOCIETIES.

MONROE CO. AG. SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was held in Rochester, January 9th. The retiring President, D. D. T. MOORE, reported, in behalf of the Board of Managers, the doings of the Board and Society during the year—showing that, though the Exhibitions had not been very profitable, the indebtedness of the Society had been reduced about one thousand dollars. The following officers were elected for 1861: President—Hon. E. B. HOLMES, Brockport. Vice Presidents—A. F. Wolcott, Rochester; I. H. Sutherland, Pittsford; John Borst, Ogdens. Secretary—J. M. Booth, Rochester. Treasurer—C. M. Mordoff, Rochester. Directors (to fill vacancies)—L. D. Mitchell, Pittsford, and Wm. Rankin, Greece. Benj. Birdsall, D. T. Moore, and E. B. Holmes, were appointed delegates to the annual meeting of the State Ag. Society. The subject of uniting the Society with the Western New York Ag., Horticultural and Mechanical Association was discussed at some length, and finally resulted in the appointment of a committee—Messrs. I. S. Hobbs, Hiram Smith, H. G. Warner, H. Quimby, and E. B. Holmes—to investigate and report upon the subject on the 13th of February, to which time the meeting adjourned.

LIVINGSTON CO. SOCIETY.—At the recent annual meeting, held in Geneseo, the following board of officers was chosen: President—JAMES S. WADSWORTH. Vice President—Jasper Barber, Avon. Treasurer—William H. Whiting, Secretary—George J. Davis, Laborers—John V. Lauderdale. Directors—Henry L. Arnold, Conesus; Elias S. Ashley, Nunda.

GENESSEE CO. AG. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, held at Batavia, January 8, the following gentlemen were elected officers for 1861: President—CHARLES K. WARD, Pavillion. Vice Presidents—H. H. Olmsted, H. H. Green. Secretary—H. M. Warren, Batavia. Treasurer—H. B. Bostwick. Directors—Ira E. Phillips, Pembroke; George Radley, Stafford.

NIAGARA CO. AG. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, on 5th inst., the following officers were elected for 1861: President—D. A. VAN VALKENBURGH. Vice Presidents—W. Robinson, D. House, L. Flanders, Dr. A. G. Skinner, T. Eames, L. S. Payne, A. Packard, G. S. Bangham, A. E. Raymond, G. L. Angvine, R. Pearson. Secretary—P. D. Walter. Treasurer—E. A. Holt. Directors—M. C. Craspey, E. Moody, H. Hayward.

ERIE CO. SOCIETY.—Annual meeting held at Buffalo, on the 9th inst. The attendance was good, and much interest manifested for the success of the Society. The Society reduced its indebtedness \$150 during the year. Officers elected: President—J. BONNEY. Vice Presidents—D. D. Siles, Aurora; G. W. Paine, Tonawanda. Secretary—Ellis Webster. Treasurer—G. W. Scott. Directors—Benj. Baker, East Hamburg; P. B. Lathrop, Elma; T. J. Murphy, Buffalo; Nathaniel Tucker, Brant; Warren Granger, Buffalo; Henry Atwood, Lancaster. Finance Committee—J. K. Tucker, Buffalo; A. Freeman, East Hamburg; J. M. Paine, Aurora.

TOMPKINS CO. AG. SOCIETY.—In anticipation of your request to Ag. Societies, I send you the result of the election at our annual meeting, Jan. 2d, 1861, which was as follows: President—JOSEPH MCGRAW, Jr., Dryden. Vice Presidents—Ezra Cornell, Ithaca; Luther Lewis, Ulster; Johnson Quick, Caroline; Edgar Bulwer, Enfield; C. S. Keeler, Danby; J. B. Townley, Groton; Smith Robertson, Dryden; David Crocker, Lansing; P. S. Dudley, Newfield. Secretary—Austin N. Hungerford, Ithaca. Treasurer—O. B. Curran, Ithaca. Directors—John P. Hart, Dryden; Levi C. Beers, Danby. —A. N. II., Ithaca, Jan. 3, 1861.

CATTARAUGUS CO. AG. SOCIETY.—Annual meeting held Jan. 6th, 1861. Officers elected: President—SAMUEL Wm. JOHNSON, Little Valley. Vice President—Lorenzo Stratton, Little Valley. Secretary—Horace Huntly, Little Valley. Treasurer—Geo. M. Fitch, Little Valley. Directors—P. S. Pratt, East Otto; Amos H. Bedient, Mansfield; Horace Cross, Napoli; Isaac Reed, East Otto; S. T. Kelsey, Great Valley; Nathaniel Manley, Mansfield.

DELAWARE CO. SOCIETY.—Annual meeting, Jan. 2d. The Treasurer reported a cash balance of \$395 72 on hand. Officers elected: President—CORNELIUS BROOKER, Stamford. Vice Presidents—J. B. Yendes, Delhi; E. Avery Gallup, Kortright; N. P. Dayton, Harpersfield; G. B. Lyon, Stamford; Wm. B. Howe, Andes; Alex. Storrie, Bovina; R. A. Rogers, Walton; Doctor McNaught, Davenport; E. Roe, Franklin. Treasurer—Cyrus Gibbs, Harpersfield. Rec. Secretary—P. G. Northrup, Franklin. Cor. Secretary—Porter Friebe, Delhi. R. B. Gibbs, of Harpersfield, was chosen delegate to the annual meeting of the State Society.

GENESSEE VALLEY AG. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, held at Nunda, on the 5th inst., the following officers were chosen: President—ALBERT PAGE. Vice President—George Mills. Secretary—C. K. Sanders. Treasurer—E. O. Dickson. Directors in the several towns—Charles D. Bennett, Portage; Moses Barron, Mount Morris; Charles Gibson, Groveland; Col. Taylor, Castile; Henry O. Brown, Geneseo Falls; Dr. Perrine, West Sparta; Henry S. Driesbach, Sparta; Wm. Conant, Olean; Daniel Bennett, Burns; Charles Thompson, Bigfalls; Warner Botsford, Allen; Samuel Swain, Grove; Wm. Johns, Granger; Edwin Skiff, Hume; Wm. R. Duryee, Nunda; O. B. Maxwell, Danville; O. V. Whitcomb, Pike.

BROOKFIELD AG. SOCIETY (Madison Co.)—The annual meeting of this Society was held on the 8th inst., when the following officers were elected for the year 1861: President—OLIVER B. HINKLEY. Vice Presidents—Luke Hoxie, Morgan L. Brown, Jeremiah Green, Elliott G. Fitch. Secretary—John T. G. Bailey. Treasurer—Calvin Whitford. Directors—Henry Brown, Lewis D. Maxson. Total receipts for 1860, \$517.00; total expenditures, \$493.18. Cash in treasury at date, \$77.82; due on loans at date, \$33.73—making total balance of \$511.55.—JOHN T. G. BAILEY.

THE SHELBY AND RIDGEWAY UNION held its annual meeting at Medina, on the 8th inst. Officers elected: President—VOLNEY A. ACER, Shelby. Vice President—George C. Cook. Secretary—W. S. C. Bawan. Cor. Secretary—W. Hoag. Treasurer—W. F. Potter. This Society is in a very flourishing condition, financially and otherwise. As evidence of its progress, it was voted to include all of Orleans and Niagara, and parts of Genesee and Erie counties, in the jurisdiction of the Society—and the propriety of making Medina the headquarters of the Western N. Y. Ag., Horticultural and Mechanical Association was discussed. [It will be remembered that we last week reported over 400 subscribers for this year's RURAL, from an agent friend at Medina, and it is appropriate that such a locality should "report progress" in rural affairs and organizations.]

CHAUTAQUA FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' UNION.—Officers for 1861: President—Geo. D. HINKLEY. Vice President—John E. Griswold. Secretary—John C. Mullett. Treasurer—S. M. Clement. Directors—Wm. Risley, Fredonia; Stewart T. Christy, Sheridan; Levi Baldwin, Arkwright; Wm. Moore, Leona; S. P. Ensign, Sheridan; S. H. Dickinson, Dunkirk.

FENNER AG. SOCIETY.—The town society of Fenner, Madison Co., has made a choice of the following officers for 1861: President—PHILIP J. HUYCK. Vice President—Rufus May. Secretary—George E. Loomis. Treasurer—Charles W. Barrett. Directors—H. D. Haight, Geo. W. Hyatt, Franklin Gordon, L. V. C. Hess, Harvey L. Keeler, J. M. Lownsbury.

THE BROCKPORT UNION elected the following officers at its recent annual meeting: President—E. B. HOLMES. Vice President—J. H. Warren. Secretary—H. N. Beach. Treasurer—Thomas Cornes. Directors—E. Patten, John Boughton, H. Mordoff, A. E. Sweet, C. H. Mason, and I. Babcock.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE WEATHER.—Saturday and Sunday last (the 12th and 13th), the weather was decidedly frigid here and in many distant localities—the coldest of the present season. The temperature was a little below zero, for a short time, but it is believed fruit buds are uninjured. A light fall of snow preceded the "cold term," making fair sleighing, which is being improved for both business and pleasure.

The weather was still colder in other places. At Albany the mercury stood at 18 deg. below zero—at Boston, 8 to 13 below—Scranton, Pa. 8 below, &c.

MORE HERFORDS FOR CANADA.—The Canadian Agriculturist states that F. W. STONE, Esq., of Guelph, Canada West, has recently imported nine of the best Herfords that could be found in England, viz.: eight heifers and a bull. Mr. Stone is well known to many of our readers as a very successful breeder of Durhams. He will, in future be known as a successful breeder of Herfords, and no doubt ere long have a fine herd at his Puallich farm, near Guelph. Our Canadian neighbors are entitled to credit for their efforts to improve and augment the numbers of the best breeds of stock.

WEIGHTS OF VARIOUS SEEDS.—We present our readers with a useful table, showing the weights of seeds, as regulated by law, in several of the States and Canada:

States.	Barley.	Buckwheat.	Clover Seed.	Corn.	Flax Seed.	Peas.	Oats.	Rye.	Timothy Seed.
Canada	48 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Connecticut	48 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
District of Columbia	47 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Illinois	44 00	40 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Indiana	48 00	50 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Iowa	48 00	50 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Kentucky	48 00	50 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Massachusetts	48 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Michigan	48 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Missouri	48 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
New Jersey	48 00	50 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
New York	48 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Ohio	48 00	50 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Pennsylvania	47 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
U. S. Custom Houses.	47 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Vermont	48 00	48 00	56 56	56 56	64 32	56 56	64 32	56 56	48 00
Wisconsin	48 00	48 00	56 56	56 56					

HORTICULTURAL.

FRUIT-GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Fruit-Growers' Society of Western New York was held in Rochester, on the 9th and 10th insts., and was one of the largest and most interesting meetings ever held by the Society.

Gentlemen of the Association: Deprived as I am, in consequence of continued ill-health, of appearing before you in person, my only alternative seems to be to lay before you a brief communication.

The year 1890, just closed, has been a most fruitful one in Western New York; perhaps, on the whole, more propitious for fruit-growing generally than any other of many years previous.

The apple crop, also, for quantity and quality has never been surpassed. Immense quantities have been shipped to the East and West; and although prices perhaps have ruled somewhat lower than usual, yet the profits of fruit-growing have never been more fully established.

The pear crop, too, was very large and truly fine. Our markets were never before so well supplied. Prices in many places were very low; but fruit-growers who had in time made arrangements to forward their choice fruit to New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, &c., have had but little reason to complain of low prices.

In smaller fruits there has been abundant abundance. In this department there has been, of late, a manifest improvement and an increased attention.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Fruits, consisting of Messrs. Geo. Ellwanger, T. C. Maxwell, J. C. Hancock, C. M. Hooker, and E. A. Frost, presented the following Report: You Committee on Foreign Fruits thought best to present a list of such varieties of foreign fruits as promise well, with such remarks as their experience would justify.

Passes: *Tardive*—Size large; first quality. November and December. *Delices de Hardenpont*—Size medium; first quality. November.

Comtesse d'Alot—Size large; second quality; quite as good as L. B. de Jersey, and as handsome. October.

Beurre Mauxion—Size medium; second quality; will most likely prove first quality. October.

Braimont—Size large; second quality. November. *Consillier de la Cour*—Medium to large; first quality. September.

Pater Noster—Size very large; nearly as large as Van Mons Leon Le Clerc; second quality; often of first. Middle to last of November. This pear can be recommended for extensive market cultivation.

Doyenne Defais—Size medium; quality very good. October and November.

Beurre Bachelier—Large; first quality. November and December.

Beurre Nantais—Large; first quality. October. Tree fine grower and good bearer.

Duc de Brabant—Large size; first quality. October and November.

Colmar Bonnet—Medium to large; quality good. Last of September.

Surpasse Colmar—Small; first quality. November and December. In excellence and keeping qualities one of the very best.

Duchesse de Berri d'Este—Medium size; 1st quality. September.

Comte de Lamy—Large size; first quality. October. *Doyenne Downing*—Medium size; good, melting, buttery and musky; resembles a White Doyenne. October.

Barry—Medium size; very juicy and sugary, and fine flavor.

Beurre Superfin—Large size, and in all respects of the first quality. October and November.

Beurre Hardy, or *Beurre Sterkmans*—Large size; best quality; of great beauty and excellence. October.

Nouveau Poiteau—Large size; first quality; tree erect and strong grower, and good bearer. November.

Beurre Clairgeau—Large size, and in appearance has no superior; quality good; very early bearer. November.

The last four named varieties have been for several years extensively disseminated. They have proved the past season, as heretofore, in all respects of the first quality; trees hardy and productive, *Beurre Hardy*, *Superfin*, and *Nouveau Poiteau* holding the foliage till late in Autumn. *Beurre Clairgeau* will doubtless be one of the most valuable market pears, and cannot be too strongly recommended for that purpose.

PLUMS. *Prince of Wales*—Color, reddish purple; size large; first quality. August and September. Very vigorous grower; adheres slightly to the stone.

Goliath—Large and handsome; skin violet purple; parts freely from stone; good quality; very fine grower. Last of August.

Diapree Rouge—Large size; skin violet red; first quality; free stone; slow grower. Very fine in all respects. Last of August.

Lawson's Golden Gage—Medium size; skin yellow; marbled with red; second quality; free stone; good grower. September.

Wangenheim—Medium size; best quality; skin purple. Resembles in shape and size the German Prune. This is a very superior variety. Last of August. Tree slow grower.

Black English Damson—Small; dark purple; best quality for preserving; very productive. September and October.

Ronald's Fancy—Large size; yellow; quality good, better than Imperial Gage. Free stone, and good grower.

Nelson's Victory—Medium size; yellow, marbled with red; second quality; good grower. September.

Sharp's Emperor—Large size; skin yellowish red. A very beautiful and good plum. Tree fine grower. September.

Victoria—Large size; good quality; skin violet red, covered with a purple bloom; free stone. A very beautiful and desirable variety. September.

CHARS. DOWNING, P. BARRY, and S. B. GAVITT, were appointed a Committee to examine the fruits on exhibition. They made the following report:

REPORT OF COMMITTEES TO EXAMINE FRUITS. Your Committee beg to express their pleasure at the fine display of winter fruits exhibited. To see and examine such a collection is a treat not often enjoyed.

PEARS. *ELLWANGER & BARRY* exhibited 48 varieties of pears, among them the following valuable varieties, in good condition:—*Jamiette*, *Easter Beurre*, *Josephine de Maline*, *Gros Colmar*, *Chamontel*, *Bezy d'Esperin*, *Beurre de Beaumont*, *Vicar of Winkfield*, *Beurre Benoist*, *Reading*, *Prince's St. Germain*, and *Charles Smet*. Cooking varieties—*Catillac*, *Black Worcester*, *Tarquini*, *Pound*, *Leon le Clerc de Laval*, and *Sharp*.

E. SHARP & SON, of Lockport, presented seven varieties—*Duchesse d'Angouleme*, *Swan's Orange*, *Beurre Diez*, *Bartlett*, *Louise Bonne de Jersey*, *Seckel*, and *White Doyenne*. These pears were in a green state, the ripening at the usual season having been prevented by some preserving process not communicated.

CHARLES DOWNING, of Newburgh, displayed a fine collection of pears—*Barry*, *Prevost*, *Willemoz*, *Colmar de Metz*, *Surpasse Meuris*, *Ives' Winter*, *Bezy des Veterans*, *Leon le Clerc de Laval*, *St. German de Pepin*, &c.

APPLES. *SMITH & HANCHEFF*, of Syracuse, exhibited nine varieties of apples, including fine specimens of *Northern Spy*, *Vandervere*, *Wagner*, and *Baldwin*. *DR. P. B. BRISTOL*, of Dansville, a fine dish of *Northern Spys*.

W. T. & E. SMITH, Geneva, fine *King*, *Melon*, and *Wagener* apples.

JOHN WILLETTTS, of Macedon, a dish of *Monmouth Pippins*.

A *Fruit Dealer*—A large dish of large, well-colored *Northern Spys*.

H. N. LANGWORTHY, Rochester, a fine dish of *Pomme d'Or*, and one of *Yellow Bellflower*. The *Pomme d'Or* is a russet, somewhat like *Pomme Gris*, and of finest quality.

E. J. SPICER, Murray, seven varieties of apples, including fine samples of *Spitzenburgh*, *Northern Spy*, *Swaar*, and *Seek-no-further*.

H. SPENCE, three varieties, including five specimens of *King*.

CHARLES DOWNING, 50 varieties of apples, including the following among other rare sorts—*Progress*, *Winter Harvey*, *Nick-a-Jack* from the South, *Rockport Sweet*, *Male Garle*, *White Winter Pearmain* and *Phillips' Sweet*.

ELLWANGER & BARRY, 54 varieties, including fine specimens of *Blue Pearmain*, *Ladies' Sweet*, *Yellow Bellflower*, *Wagener*, *Spitzenburgh*, *Swaar*, *Monmouth Pippin*, *Canada Renette*, *Pryor's Red*, *King*, *Herefordshire Pearmain*, *Twenty Ounce*, *Northern Spy*, *Belmont*, and *White Seek-no-Further*.

GRAPES. *DR. P. G. TOBEY*, of Rochester, exhibited well kept *Diana*, *Isabella*, *Clinton*, and *Catawba* grapes.

BISSELL & SALTER, nice *Diana* grapes. *MATTHEW G. WARNER*, of Rochester, presented *Catawba*, and a seedling, a white variety of good quality, promising to be valuable.

CURRENTS. The following varieties can be relied upon as being the very best:—

La Versailles—Nearly if not quite as large as *Cherry*, with longer bunches. Deep red; very productive.

Prince Albert—This is a very distinct variety, of large size, light red color, and very late. An immense bearer.

White Grape—This now well known variety is still unrivaled for the table and wine.

RASPBERRIES. *Belle de Pallua*—A very fine large red variety of rich flavor and very productive.

Belle de Fontenay and *Marvel of Four Seasons* are the best of the Autumn bearing varieties. With proper management a good crop of fruits can be obtained in September and October. If the canes of the previous year are cut down to the ground and only three or four canes from each plant allowed to grow, and all suckers are kept down during the season, an extra fine Autumn crop of superior size and flavor may be looked for.

TRIUMPH DE GAND—This is the finest foreign variety that has yet been tested, and there is no native variety that will compare with it in size, flavor and beauty. It is also very productive, and will doubtless prove one of the most profitable varieties for market culture.

Trollop's Victoria—This is also a valuable variety, large, high flavored, late, and productive. Well worthy of pretty general cultivation.

Syracuse was selected as the place for holding the next June meeting. In our next we will give a full report of the discussions on the subjects reported.

LOOK TO THE FRUIT TREES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—A little attention to the orchard even in winter is very desirable in all cases, and in some will be proved to be time well employed. I would not advise pruning until the severe frosts are past, though it is better to prune even now than to neglect it altogether. However, there is usually plenty of leisure about the first of March, and this is the time I select for pruning my fruit trees. Sometimes I have pruned my trees in early winter, and where small limbs only are taken off, there is no objection to this course, but I think the wound heals over better if deferred until early spring. But, much mischief is done to our orchards by mice, and if we would prevent or check their ravages, it must be done at once. In sections where snow is deep, mice will be troublesome, especially if there is much long grass around the trees to afford them a harbor. Mice work under the snow, and if the snow is removed so as to expose them, they will find shelter somewhere else, and thus the trees are saved. I make a practice to shovel the snow away from the trees, and never lose any by mice. If this is considered too much trouble, which it may be for some, although it is only a little pastime on a winter's day, go through the orchard after every heavy snow, and trample down hard around each tree. Take the boys with you, and it will very soon be done. Mice will not or cannot work under the snow when it is packed down. There are other preventives, such as putting an old stove pipe or anything of the kind around the trunk, but it is too late, perhaps, now to recommend such a course.

FRUIT GROWER. *MINIATURE STRIPED GOURD.* Among the new and interesting things recently introduced with which we were well pleased the last season, was the new *Miniature Striped Gourd*. The fruit is about three inches in circumference, and very symmetrical. The upper portion is of a yellow or bright orange, and the lower part of a deep green, the dividing line as nicely drawn as could be done with the pencil. It has also regular stripes of a cream color as shown in the engraving, running from the apex to the base at equal distances, and about a quarter of an inch in width. This little gourd makes a very pretty ornament for trellis work, and is deserving of some attention. It will perfect its fruit in any warm situation.

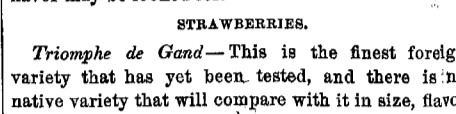
TO MAKE A WINE CELLAR. In the *RURAL* a week or two since, I noticed the inquiry of C. O. VALENTINE, of Jackson, N. Y., asking for a plan to build a *Wine Cellar*. I will try to comply with Mr. VALENTINE'S wishes. A wine cellar, as such, should be so constructed as not only to receive wine for storage purposes, but to preserve and improve the wines deposited therein. To that end the wine cellar should have as even a temperature the whole year round as can be obtained—40 deg. to 55 deg. Fah. Therefore, I deem, from experience and observation, that a wine cellar ought to be dug 10 to 12 feet deep in the ground, or into a steep hill-side, facing north. If dug in the ground, the stone walls should be built strong, from five to seven feet high, according to size of cellar, and then arched. The arching should be about two feet thick, and the cellar inside from 11 to 15 feet high. On the south side it should have a chimney or draught from the top of the arch to top of wall. The door and windows should face north, and on this side graded air holes, as low as the cellar floor, for the admission of fresh air. On the arch should be built a superstructure, or filled up from two to three feet with earth or sand, to keep the summer heat and Mr. Jack Frost out of your cellar. It would be well to have the door inclosed so as to prevent warm air from entering when the door is opened. If the cellar is built with superstructure, this latter will serve very conveniently for a press-house and store-room for preserving vintage and other farming utensils and implements. As to the size of a wine cellar, you must be able to judge for yourself. If you wish to put in 20 casks, each holding 16 to 20 barrels, you need a larger cellar than if you think to store only a few barrels.

And now, permit me to ask you a few questions. Will you know, after having built a cellar as described, how to make good wine from grapes, and how to manage it in the cellar? Do you know how to ascertain the quantity of saccharine matter, and how to ascertain the superfluous or sufficient quantity of vinous, citric, or malic acids? And, do

you know how to make wine of 8, 10, 12, 14, or 16 per cent. of alcohol, without having too much or too little acid? If not, and it is desirable, I will communicate such information. JNO. BIEDER. Rochester, N. Y., Jan., 1891.

A NEW AND CURIOUS PLANT.

Among the new and interesting things of which we made special note when at Philadelphia the past autumn, was the *Philodendron pertusum*, exhibited at the Pomological Society's rooms, by JAMES POLLOCK, gardener to JAMES DUNDAS, Esq. The publication of these notes we were compelled to defer on account of the length of the regular proceedings. In the *Gardener's Monthly*, we find an engraving and description of this plant, which we give our readers.



Our cut gives no further idea of it than the mere shape and form of the leaf and fruit. The actual size of the leaf was thirty inches long and twenty-six inches wide, jagged and pertused as the cut represents, and with a thick metallic texture, of the most vivid green imaginable. The fruit is borne in clusters of from six to eight. The one we figure is twelve inches long by three inches thick, and of a green color, turning when quite ripe to a dirty white. The small figure at the base represents the actual size of the little carapels that form the fruit, and which are fleshy as in the mulberry.

There is nothing inviting in the appearance of the fruit. One would as soon think of taking up a green pine cone to eat, as one of them; but under that rugged and coarse exterior lies the most delicious juice we ever tasted, and if the ancient gods and goddesses had only been ascertained to have lived in the West Indies, we should not hesitate to decide positively that the nectar they indulged in was obtained from this fruit.

We have often heard West Indian travelers speak of the delicious drink prepared from this fruit; but we know of no work wherein any allusion is made to it; and Mr. Pollock will please accept our best thanks for this, the first opportunity we have had of personally tasting it.

It is a plant of easy cultivation, where a moist temperature of 60° or 70° can be steadily maintained for it, and, whether in foliage only or in fruit, constitutes a very striking ornament.

It belongs to the *Araceae* order of the vegetable kingdom, of which the common *Calla Ethiopica* affords a familiar type.

Horticultural Notes.

THE GRAPE GROWERS of Connecticut met at New Haven, and chose DANIEL S. DEWEY, of Hartford, for their President, and MASON C. WALD for Secretary. The Convention voted its preference for the following grapes, in the order named:—1st, *Diana*; 2d, *Delaware*; 3d, *Rebecca*; 4th, *Isabella*; 5th, *Hartford Prolific*; 6th, *Concord*. The following resolutions fully explain what the general experience attested to be the truth on the subject:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Society that those tried varieties, the *Isabella* and *Catawba* grapes, ripen well in many parts of this State—especially along its Southern shore; but that, unless the situation be very favorable, neither (and particularly the *Catawba*) will ripen in its more elevated portions.

Resolved, That the *Hartford Prolific* and *Concord* are grapes that will generally ripen well throughout the State, and hence are to be recommended.

Resolved, That the *Diana* grape has been quite extensively tried and approved, and is to be recommended as quite sure to ripen in all fair exposures, and for its great excellence.

Resolved, That the *Delaware* grape now promises exceedingly well, but has not so extensively fruited that we can, from personal knowledge, give positive assurance that it is worthy the high character claimed for it by many.

Resolved, That the *Rebecca* grape has been sufficiently tested to show that it is a fruit of good promise and excellency; hardy and likely to ripen, at least in good exposures.

POUGHKEEPSIE HORTICULTURAL CLUB.—This Society held its annual meeting on the 8th inst., when the following officers were elected: President—S. M. BUCKINGHAM. Vice President—J. B. JEWETT. Secretary—H. L. YOUNG. Treasurer—H. D. MYERS. Executive Committee—A. WILCOX, STEPHEN UHL, WILLIAM T. MERRITT. A good exhibition was made of pears, apples, grapes, &c. The next meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of February.

COLD IN INDIANA.—A subscriber in Michigan City, Indiana, writes December 24th,—"the weather is very cold; thermometer 29 degrees below zero yesterday morning, and the peach buds are killed."

GREEN ROSE.—This flower, so fully described in a late number of the *RURAL*, as grown in France and England, is also successfully cultivated in this country. I saw it last spring in full blossom, (if it be a blossom,) in the garden of Mr. ELKINS, Editor of the *Summit Co. Beacon*, of Akron, Ohio. It is simply a curiosity; for, surrounded as it was by the dashing beauties of forty varieties of its kind only in name, its appearance was unimpaired as well as "decidedly green."—AMATEUR, *Danversville*, N. Y., 1890.

A GREAT CROP OF ONIONS.—Some two or three years since the subject of raising onions was amply discussed in the *RURAL*. I thought at the time that I would give you a chapter on the subject, but failed to do so. It will answer my present purpose simply to state that I sowed, in April last, eight and one-fourth square rods of ground, accurately measured, with black seed, from which I have measured and sold (save a few for my own use), seventy-one bushels of a superior quality. They were sown in drills ten inches apart. No extraordinary manuring or tillage. If I figure correctly, the product per acre would be 1,377 bushels. If proof of the above be needed, it is at hand. Now, sir, if any of your *RURAL* readers can beat me, I shall be happy to hear from them.—M. B. HUBBARD, *Madison*, Lake Co., Ohio, 1891.

TIME OF TRIMMING TREES, &c.—Will you please inform me the best time to trim apple and other fruit trees. And, is it considered beneficial to the trees to blow up an orchard shan, Washington Co., N. Y.

The best time to trim trees is in March, about the time severe frosts are over. If an old orchard is being well managed, a good growth of healthy wood, would let well enough alone; but if the trees are stunted and becoming mossy, the ground should be broken up and the trees receive a good pruning and scrubbing. They will then be very likely to start with new vigor. We have known many old and comparatively worthless orchards renewed by this course.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In a late issue of your paper, a gentleman asks of the matron readers a cure for a weeping sinew. The following recipe was given me by a matron, and I know it to be good. Take a piece of camphor gum the size of a chestnut, the same of sal ammoniac, one-third as much opium as of either. Dissolve in 3 ounces of whiskey. Shake well before using. Bath, the wrist three times a day, keeping it bound in flannel.—MISS E. J. O., *Erie*, Pa.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Noticing an inquiry in your excellent paper for the cure of a weeping sinew, I will answer it. I had a weeping sinew on my left wrist. Although it did not pain me much, my wrist was quite weak. One day our physician made a friendly call, when I showed it to him, and asked him what I should do with it. Without answering my question, he took his lance and lanced it, telling me to wear a tight bandage on my wrist for two or three weeks, which I did, and have not been troubled with it since.—NETTIE TAYLOR, *Rock Island Co.*, Ill.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Noticing an inquiry in a late number of your paper, for information how to cure a weeping sinew, I would recommend bathing the wrist in beef-gall, or a poultice made of worm-wood and Indian meal as an excellent remedy.—HANNAH G. S., *Adrian*, Mich.

SILVER AND GOLD CAKE.

If the lady readers of the *RURAL NEW-YORKER* desire to test them, I think they will be pleased with the following recipes:

SILVER CAKE.—Mix together 2 teacups white sugar, and 1 cup butter, then add the whites of 4 eggs, beaten to a stiff froth; add to this 1 cup cold water, and after it is well combined, stir in 3 teacups sifted flour; sprinkle 2 teaspoonfuls of Azumea over the batter, and stir briskly five minutes. Bake in a quick oven.

GOLD CAKE.—Just the same as above, only use the yolks instead of the whites of the eggs.

As Azumea cannot be obtained in all places, I give you my recipe for making it. Take 2 parts cream tartar, and one of saleratus, well sifted and mixed; must be kept tight.—I keep mine in a tight tin box.—MRS. E. M. HAWLEY, *Pittsfield*, N. Y., 1861.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES.—As I do not consider the breakfast table complete of a cold winter's morning without good buckwheat cakes, I will, through the *RURAL NEW-YORKER*, give DOROTHY my method of preparing them. Take warm water, put in a little salt, and stir in flour to the right consistency, then add two or three spoonfuls of good yeast and let it rise until morning. Before you bake, thin some molasses with water, and add two or three teaspoonfuls to the batter, which will make them brown nicely. When you use some of the batter for rising, they will be apt to sour a little, stir in some saleratus, just enough to sweeten them, "and no harm done."—A MACEDONIAN.

CIDER WINE, AGAIN.—Seeing an inquiry for making cider wine, I send you my recipe. Let your cider ferment; then heat it till it boils. Skim it, and add to each gallon of cider one pound of sugar, and one pint of whiskey. To give it a high color, boil in the cider a small bag of dried black raspberries.

SODA BISCUIT.—My wife wants some of your lady friends to try her way of making soda biscuit. To 1 quart of flour, 3 teaspoonfuls of cream tartar, 2 of soda, 1 pint cream. Mix with sweet milk, roll them one-half an inch thick; bake in a quick oven.—E. M. WHITING, *East Guilford*, N. Y., 1861.

HOP YEAST.—To IDA, of Saquoit, N. Y., who inquires in No. 45 of the *RURAL NEW-YORKER*, for a receipt for making Hop Yeast, I would say, boil a half pint of hops in a pint of water, until the full strength has been obtained; strain off the water, and add to same one pound of flour, mixing well; let stand till cool, and then add a half a pint of malt, which may be had from the brewers or bakers. If this does not answer, come to Canada, and get further instructions in this beautiful accomplishment.—SARAH, *Wentworth*, C. W., 1861.

TO COOK EGG PLANT.—Cut it in slices, from 1/4 to 1/2 an inch thick, lay in salt water a few hours, then fry very brown, in butter or lard. You will improve it by dipping in beaten yolk of egg, and rolling in bread crumbs before frying. There are many other ways of cooking egg plant, but this is the most approved and simple, and may be used for either breakfast, dinner or supper.—VIRGINIA HOUSE-KEEPER, *King George Co.*, Va., 1861.

INDELIBLE INK.—Take of nitrate of silver 1/4 ounce, and dissolve it in 12 ounces of weak gum mucilage, then add 5 ounces of liquid ammonia, and put it into blue bottles for use. When applied to articles, they must be exposed to sun-light until they become black. The blue bottles protect the nitrate of silver from decomposition by the action of light.

TO CLEAN PAINT.—Smear a piece of flannel in common whiting, mixed to the consistency of paste, in warm water. Rub the surface to be cleaned quite briskly, and wash off with pure cold water. Grease spots will in this way be almost instantly removed, as well as other filth, and the paint will retain its brilliancy and beauty unimpaired.—Exchange.

MRS. Q.'S INDIAN BREAD.—One dipper of Indian meal; one of flour; a very little sugar; 1 teaspoonful of saleratus; sour milk (not thick) enough to make a very thick batter; bake about one hour. A quart dipper should be used. The above is sufficient for two loaves.—LIEBIE M. K., *Hopewell*, N. Y., 1861.

WATER-PROOF BLACKING.—Will some of the *RURAL*'s readers please give your subscriber a recipe for making a good water proof blacking for boots and shoes,—one that will keep the leather soft, black, and also keep the water out of the leather.—A SUBSCRIBER, *Ringwood*, Ill., 1861.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

How often is your patience tried on coming to the teatable and there being obliged to punish yourself by eating yellow, spotted, unwholesome biscuit, cake, &c. You at once say to yourself, what poor Saleratus, what you people longer purchase such an inferior article, when they can, at the same price, purchase D. B. LAND & Co.'s pure, healthful Saleratus. You can get it of your grocer. It is for sale by the principal grocers at wholesale, and is manufactured by D. B. LAND & Co., at the Fairport Chemical Works, Fairport Monroe Co., N. Y.

Ladies' Department.

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

HER work is done. Closed are those azure eyes that gleamed with light. Slant those lips that opened but with smiles.

SCOTCH ARGUMENT FOR MARRIAGE. JENNY is poor, and I am poor, Yet we will wed—so say no more!

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] LIVE WITHIN YOUR INCOME. It is a lamentable fact that a great many people have not the tact to accommodate themselves to the various changes and circumstances of life.

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

There are two principal classes of persons to whom these remarks will apply; first, those who are independent, or in good circumstances at setting out in life.

Fifteen years pass by, and have these expectations been realized? Far from it. True, we find appearances very little altered, and it is to be wished, sometimes, that appearances were not deceiving.

Again. No matter in what business a person may be engaged, he must oversee, make his calculations, and lay his plans to the best of his ability, in order to succeed.

The second class are those who have always been poor, and here we would expect to find prudence and economical management the rule instead of the reverse.

How strangely is the web of life woven in lights and shadows, by the golden and silver threads, mingled with the iron and steel!

LOVE OF THE BEAUTIFUL.—There are many persons in this world who would scout the idea that there is any necessity or any use for people who are not rich.

How strangely is the web of life woven in lights and shadows, by the golden and silver threads, mingled with the iron and steel!

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Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] KEEP THE HEART BEAUTIFUL.

MAKE the world beautiful—gather bright things And plant them to-day round your home.

Now we welcome the beauties and glories of spring; And see the green sward on the lawn.

Go out very often, on errands of love,— Be kind to the lowly each day.

There is beauty in labor and pure honest toil, In fields of the rich golden grain.

We gaze at the Beautiful worlds in the sky,— We think of their glories afar.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] CHOICE OF READING. "OF making many books there is no end," was long ago written, and needs no confirmation in this day of letters, and of steam.

"WHERE is the eye on that face could rest, Nor deem it not one of earth's loveliest?

So breathed the poet spirit of a heart in homage to one of those fair earth-angels, that here and there are given to us as living visions, to teach our souls how beautiful are the unseen angels of heaven.

Since that time our paths in life have been widely distant; yet occasional letters, and brief meetings in the old homestead, at long intervals, or the still rarer joy of meetings in our own home nests, have kept bright the chains of affection worn in early years.

Our choice of reading is, in a greater or less degree, modified by the influences surrounding us, and the circumstances and situations in which we are placed.

But "our choice of reading" is not confined to books. We have papers,—monthly, semi-monthly, weekly, semi-weekly, tri-weekly, and daily,—some of which do or should find their way regularly into every household.

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Our choice of reading is, in a greater or less degree, modified by the influences surrounding us, and the circumstances and situations in which we are placed.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE BLESSED OF GOD.

BLESSED are they that dwell in Thy house; they will be still praising Thee.—Psalms 84: 4.

Dear Lord, how more than blest are they Whose weary feet have found the way, And share Thy love.

Their toils are o'er. The weary eyes will no more weep, Angels for them their vigils keep On Heaven's bright above.

"Still praising Thee." Within Thine house, "not made with hands," I see the white robb'd angel bands,— Thy minstrelsy.

Father of Love, An erring child years to be blest, Within Thine house to be at rest, No more to rove.

I'm weary grown! List! hear I not the boatman's oar, The splash of waves, as he nears th' shore To bear me home?"

God, Heaven, and Home, Pain would I chant the heavenly praise, And sing with th' angel bands who praise Thee round Thy Throne! Alfred University, 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] TIMES THAT WERE. "TIMES aint now as they used to be," is a trite maxim. You may croak all you please about the degeneracy of old times, and say that we of this generation act just as well as they did when our fathers were young.

Does any one stick up their nose and say this is simply a harangue with no meaning to it,—things are just the same they have been ever since the world stood? Look about you, my good sir, and if you have one grain of "common sense" in your head, you will see proofs of what I have said every day you live.

THE HUMAN EYE. The eyes of men converse as much as their tongues, with the advantage that the ocular dialect needs no dictionary, but is understood all the world over.

When the eyes say one thing, and the tongue another, a practiced man relies on the language of the first. If the man is off his centre, the eyes show it. You can read in the eyes of your companion whether your argument hits him, though his tongue will not confess it.

There are eyes, to be sure, that give no more admission into the man than blue-berries. Others are liquid and deep—wells that a man might fall into—others are aggressive and devouring, seem to call out the police, take all too much notice, and require crowded Broadways, and the security of millions, to protect individuals against them.

The military eye I meet, now darkly sparkling under clerical, now under rustic bowers. 'Tis the city of Lacedaemon; 'tis a stack of bayonets. There are asking eyes, asserting eyes, prowling eyes, and eyes full of fate,—some of good, some of sinister omen.

The alleged power to charm down insanity, or ferocity in beasts, is a power behind the eye. It must be a victory achieved in the will, before it can be signified in the eye.—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

THE OLD YEAR.—The almanac for the year died without a groan. He seemed as vigorous only the day before as the first day of his life, and held his own to the last moment. Were it not that another child of the same family, bearing the same general features, and apparently of the same temper, is ready to take his place, we should be inconsolable.

For no other friend have we to whom we can go for advice as we could to him. He spoke mostly in figures. His knowledge in various things was not small, and was exceedingly practical. He held converse with the stars, and seemed to know what was going on among all the planets. He was fond of looking after the tides; he kept a calendar of various events and days. We seldom took in hand an important matter without consulting him, and never found his judgment of events wrong.

Nothing pleased him more than on some winter night to be drawn forth and held before the glowing fire, and be persuaded into spiritual converse.—H. W. Beecher.

A REPROOF TO ULTRA-PURITANISM.—I am not of opinion that all the arts are to be rooted out by the Gospel, as some ultra-divines pretend; but would wish to see all the arts employed, and music particularly, in the service of Him who has given and created them.—Luther.

THE BLESSED OF GOD. BLESSED are they that dwell in Thy house; they will be still praising Thee.—Psalms 84: 4.

Dear Lord, how more than blest are they Whose weary feet have found the way, And share Thy love. Their toils are o'er. The weary eyes will no more weep, Angels for them their vigils keep On Heaven's bright above.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE BLESSED OF GOD.

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God, Heaven, and Home, Pain would I chant the heavenly praise, And sing with th' angel bands who praise Thee round Thy Throne! Alfred University, 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] SABBATH MUSINGS. WERE some kind, benevolent parent, who had the well-being of his posterity at heart, to take down the history of his son, and from the earliest period of his existence, carefully and truthfully to note every act, deed, and, if possible, every thought, of the little mortal, and continue the history up to his manhood and mature age, and then present to him this curious history,—and, without giving him any intimation whose life it portrayed, tell him carefully to study it, the first few pages would perhaps be read with a smile of credulity, as to whether it were not a fable; and, perhaps, in contempt, he would throw it away, as not worthy his perusal.

On reading a little further, however, he would meet with the account of some circumstance which would remind him that something similar had once happened to himself. A little more attention would be given to the subject, and on reading to the end, he would be compelled to believe—may, he would know that the whole history was true to the letter; and, although he was at first sceptical, he would be forced to believe that what he had considered too silly—too ridiculous even to read, was but "too true."

Now, suppose, on being first introduced to this strange book, he were told to begin to read at the last page of the history. He would not read half the page before exclaiming, "This is my own history!" and turning back, page after page, not one doubt would enter his mind as to the truth of the whole story.

Thus, man now, in this "age of progress and reform," is told to read and study the Bible—the only Book which the God of Nature has ever given as a key to His whole work. The world's Philosopher begins to read the first chapter of Genesis, which means "Creation" or "Beginning," and before he reads three chapters, he throws the book away in contempt, and declares that there is "no reason" in it. (For men have discovered, and have made the acquaintance of a bright celestial creature, which has been sent to minister unto them, whose name is Reason, and they now, like their ancestors, have lost sight of the Creator, and worship the Creature.)

But let the intelligent, honest reader, turn to that page of the Great Book which gives the history of the "last time,"—that is, the Christian Dispensation, which is the last, because it shall endure "till time shall be no longer." Let him read the testimonies given by St. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, and there learn what to believe, and to what end. (John 20: 30, 31.) Then read the Acts of the Apostles, there to learn what to do, in order to become a subject of the King of Kings,—the Prince of Peace,—the Author of Life and Immortality; and then read the next twenty-one Epistles, to tell him how to conduct himself towards all beings in the Universe.

Let the doubter ask himself—Did not Christians meet last Lord's Day, in honor and in memory of JESUS CHRIST? Did they not meet in His name the Lord's Day before last? And so back, did not Christians, many Christians, meet every Lord's Day, at some place, for the same purpose, during the last eighteen centuries? And if he is still skeptical with regard to the authenticity of all the facts recorded in the Bible, he would, with equal propriety, doubt that the Declaration of American Independence was signed by many patriots on the 4th day of July, 1776.

But the honest inquirer, who thus pursues this most important study, with a desire to learn, and a will to obey, whether he be Sage or Philosopher, or whether he be unlearned, in the world's acceptance of the term, will know, of his own experience, that the testimony is true. (John 4: 42, ib. 7: 17, ib. 13: 35.)

If men would study the Bible as diligently, for the purpose of eliciting the truth of the facts therein stated, as they do for the purpose of finding fault with it, and "picking flaws" in its morals, its history and its prophecies, it is doubtful whether even one honest man could be found to doubt its Divine origin. The Hon. SOAME JENYNS, a great English statesman, was once a skeptic, and had determined to write a book against the Bible. In examining the Bible for the purpose of exposing its absurdities, he was convinced of its truth, and then he wrote a book on the "Internal Evidences of the Christian Religion," which shows the folly of skepticism in a masterly style.

I have seen unlearned men look through a telescope from the wrong end, and declare that it did not aid their eye a bit, while by a little instruction, as to its use, they were enabled to see distant objects very clearly. Many men look into the Bible at the wrong end, or from a wrong motive, and then it is only a stumbling block to them. The work most necessary for mortals to do is defined in the Gospel, (John 6: 27 to 29,) and this work is made much easier by taking PAUL's advice to his pupil TIMOTHY, viz.—to "study," and to make the study more easy and effectual, by "Rightly dividing the word of Truth." (1 Tim. 2: 15.) "I believe, I know, and am sure," says the genuine Christian, "that JESUS is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God, the Savior of Men." Williamsville, N. Y., 1861. T. W.

By the removal of prized and cherished earthly props and refuges, God would unfold more of His own tenderness.

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The Reviewer.

THE NEW AMERICAN CYCLOPEDIA: A Popular Dictionary of General Knowledge. Edited by GEO. RIPLEY and CHAS. A. DANA. Volume VI. [Macmillan-Moxa.] New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This volume of the American Cyclopaedia begins with Mac and ends with Mox, being entirely occupied with one letter. This volume fully sustains the reputation secured for the work by those heretofore published. We cannot expect in a work of this size and price, elaborate Treatises on points of Literature Science and History; but we have what, for the general reader, is far better, a clear and condensed account of the principal facts and ideas required for a general understanding of the subjects and characters named. We are gratified in saying that after making allowance for all the deficiencies in special articles to be expected in a work of such extent, it is by far the best work of its class accessible to the general reader in this country. The aim of the editors has been to make a fair and a useful book, and they have succeeded. It is folly to judge this work, as some scholars have done, by a standard which neither the editors nor publishers proposed to themselves in the outset. What they promised and attempted they have accomplished, and the work thus far bears internal evidence of scholarship, good judgment and diligent labor. We are more and more impressed with the value of the notices of living celebrities. It is often more difficult to get the most elementary facts about a living man, whose antecedents everybody wishes to understand, than to get a full history of a man of half the importance who has been dead a thousand years. L. HALL & BRO., Subscription Agents.

RAILWAY PROPERTY. A Treatise on the Construction and Management of Railways: Designed to afford Useful Knowledge, in a Popular Style, to the Holders of this Class of Property, as well as to Railway Managers, Officers, and Agents. By JOHN B. JARVIS, Civil Engineer. (8vo.—pp. 341.) New York. Phinney, Blakeman & Mason.

PERHAPS there is no public improvement involving so great an outlay of Capital for construction and maintenance, as the American railway, that has so defective a system in the management. Upward of \$1,000,000,000 have been invested in the railways of the United States, upon about 26,000 miles, giving to the area properly benefited by this great outlay of capital, about one mile of railway to thirty-eight square miles of territory. Yet whoever is at all familiar with the management of this vast line of roads, has been amazed at the very imperfect system which prevails, even upon the best lines. The rapidity of construction has undoubtedly been one cause of this defect—but still there is not a road that, if owned and managed by a single proprietor, would not largely increase its net revenues.

This work by Mr. JARVIS, one of the most eminent engineers of the present day, embodies the results of a long and extensive experience, and is calculated, if properly studied, to produce great good to those who are really interested in the prudent management of the property committed to their care. Railroads are as yet in their infancy, and their importance, as a means of developing the resources of the country, but partially appreciated. Anything that can be done to make them more efficient and profitable, will be of great advantage to the whole country. Upon one subject Mr. JARVIS has done great service, and that is, by pointing out the way in which, by constructing light tracks, and engines and cars to correspond, sections of country may be reached that otherwise would be inaccessible if the heavy machinery and expensive rail were to be adopted. Light cars, light locomotives, and a light rail, he shows conclusively could be used to great advantage, even now, upon many of our lines of traffic. The work should be read and pondered by every one who is interested (and who is not) in the successful management of railroads. Sold by DEWEY.

EDUCATION: Intellectual, Moral and Physical. By HERBERT SPENCER, author of "Social Statics," "The Principles of Psychology," and "Essays—Scientific, Political, and Speculative." (pp. 283.) New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This is a remarkable book, fitted to lead to no inconsiderable change in the matter of education. It treats of four great subjects, of the most extensive and most important application. The first, which should have the controlling power over the other three, is an admirable answer to the question, asked by the author, "What knowledge is of most worth?" It is surprising that this question, fundamental to the business of Education, has scarcely been considered only in the most limited and restricted, viz., that every one must be able to read, and write, and cipher, a knowledge required for all business and in all pursuits. What next? Though much more had been thought on the proper subjects to follow in our country than in the old world and under old institutions, the author proposes a new and most desirable arrangement of the objects for study suited to the different situations and business of life. A new era in education was opened to the minds of the British public, and the philanthropist rejoiced in the possible, because practicable results. A great change is needed now in our higher Common Schools and in all the High Schools, which will be a departure from the classical and scientific system of our Colleges and Universities. The first essay leads to the other three on Intellectual, Moral, and Physical Education. The whole work has received general and unqualified approbation and commendation. It deserves to be read and studied by all our efficient educators, and by every man or woman of liberal education. For sale by L. HALL & BRO.

THE UNION TEXT BOOK: Containing Selections from the Writings of DANIEL WEBSTER; the Declaration of Independence; the Constitution of the United States; and WASHINGTON'S Farewell Address. With Copious Indexes. For the Higher Classes of Educational Institutions, and for Home Reading. (12mo.—pp. 562.) Philadelphia: G. G. Evans.

HERE is a judiciously compiled and most opportune work. Were its contents carefully read, studied, and the lessons taught fully heeded by the people of extreme sections of the Union—like by the fire-eaters of the South and the fanatics of the North—we should hear little of disunion, and have no practical demonstrations in the line of secession. Though first published several years ago, the present edition is most seasonable, and should be widely read at a time when such strenuous efforts are being made to discover the links which bind the American Union. The volume is appropriately dedicated "to the Governor of each State in the Union comprising the United States of America." [From the Publisher.]

HERODOTUS. In two volumes. New York: Harper & Bros.

We have before spoken of the new and hitherto untried enterprise of the HARRIS in publishing a series of texts of the Greek and Latin classics. We have here the republication of the works of the father of history. Twenty years ago it was the fashion among scholars to ridicule HERODOTUS, decried his authority, and call him an old and untrustworthy gossip. But time and investigation have changed all this. Every year's study of the arrow-headed inscriptions, and other sources of information which science has explored, has given new interest and authority to the fascinating pages of HERODOTUS. The great work of RAWLINSON has put all the learning requisite for understanding the value and place in history of HERODOTUS in the power of all English readers. Scholars who wish to consult the Greek, will find this a most beautiful pocket edition, in a clear and readable type. For sale by STEELE, AVERY & Co.

THE ODYSSEY OF HOMER—with the Hymns and Battle of the Frogs and Mice. Literally translated, with Explanatory Notes. New York: Harper & Brothers.

This is a continuation of the series of translations of the Greek and Latin classics which the HARRIS have been for some time engaged in reprinting. It is better adapted to merely English readers than any of the poetic translations. They can get from this a better idea of the poet and the poem than from COWPER or POPE. The explanatory notes are valuable for learned as well as English readers. For sale by STEELE, AVERY & Co.

FAMOUS BOYS: and How They Became Great Men. Dedicated to Youths and Young Men, as a Stimulus to Earnest Living. (pp. 300.) New York: W. A. Townsend & Co.

TRUE STORIES OF THE DAYS OF WASHINGTON. Illustrated. (pp. 312.) New York: Phinney, Blakeman & Mason.

The above entitled are capital books for the young. The first named inculcates good lessons in an entertaining and impressive manner, and the last imparts important historical facts and incidents in a pleasant, instructive and attractive style. For sale by L. HALL & BRO. and D. M. DEWEY.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE NEW AMERICAN CYCLOPEDIA: A Popular Dictionary of General Knowledge. Edited by GEO. RIPLEY and CHAS. A. DANA. Volume XI. [Macmillan-Moxa.] New York: D. Appleton & Co.

CONSIDERATIONS on some of the Elements and Conditions of Social Welfare and Human Progress. Being Academic and Occasional Discourses and other Pieces. By C. S. HENRY, D. D. (pp. 415.) New York: D. Appleton & Co. Rochester—L. HALL & BRO.

THE CHILDREN'S PICTURE FABLE-BOOK—Containing One Hundred and Sixty Fables. With Sixty Illustrations by HARRISON WALKER. (pp. 280.) New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—STEELE, AVERY & Co.

THE CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK OF BRDS. Illustrated with Sixty-one Engravings by W. H. AVERY. (pp. 276.) New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—STEELE, AVERY & Co.

Spice from New Books.

Physical Training of Children.

Is it not an astonishing fact, that though on the treatment of offspring depend their lives or deaths, and their moral welfare or ruin; yet not one word of instruction on the treatment of offspring is ever given to those who will hereafter be parents? Is it not monstrous that the fate of a new generation should be left to the chances of unreasoning custom, impulse, fancy—joined with the suggestions of ignorant nurses and the prejudiced counsel of grandmothers? If a merchant commenced business without any knowledge of arithmetic and book-keeping, we should exclaim at his folly, and look for disastrous consequences. Or if, before studying anatomy, a man set up as a surgical operator, we should wonder at his audacity and pity his patients. But that parents should begin the difficult task of rearing children without ever having given a thought to the principles—physical, moral, or intellectual—which ought to guide them, excites neither surprise at the actors nor pity for their victims.

To tens of thousands that are killed, add hundreds of thousands that survive with feeble constitutions, and millions that grow up with constitutions not so strong as they should be; and you will have some idea of the curse inflicted on their offspring by parents ignorant of the laws of life. Do but consider for a moment that the regimen to which children are subject is hourly telling upon them to their life-long injury or benefit; and that there are twenty ways of going wrong to one way of going right; and you will get some idea of the enormous mischief that is almost everywhere inflicted by the thoughtless, haphazard system in common use. Is it decided that a boy shall be clothed in some flimsy short dress, and be allowed to go playing about with limbs reddened by cold? The decision will tell on his whole future existence—either in illness; or in stunted growth; or in deficient energy; or in a maturity less vigorous than it ought to have been, and consequent hindrances to success and happiness. Are children doomed to a monotonous diet, or a dietary that is deficient in nutritive power? Their ultimate physical power and their efficiency as men and women will inevitably be more or less diminished by it. Are they forbidden vociferous play, or (being too ill-clothed to bear exposure,) are they kept in-doors in cold weather? They are certain to fall below that measure of health and strength to which they would else have attained. When sons and daughters grow up sickly and feeble, parents commonly regard the event as a misfortune—as a visitation of Providence, thinking after the prevalent chaotic fashion, they assume that these evils come without causes; or that the causes are supernatural. Nothing of the kind. In some cases the causes are doubtless inherited; but in most cases foolish regulations are the causes. Very generally parents themselves are responsible for all this pain, this debility, this depression, this misery. They have undertaken to control the lives of their offspring from hour to hour; with cruel carelessness they have neglected to learn anything about these vital processes which they are unceasingly affecting by their commands and prohibitions; in utter ignorance of the simplest physiologic laws, they have been year by year undermining the constitutions of their children; and have so inflicted disease and premature death, not only on them but on their descendants.—"Education; Intellectual, Moral and Physical," by HERBERT SPENCER.

Morbid Nervousness.

THE morbid nervousness of the present day appears in several ways. It brings a man sometimes to that startled state that the sudden opening of a door, the clash of a falling fire-iron, or any little accident, puts him in a flutter. How nervous the late Sir Robert Peel must have been when, a few weeks before his death, he went to the Zoological Gardens, and when a monkey suddenly sprang upon his arm, the great and worthy man fainted! Another phase of nervousness is when a man is brought to a state that the least noise or cross occurrence seems to jar through the entire nervous system,—to upset him, as we say; when he cannot command his mental powers except in perfect stillness, or in the chamber, and at his writing table, to which he is accustomed; when, in short, he gets fidgety, easily worried, full of whims and fancies, which must be indulged and considered, or he is quite out of sorts.

Another phase of the same morbid condition is when a human being is oppressed with a vague, undefined fear that things are going wrong, that his income will not meet the demands upon it, that his child's lungs are affected, that his mental powers are leaving him,—a state of mind which shades rapidly off into positive insanity. Indeed, when matters remain long in any of the fashions which have been described, I suppose the natural termination must be disease of the heart, or a shock of paralysis, or insanity in the form either of mania or idiocy. Numbers of common-place people, who could feel very acutely, but who could not tell what they felt, have been worried into fatal heart disease by prolonged anxiety and misery. Every one knows how paralysis laid its hand upon Sir Walter Scott, always great, lately heroic. Protracted anxiety, how to make the ends meet, with a large family and an uncertain income, drove Southey's first wife into a lunatic asylum; and there is hardly a more touching story than that of her fears and forebodings through nervousness year after year. Not less sad the end of her overwrought husband, in blank vacuity; nor the like end of Thomas Moore. And perhaps the saddest instance of the result of an overdriven nervous system, in recent days, was the end of that rugged, honest, wonderful genius, Hugh Miller.—"Recrutation of a Country Parson."

Chinese Views of Death.

THERE is nothing in the Chinese character more striking than the apathy with which they undergo afflictions, or the resignation with which they bear them. There is so much elasticity in their disposition that the most opposite changes in their condition produce but little effect. A Coolie can admirably ap-



MAJOR ROBERT ANDERSON.

In the last issue of the RURAL we gave an interesting sketch of the life and services of Major ROBERT ANDERSON, the gallant soldier now in charge of Fort Sumter, and we are very much gratified at being enabled to present his portrait to our readers. The engraving was made from a painting in possession of his wife, and is by her pronounced a perfect likeness.

We have already given a biography of Major A., and as we doubt not that a mention of those who are in Fort Sumter with him, and are nobly assisting in the performance of his entire duty to the country, will be received with feelings of pleasure, we give the following brief sketches of his second officer, Capt. ABNER DOUBLEMAN, Brevet-Capt. TRUMAN SEYMOUR, and Lieutenants TAYLOR and DAVIS.

Capt. DOUBLEMAN entered West Point in 1838, and graduated in 1842. He was at Corpus Christi, with Gen. TAYLOR, and with him at the Rio Grande. He bore himself bravely at Monterey, and, as an officer of PARENTISS' heavy battery, made a forced march of thirty-five miles on the night of February 23d, 1847, from the Rinconada Pass to the battle field of Buena Vista, to take part in the action which it was sup-

posed, SANTA ANNA would renew on the 24th. He was one of the Commissioners sent by Mr. FILLMORE to investigate the Gardiner fraud. In 1855 he was promoted to a Captaincy, and in 1856, ordered to Florida, where he remained till 1858, when he was sent to Fort Moultrie.

Brevet-Captain TRUMAN SEYMOUR is a native of Vermont. He entered West Point in 1845. He was in Mexico, as an officer of light artillery, and behaved with such gallantry at Cherubusco, as to receive the brevet of captain. He is at the head of the list of first lieutenants of his regiment.

First Lieutenant THEODORE TALBOT, of D. C., was appointed in 1847, from Kentucky, to a second Lieutenancy. A Southern man by birth and feeling, he is loyal to the Union.

First Lieutenant JEFFERSON C. DAVIS is an Indian by birth, and was a lieutenant in the third Indiana Volunteers, under the command of Colonel HENRY S. LANE, Governor elect of Indiana, and did good service at Buena Vista, and for good conduct received a commission in his regiment during the year 1848.

the dignity of the Mandarin when promoted, and a disgraceful official or ruined merchant, who formerly had lived in luxury, appears little to regret the change he has undergone. There is no fear of death among them, though they have the relics of the dead constantly before their eyes. The country is covered with graves, and in many places about Shanghai the coffins are openly exposed in the fields. They are even kept in the houses till a propitious day arrives for the burial, months passing by sometimes before the body is removed.

When the coffin is decayed, the bones are carefully gathered; and in a country walk one very often comes upon jars containing "potted ancestors." Money is saved for the purpose of a coffin, and is put by till ready for use. The first time I saw this was in a little cottage near Shanghai. There was an old oob-webbed coffin in the corner; I asked a young lad why it was there; he quietly pointed with his thumb over his shoulder to his grandmother, standing close by, and said it was for her; she was very old, and was nearly wearing out the coffin before she was put into it. At funerals females are hired to do the "inconceivable grief" parts of the performance. It seems very ridiculous that such a custom should be kept up when it is known by everybody that the mourners howl for hire. They certainly work hard for their money, and their piteous moans would be heart-rending if they were real.—"Twelve Years in China."

Useful, Scientific, &c.

MISFORTUNES OF IGNORANCE.

If any one doubts the importance of an acquaintance with the fundamental principles of physiology as a means to complete living, let him look around and see how many men and women he can find in middle or later life who are thoroughly well. Occasionally only do we meet with an example of vigorous health continued to old age; hourly do we meet with examples of acute disorder, chronic ailment, general debility, premature decrepitude. Scarcely is there one to whom you put the question, who has not in the course of his life brought upon himself illness which a little knowledge would have saved him from. Here is a case of heart disease consequent on a rheumatic fever that followed reckless exposure. There is a case of eyes spoiled for life by over-study. Yesterday the account was of one whose long-enduring lameness was brought on by continuing, in spite of the pain, to use a knee after it had been slightly injured. And to-day we are told of another who has had to lie by for years, because he did not know that the palpitation he suffered resulted from an over-taxed brain. Now we hear of an irremediable injury that followed some silly feat of strength; and, again, of a constitution that has never recovered from the effects of excessive work needlessly undertaken; while on all sides we see the perpetual minor ailments which accompany feebleness.

Not to dwell on the actual pain, the weariness, the gloom, the waste of time and money thus entailed, only consider how greatly ill health hinders the discharge of all duties—makes business often impossible, and always more difficult; produces an irritability fatal to the right management of children; puts the functions of citizenship out of the question; and makes amusement a bore. Is it not clear that the physical sin—partly our forefathers' and partly our own—which produce this ill health, deduct more from complete living than anything else, and to a great extent make life a failure and a burden instead of a benediction and a pleasure?

To all which add the fact that life, besides being thus immensely deteriorated, is also cut short. It is not true, as we commonly suppose, that a disorder or disease from which we have recovered leaves us as

before. No disturbance of the normal course of the functions can pass away and leave things exactly as they were. In all cases a permanent damage is done—not immediately appreciable, it may be, but still there; and, along with other such items, which Nature, in her strict account-keeping, never drops, will tell against us to the inevitable shortening of our days. Through the accumulation of small injuries it is that constitutions are commonly undermined, and break down long before their time. And if we call to mind how far the average duration of life falls below the possible duration, we see how immense is the loss. When, to the numerous partial deductions which bad health entails, we add this great final deduction, it results that ordinarily more than one-half of life is THROWN AWAY.—"Westminster Review."

DIPHTHERIA.

As the newspapers are full of remedies for this dangerous affection of the throat, some of them very good and some of them very silly, we will give one which we know to be used by some eminent physicians, and which we have never known to fail, if applied early. Diphtheria in its early stage may be recognized by any person of ordinary capacity, by two marked symptoms; the sensation of a bone or hard substance in the throat, rendering swallowing difficult and painful, and a marked fetor, or unpleasant smell of the breath, the result of its putrefactive tendency. On the appearance of these symptoms, if the patient is old enough to do so, give a piece of gum camphor, of the size of a marrowfat pea, and let it be retained in the mouth, swallowing slowly the saliva charged with it until it is all gone. In an hour or so give another, and at the end of another hour a third; a fourth will not unreasonably be required; but if the pain and unpleasant breath are not relieved, it may be used two or three times more, at a little longer intervals, say two hours. If the child is young, powder the camphor, which can easily be done by adding a drop or two of spirits of alcohol to it, and mix it with an equal quantity of powdered loaf-sugar, or better, powdered rock candy, and blow it through a quill or tube into its throat, depressing the tongue with the haft of a spoon. Two or three applications will relieve. Some recommend powdered aloes or pelltitory with the camphor, but observation and experience have satisfied us that the camphor is sufficient alone. It acts probably by its virtue as a diffusible stimulant, and antiseptic qualities.—"N. Y. Examiner."

A WONDERFUL ISLAND.

A MISSIONARY describes, in a late Pacific newspaper, a visit which he paid to a little-known island of the Marquesas group, whose formation is volcanic. His observations were made during the month of May last. "After two hours," he says, "of great heat and extreme toil, we stood on the dividing ridge of the island, some 3,500 feet above the ocean. Our path had led up steep and narrow ridges, down which we looked into awful depths of 500, 1000, and 1,500 feet below." In one place I measured the width of the ledge on which we were walking, and found it to be two feet and four inches. Sometimes the sides of the precipice below us were at an angle of 60 to 70 degrees, and sometimes they were perpendicular. We walked along on the crest of spurs, climbed over cones, and threaded our way along the steep sides of hills, holding on to grass and shrubs, and scarcely holding on at that.

"From the central summit of the island the view was magnificent. Such a wild assemblage of hills and valleys; of spurs and ridges; of profound gulfs and yawning chasms; of needles, more wonderful than Cleopatra's; of leaning towers, outwielding the famed one of Pisa; of cones, rounded, rent, rugged, upright, inclined, truncated, inverted; of precipices at every angle, bold, green carpeted, festooned, grooved,

fluted; of rocks piled upon rocks; of mountain towering above mountain; of battlement frowning against battlement! It seems as if a sea of molten rocks had been suddenly solidified, while rolling in lofty and elevated waves, sinking in awful gulfs, boiling in caves or domes, or spouting in fiery pillars against the sky."

The Young Ruralist.

LETTER TO FARMER BOYS—NO. IV.

DEAR BROTHERS:—PAUL MORPHY is a noted chess player. You have all, I dare say, heard of him, and read of him. He has become very renowned merely because he excels all others in playing chess. He has spent many years—utterly wasted the precious time that God gave him to benefit his fellows—to enable his own soul—and which he should regard as the most precious boon of Heaven—recklessly squandered it in moving bits of ivory over a checkered board! And yet PAUL MORPHY is not the only one who plays away his time. We hear men say, Oh, but chess playing is discipline for the mind—it rouses and quickens the intellect—it causes one to think, &c. If mathematics, philosophy, or metaphysics will not develop your intellect—if they will not discipline your minds—if the wonderful creations all around you—if the scene, that God painted but yesterday, where the sun first gilds the orient clouds—if these will not cause you to think, then if there be any virtue in chess or checker playing, resort to it. If after you have exhausted the great store house of knowledge, and have no more to learn—have no more good to accomplish—no more deeds of kindness to perform—when there are around you no more ignorant ones to be taught—no more sorrow; ing ones to be cheered and helped—then if any time remains to you, sit down and learn to play chess.

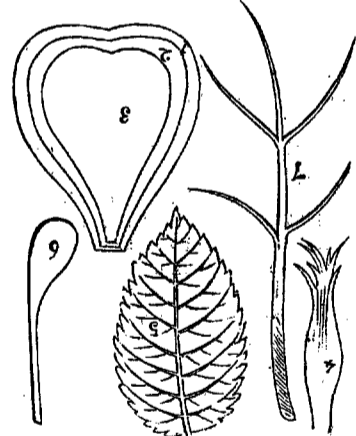
But, young brothers, you may say, "Why, many great and learned men play chess and even cards!" A great many do, and they have a wonderful weak spot somewhere, they're not half as smart as they might be. If you wish to imitate others, take for your example a character in which no weakness has ever been displayed. It is not well to imitate the follies or the vices of those who are called great.

MONSIEUR BLONDIN made the discovery that he could walk upon a rope. Hagging to his bosom the idea that the "Fools were not all dead yet," he came to our glorious Empire State, and proved the truth of it, for hundreds of people—who thought themselves possessed of considerable intellect and common sense—flocked to see a man do that which the most diminutive squirrel that runs the length of your father's fence can do! What an amount of self-respect, what a bulk of manhood a man must possess, to pride himself on a thing which a creature wholly destitute of intelligence can perform better than he! And I can but see a great similarity between the performers and the lookers-on.

I trust your good sense your elevated manhood, will tell you of a better way of spending your time and money, than in running to see a Blondin-like performance, even if visiting the rural districts, in that essence of all nuisances, the most vulgar of all vulgarities, the circus. Seek to make far better men of yourselves—to be of infinitely more use to the world—to have your bodies hold greater and nobler souls than those of a MORPHY, a BLONDIN, or some silly low bred clown. MINNIE MINTWOPP. Alfred University, N. Y., 1880.

TO MAKE A ROSE FROM SHAVINGS.

We have received from a lady correspondent in Michigan, Mrs. E. C. PAULL, the following method of making a rose from wood shavings.—Cut out 14 petals same as No. 3, and 18 of No. 2; then 20 of the larger size. Cut them on the length of the shaving, and curl them slightly at the edge with the scissors, then form a loop of wire as shown by No. 6 in the diagram, and having twisted a strip of shaving round it, commence to tie on the petals with some strong thread. Tie on the 14 small ones; then the next



size, and so on till the flower is complete. Cut the rose leaves also on the length, and vein them with the scissors, holding the points a little apart, so as to give the vein a raised look. Gum them on the wire stalk, which you will form same as design No. 7. Be careful to bind the spray neatly to the main branch with a slight strip of the shaving, and fasten off by a little gum at the end.

CUTTING-ANT OF TEXAS AND ITS DWELLING.—The Cutting-Ant of Texas builds subterranean habitations, consisting of cells, sometimes filling an area of ground twenty-five feet square, to the depth of sixteen feet. Their cells are from six to twelve inches in height, and are connected by passages from one to three or four inches in diameter. From these caverns, where they dwell in myriads, they have been known to dig a passage under a stream in order to get at a garden on the opposite side. Their food is both animal and vegetable, consisting of insects, berries, grain and the leaves of trees. They will sometimes entirely strip a tree in a single night. In Western and Central Texas, they are regarded as a terrible scourge, and many efforts have been made to exterminate them, but their immense number has made it impossible. They appear to be divided into classes, some building and repairing the cells, some procuring food, some tending the sick—and all having peculiar duties to perform.

It is the love of truth that clothes the martyr with a name which outshines the blaze that kills him. It binds the soul to all true spirits on earth, in Heaven, and to God. Compare emulations of argument, pungenencies of sarcasm, dealings of fancy, pride of logic, and pomp of declamation, with the simple thoughts which the love of truth suggests, and they are but as the sound of an automaton to the voice of man.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The New York Spectator—Francis Hall & Co. How to obtain Webster's Pictorial Dictionary—P. Church & Co. Notre Dame University—Rev. P. Dillon, Pres.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Bronchial Complaints, &c.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 19, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

AN earnest effort will be made in the Senate to order the investigation, through the Judiciary Committee, into a charge of a treasonable plot to establish a Southern Confederacy, with its seat of government at Washington.

The President has prepared a communication to be laid before Congress, disavowing Cave, Johnson's award in the case of the Paraguay claimants, and sustaining Minister Clay in the matter of the diplomatic relations with Peru.

It appears from the official report that since April last the Government has sold to various parties 24,000 muskets, altered from flint to percussion locks, at a cost of twenty-two cents each.

Gen. Dix was nominated and unanimously confirmed as Secretary of the Treasury on the 1st inst.

Secretary Thompson has resigned to the President his commission as Secretary of the Interior, on the ground, after the order to reinforce Major Anderson was countermanded on the 31st of December, there was a distinct understanding that no troops should be ordered South, without the subject being considered and decided on in the Cabinet.

Commodore Shubrick, who arrived from Charleston on the 8th inst., states that the greatest anxiety and terror prevails there, enhanced by every fresh report of movements at the North. It is believed that a revulsion of feeling against the disunionists must soon take place, unless Georgia adopts a course to infuse new life into the secession movement, and give the already wavering people new accession of courage.

The first is dated Dec. 29th, from the Commissioners to the President, in which they demand as preliminary to all negotiations, a disapproval by the President of the act of Major Anderson in seizing Fort Sumter.

The second, dated Dec. 30th, from the President, in which, while admitting that Major Anderson acted without express orders, he yet refuses to repudiate the act.

The third is dated January 1st, in which the Commissioners attempt to refute the allegations of the President's letter, wherein he justifies Major Anderson's conduct.

The last letter the President returned to the Commissioners with the following endorsement:

"This paper, just presented to the President, is of such a character that he declines to receive it."

The War Department is in possession of information that the Governor of South Carolina has forbidden the U. S. Sub-Treasurer at Charleston paying the drafts of the paymaster in favor of Major Anderson and his command, and the Sub-Treasurer has refused accordingly.

Lieut. Talbot has arrived from Major Anderson with dispatches to the government. Lieut. Talbot reports that the condition of Fort Sumter is not so favorable as was believed by the government. Twenty-seven guns are mounted on the first tier, eight on the third tier, and they are mounting others.

Mr. Truscott has arrived in Washington with pacific overtures from Governor Pickens of South Carolina.

At the caucus of Secession Senators held here on Saturday night, Messrs. Fitzpatrick and Benjamin advocated resigning when their States seceded, insisting that it would be dishonorable to remain afterward.

Resolved, If the Senate concur, that the Legislature of New York, profoundly impressed with the value of the Union, and determined to preserve it unimpaired, hail with joy the recent firm, dignified, and patriotic spirit of the President of the United States, and that we tender to him through the chief magistrate of our State, whatever aid in men and money may be required to enable him to enforce the laws, and uphold the authority of the Federal Government, and that in defence of the more perfect Union which has conferred prosperity and happiness upon the American people, renewing the pledge given and redeemed by our fathers, we are ready to devote our fortunes, our lives, and sacred honors in upholding the Union and the Constitution.

Resolved, If the Senate concur, that the Union loving citizens and Representatives of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee, who labor with devoted courage and patriotism to withhold their States from the vortex of secession, are entitled to the gratitude and admiration of the whole people.

Resolved, If the Senate concur, that the Governor be respectfully requested to forward a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the President of the nation and to the Governors of all the States in the Union.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the preamble and resolutions, and they were adopted by 117 to 2.

[In accordance with the foregoing, Gov. Morgan telegraphed to President Buchanan on the 11th inst., as follows:]

To His Excellency James Buchanan, President of the United States, Washington City:

Sir:—In obedience to the request of the Legislature of this State, I transmit herewith a copy of the concurrent resolutions of that body, adopted this day, tendering the aid of the State to the President of the United States, to enable him to enforce the laws and to uphold the authority of the Federal Government.

I have the honor to be your Excellency's obedient servant, EDWIN D. MORGAN.]

Mr. Doty, private Secretary of the Governor, presented the annual report of the Commissary General, with a message from the Governor calling attention to the fact that there exists a deficiency in the military stores, which the Legislature should take early measures to supply.

In addition to this he recommends that in order to meet any emergency which may arise, the Legislature make a suitable appropriation from the Treasury, to be used under the ordinary restrictions at the discretion of the Military Department.

the present emergency. To Congress is reserved the power to declare war and remove the grievance that might lead to war and restore peace to the country. On them rests the responsibility. After eulogizing the blessings conferred by the Union, he says, should it perish, the calamity will be as severe in the Southern as in the Northern States. The secession movement is chiefly on an apprehension as to the sentiments of the majority in several of the Northern States. Let the matter be transferred from the political assembly to the ballot box. The people will redress the grievance. In heaven's name let the trial be made before we plunge into the assumption, before there is no alternative.

He appeals to Congress to say in their might, the Union must and shall be preserved by all Constitutional means. He recommends Congress to devote themselves to prompt action with a view to peace. The division on the line of 36 deg. 30 min. is suggested as calculated to produce an adjustment. It is an imputation on members to say they will hesitate a moment. The danger is on us. In several of the States, forts and arsenals have been seized by aggressive acts. Congress should endeavor to give the difficulties a peaceful solution. He states the reason why he had refrained from sending troops to Charleston harbor, believing this would have furnished the pretext, if not provocation, on the part of South Carolina, for aggression. Referring to Maj. Anderson, he says:—That officer could not, before he left Fort Moultrie, have held that post forty-eight hours. He had warned his countrymen of its danger. He felt that the duties were faithfully but imperfectly performed. He was conscious he meant well for his country.

Mr. Howard, of Michigan, moved that the Message be referred to a Special Committee of five, with instructions to inquire whether any executive officers of the U. S. have been, or are now treating or communicating with any person or persons, for the transfer of forts and other property; whether any demand for their surrender has been made, and by whom, and what answer has been given; whether any officer or officers have entered into any pledge not to send any reinforcements of troops to the harbor of Charleston, and if so, when, by whom, and on what considerations; whether the Custom House, Post Office, and Arsenal at Charleston had been seized, and by whom held in possession; whether any revenue cutter has been seized, and whether any efforts have been made to recover it—the Committee to have power to send for persons and papers, and report from time to time such facts as may be required by the national honor, &c.

On motion of Mr. Leake, the Select Committee on the President's Special Message were instructed to inquire whether any arms have recently been removed from Harper's Ferry to Pittsburg, and if so, by whose authority, and for what reasons. The resolution was amended so as to extend the inquiry as to the removal of arms in all the arsenals.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter signed by the Mississippi delegation, stating that they had received official information that this State passed an ordinance through a Convention representing the sovereignty of the people, in which the State has withdrawn from the Federal Government all powers heretofore delegated to it, and they thought it their duty to lay the fact before the House, and withdraw themselves from further deliberations of that body.

While they regret the necessity for this action, they approve it and will return.

Legislation of New York.

SENATE.—The Assembly's concurrent Resolutions introduced by Mr. Littlejohn, were taken up, the rules being suspended for that purpose.

Mr. Spinola moved to amend by making the preamble read:

Whereas, Treason, as defined by the Constitution of the United States, exists in one or more States of the Union, &c.

Mr. Spinola warmly advocated the passage of the Resolutions. Mr. Grant offered the amendment, which was adopted, and resolutions passed, ayes 28, nays 1.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Littlejohn—The information we have received over the telegraph wires this A. M., point out the period when the partisan should be swallowed up in the patriot. I therefore ask consent of the House to offer at this time the following preamble and resolutions.

Whereas, The insurgent State of South Carolina, after seizing the Post Office, Custom House, moneys and fortifications of the Federal Government, has, by firing into a vessel ordered by the Government to convey troops and provisions to Fort Sumter, virtually declared war; and whereas, the forts and property of the U. S. Government, in Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana, have been unlawfully seized with hostile intentions; and whereas, her Senator and Congressmen avow and maintain their treasonable acts; therefore,

Resolved, If the Senate concur, that the Legislature of New York, profoundly impressed with the value of the Union, and determined to preserve it unimpaired, hail with joy the recent firm, dignified, and patriotic spirit of the President of the United States, and that we tender to him through the chief magistrate of our State, whatever aid in men and money may be required to enable him to enforce the laws, and uphold the authority of the Federal Government, and that in defence of the more perfect Union which has conferred prosperity and happiness upon the American people, renewing the pledge given and redeemed by our fathers, we are ready to devote our fortunes, our lives, and sacred honors in upholding the Union and the Constitution.

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In addition to this he recommends that in order to meet any emergency which may arise, the Legislature make a suitable appropriation from the Treasury, to be used under the ordinary restrictions at the discretion of the Military Department.

The Southern Imbroglio.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The steamer Star of the West, with reinforcements for Fort Sumter, in endeavoring to enter Charleston harbor about daylight on the 9th inst., was opened upon by the garrison on Morris Island, and also by Fort Moultrie. The steamer put about and went to sea.

The same evening a boat from Fort Sumter, bearing Lieut. Hall, and a communication from Major Anderson, with a white flag approached the city. Lieut. Hall had an interview with Gov. Pickens. The communication from Major Anderson is as follows:

To His Excellency the Governor of South Carolina:—SIR:—Two of your batteries fired this morning on an unarmed vessel bearing the flag of my country. As I have not been notified that war has been declared by South Carolina against the United States, I cannot but think this a hostile act, committed without your sanction or authority. Under that hope I refrain from opening a fire on your batteries. I have the honor, therefore, respectfully to ask whether the above mentioned act, one I believe without parallel in the history of our country, or any civilized government, was committed in obedience to your instructions, and notify you if it is not disclaimed that I regard it as an act of war, and I shall not, after reasonable time for the return of my messenger, permit any vessel to pass within the range of the guns of my Fort.

In order to save, as far as it is in my power, the shedding of blood, I beg you will take due notification of my decision, for the good of all concerned; hoping, however, your answer may justify a further course of forbearance on my part, I remain respectfully, (Signed) ROBERT ANDERSON.

Gov. Pickens, after stating the position of South Carolina to the United States, says:

Any attempt to send troops into Charleston Harbor to reinforce the forts, will be regarded as an act of hostility; any attempt to reinforce the troops at Fort Sumter, or to retake and resume possession of the forts within the waters of South Carolina, which Major Anderson abandoned after spiking the cannon and doing other damage, cannot but be regarded by the authorities of the State as indicative of any other purpose than the coercion of the State by the armed force of the Government. Special agents, therefore, have been sent off to the bar to warn approaching vessels, armed or unarmed, having troops to reinforce Fort Sumter aboard, not to enter the Harbor. Special orders have been given the commanders at the forts not to fire on such a vessel until a shot across the bows should warn them of the prohibition of the State.

Under these circumstances the Star of the West, it is understood, attempted to enter the harbor with troops, after being notified that she could not enter, and consequently she was fired into. The act is perfectly justified by me.

In regard to your threat about vessels in the harbor, it is only necessary for me to say, you must judge of your own responsibility. Your position in the harbor has been tolerated by the authorities of the State, and while the act of which you complain is in perfect consistency with the rights and duties of the State, it is not perceived how far the conduct you propose to adopt can find a parallel in the history of any country; or can be reconciled with any other purpose than that of your Government imposing on the State the condition of a conquered province. (Signed) F. W. PICKENS.

Upon the receipt of Gov. Pickens' missive, Major Anderson replied as follows:

To His Excellency Gov. Pickens:

SIR,—I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your communication, and say, that under the circumstances, I have deemed it proper to refer the whole matter to my Government, and intend deferring the course I indicated in my note this A. M., until the arrival from Washington of such instruction as I may receive.

I have the honor to express the hope that no obstacles will be placed in the way, and that you will do me the favor of giving every facility for the departure and return of the bearer, Lieut. Talbot, who is directed to make the journey. (Signed) ROBERT ANDERSON.

Gov. Pickens immediately granted the permission desired, and directed Lieut. Talbot to have every facility and courtesy extended to him, as bearer of dispatches to the United States Government, both going and returning.

MISSISSIPPI.—The ordinance for the immediate secession of the State has passed the Jackson Convention by a vote of 84 to 15. The prominent places in the city are illuminated to-night. Guns are being fired and fireworks set off in honor of the event.

ALABAMA.—The U. S. Arsenal at Mobile was taken at daylight on the 4th inst., by the troops of this city. It contained 6 stand of arms, 1,500 barrels of powder, 300,000 rounds of musket cartridges and other munitions. There was no defence. It is rumored that Fort Morgan was taken last night.

An ordinance to dissolve the Union between the State of Alabama and other States, under the compact and style of United States of America, was passed by the Convention.

LOUISIANA.—All the troops in New Orleans were under arms on the 9th inst., by order of Gov. Moore. Five companies embarked to seize the Arsenal at Baton Rouge. The New Orleans battalion and four companies embarked at 11 o'clock for Forts Jackson and St. Phillip, forty miles below on the Mississippi, commanding the approach to New Orleans.

The secession ticket was triumphant in New Orleans. All the Senatorial delegates, and all but four on the representative ticket are elected. The city has been carried by over 500 majority.

VIRGINIA.—The following has passed the House:

Resolved, That in view of the imminent danger of civil war, this Assembly in behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, ask respectively, on the one hand of the President, and on the other, of the authorities of each of the Southern States, to the end, if possible, that peace may be preserved, that they respectively and reciprocally communicate to their respective legislatures, the status quo of all the movements tending to collision, and concerning the forts and arsenals of the nation, shall on either hand be strictly maintained for the present, except to repel actual aggressive attempts. Also that the Governor communicate by telegraph immediately these resolutions to the President and Governors of the Southern States.

The Governors on Secession.

As was promised in our last issue, we continue the publication of the views expressed by Governors of the various States upon the question of Secession:

WISCONSIN.—Gov. RANDALL delivered his Message upon the 10th inst. He says this is not a league of States, but a government of the people. The General Government cannot change the character of a State Government, or usurp any power over it not delegated; nor can any State change the character of the U. S. government, restrict or increase its jurisdiction, or impair any of its rights. He said the Constitution makes no man a slave. Slavery cannot go into free territory under the Constitution; neither can it exist outside of local law. Therefore, the Personal Liberty laws are found, or should be, upon the statute book in every State. Every living human being has the right to a legal test, whether he is a free man or a slave. Should the Legislature think the Personal Liberty law of Wisconsin conflicts with the U. S. Constitution, it should be made to conform therewith; no fear, or hope of reward, should induce a free people to break down the walls of their protection. We will make a sacrifice of feeling to circumstances,

but no sacrifice of principles. The right of a State to secede can never be admitted. Once in the Union, a State must remain until the Union is destroyed.

TENNESSEE.—The Legislature assembled at Nashville on the 7th inst. The Governor's Message recommends that the question of calling a Convention for the consideration of existing difficulties be left to the people, and says the remedy for the present evils exists only in Constitutional amendments. On the refusal whereof, Tennessee should maintain her equality and independence out of the Union.

ILLINOIS.—In regard to the present existing difficulties at the South, Gov. WOOD says if grievances to any portion of our confederation have arisen within the Union, let them be redressed within the Union. If unconstitutional laws, trenching upon the guaranteed rights of any of our sister States, have been found upon other State books, let them be removed. If prejudice, and alienation towards any of our fellow-countrymen, has fastened on our minds, let it be dismissed and forgotten. Let us be just to ourselves and each other, allowing neither threats to drive us from what we deem to be our duty, nor pride of opinion prevent us from correcting wherein we may have erred. He recommends that if Illinois has passed any laws tending to obstruct the Federal authority, or conflicting with the constitutional rights of others, they at once be repealed. Speaking not merely for himself, but reflecting what he assumes to be the voice of Illinois, irrespective of party, as it reaches him from all quarters, he adopts the sentiments of President Jackson, "The Federal Union, it must be preserved." To which sentiment he trusts the Legislature will give emphatic assent.

MISSOURI.—Governor STEWART, in his Valedictory, says that Missouri occupies a position in regard to these troubles that should make her voice potent in the Councils of the nation. With scarcely a disunionist *per se* within her borders, she is still determined to demand and maintain her rights at every hazard. Missouri loves the Union and will never submit to wrong. She came into the Union on a compromise, and is willing to abide by a fair compromise—not such ephemeral contracts as are enacted by Congress to-day and repealed to-morrow, but a compromise insuring all the just rights of the States, and agreed to in solemn convention of all the parties interested. Missouri has a right to speak on this subject, because she has suffered deeply, having probably lost as much, in the past few years, by abductions of slaves, as all the rest of the Southern States put together. The Governor deprecates the action of South Carolina, and says: "Our people would feel more sympathy with the measure had it originated among those who, like ourselves, have suffered severe losses and constant annoyances from the interference and depredations of outsiders. Missouri will hold to the Union so long as it is worth the effort to preserve it. She cannot be frightened by the past unfriendly legislation of the North, or dragged into secession by the restrictive legislation of the South." The Governor denies the right of voluntary secession, and says that it would be utterly destructive of every principle on which the National faith is founded. He appeals to the great conservative masses of the people, to put down selfish and designing politicians and to avert the threatened evils, and closes with strong recommendations to adopt all proper measures for our rights,—condemns this resort to separation,—protests against hasty and unwise action, and records his unalterable devotion to the Union so long as it can be made the protection of equal rights.

MASSACHUSETTS.—On the 3d inst. Governor BANKS delivered his Valedictory. It is an important document, giving a detailed review of the material, educational and military progress of the State during the three years he filled the executive chair. The assessed value of the property of the State is \$897,000,000. The enrolled militia numbers 155,389 men. A considerable share is devoted to the Personal Liberty law and its removal from the statute book. Gov. BANKS concludes as follows:

There can be no peaceable secession of States. Whether the government is a compact between States or a Union of the people, it is nevertheless a government, and cannot be dissolved at the bidding of any dissatisfied States. It has pledged its faith to the people of every land, and that pledge of faith can not be broken. It has been sanctified by the sacrifice of the best blood of the people, and that sacrifice has made it a nation indissoluble and eternal. Neither can that portion of the Continent now occupied by the American States be partitioned out to hostile nations. By war and by purchase every part of the country has acquired indefeasible and perpetual rights in every other part. The interior will never allow the keys of the Continent, on the ocean and the gulf shores, to pass into the hands of an enemy, nor can the maritime cities, or States, exist independent of the good will and support of the plantation and farming communities of the interior, and though we should assent to an unnatural and treasonable separation, the generations that succeed us would contend for centuries to recover their rights, until at last conquest or annihilation ended the struggle.

But no such result can follow as the destruction of the American government; the contest will be too terrible, the sacrifice too momentous. The difficulties in our path are too slight, the capacities of our people too manifold, and the future too brilliant, to justify forebodings or to excite permanent fears. The life of every man is lengthened by trial, and the strength of every government must be tested by revolt and revolution. I doubt not that the Providence of God that has hitherto protected us will preserve us now and forever.

News Paragraphs.

The entire press of California is opposed to secession, and in favor of mutual concession. All the Republican papers advocate the repeal of the personal liberty bills.

It is remarkable that the twenty-four English peers who have died since the year commenced, have exactly completed, on the average, the full measure of "three-score years and ten."

LIBERIA has recently lost one of its noblest and most ardent Christians, in the death of John Day, Chief Justice of the Republic, and one of its founders. He was born in North Carolina, in 1797.

THE Fulton Starch Factory, near Fulton, Oswego Co., was burnt on the 6th inst. Loss estimated at from \$100,000 to \$150,000. Building insured for \$40,000;—stock \$20,000. The building was occupied by lessees.

The advices brought to England by the last West African mail state that the monster who is now King of Dahomey has actually sacrificed 1,700 human beings in honor of his predecessor, and intends to complete the number of victims to 2,500. Ten European traders, probably Spaniards or Portuguese, have been retained by him at Abomey, in order that they may be witnesses of these appalling sacrifices.

The News Condenser.

- Linen was first made in England, in 1268.
—Hats were invented for men, in Paris, 1403.
—They buy their wood by the pound in Paris.
—Knot stockings were invented in Spain, in 1650.
—It is estimated there are 7,600 Indians in Michigan.
—Recruiting for the army is very brisk in New York.
—During 1860, there were 11,714 deaths in Philadelphia.
—Mr. Medary has resigned his office as Governor of Kansas.
—The whole number of slaves in Maryland is about 76,000.
—Judge Williams, of Southern Kansas, has resigned his office.
—Union cockades are coming into vogue in the Northern States.
—Hay, in Philadelphia, brings from 80 to 85 cents per 100 pounds.
—The majority for immediate secession in New Orleans was 380.
—Mr. Buchanan was hung in effigy at Springfield, Ohio, on Fast Day.
—A family of wild cats was killed at West Granby, Conn., last week.
—Charles Haffnagle, U. S. Consul-general to India, died in London, Dec. 8.
—Isaac V. Fowler, the late Post-Master of New York, is living in Mexico.
—Handkerchiefs were first manufactured at Paisley, in Scotland, in 1743.
—The Marine Corps of the United States now consists of two thousand men.
—In Middle Tennessee the slaves are increasing faster than the white population.
—There are upward of 30 widows residing in one short street in Bristol, R. I.
—A statement of the marine losses reported in 1860 shows a total of 383 vessels.
—In Chicago, on Monday last, at 7 A. M., the mercury stood at 12° below zero.
—It is stated that Mrs. Anderson received six thousand calls on last New Year's day.
—Another of the editors of the New Orleans Picayune, L. L. Latham, Esq., is dead.
—Seventy thousand persons are employed in connection with the French railroad.
—Wm. H. Seward has accepted the post of Secretary of State in Lincoln's Cabinet.
—The artesian well in the State House, Ohio, has reached 2,775 feet, and cost \$15,000.
—Exchange on New York was selling at 7 per cent. premium, on the 10th, at Chicago.
—In Providence, R. I., during the year 1860, 102 persons died aged 70 years and upward.
—Rock oil, similar to that found in Pennsylvania, has been discovered in Bourbon Co., Ky.
—Nine thousand illegitimate children are annually born in Scotland—population 3,000,000.
—A little girl in Pulaski, Tenn., was fatally poisoned a few days since by eating patent candy.
—A solid cake of gold, worth nearly \$50,000, has been sold to the Bank of New South Wales.
—Our entire importation for foreign fabrics has fallen off \$11,000,000, as compared with 1859.
—The freight agencies at Cincinnati are said to cost \$60,000 a year; a heavy tax on shareholders.
—Rare advertisements for a vicious horse to experiment on, and offers \$100 premium for the worst.
—Exchange has fallen to 2½% in Chicago, and Western money is selling in Detroit at 95 cents.
—The whole number of post-offices in the United States, on the first of December, 1860, was 23,662.
—Felix Marshall, of Rockville, Md., found buds and blossoms on his peach tree, Christmas day.
—The Mayor of New York City, in a recent message to the Council, recommends secession of the city.
—Slavery in Russia ended on New Year's. The serfs, 40,000,000 in number, were then to be freed.
—John Williams, an Englishman, died of starvation, on Madison street, New York, on Monday week.
—An ice boat, on Cayuga Lake, ran across the ice on New Year's, at the rate of a mile in half a minute.
—Meetings have been held in many portions of the country, and votes of thanks tendered to Major Anderson.
—During the year 1860, there were 74 railroad accidents, by which 67 persons were killed and 313 wounded.
—Senator Trumbull, from Illinois, has been re-elected to the U. S. Senate by a vote 64 to 46, on a joint ballot.
—The 46th anniversary of the battle of New Orleans was pretty generally observed throughout the country.
—One of the tunnels on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad is lined throughout with cast iron, and lighted with gas.
—During the past year, four asteroids and four comets were discovered. The number of asteroids now discovered is sixty-two.
—Mr. Breed, the newly elected Mayor of Lynn, Mass., is a working shoemaker, and quietly occupied his bench on election day.
—Henry Jarvis was frozen to death on his father's doorstep, at Richmond, Va., on Saturday week, after a night's debauch.
—Charleston is the only city of any prominence in the Union in which the population has decreased during the last ten years.
—It is said that 2,000 gallons of molasses were made this last season from Chinese sugar cane, in Cumberland county, Maryland.
—A Russian tradesman has presented to the Emperor Alexander a topaz weighing 20 pounds, found by him in the river Urala.
—The Boston Transcript of Wednesday week says the sleighing is now very fine over three-fourths of the surface of New England.
—The number of fires in the United States in 1860, at which the loss was \$10,000 and upward, was 298, and the aggregate loss \$18,211,000.
—The Auburn State Prison, during the year which has just closed, has earned a surplus of twenty-five thousand dollars over expenses.
—Judge Seymour, of the Conn. Superior Court, has decided that students have a right to vote in the town in which they are attending college.
—Miss Jane P. Whiting, a lady 44 years of age, fell dead from heart disease, at a wedding party, given in Portland, Ct., New Year's evening.
—A machine has been invented in England which, being attached to the stern of a ship, pumps her out with a rapidity in ratio to her speed.
—A new license law went into effect January 1, in Canada; the number of taverns is limited to one for every two hundred and fifty inhabitants.
—Bartlett & Co., of Hartford, Conn., made 800 gallons of syrup from the Chinese sugar cane last season. It yielded eight barrels per acre.
—Judge Manierre, of Chicago, has decided that the personal liability of stockholders for the redemption of Illinois currency is all a humbug.
—A thief in Troy, on Saturday week, set fire to a lady's hood, apprised her of the fact, and while she was putting out the flame, picked her pocket.
—The Baltimore Methodist Conference has resolved to separate from the General Conference, on account of the action of the latter on slavery.
—Peru is coming into the world as a Cotton grower. Fifteen hundred bales of her cotton have just been sent across the Isthmus, most of it to Europe.
—The Charleston papers publish the proceedings of Congress and dispatches from the North, under the head of "Foreign News," by way of a harmless joke.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The political crisis in America is regarded as most serious in England. The Times in a leader thinks it quite possible that the problem of a democratic Republic may be solved in a few days, by an overthrow, in a spirit of folly, selfishness and shortsightedness.

FRANCE.—It is reported that the French fleet is about to sail for Gaeta. It is rumored, on the contrary, in Paris, that Russia and France agreed to support Francis II. in resistance till spring. The Empress Eugenie is not allowed to attend Cabinet meetings as formerly.

ITALY.—Reports relative to the state of affairs at Gaeta continued contradictory.

A dispatch from Gaeta, 22d, says the bombardment of the city is continued with vigor.

The Spanish Ambassador left his palace on account of its being riddled with bullets.

New Sardinian batteries can be seen, and are evidently ready to take part in the bombardment.

The garrison at Gaeta has been diminished in number by the dismissal of a portion of the Royal Guard, whose fidelity was doubtful. The remaining defenders were in a deplorable state, but their resistance could be carried on still further for a considerable period.

AUSTRIA.—The Times' correspondent at Vienna was confident that nothing but brute force can induce the Austrian Government to quit the Quadrilateral.

There was a report that England and France had come to an understanding in regard to Vienna urging the cession of Venetia without any territorial recompense.

It is stated that Austria had opened negotiations with Rome for the complete abolition of the Concordat.

Accounts from Hungary are very unsatisfactory. No taxes were being paid.

CHINA.—The text of the Chinese treaty is published. It contains a reference to Mr. Ward's agreement to pay Sovereign homage to the Emperor. But the telegraphic summary at Liverpool makes the sense obscure.

The English indemnity is nominally £3,000,000 sterling, which is considered to be small.

The fate of the entire party of prisoners taken September 12th, has been ascertained. The death of Capt. Bradzow occurred on the 1st, and he was saved much suffering that others underwent. He was beheaded by the order of the Tartar General. The Abbe de Luc was beheaded at the same time.

INDIA.—Accounts from Calcutta are to the 23d of November. Nena Sahib was reported at Thibet with several thousand followers.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadly.—In London, Monday, English wheat met fair sale at 2s advance over previous Monday. Country millers took off moderate quantity foreign at advance. American flour brought full prices.

The Publisher to the Public.

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(Persons entitled to any of the above books, and preferring other works of equal value, mentioned herein, can be accommodated on stating their wishes. For instance, any one entitled to "Everybody's Lawyer" can have "The Horse and his Diseases" or "Loring's Pictorial," and vice versa. Any one entitled to Macaulay's History can have instead, post-paid, and either to Webster's Counting House and Family Dictionary, or Loring's Pictorial, and vice versa. All the above books are sent post-paid, and all the other works will be sent post-paid to any part of the United States within 5,000 miles.)

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THE FIRST SNOW FALL.

BY JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

The snow had begun in the gloaming, And busily all the night Had been heaping fields and highway With a silence deep and white.

Every pine, and fir, and hemlock, Wore ermine too dear for an earl, And the poorest twig on the elm tree Was fringed deep with a pearl.

From sheds now roofed with Carrara, Came Chanticleer's muffled crow, The stiff rails were softened to swan's down— And still fluttered down the snow.

I stood and watched by the window The noiseless work of the sky, And the sudden furies of snow birds, Like brown leaves whirling by.

I thought of a mound in sweet Auburn, Where a little headstone stood, How the flakes were folding it gently, As did the robins the babes in the wood.

Up spoke our little Mabel, Saying, "Father, who makes the snow?" And I told her of the good All-Father, Who cares for us all below.

Again I looked at the snow fall, And (thought of the leaden sky That arched our first great sorrow, When the mound was heaped so high.

I remember the gradual patience That fell from the cloud like snow, Flake by flake, healing and hiding The scar of that deep-stabbed woe.

And again to the child I whispered, "The snow that husheth all, Darling, the Merciful Father Alone can make it fall."

Then, with eyes that saw not, I kissed her, And she, kissing back, could not know That my kiss was given to her sister, Folded close under deepening snow.

The Story-Teller.

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

SOWING THE WIND

AND REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

[Continued from page 20 last number.]

CHAPTER VI.

"Isn't she sweet, HIRAM," said Mrs. FOSTER, as she held her youngest born, a baby in its fifth month, up for a kiss.

"Sweet as a rose," he answered, touching his lips lightly to the baby's lips, but in so cold a way that the mother's feelings rebelled against such strange indifference. The father's eye, though resting on the cherub face of his little one, did not feel any impression of its beauty. There was a barrier of sin around his heart, which, for the time, kept back the spell of innocence. His thoughts were with his troubled feelings, away from home and its cherished ones. Though present with them as to the body, he was yet afar off in spirit.

"You're not well, HIRAM," said the young wife and mother, awaking from the happy dream in which she had been passing the hours with her two darlings. The coming home, at evening twilight, of her husband, had been like the opening of a door through which a cold blast pressed in upon the warm air of a cheerful room. There was a chilling atmosphere around him. He had come in from the outside world, and a shudder was felt at his entrance. Often, before, had Mrs. FOSTER experienced this shock, or jar, or repulsion, whatever it might be called, on her husband's appearance, but never to the degree now felt.

"I've been troubled with a headache all day." That is not true, HIRAM FOSTER. Your head never was free from pain.

"Oh, I'm sorry!" And HELEN pressed her hand upon his forehead, and looked at him with a tender concern in her eyes. But he could not bear to have her read his face, and so turned it away. She did not hold the baby for him to kiss again; nor did FLORA, his two year old darling, after being pushed, with a strange absentmindedness, aside when she attempted to get upon his lap, venture near him again. He sat in silence and a stern abstraction of mind, that his wife knew had some other cause than a simple headache, until tea was announced.

"Can't you eat anything, HIRAM?" Mrs. FOSTER saw that he was only sipping at his tea. He lifted his eyes from his cup, and looked across the table at his wife. Only for a few moments did he hold her gaze, and then let his own fall away. There were questionings in her eyes that his tell-tale face might answer in a way, the bare imagination of which caused him to shudder.

"I am better without food," he answered. "The tea is all I want, and may relieve the pain in my head." Back to the refuge of lies again! Unhappy transgressor; the way in which you have chosen to walk is a hard one, and you will find the difficulties steadily increasing as you press onward!

"Not going out, HIRAM?" It was an hour after supper time. The young man had been lying on a sofa, with shut eyes, pretending indisposition, in order to hide the trembling anxiety and fear that were in his heart. Now, rising up, as if a sudden purpose had moved him, he went into the passage, and was reaching for his hat.

"Yes, for a little while," he answered back, and was away before his wife could follow him with words of remonstrance.

Night had fallen, dark and starless, and the chill November air struck coldly against his face. After leaving the house, Mr. FOSTER walked rapidly towards that part of the town in which the store of Mr. OVERMAN was located. Turning a corner, that brought him in view of the store, he saw a light gleaming through two crescent-shaped openings in one of the shutters, that which closed against the window at the back part of the store, where the desks and fire-proof were located. He stood still, instantly, striking his hands together. Fear caused his knees to shake. It was even as had been a little while before suggested to his mind. Mr. OVERMAN's suspicions were going in the right direction, and he was at the store examining the books, to see if the leak he had spoken of could be found in that direction. There were not less than fifty false entries in the cash-book. Was it possible for him to escape, should Mr. OVERMAN's eyes, sharpened by suspicion, go over that account? The wretched young man felt as if suspended by a hair over some awful chasm.

For several minutes he stood, with those sharply outlined crescents of light holding his gaze by a kind of fascination. Then he commenced moving towards them, as if they possessed a weird power of attraction,

until he stood on the narrow pavement, bordering an alley but little frequented, that ran down beside the building, and close against the window. His steps were noiseless as the steps of a cat. He held his laboring breath, and harkened eagerly. But no sound came from within. After listening for some time, he was about moving away, when his ear caught the well-known rattle of paper, that often accompanies the turning of leaves in a blank-book. It sent a thrill along every nerve; for in that sound was a confirmation of every worst fear.

"God help me!" It was a silent, despairing ejaculation; not a prayer sent up from a low deep of misery, bearing hope, were it never so feeble, in its bosom.

"Lost! Lost!" He moved back, noiselessly, out into the darkness, holding both hands tightly against his breast. To his home, and the tender, innocent, beloved ones there, his thoughts went, and he saw that home all desolated; his wife heart-broken, and his babes disgraced. For some moments the idea of flight held his mind. But no—no!—it was thrust aside. He could not abandon all, while there was a shadow of hope. His false entries were dexterously made, and might elude the vigilance of his employer, who was not by any means an adept at figures. Even if a few errors were discovered, he might be able so to confuse Mr. OVERMAN's mind by corrections and explanations, as to make all appear fair.

These suggestions gave partial and momentary relief to his distressed feelings. There was in them a feeble gleam of light. All was not yet lost. For ten or fifteen minutes HIRAM FOSTER, chilled by the damp, cold air, lingered in sight of the burning crescents, their sharp outline imprinted on every object to which he turned his gaze.

"I must know what he is doing!" he said, at last. "I cannot go back with this horrible uncertainty eating into my heart. If I only could find a ladder."

He crossed over to the rear of the store, and looked along the pavement for several rods down the dark alley. A small packing-box stood against a door. He drew it out, and stepped upon the side. But it was not high enough. He went further down the alley, and found a rickety half barrel, with the head and chime hoops of one end gone. Nothing else, at all suited to his purpose, was to be seen. By placing the half barrel on the box, and mounting thereon, he might get high enough to look through the crescent openings in the shutters, and see what Mr. OVERMAN was doing. To think, in the excited state of his mind, was to act. The box was conveyed, in silence, to the window, and then the half barrel brought and placed on top of it, with the shattered, defective end downwards.

HIRAM was in too nervous a state to do any thing carefully and coolly. He struck the barrel against the box in lifting it, making noise enough to be heard inside by any one not greatly absorbed in thought. Aware of this, he moved away, and stood aside from the window for nearly a minute, so as to be out of Mr. OVERMAN's range of vision, should he happen to push open the shutter. But all things remaining as at first, he ventured back, and stepping upon the box, mounted to the top of the half-barrel, which yielded sensibly under his weight. His head was now even with the two narrow perforations in the shutter, and as he looked down through them, he saw Mr. OVERMAN standing at one of the desks, and bending over an account-book. He was so deeply absorbed in what he was doing, that he seemed almost moveless. But all at once he turned towards the window, with a quick movement, and looked up towards the crescent openings through which HIRAM FOSTER was gazing down upon him. The young man saw his face for a moment,—it was pale, anxious, but stern,—saw it only for a moment. He drew back quickly, with an instinct of fear, as Mr. OVERMAN's eyes were thrown upwards. The movement disturbed the nicely poised support on which he stood.—Over went the barrel, and over went the man, with a loud crash and rattle, upon the pavement. In the fall, HIRAM struck his head against one of the curb-stones, inflicting a severe wound near the temple, and above the right eye. For a moment or two he was stunned by the shock; but the peril of his situation restored him to full consciousness, and instantly springing to his feet, he glided away from the window, just as it was thrown open by Mr. OVERMAN, and the strong light came out, filling a large circle with its rays. HIRAM did not wait to see what next might be done, but let winged feet bear him away into the heavy darkness.

"Hey! Who goes there? Stop! Stop!" It was the voice of a night policeman, who's ears had caught the sound made by the falling barrel, and who had seen the light which came suddenly from the window thrown open by Mr. OVERMAN. HIRAM, in his flight, passed within a few yards of him. Did he stop at this summons? No! But sprung away at a speed defying pursuit.

A countenance turned instantly white with terror, met HIRAM on his entrance at home; and no wonder, for one side of his face and neck was red with blood, flowing freely from the wound near his temple. Mrs. FOSTER's colorless lips moved impotently, and she sat paralyzed for some moments.

"Oh, husband! What is it? What has happened?" came at length in a fluttering and choking voice, as she started to her feet.

"Don't be frightened. It's nothing. Get me some water, HELEN. I struck my head against a projecting sign. Does it bleed much?" The voice of HIRAM shook as if he had a chill; and there was a strangeness in his tones that troubled the ears of his wife.

Mrs. FOSTER brought hurriedly, a basin of water, and washing away the blood, came to an ugly, ragged cut about an inch long, just above the right eye, towards the temple. The blood still flowed freely. Nearly ten minutes elapsed before it could be staunch.

"This doesn't help my poor head, any," said HIRAM, remembering that he had complained of headache at tea time. "The pain blinded me so that I could hardly see my way in the dark. I think I'll go to bed, now. Perhaps I can get to sleep."

And he arose, and was at the foot of the stairs leading up to their bed-room, when some one rung the bell loudly.

"Say that I have a sick headache, and am in bed, HELEN, if any one asks for me. Don't intimate that I have just gone up. Say that I am in bed."

HIRAM FOSTER grasped the arm of his wife in a nervous way, and looked so wildly in her face, that a vague fear crept like a cold shadow upon her heart. What could all this mean!

"Don't forget!" There was warning, anxiety, fear, and command in the strange expression that gleamed on his excited face, as he said this, and then went hastily up stairs.

At the top he lingered for a few moments in a listening attitude. The door was opened. He heard his name.

"Is HIRAM at home?" The voice was that of Mr. OVERMAN! A faintness came upon him. He grasped the hand railing by which he stood, and was con-

scious of a brain-whirl and a moment of suspended thought. Then, with silent feet he crossed the passage, and entering his chamber hurriedly got into bed.

CHAPTER VII.

It seemed an age to HIRAM,—the period that elapsed before Mr. OVERMAN went away. He heard the intermitted and intermingling sounds of voices below, but no articulate words reached his ears. When, at last the jar of a closing door gave notice that the visitor had retired, and his wife came up to the chamber, he was lying in a nervous chill.

"What did he want?" By a strong effort, HIRAM not only steeled his voice, but repressed the tremor that jarred along every nerve and muscle.

"I don't know. He merely asked to see you," replied Mrs. FOSTER.

"What did you say?" "I told him that you came home at tea time with a bad headache,—and were in bed."

"You didn't say that I had just gone up?" "No."

There came from HIRAM's breast a long, full respiration of relief.

"It was as well, perhaps. I wonder what he could have wanted?" His mind had found relief from a pressure of uncertain dread.

"I don't know, dear. Mr. OVERMAN looked disturbed about something."

"He hasn't seemed like himself for some time past," said HIRAM. "Business is dull; and I think that worries him. Did he seem much disappointed at not seeing me?"

"It did not strike me that he was disappointed. If I understood the meaning of his face, it expressed something like relief, or pleasure, when I told him that you were in bed. But, he had a look about him different from anything I had ever seen before. I wished to ask him a question to-night, but it will do as well in the morning," he said, as he went away.

"How does the cut in my forehead look?" asked HIRAM.

"Bad," was HELEN's answer. "Will my hair cover it? See!"

"Only in part," said Mrs. FOSTER, as she drew the hair down towards the wound.

"Let me see." And the young man crept out from under the bed-clothes among which he had thrown himself without removing his garments, and going to a toilet-glass, held the light to his face and examined the ugly red scar near the temple.

"How will that look?" He had drawn a look of hair down so low that the wound was hidden.

Mrs. FOSTER shook her head in a dissatisfied way. "Let the cut be seen," she said. "What harm can arise?"

"No harm. But who likes to be disfigured in this way? People might think I'd been drunk, or in a fight."

"If people choose to think evil, let them. To be right and to do right should be our chief concern."

There was a searching, questioning look in the eyes of Mrs. FOSTER, from which HIRAM turned away, murmuring,

"My poor head! How it does ache!"

And removing his clothes, while he kept his face so much in shadow that its expression could not be seen by his wife, he laid himself down, shutting his eyes, and turning to the wall.

Did the question of loss and gain come into the thought of HIRAM FOSTER, as he lay in such anxious fear all night that sleep visited him only at long intervals, and then fled quickly before affrighting dreams? Did a picture of how it might have been, if he had kept his honor unsullied, stand out in all its tranquil beauty, contrasted with the dread actuality in which he was shuddering like a criminal at bay? He had a true-hearted, tender, loving wife, and two as sweet babes as a father's heart could desire. His income was large enough to meet every want that happiness required,—had been large enough from the day of his marriage. Not a single thing bought by dishonest gains, had given him any true pleasure,—always his enjoyment was marred by an intruding concern. There was a great form of evil ever threatening him, and ever throwing a shadow from uplifted hands over life's sunniest landscapes. Emotions of pride, as he contrasted his handsome house and grounds with those of men quite as well off, honestly, as he was, would now and then ripple over his heart; but they soon fell back again under the pressure of a superincumbent anxiety. A gratified love of possessing this world's goods, was the only thing like a compensating balance to all the loss he was sustaining,—but how poor, and insignificant was this to the riches of enjoyment he was madly casting aside.

Did the question of loss and gain come fairly into his mind? Yes; but it was pushed, with a feeling of bitterness, away. He felt that it was too late. The haunting spirit of evil, which had been his dread companion ever since that fatal evening when his feet went out from right paths, seemed to throw its arms close around him, and to shadow into confusion and obscurity his thoughts; so that all right conclusions and purposes were dispersed like unsubstantial vapor.

Morning found him exhausted, but in a heavy sleep. Nature had asserted her power over the senses. Mrs. FOSTER, as the light came in, and gave distinct outline to every feature of his face, saw, with painful concern, his pinched look and pallid hue. In stanching the flow of blood from the wound in his forehead, she had covered it with a strip of adhesive plaster. From the edges of this, blood had oozed out; and there were blue and purple discolorations extending down towards the right eye, the veins around which were visibly congested. On his pale lips, shut closer than is usual in sleep, sat an expression of trouble, that startled a slumbering sigh in her bosom, and brought blinding tears to her eyes.

Without disturbing her husband, Mrs. FOSTER went down stairs. A little while before breakfast was ready to be served, she returned to the chamber, and found him still sleeping. While standing close over him, and debating in her mind whether to arouse him or not, he sprang up with an exclamation of alarm, and a look of terror in his face. Mrs. FOSTER had never seen so wild and frightened an expression on any countenance.

"Oh, HIRAM!" she ejaculated, drawing her arms around his neck. But, he tried to escape; pushing her away, and shrinking towards the wall. The brief struggle brought him fairly awake.

"Oh, HELEN! It's you! What a dream I have had!" He was shivering like one in an ague fit. Covering his face with the bed-clothes, he lay still for a little while, trying to compose himself, and put on a serene countenance.

"What time is it, HELEN?" He pushed aside the bed-clothes, and looked out. His face was calm.

"Past seven," she answered.

"So late! Why did you let me sleep?" And he arose up quickly.

It was after eight o'clock, an hour beyond his usual

time, when HIRAM FOSTER reached the store of Mr. OVERMAN. Nearly a quarter of an hour had been spent in trying so to arrange his hair as to conceal the wound on his forehead; but without a satisfactory result. His great desire to conceal this scar, coupled itself in the mind of his wife with the unusual visit of Mr. OVERMAN on the night before, and his anxiety to give the impression that he had not been out since tea-time; and in doing so, cast a vague fear into her heart. That something was wrong with her husband, she felt sure; something that fore-shadowed evil and involved disaster.

"What's the matter?" Mr. OVERMAN confronted HIRAM as he entered the store, and with knit brows, and a look of searching inquiry, put this question.

"I came near knocking my head off last night," answered the young man, coolly, and with a forced smile. "See!" And he pushed up the hair that partly covered the dressing which lay over the cut he had received in falling.

"How did that happen?" There was not a relaxed muscle on Mr. OVERMAN's face.

"I returned home with a severe headache last evening. After supper, it grew worse, almost blinding me with pain. I went into the cellar, foolishly enough, without a light, and got this knock on the head. I was so stunned for a little while, that I lost my senses. You came to see me, HELEN said. Was it for anything very particular? I'm sorry that I was in bed; HELEN might have called me."

"It was of no consequence," Mr. OVERMAN replied, in a tone that showed his mind to be in a state of doubt and dissatisfaction.

"Have you reached any solution of the matter about which we talked yesterday?" Now, of all things, HIRAM wished that subject postponed for the present; but he brought it into the light, desperately, in order to give Mr. OVERMAN the impression of perfect innocence on his part—an innocence that courted investigation, knowing that it had nothing to fear from the fullest exposure of truth.

"A partial solution," was answered coldly, and with eyes fixed so steadily on the young man, and the gaze could hardly be borne. HIRAM was conscious of tell-tale looks, and tell-tale color on his cheeks. Not feeling it safe to tread further on this dangerous ground, he passed Mr. OVERMAN, and went to the back part of the store, where his work with the account books chiefly lay. The fire-proof had not been opened. He took the key from a drawer in the desk, where it was lying with the door keys, and unlocking it, brought out his books, and commenced posting from the journal. While thus engaged, he had occasion to refer to the cash-book. In doing so, he noticed a slight pencil mark near a figure that represented a false entry. His heart stood still instantly, and he felt a nearer approach of the shadowy form of evil that haunted him night and day. Closing the book, and pushing it aside, lest Mr. OVERMAN should observe him,—how wary and suspicious is guilt!—how constantly on the alert!—how full of human prudence!—HIRAM bent over his ledger, affecting employment, while he debated what were best to be done.

The false figure had been made two days before, and, in virtue thereof, sixty dollars appropriated by the young man. Now, if Mr. OVERMAN had detected the error, and then counted the cash in the money box, which was a thing to be inferred, he must be in possession of the fact that sixty dollars were "short."

HIRAM's first conclusion was to restore that sum to the money box at once. He had the sixty dollars still in his pocket. But, then came the thought, that Mr. OVERMAN had marked the figure purposely, and was, of course, on the alert. He knew just what was in the cash-book,—not over forty dollars—and to add sixty thereto, would be to ensure certain exposure, should the false entry be referred to that morning, and a counting of the cash take place.

"Better wait," said he to himself. If money comes in freely, I'll add sixty dollars to the bank deposit."

"How was your cash yesterday?" asked Mr. OVERMAN, about an hour after HIRAM came in. The young man, anticipating just this question, had considered more than a dozen different answers, not one of which seemed safe or prudent to make, and he was quite as unprepared when it came as in the beginning.

"Right, I believe, sir." An answer had to be made, and this was ventured, blindly. He spoke in a tone of confidence.

"Let me see the cash-book." There was an unusual quality in Mr. OVERMAN's voice.

HIRAM took the cash-book from a rack over the desk, and opening it, passed a piece of India rubber, quickly but firmly, over two or three pages, along the columns of figures, saying as he did so—

"I forgot to rub out the figures made in pencilling a balance."

That simple act saved him. Mr. OVERMAN could not find the entry he had marked with a pencil. After running his eye a few times, up and down the rows of figures, he shut the book, and went out into the store to attend upon a customer who had just come in. [To be continued next week.]

Wit and Humor.

LITTLE JOKERS.

Young lovers are called turtles, and they are generally green turtles.

"Sir, you have broken your promise." "Oh, never mind, I can make another just as good."

A TENNESSEE paper announces that "the inauguration of the Governor was celebrated by firing minute guns every half hour!"

THOUGH a man should generally adapt himself to his place, there's no necessity for his getting tight because he is in a tight place.

"How tall are you, my jewel?" "I stand six feet in my shoes!" "Six feet in your shoes! Why, no man living can stand more than two feet in his shoes; you might as well say you stood six heads in your hat."

It is an old and true saying, that a man should not marry unless he can support a wife; and, from some examples we have seen, we are beginning to doubt seriously whether a woman can prudently marry unless she can support a husband.

SMITH met two editors who had been at "outs," on the street, walking arm in arm. "Hello!" said he, "the lion and the lamb lie down together, do they?" "O, yes," said editor No. 1, "Jones, here, did the lion and I did the lamb, and of course we came down together."

WISE ADVICE.—Coventry Patmore, in his new poem, gives the following advice:

So let no man, in desperate mood, Wed a dull girl because she's good.

To which one might add:

And let no woman, in her plight, Wed a bad man because he's bright.

Corner for the Young.

POMOLOGICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 84 letters. My 1, 5, 43, 16, 18, 66, 67, 49, 71, 13 is a juicy, sweet, and rich autumn apple. My 78, 14, 42, 11, 16, 2, 21, 77, 65, 6, 38 is a beautiful little summer pear. My 84, 15, 72, 83, 41, 3, 16, 79, 5, 39, 66, 25, 54, 40 is a cherry of the Morello class. My 12, 24, 82, 44, 29, 45, 70, 48, 46, 8, 4, 15, 27, 32, 10 is one of the freestone peaches. My 37, 66, 62, 23, 51, 72, 74, 22, 7, 16 is a magnificent, large plum. My 64, 76, 5, 34, 69, 50, 75, 69, 57, 66, 11, 24, 17, 54, 67, 2, 68 is a gooseberry in considerable favor. My 81, 19, 52, 9, 26, 54, 78, 8 is a hardy and productive raspberry. My 31, 55, 25, 65, 37, 58, 80, 21 is likely to be classed among our valuable hardy grapes. My 85, 11, 20, 18, 26, 2, 80, 10, 54, 42, 19, 25, 53, 57, 16, 38 is a small, high-flavored strawberry. My 53, 62, 80, 47, 5, 84, 71, 54 is a variety of the quince. My 28, 45, 63, 38, 30, 54, 61 is a somewhat-noted Western apple. My 59, 71, 63, 96, 54, 21, 38, 72 is a large juicy autumn pear. My whole may be found in Genesis. Rochester, N. Y., 1861. HARRY GAYLORD. Answer in two weeks.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 16 letters. My 1, 5, 6, 9, every person has. My 14, 3, 5, 12 is food for man and beast. My 10, 8, 4, 1 is worn by gentlemen. My 2, 15, 12, 14 is an important part of a vessel. My 9, 11, 10, 3 is a bird. My 1, 3, 5 is a plant. My 7, 11, 9 is a measure. My 6, 11, 9 is a kind of fish. My whole is the most authentic and entertaining history ever published. So. Soda, N. Y., 1861. Jo. VEWY. Answer in two weeks.

A PUZZLE.

Insert one vowel, in proper places, between the following letters, and make six lines of rhyme:

G y L d y d t b l l, O n e h n t a d t l k n d p l y; N d n n l r k t H d d r H l l; W s s m r t g l l n t d g y; N d n d g y n n l r k; C i l l d n g r m s h p p y s p r k.

Answer in two weeks.

SURVEYOR'S PROBLEM.

BEGINNING at the northeast corner of a certain piece of land, and running south sixty rods, thence west eighty rods, thence north fifty rods, thence to the place of beginning, it is required to lay off ten acres from the southeast corner or south line. S. G. CALVIR. Verona, Onei. Co., N. Y., 1861. Answer in two weeks.

A NICE LITTLE EXPERIMENT.

A RING SUSPENDED BY A BURNED THREAD.—Put a teaspoonful of salt in a wineglass of water, stir it up, and place in it some coarse cotton, such as mother caps No. 16; in about an hour take out the thread and dry it. Tie a piece of this prepared cotton to a small ring, about the size of a wedding ring; hold it up, and set fire to the thread. When it has burnt out, the ring will not fall, but remain suspended, to the astonishment of all beholders. Philosophers account for this effect by stating that the salt in the thread forms, with the ashes of the cotton, a fine film of glass, which is strong enough to support the ring, or any other small weight.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 573.

Answer to Floral Enigma: Supply the wants of each, and they will pay For all your care through each succeeding day. Answer to Illustrated Enigma.—Ignitition often induces individuals to pronounce speakers inarticulate. Answer to Mathematical Problem.—The side of the square is 10 rods, and contains 100 perches. The triangle has 10, perpendicular 7 1/2, hypotenuse 12 1/2, and contains 37 1/2 perches. The rectangle is 6 by 12 1/2, and contains 62 1/2 perches. Answer to Charade.—Balak-lava. Answer to Riddle.—Feet.—Gen. 1: 24 and 25.

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AGRICULTURAL

SEASONABLE HINTS.

The seasons succeed each other in rapid succession. We barely pass the spring-time, with its plowing and planting, before haying and harvesting is upon us, to be soon followed by autumn, with its corn-cutting and fruit gathering and the general closing up of summer's labor; and fortunate or wise is he who finds his work all done before the frosts and storms of winter are upon him. With this accomplished we have a little respite; but winter's days pass quickly away. In one short month we will have to announce that spring is upon us, and even now it is well to give some thought to the approaching season of life and activity. Although the winter is comparatively a season of leisure, yet the farmer has no time to waste—no hours to dream away. A successful practice is the child of wise plans—the summer's profit the offspring of winter's thought. It is necessary that the soldier and statesman should in time of peace prepare for war, and perhaps it is no less important that the farmer in the leisure and quiet of winter, should prepare for the bustle and turmoil of summer, which is designed for execution, and is not favorable for the formation of deliberate plans. Unless this is done, he will work at great disadvantage,—much that should be done will be neglected, and confusion instead of order reign. This course is particularly necessary for the farmer, because no general rules can be adopted to suit all. Each one must study the circumstances in which he is placed, examine important questions for himself, and decide the proper course to be pursued. The quantity of land and nature of the soil, access to markets, situation in reference to large cities, probable price of different products—these, and other questions, the farmer must take into account in forming plans for the next season's campaign.

There are other matters, too, that should receive attention, such as clearing land, fixing and making gates, repairing implements, &c. If better seed or improved stock is to be obtained, there will be no more convenient season for opening a correspondence on the subject, or for spending a season in travel for the purpose of obtaining the necessary information or making selections. If building is contemplated, the arrangements can now be forwarded with advantage. What would now be a source of interest and pleasure, in the spring would prove a great annoyance. There are many other matters that will suggest themselves to our readers that can be got out of the way before spring work commences, so as to leave a clear field for the great conflict.

The past season was one of plenty. Providence smiled upon the labors of the industrious husbandman, and great was his reward; yet the cup of prosperity was dashed from his lips. All was done that a good Providence could do to make this nation prosperous and happy, and yet man, with little less than blasphemy, has endeavored to trample these gifts of Providence in the dust, turn our blessings into curses, and bring suffering, war, and ruin upon our peaceful, happy people. For the traitors and discontents of other lands, and other days, the charitable may find some excuse, at least some alleviating circumstances. But for the traitors of our day and our land, we find no excuse, and for their desperate conduct we can assign no other reason than that given by the western pioneer, "pure wickedness." Few after this, we think will doubt the doctrine of total depravity. The end we cannot yet see, but we have faith to believe that the madness of a few will not be permitted to blast the bright prospects of our happy land, and destroy the hopes of the tillers of the soil. We must sow in hope and we may reap in joy. Seed-time and harvest shall never fail. Though parties may change and States revolt, the earth will continue to give its increase to the intelligent, industrious cultivator. Let us put our trust in Him who

STABLE CARE OF HORSES.

rules the nations, who causth the wrath of man to result in His praise, and restraineth the end of wrath, and do our whole duty to our families, our country, and our fellow man.

As that season of the year is now with us when the horse spends a goodly portion of the time in the stable, a few words concerning his quarters, and the treatment he should receive therein, will possess at least the feature of opportuneness.

First, the stable. We are very much gratified in perusing the various volumes dedicated to the horse and his interests, issuing from the press, at the prominence which is given to a proper construction of his home, and the sincerity and warmth with which his necessities are spread before the reading public. It argues well for the humanitarian spirit of the age, and we look forward to the adoption of the measures proposed by our veterinarians for an alleviation of the many ills to which this noble animal is heir. Who will say that disease is not born amid the foulness, filth, and pestilence of the pens in which the horse is often confined? While we have ever been ready to acknowledge his wondrous power, we have frequently doubted the truthfulness of the saying sometimes applied to men who have undergone privations and exposure,—“they have endured enough to kill a horse,”—and yet its full force would become apparent upon visiting the places where horses are cooped during the passage of the long hours. It was, indeed, miraculous that they should take up their abode, even for a brief space of time, in one of these damp, dark, fetid dens, and come forth alive.

It is essential that the stable be dry. In the choice of a site, the farmer should as soon think of plunging down into some low, damp spot, and there erecting the roof which is to shelter himself and family, as to select such a place, and convert it into a domicile for his domestic animals. We believe that the well-doing of the former is too intimately connected with the well-being of the latter to admit of any such course of procedure.

A second essential is light. Gayety, cheerfulness, and vivacity, are the characteristics of a healthy horse, and the gloom of a cloister, or a prison, is not at all fitted to his disposition. What proportion of our farm stables possess a glazed window? With the majority, is there anything more than a sliding shutter, closed when the weather is cool, and thrown aside when the temperature is moderate? This is not a great evil when the horse is only a few hours confined, but is of more consequence where the stable is occupied for the entire day, than is generally conceived. In remedying this defect, it is incumbent that the other extreme be avoided,—a glaring light is not wanted, but a soft, mellow tone, is found to best answer all the purposes desired.

A third, and very important, essential is ventilation. While speaking upon this branch of our subject, we do not wish to be considered as suggesting cracks through which BOREAS may drive “four-in-hand,” or the windows of Farmer SHRETLASS, where old hats have usurped the place of glass, but a well-ordered system of conveying away the impure air, and supply a pure and life-invigorating atmosphere in its stead. Many persons confound temperature, or the degree of heat, with purity of atmosphere, and seem to have imbibed the idea that, where the air is cool, it must necessarily be pure. This is an error. The stable may be too cool for the comfort of the animals, and yet the air be deficient in the very properties which it should contain.

The office of the air, in the economy of animal life, is the purification of the blood. This fluid, as it passes through the body, is constantly changing, and is unfit for a second tour, unless it has been renovated by contact with the air, which is obtained through the agency of the lungs. The air loses a portion of its oxygen, and acquires carbon in this contact, the blood parts with its dark purple hue, changes to a bright scarlet, and is made ready for the purposes for which it is designed. Where the air has become deficient in oxygen by repeated inhalations, it cannot perform its proper functions, and the blood again flows through the body depleted in those qualities which are life-sustaining. Under such circumstances, it is merely a matter of time when the deleterious effects shall become apparent,—sooner or later they will inevitably exhibit themselves. To segregate the injuries entailed upon one portion of the system,—now-a-days, when horses with bad eyes are becoming numerous, it may be well to inquire as to the cause. We will review several of the most experienced writers upon Periodic Ophthalmia.

This disease may be induced by a variety of exciting causes; hereditary influence is supposed to be one among the many causes prolific of the malady; yet veterinarians are undecided in their opinions as to whether the disease itself, or only the predisposition, is transmitted. Mr. PERCIVAL considers hereditary influence as “predisposed only—not exciting; nor sufficient of itself to produce ophthalmia.” Professor COLEMAN teaches, in his Lectures, that “the disease is never seen prior to the domestication of the animal; never occurs on a common or in the open air, but is the product of the poison generated from the effluvia of the breath, dung, and urine of horses standing together; in proof of which the disease is found to be more or less prevalent, according as the stables, in which horses stand, are venti-

lated. Coincident with the opinion of COLEMAN, and PERCIVAL, and many other writers, is the experience of Dr. DADD, and many intelligent horse dealers of the United States also; for the disease, in the first place, is not so prevalent here as in the crowded cities and barrack stables of the old world; and, secondly, we do not find so many blind horses here. Whenever a case of simple or specific ophthalmia occurs, we generally find the subject located in a filthy stable, or on low, marshy ground, or else he has been shut up for many hours in a railroad car, there respiring over and over again the foul products of combustion and excretion.

Come we now to the direct care of the horse. As we have so frequently expressed our views with regard to feeding, we will only mention the cardinal principles,—regularity and sufficiency,—and pass to certain of the labors and manipulations which should be given to every horse occupying a stable. The apartment he occupies should be kept clean. He should never be allowed to stand up to the heels in litter, his own ordure, or other filth. All excrements should be removed at least once each day, and a clean place be given him to stand, or to lie down. HERBERT, and other horsemen, have declared that if proper attention were given in this respect, the common disease, known as Grease or “Scratches,” would very soon become exceedingly rare, if it did not altogether disappear. In this connection we may enter our protest against poor beds, or no beds at all, for horses. A horse can appreciate a good comfortable lodging-place as well as, at least, one-half of the men, and he has a great deal better title to it than that number of the genus homo.

Grooming is very much neglected by our farmers, and they have fallen into this careless habit from the fact that for a considerable period of the year horses are worked all day, and turned out at night. When such is the case, the comb and brush may be dispensed with, little more is necessary than to rub the dirt from the limbs,—but this last should always be done. To the stabled horse, however, grooming is of the utmost consequence. It enlivens the skin, opening the pores and enabling it in the performance of its excretive and excretive functions,—the blood passes freely to the extremities, and in part remedies any defects of exercise. Where it is possible, grooming should not be accomplished in the stall or stable. The scurf, dandruff and dust which are removed from the coat are taken by the atmosphere and conveyed to the feed, manger and lungs, and it cannot be otherwise than to their detriment. Many will need considerable argument to be convinced of the propriety and necessity of grooming, but if the doubters would witness the benefit to the horse's skin, and to the animal generally, arising from friction, let them rub the legs of a tired horse well with the hands, and observe the effects. Enlargements subside, the painful stiffness disappears, natural warmth is regained, the coat becomes smooth and fine, the animal revives, eats with zest, and quietly lies down to repose.

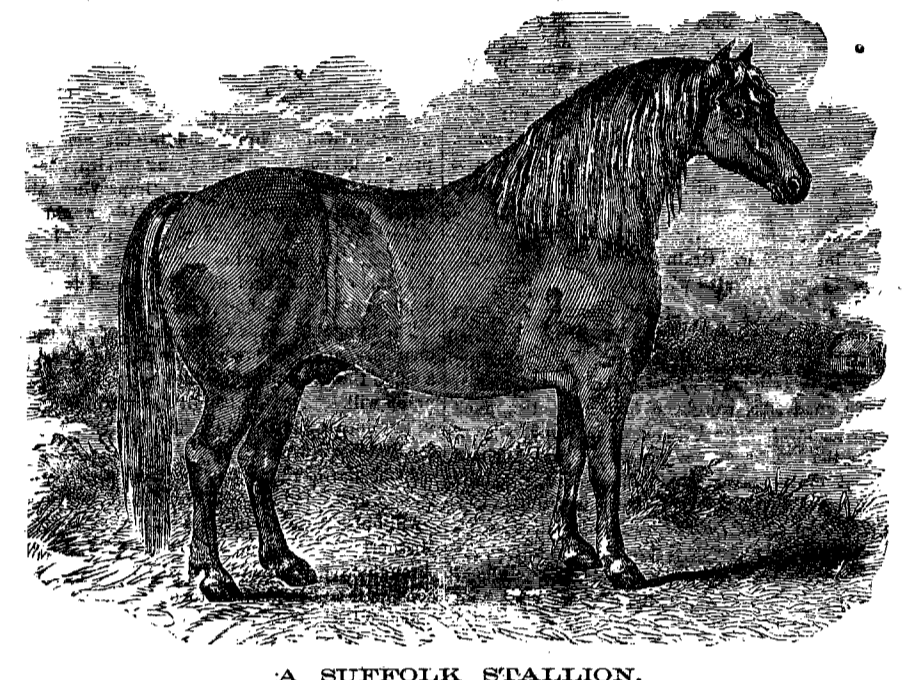
The stable care of horses is a subject that now needs discussion by practical men, and this need will increase in proportion as farmers do away with old systems of pasturage, and adopt soiling as the method of furnishing fodder to domestic animals. May we not hope, then, as we drop the matter for the present, that RURAL readers will give their views and experiences.

HIGH FEEDING—CARE OF COWS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—The suggestion of JOHN JOHNSTON, illustrated by his own interesting and reliable experience, in relation to high feeding of farm stock, will doubtless claim the attention of enterprising and progressive farmers. Yet practical farmers are aware that indiscriminate high feeding, in all places, and in all circumstances, is not profitable. All good farmers who deserve the name,—and that name is becoming more and more elevated,—will feed their stock well, whether there is immediate profit in so doing or not, for the same reason that they will keep their buildings coated with paint, and their fences in neat order, that reason being that dollars and cents is not the only standard by which they estimate their surroundings. Beyond this, keeping of stock well, which all are bound to do, or not keep stock at all, it is an interesting subject of experiment when and where high feeding is profitable.

There are two methods of caring for cows in the winter season—one is, to dry them up soon after grass is gone and pumpkins are consumed, and then feed them well on corn fodder and hay. If their shelter and bedding is good, and they receive careful attention, this method insures their coming out the following spring in excellent order; and during the winter period of gestation, they have rest. The other method is, to supply them with some kind of succulent food as soon as the grass begins to fail, and keeping them to their milk, continue to feed them through the winter, and up to near the time of calving, with roots, small potatoes, beans, shorts, and Indian meal. If the cows are accustomed to this method when young, and the whole matter is skillfully performed in-doors and out, the result will astonish those who have never tried the experiment. Large quantities of nice, yellow winter butter, very little inferior to that made from grass, may be obtained. Yet I think if an exact account were kept of the cost of the extra food, and the value of labor, the credit cash balance of this latter method would be found very small.

As I am now only plowing two and a half acres of



A SUFFOLK STALLION.

We present RURAL readers with a representative animal from a breed of horses which are very much prized in certain portions of England. In Norfolk and Suffolk, two of the finest agricultural districts in the “fast anchored isle,” the “Suffolk Punch” has long been celebrated for power, performance, and endurance. Those farmers who are cognizant of their qualities, maintain that they possess the combination of strength, compactness, and activity, more highly than any other breed. It is impossible to trace the origin of this breed of horses; but they have been cultivated in Suffolk for very many years, and were probably once employed for other purposes than those of agriculture. These horses are, for the most part, of a chestnut color, though sometimes sorrel and bay, which uniformly shows that the breed has been kept tolerably pure. They are distinguished by roundness of barrel and compactness of form,

land per annum, and keep a single cow, and as a family of four persons depend on that cow for milk and butter, I have been trying the latter method. First, I feed two and a half large wagon loads of pumpkins, then beets, chopped fine, and mixed with bran and shorts, twice a day, then small potatoes, chopped fine, and mixed with Indian meal, with as large a supply of corn stalks fodder as the cow would consume—her shelter being half stable, half shed, slightly open to the eastern sun, entered at will, and well bedded. The cow is a young grade Durham,—a beautiful pet,—she calved last spring, and is expected to calve again next spring. There was no falling off, but rather an increase of milk at the end of pasture, and the average yield of butter has thus far been nearly five pounds per week since the cow was taken from grass. Taking her present rations for data, the account will stand thus:

5 bushels of Indian meal, per 4 weeks, at 28c.....	\$1 90
10 bushels of small potatoes, at 12½c.....	1 25
	\$3 15
20 pounds of butter, at 16c. per pound.....	3 20

The skim milk for pigs, the extra manure for the land, some milk and cream for house use, and the above small balance remains to pay for the labor. The cow has eaten per day 36 hills of corn stalks. About one-fifth more would have been required, without other food, if she were dry, to keep her in good condition. Farmers can figure from the prices in their own vicinity,—the inference is plain without comment.

PETER HATHAWAY.
Milan, Erie Co., O., 1861.

GROWING FINE WOOL.

FINE WOOL in its perfection cannot be grown on fat sheep. Hence fine sheep, kept for wool growing purposes, are most profitable when kept in good store order only.

Suppose I have a piece of land that will furnish feed for one hundred full-blood Merino sheep the year round, but will keep them in good store order only,—and they yield me four pounds of superfine wool per head, worth fifty cents per pound, making \$200. Then suppose the next year I keep but eighty sheep on the produce from the same piece of land, (the sheep and feed being the same as the year before), but the sheep having one-fifth more feed, they get in high condition and I shear from them five pounds of inferior wool per head, worth forty cents per pound, making \$160.

Now, it will be seen that it costs just as much to grow a pound of the inferior wool as a pound of fine quality, and I appeal to manufacturers who buy their own wool and make and sell their own cloth, if the value of the wool per pound is not decreased (on account of its being more harsh and coarse,) in the same proportion as the weight of the fleece is increased above what it would have been had the animal been kept in good thrifty store order only.

I am aware it may be said by some, that their full-blood Merinos averaged five, six, or seven pounds, and that they sold their wool for as much per pound

generally combined with great activity. They are exceedingly staunch to the collar, free from any redundancy of hair on the legs, and are by no means coarse about the head. They are rarely of a large size, but usually range from fifteen to sixteen hands. The most inferior kinds have ragged hips, and goose rumps. It speaks highly in favor of this breed, that, at the late meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, they carried away the majority of prizes. As these horses are inclined to be small, size should be attended to and encouraged as much as possible. It should be observed that they are rather more liable to strains of the sinews and the joints than most other breeds.

The animal from which our engraving was taken won the first prize at the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society at Windsor, in 1851, and is the property of Mr. THOMAS CATLIN, of Bentley, Suffolk.

as some of their neighbors, who had the same kind of sheep and kept them in good store order only. But this does not prove that the heavy fleeces were worth as much by the pound as the others,—it only proves that the buyer or seller was dishonest or ignorant of the value of the article in which he was dealing.

We frequently see articles in agricultural papers wherein men boast of their very heavy fleeces,—which means that they have taken from single sheep an unusual weight of second quality wool,—oil and the dirt that adheres to it in spite of ordinary washings. Now, what are these heavy fleeces of wool, oil, &c., made of? Certainly they are made from the feed the animal consumes,—so, if the feed given to three sheep had been given to four, or more, it would have yielded quite as many pounds of clean wool, which would have been worth from fifteen to twenty per cent. more than that of the heavy fleeces. If sheep are kept for mutton, then make them fat, and in no case should they be kept poor. But my position is—that on any given piece of land there can be as many pounds of cleaned wool grown on full-blood Merino sheep, kept in thrifty store order only, as can be grown of equally clean wool on the same piece of land, and on the same kind of sheep kept fat, or in very high condition.

Mr. JOHN JOHNSTON contends that all sheep, whether fine or coarse, and whether kept for mutton or for growing fine wool, should be kept fat, excepting perhaps breeding sheep. I read Mr. J.'s articles with pleasure, and in the main with profit,—but from his opinion that fine woolled sheep should be kept fat when kept for growing wool, I entirely dissent.

JONAS CENTER, N. Y., January, 1861. S. H.

FARMING AT THE WEST AND SOUTH.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—By your leave, I purpose giving a brief sketch of my ramblings over the West and South for a number of years past, and having opportunities of viewing a large portion of the western country, perhaps a description of the same may prove acceptable to many who contemplate removal thence.

Michigan so nearly resembles New York State in climate, scenery, people, and productions, that it seems more like a branch of the Empire State than a separate one.

Indiana resembles Michigan in many respects. Grain of all kinds grow to perfection.

Illinois is one of the first agricultural States in the Union. Crops of all kinds thrive, while the prairies are capable of supporting vast herds of cattle. The soil is generally a rich black loam. Level prairies cover the greater portion of the State, while the Rock River Valley has, perhaps, the richest and best agricultural lands. The northern portion of the State is healthy, while the central and southern portions are the reverse. Fevers and ague are the most prevalent diseases.

Wisconsin suits me the best of any of the States through which I have traveled. The climate so nearly resembles New York, as also the looks of the

land, that it is there an eastern man would feel contented. Lands are advancing in price every year. Minnesota, although a few degrees further northward, is a rich and prosperous State. Climate healthy, grains of all kinds grow luxuriantly.

Iowa resembles Minnesota in many particulars, and is also a very rich agricultural State. Missouri is a large grain-growing district. Fruits of all kinds are cultivated with success. The lands are rather hilly, and plenty of good water and timber are to be found.

Kansas comes next. Much has been said in praise of this Territory, but I was greatly disappointed when I came to view the land. The soil is rich, and is capable of producing good crops, but the great fault is the scarcity of timber, not enough can be found in many localities to furnish fencing.

The late discoveries of gold at Pike's Peak, have caused a great rush to that point, and a good knowledge of Kansas and gold hunting humbugs have been obtained. I made a trip in the employ of the Government a year since to Fort Laramie, Nebraska. The route passed some 500 miles on the way to Pike's Peak.

Nebraska has some good lands, but as we pass westward about 300 miles, the soil is very poor. There is, as a general thing, more timber than in Kansas, and I much prefer Nebraska in an agricultural point of view.

As we approach Fort Kearney, we enter the great buffalo range, extending some 60 miles. Tens of thousands of these animals are to be seen grazing. Their flesh is as good as beef, and every traveler, if he has a good rifle, can keep himself well supplied with fresh meat.

The Indians subsist almost exclusively on the meat of these animals. The Pawnees, Sioux, and Cheyennes, roam all through this region. They are civil towards the whites, for they dread the U. S. troops stationed among them.

Kentucky and Tennessee present to the eyes of the traveler many pretty farms and plantations. Mississippi is a large cotton-growing State, and the cotton-crop is generally good. It is not until we come to Louisiana that we see large sugar plantations.

Texas is destined to be one of the most prosperous agricultural States of the Union. Her soil is rich, and capable of producing crops of all kinds in the greatest quantity. The people have suffered with drouth the past season, but this does not happen every year.

CHAPTER ON HENS.—Our farmers in this section say it will not pay to keep hens, and though they do keep them, they say they are more plague than profit. I have not found it so. Last year I commenced with fourteen hens, which I kept till May, when I parted with two of them, and so they gradually dwindled to eight in the fall.

LETTER FROM MISSOURI. EDs. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Perhaps some of our New England friends would like to hear how "matters and things in general" are progressing on the Great Father of Waters.

WOOD FOR FUEL.—It is now time to cut the wood for fuel, and as many have written their opinions, I will give mine. Let every person cut over a twentieth part of his woods yearly, till all is cut, and keep the same secure from animals, and he will have a never-failing supply.

IF you will stand for a few hours on Market street, you will get an insight into the way the people out here enjoy such a luxury, but you will need overshoes, overcoat and mittens, for the air is keen. Having fitted ourselves, and taken our stand, we will observe the vehicles as they pass.

Hay and Roots—Comparative Value. In writing upon this subject, a correspondent of the New England Farmer remarks that hay is the chief article of food for stock during the winter season; and, generally speaking, if a sufficiency of good hay is properly fed to stock, they will thrive upon it, and increase in weight and value.

INQUIRIES AND ANSWERS. Kyanizing Timber.—I would like to learn more definitely the process of kyanizing timber. I think it is called kyanizing. If it is true that it is stated of it, it will be of immense value here.—C. W. Lamoille, Ill., 1861.

WATER-PROOF BLACKING.—Perhaps you, or some reader of the RURAL, can give me a recipe for some good composition to make shoe leather, &c., water-proof. The material in boots and shoes is very inferior to what it used to be, and requires to be dressed after making.

INQUIRIES OF DAIRYMEN.—Use of Lactometer in Cheese-Making.—Tested by a lactometer, there is a great difference in the richness of different cows' milk—that is, some have much thicker cream than others. Now, is such a test reliable for cheese-making solely? Will a cow that gives milk, which, tested by the lactometer, contains four-tenths of an inch cream, make as much cheese as another whose milk contains, say, two or three-tenths—quantity of milk being the same?

ask the price of such an establishment, and are answered \$2 an hour. We think as they drive on you are paying dear for your luxury.

In spite of our precautions we begin to feel the effects of the sharp atmosphere, so we will turn our steps towards the river again. There we see the steam ferry-boat lying idle. Asking the cause, we are told that the channel is closed for the first time in three years at this point.

By this estimate, with the usual yield per acre, it will be seen that root culture pays; a fact of which many a farmer and stock-grower has been convinced by practical demonstration.

MILK STOCK—Jersey Cows. A CORRESPONDENT of the Connecticut Homestead, after reviewing the efforts made to improve our horses, beef cattle, sheep, &c., thinks that milch cows have been too much overlooked, and gives his experience with Jersey cows in this manner:

The Jersey cow I consider the best, for the reason that she is a sure and young breeder, producing increase often at eighteen months, which is not the case with the Ayrshire, as she is a poor or uncertain breeder; and she has the advantage of yielding a very rich milk. It will be said that she is a small animal; that is true. But size has very little to do with the milking qualities of the animal.

Two ridiculous Jersey cows, on common keeping, produced, from the 1st of April, 1859, to the 1st of April, 1860, what milk a family and two calves (one of which I sold for two hundred dollars, while I refused that sum for the other), needed, and five hundred and six pounds of butter, which was sold for 28 cents per pound the year through, making the total product of these "Woolly Horse" Cows three hundred and forty dollars and eighty-four cents.

PREPARATION OF BONES FOR USE. The best and cheapest method of preparing bones for manure, says the Country Gentleman, is, first, to boil them in strong ley a few hours, to extract from them the animal matter; or, what would be more convenient perhaps, break them as fine as convenient, and put them into a tub of ley, to remain there during pleasure, until the animal matter is all extracted and incorporated with the ley.

THE OXFORD AG. ASSOCIATION (Chenango Co.) has chosen officers for 1861, as follows: President—W. G. SANDS, Oxford. Vice Presidents—E. A. Bundy, Oxford; R. Chandler, Coventry; Ransom Yale, Smithville; E. J. Berry, Preston; A. Alcott, Guilford. Secretary—S. Bundy, Oxford. Treasurer—Isaac S. Sherwood, Oxford. Directors—John Shattuck, Norwich; E. P. Smith, Guilford; J. M. Phillips, Coventry; Silas Tillotson, Greene; Eleazer Isbell, McDonough; R. T. Davidson, Oxford.

THE COLUMBUS AG. SOCIETY (Chenango Co.) elected the following officers at its annual meeting, Jan. 8th: President—L. N. HOIT. Vice Presidents—Jefferson Finch, Nathan Clark. Secretary—U. T. Holmes. Treasurer—Wm. H. Purdie. Directors—Henry Holmes, Charles Holmes, Grant B. Palmer, Chauncey Perkins, Sherman L. Myers, Nelson W. Matterson, Elijah Sexton, J. Medbury, Jr., E. Sherman, Silas Clark.

THE DUNDUR UNION AG. SOCIETY (Yates Co.) elected the following officers at its recent annual meeting: President—URIAH HAIR. Vice President—John C. Shannon. Treasurer—Daniel Supplee. Secretary—P. McKey. Directors—Harrison Shannon, George Kels, Josiah Morron, James Reeder, James Havens, S. Young, Nicholas Webb.

RUSEVILLE UNION AG. SOCIETY.—Officers for 1861: President—W. N. PERKY. Vice Presidents—H. M. Boardman, M. A. Pierce, M. B. Watkins. Treasurer—C. D. Castle. Rec. Secretary—J. Sayre. Cor. Secretary—George W. Stearns. Directors—J. F. Ayres, J. H. Cody, L. Adams, F. B. Green, D. E. Holbrook, F. O. Chamberlain.

THE UNION SOCIETY of Marathon, Lappar, Freetown and Willett (Cortland Co.) has chosen the following officers for 1861: President—THOMAS BARRY. Vice President—G. Penoyer, Ogden Gray, John Corp. R. B. Arnold. Secretary—Lucien A. Hazen. Treasurer—E. Clark Carley. Directors—Thomas B. Pierrepiece, D. C. Squires, Alansin Benjamin, Ransom Green.

THE DEWITT FARMERS' CLUB (Onondaga Co.) was formed on the 12th inst., and the following officers elected: President—V. F. NOTTINGHAM. Vice Presidents—J. M. Shoupy, P. P. Milder, H. T. Fellows. Treasurer—Rufus R. Kinne. Secretary—J. Henry Smith.

NATIONAL STATE AND OTHER SOCIETIES. UNITED STATES AG. SOCIETY.—Annual meeting at Washington, Jan. 6th. Not largely attended. The Treasurer reported over \$1,000 cash on hand; also that \$3,000 of the awards of Chicago Exhibition (in 1859) had been placed in the hands of H. WAGER, Esq., for investment, of which sum he had paid over to the Treasurer during the past year less than \$1,500.

ABOUT CATTLE RUNNING IN THE HIGHWAYS.—In reply to the assertion that "the road is the poor man's pasture," the President of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture makes this interesting statement:—"My attention and that of others has been directed to ascertaining the actual ownership of the cattle found running in the highways, and the result has been the conviction that less than five per cent. of the cattle found at large are owned by poor and landless persons. In almost every instance, in the rural districts over which my acquaintance extends, the cattle found on the road are the property of neighboring landholders, and in country villages, merchants, lawyers, doctors, tavern-keepers, master-mechanics, and other persons in comfortable circumstances, are pasturing the roads and commons; while the really needy families, for whom our sympathies ought to be enlisted, are buying milk by the pail."

A GOOD CHEESE VAT is advertised in this paper—one which we have heretofore noticed favorably, and to which we now cheerfully direct the attention of Dairymen, without the solicitation or knowledge of any one interested in its manufacture or sale. The same enterprising firm (Messrs. COOPER, of Watertown,) also furnish other articles which are indispensable to dairy farmers. Read the advertisement for particulars.

FRIENDLY'S AG. CALDERON AND STEAMER.—Those who have inquired of us about this machine, and all others interested, are referred to an advertisement in this paper, announcing that it is being manufactured and sold by a firm in Rochester.

PROLIFIC COWS—Canada Ahead!—In the RURAL of Sept. 8, 1860, a correspondent gave an account of a cow in Iowa having four calves at a birth, and challenging the world to beat it. This item attracted the attention of Mr. HIRAM CARPENTER, of Paris, C. W., who sends us "documents" which show that a Canada female bovine has far eclipsed the Iowa one. Mr. C. writes that JAS. DURAND, of Dundas, C. W., had a cow which he thinks has beat the world and Iowa too. He says:—"She had at her first calving 3 calves; second, 2; third, 4; fourth, 4 (I saw her with these four); fifth, only 1; sixth, 4.—making eighteen calves at six births and in six years!" This statement is confirmed by a recent letter from the owner of the cow, (addressed to Mr. C., and sent us for inspection.) We think Canada indisputably ahead, and that the above is the most extraordinary instance of bovine fecundity we ever recorded.

A SLENDID SKEW OF HOGS—Monroe County Farmers.—The largest and finest twelve dressed hogs we ever saw were exhibited by S. F. & W. WITHERSPOON, 67 Buffalo street, this city, on Saturday last, and were the cynosure of scores of eager eyes. They were bred and fattened by DANIEL and JOHN SMITH, father and Son, of Wheatland, in this county. These fine specimens of the genus Sus were only 20 months old, and weighed respectively as follows, in pounds:—398, 494, 516, 496, 433, 488, 516, 625, 505, 600, 630, 502. This is an average of 625, or an aggregate of over six thousand and three hundred pounds! The hogs are said to be half-blood Russian breed, with a cross of Leicester and Suffolk. They are handsome fellows,—plump and small-boned, resembling the Suffolks in form. Such porkers are worthy a town long celebrated in the annals of wheat growing, and for its superior soil and progressive cultivators. Can any of our readers, in this State or elsewhere, tell of a better dozen hogs, only twenty months old?

their purses in the end will not be the losers thereby; and the more it is practiced, the more convinced are they of the economy and profit of such a course of feeding. Not only is the profit derived from the roots, as such, but the relative value of the hay, as well as that of the roots, is increased when fed together. And it becomes an object, the present season especially, for such farmers as have been deprived of their usual amount of fodder by the drouth, to make the best of such means to keep and improve their stock until the return of grass.

The following table, gathered from reliable sources, shows the value of potatoes, carrots and ruta bagas, the roots usually grown for stock, compared with good hay:

Table with 2 columns: Quantity of roots, Value. 200 lbs. of potatoes are equal to 100 lbs. of hay. 250 " carrots " " " 300 " ruta bagas " " "

Again; by allowing 60 pounds to the bushel, of the above roots; we have the following:

Table with 2 columns: Quantity of roots, Value. 67 bushels of potatoes are equal to a ton of hay. 100 " carrots " " " 100 " ruta bagas " " "

By this estimate, with the usual yield per acre, it will be seen that root culture pays; a fact of which many a farmer and stock-grower has been convinced by practical demonstration.

THE EXHIBITION OF FRUITS, GRAIN, AND ROOTS, is said to have been quite good, and premiums were awarded to over a score of the best cultivators in the county. We believe the Onondaga Society excels any other local one in this particular, and its officers and members are entitled to credit therefor.

CHENANGO CO. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, held at Norwich on the 1st inst., the following board was elected for 1861: President—BENJAMIN FRANK, Plymouth. Vice Presidents—George Davis, Sherburne; E. A. Bundy, Oxford; Leroy Shattuck, Norwich; George Julian, Greene; L. H. Talcott, Smyrna; N. P. Hitchcock, Pithers; Jonathan Mathewson, New Berlin. Secretary—Isaac Foote, Norwich. Treasurer—Daniel M. Holmes, Norwich. Managers—Hiram Hale, Norwich; William H. Wheeler, Pharsalia; David Baird, Greene; Amos Tucky, Coventry; John A. Stover, Smyrna; Joseph Juliano, Bainbridge; Asa Foote, Sherburne; Erastus P. Smith, Guilford; John C. Bailey, Smithville; Christopher Boyce, New Berlin; Elijah Sexton, Columbus; Isaac S. Sherwood, Oxford; A. T. Per Lee, North Norwich; Daniel Bridlewood, German; Dennison R. Hakes, Pithers; A. W. Strong, McDonough; Asa Pellet, Plymouth; A. A. Stoddard, Otselec; T. M. Gifford, Lincklaen; Solomon Wait, Preston; J. B. Chaffee, Afton.

RENSSELAER CO. AG. AND MANUP'S SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was largely attended, and the interest in the Society seemed to have received a new impulse. The exhibition of winter fruits, grain, and seeds, was very fine, and attracted considerable attention. Officers for 1861: President—JASON OSGOOD. Vice Presidents—George Vail, J. H. Willard, Hugh Rankin, Lewis E. Gurley, Nicholas Weaver. Secretary—W. T. Willard. Treasurer—H. W. Knickerbocker. Directors—Edward Chamberlain, Wm. Lape, W. Newcomb, B. I. Van Hoesen, J. G. Mott, W. R. Smith, E. Cole, D. W. C. DeForest, E. Stevens, T. Knowlson, L. Wilder, C. W. Herrick, B. B. Hewitt, S. Carpenter, H. E. Denison, J. Whiting, W. R. DeForest.

WYOMING CO. SOCIETY.—The Mirror makes the gratifying announcement that the recent annual meeting of this Society was more numerously attended than any previous one for years. J. A. MOLEWAIN was re-elected President; H. A. Dudley was chosen Secretary, and T. H. Buxton, Treasurer; Duncan Cameron, Vice President; John R. Potter, James S. Sanford, and Carlos Stebbins, Directors. The Society seems likely to succeed in raising the balance due on its Fair Grounds.

WAYNE CO. SOCIETY.—At the recent annual meeting, the following board of officers was elected: President—S. B. GAVITT. Vice President—H. G. Dickerson. Secretary—H. P. Knowles. Treasurer—W. D. Perrine. Board of Managers—F. T. Palmer, H. J. Leach, Henry Graham, Jr., John Westfall, E. N. Thomas.

ALBANY CO. SOCIETY.—Annual meeting Jan. 9th. Officers elected: President—WILLIAM HURST. Vice President—Harmon V. Strong, Watervliet. Secretary—John Wilson. Treasurer—Joseph Hilton, New Scotland. Directors—Wm. Muttel, John Waggoner, John H. Booth, H. L. Godfrey, Wm. Lappe.

YATES CO. SOCIETY.—At its recent annual meeting, this Society made the following excellent selection of officers for the present year: President—GUY SHAW. Vice President—John Southard, Secretary—John Mallory. Treasurer—B. L. Hoyt.

SKANEATELES FARMERS' CLUB.—This model organization held its annual meeting on the 5th inst. Though the worthy "Secretary, since 1850," has not favored us with a direct communication on the subject, we are enabled to give the list of officers for 1861, as published in an exchange: President—HENRY ELLERY. Vice Presidents—Alford Lamb and John Davey. Board of Directors—Jacob H. Allen, Willa Clift, John Spaulding, Joab L. Clift, Edward Shepard, John Calvin Brown, Jas. A. Root, Jedediah Irish, Christopher C. Wyckoff, Lewis W. Cleveland, Joseph Talcott, and Chester Moses. William J. Townsend, Treasurer, 3d term. William M. Beachamp, Secretary, since 1850.

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Doings of Agricultural Societies.

NEW YORK LOCAL SOCIETIES. CORTLAND CO. AG. SOCIETY.—This progressive Society has elected the following board of officers for 1861: President—WILLIAM E. TALLMAR, Freebie. Vice President—Samuel Babcock, Homer. Treasurer—Morgan L. Webb, Cortlandville. Secretary—Alonso B. Blodgett, Cortlandville. In announcing the result, the Cortland Gazette says the Society could not be placed in better hands. The reports of the retiring officers show the Society to be in a flourishing condition. Action was taken relative to the erection of suitable buildings on the Fair Grounds during the ensuing season.

ONEIDA CO. SOCIETY.—The recent annual meeting of this flourishing Society, held at Hampton, resulted in the election of the following excellent board of officers for 1861: President—E. B. ARMSTRONG, Rome. Vice Presidents—S. A. Coville, Verona; Morgan Butler, New Hartford. Treasurer—L. L. Lewis, Rome. Secretary—R. Morrison, Utica. Executive Committee—George Benedict, Verona; T. E. Marson, Marcy; O. Terry, Marshall; T. E. Morgan, Deerfield; Luke Coan, Westmoreland; Henry Rhodes, Trenton; Wm. Cooper, Whites town; S. M. Foster, New Hartford; F. H. Conant, Camden; R. G. Savery, Annsville. The Treasurer's report shows that the balance on hand, January 5, 1860, was \$307.99; whole amount received during the year 1860, \$1,429.14; balance on hand, \$490.4. The Treasurer's salary was abolished. A meeting of the Executive Committee is to be held at Holland Patent, Feb. 14th.

The Exhibition of Fruits, Grain, and Roots, is said to have been quite good, and premiums were awarded to over a score of the best cultivators in the county. We believe the Onondaga Society excels any other local one in this particular, and its officers and members are entitled to credit therefor.

CHENANGO CO. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, held at Norwich on the 1st inst., the following board was elected for 1861: President—BENJAMIN FRANK, Plymouth. Vice Presidents—George Davis, Sherburne; E. A. Bundy, Oxford; Leroy Shattuck, Norwich; George Julian, Greene; L. H. Talcott, Smyrna; N. P. Hitchcock, Pithers; Jonathan Mathewson, New Berlin. Secretary—Isaac Foote, Norwich. Treasurer—Daniel M. Holmes, Norwich. Managers—Hiram Hale, Norwich; William H. Wheeler, Pharsalia; David Baird, Greene; Amos Tucky, Coventry; John A. Stover, Smyrna; Joseph Juliano, Bainbridge; Asa Foote, Sherburne; Erastus P. Smith, Guilford; John C. Bailey, Smithville; Christopher Boyce, New Berlin; Elijah Sexton, Columbus; Isaac S. Sherwood, Oxford; A. T. Per Lee, North Norwich; Daniel Bridlewood, German; Dennison R. Hakes, Pithers; A. W. Strong, McDonough; Asa Pellet, Plymouth; A. A. Stoddard, Otselec; T. M. Gifford, Lincklaen; Solomon Wait, Preston; J. B. Chaffee, Afton.

RENSSELAER CO. AG. AND MANUP'S SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was largely attended, and the interest in the Society seemed to have received a new impulse. The exhibition of winter fruits, grain, and seeds, was very fine, and attracted considerable attention. Officers for 1861: President—JASON OSGOOD. Vice Presidents—George Vail, J. H. Willard, Hugh Rankin, Lewis E. Gurley, Nicholas Weaver. Secretary—W. T. Willard. Treasurer—H. W. Knickerbocker. Directors—Edward Chamberlain, Wm. Lape, W. Newcomb, B. I. Van Hoesen, J. G. Mott, W. R. Smith, E. Cole, D. W. C. DeForest, E. Stevens, T. Knowlson, L. Wilder, C. W. Herrick, B. B. Hewitt, S. Carpenter, H. E. Denison, J. Whiting, W. R. DeForest.

WYOMING CO. SOCIETY.—The Mirror makes the gratifying announcement that the recent annual meeting of this Society was more numerously attended than any previous one for years. J. A. MOLEWAIN was re-elected President; H. A. Dudley was chosen Secretary, and T. H. Buxton, Treasurer; Duncan Cameron, Vice President; John R. Potter, James S. Sanford, and Carlos Stebbins, Directors. The Society seems likely to succeed in raising the balance due on its Fair Grounds.

WAYNE CO. SOCIETY.—At the recent annual meeting, the following board of officers was elected: President—S. B. GAVITT. Vice President—H. G. Dickerson. Secretary—H. P. Knowles. Treasurer—W. D. Perrine. Board of Managers—F. T. Palmer, H. J. Leach, Henry Graham, Jr., John Westfall, E. N. Thomas.

ALBANY CO. SOCIETY.—Annual meeting Jan. 9th. Officers elected: President—WILLIAM HURST. Vice President—Harmon V. Strong, Watervliet. Secretary—John Wilson. Treasurer—Joseph Hilton, New Scotland. Directors—Wm. Muttel, John Waggoner, John H. Booth, H. L. Godfrey, Wm. Lappe.

YATES CO. SOCIETY.—At its recent annual meeting, this Society made the following excellent selection of officers for the present year: President—GUY SHAW. Vice President—John Southard, Secretary—John Mallory. Treasurer—B. L. Hoyt.

SKANEATELES FARMERS' CLUB.—This model organization held its annual meeting on the 5th inst. Though the worthy "Secretary, since 1850," has not favored us with a direct communication on the subject, we are enabled to give the list of officers for 1861, as published in an exchange: President—HENRY ELLERY. Vice Presidents—Alford Lamb and John Davey. Board of Directors—Jacob H. Allen, Willa Clift, John Spaulding, Joab L. Clift, Edward Shepard, John Calvin Brown, Jas. A. Root, Jedediah Irish, Christopher C. Wyckoff, Lewis W. Cleveland, Joseph Talcott, and Chester Moses. William J. Townsend, Treasurer, 3d term. William M. Beachamp, Secretary, since 1850.

THE OXFORD AG. ASSOCIATION (Chenango Co.) has chosen officers for 1861, as follows: President—W. G. SANDS, Oxford. Vice Presidents—E. A. Bundy, Oxford; R. Chandler, Coventry; Ransom Yale, Smithville; E. J. Berry, Preston; A. Alcott, Guilford. Secretary—S. Bundy, Oxford. Treasurer—Isaac S. Sherwood, Oxford. Directors—John Shattuck, Norwich; E. P. Smith, Guilford; J. M. Phillips, Coventry; Silas Tillotson, Greene; Eleazer Isbell, McDonough; R. T. Davidson, Oxford.

THE COLUMBUS AG. SOCIETY (Chenango Co.) elected the following officers at its annual meeting, Jan. 8th: President—L. N. HOIT. Vice Presidents—Jefferson Finch, Nathan Clark. Secretary—U. T. Holmes. Treasurer—Wm. H. Purdie. Directors—Henry Holmes, Charles Holmes, Grant B. Palmer, Chauncey Perkins, Sherman L. Myers, Nelson W. Matterson, Elijah Sexton, J. Medbury, Jr., E. Sherman, Silas Clark.

THE DUNDUR UNION AG. SOCIETY (Yates Co.) elected the following officers at its recent annual meeting: President—URIAH HAIR. Vice President—John C. Shannon. Treasurer—Daniel Supplee. Secretary—P. McKey. Directors—Harrison Shannon, George Kels, Josiah Morron, James Reeder, James Havens, S. Young, Nicholas Webb.

RUSEVILLE UNION AG. SOCIETY.—Officers for 1861: President—W. N. PERKY. Vice Presidents—H. M. Boardman, M. A. Pierce, M. B. Watkins. Treasurer—C. D. Castle. Rec. Secretary—J. Sayre. Cor. Secretary—George W. Stearns. Directors—J. F. Ayres, J. H. Cody, L. Adams, F. B. Green, D. E. Holbrook, F. O. Chamberlain.

THE UNION SOCIETY of Marathon, Lappar, Freetown and Willett (Cortland Co.) has chosen the following officers for 1861: President—THOMAS BARRY. Vice President—G. Penoyer, Ogden Gray, John Corp. R. B. Arnold. Secretary—Lucien A. Hazen. Treasurer—E. Clark Carley. Directors—Thomas B. Pierrepiece, D. C. Squires, Alansin Benjamin, Ransom Green.

THE DEWITT FARMERS' CLUB (Onondaga Co.) was formed on the 12th inst., and the following officers elected: President—V. F. NOTTINGHAM. Vice Presidents—J. M. Shoupy, P. P. Milder, H. T. Fellows. Treasurer—Rufus R. Kinne. Secretary—J. Henry Smith.

NATIONAL STATE AND OTHER SOCIETIES. UNITED STATES AG. SOCIETY.—Annual meeting at Washington, Jan. 6th. Not largely attended. The Treasurer reported over \$1,000 cash on hand; also that \$3,000 of the awards of Chicago Exhibition (in 1859) had been placed in the hands of H. WAGER, Esq., for investment, of which sum he had paid over to the Treasurer during the past year less than \$1,500.

ABOUT CATTLE RUNNING IN THE HIGHWAYS.—In reply to the assertion that "the road is the poor man's pasture," the President of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture makes this interesting statement:—"My attention and that of others has been directed to ascertaining the actual ownership of the cattle found running in the highways, and the result has been the conviction that less than five per cent. of the cattle found at large are owned by poor and landless persons. In almost every instance, in the rural districts over which my acquaintance extends, the cattle found on the road are the property of neighboring landholders, and in country villages, merchants, lawyers, doctors, tavern-keepers, master-mechanics, and other persons in comfortable circumstances, are pasturing the roads and commons; while the really needy families, for whom our sympathies ought to be enlisted, are buying milk by the pail."

GEORGIA STATE AG. SOCIETY.—The following are the officers for the current year: President—Hon. D. W. Lewis, Hancock. Vice Presidents—Hon. George P. Harrison, Chatham; T. M. Furlow, Esq., Sumter; B. F. Ward, Butte; Dr. Beasley, Troup; J. C. Sproull, Esq., Cass; Hon. John Billups, Clarke; Hon. R. H. Ward, Greene; Wm. Schley, Richmond. Cor. Secretary—Rev. C. W. Howard, Kingston, Cass Co.

OAKLAND CO. (Mich.) AG. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, Jan. 8th, the following officers were elected: President—A. C. BALDWIN. Vice Presidents—1st District, E. P. Harris, 2d, George Reeves; 3d, John J. Morrill; 4th, H. C. Andrews; 5th, Jedediah Durkee. Treasurer—Z. B. Knight. Secretary—Joseph R. Bowman. Executive Committee—M. L. Brooks, Novi; Wm. Axford, Clarkston; Charles K. Carpenter, Orion; Chauncey W. Green, Farmington; Edwin Phelps, Pontiac; Dr. Z. M. Mowry, Milford.

Rural Notes and Items.

UNION SENTIMENTS AT THE SOUTH—A Better Feeling.—We are in daily receipt of letters from reading, thinking people residing in various Southern States—farmers, planters, and others, who own sufficient property to have "a stake in the hedge"—and from their contents can judge somewhat of the sentiments which prevail on the all-absorbing topic of disunion. Indeed, we think such letters give us a better idea of the popular sentiment than can be obtained from the telegraph dispatches emanating from New York, Washington, Charleston, &c., and published in the dailies under startling headings. From the tenor of letters received during the past two weeks from Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas, we are confident that a great reaction has taken place, and that the mass of the people of the South, as well as those of the North, are in favor of "the Union, the Constitution, and the Enforcement of the Laws." Quite a number of correspondents say the crisis is passed—more so than intimating that disunion is (or soon will be) "played out"—and we doubt not a vast majority of the people, even in the States which have resolved to secede, are in favor of maintaining the Union intact. If a few Southern fire-eaters and Northern fanatics were hung so high that HANAN would have to look up to see them, all would be safe—but we trust the country will soon right herself without even that poor sacrifice.

PROLIFIC COWS—Canada Ahead!—In the RURAL of Sept. 8, 1860, a correspondent gave an account of a cow in Iowa having four calves at a birth, and challenging the world to beat it. This item attracted the attention of Mr. HIRAM CARPENTER, of Paris, C. W., who sends us "documents" which show that a Canada female bovine has far eclipsed the Iowa one. Mr. C. writes that JAS. DURAND, of Dundas, C. W., had a cow which he thinks has beat the world and Iowa too. He says:—"She had at her first calving 3 calves; second, 2; third, 4; fourth, 4 (I saw her with these four); fifth, only 1; sixth, 4.—making eighteen calves at six births and in six years!" This statement is confirmed by a recent letter from the owner of the cow, (addressed to Mr. C., and sent us for inspection.) We think Canada indisputably ahead, and that the above is the most extraordinary instance of bovine fecundity we ever recorded.

A SLENDID SKEW OF HOGS—Monroe County Farmers.—The largest and finest twelve dressed hogs we ever saw were exhibited by S. F. & W. WITHERSPOON, 67 Buffalo street, this city, on Saturday last, and were the cynosure of scores of eager eyes. They were bred and fattened by DANIEL and JOHN SMITH, father and Son, of Wheatland, in this county. These fine specimens of the genus Sus were only 20 months old, and weighed respectively as follows, in pounds:—398, 494, 516, 496, 433, 488, 516, 625, 505, 600, 630, 502. This is an average of 625, or an aggregate of over six thousand and three hundred pounds! The hogs are said to be half-blood Russian breed, with a cross of Leicester and Suffolk. They are handsome fellows,—plump and small-boned, resembling the Suffolks in form. Such porkers are worthy a town long celebrated in the annals of wheat growing, and for its superior soil and progressive cultivators. Can any of our readers, in this State or elsewhere, tell of a better dozen hogs, only twenty months old?

BRAZILIAN POP CORN.—We are indebted to our friend and occasional correspondent, Dr. M. W. PHILLIPS, of Edwards, Miss., for the most beautiful ear of corn, of its size, we ever saw—which he labels as above. It contains twelve rows, is three and one-fourth inches long, and only three-fourths of an inch in diameter! He says:—"Twenty-nine stalks of corn; 260 ears the product. One stalk had 25, another 20 ears." The ear has 239 kernels, of a dark red color, each about the size of a No. 3 shot. [We hope our Mississippi friends don't propose to pop at any human body, through the "Egyptian Corn," (sold by one CRANDALL, of Ill., last year) about which RURAL readers have been advised aforetime.

THE YALE AG. LECTURES POSTPONED.—The Homestead of last week makes this brief but positive announcement:—"Apprehending the effect of political excitement in diminishing the interest and usefulness of an agricultural convention, it has been decided to postpone a repetition of the 'Yale Agricultural Lectures' to another year. The regular lectures of the institution on Agricultural Chemistry and the general principles of agriculture, will be given as usual, commencing February 1st."

TAX ON DOGS.—The loss accruing from the depredations of dogs among sheep, is becoming onerous in some parts of this State, as it has long been at the West, and we are glad to notice that the subject is receiving attention and action. At the last meeting of the Oswego County Ag. Society, a resolution was passed and a committee appointed to see to the enforcement of the law taxing dogs, and to make complaint before the Grand Jury of Assessors for neglecting their duty in this respect.

WHEAT CROPS—Average in Different States.—The wheat crop of Wisconsin last year is said to have "averaged twenty-eight (28) bushels per acre." Can any of your RURAL readers correctly estimate the average crop of 1860 in the State of New York? It would probably surprise persons who have not turned special attention to the matter, to hear that the average wheat crop of this State fifteen years ago, when wheat-growing was in a palmer state than even now, did not equal one-half of the present alleged average in Wisconsin. Even this last-mentioned average is not too large for good farming; but is it not exaggerated?—GENESEE.

ABOUT CATTLE RUNNING IN THE HIGHWAYS.—In reply to the assertion that "the road is the poor man's pasture," the President of

HORTICULTURAL.

FRUIT-GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK.

ANNUAL MEETING - DISCUSSIONS.

As we promised last week, we now give a pretty full report of the discussion at the last meeting of the Fruit Growers' of Western New York. The subjects are important and the remarks will be found interesting and profitable.

Gathering and Packing Fruit.

The best method of gathering, packing, and transporting pears to market.

Dr. SYLVESTER, of Lyons—Never gather fruit until it is well matured. Pick by hand and carefully place the specimens in peach baskets. Take them to the fruit-room and allow them to sweat for a week or more, then pack in half barrels. Arrange carefully in packing and shake down frequently. Put in only a few at a time and shake down often. After the barrels are full, press on the head pretty hard, so as to bruise those on the top. This is necessary to keep the fruit from shaking about and becoming injured on the way to market. Keep pears until they will be nearly ripe when they reach the market, otherwise they will not bring as good a price. In assorting, make three classes. In this way the two best will bring more than all would if sold together. Put nothing in head or bottom of barrel, but sometimes, if very ripe, wrap each fruit in paper.

L. B. LANGWORTHY—May not all pears be picked when the head is somewhat colored?

CHAS. DOWNING—Some varieties of pears never color their seeds,—the Lewis is one of this kind.

P. BARRY—It will not answer to allow summer pears to remain on the tree until the seeds are colored, or they are worthless. When summer pears are fit to pick, the seeds are soft and light colored. Seeds of pears house-ripened seldom become dark colored. If ripened on the trees, the seeds ripen at the expense of the flavor. Winter pears should be allowed to remain on the tree until frost, if the leaves hang on, but the pears should be picked as soon as the leaves fall, or before they drop. About the 20th of October is the usual time for picking winter pears in this section. Pick by hand and pack in small boxes or half barrels. Pears ripen quicker and do not keep as well if stored in large masses. After packing, put the boxes in a cool place on the north side of a building, where they may remain until very hard frost. We then put the boxes in a barn and cover with straw and leaves until the thermometer gets down to about zero. Then put in a cool cellar. In packing, care should be had to put the ripest or most mature specimens by themselves, and those less mature alone, so that all specimens in a barrel will ripen at about the same time. Mr. B. spoke of the difficulty and danger of attempting to send winter pears to market in the winter, on account of frost. He thought they must be sent to market in the fall, like winter apples. As soon as they become so plenty as to make it an object, fruiters in large cities will prepare rooms for ripening and give all necessary attention to the process. Much has been said about ripening pears at a high temperature. This is not necessary. If the fruit was matured on the tree they would ripen in the cellar. Every good winter pear will do so. Packing of autumn pears is an important matter.—Many sent from Western New York last season were found spoiled when they reached the Eastern market. We should be careful in selecting as to ripeness. One over-ripe and rotting specimen will injure many. If one or two specimens are spotted with fungus, it will spread and spoil a barrel. All defective fruit should be discarded. Fruit for a distant market should be put in small paper boxes or barrels or boxes should be clean and dry, and means of escape afforded for any gases generated, and the speediest means of conveyance should be selected.

H. E. HOOKER, of Rochester—As much trouble is not necessary for the preservation of winter pears as many suppose. Last season let Glout Morecaux sweat a few days, then put them in barrels, on the first of November, boring holes in the heads. Placed the barrels on the north side of a building, where they remained until early in December. They were put in cellar 15th of December, and are now used from the barrel just as winter apples. To see whether a higher temperature would improve them, several times took some into a warm room, and all agreed that those from the cellar were best. We cannot keep winter pears here until about ripe and then send them to market. They should be sent in the autumn. Tried a few half barrels of Glout Morecaux, but they became black and unmarketable. Like to keep apples and pears out of a cellar in the fall as long as possible. Think all fruit when put up in somewhat large packages retain their flavor better than when a few specimens only are put together. They retain their aroma better.

L. BARBER, of Ontario Co.—Had found by experience that pears picked on a bright, warm day ripened quicker than those picked on a dark, cool day. For keeping, therefore, preferred to pick very early in the morning, or on a dull, cool day. The pear undergoes more of a sweating process than apples, and barrels should always be ventilated. Make three holes in both ends. Half barrels the best for packing, better than boxes, more convenient and cheaper, and the pressure on the fruit is more equal. They are also more conveniently handled. The barrels should be filled in the orchard and then put under shelter in a cool place, as described by other gentlemen, until cool weather.

Mr. JACOBS—Dealt largely in fruit and had considerable experience in shipping. The greatest error made by fruit growers is in packing in too large packages; and another is in neglecting to assort their fruit. A few poor specimens give a barrel a bad look and a bad name. Barrels for early apples should be ventilated, but it is not necessary for winter apples. Half barrels are best for pears, and the crates like sometimes used for peaches, the worst possible contrivance, as the slats cut and bruise the fruit.

P. BARRY—Could not agree with others in regard to the use of half barrels. In France pears are packed and sent to London and other places, in small boxes, something like cheese boxes, holding about a peck or less each. The pears are placed in layers, between dried moss and leaves.

E. MOODY, of Lockport—Thought fruit should be placed in cellar immediately after gathering. There the temperature is comparatively uniform, and while out-of-doors there is constant change, causing sweating and injury. A cellar in a side-hill would be better than a common cellar, as it would be drier and of a more equal temperature.

Dr. SYLVESTER had a fruit-room in a cellar, three sides wall, fourth side boards. It was of pretty even temperature. Carry the pears there immediately after packing.

H. E. HOOKER—A neighbor, Mr. Mathews, constructed a fruit-room in one part of his cellar, but could not save his pears. They do better in a cellar in barrels.

Keeping Fruit.

The best method of preserving fruit, so as in every way to prolong the period of consumption.

HIGH T. BROOKS, of Wyoming, considered this subject a very important one. In the country the people had got the idea that they could not avoid losing a good portion of their fruit. One-third at least of the fruit put into cellars comes out in a damaged condition. Cellars differ very much in their keeping qualities, and we hardly know why. Is dryness, evenness of temperature, or coolness needed? A friend, Judge Taggart, had a dry cellar, and the apples shriveled. He put them in his garret and they kept well. Some think a garret preferable to a cellar for preserving fruit.

Mr. SHARP, of Lockport, presented specimens of Louise Bonne de Jersey, Bartlett, and other pears, which he had kept as they were picked, without ripening in a cellar, by some process which he did not disclose.

C. P. BISSELL thought this a very important question because of the advantages possessed by winter maturing fruits, and by fruits which can easily be kept in preservation. Fruit, sweetmeats and dried fruits. They are better for the health, save trouble and cost of putting up, and are much more pleasant to the taste. Families have usually depended upon sweetmeats from January until strawberry time, and if by any means we can preserve fruit in the natural state during a good portion of this time, the difference in doctor's bills would soon be apparent. Notice should be taken of the keeping qualities of grapes. Hardiness, productiveness, &c., are qualities sought

in the grape, but we pay little attention to its keeping qualities, which is an important matter.

Mr. SHARP agreed with all those who considered this question a very important one. He had laid upon the table specimens of Autumn ripening pears which had thus far been kept unadvised, and he hoped that winter fruits could be kept until summer.

H. N. LANGWORTHY—Once having some fine Bartlett pears which he wished to save for a fall exhibition, and fearing that by the ordinary mode of keeping they would not last, he put them in tin canisters, and placed them in ice. The consequence was that his pears at the exhibition were green and remained unnoticed, while those who kept them in the common way had fine yellow specimens. They afterwards ripened and were of good flavor.

W. P. TOWNSEND, of Lockport—Had put Bartlett pears in baskets in the ice-house, and kept them for a long time, but found on exposure to the air they became discolored and never acquired their natural flavor.

BARRY—A fruit after arriving at full growth, or what is called maturity, should progress slowly and steadily towards perfection. If the ripening process is entirely suspended for a long time, the living principle seems to be destroyed and never can be restored. It is then like dead matter—like a stick, that may dry up or rot, but will never make any step towards ripening. Mr. Brooks had mentioned the proper conditions for a good fruit-room—coolness, dryness and evenness of temperature. In England it is found impossible to keep fruit in cellars.

TOWNSEND—On several occasions had tried to preserve pears in Schooley's preservative. They could be kept a very long time, but never afterwards had any flavor.

W. B. SMITH, of Syracuse, had kept early fruit for exhibition by placing it in boxes, and covering it with the damp saw-dust in the ice-house. When preserved in this manner for a few days, no injury would be done, but if kept in this condition for a long time was worthless.

Dr. SPENCER thought the ripening process was not a vital principle, but a chemical process, which could be suspended for a long time, and renewed without injury to the fruit.

L. B. LANGWORTHY—Cold will preserve vegetable and animal bodies from decay. A fish may be frozen and carried a thousand miles, yet when thawed it shows usual life. Could not believe there was anything like animal vitality in fruit, it is doubtless a chemical process. Found no difficulty in keeping grapes packed in layers in peach baskets.

Dr. P. G. TORRY, of Rochester, exhibited some of the best kept grapes on the tables, picked about the first of November, and put in pastebord boxes about 8 by 12 inches, and 4 inches deep. Put in cellar as soon as packed, and put in the boxes the same day they were gathered. Had experienced some difficulty in keeping grapes in an upper room during November.

L. B. LANGWORTHY thought a little exposure for a few days would evaporate a portion of the moisture and help their keeping.

Dr. SYLVESTER had kept grapes through the entire winter. The fruit should be ripe when picked. If exposed for some days they begin to shrivel, but if packed immediately they keep sound. Packed in small boxes, two layers in a box. Keep in upper room until very cold weather, and put in cellar.

H. N. LANGWORTHY—Packed grapes in baskets in maple chips from the last factories, and in this way kept them until late in April, without difficulty.

CHAS. DOWNING—Had tried every way he had ever heard of and failed in all.

HOAG, of Lockport, packed grapes in boxes first covering the bottoms with cotton; then paper. Upon this he placed a layer of grapes and covered them with paper. Then another layer of grapes. Keeps in a cool room. Low even temperature is necessary to their preservation.

L. BARBER, of Bloomfield—We raise for market in our town more than thirty tons of grapes every year. We never pack grapes as soon as picked, but have small houses made on purpose for drying or curing the stems. The grapes are placed on shelves, and are permitted to remain in this room, well ventilated for about two weeks, and until the stems are ripened. Not one pound of grapes will be saved from this process, and the grapes are packed with the stems green. Any grapes that are not fully ripened shrivel, but well ripened bunches will not. Grapes should hang on the vines until we have had two or three hard frosts. After the stems are dried the grapes are packed in small paper boxes, as close as possible, so that they will not move, and these small boxes are packed in cases. In this way they may be sent to any market and will come out plump and fine.

Mr. LA ROWE, of Steuben Co., said Mr. McKay, of Naples, picked his grapes in half barrels, (whole barrels saved in two.) They were carried to the storehouse and kept in this way until the stems shriveled, sometimes four weeks. After that assort, puts in paper boxes and sends to market. Grapes always sweet, and the surest way is to cure well before packing.

Yellows in the Peach.

Can the yellows in the peach be introduced by the importation of trees from infected districts?

H. N. LANGWORTHY—Had known the yellows a great many years ago. A tree with this disease will ripen its fruit a month earlier than the healthy tree, but it will soon die. I once had a very large, fine looking peach tree, which I carried to the storehouse and kept in this way until the stems shriveled, sometimes four weeks. After that assort, puts in paper boxes and sends to market. Grapes always sweet, and the surest way is to cure well before packing.

L. B. LANGWORTHY thought the yellows contagious. His attention was called last summer to a young orchard of 800 trees. In one portion half-dozen or more of the trees were dying, and the proprietor thought there must be iron in the soil. I examined them and found them affected with the yellows and advised their immediate removal. At first only one tree was affected. Goodsell, our oldest nurseryman here, tried some experiments with trees affected with this disease. Among other things, he inoculated healthy trees with the sap of those which were diseased, and killed them. A gentleman of Benfield once brought me a large peach ripe, very early, a month before we had any large peaches ripe, and claimed that it was a seedling. I suggested the yellows, and found afterwards that the tree soon died.

Dr. SYLVESTER, some 10 years ago, being East, procured some peach seedlings from New Jersey. John J. Thomas cautioned me against this course and I burned up my seedlings. He stated facts of his own knowledge which led me to believe this course, was the only safe one. If this disease extends to Western New York, it will be very bad for us, and will probably be as fatal to our trees as it is in New Jersey. In that State it is so bad that they expect but one or two crops of fruit.

C. L. HOAG considered it very important to avoid the yellows in Western New York, if possible.

CHAS. DOWNING had known this disease for thirty years. His brother, Mr. Manice, and Mr. Barry, did not think it contagious, but he could not agree with them. When he took possession of his present place, twenty-three years ago, there was no yellows in Newburgh, but a little of the disease appeared in a neighbor's orchard, and he urged him to take the trees out and burn them up, which he neglected to do, and from this it spread all over the country.

Dr. SPENCER considered the fact fully established that this disease is contagious.

Mr. SHARP expressed decided fear that this disease would be generally introduced. There were men in his county who were obtaining large quantities of peach trees from New Jersey to fill their orders.

TOWNSEND, of Lockport, knew of 90,000 New Jersey peach trees brought to his place to supply orders.

H. E. HOOKER thought there were two sides to this question. Had known peach trees brought from New Jersey make good and permanent orchards without the least sign of disease. Some of the oldest orchards in this county are of that character. The owner of one of these orchards had obtained trees from New Jersey almost every year to fill up and enlarge his orchard, and without sign of yellows. Still, in other cases he had known trees brought from that State that were very much diseased.

Dr. SYLVESTER remembered that in 1836 there was not in New Jersey one-tenth as much of this disease as now. The New Jersey nurserymen send here for their pits to plant, and they evidently think that the disease is contagious and can be communicated from the pits.

Mr. B. thought the cause to be a poor, impoverished soil, and general bad management for a series of years, which develops the disease and makes it constitutional, and it is propagated with the tree. The cure seems to be to remove the tree to a fertile soil. Would prefer not to purchase trees from a district where the disease exists.

F. W. LAY, of Monroe Co., never saw a case of this disease in his town, and large crops of peaches are raised there. The best orchards came from Jersey and were planted 15 or 16 years ago. Had known trees brought from New Jersey recently, but had seen no sign of disease.

BARRY—All the young peach orchards in New Jersey look healthy, and their nursery trees do not have the yellows, or at least do not show it. Generally after bearing the second crop they die. In some parts of the State they are exempt from the disease.

Best Stock for the Cherry.

Which is the best stock for the cherry, for general purposes, the Mazzard or the Mahaleb?

W. P. TOWNSEND thought the wood of the Mahaleb stock is more dense and hardy than the Mazzard, and the tree is not so subject to bursting of the bark. Some varieties are peculiarly adapted to this stock.

GEO. ELLWANGER—The Mahaleb answers on a greater variety of soils than the Mazzard, and is particularly adapted to a clay soil. The bark is not so liable to burst as upon the Mazzard stock. In fact some varieties now cannot be grown to advantage on that stock. This is the case with the Black Tartarian and Kirtland's Mary. When worked low the bud will not outgrow the stock. Grown in this manner they stand the winters well. A cherry should receive no pruning after it is planted out. It should be got into shape when young. The tree when young makes a vigorous growth on Mahaleb stock, but after three years the growth is slower, and the tree is not as large.

CHAS. DOWNING—There is a tree in my neighborhood on the Mahaleb stock, 18 to 20 inches in diameter, 40 years planted. This stock is no doubt better adapted to the South and West than the Mazzard.

Northern Spy Apple.

The Northern Spy apple; what is the value of it as an orchard fruit?

D. W. BEADLE, St. Catharines, C. W., had fruited it only two years, but found it very promising. The fruit large, high colored and of good flavor, and hangs on the trees, a great advantage with us, where we are troubled with severe south-west winds in the autumn.

BARRY—The Northern Spy has been charged at previous meetings of this Society with being a shy bearer, knotty, &c. We have now had more experience, and can gather together sufficient information either to establish its good character, or condemn it as unworthy of cultivation. My impression is that since we have been able to see its character more generally exhibited, and we have been able to judge of its merits and demerits, it has become far more popular. I consider it one of the greatest treasures we have of the apple family.

SHARP—Some ten years ago obtained scions of Northern Spy and grafted them into an old apple tree. Waited for seven or eight years and set a boy budding the young shoots of the Spy with pears. He did his work so badly that all the buds died, and the next summer, 1859, it bore four barrels of splendid Spys, which kept until the next May, and was unequalled by anything I ever tasted for flavor and freshness. Last year it bore five barrels, which I sold at \$1.50 per barrel, while I could get only a dollar for other sorts.

H. T. BROOKS—In 1855 set out an orchard of 1000 trees, and of this number 150 were Northern Spys, from hearing it well spoken of. But one of the best fruit growers in our county told me I had made a great mistake, and I was disposed to alter them, but on consulting with my friend Mr. Vick, he advised me to wait, and my Northern Spys would give a good account of themselves. I shall consider it a great acquisition if this fine flavored apple can be grown in Western New York. I had a very few specimens last season.

FISH—The Northern Spy I consider a great humbug—I mean for a large class of planters—those who want to set out trees one season and gather the fruit the next. When I commenced the nursery business, commenced growing the Northern Spy, and didn't like to give it up, but people would not buy them.

HOAG—Some ten years ago met the late James H. Watts, who asked me if I wished a good apple. He gave me one with which I was exceedingly well pleased. Next year, in the month of June, saw some of the best New York market. It was at that season so delicious that I bought scions and grafted 40 trees nine years ago. Had no apples until 1859, and then only a few. I had become somewhat tired of waiting and thought of grafting over, but now am well pleased I did not, for the last season had a large crop. Thought if the head was thinned out and strong shoots shortened, the tree would bear earlier.

W. B. SMITH—Had a tree grafted nine years. Last season bore a few specimens. This year between five and six barrels.

BARRY—Know the history of the Northern Spy, as it originated in my town. It is, I had been told, a slow bearer. Grafts on an old tree will fruit in seven years. When it commences fruiting, it overbears, and unless thinned, the fruit is poor. This is particularly the case with old trees. An old neglected tree will not produce good Spys. The tree must be vigorous and taken care of to produce fruit of fine quality. This apple needs care in shipping, for it is tender and juicy, and easily becomes bruised. Some localities seem particularly adapted to this apple. Know of some dry side-hills, of gravelly loam with a southern exposure, where the Spys grows superbly, and is the best and most profitable apple grown.

Dr. SYLVESTER—In some parts of Wayne County the Spy has borne large crops of fine fruit. It has, however, the disadvantage of coming late into bearing. A young tree must stand eight to ten years before it will commence bearing. It has another habit, that of growing thick with small branches, and unless in the hands of a person who will prune, the quality of the fruit will not be good. But if the fruit grower has a good soil and will attend to his trees, by pruning the Spy he will have a fine apple, and one that will keep.

Prest. MOODY had been a decided advocate of the Northern Spy. Twelve years ago planted a good many trees and induced others to do so. Some had become discouraged waiting for fruit and had grafted over their trees, but those who had not done so already, never would, for this year there had been enormous crops on all the trees. The Northern Spy tree should be kept open. Mr. M. thought the Northern Spy adapted to a great variety of soils. Had seen it grow on warm loam on clay, and on the cold, wet sands just north of the ridge. It is late in leaf in our soil, and in flowering, and this is a recommendation. The President knew of localities where there seemed to be no certainty of a crop of anything but Northern Spy and Tollman Sweet, on account of late spring frosts.

TOWNSEND—Some 10 or 12 years ago my father grafted two old trees. They grew rapidly and soon formed thrifty tops. Waited five or six years for fruit, and then got out of patience and chopped off the tops of the shoots to strike fruitfulness. Next season got nine barrels. Put them in the cellar and opened later part of March. Found two-fifths rotten, and many that appeared sound were rotten in the center.

BARRY—The general verdict I think is that the Northern Spy is the finest of all apples. It needs good soil, care, pruning, &c. But this is desirable for all trees. It is said that for the Northern Spy it is more necessary than for almost any other variety. This may be true, and it deserves more, for it is better. It needs thinning, but this thinning must be done judiciously, or a new crop of shoots are forced out. This pruning will not be so necessary after the tree comes into bearing. It is well known that wherever the Spy bears it gives an enormous crop. This bends down the branches, checks the flow of sap for the formation of wood, and favors the formation of fruit buds. These give another large crop, and so on for years, until the ground becomes impoverished, the tree stunted, and the fruit consequently poor and worthless. The remedy for this is to thin out the fruit so as to leave only a few specimens as the tree will grow on without injury.

L. B. LANGWORTHY thought he grafted the first tree with this variety in the county of Monroe. As had been said, the tree needs pruning and has a tendency to overbear. The fruit is fine, juicy, sprightly, spicy, and holds its flavor longer than any apple in the

world, while there is no handsomer fruit. There is no better apple for the family, but for transportation to distant markets, it had more faults than any apple he was acquainted with. Dealers do not like them as a packing apple, because they are so thin skinned and tender and so liable to bruise.

The White Doyenne Pear.

Is it advisable to plant, in Western New York, the White Doyenne pear for orchard purposes, in view of its present liability to crack and spot in certain localities?

S. B. GAVITT, of Wayne county—Would not recommend it for general culture in Western New York, although there are some localities where, in sandy soils, it seems to do well. Falls on gravel. W. T. SMITH, Geneva—The Virgalieu has done remarkably well in Geneva and about Camadaga. Never saw better fruit than has been produced in our section within a few years.

SHARP, of Lockport—Set out three years ago a thousand White Doyenne pear trees. They bore a few specimens year before last, and last year more, but both seasons they were cracked.

SMITH, of Syracuse, would advise a trial of deep plowing and draining.

BARBER, of Bloomfield—In our locality we have no trouble with the Virgalieu. We have never had cracking to amount to anything.

SMITH, of Syracuse, believed the disease induced by local causes.

Dr. SYLVESTER agreed with Mr. Smith, for he had seen in the same orchard trees standing upon the west side of a hill with the fruit cracked, while upon the east side, and not over 100 rods distant, the fruit was untouched and splendid. Soil on west side gravelly; on the east side sandy loam.

TOWNSEND—The Virgalieu cracks badly with me, while in the orchard of a near neighbor the fruit is clean. Mr. T. thought the cracking was produced from some atmospheric cause. The fruit upon both dwarf and standard trees suffer alike. Out of fifteen barrels, only picked out two bushels that could be called good.

SMITH, of Geneva, didn't like to give up the Virgalieu. It is a hardy tree, and one of our best market pears. There is nothing of its season as good. Mr. S. was afraid all our delicate pears would be subject to this influence.

H. E. HOOKER did not believe that one bushel in ten of the Virgalieu pears grown and picked were fit to eat. An extensive fruit purchaser, he noticed was present, and he would like his opinion in regard to the Virgalieu as a market pear.

Mr. JACOBS said, as a general thing, we cannot do anything with Virgalieu grown in this county. In and about Geneva the fruit is very good, and New York fruit buyers get some very good specimens from that section. Pretty much all dealers discard that variety.

SHEPARD, of Bloomfield—Generally raised good Virgalieus. Last year they did not ripen up well, but this year ripened early and were good. Had no cracking.

ELLWANGER—The Virgalieu has done pretty well with us, and we have had very little cracking. But it has cracked badly all around us. There is no necessity for planting this variety, for we have plenty of other good pears of the same season. Would not recommend it for general culture.

HOOKER—Do think either currents of air, or soil, or bad culture is the cause of cracking. Have known it crack under the best culture, on high and low ground, and on all kinds of soil.

Dwarf and Standard Trees.

What is understood by the term a standard, and what by the term a dwarf, tree?

TOWNSEND—On this subject there seems to be a great misapprehension among tree planters. A standard tree is one grafted or budded on a similar stock, so that the tree grows full or standard size. A dwarf comes from a bud inserted in a root with which it will unite, but yet furnishes an interruption to the flow of sap, generally a sort of smaller growth, which induces early fruitfulness and a small growth of the tree.

BARBER thought the matter plain. A standard tree is one grafted on a stock similar to the graft, and a dwarf budded on a dissimilar stock.

HOOKER thought the term dwarfing was applied to the working of scion upon a stock which tended to produce diminutive growth, and thus tended to fruitfulness and to increased size of the fruit. In the pear this effect is produced by working upon the quince stock. There are other terms, and which result from other causes, as, for instance, a tree of any size may be rendered "pyramidal" by suitable pruning. In the pear we call a standard tree one which is worked upon the pear stock or standard stock. As applied to apples, the working upon Paradise stock induces a diminutive growth. In the cherry, working upon the Mahaleb induces a growth not so much dwarfish, and I think there is some impropriety in the use of the term when applied to the cherry in this stock. In the plum, the working on wild plum stock produces a tree somewhat dwarfish. A tree which is simply pruned low, is not thereby rendered a dwarf tree, because such pruning does not produce diminutive growth.

J. O. BLOSS understood a dwarf tree to be one which is worked upon a shrub, or a small tree partaking of a shrubby character, and thus a dwarf tree is made to partake somewhat of the character of the shrub upon which it is worked.

ELLWANGER said a tree that is not allowed to branch near the ground, but has a clean stem for some four feet, is called a standard. One that has a clean stem for about two feet, is called a half standard. This is the French system. If a pear tree on quince root is pruned up to a clean stem three or four feet, it is called a dwarf standard. But a standard tree without qualification means a tree on its own stock pruned up with a clean stem, the usual height.

Mr. VICK thought the term originated in this way.—The trees selected by the nurseryman to stand in his ground as specimen trees, became to be called standards. Afterwards the term was used to specify those trees which stood on their own trunks unsupported by wall or trellis.

C. W. SHELVEY—A standard tree is one that stands on a leg, or trunk, and this term is used to distinguish it from a tree or plant branching from the ground.

Dr. BRISTOL thought that, for instance, in the pear, a dwarf means the tree worked upon the quince stock, and asked—If one of your nurserymen gets an order for a hundred dwarf pear trees, what would he put up? would it be merely a large tree cut down low, or would it be trees from pear scions worked upon quince stocks? Trees in ground which are kept produce samples of varieties of fruits are "specimen" trees, and are not necessarily standard trees.

Mr. BARBER thought that these were arbitrary terms, and we ought to have them settled clearly. We want farmers to understand us according to our terms. A standard tree is a tree worked upon a similar stock, while a dwarf is a tree worked upon a dissimilar stock. You may make a tree grow dwarf by cultivation, as the Chinese dwarf even the oak tree, but these are exceptions.

Influence of the Stock upon the Graft.

What influence has the stock upon the graft in modifying or changing the quality of the fruit?

H. T. BROOKS—I think this a very important question, and I beg the attention of gentlemen who propagate trees, to it. We often observe the same varieties of apples growing upon different trees having a different flavor. Mr. E. thought the character of the stock would show itself in the fruit. Mr. BARBER said many farmers believed that grafting an acid apple upon a sweet tree would improve the flavor of the fruit.

H. N. LANGWORTHY had a specimen of Bellflower on exhibition, which he believed to be very much modified by being grown upon a sweet tree.

Mr. VICK thought this a question which needed careful investigation, and mere surmises should not be advanced. He, therefore, moved that this question be postponed to the next meeting, which was carried.

Pruning at the Time of Transplanting.

In transplanting trees, is pruning the tops and roots of importance, and if so, under what circumstances?

L. BARBER—In taking up trees we should take up all the roots we can. Such roots as are injured should be examined, and the injured parts should be cut away. Where the roots are pruned clean, there are more small roots thrown out from the pruned roots than from roots left unpruned. The top should be pruned to correspond.

The top of the tree is the demand, and the root is the supply. The top can be so severely pruned as not to leave wood buds enough to draw up the sap from the roots.

Mr. HOOKER thought that other things, such as soil, manure, &c., were of more consequence than this question. There is a wonderful recuperative power in nature; and fruit trees have a strong power to adapt themselves to circumstances. It is astonishing how readily trees will adapt themselves to the circumstances in which they are placed. Had tried experiments, and the growth of those that were pruned were greater than those not pruned; but the total top was only about the same. As an abstract question there is a great deal to say upon both sides. Mr. HOVRY thinks that the pruning should be done the year after transplanting, while others think that we should prune when we transplant. There are various ends to be served by pruning. If we want the plants to bear fruit immediately, we prune one way; if we want in another style to produce a bushy tree, and in another to produce a tree without touching a limb with a knife, and they had all done well. In fact, he seldom lost a tree by removal.

Mr. HERENDREEN—JOHN J. THOMAS once tried the experiment of three different modes of pruning the tops upon the same sort of tree, leaving the roots all alike, and all growing under similar circumstances. In the first case they were not pruned in at all, and the trees made very little if any growth. In the second case the tops were pruned moderately, and the trees grew somewhat, sending out shoots some five or six inches in length, and looked decidedly better. In the third case the tops were pruned severely, and the trees grew very thrifty.

Mr. BARRY said that the practice of nurserymen in their own grounds did not furnish a safe guide for their customers. When we remove trees, they are taken up and planted immediately, but trees received by our customers have to be packed and sent on a long journey, in which they receive more or less injury. He would recommend that the tops should in all cases be reduced a good deal at either a root or branch, should be removed, under all circumstances.

Mr. HERENDREEN remarked, that these fine fibrous roots spoken of by the gentleman, are almost always dead, and if we examine the roots of trees which have been removed, we shall find that all the new growth of the roots is from roots fully the size of a pipe-stem, while the smaller roots have decayed. Mr. H. thought that as a general thing, much would be gained by rather close pruning of the roots.

Mr. SHARP said he once had a great number of peach trees one year from the bud, and the tops being so dry, he feared they would not live; he cut them down, leaving only stumps from 12 to 20 inches above ground. They all lived, and made the finest trees he had.

Horticultural Notes.

REPORT OF THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—This Report is now published, and makes a handsome volume of over 260 pages. It is published for the use of members, and those in Rochester and vicinity can obtain their copies at the RURAL office. Any person can become a member of the Society by forwarding \$2 to the Treasurer, THOMAS P. JAMES, of Philadelphia, who will forward the

Ladies' Department.

THE LAST OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

BY ANNIE M. BEACH.

She is living alone in the old brown house, / Where her parents lived and died. / The loved and the cherished have gone to sleep / In the church-yard, side by side.

CHILDREN'S THANKS—A LIFE SKETCH.

It was a pleasant, sunny day in the early Autumn. / The leaves were yet green upon the trees, and the flowers, / Having as yet lost none of their varied and / Endless beautiful colors, still displayed their wonted / Loveliness.

A PLEA FOR HIRED GIRLS.

MS. MOORE.—I have heard you were a good sort of a man, / And I suppose you are no respecter of persons, / So you will print for the "hired girl" as well as the / "mistress."

one to two years for a hundred dollars,—and when / we have got it earned, half of it is gone to save us / from being naked. We are expected every time we / bake and cook, to put things together as nicely as any / learned man who makes gas or gun powder could do,

KISSING.

A KISS is like a sermon; "it requires two heads and / an application." It deals with the hidden spirit by / means of tangible symbols. It is like faith, in that it / is "the substance of things hoped for."

DAY AND NIGHT.

A PALE shimmer of greyish light illumines the / eastern skies, and the stars grow pale in their west- / ward course. Soon a soft, rosy flush overspreads the / gray dawn, and glorious tints, as of sunset, / follow, till the horizon is robed in clouds of glorious / hues,—the flame-color and gold, the softly flushing / pink, and the golden-ward amber.

COMPLAISANCE.

COMPLAISANCE, which is a willingness to please / and to be pleased, renders a superior amiable, an / equal agreeable, and an inferior acceptable; it / smooths distinctions, sweetens conversation, and / makes every one in the company pleased and cheer- / ful; it produces good nature and mutual benevo- / lence; it encourages the timorous, soothes the turbu- / lent, and promotes universal harmony; it is a virtue / that blends all orders of men together in a friendly / intercourse of words and actions.

Choice Miscellany.

TWO DREAMS.

BY P. H. GUYWITS.

LAST NIGHT came MORPHINE to my bed, / And softly to my spirit said, / "Come, follow me;" / Then, through the "Ivory gate," I passed / Into a realm, with storm o'ercast, / Of land and sea.

PARENTAGE OF JEFFERSON.

THE following from the pen of Hon. D. P. THOM- / SON, we find in the editorial columns of the Green / Mountain Freeman:

NATURE'S ALPHABET.

NATURE'S alphabet is made up of only four letters, / wood, water, rock and soil; yet with these four let- / ters she forms such wondrous compositions, such / infinite combinations, as no language of twenty-four / letters can describe.

A CONTENTED MAN.

A CONTENTED MAN.—I tell you, if a man, is / come to that point where he is content, he ought to / be put in his coffin, for a contented live man is a / sham! If a man has come to that state in which he / says, "I do not want to know any more, or do any / more, or be any more," he is in a state in which he / ought to be changed into a mummy.

FLOWING WATER.

FLOWING WATER is at once a picture and a music, / which causes to flow at the same from my brain, like / a limpid and murmuring rivulet, sweet thoughts, / charming reveries, and melancholy remembrances.

entered an immortal soul." The stars look pityingly / down on the agony of bereaved ones, yet stay not in / their eternal march. Under another roof the bowed / head of the student, as he pores over his books, / declares some soul searching for that "which is more / precious than gold, whose price is above rubies."

THE BETTER LAND.

THERE is a land far, far away, / Unseen by mortal eye; / Unstained by sin, undimmed by care, / Where pleasures never die.

THE CREATOR'S WORKS.

We find ourselves in an immense Universe, where / it is impossible for us, without astonishment and / awe, to contemplate the glory and the power of Him / who created it. From the greatest to the least object / that we behold,—from the star that glitters in the / heavens, to the insect that creeps upon the flower,— / from the thunder that rolls in the sky, to the flower / that blossoms in the fields,—all things testify a pro- / found and mysterious wisdom,—a mighty and all- / powerful hand, before which we must tremble and / adore.

THE CLEARING OF THE CLOUDS.

THE CLEARING OF THE CLOUDS.—There is nothing / in what has befallen, or befalls you, my friends, / which justifies impatience or peevishness. God is / inscrutable, but not wrong. Remember, if the cloud / is over you, that there is a bright light always on the / other side; that the time is coming either in this / world or the next, when that cloud will be swept / away, and the fullness of God's light and wisdom / poured around you.

AT THE CROSS.

AT THE CROSS.—Calvary is a little hill to the eye, / but it is the only spot on earth that touches heaven. / The Cross is foolishness to human reason, and a / stumbling-block to human righteousness; but there / only do Mercy and Truth meet together, and Right- / eousness and Peace kiss each other.

PROFANITY.

PROFANITY.—In the use of profane words, no idea / is to be expressed, no object is to be attained, no end / secured, no ear to be pleased, no appetite is to be / administered to, no passion to be fed, no title to be / acquired, no wealth to be earned, no possible good, / either real or imagined, is had in view. They mean / nothing. They are wicked cheats, playing a game of / deception; attempting to palm off a blustering sound / for a substantial thought.

PULPIT CONTROVERSY.

PULPIT CONTROVERSY.—The proper controversy of / the pulpit is controversy with sin, which is the great / heresy. It is better to overcome evil with good, / to absorb error in truth. Veritatem vincunt. We / must observe the errors which appear in the places / where we preach; those, at least, which have footing / therein; but we must not do them the service of / publishing them, and propagate white we oppose / them.—Vinet.

Sabbath Musings.

THE BETTER LAND.

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The Educator.

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

FEMALE COLLEGE AT POUGHKEEPSIE.

MATTHEW VASSAR, Esq., of Poughkeepsie, has asked the Legislature at Albany for a charter for a Female College. It is to be situated on a beautiful farm within a mile and a half of that city. He has now plans and specifications for a building which is to cost near one hundred and eighty thousand dollars. He proposes to transfer to the Trustees of the Institution at least two hundred thousand dollars in addition for the endowment of the professorships, and the purchase of Library, Cabinet, &c., for the purposes of instruction. When this plan shall have been carried out, it gives to the purposes of female education one of the best endowments on this continent, if not in the world. He designs to pay salaries high enough to command the best teachers in the country, and also all the educational facilities requisite to carry the instruction to the highest practicable point. We congratulate our female readers on the prospective endowment of an institution of learning for their benefit, which shall secure to their sex all the advantages given by the best endowed colleges in the land. Ladies have often complained that they had not the educational opportunities furnished to men. The design of this munificent endowment is to remove this reproach, and give to females an opportunity to carry their studies to the highest point, under the ablest teachers, who shall be specially devoted to individual branches of learning.

Like PETER COOPER, Mr. VASSAR proposes to become his own executor, and endow and establish this institution while he himself is alive and able to attend to the realization of his own views. How much better to take this course than for him to hold on with a miserly grasp to his property till his last breath, and put the labor and thought of carrying out his views upon executors after he could use his wealth no longer. We would commend this example to many whom we could name, who make slaves of themselves while living, in order that when dead it may be said of them by thankless heirs that they "cut up well."

In our country the laws have wisely prohibited the entailment of estates. By consequence, unless a man can bequeath to his children intelligence, moral worth, and business capacity enough to achieve a fortune for themselves, it is nearly impossible for him to secure to them any length of time of the property which he leaves. No economical maxim is truer than the common one, that it requires more business skill to keep property than to accumulate it. As a general rule, the skill and capacity to keep and manage a large estate, can only be secured by the labor, thought, and self-denial necessary to amass it. Hence the reason why we see so few large estates which remain through three generations in one family. Looking over the family history of wealthy men, we find, in perhaps the majority of instances, that large inherited wealth has been anything but a blessing. We cannot have an aristocracy of wealth among us, so long as we cannot entail property. So long as property is movable, it will go into the hands of those who have the most business capacity. The long and painful struggles of the poor boy who depends on his own energy and God's blessing for success in business, constitute the training of the men who are the real financial forces in our country. Let a man of wealth give his sons to understand that they will have from him no money at all, or at most only enough to give them a start in business, and they will feel the necessity of getting education enough, and working hard enough, and being self-denying enough, to cope with the sons of the poor. Real manhood comes from real work, — work of the head, or the hands, or both. But few men or boys will work as hard as they can or ought to, without the stern impelling power of necessity.

Who are our leaders in politics, in religion, in finance, in agriculture, in the mechanic arts? They are in general the sons of the comparatively poor. These leaders have become such, not because of their poverty in itself, but because their poverty compelled them to work. It is all nonsense to suppose that a poor man's son has any advantage over the rich man's, except in the necessity that is laid upon him to work. The poor boy knows that he must work or starve. The boy who knows that he can live on the accumulations of his father, feels the absence of the most powerful stimulus that can affect a human being. If he is ambitious, he thinks that his wealth will command him social position, and very likely enable him to get office by bribery without deserving it. Why should he put his very life blood into work? Only a few are so happily constituted that hard labor is to them a normal condition. The great body of men work because compelled. Poverty is a rough nurse, but she rears heroes.

Let rich men give their sons to understand that work will be a necessity for them, and they do the best thing to secure for them a manly and forcible character, and by consequence an honorable place among their fellow men. Let them put their daughters in a similar position, and they will secure them against those direst foes to female happiness — professional fortune hunters. No man of wealth can secure these results for his children but by seeking out some worthy object of charity and devoting a good portion of his property to it while he is healthy in body and mind.

We have been led into these remarks by the notice of Mr. VASSAR'S proposed Institution. We hope an example so excellent may be followed by many. There are not a dozen Institutions of learning or charity in the country which are adequately endowed. Objects large enough and good enough to fill their heads and hearts are pressing themselves on the attention of the wealthy on every side.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] FIRMNESS AND DECISION.

Is firmness a quality indispensable to the teacher? Before we answer this question fully, let us look around us and see what effect this trait of character, or its opposite, has upon others.

In the common walks of life we behold the merchant, the mechanic, the professional man, busily engaged in their different pursuits, prosecuting with vigor, energy and enterprise their daily avocations. Yet even among these we observe that some excel and become noted for their business capacities, while others remain in comparative obscurity.

But, is the cause less apparent than the effect? Behold the merchant who habitually cheats and deceives his customers, — is it a wonder to you that he meets with ill success in life? The farmer who makes believe at farming, — only does it by halves, — the carpenter who slights his work to save time, — the doctor who deceives his patient, although almost at the point of death, — should these meet

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, MADE AT ROCHESTER, STATE OF NEW YORK.

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER — ANNUAL ABSTRACT — F. D. FENNER, OBSERVER.

Latitude 43° 8', 17". Longitude 75° 51' Height of Station above the Sea, five hundred and sixteen feet.

Table with columns for months (JAN. to DEC.) and rows for various meteorological observations: Thermometer Monthly Mean, Highest Degree, Lowest Degree, Range, Warmest day, Coldest day, Barometer Monthly Mean, Highest Observation, Lowest Observation, Range, Winds (North, North-East, East, South-East, South, South-West, West, North-West), Total of each Month, Prevailing Winds, Fair days, Cloudy days, Total of each Month, Rain, Rain and Snow, Amount of water in inches.

Observations made at 7 A. M., 2 P. M., and 9 P. M. — F. D. F.

REMARKS. — The mean heat for 19 years ending with 1860, is 46.79 degrees, and for the 10 years ending with 1860, is 47.54 degrees, and for the 29 years is 46.92 degrees. In only six Decembers in 24 years, viz., of 1850, 1851, 1854, 1855, 1859, and 1860, has the temperature been down to zero. The average of water annually is, for 24 years, ending with 1860, 31.95 inches, and for 17 years previous to 1851, is 31.82 inches, or the mean is very nearly 31.8 inches. The Agricultural products very abundant; health very high. — C. DEWEY.

with success, even though they could excel? Certainly not. They are wanting in principle, they fail in firmness and decision of character, they care not to stand up for the right, but heedlessly adopt the wrong.

Is not this effect produced by the same cause among us teachers? Look now at the teacher who hesitates in the path of duty, — whose brow with many cares grows fretted, and who is upon the point of violating some rule of right. As a well-read book, so the children read his countenance, — every gesture, every word, every look, are carefully watched, and we be to that man who hath not his members in subjection. Need we then ask, are firmness of principle and decision of character indispensable qualifications of the teacher? Try well, Oh, Teacher, the gifts God has given thee, — ascertain whether or not thou art lacking here, for he who attempts to teach without these, leans upon a broken staff, which shall deceive him in the hour of trouble, — which shall pierce his hand, and be to him a source of distress.

But mark, do not imagine that when we talk of firmness, we mean obstinacy, — far be it from us to recommend such a trait. The obstinate person sticks to his theory, or favorite idea, in face of right and wrong, — even when he knows he is wrong, still clings to it with the tenacity of a parasite. How foolish, how detestable such a mind. Nor would we be understood to recommend that humility which causes its possessor to be trampled upon and underrated by his pupils, — this, indeed, is not humility, but unworthy self-abasement, which we confess to be as dangerous as its extreme.

Choose, then, a happy mean, — a mean which is neither found in stern obstinacy, nor in weak humility, but which lies in that firmness which lays its hands upon both. To speak in plainer words, let us remark, 1st, Have few rules, but have them well observed; 2d, Never uphold a rule which you know to be wrong in its principle; 3d, Never give up a good rule simply because your pupils so desire. A. J. W. Racine, Wis., 1861.

EDUCATION IN LOWER CANADA.

From the Report of the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada, for the year 1859, we learn that the general results of the year have been satisfactory. The Normal Schools have had increased success; 219 students were trained in them, and 106 diplomas have been granted. Connected with these institutions are three Model Schools, with 669 pupils. The whole amount expended for Normal and Model Schools within the year, has been \$36,810, of which sum \$9,431 proceeded from the fees paid by the pupils. The expense of the two teachers' journals have exceeded the receipts by \$839; but twice that sum is due for subscriptions.

The most formidable obstacle to the gradual increase of teachers' salaries, and therefore to the improvement of their material and social condition, is acknowledged by all to be the preference given, in many places, to teachers, both male and female, who hold no diploma, and, therefore, put up with small salaries. Cases have occurred, especially in poor or remote localities, where teachers have been chosen without regard to their ability, and solely with an eye to the lowness of the salary.

The number of Common Schools was 3,199; that of pupils, 163,148; the contributions amounted to \$498,436. There were 509 students in universities and superior schools; 2,756 in classical colleges; 1,962 in industrial colleges; 6,568 in mixed colleges; 14,278 in academies for girls.

Teachers' salaries: — 97 males received less than \$100 per year; 487 from \$100 to \$200; 341 from \$200 to \$399; 51 from \$400 and upwards. 1,000 females received less than \$100; 1,022 from \$100 to \$199; 106 from \$200 to \$399; and only one female teacher received \$400. In many municipalities, teachers are provided, in addition, with lodging and firing.

EDUCATE ALL.

Most people do not, as it appears to me, duly appreciate the importance of a general diffusion of knowledge. It is deemed essential that a few should be well educated; and accordingly here and there a boy is selected to pursue a course of academic and collegiate studies with the view of having him go into some one of the professions. His parents, and brothers, and sisters, work harder and fare poorer than this favored boy may have a "liberal education." They even deprive themselves of many of the comforts of life — deprive themselves of intellectual food and nourishment — starve their bodies and scrimp their souls — that the son and brother may some day be able to — do what? live without physical labor! Yes, the family will subsist upon articles that cannot be disposed of in the market, and become intellectual paupers — more ragged and wretched

than Lazarus — that a member thereof may ascend into a higher sphere, from which he may look down upon his benefactors with derision and scorn!

Now, it may be better that some few individuals should be thoroughly educated than that all should remain in mental darkness; but I don't understand why five children should be suffered to grow up in ignorance, in order that the sixth may have a finished education. It strikes me it would be wiser and more just to afford them all equal advantages, and if one of them happens to be ambitious of knowing more than the rest, let him go to work upon his own account and rely upon his own exertions for the accomplishment of that result. — B. Brockway.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

BRAIN DIFFICULTIES.

It is the opinion of many eminent physicians that the present century has witnessed a very large increase of brain disorders, and that this increase has taken place in an accelerated ratio as the strain upon the commercial and public life of the people has become greater. The intense competition which at present exists among all the liberal professions, the excitement accompanying the large monetary transactions which distinguished the present day, the gambling nature of many of its operations, and the extreme tension to which all classes of the community are subjected in the unceasing struggle for position and even life, has resulted in a cerebral excitement under which the finely organized brain but too often gives way.

Dr. Brigham of Boston, in the United States, gives a most deplorable account of the increase of the cerebral disorders in his own country, in which he asserts that insanity and other brain diseases are three times as prevalent as in England. This statement would seem to confirm the notion that go-aheadism — if we may be allowed the term, — is straining the mental fabric to its breaking point. And we must remember that the mischief must not be gauged merely by the number of those who fall by the wayside; there must be an enormous amount of latent mental exhaustion going on, which medicine takes no count of. It is a matter of general observation that the children of men of intellectual eminence often possess feeble, if not diseased brains, for the simple reason that the parents have unduly exercised that organ. What applies to individuals, in a certain modified degree applies to the race. A generation that overtakes its brains is but too likely to be succeeded by a second still more enfeebled in its mental organization, and this exhaustive process must go on increasing if the social causes producing it continue in operation.

We have some means of measuring the magnitude of the evil where absolute lunacy is concerned, inasmuch as we possess official returns to deal with, which gauge its rate of increase or decrease with pretty tolerable accuracy; but we have no such means of ascertaining the nature of the increase of those no less grave disorders of the brain which do not bring the patient under the cognizance of the law. If we could take count of the number of able men who, at the very height of their efficiency and in the very plenitude of their power, are struck with insidious cerebral disease, such as softening of the brain, and drop out of life as gradually and as noiselessly as the leaf slowly tinges, withers, and then flutters to the ground; if medicine had any system of statistics which could present us with a measure of the amount of paralysis that comes under its observation, or of the apoplectic seizures which so suddenly blot out life, — we should doubtless be astonished at the very large increase which has of late years taken place in affections of the brain. — Edinburgh Review.

COLORING MATTER OF FLOWERS.

SOME interesting researches on vegetable coloring matters have lately been concluded by M. Filhol, of Paris. He has extracted the coloring matter from white flowers, and finds it to possess the following qualities: — It is a clear yellow solid, soluble in water, alcohol and ether, and furnishes very beautiful lake colors with metallic oxides, and can be used for painting and dyeing fabrics of a bright and very durable yellow. It has been named xanthogene. The colors of red and blue flowers are found to be due to a similar proximate principle, which will be blue in flowers with a neutral juice, and red or rose colored in those where the juice is acid. The name of this coloring matter is cyanine, a solid uncrystallizable body, soluble in water, and capable of being applied to many uses in painting. In yellow flowers two distinct coloring substances have been found, named respectively xanthine and xanthene. Another body, named crocoxanthine, is also met with in all

the species of the genus *Crocus*. It is a solid, uncrystallizable body, of a beautiful golden yellow color, which is neither altered by acids nor alkalis; it is soluble in water and alcohol, but insoluble in ether; it produces, with some metallic oxides, beautiful lake colors; and can be fixed upon fabrics, where its tinctorial power is remarkable.

M. Filhol, in a memoir read before the Academy of Sciences, gives some valuable hints on the preservation of fresh flowers. We may preserve many flowers for a long time in a fresh state by inclosing them in sealed tubes. At the end of some days all the oxygen of the air confined in the tubes will have disappeared, and will have become replaced by carbonic acid. If we introduce into the tubes a little quinine, it removes from the flowers some of their humidity, which facilitates their preservation. Lime also takes up the carbonic acid, and the flower thus becomes placed in pure nitrogen. All flowers are not preserved alike by this process; yellow flowers are those which are altered the least.

HOW THE WORLD IS GOVERNED.

THERE are about one hundred separately organized governments in the world at the present time. Nearly one-half are monarchies in Europe; and of these a large proportion are petty Principalities and Dukedoms, containing altogether about six millions of inhabitants. Of the governments of Europe, Great Britain is a limited monarchy; France is nominally constitutional, but, in reality, an absolute monarchy; Russia and Austria are absolute. Prussia, Spain, and Sardinia are limited, with two Chambers of Deputies. There are only four Republics in Europe — Switzerland, San Marino, Montenegro, and Ancora. The three latter contain an aggregate population of not over 120,000 people. Switzerland, secure in her mountain fastnesses, is now, by common consent, left unmolested. The governments of Asia are all absolute despotisms. Thibet has the name of being a hierarchy, but differs in no practical sense from a despotism. In Africa, the Barbary States, and all the various negro tribes, of whatever name, are ruled despotically, except Liberia, which is republican, and may be the opening wedge of civilization on that continent.

The great islands in the Southern and Pacific oceans are mostly independent and despotic — such is Japan with a population of twenty millions, and Madagascar, containing about five millions. The Sandwich and Society Islands are limited monarchies, and the other islands in the Southern and Pacific oceans belong mostly to the different European Powers, and are ruled according to their respective forms of government. On the American continent, there is but one monarchical government; that of Brazil, which is, however, liberally constitutional. In the three great geographical divisions of America, there are now eighteen separate Republics. The British Possessions in North America exceed the United States, in territorial extent, and they enjoy a large amount of political freedom.

MODE OF CALCULATING THE YEAR.

THE Chaldeans and the Egyptians dated their years from the autumnal equinox. The ecclesiastical year of the Jews began in the spring; but in civil affairs they use the Egyptian year. The ancient Chinese reckoned from the new moon nearest the middle Aquarius. The year of Romulus commenced in March, and that of Numa in January. The Brahmins begin the year in February, when the leaves begin to grow green. Their year consists of eighteen months, having twenty days each; the last days are spent in mirth, and no business is suffered to be done, nor any service in the temples. The Abyssinians had five idle days at the end of every year, which commenced on the 26th of August. The American Indians reckon from the first appearance of the new moon at the vernal equinox. The Mohammedans begin their year the minute the sun enters Aries.

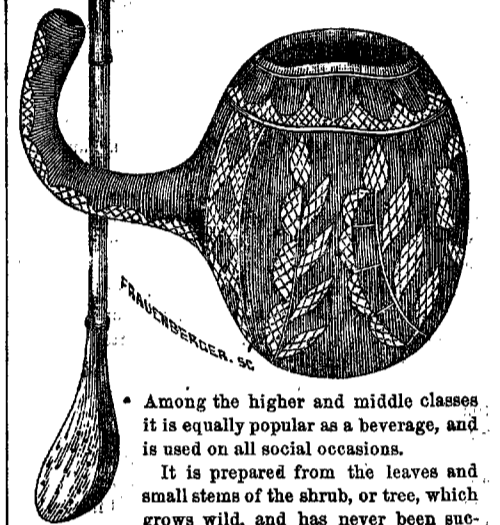
The Venetians, Florentines and the Pisans, in Italy, began the year at the vernal equinox; the French year, during the reign of the Merovingian race, on the day on which the troops were reviewed, which was the first day of March. Under the Calovingians, it began on Christmas Day; and under the Capets, on Easter Day. The ecclesiastical year begins on the first Sunday in Advent. Charles IX appointed, in 1564, that the civil year should commence on the 1st of January. The Julian Calendar, which was so called from Julius Cæsar, was formed by Pope Gregory, in 1582, which plan was suggested by Lewis Lilio, a Calabrian astronomer. The Dutch and the Protestants in Germany introduced the new style in 1700. The ancient clergy reckoned from the 25th of March; and this method was observed in Britain until the introduction of the new style, A. D. 1752; after which our year commenced on the first of January.

The Young Ruralist.

PARAGUAY TEA.

It may be that some of our readers have never heard of the celebrated Paraguay or Jesuit's Tea. An herb which is an article of trade in Paraguay to such an extent that its preparation and exportation give profitable labor to whole provinces, is worthy of attention. The botanical name of this plant is *Ilex Paraguayensis*. The leaf, as prepared, is called yerba maté, and it is used to such an extent that it may be called the national beverage of South America.

The single town of Paranaguá, containing about three thousand inhabitants, exports near a million dollars' worth of the maté every year. It has a somewhat bitter taste and a slightly aromatic odor when steeped, and one can easily detect in it the peculiar chemical element which gives the exhilarating effect to the tea of China. Its use was learned from the Indians. A person who has once acquired the habit of using it, finds it difficult to lay it aside. When drunk to excess, it produces an effect on the system similar to that resulting from the excessive use of coffee, tobacco, or spirituous liquors. It is often taken as a remedy or palliative, in sea-sickness. The laborers in the mines, and the native oarsmen on the rivers, use it as the most desirable refreshment after a hard day's labor.



Among the higher and middle classes it is equally popular as a beverage, and is used on all social occasions. It is prepared from the leaves and small stems of the shrub, or tree, which grows wild, and has never been successfully domesticated. The leaves are kiln-dried, and afterward pounded nearly to powder, in a sort of mortar, by water-power. It is exported in bundles of about one hundred and twenty pounds' weight, which are packed in raw hides. It is prepared for use much the same as common tea. A small quantity is put in an ornamented gourd shell (the cup in common use,) with or without sugar. Upon this hot water is poured. The maté is imbibed through a silver tube as we take juleps.* The lower end of this tube is enlarged into a globular or semi-globular form, (as in the specimen engraved above,) which is perforated with small holes to prevent the powdered leaf from passing into the mouth. This tube is called the bambilla, and with the cup, (an engraving of which we also give,) is passed from hand to hand among the guests until each has partaken of a cup in turn.

There is a somewhat similar shrub indigenous to North Carolina, which Rev. Mr. FLETCHER considers identical with the Paraguay tea. But good botanical authorities consider the shrubs to belong to different species. The leaves of the North Carolina plant are also used as a substitute for tea, and ship masters, where they are told, carry it to sea for the use of seamen, esteeming it a healthy beverage. A friend has left a small package of the maté at our office, but from our own experiments in drinking it we are by no means prepared to recommend it as a substitute for tea or coffee.

— Since the above was written, a scientific physician to whom we gave some of the tea, has furnished us the following report of its effects upon himself:

On weighing, I found the quantity of Yerba Maté given to me at the RURAL office, to be nearly one ounce. Of this I made a decoction by boiling in water, and drank one-half of it. In thirty minutes afterwards, I took the other half. The effect on the system was not unlike strong green tea in some particulars, while in others it was somewhat different. Thus I should call unusual were a fullness about the head and ears, the drums of the ears having the sensation of being put on the stretch, with exaggeration of all sounds, an ordinary sound being, I should judge, apparently doubled in intensity. None of these effects were to the extent of unpleasantness, and soon passed off. These latter symptoms may have been occasioned by the unusual quantity taken. Knowing I required five times the dose of nearly everything to produce the same effect that is produced in most others by smaller quantities, was the reason of my taking the whole ounce, but I would not recommend the taking of more than one-quarter that amount by others. In taste, it is not unlike a very poor quality of green tea, and has the same astringency.

* On reading proof we wish to amend this remark. Of course we do not take juleps, — but allude to the modus operandi of those who imbibe such things. As we hope most of our young readers are innocent as to juleps, we will add that they are taken (by those fond of spirits,) by a process similar to that of imbibing cider with a straw. — Ed. R. N. Y.

THE HARMONY OF LIFE.

The life of a family has been beautifully compared by some one to a full orchestra, each member of which performs a separate part. The bass instrument, calm and deliberate, like the grand-parents, keep the time and remind the rest of their duties. The little warbling flutes, like a nest-full of children, breathe to the sun their ceaseless songs of unconscious joy. The violins and the tenors, fathers and mothers in the family, sing also, — but they know what life is, and know the reason of their joyfulness or their sadness. The sighs of the horns and hautboys resemble the poetic aspirations of youthful hearts in love with an ideal — hearts that have as yet tasted none of the prosaic, disenchanting realities of life.

Let every one perform his own part in the right time, and we shall have a perfect whole — solemn or gay, graceful or majestic, a triumphal march or a symphony in *do* — according as the great Master above has written the music. But if the parts clash, if the bass, departing from its appropriate gravity and dignity, becomes frivolous or trifling, — if the tenors, instead of being consistent and gentle, become careless or harsh — if the violins take the part of the horns, and the trombones that of the hautboys — then the harmony is destroyed, and the spirit lost. Instead of a soft and melodious symphony, whose sweetness charms even in sadness, we have a nameless jarring noise, full of ungoverned movements and aimless sounds.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Roe's Western Reserve Premium Cheese Vat and Heater—H. & E. F. Co. Harper's Series of Willson's Readers—Harper & Brothers. Pringle's Patent Agt. Calderon and Steamer—Bennett & Co. The Life of Andrew Jackson—Mason Brothers. The Christian Review, Quarterly—Benton & Andrews. American Slavery—Mason Brothers. Trees and Plants for Sale—Wm. Parry, Jr. Galvanized Index Pens—J. H. Tyson. Advice to the Unemployed—E. G. Storke. See-Keeper Explained—M. Quinby. Fresh Pear Seed for Sale—Frost & Co. Apple Grafts for Sale—T. F. Southwick. Walnut Trees and Seed—J. B. Bridge. Apple Grafts for Sale—L. J. Billings.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Brown's Troches for Bronchial Complaints, &c.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY 26, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

EVERY foreign government represented here is distinctly opposed to the secession scheme, and will make their views public when the occasion occurs. Word has been forwarded to Gen. Scott, from Baltimore, that 2,000 young men are fully organized and ready to come on from that city, at the shortest notice, to assist in the defence of the District and the Federal Capitol.

Colonel Hayne, the South Carolina commissioner, called on the President, on the 16th inst., and was politely received. He stated, verbally, that the purpose of his mission was to demand the unconditional withdrawal of the garrison of Fort Sumter. The President heard him through and then requested him to submit it in writing, when he would consider it and communicate his reply.

The Cabinet have determined against holding any intercourse with any South Carolinians as ambassadors.

Col. Hayne has, it is understood, moderated his views since his arrival here. He will remain here several days. The opinion is almost unanimous in secession circles, that all collisions for the present should be studiously avoided. Lieut. Hall has returned with instructions to Major Anderson. Their character has not transpired, but it is asserted from a reliable source that the troops will not be withdrawn from Fort Sumter as demanded by the South Carolina authorities, and that the post will be defended. Such is the present condition of affairs.

Lord Lyons, Mr. Schleiden, the Bremen Charge, and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, have requested Secretary Black to furnish official information whether the Government of the U. S. recognizes clearances of vessels which may be issued by the authorities of South Carolina, and also, whether foreign vessels could properly pay duties to South Carolina officers. Mr. Black's answer has not transpired, but it is understood to have been in the negative, in reply to both questions. He states, however, that foreign vessels entering seceding ports, and paying duties ignorantly, would have more indulgence than others; but adds, that the government is reluctant to consider the subject in the present unsettled condition of the country.

The President, on the 17th, sent to the Senate the name of Mr. Holt, as Secretary of War. It was considered in Executive Session, and from all accounts the preliminary discussion was of an exciting character. An effort was made by its opponents to refer it to the Committee on Military Affairs. But this was strenuously and successfully resisted by the motion of reference being defeated by a vote of 34 against 13. The objection to Holt by his opponents is that in their opinion he is a coercionist, and this some of them openly avow. Mr. Holt has since been confirmed, — 33 against 13.

It is now regarded as certain here that neither the coming nor the inauguration of the President elect will be attended with any disturbance or opposition. Gen. Scott's well matured plans have baffled the arrangements of the conspirators, and the intelligence from Baltimore in regard to the volunteering in aid to Gen. Scott, and the fact that the Baltimore Chief of Police has officially asserted his ignorance of any hostile schemes on foot in that city, have tended to strengthen public confidence.

The Indian Office is in possession of late intelligence that five thousand Sioux warriors have collected on a fork of the Platte River and threaten to take Fort Kearney and wipe out the white settlers and stop all further emigration westward.

Hon. Mr. Rives has left Washington for Virginia, and professed himself to be greatly encouraged, after interview with prominent Northern politicians, at the prospect of adjustment, at least so far as to retain the border States within the Union. He was also hopeful of a final peaceful settlement of the controversy that has so nearly rent us in twain.

The bids for the Treasury loan reached \$12,500,000, at from 9 to 12 per cent. The awards it is understood will be made to all bidders under 11 per cent., and the average is about 10 1/2 per cent. There were about 100 bidders for the \$500,000 loan, ranging from 9 to 12 per cent.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—The Vice-President presented a message from the President, answering the Senate resolution relating to his appointment of Joseph Holt to perform the duties of the office of Secretary of War, made vacant by the resignation of Secretary Floyd. He fully sets forth the legal reasons for the step.

Mr. Iverson obtained leave to retire from the Committee on Claims, for the reason that the duties were too laborious.

Mr. Fessenden presented the credentials of Hon. Lot M. Morrill, as U. S. Senator from Maine, in place of Mr. Hamlin. The credentials were read, and Mr. Morrill sworn in.

The chair presented a communication from the Governor of Ohio, directing him to present the credentials of Hon. S. P. Chase, as U. S. Senator from Ohio. The credentials were read.

HOUSE.—Mr. Maynard offered a resolution instructing the committee on the President's special message to consider that portion which recommended a vote on the question at issue between the different sections of the country, and now agitating the public mind, and that the committee report thereon at an early day in bill or joint resolution. Adopted.

The minority report from the Committee of Thirty-three, signed by Messrs. Taylor of La., Phelps of Mo., Bust of Ark., Whitley of Del., and Winslow, of North Carolina, embraces, in substance, the following:

The report says the present difficulties can only be remedied by amendments to the Constitution, and suggests that the amendments proposed in the Crittenden resolution, if adopted, would restore tranquillity to the country and place the Union on such a foundation that it could never be shaken. These amendments,

the report asserts, would not in reality change the Constitution, they would only have the effect of restoring it, by the added provisions, to what it was in point of fact on the day of its adoption through the operation of the circumstances which then surrounded it, and which erected the barricades against the present sectional contests, as constitutional provisions would now. If a constitutional majority cannot be united in support of the Crittenden resolutions, or the substance of them, then a dissolution of the Union is inevitable.

The report recommends that steps be taken for calling a Convention of the States, with a view to a peaceful separation by providing for a partition of the common property of the United States; settling terms on which the social and commercial intercourse between the separated States shall be conducted; and making a permanent arrangement with respect to the navigation of the Mississippi river. Army bill passed. Adjourned.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The Committee on Federal relations made a report, denying the right of a single State, or several States, to secede, as repugnant to the principles for which the General Government is formed, and as treasonable, and to be resisted by all constitutional means:

Resolving, That the Legislature will sustain the Executive of the State in office, and pledge the military power and resources of the State, and will provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, to suppress insurrection, and repel invasion from within or without the State.

Resolving, That New York is faithful to the Union, and will make all needful sacrifice to maintain it, and to support the several States in all their constitutional rights.

Resolving, That Congress has no power to interfere with Slavery in the States.

Resolving, That, also, Congress has the power to abolish Slavery in the District of Columbia, and that it is inexpedient to exercise it, unless, first, by a majority vote of the District, and with the consent of Maryland. Second, by gradual abolition. Third, by compensation to unwilling owners.

Resolving, That Congress should not prohibit or interfere with the inter-slaveholding traffic; and

Resolving, That the rendition of Fugitive Slaves is a Constitutional obligation that should be faithfully observed, and that the law of 1850 seriously obstructs it, and should be modified.

The report is signed by all the Committee. The nomination of Canal Commissioner was made in the Senate, by 22 votes for Benj. F. Bruce, and 9 for Wm. W. Wright.

Mr. Field presented a written report on the condition of the defences of the State. The uniformed militia of the State at present comprises 19,430 men; 11,000 are without arms fit for active service. There are 150 field-pieces in good order. He recommends the purchase of some heavy field-pieces, and 1,200 small arms.

BILLS PASSED.—Incorporating Vassar Female College. To confirm the act of Notaries Public and increase their powers.

ASSEMBLY.—In the Assembly the Governor transmitted a letter from James Buchanan, as follows: To His Excellency, Gov. Morgan, &c. Sir:—I have had the honor to receive your communication concerning the resolutions which passed the Legislature of New York on the 11th inst., tending in aid to the President of the United States in the support of the Constitution and the Union, and shall give them the respectful consideration to which they are entitled, from the importance of the subject and the distinguished source from which they emanated. Yours very respectfully, JAMES BUCHANAN.

The Governor also transmitted the reports of the Trustees of the State Agricultural College, and of the Commissioners of Quarantine. The latter was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The report of Commissioners on Quarantine show receipts for the year \$33,300, and expenditure \$19,277. The Commissioners strongly urge the impolicy of longer omitting to make provisions for the procuring of and building permanent Quarantine and defraying its current expenses, declaring if the port of New York should be visited next summer with yellow fever, as severe in character as has frequently occurred in past years, with the present imperfect and limited arrangements, the result will be most disastrous. The Providential exemption from Quarantine diseases two seasons past, should not lull the public mind into false and fatal security.

The Committee on Federal relations, through their Chairman, Mr. Robinson, reported. In presenting the report, Mr. R. stated that the report was signed by all but Mr. Pierce and Mr. Birdsall. Mr. Ellingwood was absent when the report was signed, but agreed to its propositions. All those signing, however, did not desire to commit themselves to every position of the report. The report sets forth the evils at present agitating the country, but declines to inquire who is to be held responsible for the existing troubles; declares that New York, while standing firmly in support of the Union and the laws, both by moral and material aid, will recognize the importance of doing all in her power to conciliate dissatisfied States.

The House proceeded to nominate Canal Commissioner *in vacuo*, in place of S. H. Barnes, deceased. Benj. F. Bruce, of Madison, was named by 89 Representatives. The Senate and House then went into joint session on the nominations. Agreeing, B. F. Bruce was declared duly nominated.

BILLS PASSED.—To authorize the Supervisors of Richmond county to borrow \$36,000 in official funds of the county. To incorporate the Vassar Female College.

The Southern Imbroglio.

ALABAMA.—In the RURAL of the 19th inst., we gave the intelligence of the withdrawal of Alabama from the Union. Late intelligence states that certain of the citizens object to this action, and are now seceding from the Seceders. A large public meeting was held in Huntsville on the 10th, at which the following resolutions were passed by a large majority:

Whereas, Information has reached us that the Convention now in session in Montgomery has enacted an Ordinance of separate State secession, without submitting the question to the vote of the people at the ballot box,

Resolved, That the refusal to submit the question of secession to a vote of the people at the ballot box directly, is a usurpation of power on the part of the Convention, and is a violation of the fundamental principles of our Government.

Resolved, That to submit quietly to this act of a Convention, itself unconstitutionally called, is the beginning of a system of submission which will end in the overthrow of popular Government and the establishment of despotism.

Resolved, That unless the question is submitted to a vote of the people of the State at the ballot box, then our delegates to said Convention are requested to consult with members friendly to co-operation and the sovereign right of the people through the ballot box, on the propriety of withdrawing from said Convention, under protest.

The Legislature organized on the 16th inst. It will confine its action as far as possible, during the session, to business arising from the action of the Convention. The Governor's Message urges the necessity that Alabama at once proceed upon the most efficient war footing and the appointment of a Military Board by the Legislature.

ARKANSAS.—Notwithstanding the pressure which has been brought to bear on Arkansas by the Mississippi and Louisiana Secessionists, the Senate of that State have refused to pass a bill calling a State Convention. The loyalty of the people to the Union, and the importance of the projected Pacific Railroad to Arkansas, are the reasons for this action.

MISSOURI.—In the House, Mr. Stevenson's substitute for the Convention bill, asking Congress to allow us to call a National Convention, was lost—104 to 12. Mr. Lacroix' amendment to the original bill, submitting the action of the Convention to the people, was then adopted, and the bill was passed—105 to 17.

A petition praying for the adoption of the Crittenden proposition by Congress, bearing nearly 6,000 names, has been forwarded to our Representatives at Washington.

VIRGINIA.—In the Senate the Commissioners on Federal Relations reported resolutions that, in the opinion of the General Assembly, the propositions embraced in the Crittenden resolutions constitute such a basis of adjustment as would be accepted by the people of this Commonwealth.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Governor has sent a message to the House of Representatives detailing plans for guarding the coasts, and for the purchase of three steam propellers. He prefers small screw propellers of light draft—each propeller to be provided with thirty-two seamen. One propeller to be stationed at Charleston, one at Beaufort, and one at Georgetown. Also, to fortify all the inlets and mouths of the river, and redoubts, with ordnance, and for boats to keep up a constant communication between them as a protection against sudden invasion and lawless bands.

Resolutions have been unanimously passed by the Legislature, declaring that any attempt by the Federal Government to reinforce Fort Sumter will be regarded as an act of open hostility and a declaration of war. Also approving of the act and promptness of the military in firing on the Star of the West, and promising to support the Government in all measures of defence.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Senate was engaged all day on the 15th inst., on the bill providing for the calling of a State Convention, and there was considerable debate on the details. No vote has yet been taken on the bill, and there are no indications as to how it will result. The House has been considering the coercion resolution. There was a split on the details. Many speeches were made, and various amendments offered to the resolution, but no vote was taken on it. All the members are against coercion, but some are against the right of secession.

GEORGIA.—The Convention met at 10 o'clock on the 16th inst. Judge Banning was chosen temporary President. Subsequently Geo. W. Crawford was elected President, and A. B. Lancer, of Muscogee, Secretary. A Committee was appointed to wait on Commissioner Orr, of South Carolina, and Shorter, of Alabama, and request them to communicate with the Convention, and also to accept seats.

LOUISIANA.—A dispatch from New Orleans, the 16th, states that the city troops which took Baton Rouge arsenals returned and received a grand reception. The arsenals at Fort Pike are now occupied by Louisiana troops. The action of Governor Moore in relation to the occupancy of the forts, was received there as a peaceful measure, and generally sustained as patriotic and timely.

FOUR States have now declared their separation from the Union. The dates of the adoption of the ordinances of secession are as follows:—Dec. 20—South Carolina ordinance passed. Jan. 9—Mississippi ordinance passed. Jan. 11—Florida ordinance passed. Jan. 11—Alabama ordinance passed.

The Governors on Secession.

DURING the past two weeks we have been giving the views of the Governors of various States on secession, as expressed in their messages, and continue the same in our present issue.

MAINE.—The inaugural of Governor WASHBURN gives an encouraging view of the material growth and prosperity of the State. He recommends conciliation and forbearance, and talks of good will towards the South, which no criminations should be allowed to interrupt, and the setting of ourselves right in whatever respects we may have been wrong, as the offerings which, as good men and patriots, we should lay upon the altar of our country, and in doing this we need not consent to the abatement of one jot or tittle of the principles affirmed by the people at the recent election. We will stand by the Constitution of our fathers, and the Constitution as it is, and make no compromises that would involve us in the guilt of moral treason and justify under the scorn of mankind. The Governor devotes a paragraph to the subject of Personal Liberty bills, recommending the repeal of any statutes which may be found to be either unconstitutional or justly regarded as offensive.

MICHIGAN.—In his Inaugural, Gov. BLAIR denies the right of secession, and in alluding to the present position of South Carolina says, if it could properly be done, I presume the country generally would be willing to let that restless little nation retire from the confederacy forever; but that cannot be without admitting the right of secession to exist in all the States; this done, and no government remains to us but a voluntary association of States, dissolvable at the pleasure of any of them. If South Carolina may of right secede, then may also New York and Louisiana, thus cutting off the free right of way of the entire Northwest to the ocean, in both directions. The doctrine cannot be admitted. Self-preservation, if no other reason, would compel us to resist.

He claims that the Constitution of the United States is not a compact or league between independent sovereign States; on the contrary, it is a foundation of government established by the people of the United States as a whole, perpetual in its character, and possessing all the elements of sovereign power and nationality. He denies that the personal liberty laws have had the effect to prevent the execution of the fugitive slave law in a single instance, but whenever appeal has been made to the Courts to enforce that law, it has been done in good faith. He invites judicial scrutiny into the legislation of the States, and is willing to abide by the result, but is not willing the State should be humiliated by compliance with the demand to repeal these laws, accompanied with threats of violence and war. He concludes by recommending that at an early day the Legislature make it manifest to our representatives in Congress, and to the country, that Michigan is loyal to the Union, the Constitution and the laws, and will

defend them to the uttermost, and to proffer to the President of the United States the whole military power of the State for that purpose.

KENTUCKY.—Gov. MAGOFFIN asks the Legislature to express their approbation of Mr. Crittenden's resolutions, and says that eight States will have seceded before their deliberations close, and that Tennessee has referred the whole subject to her people. Virginia and North Carolina are discussing the propriety of a similar course, and Missouri seems likely to adopt a like policy. He submits to the Legislature the propriety of providing for the election of delegates to a Convention to assemble at an early day to determine the future interstate and federal relations of Kentucky. Meanwhile, he would leave no experiment untried to restore fraternal relations between the States. He recommends a convention of the border slave States to meet early in February, in Baltimore.

The Governor says that the hasty and inconsiderate action of the seceding States does not meet his approval, but Kentucky will never stand by with folded arms while those States, struggling for their constitutional rights, are being subjugated to an anti-slavery government. He asks the Legislature to declare by resolutions the unconditional disapprobation of Kentucky of the employment of force in any form against the seceding States, and asks an appropriation for arming and equipping a volunteer militia.

PENNSYLVANIA.—On the 2d inst., Gov. PACKER delivered his valedictory message to the Legislature. He declares the doctrine of secession erroneous. The constitution is something more than a mere compact. Organized resistance to the Federal Government is rebellion, and if successful it may be purged of the crime by revolution. If unsuccessful, the persons may be served as traitors. But while denying the right of a State to absolve its citizens from allegiance to the Federal government, nevertheless it is proper that we carefully and candidly examine the reasons alleged, and if they are well founded, they should be unhesitatingly remedied and reparation made for the past and security given for the future, for a government created by the people should never do injustice to any portion of its citizens.

Pennsylvania being included in the States alleged to have refused compliance with the fugitive slave law, he unhesitatingly avers that the State has been almost invariably influenced by a high regard for the rights of her sister States. After examining the present State laws, he says there is nothing to prevent a revival of the act of 1826, leaving to the claimant the right to seek a remedy under the National or State laws.

He recommends that the consent of the State be given to the master while sojourning in or passing through the territory to retain the services of the slave. He suggests the re-enactment of the Missouri compromise, and that the line be extended to California by the amendment of the constitution. He recommends the Legislature to instruct our Representatives in Congress to support such an amendment to be submitted for ratification, and if Congress fails to propose it, let it emanate from the people.

He closes by declaring that Pennsylvania is devoted to the Union, and will follow the stars and stripes through every peril. But before reassuming the responsibilities that are foreshadowed, it is the solemn duty of Pennsylvania to remove every just cause of complaint, so that she can stand before high heaven without fear and without reproach, and then she is ready to devote her lives and her fortunes to the best form of government ever devised by the wisdom of man. Though a dark cloud now rests upon the Union, my hopes and affections still cling to it. My prayer is, that He who orders the destinies of nations will again have mercy upon us and bind us together in stronger and more hallowed bonds of fraternity, so that the Union may remain unbroken throughout all future time.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Napoleon in reply to Lord Cowley on New Year's said he regarded the future with confidence, convinced that friendly understanding between the powers will maintain peace, which is the object of his desires.

A meeting of Jews from all parts of the world had been held at London to concert measures for the restoration of the child Mortara.

FRANCE.—The Bank of France has raised the rate of discount from 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 per cent. Negotiations for a treaty of commerce between France and Belgium, terminated satisfactorily. Important reductions were made in favor of Belgium coal and iron.

It was rumored that France may ask further indemnity from China.

The Monteur says the financial events of foreign countries influence the French money market in a manner to be regretted, but declares that the report that France is under the necessity of making a new loan, is without any foundation.

The detachment of French troops which was under orders for China, has been sent to reinforce the French troops in Syria.

PRUSSIA.—The King of Prussia is dead. The official Prussian Gazette announces that the Prince Regent assumes the reins of government as King William V. A Berlin letter says, the excitement in all the States of the German Confederacy greatly resembles the agitation preceding 1848.

The Frankfurt Journal asserts the early sitting of the German Diet. A proposition would be made to call on the Cabinet of Turin for categorical explanation relative to the degree of the Governor General of Ancona, in which Trieste was described as an Italian town.

AUSTRIA.—The Emperor of Austria has received Count Teleki, and announced that he would grant him a full and complete pardon, on the condition of conducting himself henceforth as a faithful subject. Count Teleki promised this, and left the Imperial palace a free man.

The Emperor of Austria sanctions the incorporation of Wolovina with Hungary.

Count Rechberg, Austrian Premier, it is stated, has resigned. The resignation is not yet definitely accepted. Count Metendorff, it is said, is likely to succeed him.

ITALY.—Poesio was elected President of the Electoral Committee at Naples.

It was reported that a Sardinian loan of 300,000,000 francs was about to be negotiated at Paris.

An insignificant attempt at revolution at Naples, on the 30th ult., was easily suppressed. Naples and the Provinces were tranquil.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadstuffs.—There has been no regular corn market since the sailing of the America. Flour is quoted dull. Wheat quiet. The severe weather interfering with transportation from the interior. Wakefield, Nash & Co. report flour quiet, but firm at extreme rates. Wheat firm at full prices. Corn firm. The holidays induced quietness in the market.

Provisions.—The Provision Market was quiet. Pork dull. Lard quiet.

The News Condenser.

—Blondin, the rope-walker, is in London. —The Nebraska Legislature adjourned on the 11th. —The Charlestonians have recruiting agents in New York. —In England, there is a King Charles spaniel valued at \$2,500.

—In 1860, fifteen persons were convicted of arson in Philadelphia. —A petrified tree, from Pike's Peak, is on exhibition in Chicago. —There were 23,000 deaths in New York city during the past year.

—Austria has just issued bank notes of the value of four cents each! —Silver leads, of great extent, have been found near Oregon city. —Business at Havana is languid, owing to advices from the United States.

—Ohio has tendered her power to the President to maintain the federal laws. —The estimated value of the exports from Milwaukee, for 1860, is \$12,774,700.

—The ice crop of the Hudson has just commenced; the ice is eight inches thick. —The public schools of the United States are attended by about 4,000,000 children. —The gold yield of the Pike's Peak region for the current year, is about \$5,000,000.

—Gen. Moreau's daughter died a beggar in a Brussels hospital a few weeks ago. —On Friday week, two fires occurred at Detroit, destroying property valued at \$50,000.

—A factory for the manufacture of fire arms is about to be established at Camden, S. C. —There are confined in our State Insane Asylum one hundred and twenty-one persons. —The Presbyterians of Ireland now have five synods and nearly five hundred churches.

—The Southern students of Union College, at Schenectady, N. Y., have resolved to secede. —A sweet potato was raised last season at Oyster Creek, Texas, that weighed 29 pounds.

—Half a million dollars is employed to manufacture beer and ale in the city of Milwaukee. —The Fon du Lac (Wis.) jail is now empty, though the county contains 30,000 inhabitants.

—Decrease of California gold was \$6,500,000 last year. Total amount received, \$33,666,400. —There are now on deposit in the savings banks of New York more than fifty million dollars.

—Nearly 2,000 cases of measles occurred in Manchester, N. H., during the last three months. —California will remain firm to the Union—such is the sentiment of the recent intelligence.

The ship Aboln, from London, brings on freight 900 kegs of white gunpowder, a new invention. —The President has decided to remove all disunionists from office in the city of Washington.

The estate of Glangarry, belonging to Mr. Elice, M. P., is to be purchased for the Prince of Wales. —The Ogdensburg Journal says the thermometer stood 30° below zero, at that place, Sunday week.

—A Kansas farmer recently took a load of hay 45 miles to Elwood to exchange it for something to eat. —The number of militia in the free States is 1,226,513, while that of the slaves States is only 778,624.

—Thirty-two thousand and four arrests were made, for all offenses, in Philadelphia, during the last year. —On the 13th, at sunrise, the thermometer, at Rutland, Vt., was 24° below zero. At Middlebury it was 29°.

The Androscoogin Company, at Lewiston, Me., have just taken in 600 bales of cotton, received from Calcutta. —Maine is about to prepare her military force, to be in readiness in case the Federal Government calls for aid.

A French hermit died of sheer want, in a hole on the bank of Wabashpenee river, Iowa, on Saturday week. —The total number of arrests in the city of St. Louis last year, amounted to 7,065, of which 19 were for murder.

The American marine losses reported in 1860, gives a total of 385 vessels, valued (without cargo) at \$6,237,000. —The New York Observer says that the N. Y. City Tract Society's receipts for 1860 were \$16,205; expenditures, \$17,109.

The Baptists in Maine have 278 churches and over 20,000 members. In Massachusetts, 268 churches and 36,250 members. —The amount of coal annually mined in Great Britain, and for the most part consumed in that kingdom, is 66,000,000 tons.

The Canadian Literary Institute and Baptist College at Woodstock, C. W., was entirely consumed by fire on Monday week. —The oldest bishop in France, Mgr. Philibert de Brullard, died, on December 15, at Montefury, at the age of ninety-five years.

Georgia has appointed a Commissioner to go to Europe, with the intent of making financial and commercial arrangements. —Lieut. Col. Wm. Henry Walker has resigned his position in the U. S. Army. He was shot seven times in one day in Mexico.

During the past week, 450,000 pounds of poultry were shipped by the Camden and Amboy Railroad for the N. Y. market. —It is rumored that the crown of Hungary has been offered to Prince Napoleon, by Kossuth and the Hungarian Committee at Milan.

Two hundred troops from Fort Leavenworth, with 28 officers and 127 horses, have passed through Chicago for Fort McHenry. —Three shocks of an earthquake were felt at Lancaster, Pa., on Sunday night week, accompanied with a heavy peal of thunder.

The Detroit Common Council have disbanded the volunteer and substituted a paid fire department; employing steam fire engines. —Three men, named Walker, Brodie, and Goodman, have been arrested in New York for making and peddling bogus gold medals.

A manufactory of iron chairs, of all sizes, is being established at Bristol, R. I., which will work up 1,000 tons of iron per month. —In Baltimore last year, 10,804 persons were arrested, ten of them for murder, while the lodgers in the station houses numbered 9,382.

Henry Adrian, an American, lost his life in Constantinople, Sept. 13, by attempting to rescue a Turkish girl from a burning building. —A Paris surgeon is said to have proved, by experiments, that a bone taken from an animal just killed, unites with that of a living animal.

Large numbers of cars are said to be in waiting opposite West Point, for the purpose of transporting the flying artillery ordnance, &c. —W. Jones, an Indiana farmer, for whom Mr. Lincoln split rails thirty years ago, is at Springfield, Ill., on a visit to his former hired hand.

At Verona, Italy, a peculiar and fatal disease has made its appearance; beginning with intense colic, and causing death in a few hours. —Four hundred recruits from the recruiting stations at New York, Rochester, and Buffalo, arrived at Governor's Island within three days last week.

Prof. Gardner, the New England Soap Man, is lecturing to large audiences of ladies and gentlemen, in various parts of this State, as we observe by our exchanges. —The coal operators of Pittsburg have recommended the suspension of the mines until the 1st of March. This will throw several thousand miners out of employment.

The Publisher to the Public.

NEW NOTICES TO AGENT-FRIENDS.

BACK NUMBERS from January 5th are still furnished to new subscribers...

OUR SPECIAL PREMIUMS ARE PROMPTLY PAID.—An Agent Friend asks...

ADDITIONS TO CLUBS are now in order, and whether in ones, twos, fives, tens or twenties will receive attention...

OUR CLUB TERMS, &c.—We endeavor to adhere strictly to our club terms...

PREMIUMS TO CLUB AGENTS.—It is not too late to form new clubs and secure the valuable Special Premiums offered...

Special Notices.

BRONCHITIS.

From Rev. S. Seidfried, Morristown, Ohio.—Having received the most salutary relief in Bronchitis...

Markets, Commerce, &c.

IN FLOUR AND GRAIN there is no change to note of importance. The only alteration we hear of is in Rye...

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

Table listing prices for various commodities like Flour, Wheat, Corn, etc.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, JAN. 21.—Flour.—The market is without material change; holders are not disposed to sell...

THE PORK TRADE.

ALBANY, Jan. 21.—There is a good demand for corn fed hogs at \$4.25 to \$4.50...

CHICAGO, Jan. 17.—There is a good inquiry for mess pork...

CINCINNATI, Jan. 17.—The supply of hogs during the last 24 hours was not over 300 head...

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 17.—The receipts very good and all sold as fast as they arrived...

TORONTO, Jan. 19.—There has been a great deal of pork offered, and the demand continues active...

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

Table showing cattle market prices for different grades and types.

ALBANY, Jan. 21.—Receipts are somewhat heavier this week than last...

PREMIUMS TO CLUB AGENTS.—It is not too late to form new clubs and secure the valuable Special Premiums offered...

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—The market for this staple exhibits a healthy appearance. The prospects for a good spring trade are encouraging...

AMERICAN SLAVERY DISTINGUISHED FROM THE SLAVERY OF ENGLISH THEORISTS...

Discussions on the Slavery and obligation of Conscience. One of the most important and essential character of the Slavery in this country...

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FOR SALE.—50,000 Apple Root Grafts, healthy stock...

ITALIAN BEES AND QUEENS.—FOR SALE.—FOR SALE.—FOR SALE.

GRAFTS AT \$4.50 PER 1,000.—I offer for sale first class Apple Grafts...

FRESH PEAR SEED FOR SALE.—We have just received a fine lot of Imported Pear Seed...

KEEPING EXPLAINED.—The best practical work yet published. Sent free of postage for \$1.—Bears for sale by the swarm...

SOMETHING NEW.—J. H. TRON'S Galvanized Index Directory...

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The Christian Review, quarterly, will hereafter be published by the subscribers, and edited by Rev. Dr. ROBINSON, of the Rochester Theological Seminary...

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MARRIED.

At the residence of the bride's father, Jan. 15th, in Lockport, by the Rev. J. B. BARNETT, Mr. ISAAC H. BARCOCK, of Somerset, and Miss SARAH L. NEWHALL.

DIED.

At Clark's Mercantile Co., Pa., on the 14th of December, 1850, after a lingering illness and the most intense sufferings, THOMAS DICKSON, in the 64th year of his age.

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS. IN ADVANCE.—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion.

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ITALIAN BEES AND QUEENS.—FOR SALE.—FOR SALE.—FOR SALE.

GRAFTS AT \$4.50 PER 1,000.—I offer for sale first class Apple Grafts, of popular varieties, at \$4.50 per 1,000.

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KEEPING EXPLAINED.—The best practical work yet published. Sent free of postage for \$1.—Bears for sale by the swarm...

SOMETHING NEW.—J. H. TRON'S Galvanized Index Directory, containing the names and addresses of all the merchants, manufacturers, and business men in the State of New York.

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Professor of Pathology and Operative Surgery in the Veterinary College of Philadelphia, &c., &c.

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THE HORSE AND

THE SNOW FORT.

A POEM FOR THE BOYS, BY JOSEPH BARBER.

In the happy days of boyhood, Five-and-thirty years ago, (Life's golden age of joyhood,) We built castles of the snow...

How the parts of British leaders Went a-begging, one and all; How we all were earnest pleaders For front places on the wall...

The battle—ah! we fought it, Not at all by History's light; How the peevy English caught it, How they always lost the fight...

Thus we fought the fight of Brunker's In the days that knew no care, Ere the snow was tossed, as younkers, Time had sifted on our hair...

And 'tis not the generous tussle Of the snow fort on the knoll, Not a strife with those who hustle, Not the body, but the soul...

The Story-Teller.

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

SOWING THE WIND AND REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

[Continued from page 28 last number.]

CHAPTER VIII.

"How is the cash?" asked Mr. OVERMAN, as he saw his clerk, sitting with an appearance of perplexity,—how well it was feigned,—over the cash book, after the accounts of the day had been made up.

"It doesn't come out exactly right," answered HIRAM.

"Short?" "No sir." "Over?" "Yes sir." "How much?"

"Let me run up the columns again," said the young man. And, in mere pretence, he bent down over the book. Then the cash was counted in the presence of Mr. OVERMAN, and the balance in bank added thereto.

"The excess is just sixty dollars." HIRAM spoke with well assumed unconcern.

"Let me see the cash book." And Mr. OVERMAN looked over the entries a few days back, coming down page by page. But he could not find the erroneous entry he had discovered on the night before.

"I must find this mistake," said HIRAM, as he drew the book again before him. "Let me try the footings once more." In this trial, he went back, page by page, until he came to that on which the false entry was made. "Is this figure intended for a six or a naught," he spoke as if to himself. "It should be a six. Ah, here it is, now! I called it naught, in the addition of the column. Look, Mr. OVERMAN. The figure is carefully made; but it stands for six."

"Yes, I see." But the tone did not express full satisfaction. The cash had been pronounced right on the day before. He did not remark on this fact, however; but accepted the adjustment as right.

From this time, for many months, HIRAM FOSTER kept back his evil hands from peculation. In the discharge of his duties to Mr. OVERMAN, he was more than ever attentive, seeming to have no thought or care but for his employer's interest. Early and late he was at the store, and ever prompt and efficient in the transaction of business. So much pleased was Mr. OVERMAN, that, from kindness of feeling, as well as from a sense of justice, he kept the clerk's salary at one thousand dollars, instead of reducing it to six hundred. During these months of honest dealing with his employer, HIRAM was in a more peaceful state of mind than he had known since the day he stepped aside from the ways of integrity. Fears haunted him, however, all the while,—if not so impending as they had been, still, with an unquiet sense of danger.

But, there was no integrity in his heart. That principle of right, in which lies a man's true honor and safety, had been crushed out. Only fear of consequences restrained him, and as that fear diminished, the old eagerness to possess himself of what belonged of right to another, grew stronger and stronger. Scarcely six months elapsed before he was at his work of abstraction again; now, however, he proceeded with the extremest caution. Instead of letting a false entry represent every instance of robbery, he appropriated money from sales made in the store at times when Mr. OVERMAN was absent, so that no examination of the account books could lead to detection. But, as this method of accumulation was slower than suited his eager desires, a system of false entries was also pursued, every one of them laying upon his guilty mind an additional weight of concern. They were the tracks left behind him, as guides to pursuit; and he felt this, all the while, as a keen sense of danger; a danger more dreaded, day by day, as the two home flowers,—FLORA and HELEN,—opened daily, with increasing fragrance and beauty, in the sunshine of their mother's love. And yet, for all this he seemed under a kind of possession from evil spirits; a possession that was like an irresistible power, driving him onwards in an evil way he had entered in an evil hour.

HIRAM FOSTER loved his two little ones very tenderly. Naturally, he had a fondness for children, and this, when it stirred the father's heart, became a strong impulse. But, always as he held them in his

arms, or watched them in their innocent gambols, a sense of overshadowing evil would creep into his heart, and extinguish all delight. A thought of exposure, and disgrace for them, never came without a shudder.

And so the months and years went on, HIRAM retaining his place with Mr. OVERMAN, and steadily pursuing his system of abstraction, with a blind and evil infatuation, that, under the haunting fears which were his daily companions, made life a hell upon earth. Among men, he wore a fair and pleasant face; but a face that seemed to grow old rapidly, and to lose the signification of earlier years. To his wife he became more and more enigmatical. The frank, cheerful, loving husband of their early married life, changed to a reserved, abstracted, cold, and, at times, irritable man. To her, it was plain that some great trouble lay upon his mind; but, whenever she sought to penetrate the mystery, he pushed her back in such a resolute, and sometimes impatient way, that, in self-protection, she had learned to keep silent. This was ground upon which she must not tread. Here he stood alone, and would admit of no companionship.

Mrs. FOSTER was a woman of pure religious feelings, a member of her father's church, and a communicant. Her husband always accompanied her on the Sabbath, and showed respect and reverence for the things of worship. He was, to all appearance, an attentive listener to the sermons of Mr. PRUSSOR, which were frequently so keenly searching, that, if he really followed the thread of the good minister's discourses, he must have recognized pictures of himself and shrunk from their deformity. But, for the most part, his thoughts were occupied with other things than doctrinals, or life-precepts. Attention was only an assumed exterior, and the minister's voice but an idle sound in his ears.

Being a pew-holder, HIRAM, after a few years, was chosen a secular officer of the church. He accepted the mark of confidence and respect as an assurance that, so far, no breath of suspicion had tarnished his good name. But, the distinction was only felt as a new weight of concern; for, if the ever dreaded exposure of his mean peculations should come—and that presentation was an abiding thing in his mind—the disgrace would be so much the deeper.

Mrs. FOSTER understood but too well that in her husband's mind was no religious sentiment. She was glad always to have him attend church with her, and his election to an office in the church gave her hope that, in the associations it would bring, some higher interests would be awakened. But, she perceived no change in the man, though he began to talk more about the church, and entered with some spirit into whatever concerned its outward well being. Always he gave liberally.

Ten years after HIRAM FOSTER'S marriage, Mr. OVERMAN failed in business; and, in the settlement of his affairs, was able to pay only seventy cents on the dollar, under an extension of two years. The failure threw HIRAM out of employment; Mr. OVERMAN being required to reduce expenses to the smallest possible sum in the arrangement with creditors by which he was permitted to continue business. A son, eighteen years of age, was brought home from school, to take HIRAM'S place in the store.

The amount which had been abstracted, up to this time, reached the large sum of fifteen thousand dollars, all of which was securely invested, at distant points, and in sums not exceeding one or two thousand dollars. HIRAM had been very wary. Of all things, he dreaded discovery; and to guard against such a fatal disaster, managed his investments with the utmost caution.

CHAPTER IX.

FRANK OVERMAN, who succeeded HIRAM FOSTER, was a clear-headed, intelligent young man. With a view to going into his father's store, he had taken a thorough course of book keeping. From some cause, an early dislike to FOSTER had been infused into his mind; a dislike which was never concealed. HIRAM, more than once, tried to overcome this, but the boy kept always at a reserved distance. Now that he was to take his place, he sought to get near and familiar; but FRANK still repelled him coldly. FOSTER proposed to give a few weeks of his time to the work of closing the old books and opening a new set, and Mr. OVERMAN favored this, as it would make his son's duties simpler and easier in the beginning. But FRANK objected, and maintained his point against all arguments.

"I would rather take the work as it is now, and make myself familiar with the business," he said. "I shall go back with most of the accounts, and trace them up, in order to get the run of things. There's no use in going to the expense of a new set of books; and whenever they are needed, I wish to open them."

"Have it your own way, then," replied Mr. OVERMAN. "Perhaps you are right, after all. You're not afraid of work, I see; and that is a good sign."

There was, for the ears of FOSTER, a meaning in the young man's voice, when he spoke of going back through most of the accounts, that caused him no little uneasiness of mind. If he had been permitted to open a new set of books, the old ones, in which were the footprints of his crime, would have been laid aside, and a guarantee of safety thus secured. But, to have these come, daily, under the scrutinizing eyes of FRANK OVERMAN, was to put everything in jeopardy. So imminent seemed the danger, as thought dwelt upon it, and his imagination grew excited with possible contingencies, that he found no peace day nor night. Having no employment, there was time for an idle mind to cut, like a sword, into its scabbard; and before six weeks had elapsed, he was in a state of such nervous apprehension, that sleep almost fled his pillow.

Every few days he would drop in at the store, and note the appearance of things. FRANK was always at the books; and in answer to any questions he might propound, gave cold and evasive answers, in which he saw foreshadowings of evil.

"Have you found any mistakes in my work?" he ventured to ask one day. He tried to speak in a tone of indifference.

"Yes," FRANK gave only a monosyllable in answer, but the look which accompanied it sent a thrill along his nerves. He was conscious that a betrayal of guilt was in his face, and let his eyes fall to hide their expression from the young man's apparently intent observation of his countenance.

"Let me see them," said FOSTER. "I'm too busy now," replied FRANK, and turned back to the work from which the question of FOSTER had withdrawn him.

"Are you sick, HIRAM? What's the matter? You're very pale!" Mrs. FOSTER looked at her husband in alarm, as he came in a little while after this visit to the store.

"One of my bad headaches," he replied; "that's all," and passing her, he went up stairs and threw himself, in the exhaustion of haunting fears, upon his bed. He remained there pretending to be asleep

whenever his wife came in, until dark. At tea time he joined his family, and endeavored to look unconcerned. His two children hung about him with loving caresses, and but for that dreadful secret, the shadow of which was ever on his life, there would not have been a happier man in all the region round about. For a wife, he had one of the truest and tenderest of women; and no home-nest had in it sweeter or more loving children. But, all the while he felt that a cruel hawk was in the air above his nest, ready at any moment to strike his beloved ones with his fearful talons. More than ever did this fear oppress him now.

Would there have been a home comfort less, or a future of darker promise, had HIRAM FOSTER been content to take the world honestly and trust in God for weal or woe? Let us see. Mr. OVERMAN had a warm side toward his clerk, and if things had prospered, would have taken him into co-partnership. But the exhaustion of his means, through this clerk's robberies, caused him to abandon this long-cherished purpose, and finally to dispense with his services altogether. As a partner, acting in concert with Mr. OVERMAN, and yet with the leading force of a principal, he would have given an efficient life to the business in certain neglected directions, which could not have failed to increase its profits very materially. Thus, he would not only have received, in all the passing years, a good income, but laid store after store, in these passing years, the solid foundations of an honorable property—a prosperity that should be a blessing and not a curse.

Alas! how different was all now. He had acquired property; but the tenure by which he held it was of such a doubtful character that his mind did not rest a moment in security. It was felt, all the while, as a millstone about his neck, to sink him into the gulf of perdition should his feet be driven from the solid ground. Through all the days, an oppressive concern weighed upon his mind; through all the nights, haunting fears tormented him. Busy thought was ever suggesting danger from this point, or danger from that. In men's faces, tones, eyes, he read suspicion or warning. Remarks, born from no thought of him, would startle him with alarms. He was always on the alert. There was, for him, neither rest nor peace!

As he sat at tea with his wife and children on that evening, a loud ringing of the door bell made him start and turn pale. Trifles agitated him now. Mrs. FOSTER saw the effect on her husband, and a vague fear came over her like a cloud.

"Who is it?" There was a husky sound in the voice of HIRAM FOSTER.

"Mr. FRANK OVERMAN," replied the servant. FOSTER pushed back his chair, and arose with a suddenness that startled his wife. She saw blank terror in his face.

"He's gone," said the servant.

"Gone! What did he want?" FOSTER sat down and leaned on the table like one suffering from exhaustion. He was aware that his appearance was betraying far more than he wished to be seen, and he made an effort to put on a composed exterior.

"He said that his father would like to see you this evening," "Very well." And FOSTER turned his face as much away from the light as possible.

It was now over a week since the unhappy man had slept beyond an hour or two at a time. For the last two nights, his mind had not once lost its waking consciousness. He was, therefore, nervous and exhausted, and subject to disturbance from little things. Aware of a growing inability to assume a composed exterior, he felt that his danger was increasing; for if called to answer, on any suspicion of wrong, it would be impossible to hold back his countenance from a betrayal of guilt.

After tea he went out; not so much with the purpose of going directly to Mr. OVERMAN'S as to get alone in order to think. But thinking had become a most unsatisfactory process. Anxious fears were so oppressive that thought ran swiftly to inevitable consequences, instead of giving hope, encouragement, or means of escape. The more he thought, the more his mind fell into bewilderment.

For half an hour Mr. FOSTER walked the street, and then, with a desperate compulsion of himself, went to the residence of Mr. OVERMAN. At the door he stood with the feeling of a man whose next step would be to certain ruin. He rung the bell, passed in, and entered the parlor. Mr. OVERMAN was there alone. The face of the kind-hearted old man, which the care and suffering consequent upon his recent failure had robbed of its cheerful aspect, was grave almost to severity.

"HIRAM," he said, as he extended his hand to FOSTER, and then referred him to a seat, "I want to say a few words about a matter that has been on my mind, and troubling me."

"Well, sir." "The voice did not sound like that of HIRAM FOSTER. It was strange in his own ears, and strange in the ears of Mr. OVERMAN.

"I was told, a few weeks ago, that thirty shares of stock were standing in your name on the books of a certain bank in New York. Is that so?" "No, sir." The answer was prompt, but false.

Mr. OVERMAN looked steadily into his face. HIRAM felt like a man over deep water, with the ice giving way under his feet. To say "yes," was to hazard all; in "no," there might be safety.

"No, sir." He repeated the denial. "Who said that I had bank shares?" Faintly rose indignation in his tones.

"A gentleman who is often in New York," said Mr. OVERMAN. "One of my creditors."

"Mr. OSBORNE?" "Yes." "I will see him, and know by what authority he makes such a statement."

"Not yet, if you please," said Mr. OVERMAN. "I will say to him that you deny the fact."

"If any stock is standing in the name of HIRAM FOSTER, it does not mean me." The young man spoke in an assumed manner.

"I should hope not," remarked Mr. OVERMAN. Should hope not! His mind was not satisfied, and HIRAM saw it with increasing concern.

"There is another thing," said Mr. OVERMAN, after a brief, but embarrassed silence, "that I would like you to make clear. Since my troubles, it has been suggested to me by more than one person.

"Say on, I am ready to answer." "Your salary has been only a thousand dollars." "Yes, sir." "People say that you have lived fully up to that sum annually, and yet you are the owner of property valued at not less than four or five thousand dollars."

"People know more of my affairs than I do myself," answered the young man with some asperity of tone. "It has never cost me over six hundred dollars a year to live, and what I saved annually, carefully invested, amounts to no more than fair and honest accumulations."

"I trust not, HIRAM. It would pain me beyond anything I have yet suffered, to find that you had wronged me in anything."

"Wronged you! God forbid! I have never wronged you, Mr. OVERMAN! Heaven is my witness that I have not been unfaithful in even the smallest thing."

HIRAM FOSTER was visibly agitated, but spoke with an assured manner. Yet, in thus calling upon Heaven to be witness of perjury, he felt as if the very blackness of darkness had gathered around him. No moon, no stars, were in his sky—only thick, impenetrable clouds. He shuddered as one upon whom a cold wind blows suddenly.

"I must accept your solemn denial," Mr. OVERMAN did not speak like a man from whose mind all doubt was removed, and HIRAM felt this. But what more could he say! There was no higher tribunal to which he could refer.

Poor, unhappy wretch! When HIRAM FOSTER went out again into the still night of nature—bright as noonday compared to the night that enshrouded his soul—he felt that pitfalls were in his way, and that to go forward in safety was next to hopeless. He had three thousand dollars invested in the stock of a New York bank, and if Mr. OSBORNE was the man who had discovered it, there was no question in his mind that he would, on his next visit to the city, make sure of his identity in the case. FRANK OVERMAN was, he felt certain, under the stimulus of ill will and suspicion, making a thorough examination of the books, and if he went over the work, entry by entry, discovery was inevitable! [Conclusion next week.]

Wit and Humor.

LITTLE JOKERS.

NEVER "for form's sake" write your name across a bill, unless you are prepared to meet the certain consequences.

VANITY.—What no man, nor woman either, by any accident, ever possesses, but what is always very largely developed in every body else.

A LITTLE FELLOW one day non-plussed his mother by making the following inquiry:—"Mother, if a man is a mister, ain't a woman a mistery?"

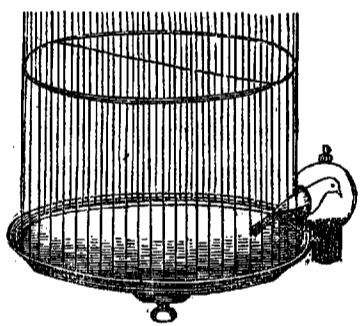
Of two million young ladies who last year were asked to sing, it is a fact that sixteen did so without making an apology for having a bad cold.

NEVER flirt with a young widow who calls you by your Christian name the second time you meet her, unless you have quite made your mind up to the worst.

"TESTIMONY OF THE ROCKS."—The New York Commercial Advertiser says:—"The most beautiful pocket edition of this highly interesting work that we have ever seen is—a twenty dollar gold piece!"

DANGER OF JESTING.—"When is a brick a tile?" asked Brown, Senior, of Smith, Junior. "Give it up! When it's a projectile." So saying he threw a brick-bat and broke a window. His preceptor forgave him the mischief he had done, but flogged him for punning.

LUXURY OF LIBERTY.—Bosom friend: Well, dear, now that you are a widow, tell me, are you any the happier for it?—Interesting Widow: Oh! no. But I have my freedom, and that's a great comfort. Do you know, my dear, I ate an onion yesterday for the first time these fourteen years.



THE prevailing disposition has extended to the feathered tribe, and we saw one the other day, as in the above case, who was determined to —

WHAT IS WOMAN'S MISSION?—This momentous question being asked the other evening, Spooney, said:—"As Woman was the—aw—infewaw animal, he thought her mission was to—aw—wait on the supewiaw—to be—aw—a sawt of upper servant, and see about one's dinnows, and one's—aw—furnichaw, and things." "In fact," said Mrs. Snorter, "Woman's Mission simply is to polish the spoons."

TO OUR LADY READER.—When are lands like certain animals? When they're Fallow, Dear.

Why is a small dog like Punch or Judy? Because it's a Pup, Pet.

Why is a young lady cutting High Dutch on the Central Pond like a popular song? Because she's Skaty—Darling.

Why is a fact like my Devotion? Because—ah—because it's True—Love!

Why is a catarrh like Total Immersion? Because it's a Cold, Duck.—Vanity Fair.

A GERMAN AT A BANK.—A German, who had \$300 in gold deposited in one of the Western banks, stepped up to the counter the other day, presented his certificate, and demanded his gold. He was paid, when he said to the banker,

"Vot you gif for golt now, eh?" "Five per cent," was the response.

"Oh, yaw, dat ish goot. I sell you dese for good paper monish."

"All right," was the reply, and \$315 in currency was handed the ex-depositor, who took \$15 from his roll of notes, and handed back \$300, saying:

"I deposit dat mit you. /You're goot, I sees." And taking his new certificate, he departed with his \$15 premium.

AN OPINION.—A highly respectable colored gentleman, rejoicing in the big-sounding name of George Edward Fitz-Augustus, visiting the Washington Market, a few days since, thus delivered himself to a fat countryman, whose stock of vegetables he had been busily investigating:

"Are these good taters?" "Yes, sir," responded the countryman. "A tater," resumed George Edward Fitz-Augustus, "is inevitably had unless it is invariably good. Dere is no mediocrity in de combination of a tater. The exterior may appear remarkably exemplary and beautisome, while the interior is totally negative. But, sir, if you wends the article ob your own recommendation, knowing you to be a man ob probability in your transactions, I, widout any furdur circulo-cutions, takes a bushel ob dat superior vegetable!"

Corner for the Young.

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

I AM composed of 8 letters. My 2, 10, 22, 28, 17, 4 is a county in Ohio. My 15, 6, 29, 18, 24, 32 is a county in New York. My 1, 21, 2, 17, 29, 16 is a county in Missouri. My 34, 3, 11, 20, 17, 4, 15, 25, 35, 29 is a county in Maine. My 18, 7, 11, 12 is a county in Pennsylvania. My 30, 3, 25, 5, 35, 2, 23, 31 is a county in Virginia. My 8, 17, 4, 37, 19, 10, 23 is a county in Vermont. My 9, 21, 25, 14, 17, 4 is a county in Tennessee. My 27, 3, 22, 30 is a county in Kentucky. My 33, 17, 6, 25, 36, 3 is a county in California. My whole is a quotation from Shakespeare. Jefferson City, Mo., 1861. X. Y. Z. Answer in two weeks.

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

I AM composed of 8 letters. Omit my 2, 3, 5, 8, and transpose, and I am a prohibition. Omit my 1, 4, 6, 7, and transpose, and I am to entice. My whole is what many know very little about. Green Mount, Va., 1861. J. W. BOWMAN. Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. ANOTHER REBUS.

When a B empty put: When a B. putting: Bellevue, Ohio, 1860. J. E. ANDERSON. Answer in two weeks.

CHARADE.

My first is pretty, light, or dark, And often is gray, black, or blue, The learned say it has three coats, And also has three humors too. My second's used for horse and ass, And sometimes men and women still. My whole is like a pretty fringe, Which does my first with beauty tinge; Its movements upward, downward, tend, And is to man or beast a friend. Answer in two weeks.

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

Two men, A and B, start at the same time from the same place, and travel north; A at the rate of 4 miles and B 5 1/2 miles per hour. At the end of half an hour, A turns and goes northwest 7 1/2 miles, then north 2 hours and 16 minutes, and finally changes his course again and goes west. B, after going north 5 1/2 miles, turns and travels east 3 1/2 hours, then northeast 6 miles, after which he turns and goes north. How far apart will they be at the end of 6 hours from starting? Gainesville, N. Y., 1861. J. M. BRAINERD. Answer in two weeks.

A USEFUL PUZZLE.

HIRAM is a capital thing with which to puzzle your friends, young and old, and at the same time give them a first-rate lesson in spelling. Get one or more persons to take a pencil and paper, and write the following sentence, as you slowly read it: Preferring the Cornelian hues, and separating the immundoes, I will merely state that a peellar's poney eat a potatoo out of a cobbler's waggon, gawged by a sibyl. We read it off to a large company the other evening, including many well educated persons, of whom three were school teachers, but not one of them wrote all the words correctly. One wrote it thus: Preferring the Cornelian hues, and separating the immundoes, I will merely state that a peellar's poney eat a potatoo out of a cobbler's waggon, gawged by a sibyl. This includes thirteen wrongly written words. The puzzle will be apt to fix the correct spelling of these words, at least.—American Agriculturist.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 574.

Answer to Geographical Enigma:—Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land. Answer to Illustrated Rebus: An honest man's the noblest work of God. Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Terms, in advance. Answer to Poetical Enigma:—Canvas. Answer to Puzzle:—Be not too wise in your own eyes, or you'll see what a great fool you be.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,

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

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

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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.

SEND ON THE NAMES.—Now is the time to forward lists of subscribers for 1861, and we hope agent-friends will "hurry up" the names as fast as possible.

VOLUNTARY AGENTS FOR THE RURAL.—Any and every Subscriber or reader is requested to act in behalf of the RURAL, by forming clubs or otherwise. Now is the time for its friends to manifest their interest in the paper and the cause it advocates, either by obtaining new subscribers, or inducing others to act in its behalf. If any lose or wear out numbers in showing the paper,—that's the best way to get subscribers,—we will duplicate them in order to make their files complete for binding.

Back Numbers of this Volume will be sent to New Subscribers, until otherwise announced; but all wishing them should Subscribe Soon.

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[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

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AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

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

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AGRICULTURAL.

INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

Farmers' Insurance Companies.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I understand that in Europe farmers insure each other, or have mutual insurance companies for protection, not only against fire, but against hail and other destructive storms. They also insure cattle. Now, could not a similar system be introduced here with great advantage?—M. W. J.

INSURANCE COMPANIES of a mutual character have been established among the farmers of England and the Continent as protection against fire, hail, and the loss of cattle and horses by accident or disease. These have not always been successful, and perhaps not sufficiently so to warrant their introduction to this country. Such institutions require to be managed with great care and ability, or confusion and loss is the result, involving members in difficulties from which they would gladly extricate themselves. In insuring against loss by hail, it was found that certain districts were very much subject to loss from this cause, while others were almost entirely exempt. Farmers residing in districts where the loss was apt to be great, were anxious to insure, but those in the districts comparatively exempt could not be induced to unite with their less fortunate brethren. The result was severe losses for the members, which in a few years generally ended in the abandonment of the enterprise. The insuring of cattle was for a time more successful. It was the rule to pay three-fourths the value of any animal that died. It was, however, found that among cattle that were insured, losses were more frequent than among the uninsured, and it began to be pretty generally believed that when an insured animal became sick, the owner did not use proper care to secure its recovery. Again, farmers who took particular pains to keep their animals in a healthy condition, found that they were taxed to pay for the results of the bad management of their careless neighbors, and this feeling did much to make cattle insuring associations unpopular. Then, when any epidemic, such as the pleura-pneumonia, occurred in a certain district, the loss became so great,—calling for such heavy advances from the members of the company,—as to induce many to believe that the best course for them to pursue was to run their own risks and be their own insurers. We do not wish to discourage the trial of these institutions in our country, and present the facts only to insure caution.

To Save Manure from the Hen-Yard.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It is understood that hen manure is one of the richest manures we make on the farm; but much of it is wasted, no doubt. What is the best way to keep it for use in the spring? Is it good to mix with ashes, or any other material?—Inquirer, Wayne Co., N. Y.

We cannot overvalue the manurial product of the hen-house, nor take too much care for its preservation. The hen manure may be mixed with the compost heap and its value be preserved in this way, but we would advise a different course. Every farmer wants a little extra or fancy manure for special purposes, and where there is no guano the next best thing is fowl manure, so we advise that it be kept separate from all other manures. Another advantage of this course is that we are enabled to see its effects and thus form a proper estimate of its value. Keep an old hoe, broom and shovel in the fowl-house. Every day, along in the afternoon, when the droppings from the roost have become somewhat dry, scrape and sweep up all the manure, and place it in barrels. If you have many fowls, it is well to have several old barrels filling at the same time, so as to put only a little in each, and it will become quite dry by the next day, when an addition is made. In this way the manure may be kept dry, and will receive no injury and impart no bad smell; but if it is put away wet, it ferments, loses some of its value, and becomes offensive. The barrels therefore should be kept in a dry place. In the spring this manure will crumble up, and will be found excellent for

placing in the hill with sweet corn, cucumbers, melons, &c., and will give an excellent account of itself. If any portion is moist, it can be saved and used as liquid manure, by placing a few quarts in a barrel of water. It will then be just right for forcing forward young plants to get them out of the way of insects.

Planting the Same Crop in Succession.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It is too late to say aught against the rotation of crops. As a general rule, it is no doubt altogether the best practice. But if the manure we put on the soil contains all the elements of the plants grown upon it, why cannot we continue to grow the same crop for a succession of years? Sometimes it is very convenient to do this.—G. W. R., Genesee Falls, N. Y., 1861.

We cannot say if all the elements needed by a plant were furnished in the manure, it could not be grown in the same soil for a succession of years. This may be true in theory, but it would be very unprofitable in practice, as any one's experience will teach him. We cannot always say with confidence that we have furnished in a manure all that a plant needs. Then, it is found by experience, that after a certain crop has been grown upon a piece of land for a year or two, although we may manure as freely as before, the result is not as good as at first; while with a change of crop the most desirable results are witnessed. Our nurserymen find that after growing a crop of apple trees, no amount of manuring makes the land in just the right condition for a second crop, but with ordinary enrichment a good crop of peaches, or other trees, may be grown. Plants of a fine, delicate nature, may be grown in succession much better than those that are more gross. We have known wheat grown upon the same soil for fifteen years, but he who tries potatoes, or turnips, or melons, or squashes, for three or four years, will become satisfied that he is working against nature. Some have supposed that there is an excrement from plants which proves injurious, and finally poisonous, to all of the same variety, while it is not injurious, but, perhaps, beneficial to other plants.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FARMING.

MANURE-SAVING AND COMPOSTING.

In my last I spoke of the importance of the compost heap, and at the risk of repetition, I will remark that I consider manure the foundation of good farming, and my experience has never taught me any economical method of making, saving, and using manure without composting. This I mean as a general rule, but to it there are exceptions. For instance, if I were planting corn and had a quantity of fresh manure, I would apply it to the crops at once, and not think of composting it for a year. Again, I often find it advantageous to draw fresh manure into the field in the winter during sleighing, leaving it in convenient piles, and spreading as soon as the ground is dry enough to get upon it with comfort and without injury to the soil. When manure is in small piles, or spread during winter, it undergoes no fermentation and no change of any kind. Manure spread in the fall may be raked together in the spring, when it will begin to ferment and heat, and be excellent for hot-beds, showing that no fermentation took place during the winter. I know of no objection to this course except in sloping land, where some of the valuable properties would be washed away. I believe the compost heap to be as important as the granary or the barn. It does not follow, however, that because a farmer needs a granary and barn, that everything must be stored before being used or disposed of.

Suppose a farmer has a hog or an animal die, or shoots a sheep-killing dog, or loses a good many chickens with the crop—is it good economy to bury them? No, sir, put them in the proper storehouse of fertilizing materials, the compost heap, along with muck and scrapings, weeds and leaves, and in a little while they will make you a rich dish of which you will have reason to be proud. In this way you can turn them into excellent sweet corn and cabbage, or almost anything else you may desire. Some of my readers may think that I am pressing this matter rather more than its importance demands, but those who do not know should learn, and those who do know should remember, that the carcass of a hog weighing one hundred and seventy-five pounds contains about as much of the most important fertilizing elements as two tons of good stable manure, and that of a cow weighing five hundred pounds about as much as six tons of manure. Now, no sensible farmer would throw away this quantity of stable manure, yet my observation leads me to believe that very many farmers waste the richest manures produced on their premises. But the flesh of animals cannot be placed near the roots of plants without doing injury, nor can it be spread over a large surface. In this, and in many other dilemmas in which the farmer finds himself placed, the compost heap affords just the assistance needed.

The compost heap, again, permits the farmer to prepare special manure for particular crops or soils. This matter is studied and understood by the gardener. He prepares the soil and manure necessary for each class of plants, having discovered that what is good for one, is poison for another. The farmer might give some attention to this subject with profit. To illustrate this point I will state my experience at top-dressing grass land. I have found that fresh manure is of comparatively little benefit for such a purpose. For grass I want a compost that will dis-

solve in water, so that it will wash down among the roots by the rains in the form of liquid manure. Then, I want it so that when it dries it will not cake, like clay or cow manure, but will separate and crumble to a powder. After I apply this top-dressing to grass, if the weather is showery I do nothing, but as soon as it becomes dry, I pass over the field with a brush drag, which divides it and spreads it as evenly over the soil as if sown by a machine. Now any farmer can make such a compost, and can test its qualities in these respects before applying to the soil.

As I have no favorite theories to inculcate, and only wish to present the truth, I will state that without care there is a great loss of valuable elements when manure is allowed to ferment in the pile, and even when the greatest precautions are taken the loss is considerable. One hundred weight of fresh manure when it is well rotted will weigh but fifty or sixty pounds. A good portion of this loss is water, but the loss of valuable matter which escapes in the form of gas is by no means small. To prevent this escape, charcoal dust, common earth and swamp muck, are the most effectual. After mixing any or all of these materials with the manure in the heap, cover the whole with about six or eight inches of earth. But, I think the farmer should so arrange things as to have every ounce of manure he possesses, old or new, placed upon the land before planting in the spring.

Of stable manure I need not speak at length, and will only notice a few facts. Horse manure will ferment and become burned and worthless sooner than any other, except, perhaps, that of sheep, and there is no manure quicker, or sooner, in its effect, if well saved. Cow manure contains a good deal of water and does not readily ferment, and if allowed to dry is not easily disintegrated and distributed. It is also slow in its operation, and consequently lasting. There is a mechanical difference in the manure of different animals, but as a general rule its value depends upon the food the animal receives. No cow can make a rich manure from a straw stack, and if a horse was fed from the same straw pile, I think there would be very little difference in the quality of the manure. But feed the cow plenty of meal and her manure would be richer than that of the horse from the straw. We all know the manure of fowls is exceedingly valuable, and it is because they feed on grain and animal matter which they obtain in the form of worms, insects, &c. Guano is the richest manure we have, because it is produced by birds that feed exclusively on fish. Admitting this principle, which cannot be disputed, I ask every farmer to take especial care of the richest manure produced on his farm.

To save and gather manure usually considered of little account is an important matter. All the liquid manure should be preserved, and this is so important that it is worthy some labor and expense for its accomplishment. The slops from the house should be saved, and every farmer should provide some convenient arrangement for doing this, otherwise it will not be done. The muck from a swale or swamp is exceedingly valuable for mixing with manures, but I have never found great advantage from its use in a crude state. A noxious weed is as valuable when rotten as the most desirable plant. Those whose farms are situated near large villages or cities can obtain fertilizing materials cheap. Ashes from soap factories I have drawn and used with very satisfactory results. The waste from woolen factories is exceedingly rich. It is estimated that twenty-two pounds of woolen rags are equal in value to one thousand pounds of stable manure. The common refuse from the factories is not as valuable. I never bought cheaper manure than I obtained several years ago from the button factories and comb-makers. It consists of turnings and scrapings of horn and bone. From the manufacturers of glue, a manure consisting of hair, bones, lime, pieces of hide, &c., can be obtained, and I have made arrangements to give this a trial another season. Every farmer who is on the look-out, can, in most sections, find means to obtain good manure at a reasonable rate. CERES.

FEED THE STOCK WELL.

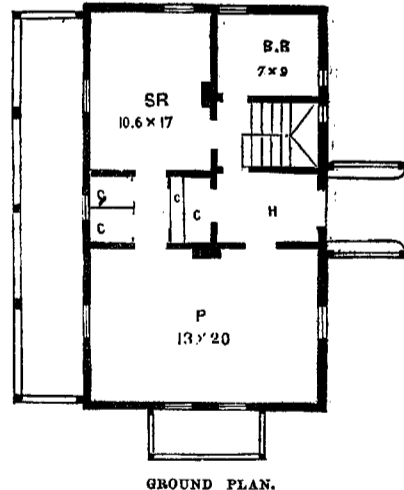
MR. RURAL:—I notice that our friend, H. T. B., has not yet got it digested, that feeding cattle and sheep so that they keep improving the year round is the true policy; and he appears to fear for trade and commerce if the sheep and cattle are fed so much grain as I propose. I have always supposed H. T. B. was only a farmer and a Major. Now I say let farmers look out for themselves, and never mind trade and commerce, as trade and commerce will only help the farmers so far as it is to the interest of those engaged in trade and commerce. I don't like to call H. T. B. a fog, but I must say I think he is in the mist, else he would understand that by feeding stock better, so that they keep growing every day as long as they are kept by the farmer, they would not only pay the farmer, but they would make a great deal more manure and that of far richer quality, and in a few years the State would produce double the quantity of corn, oats, barley, and hay, it now does. Then the Major would not be alarmed for trade and commerce.

I would ask the Major what has so largely increased the crops of grain and grass in England and Scotland for the last thirty years. Is it not draining and dung? Yes, it has been draining and dung that has done it, and nothing else. Now make the same applications to the land in this State (N. Y.). I know,



DESIGN FOR A HILL-SIDE COTTAGE.

Most of the plans we have given for houses, of late, have been designed for level sites, but some of our readers may find it convenient, or necessary, to build on uneven ground, or hill-sides, and for the benefit of such we present a plan for a Hill-Side Cottage, with some suggestions on the advantages of such sites, from *Village and Farm Cottages*, by CLEVELAND & BACKUS. When judiciously selected and properly built upon, such sites have many advantages,—such as plenty of air, thorough drainage, elevation above the miasmas which often float over the lowlands, fine views, and basements well lighted and ventilated. Basements, as they are usually made, more or less beneath the surface of the ground, are our aversion. Too often they are damp, almost always ill-ventilated. If city houses must have them, they should rank, and generally do rank in the class of necessary evils. The man's sanity might almost be doubted, who should put a basement to his house in the country. But it often happens that the form of surface and nature of the ground are such as allow the two sides or ends of a house to be of different depths, thus admitting entrance from without on two floors. In some families, such a division of the house divides also its duties and labors to great advantage. To give such a story its highest value and avoid the needless use of stairs, it should contain all the rooms and appliances needed for the labor of the household. The apartments should be entirely above ground, well lighted and ventilated. The ground outside should be lower than the floor, and should descend from the house, not only for drainage, but to prevent the settling within of the denser gases and vapors.



GROUND PLAN.

The floor should be elevated somewhat above the ground, and the side walls should be "furred off" with wooden strips to which the laths are to be nailed, thus forming an air-chamber between the outside stone and the inside plastering. The cellar, back of the rooms, should be separated from them by an airtight partition, and well ventilated, to prevent the intrusion into the house of its damp or impure air. A due regard to health demands the use of every precaution to secure dryness, to retain warmth, and to exclude those insidious vapors, charged with disease and death, which are wont to gather in dark and low places.

Such a story should be a real story, not a low, mean, back place, but a respectable portion of the house. Let the door be screened if necessary, and

let the whole be made pleasing by the judicious disposition of flower and vine, and shrub and tree. Houses thus built cannot easily be regular in form and arrangement. Nor is it desirable that they should be. In placing such a structure, the surface, rather than boundary of the ground, should be consulted. The house must be fitted to the declivity, even though it do not conform exactly to the street.

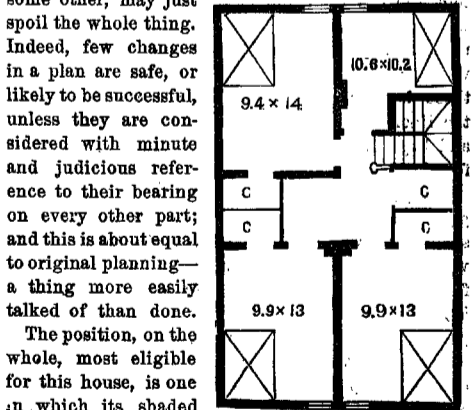
The hill-side plan shown in engraving, is meant for a position below the road. The principal front is therefore on the higher side. Gentle wells by some valley side, or on the outer margin of a plain, often furnish sites well adapted to this plan. To make it harmonize with such a spot it is made broad and low.

The internal arrangement, as shown by the plans, needs but little explanation. The windows opening on the veranda and on the small balcony at the end, are long, and are hung on hinges. The basement has a fuel cellar, F, a vegetable cellar, V, C, a closet, C, and the important rooms, L, R, and K. In the attic plan there are four bedrooms and as many closets. These rooms are ten feet high in the highest part, and but two feet and nine inches at the side; a result which is due to the lower pitched roof.

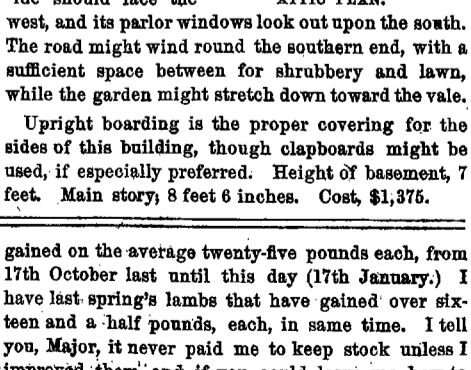
The stairs are of a compact form, and occupy but little space. The position of the upper flight of stairs determines that of the lower, and makes necessary the recess in the stone wall, as shown by the basement plan. Where so close a calculation is required, as in this case, a small alteration in one part of a staircase, without a corresponding change in some other, may just spoil the whole thing. Indeed, few changes in a plan are safe, or likely to be successful, unless they are considered with minute and judicious reference to every other part; and this is about equal to original planning—a thing more easily talked of than done.

The position, on the whole, most eligible for this house, is one in which its shaded side should face the west, and its parlor windows look out upon the south. The road might wind round the southern end, with a sufficient space between for shrubbery and lawn, while the garden might stretch down toward the vale.

Upright boarding is the proper covering for the sides of this building, though clapboards might be used, if especially preferred. Height of basement, 7 feet. Main story, 8 feet 6 inches. Cost, \$1,375.



BASEMENT PLAN.



ATTIC PLAN.

and every farmer that has tried knows, draining and dung have the same effect here,—of largely increasing the products from the land,—and that of every thing the land produces. Drained and dunged land produces more grain, more milk, butter and cheese, more beef, mutton, and wool; in fact, more of every thing. Cattle and sheep don't lose more flesh from 15th November to 1st of December, than any month in the year on drained and dunged land, as they do where the Major lives, where the cattle have to live on straw and frosted corn stalks. On drained and dunged land we cut up our corn before the frost kills the stalks. I am afraid it would give me the dyspepsia if I had nothing else to feed my cattle but straw and frosted corn stalks. I wish the Major would come here immediately, and I will show him what good keeping does. I have 146 sheep that have

gained on the average twenty-five pounds each, from 17th October last until this day (17th January). I have last spring's lambs that have gained over sixteen and a half pounds, each, in same time. I tell you, Major, it never paid me to keep stock unless I improved them; and if you could learn me how to make money by keeping on straw, I might save a great deal of grain and oil cake, which would go to help trade and commerce. I have no doubt I have fed five hundred tons of oil cake meal in the last twenty-two years, which would hurt commerce a little, as no doubt, had I not bought it, it would have been exported to England.

Now, Major, go right at advocating a higher grade of feeding. Of course higher manuring must be the result; and don't help trade and commerce until you have helped your brother farmers to show what good

feeding does. One of my neighbors sold, on the first of this month, (January), ten two year old cattle to a butcher for over \$60 each. These cattle he raised from calves, and kept them as all cattle that are intended for market should be kept, whether they are to be sold at two or three years old. At least six out of the ten would have paid to keep another year; but my neighbor has others to fill their places for next season. I wonder how many cattle there are in the Major's neighborhood that are not worth \$20 at the same age. No, no, Major, it will never do to feed cattle on straw and frozen corn stalks. You will be an old fogey before you know it. I may sell my sheep next month, (in fact I will sell any time I can get a paying price,) and feed others, and I would like to see the Major here before I part with them.

My sheep and lambs had nothing but pasture until the second day of December, and I guess they did not lose any thing from 15th November till December 1st. See H. T. B.'s article in RURAL of 12th of January, 1861. JOHN JOHNSTON. Near Geneva, N. Y., Jan., 1861.

FACTS IN REGARD TO SORGHUM.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It is a fact that throughout Illinois, Iowa, and other Western States, this product was grown during the last year to considerable extent. It is also a fact that it was "worked up," and that large quantities of sirup were made from it. We estimate and believe that within a radius of thirty-five miles from this point seventy-five thousand gallons of merchantable sirup were manufactured during the last fall. It is an apparent fact that this product is rapidly gaining in the confidence and favor of the people, and that it will be more largely grown the coming year. It is also a fact that Sorghum sirup is good, and that it sells in our village markets in direct competition, at present low rates, with the New Orleans sirup, and at about the same price. It is a fact that many specimens of sirups have deposited a sediment of grained sugar, or, in other words, "have grained." It is a fact that some specimens of cane produced a much better article of molasses than others, grown on similar soil, and worked in like manner.

In view of the facts in regard to superiority of product, we would advise the planting of only that seed grown on cane which produced good sirup in abundance; for the best sirup is where the greatest yield is obtained. Mr. K—, who has been extensively engaged in manufacturing sorghum sirup, tells us he has come to the conclusion, from the wide difference in value of the product worked by him, that much of the seed has become "mixed" and deteriorated in value. He recommends planting only the best seed of the best cane.

In view of these facts, we would urge individuals intending to plant, to ascertain, if possible, from itinerant manufacturers in their midst, where they may obtain the best seed. It is the general opinion hereabouts that the manufacture has less to do with the production of sugar than the purity or excellence of the plant. Let cultivators plant only the seed of such canes as produced crystallizable or sugar depositing sirup; and I fully, and firmly, and reasonably believe, that such improvement will be made in the production of this crop as to crown by success our desire for good sugar. It is a fact that the cane sugar producing region was fifteen years in acquiring the knowledge or skill required in making sugar. Give us fifteen years with sorghum, and we will make sugar.

We have no desire, or need, to urge the increased cultivation of sorghum, — we only caution growers to heed the hints above given. It cannot bring a worse crop to plant seed produced by the canes giving the greatest and best return; and it may result in great improvement, and we have faith in the realization of the hope that such will be the result. Amboy, Ill., 1861. W. H. GARDNER.

LABOR- SAVING IN - DOORS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Under the above caption, in a recent issue of your journal, H. T. B. takes the lords of creation severely to task for their exclusiveness of invention — all tending to abridge man's labor and comparatively nothing to abridge woman's toil, and ends with a flourish of trumpets to herald DANIEL'S clothes dryer. All this is very well, if his dryer is par-excellence. Perhaps H. T. B. is a bachelor, and wishes some éclat for contending for "woman's rights." If so, I wish him all the success his efforts entitle him to, and will endeavor to note some things for his and other's eyes — showing that much has been done by inventors to ameliorate the condition of the laboring women of America.

Any one whose memory runs back to the beginning of this century, will call to mind the time when the housewives and daughters of those days took the raw wool and cotton, broke, corded, spun, wove, and colored the same, all by hand, for family use — and bees for braking, carding, and spinning, were among the social gatherings of an afternoon of those days, for both young and old ladies. Most of the linen which was the common garments of men and boys in those days, was of the handiwork of females.

Every farmer's wife had her tape loom, and hosiery, gloves, and mittens, were made by hand. Now, steam and water power, with their thousands of wheels, spindles, jennies, and looms, make all these fabrics, with careful hands to guide them. The knitting machine makes every variety of hosiery, gloves, wrappers, and drawers, and easy coats for common wear. The Jacquard loom turns out carpets of oriental splendor, unknown to our grandmothers, and we have patent carpet sweepers to take up the dust, without ruffling the surface.

The cook stove was an important invention to lighten the toils of the kitchen, and gladden the hearts of those who had long cooked over hot fires, and handled the heavy iron furniture of the fireplace. The self-heating sad-irons have eased the operations of dressing your linen, and the wash-board and machine have come to the relief of the laundress, and displaced the "battle-board" of old times.

Sofas and easy chairs have displaced the rude benches, and bark and splint-bottom chairs. Machines grind our coffee and spices, and render useless the wooden mortar. Cisterns, with pump attachments, have left the "rain trough" to decay, and the old "oaken bucket" no longer vibrates in the wind on the well pole. The ax and the "fill bow" have given place to machines that cut and fill our sawsages; and the "Old Dominion" gives a finer aroma to our coffee. The sewing machine, another great invention of the age, has lessened one-half the toil of the needle woman, and its destiny at labor-saving is not half worked out.

To say nothing of the inventions of the toilet, whereby native charms have been greatly improved, the crinoline stands out as the crowning climax of the inventions of men for the gentler sex. Its extensive use and utility make it one of the institutions of

the day, which defies all that satire or ridicule may invent to make its use unpopular.

Now, in view of all the inventions above noted, which had their origin in this century, I would ask H. T. B. if something creditable to the age has not been done to lighten the toils of woman, and give her more time for mental culture; and if we, as a nation, have not reason to be proud of our rapid improvement in science, mechanics, arts, and intellectual culture. Religion has elevated woman to be our equal in all that ennobles, beautifies, and adorns social life, making every man's fireside who wills it, and who will make the least sacrifice to obtain it, a perfect oasis in life's desert. H. Mexico, N. Y., 1861.

CRIBBING HORSES.—AGAIN.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In your paper of the 12th ult., I saw a quotation "About Cribbing Horses." Having been troubled some with such horses, and having successfully removed the habit in a number of cases, I feel disposed to let what light I have on the subject shine, for Mr. FULTONTON'S benefit, as well as your readers generally. Possibly, however, it may be but an old light.

I regard cribbing as a habit, not a disease, nor symptomatic of disease. It may originate from improper or irregular feeding, but all the cases that I have come under my own observation, I have invariably traced to association with other cribbing horses. Therefore, I believe that the habit is acquired by allowing horses to associate with a cribber, or even to be stabled together. The horse I now have was perfectly free from this habit a few months ago, and had never cribbed previously. A cribber was then placed in the next stall, and in one week's time my horse was proficient in the art, and actually preferred to stand and crib all night than to lie down. I allowed him to become through master of this habit before the old cribber was removed. My horse then understood the business better than any other horse I ever saw. He had improved on his teacher, and learned three new ways of cribbing, viz., — with his under jaw or chin, his mouth being shut, — with his nose by pressing it against the wall; and, lastly, by bearing down with the end of his nose, or with his teeth, his mouth being shut, against the bottom of the crib. These additional ways he learned after I had tied his jaws together to prevent the old method of cribbing with the upper front teeth. I then took a small strap and buckled it around his neck, close to his head, and kept tightening it till he could not crib; that is, could not force air down his throat. I had him wear that strap day and night for a month, and he has not cribbed since it was removed, nearly four weeks. I have never known this remedy to fail where it was sufficiently persevered in.

This habit is, I think, almost, if not entirely, limited to the Northern States; for during a three years' residence in the Southern Confederacy, (?) I never saw a cribbing horse. The habit appears to consist in filling the stomach with air, and the strap prevents this. Should this communication throw any light on the subject, I shall be glad, as many fine horses are ruined by this obnoxious habit. It is as disagreeable to horse fanciers as "snuff-dipping" among the ladies is to a Broadway dandy.

This town is largely engaged in cabinet manufacturing — not Mr. LINCOLN'S Cabinet — but bureaus, &c. Business is about as brisk as ever. We have nearly a foot of snow and fine sleighing. Long life to the RURAL. J. H. SANBORN. Reading, Mass., 1861.

[If Mr. S. will furnish the list proposed in his note, it will be a gratification to circulate the documents to which he refers. We are certainly obliged to him for his expressions of appreciation.—EDS.]

BUTTER-MAKING IN WINTER.—I have long thought I would communicate my experience in butter-making in winter to the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and you may throw it under the table if not acceptable to you. I set my milk without warming, in a cool milk room, and let it stand from twelve to forty-eight hours as occasion requires, then set it on a grate on the stove, and let it warm gradually a little, — not as warm as new milk, but a little. This I do in the morning, and the next morning skim, and if you or your readers ever saw thicker, nicer cream, I never did. It is a luxury to take it off. I put it in the churn and grate a middle sized orange carrot for about five pounds of butter, and strain the juice into the cream, which makes sweet, delicious butter, and yellow enough. Do not get your milk too warm, as it injures the butter.—J. H. L., Herkimer Co., N. Y.

The Bee-Keeper.

Straw Bee-Hives—Their Value.

Eighty years ago, nearly all the bees in the country were in straw hives. That they were prosperous, we have abundant testimony. A few of them are occasionally found at this time — enough to prove their superiority in early swarming. A few years since, in connection with a partner, I bought twenty-two; these, with forty made of wood, equally as good in respect to the number of bees and stores, were placed in one yard. As the swarming season approached, the straw hives indicated the strongest colonies. The first five swarms were from these hives; and when seventeen had issued, thirteen had come from them. All sent out swarms but two — several of them two or three; while full one-third of the wood hives failed to swarm at all through the season. Here was an advantage in swarming, greatly in favor of straw hives. We kept some of these hives several years, which continued to maintain, in this respect, their superiority. Since our trial of them, I have inquired of many who have had them in use; all testify to their early swarming. I think it would be safe to give eight or ten days, at least, as the average time that these will swarm before others. The swarming season, generally, is the time when bees get most honey. A colony that would collect three pounds per day, during the honey harvest, would be just thirty pounds better off at the end of the season. This amount stored in surplus boxes, and sold at twenty cents, would be in value as much as a good swarm of bees. In many seasons, we have a full yield of honey for only a few days. A swarm located at the last of this period might fail to get even winter stores, when ten days earlier would have made all safe. But it is unnecessary to offer any further proof on this point; all will admit that early swarms are better than late ones. When these results indicate that straw hives give the earliest swarms, and such swarms are the most valuable, the question will arise, why have they been so generally discarded? There have been two principal reasons. The first is, that when the moth was first introduced into the country, its ravages exceeded any thing that we have at the present time. Its nature and habits were less understood. It seemed to be new to the bees, as well

as man — they did not know how to repel it. It was found enshrouded in its cocoon in the interstices of the straw, and it was supposed to have been nourished and bred there, the same as it is supposed by many now to be bred in the cracks and flaws of the wood hive, instead of among the combs, where it usually does all its mischief before leaving to find a place to spin a cocoon. The straw hives, from the nature of the material used, was thought to afford too many hiding places for the worm, and were accordingly discarded for those made of wood, which in this respect were much better. But at the present time straw is not objectionable in this respect; such hives are troubled no worse than others. The moth is not as persevering as formerly, or the bees are more so.

The second reason why they have been discarded — perhaps I might better say, why they have not again come into general use — is the form of the hive. The round, conical shape, gradually terminating in an obtuse point, gives no chance for using the surplus boxes. As the only inducement to be culture, with most people, consists in surplus honey, a hive affording no facilities for obtaining it, must of necessity be discarded. When the colonies failed that we had in these hives, we did not restore them on that account.

I know one bee-keeper who still adheres to these hives, putting the early swarms and prosperity of the bees before any of the advantages of box honey. I know another who expended some three hundred dollars in constructing wood hives to answer the same purpose of those made of straw. He conceived the principle to be in the greater warmth afforded to the bees. To make wood answer instead, he made them double, inclosing a dead air space between the outer and inner hive. Many others — including a patentee of a movable comb hive — have used and recommended hives made on this principle. But all these efforts are only partially successful. As soon as bees are inclosed with an air tight covering to secure the warmth, the moisture accumulates, and their combs mold. If an opening is made to secure upward ventilation to carry off this moisture, a part of the animal heat goes with it, and the gain by a double inclosure is very little. On the other hand, the straw hive absorbs the moisture as generated, the upward ventilation may be avoided, and the needed warmth will remain with the bees. The advantages, then, appear to be in the material — not the hive, or the manner of making it.

Mr. LANGSTROTH, speaking of materials for making hives, says: "Straw hives have been used for ages, and are warm in winter and cool in summer. The difficulty of making them take and retain the proper shape for improved bee-keeping, is an insuperable objection to their use."

I think I have shown satisfactorily, that straw is the best material for bee-hives, if the shape could be adapted to our wants. I have taken this trouble for the purpose of calling attention to this subject. When there is a demand, a supply should be forthcoming. Now we bee-keepers want a straw hive adapted to improved bee culture. I have recently thought much on this matter, and have actually constructed a hive adapted to the movable frames, and have put bees into it as an experiment this winter. But as I am not particularly gifted in making improvements in bee-hives, it is not at all probable that I have the best plan. I wish to induce some of our Yankee ingenuity, that is now wasted on worthless patent contrivances, to take another direction, where there may be some benefit. M. QUINBY. St. Johnsville, N. Y.

Straining Honey and Making Beeswax.

BRAKE up the comb in small pieces, have ready a small tin pan, the bottom perforated with small holes, a leaky one will answer. This makes an excellent strainer for many purposes. Fill the pan half full of comb, place this in a larger pan elevated three or four inches from the bottom by small blocks of wood, and place the whole in a stove oven, upon a couple of common bricks. Let the temperature be of sufficient heat to bake common ginger cake. In a short time the honey will have drained through nicely, also most of the beeswax. Remove carefully to a cool place, and let it remain till perfectly cold. The wax has now formed a solid covering for the honey, which you can easily remove and mold to your fancy. The comb that remains in the strainer throw into an iron kettle, and when you have finished straining honey, add a pailful of water to your kettle of comb, and place the whole over a hot fire. Boil about five minutes, then strain through your tin strainer into a tub of cold water. When cold, skim off the wax, and melt it. Press it through a coarse linen cloth, and you will see beeswax worth having. A friend at my elbow says I have made sixty or seventy pounds of beeswax in one season, and sold several hundred pounds of honey, and thinks it pays better than anything else a farmer of small means can do. MABIE. Lansingville, N. Y., 1861.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

The Potato Disease.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Bristol (English) Times draws attention to a method employed in Russia to prevent the potato disease. Professor Bollman, of St. Petersburg, planted some potatoes which had been accidentally dried near a stove till they were so greatly shriveled that it was thought they would be quite useless for seed. They grew, however; and while all the other potatoes in the neighborhood were very much diseased, these remained sound. The Professor afterwards adopted the principle of drying his seed potatoes at a high temperature, and the plan has never failed. His example was followed by various other persons, with the same success; and on many estates drying houses have now been built to carry on the process. It is said that the progress of the disease on potatoes partially attacked is completely checked by the heat. The experiment is very simple, and it has this advantage — it may be tested without any serious amount of trouble or loss.

Time for Cutting Timber.

We have been long satisfied, says the Country Gentleman, that the best time to cut timber is in summer, if it is not left in the log, but is immediately worked up into boards, rails, or whatever is intended. It dries rapidly, and becomes hard and sound. Cut and saw basswood in summer, and in a few weeks it will become thoroughly seasoned, and will finally harden so as to almost resemble horn. Cut it in winter, and it will be so long in seasoning as to become partly decayed before the process can be completed. No doubt, the presence of the water or sap in great abundance in winter, and especially towards the latter part, hastens this incipient decay. Rails cut and split in summer, and the bark peeled to hasten drying, have lasted twice as long as winter cut rails. A correspondent of the New-England Farmer says he cut and split a chestnut tree early in summer, and

"It dried the best and brightest wood he ever cut." It is the practice to cut nearly all timber in the comparative leisure of winter; but there is no doubt that it would be better to pay a higher price to have it done in summer. We would especially invite observation and attention to the subject.

Rats Afraid of Powder.

H. H. BALLARD, Owen Co., Ky., writes to the American Agriculturist, that with one-fourth pound of gunpowder he can keep every rat from his premises for a year. "The powder is not used to drive a bullet or shot through the animals, but is simply burned in small quantities, say a teaspoonful in a place, along their usual paths, and at the holes where they come out, with proper precautions to prevent accidents from fire." He says he has proved its efficacy by repeated trials. The rat has a keen sense of smell, and if he has sense enough to know that he is not wanted when he perceives the odor of the burnt powder, the remedy will be of great value. Let our readers experiment and report if the value of this method can be rat-ified.

Winter Care of Cattle.

A WRITER in the Germantown Telegraph gives the following as his mode of wintering stock:

How many farmers there are who, towards the close of winter, complain of being short of fodder and are compelled to purchase hay at high prices to carry their stock until pasture time. I know from experience what this is, and find it does not pay. There are two causes and also two remedies for this state of things, viz:—Too heavy a stock and too wasteful feedings. For the former the remedy is obvious; for the latter, a great many farmers have not yet discovered a preventive; but go on in the old way of feeding in common square racks in the yard, either corn-fodder, straw, or hay. Here is where the loss occurs, and did every farmer know the great gain there would be in cutting up everything he feeds, instead of feeding it whole, there would be no more complaints of "short of fodder." I have tried it and find I can winter ten head of cattle on cut fodder now, where I only wintered five head last year, and what is more, keep them in better order! I feed in the yard, in troughs six feet long, eighteen inches deep and two feet wide at the top, sloping to one foot at the bottom. My cattle eat it up clean — hard but, stalks and all, and one ordinary bundle of fodder, — such as would be generally given to a steer at one meal, — lasts an animal a whole day.

Another advantage is, my manure is all short, easily handled in the spring when I heap it up under the sheds, and I am not bothered by the long corn stalks all through it. Cattle prefer their fodder cut, and will eat it more quietly. The same saving may be accomplished in the stable, by cutting the hay fed to horses, cows, &c. They soon learn to like it better than long hay, and then they can waste none. Let every farmer who has not tried it, and who has been worried to know how to get his cattle through the winter rightly without buying hay, try this plan, and if he does it right, he will never regret the outlay for the cutter.

Inquiries and Answers.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THE PIGS?—Can some of your correspondents tell me, through the RURAL, what to do for my pigs? They breathe hard for ten days or two weeks, then the ears and nose turn black, and they die. They do not swell or choke up. A. B., Blackmadge, Ohio, 1861.

PULLING AT THE HALTER.—Will some of the RURAL readers tell me how to cure a horse of pulling at the halter? I have a fine mare that will, perhaps, once in a hundred times, pull tremendously. Now, it is not pleasant always to hitch with a large rope around the neck to be prepared for this pulling. She is a spirited animal, but otherwise kind and does not pull because she is frightened.—NIAGARA, Niag. Co., N. Y.

GRINDING CORN AND COB TOGETHER.—Is it hurtful to Cattle?—Will RURAL editors answer the following questions, or permit some of their numerous subscribers to do so in their journal? Is corn ground, cob and all, injurious to cattle? Which is worth the most for feed, both ground together, or the same corn ground separately?—A SUBSCRIBER, Ohio.

We have heard farmers complain of injuries received by feeding corn and cob ground together, and we have also heard practical men claim that the most advantageous mode of feeding was in this condition. As "Subscriber" wishes RURAL readers to give their views, he will doubtless be gratified.

SCAB ON THE EYE-LIDS OF CATTLE.—Noticing in the columns of the RURAL for January 6th an inquiry for a remedy for the above named disease, I would say to W. W. CHAPMAN, take fine gunpowder, (if not fine, make fine), mix with hog's lard, rub on the parts affected twice or three times, and it will effect a cure. I have known it to come out on different parts of cattle, and go through a whole herd.—E. D. LEWIS, Jasper, Steuben Co., N. Y., 1861.

WITH regard to the inquiry of W. W. CHAPMAN, in the RURAL of January 5th, respecting scab on the eye-lids of cattle, we have found that salting very often is the preventive, and I presume would effect a cure.—J. M. EDGERTON, Watson, Allegan Co., Mich., 1861.

PROTRUSION OF THE RECTUM IN SWINE.—I have a hog that is troubled with the main passage of the body, or alimentary canal, protruding, and bleeding profusely at times. I have tried lanced oil in her feed, but it does not effect a cure. Will you, or some of your readers please inform me, through the RURAL, what I must do, and much obliged.—A SUBSCRIBER, Demsville, N. Y., 1861.

This difficulty is somewhat frequent in young pigs, and is often fatal. It is most prevalent in towns or cities, particularly where a considerable animal food is given to the animal. It may also be produced by violence. Keep the pig clean and quiet, and deny all food, with the exception of a little milk, before returning the rectum. Secure the pig carefully, wash the parts, replace the gut, at the same time pushing it up a little distance. Double some strong thread, pass through the anus, and fasten in a knot. No solids should be given for several days, but keep the animal mostly on milk.

SCOURS IN CALVES.—Will the editors of the RURAL be so kind as to give me a recipe for the scours in calves? I have one that has been troubled since last fall, and can hear of no cure.—P. Prospect Farm, Demsville, N. Y., 1861.

Much acidity in the stomach and bowels attends this disease, therefore it is necessary to get rid of it, first of all, by the administration of a mild purgative, and afterwards by the exhibition of chalk, or some other medicine with which the acid will readily combine. Two ounces of castor oil, or three ounces of Epsom salts, may be given. Opium, in some form or other, must always be united with the chalk. It is of no use to get rid of one complaint when others are lurking and ready to appear. It will not be sufficient to neutralize the acidity of the stomach; the mouths of the vessels that are pouring out all this mucus and blood must be stopped; and we have not a more powerful or useful medicine than this. It acts by removing the irritation about the orifices of the exhalant vessels, and when this is effected, they will cease to pour out so much fluid. Other astringents may be added, and carminative mingled with the whole to recall the appetite, and rouse the bowels to healthy action. The following medicine will present the best combination of all these things: Take prepared chalk, two drachms; powdered opium, ten grains; powdered catechu, half a drachm; ginger, half a drachm; essence of peppermint, five drops. Mix, and give twice every day in half a pint of gruel.

This will be the proper dose for a calf from a fortnight to two months old. If the animal is older, the dose may be increased one-half.

DR. DADD, in his Diseases of Cattle, says that when sucking calves are under treatment, the mother should have a few doses of the following compound:—Finely powdered charcoal, 8 ounces; lime water, 4 ounces; tincture of Matico, 2 ounces; water, 1 pint. Divide into four parts, and give one portion every four hours. The same may be used for calves, only in smaller quantity.

Rural Notes and Items.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, AND A SUGGESTION.—Thanks, most sincere, to those who have sent friends of the RURAL NEW-YORKER who spend one, two or three days riding over their respective towns to procure subscribers. We have many interesting letters from such, and wish we could find or make room for copious extracts. While they are doing what will produce good to individuals and community, we hope our friends experience pleasure in visiting their neighbors and townsmen. A letter from an ardent Ruralist in Erie Co., (just opened and perused,) tells of traveling through the town to form a club of 20, — and that the result is 24 new subscribers. He only collected \$5, (as he was not sure of being able to fill out the club on the start,) and advances his own money — saying it will be necessary to visit his friends again to collect. Well, we trust they are so well pleased with the RURAL that each will pay at eight, without asking.

Those of our readers who wish to unite business with pleasure, are reminded that now is just the season for visiting and — obtaining RURAL subscribers. Take a RURAL in your pocket whenever you travel or visit, and let your and its light shine. In the last mail we received a note from an active friend asking for about a dozen numbers to complete his volume for 1860. He says he always carries a RURAL with him, and shows it and talks it when among non-subscribers. A suggestive example, isn't it, Reader?

A COMPREHENSIVE REQUEST.—One C. F. C., of Gibson Co., Tenn., writes:—"Please send me a specimen of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and also specimens of the Atlantic, Harper's, the Horticulturist, and Hovey's Magazines, and oblige yours — as I wish to subscribe for a paper, one or two magazines, and perhaps I can make up a club." We are naturally sanguine, have considerable confidence in humanity, and often venture more in our business than friends think safe or advisable, — yet, while it would afford us pleasure to oblige C. F. C., we hardly think it proper to invest a dollar, beside postage, to comply with the request relative to said magazines. We cheerfully mail specimens of the RURAL, but fear if we should also send the magazines, the recipient would have so much of a good thing (first class reading) that the supply might retard the making up of a club! We make a great many small investments for the benefit of subscribers and borrowers — the least of which is answering letters and paying postage, (though often the time required to obtain the information makes the expense no trifle) — but must be excused, on the score of modesty, from complying with the request quoted, and many of a similar character.

DEVONS FOR CALIFORNIA, &c.—We learn that Messrs. JOHN and WM. S. CORP., of Freetown, Cortland Co., (of whose firm of Devons we have made favorable mention in the RURAL,) have recently sold several pure Devons to SERRICA DANIELS, of Saratoga, who is to take them the overland route to California the ensuing season. Among them is "Fancy," (1288) bred by E. G. FAIR, — awarded the 1st prize at the N. Y. State Fair in 1854; also same at the State Fair in 1858, as best Devon cow over three years old. Also "Fashion," (1290) bred by Mr. VAN RENSSSELAER, of Otsego, from Fancy by imported "Mayboy" (71.) Messrs. C. have also sold the Devon bull "Messenger," (bred by Mr. V. R., sired by "Fon-taine," (527), bred by Mr. FAIR, from "Ladybird," (820) bred by GEO. TAMER, of Barton, Exeter, England,) to A. W. NORTH, of Binghamton, N. Y.

GREAT TURKEY STORY.—A correspondent at Quindaro, Kansas, furnishes the following singular story:—"Last spring I had three turkey hens, but no gobbler, and they laid their first lot of eggs before I could get one. These eggs were taken from the turkeys, and given to other hens, without my knowledge, and when I was told the fact, I grumbled a good deal at the loss of the eggs, for I was confident they would not hatch, and I wanted them for the table. But, to my great surprise, in due time every one produced a turkey. Now, the wonder is, how did these eggs become impregnated? No male turkey could have been with them. Do turkeys possess a double sex? Will some one learned in such matters explain?"

GOOD YIELD OF MANGEL WURZEL.—A correspondent writes us that Des. AMASA HOLMES, of Homer, N. Y., grew last season a crop of Mangel Wurzel yielding nine bushels per square rod, or at the rate of 1,440 bushels per acre. "He had several hundred bushels, and never fails in growing enough to feed his stock — keeping them in good health and thriving well. He has wintered hogs successfully on these and sugar beets. Des. H. finds it advantageous to dress the ground with clean manure, and generally continues the cultivation of the same plot for several years. His soil is a clay loam, not naturally very productive."

HOW TO OBTAIN ENGLISH AGL JOURNALS.—A California subscriber inquires how he can best procure some of the English Agri Journals, and whether we can give the address of a reliable party who will receive and forward subscriptions. For the benefit of our correspondent, the information of others interested, and the good of the cause, we will do a little free advertising by stating that Messrs. SEXTON & BARKER, Agri Book Publishers, 25 Park Row, New York, are agents for most of the English and other foreign agricultural journals. They are reliable, and usually very prompt in business transactions, as we can attest.

Doings of Agricultural Societies.

NEW YORK LOCAL SOCIETIES.

THE ONONDAGA CO. AG. SOCIETY, located in one of the best agricultural districts in the State, has been disbanded! Cause, — a debt of only \$1,800! This must be humiliating to the enterprising and progressive farmers of Onondaga, unless there is a more potent reason than the one assigned. They ought to have more "pluck" than to "give it up," — and we hope the "sober, second thought" will induce active worthy of themselves and the rich county they inhabit.

OSWEGO CO., (at Mexico.)—Officers for 1861: President—ALVIN LAWRENCE, Mexico. Secretary—C. L. Webb, Mexico. Treasurer—L. H. Conklin, Mexico. We have not seen the proceedings of the annual meeting, but learn that a committee was appointed to confer with a committee of the other County Society on the subject of uniting.

SENECA CO. SOCIETY.—Officers elected at recent annual meeting: President—O. W. WILKINSON. Vice President—Wm. Dunlap. Secretary—Charles Sentell. Treasurer—John E. Coe. Directors—Helim Sutton, in place of O. W. Wilkinson, elected President, Orin Southwick, James D. Rogers.

SARATOGA CO.—Officers for 1861: President—JOSEPH BAUCUS, Northumberland. Cor. Secretary—Frederick S. Root, Saratoga Springs. Rec. Secretary—John A. Corey, Saratoga Springs. Treasurer—Reuben S. Burdick, Stillwater.

WESTCHESTER CO.—Officers: President—HENRY KRELLER, Hillsdale. Cor. Secretary—James Wood, Bedford. Rec. Secretary—John Cowan, White Plains. Treasurer—James Armstrong, White Plain.

COLUMBIA CO.—Officers: President—NORTON S. COLLINS, Hillsdale. Secretary—Abraham Ashley, Chatham Four Corners. Treasurer—J. S. Shuffell, Chatham Four Corners.

OTSEGO CO.—Officers for 1861: President—ALFRED CLARKE, Springfield. Vice President—Charles J. Stillman, Cooperstown. Treasurer—G. Pomeroy Keese, Cooperstown.

LENOX F. & M. ASSOCIATION (Maidison Co.)—Officers for 1861: President—FRANKLIN M. WHITMAN. Vice Presidents—E. C. Saunders, James H. Woodford. Secretary—I. N. Messenger. Treasurer—T. F. Hand. Balance of \$224 on hand.

VERMONT STATE AG. SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was held at Rutland on the 10th ult. Officers for 1861:—President—H. H. BAXTER, of Rutland. Vice-Presidents—Edwin Hammond, of Middlebury; Henry Keyes, of Newbury; J. W. Colburn, of Springfield; John Jackson, of Brandon. Recording Secretary—Charles Cummings, of Brattleboro. Cor. Secretary—Daniel Needham, of Hartford. Treasurer—J. W. Colburn, of Springfield. Additional Directors—Frederick Holbrook, of Brattleboro; L. B. Platt, of Colchester; David Hill, of Bridport; H. S. Morse, of Shelburne; D. R. Potter, of St. Albans; G. B. Bush, of Shelburne; Elijah Cleveland, of Coventry; H. G. Root, of Bennington; Nathan Cushing, of Woodstock; John Gregory, of Northfield; George Campbell, of Westmpster. The Society has a balance of \$3,635.08.

HORTICULTURAL.

REPORTS—FRUIT GROWERS' MEETINGS.

We are pleased to observe that Fruit Growers in all sections of the country are increasing in numbers and in zeal, and that they are not only anxious to gain information, but are taking the right means to obtain it. Never before were so many fruit growers' meetings held as during the present winter, and should we give even a brief sketch of all, our Horticultural Department would be filled with these proceedings, to the entire exclusion of other matters. We have already given considerable space to the doings and sayings of our friends, and have much more material on hand to which we shall allude hereafter. We know of no better way than this to obtain or disseminate information. It is from the united experience of cultivators in all sections of the country that we obtain reliable facts. There is no royal road to knowledge peculiar to editors, as some seem to imagine. A correspondent lately proposed a certain question, which he wished answered in the RURAL, and requested us not to refer him to the proceedings of any meeting of fruit growers for an answer. We are always ready to give our own opinions, and we aim to have these opinions founded on our own long experience. But if found to be contrary to the experience of fruit growers, we always hold them open for revision and correction. Horticulture is making rapid advances at the present day. We are all learners. Let us hold fast all that experience has proved to be true, and constantly add to our stock of knowledge.

FRUIT GROWERS OF UPPER CANADA.

We are indebted to D. W. BEADLE, of St. Catharines, C. W., for the following interesting report of the proceedings of the Fruit Grower's Association of Upper Canada:

APPLES.

After electing officers for 1861, the meeting took up the list of apples, and the experience of cultivators in different sections was fully brought out.

Early Harvest.—Quality best of its season. Tree perfectly hardy at Toronto and elsewhere, except Paris, where it is somewhat tender. Recommended for general cultivation.

Red Astrachan.—Quality very good, very handsome, and sells readily in Toronto market. Tree very hardy in all parts of the Province. Strongly recommended for general cultivation.

Duchess of Oldenburg.—Quality very good, beautiful in appearance, tree perfectly hardy everywhere; vigorous, very prolific; bears young, and bears every year. Recommended for general cultivation.

Sweet Bough.—Large size, best sweet apple of its season; valuable for market. Tree hardy at St. Catharines, and at Paris, tender at Toronto, and a moderate bearer. An annual bearer at St. Catharines. Recommended for further trial.

Early Joe.—Quality best. Tree very hardy, but a very slow, small grower. Recommended to be grown as a dwarf tree in gardens.

Early Strawberry.—Small, and tree a shy bearer. Summer Rose.—Quality good; tree very hardy, but a feeble grower. Recommended for further trial.

Primrose.—Quality best; hardy so far as known, but being new to most of our cultivators, it was recommended for further trial.

St. Lawrence.—Quality very good at Toronto, best at Paris, somewhat variable at St. Catharines. Tree perfectly hardy in all the Province, a good bearer and fair grower. Recommended particularly for the colder parts of Canada.

Fameuse or Snow Apple, is well known in all Canada, and everywhere highly esteemed as a dessert fruit. Very strongly recommended, especially for the northern and colder parts.

Fall Pippin.—Quality very good. Tree occasionally tender about Toronto; a moderate bearer. Recommended for further trial.

Porter.—This was but little known, though one of the best market fruits at Toronto. Tree rather slow grower. Recommended for further trial.

Keswick Codlin.—Quality very good for cooking. Tree very hardy, good grower, early bearer. Recommended for general cultivation.

Hawthorn.—Good for cooking; very handsome. Tree very hardy, good and early bearer. Recommended for general cultivation.

Golden Sweet.—Very good sweet apple, valuable for market. Tree very hardy, good grower, great bearer. Recommended for general cultivation.

Twenty Ounce Apple.—Good cooking, size large. Tree hardy, moderate bearer. Recommended for further trial.

Granstein.—Quality best, best in all respects. Tree hardy at Toronto, Paris, St. Catharines, and so far as heard from. Recommended for general cultivation.

Bononi.—Not well known; highly esteemed by those who had tried it. Recommended for further trial.

Jersey Seedling.—Best fall sweet; valuable for market. Tree hardy so far as tested; but the variety being comparatively new, it was recommended for further trial.

Fall Jonneting.—Quality very good for baking; size large. Tree hardy, fair bearer. Tested only in a few localities, and recommended for further trial.

Hubbardston Mansuet.—But little known; where tried had been found very good for both table and cooking, and tree hardy and prolific. Recommended for further trial.

Baldwin.—Best quality; valuable for market; keeps well until spring. Tree tender to the northward; an early and great bearer. Recommended for suitable localities.

Rhode Island Greening.—One of the most valuable and most profitable winter market fruits. Tree a great bearer, begins to bear early, but quite tender to the north, and particularly at Paris. Recommended for appropriate localities.

Spitzenberg.—Quality best. Tree hardy, very slender grower, but had proved only a moderate bearer at Toronto, and Paris, and St. Catharines. At Hamilton and Niagara it was a good bearer. Recommended for certain localities.

Boston Pippin.—Quality best for both table and cooking; valuable for market. Tree hardy everywhere; good and early bearer. Recommended for general cultivation.

Roxbury Russet.—Quality good, size above medium. Tree hardy at Toronto and St. Catharines, but only moderately hardy at Paris. Recommended for its long keeping qualities.

American Golden Russet.—Quality very good; larger than Pomme Gris. Fine long keeper; valuable for market. Generally hardy, good grower and good bearer. Recommended for general cultivation.

Northern Spy.—Quality best, size large, very handsome, long keeper, hangs well on the tree. Tree hardy everywhere; rather tardy in beginning to bear, but after it has begun, is an excellent bearer, and by always blooming late in the season, the crop often

escapes late frosts, which destroy the crop of other varieties. Recommended for general cultivation.

Swaar.—Quality best. Tree requires a warm, dry, rich soil; very tender at Paris, and a good bearer at Toronto. Recommended for appropriate localities.

Pomme Gris.—Quality best; small russet; in eating all winter, and will keep until July. Tree very hardy and a good bearer. Very strongly recommended as a table apple for all parts of the Province.

Yellow Bellflower.—Quality very good, but the tree is a poor grower, and very poor bearer. Rejected.

Belmont.—A new variety, proved good for cooking and table at Toronto, and the tree very hardy and a good bearer. Recommended for further trial.

Wagner.—Quality best; large, beautiful tree, very hardy, very prolific, and an early bearer. Recommended as a new variety of great promise.

Tollman Sweet.—Best winter sweet apple; tree very hardy everywhere; but at Toronto the fruit was small and scabby, though fine elsewhere.

Beauty of Kent, was but little known; quality good cooking; size large, very handsome tree; a good bearer and hardy as far as tested. Recommended for further trial.

Colvert.—Quality good cooking; large, handsome, tree erect, vigorous; not generally known, though it received the first prize of the Provincial Agricultural Association last fall as the best baking apple. Recommended for further trial.

Westfield Seek-no-Further.—Quality best; a February table fruit; tree hardy and a good bearer as far as heard from. Recommended for further trial.

Vanderveer.—This varied greatly according to the soil; best on sandy land; at Toronto the fruit was scabby, and not worth cultivating; tree hardy and a good bearer on suitable soil.

Rambo.—Quality very good; size medium, keeps until January; tree very hardy and prolific; but though the tree was hardy at Toronto, the fruit was very small and scabby. Recommended for suitable localities.

Domine.—Specimens of this variety were exhibited from St. Catharines nurseries; but being new to most of the members present, it was recommended as a new variety promising well.

STRAWBERRIES.

On motion, the list of apples was laid on the table, and the strawberries taken up.

Wilson.—Excellent flavor, enormous bearer, very hardy. Recommended for general cultivation for market.

Jenny Lind.—Early, large, prolific; at Toronto it ranks next after Early Scarlet. Recommended for general cultivation.

Burr's New Pine.—Finest in flavor of all the strawberries, hardy and a good bearer. Recommended for general cultivation.

Trollope's Victoria.—Late, large, excellent flavor, hardy, not valuable for market. Recommended for gentlemen's gardens.

Monroe Scarlet.—Had proved a good bearer, of good flavor, and hardy at Paris, Grimsby and Toronto; but at Toronto did not bear well.

Triomphe de Gand.—Had failed at Paris, but everywhere else it proved to be of the finest flavor, hardy, and one of the most promising new varieties.

Hooker.—Much admired for size, beauty and flavor; but was tender in many localities, and liable to winter-kill.

RASPBERRIES.

Franconia.—Mr. LESLIE, of Toronto.—Strong cane, berry dark, red, prolific; the most hardy variety, flavor best, very valuable for market. Mr. HOLTON, of Hamilton, something too acid for table, best for cooking, flesh firm, plant hardy. Mr. FRENCH, of Hamilton, not as luscious as some, but very good; valuable for market. Mr. MURRAY, of Hamilton, very good in every respect. Recommended for general cultivation.

Brinckle's Orange.—Mr. BEADLE, of St. Catharines, had fruited it only one year, it bore the winter well without protection, and fruited well; fruit rich and fine. Mr. LESLIE, of Toronto, found it tender. Mr. HOLTON, of Hamilton, had grown it on poor soil, and then it proved a poorer bearer than Franconia; flavor very good, plant not very hardy. Mr. FRENCH, of Hamilton, quite hardy with me, strong grower, left it unprotected for three years, and it bore good crops each season, flavor good, not so high as Yellow Antwerp. Recommended for further trial.

Fustolf.—Mr. LESLIE, of Toronto, a strong grower, not very hardy, occasionally bears heavy crops, berry large, flavor very good. Mr. ARNOLD, of Paris, is very tender, produced a small crop, fruit very soft, can hardly be gathered without bruising. Mr. FRENCH, of Hamilton, cane and fruit very tender.

Knevet's Giant.—Mr. HOLTON, of Hamilton, I have had it three years, on a poor, light soil, canes very strong, tolerably hardy, not quite as hardy as Franconia. Good bearer, berries very large and continue in use a long time, flavor best; the flesh hardy firm enough to carry well to market. Recommended for further trial.

PEARS.

Madeleine.—Recommended for cultivation as the best earliest pear.

Bartlett.—Tree too tender for the coldest sections, tender at Toronto, hardy at Paris, and a universal favorite at Hamilton; bears young and abundantly on the pear stock. Recommended for localities not too cold.

Osband's Summer.—Quality best, medium size, tree hardy at Toronto and St. Catharines. Recommended for further trial.

Tyson.—Quality very good, tree perfectly hardy. Recommended for general cultivation.

Belle Lucrative.—Best quality, tree hardy and prolific on pear and quince stock at Hamilton and St. Catharines, but rather tender and poor bearer at Toronto and Paris. Recommended for further trial.

Beurre Giffard.—Quality best, tree grows slow, but is perfectly hardy. Recommended for further trial.

Louise Bonne de Jersey.—A universal favorite at Toronto, Hamilton and Paris; tree perfectly hardy and a great bearer. Recommended for general cultivation.

Flemish Beauty.—Very much esteemed at Toronto, Hamilton, St. Catharines, and wherever tested; tree very hardy, and good bearer on pear stock. Recommended for general cultivation.

Beurre d'Anjou.—Quality best; tree hardy everywhere, but being new was only recommended for further trial.

White Doyenne.—Quality best; tree hardy at Toronto, Hamilton, and St. Catharines; rather tender at Paris; at Toronto the fruit was too small to be good. Recommended for further trial.

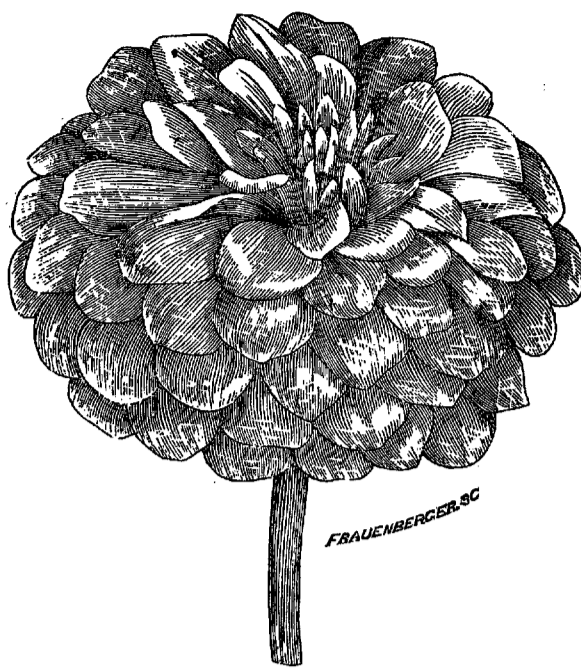
Seckel.—Quality best, fruit quite small; tree small, but bears abundantly, and is hardy throughout the Province. Recommended for general cultivation.

Duchesse d'Angouleme.—Not hardy at Hamilton, and a poor bearer; blossomed well, but did not set its fruit; at Toronto only semi-hardy, but bore pretty

DOUBLE ZINNIA.

We have before noticed the appearance in Europe, last year, of double Zinnias, and the special attention they received from florists and the press. The Zinnia, in its many varieties, is no doubt familiar to most of our readers, having been cultivated for many years, and without any other change than that of color. We figured the common variety in the RURAL of last year.

All attempts of European florists to obtain a double flower have been unsuccessful, and the present double varieties are of Eastern origin, the seeds having been just received from the East Indies by M. GRAZANI, of Bagneres, France, and afterwards by Messrs. CARTER, of London. How they originated, or came to India, is at present unknown, but that they are a great acquisition no one can doubt, and Dr. LINDLEY says, "not a whit less interesting than that of double dahlias." We give a representation of the flower. Seeds have been obtained from Europe by some of our florists.



well; at Paris was hardy and fruit large; at St. Catharines hardy, and bore abundantly.

The hour for adjournment had now arrived, and much interesting matter was necessarily postponed to a subsequent meeting. The Association voted to hold another meeting at Hamilton, in July next, and one in September, at Toronto; the Secretary to notify each member of the day of meeting, at least ten days previously. All Canadian fruit-lovers and growers of fruit are invited to join the Association and contribute their experience in their several localities, to the end that it may be ascertained what varieties are best adapted to the climate. J. HURLBUR, Esq., L. L. D., of Hamilton, Secretary of the Association, will be happy to receive the names of any persons wishing to become members.

GRAFTING AND FORING THE VINE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Last winter I obtained some Delaware Grape scions of Mr. CHARLES DOWNING, a very obliging gentleman of Newburg, N. Y., for the purpose of grafting some old vines. In the month of February last, I concluded to try an experiment, in order to get an early and large growth, and thus obtain "the fruit of the vine" much sooner than by planting the cuttings, or propagating the buds in pots. I took a part of the root of a two-year-old Isabella cutting, which I had taken up and laid in the fall previous, and splice-grafted it with a Delaware scion, having two buds, and secured them with waxed paper. The stalk had about half a dozen small roots, which I shortened to about a finger's length. In this condition, I put it in a box about a foot square in size, and carefully filled it up with a mixture of sand, loam, and leaf mold, leaving the topmost bud of the scion even with the surface. The box was then placed in a warm room, watered, and otherwise attended to, as occasion required. In about ten days the scion began to sprout, and soon commenced growing finely. At the end of March it had attained the height of six or eight inches, putting forth leaves, tendrils and even fruit stems. I continued to grow quite vigorously until May, when I set it out permanently, in the following manner: I dug out a cavity in the ground beside the trellis, into which the box was placed, after the bottom had been carefully unfastened, leaving the earth inside the box even with that of the outside. The box was then raised out of the ground, and the earth was then adjusted about it, and thus the operation completed. As warm weather came on, the graft began to grow abundantly, and continued to do so until it had attained a height of six feet, and had put forth eight or ten branches from one to three feet long.

I grafted two or three dozen other roots, which were layers, the last week in April, which were set out in the field, but not one of them grew; probably because they did not start soon enough. The utility of this mode of culture, is to obtain the fruit of new and rare varieties much sooner than can be got from cuttings in the ordinary way. I am very confident that this mode of "grafting the vine" is the best that can be adopted. S. FORSHAY, Penn Yan, Yates Co., New York.

Inquiries and Answers.

COOPER'S MARKET AND COLVERT APPLES.—Can you, or some of your subscribers inform me concerning the apples known by the name of Colvert and Cooper's Market? Last spring I engaged a lot of trees from an agent of one of the Rochester nurseries, and was very particular in stating the kinds I wanted. But, on delivery, I found quite a share were marked as above mentioned, and being anxious to get my orchard started, I set the trees, and they are all living at present. As I cannot find any one in this section acquainted with those kinds of apples, I am at loss what to do. I have thought of engraving them anew. An answer to the above will much oblige—A SUBSCRIBER, Shirley, January, 1861.

Cooper's Market is a very good late keeping apple. With proper treatment, it may be kept in good condition until May. It is represented also as quite productive. Mr. DOWNING describes it thus:—Fruit medium, oblong, conic. Skin yellowish, shaded with red and striped with crimson. Stem short, cavity deep, narrow. Calyx closed, basin small. Flesh white, tender, with a brisk acid flavor. December to May. With the Colvert, we are not familiar. It seems to be considerably grown in Canada, and at the Provincial Show last autumn, received the first premium as the best baking apple, though it is represented in the meeting of fruit growers at Hamilton as not generally known.

GRAPE FOR OUT-DOOR CULTURE.—Can you, or some of your correspondents, give the names of the best varieties of native as well as foreign grapes adapted to out-door culture in this climate? Also, which are best for wine-making, and which for table use? The grape is beginning to be extensively cultivated about here, and if you could, through the columns of the RURAL, give, from time to time, such information as would be instructive, it would be very acceptable to a great number of your readers about here and elsewhere. People are just beginning to see the importance of cultivating the vine, and very few know which sorts to choose, as well as how they should be trained and cultivated. I have myself some fourteen varieties, set out one year ago, and would set out more as soon as it can be determined which are the best and most profitable to raise. I hope that you will enlighten us on the subject, through your valuable paper.—F. C. B., Waterloo, N. Y., 1861.

Our correspondent must remember that reliable information, in regard to the value of new fruits, cannot be obtained in one season. They must be tried under different circumstances, in different soils, exposures, &c., before we can judge of their earliness, and productiveness, and quality, compared with the older sorts. We see the Isabella grape grown all around us, and exposed for sale, small, unripe, and worthless. Were we to judge of the Isabella from such specimens, we should consider it entirely unworthy of culture. Again, we see specimens that are large, black, sweet, and high-flavored, and judging from these, we would call the Isabella an excellent grape. Now, a seedling grape is grown by somebody and exhibited. It seems to be very good, flavor as good or better than Isabella when it is grown well. Now, what can we tell about the value of this grape? It has doubtless received extra care, and is exhibited under the most favorable circumstances. We can say it looks promising, or that it promises to be valuable, but that is all. It will

be years before its value, as a grape for general culture, can be known. In your various varieties of hardy grapes, you doubtless have all that are known to be valuable for general culture, as well as many others that will prove worthless. We know not more than a half a dozen that we would recommend for extensive planting.

PRUNING AN ORCHARD.—I should like to be informed, through your excellent paper, the best way to treat an apple orchard in regard to pruning, or not pruning. When I came to my farm first, I pruned, or what we call cleaning, trees every year, in the spring, and I noticed the trees were getting sickly from year to year. I came to the conclusion perhaps pruning trees was injurious, and left them to take their own way for the last three years. They now look more hardy and fresh than they have been for the last ten years; but what may be the result at last with the trees?—A SUBSCRIBER, Lancaster Co., Pa., 1861.

Severe pruning is only necessary when an orchard has been badly neglected, and then must be considered a necessary evil. Where trees are taken care of every year, it will not be necessary to take off large limbs. "A Subscriber" acted wisely. If we are pursuing a course under which our trees languish, it is best to change, and as long as the trees continue healthy and making proper growth, no fear need be entertained for the future.

DWARF PEARS.—Would you plant an orchard of dwarf years on such land as this? It fronts the east, naturally very rich, will produce at least a hundred bushels of corn per acre in a good season, and lies low, being at the foot of the slope. What four or five kinds are the best for family use, and for profit? Do you know if the King apple has been cultivated in Western Pennsylvania, and how it succeeded?—SUBSCRIBER, Wash. Co., Pa., 1861.

Your soil and situation, we think, would do well for pears. For half a dozen varieties, we would recommend the following:—Tyson, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Beurre Die, Buffum, Duchesse d'Angouleme, and Vicar of Winkfield. We do not know that the King apple has been cultivated in Western Pennsylvania, but we think there can be no question as to its success there.

ONTARIO GRAPE.—Please to inform me, through the RURAL, if you have been able to obtain any additional information in regard to the merits of the Ontario grape the past season?—RAYETTELLI, Onon. Co., N. Y., 1861.

We are not yet prepared to express an opinion in regard to the Ontario grape. It is large and of fair quality, about as good as the Isabella, but as to its earliness, &c., we know but little. All the specimens we have seen were from the same grower, and no doubt received good care.

Horticultural Notes.

INDIANA POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S LIST OF FRUITS.

LIST OF VARIETIES RECOMMENDED FOR GENERAL CULTIVATION.—Apples.—Rambo, Maiden's Blush, Wine Sap, Fall Wine, Early Harvest, White Pippin, Jersey Black, Smith's Cider, Trenton Early, American Summer Pearmain, Fall Pippin, Carolina Red June, and White Winter Pearmain, for most localities.

Pears on Pear Roots.—Flemish Beauty, White Doyenne, Bartlett, Seckel, Belle Lucrative, Early Catharine, Stephens Genesee, Julienne.

Dwarf Pears or Pears on Quince.—Louise Bonne de Jersey, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Belle Lucrative, White Doyenne, Buffum, and Flemish Beauty, if double worked.

Cherries on Mahaleb Stocks.—Early Richmond, Early May, Peaches.—Crawford's Early, Van Zandt's Superb, Crawford's Late, October Yellow, Serrate Early York, Old Mixon Free.

Quinces.—Orange Quince. Currants.—Red Grape, White Dutch, and Red Dutch. Gooseberries.—Houghton's Seedling, Mountain Seedling.

Grapes.—Catawba, Isabella, Concord, Clinton, Diana, Delaware, Raspberry.—Ohio Everbearing, Purple Cane, American Yellow Cap.

Strawberries.—Wilson's Albany, Longworth's Prolific, Large Early Scarlet, Hooker, (for amateurs).

RECOMMENDED AS PROMISING WELL.—Apples.—Northern Spy, Pickard's Reserve, Golden Sweet, Broadwell, Fall Green Sweet, Peck's Pleasant, Indiana Favorite.

Standard Pears.—Des Nonnes. On Quince.—Des Nonnes, Vicar of Winkfield, or Le Cure.

Cherries.—Belle Magnifique, Donne Maria, Reine Hortense, Late Duke.

Currants.—White Grape, Victoria. Grapes.—Hartford Prolific.

Report from the Society's Circulars, so far as returned, January 14th, 1861.—No variety named, unless recommended by four different cultivators. The figure opposite the name denotes the number of individuals recommending the variety. Total number of Circulars returned, 10.

Best Six Varieties of Apples.—Red Astrachan, 4; American Summer Pearmain, 4; Rambo, 8; Wine Sap, 6; Early Harvest, 8; Maiden's Blush, 4.

Total number of varieties returned, including the above, 81. Best Twelve Varieties of Apples.—American Summer Pearmain, 4; Rambo, 8; Newtown Pippin, 4; Early Harvest, 8; Maiden's Blush, 9; Rawley's Janet, 5; Wine Sap, 5; Fall Wine, 6. Total number of varieties returned, 56.

Best Six Varieties of Standard Pears.—Only six cultivators answering.—Bartlett, 4; Flemish Beauty, 6; White Doyenne, 6; Seckel, 5. Total number of varieties named, 19.

Best Six Varieties of Pears on Quince Stocks.—Duchesse d'Angouleme, 4; White Doyenne, 4; Buffum, 4; Stevens' Genesee, 4; Beurre Die, 5; Louise Bonne de Jersey, 4. Total number returned, 24.

APPLES.—There is scarcely an article of vegetable food more widely useful and more universally loved than the apple. Why every farmer in the nation has not an apple orchard where the trees will grow at all, is one of the mysteries. Let every family lay in from two to ten or more barrels, and it will be to them the most economical investment in the whole range of culinaries.

A raw, mellow apple, is digested in an hour and a half; while boiled cabbage requires five hours. The most healthful dessert which can be placed on the table, is a baked apple. If taken freely at breakfast, with coarse bread and butter, without meat or flesh of any kind, it has an admirable effect on the general system, often removing constipation, correcting acidities, and cooling off febrile conditions, more effectually than the most approved medicines.

If families could be induced to substitute the apple, sound, ripe, and luscious, for the pies, cakes, candies, and other sweetmeats with which their children are too often indiscreetly stuffed, there would be a diminution in the sum total of doctor's bills in a single year, sufficient to lay in a stock of this delicious fruit for a whole season's use.—Dr. Hall.

GENESSEE VALLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—ANNUAL MEETING.—The meeting of this Society, for the election of officers and committees, and transaction of annual business, will be held at the Court House, in this city, on Monday, February 4th, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Domestic Economy.

TOMATO CATSUP—FRUIT JAR CEMENT.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Seeing an inquiry in a late number of your valuable paper for a recipe to make catsup, I send mine, which we think excellent. Take good, ripe tomatoes, steam them till done, then squeeze them through a colander, all but the skins; boil the juice till quite thick, then add a quart of good vinegar to four quarts of juice, put in pepper and salt and spices to suit your taste.

For Cement—take one pound of rosin to an ounce of tallow, and melt together.—ANNA BODINE, Waterloo, N. Y., 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing a call in your paper for a recipe for tomato catsup, I will send you mine, which I think can't be beat: Four quarts of tomatoes; one of vinegar; four red peppers; three tablespoons of salt; two of black pepper; two of allspice; one of cloves; three nutmegs. I boil my tomatoes as long as I can and not burn, and then strain through a flour sieve, add one pint of vinegar and boil down again, then add the other pint of vinegar with all the other articles, and boil down as thick as I can. If it is boiled sufficiently (as it is the boiling that makes it keep well,) it will keep three years if made right, and it is nice, I tell you.—Mrs. J. L. Holt, Rockville, Conn., 1861.

OBSERVING an inquiry in the late RURAL NEW-YORKER for making catsup, I send the following, which I know to be far superior to any other.

Heat the tomatoes, then squeeze them through a sieve. To six quarts of the pulp and juice add three quarts of the best vinegar, set it over a slow fire to boil, and when it begins to thicken add half an ounce each of cloves, allspice and pepper, one-fourth ounce of cinnamon, and two nutmegs, all finely powdered; boil it to the consistency of thin mush, then add four tablespoonfuls of salt. When cold, bottle and seal it. This should be boiled in a porcelain kettle, or removed from brass to tin before the salt is added.

SEALING WAX.—Melt in a tin basin, or some iron dish, two ounces gum shellac and four ounces resin. When melted, add two ounces beeswax, and some coloring material to suit the fancy. For a bright red, add two ounces vermilion; for green, add chrome green, &c. When required for use, set the basin on the stove, melt the wax, and insert the bottles.—MARY R. LAMB, Onalaska, Wis., 1861.

HOW TO WASH CLOTHES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I wish to give my sister readers of the RURAL who have not a good washing machine, a simple recipe for washing clothes, many of whom I know have never tried it—and which they will find far superior to the old-fashioned way of rub, rub, rub, pound, pound, pound, in tepid water.

Soak the clothes over night, or longer, in cold water, rubbing soap, with the hand, on the dirty spots; in the morning, wring out, and put in a pounding barrel, the dirtiest at the bottom; on these pour plenty of boiling hot suds; pound them, taking off the top layers as fast as done, and you will find that but a few of the very dirtiest will need any rubbing whatever, and a little boiling. In this way I usually get my washing all out of the way before breakfast Monday mornings, and though not exactly a pleasant recreation, yet the horrors of washing day are diminished fully one half.

Seneca Co., N. Y., 1861. Mrs. E. M. V.

CAKES AND CRACKERS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Thinking a few more recipes would be acceptable, I send you some which I think are very good.

BELL CAKE.—Two cups of sugar; one cup of butter; one cup of cream; six eggs; one teaspoonful of saleratus; raisins. Flavor with lemon.

CREAM CAKE.—Four cups of flour; two cups of cream; two cups of sugar; four eggs; one teaspoonful of saleratus; salt.

TUMBLER CAKE.—Four tumblers of flour; two of sugar; one of oil; three-fourths of do. of butter; one teaspoonful of soda; two teaspoonfuls cream tartar; two eggs; raisins.

I would like to inquire of the readers of the RURAL how to make good baker's soda crackers, that will be brittle. Also, how to make sweet crackers. West Cheahire, Conn., 1861. ELIZABETH.

APPLE JELLY.—In answer to the inquiry of "Housewife," in the RURAL of Dec. 22d, "whether any one has made apple jelly to compare with that in a tin, left when sweet apples have been baked," I would say I have, and for the benefit of housewives, I will state my method. Wash, and cut in quarters, (to be sure of no impurities,) any quantity of apples you choose, boil them in a porcelain kettle one hour with just enough water to cover them; place them in a colander, or sieve, but do not wash them, and let them drain over night; to every pound of juice, after straining it through a cotton jelly-bag, add one pound of refined sugar; boil briskly about ten minutes, flavor according to taste, (quince is my choice,) and turn into molds.—A SUBSCRIBER, Hayesville, Ohio, 1861.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES.—Seeing an inquiry in the RURAL NEW-YORKER as to the manner of making buckwheat cakes without soda, I send mine, which we think very good. One pint corn meal to four pints buckwheat flour; one tablespoonful salt, enough warm water to make thick batter, add nearly a teaspoon of hop yeast, and let rise. I think our friends will like this.—A SUBSCRIBER, New Garden, Ind., 1861.

FRIED CAKES.—Take 4 tablespoonfuls of sugar; 2 eggs; 3 tablespoonfuls of butter; 1 teaspoon of sweet milk; 2 teaspoonfuls of cream tartar; 1 teaspoon of soda.—MAGGIE, Nunda, N. Y., 1861.

ORNAMENTAL LEATHER WORK.—Will some one send a recipe to the R

Ladies' Department.

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

I did not know her in my childhood's years, When all the world seemed like a fairy land, And love a thing of course; or in my youth,

She loved me. O, to woman, in her hours Of sadness or discouragement, how such Appreciating love can warm the heart

The precious boon, a heart that loves us, and A mind that understands our feelings too. Such was my friend; who not alone gave me

How often in our youthful zeal we prate Of faithful friendship, but to years mature 'Tis given alone to know its real worth.

Geneva, Wis., 1860.

B. C. D.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] OVER-DRESSING, AGAIN.

It is well that the RURAL has opened its pages to discussion upon this subject, for extravagance in dress has become the national sin of American women,

The fact that husbands are often bought by an expensive toilet, is the very reason that over-dressing should be avoided, for what true women would wish to marry a man who wedded only for wealth.

LINDA says that "personal beauty is rarely appreciated, except it be assisted with the elegance of dress." In good society at present, personal beauty in simple but tasteful array is appreciated more highly than plainer features associated with rich apparel.

"And often the chief attraction of the handsome face is dependent on some peculiarity of style, or shade of color in dress, which is made the subject of study by those who know the secret of their power in society."

Certainly, American gentlemen do not prefer the stolid English, the phlegmatic German, or the plain features of the French, to our fair and spirited women, with all their sin of dress; but if the dear little wife who presides in the sweet vine-wreathed cottage of our own beautiful land, without adopting the sober colors of the English, would study more perfectly the true science and art of dress, in which the French excel, she could, with less inconvenience, be arrayed becomingly in the style her husband most dearly loves to see, which is oftener the tidy print, or the robe of plain material.

[For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] SKATING FOR LADIES.

We have observed with much satisfaction that the art of skating is becoming popular among the ladies, and though it would hardly be considered an innovation in Holland, where it has long been practiced by the rural dames, yet here it is comparatively a new thing to see ladies striking out upon the ice with all the boldness and indifference of practiced skaters.

It is to be hoped that this manly and invigorating sport will receive a new impetus from its fair devotees, and be no longer looked upon as mere childish amusement. The effect is already becoming apparent, for grown men, who lately thought themselves far above such child's play, as they termed it, are often seen conducting their fair companions to the ice, and teaching them to perform evolutions they had themselves almost forgotten.

the virgin huntress HARPALYCE she vies with the wind in swiftness,

"Volucrum fuga praevertitur Eurum"

or, without apparent effort, like the circling bird of prey, sails in gentle curves. Her dress, added to an inborn ease of carriage, gives her, when at full speed, an airy lightness, which man, with his stiff clothing, can never perfectly acquire.

And then, as a health giving exercise, it is unsurpassed. No swinging of heavy dumb-bells within the four walls of a gymnasium, no scaling of lofty ropes and ladders, not even the exhilarating canter of a spirited pony, can suffice the cheeks with a more glowing tint of Nature's rouge.

The peculiar aspect of things at this season lends a kind of charm to the sport. The delicate frost-work with which the trees are fringed, glitters in the sunbeams like the flash of myriads of gems and contrasts so strongly to the deep green hues of summer. The beautiful nights, too, seem to possess additional brightness, and skating has almost the fascination of a scene of enchantment in the soft radiance of moonlight.

Indeed, instead of being boyish, as many were wont to think, it is one of the most manly, exciting, invigorating, and delightful recreations with which we are acquainted, and we only wonder that it has hitherto met with so little favor from the fair sex. Americans, and especially American ladies, are justly censured by foreigners for not taking sufficient out door exercise, and their pale faces and fragile forms show the accusation to be only too well founded.

HOPE FOR ROUGH BOYS.

DON'T be discouraged, mother. What though the boys are rude and rough, that should not discourage you. The new farm is rough and rugged when the husbandman first begins to till it, but by patient toil he gradually extracts the roots, removes the boulders, levels the knolls, and fills the hollows.

Your investment may not at once yield you a return; nay, it may be years ere it affords you much fruit of a desirable beauty or richness; but be well assured of this: the more diligent and patient your toil, the sooner will you be blessed with a satisfactory return.

FASHIONABLE WOMEN.

FASHION kills more women than toil and sorrow. Obedience to fashion is a greater transgression of the laws of woman's nature, a greater injury to her physical and mental constitution, than the hardships of poverty and neglect. The slave woman at her task will live and grow old, and see two or three generations of her mistresses fade and pass away.

It is a sad truth that fashion pampered women are almost worthless for all the good ends of human life. They have but little force of character; they have still less power of moral will, and unite as little physical energy. They live for no great purpose in life; they accomplish no worthy ends. They are only doll forms in the hands of milliners and servants, to be dressed and fed to order. They dress nobody; they feed nobody; they instruct nobody; they bless nobody; and save nobody. They write no books; they set no rich examples of virtue and womanly life.

A TOUCHING SIGHT.—Nothing can be more touching than to behold a soft and tender woman, who had been all weakness and dependence while treading the prosperous paths of life, suddenly rising in mental force to be the comforter and supporter of her husband under misfortune. As the vine which has long twined its graceful foliage about the oak, and been lifted by it into sunshine, will, when the hardy tree is reft by the thunderbolt, cling round it with its caressing tendrils, and bind up its shattered boughs, so woman, who is the dependent and ornament of man in his happier hours, should be his stay and solace when smitten with sudden and irremediable calamity.

Choice Miscellany.

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

BY AMANDA T. JONES.

By the pavement, idly musing In the glowing autumn air, 'Mid the din of wheels confusing, Stands the beggar, pale with care.

White as moon-illumined cloud; He is old,—but how cold Is the pity of a crowd!

Who will clutch the iron railing With his seamed and dusky hands; For his little strength is failing, And he swayeth as he stands.

Who will heed his bitter need? Stalwart forms are stalking past— All unheeded his pleading word, And the red sun sinketh fast.

Oh, if but a boy would sadden To a look of gentle ruth! As he hurries by to gladden Some dear home with sunny youth.

Once how bravely could he tussle With the strong in friendly strife, Proud of well-tried limb and muscle, Valiant in his vigorous life.

Age has smitten him with languor, But with sudden, desperate tread, And with self-accusing anger, Starts he forth to earn his bread.

Kindly, Twilight, bend above him With thy meek and tender grace— Gentle Winds, draw near and love him— Clouds, rain dew upon his face.

Black Rock, N. Y., 1861.

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

The world is suffering under a flood of books got up expressly for the benefit of children and youth. Scores of second rate minds, ambitious of imparting their knowledge and thought, and perhaps sensible of their comparative unfitness to address the maturer intellects of men and women, are continually turning to the field of so-called juvenile literature to find a suitable sphere for the exercise of their talents.

Persons of any considerable reading cannot have failed to notice in how much more clear, forcible, and intelligible manner, opinions, sentiments, and truths are placed before the reader's mind by writers to whom they belong by original thought or discovery, than by others who have no right to them but that of acceptance, and who only aim to interpret and popularize them. The reason of this is evident. The processes, often severe and toilsome, by which the searcher for new truths reaches his object, the patient going over again and again, all the approaches to the subject in hand, so familiarize the whole matter to his mind that when he comes to speak of it he does so with ease, and naturally employs the plainest, simplest language, in announcing and explaining his discovery.

And this leads us to speak of the greatest disadvantage the use of juvenile books is likely to prove to us; it tends to frighten us away from better books. If one had courage and resolution to break through the dread of great authors, which an exclusive acquaintance with inferior ones inspires, the harm of studying only those of the latter class in early life

might be in considerable measure repaired in later years; but to such an extent does the ordinary system of education increase our natural awe of great names, that too often we content ourselves with drinking from the lesser streams of thought and knowledge rather than attempt (what seems too bold an undertaking,) to reach the highest sources of human wisdom. But if, as we supposed above, the discoverers in science and the great masters of thought communicate themselves more successfully than others can speak for them, what hinders our going directly to them for instruction? We surely do ourselves a wrong if we accept anything less than the best teaching we can obtain. What boy or girl, old enough to read anything worthy the name of poetry, but can understand SHAKESPEARE, and MILTON, and HOMER, better than scores of the minor poets? Why then should they not be encouraged to read those first, leaving an acquaintance with singers of feebler, more imitative strain, till they have secured the best? There is certainly no need of approaching, through a crowd of lesser lights, the poets who are acknowledged on all hands to express themselves in the clearest, simplest, most natural language in which poetical thought can be clothed.

"BORN ABROAD."

Now, brothers are born abroad, by the wayside, on the train, in town and country—everywhere, but in the old "homestead." There is even a bond woven closer than a common pulse, the bond woven of identical association. The same trees to dream under; the same hearth to creep to, the same wood to be sprinkled with rainbows, the same meadows for the berries and the birds, and the one brook for the angling, the same birthplace for the dead—for they are "born into the spirit world" now-a-day—the like sweet faith for the living; these are the things which make that saying true, "better is a friend that is near, than a brother afar off." Not born along the trail or the warpath, but in the place hallowed by that love whose embrace warms us into life, and those dyings that ally us to the dwellers in the bright homestead of Heaven, and make us "poor relation" of the people in Paradise.

To be born at a neighbor's, to sit in the twilight of an alien, to love the vine that stranger hands have trained, is the lot of more than half the world. Happy is he who can trace the far apart threads of lives that are lovely, till they all converge in some dear beginning of living and loving. Let those threads be gossamer, floating never so lightly on the summer wind, if only they are fastened there; let that beginning be of the humblest, if it only be my home and yours; if only ours and theirs.

And happy he, the landscape of whose childhood cannot be effaced by Vandals like a record upon a slate; where God did some plowing as we think, and left the furrows of his hills, or the mighty "bout" of his mountains, but where in fact He wrote with His fingers, even as on the tables of stone on Sinai, and sculptured a home for us when living, that should outlast the Sexton's for us when dead. Thank God they cannot say to the great billow of green that tosses a forest above "the cot where we were born," "Peace be still," and those billows shall obey. They may make an eyelet hole indeed through the mountain, and fling the iron shuttle with its thread of thunder from base to base, but the sun must still climb those eastern cliffs ere it is morning, and they must glow with the last steps of day before it can be night.—B. F. Taylor.

HOW TO SECURE INDEPENDENCE.

To secure independence, the practice of simple economy is all that is necessary. Economy neither requires superior courage nor eminent virtues; it is satisfied with ordinary energy, and the capacity of average minds. Economy, at bottom, is but the spirit of order applied in the administration of domestic affairs: it means management, regularity, prudence, and the avoidance of waste. The spirit of economy was expressed by our Divine Master in these words, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing may be lost." His omnipotence did not disdain the small things of life; and even while revealing His infinite power to the multitude, He taught the pregnant lesson of carefulness of which all stand so much in need.

Economy also means the power of resisting present gratification for the purpose of securing a future good; and in this light it represents the ascendancy of reason over animal instincts. It is altogether different from penuriousness; for it is economy that can always be afforded to be generous. It does not make money an idol, but regards it as a useful agent. As DEAN SWIFT observes, "we must carry money in the head, not in the heart." Economy may be styled the daughter of Prudence, the sister of Temperance, and the mother of Liberty. It is eminently conservative of character, of domestic happiness, and social well-being. It allays irritation, and produces content. It makes men lovers of public order and security. It deprives the agitator of his stock in trade, by removing suffering, and renders his appeals to class-hatred completely innocuous. When workmen by their industry and frugality have secured their own independence, they will cease to regard the sight of others' well-being in the light of a wrong inflicted on themselves; and it will no longer be possible to make political capital out of their imaginary woes.—London Quarterly Review.

THE truest criterion of a man's character and conduct is invariably to be found in the opinion of his own family circle, who, having daily and hourly opportunities of forming a judgment of him, will not fail in doing so. It is a far higher testimony in his favor for him to secure the esteem and love of a few individuals, within the privacy of his own home, than the good opinion of hundreds in his immediate neighborhood, or that of ten times the number residing at a distance. In fact, next to a close and impartial self-scrutiny, no question comes so near the truth as for a man to ask himself—"What is thought of me by the familiar circle of my own fireside?" Would that all remembered this!

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] CONSOLATIONS OF HEAVEN.

BY JENNIE M. WARD.

How oft have hope's visions Deceived the fond-hearted; Like the rainbow they shone— Like the rainbow departed— When their light, that once sparkled, Is darkened and gone;

Earth's thrones, oh, how tempting Their flowers and their fruit, How we love their sweet shadow, But a worm's at the root! When thy gourd, that once sheltered, Is withered away, Be the shadow of JESUS Thy shelter and stay!

So, when floods of affliction Have deluged all around, And no green spot of gladness, No Hope-branch is found, Then flee to the SAVIOR, The true ark of rest! Oh, there's no place of shelter Like His pitying breast!

From Him, thine own SAVIOR, Whate'er may betide thee, No distance can sever, But He'll forsake—never; Earth's loved ones must die,— But He lives—forever.

Wilson, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] TRUST IN GOD.

"Casting all your care upon Him; for he careth for you."—1 PETER, 5: VII.

Few things are more calculated to prevent us from serving God effectually than carking care. Yet, there is much in the world that is fitted to beget such a feeling in the mind of the christian. The corruption of his own heart is often a source of unhappiness to him; and even if, by the grace of God, all his inward foes are not only subdued, but are utterly driven out of his bosom, there is still enough to weigh down his soul. And the temporal circumstances of the child of God are often such as to beget anxiety. His home is often the abode of poverty. Frequently he watches day after day at the couch of a loved one, and sees the light go out from eyes that have beamed softly upon him. Or he has stood by the lifeless form of the companion of his childhood, or followed to the grave her who had been the "angel of his household." Under such circumstances, we are in danger of being swallowed up with over much sorrow. But the text recommends a better course of action, namely, casting our care upon God.

The text does not recommend a trust in God that allows its possessor to neglect any duty. Many live as though they supposed they had nothing to do in regard to their salvation. They act as though they expected to be wafted to heaven without exercising any watchfulness in avoiding the dangers that beset the voyager upon the sea of life. Such carelessness as this has no warrant from the Scriptures; but they everywhere teach the necessity of watchfulness. They represent the christian as a warrior. If the soldier fails to be on his guard, he is likely to be surprised by his foes, and to suffer loss. Is the careless professor likely to "Fight the good fight of faith?" We will never wear the victor's crown until we have fought many battles. But after we have discharged our duty, we should then leave the result with God. We are to rely unflinchingly upon His promises, even when to the eye of reason all appears dark and hopeless. The man of strong faith is careful for nothing. Though his bark is out upon the stormy sea, and the clouds gather darkly around him, he does not despond, for faith shows him CHRIST standing at the helm.

Many are the reasons why the christian should cast his care upon God; but the one given in our text, that "He careth for him," is sufficient. There is a heartless philosophy in the world, that seeks to rob man of the watch-care of God. It asks scoffingly, whether the sovereignty of a million worlds will condescend to take any notice of so insignificant a creature as man. But it has never yet been proven that man holds an inferior place in the scale of being; and whatever false philosophy may teach, the believer in Revelation knows that God watches over the interests of His children with the greatest care. The infidel may tell us that—

"To Him no high, no low, no great, no small, He bids, he bounds, connects, and equals all." He sees with equal eye, as God of all, A hero perish, or a sparrow fall; Atoms, or systems, into ruin hurled; And now a bubble burst, and now a world."

But CHRIST said to his disciples, "Ye are of more value than many sparrows. As long as it is admitted that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son to die, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have eternal life," it will be impossible to deny that He takes a deep interest in the welfare of His children.

The character of God is such, as to afford a firm foundation for trust in Him. He cannot fail to supply the wants of His children on account of ignorance of those wants. The child may die for want of the comforts of life, which its earthly parent would rejoice to supply, was he not ignorant of its condition; but the eye of our heavenly Father is ever upon us—His ear is open to our faintest cry. How cheering to the humble christian is the language of CHRIST, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

And his power is equal to his knowledge. Many an earthly parent has wept over the misery from which he was unable to shield his child. Often has the earthly monarch seen the happiness of his faithful subjects destroyed by a ruthless invader, whose progress he had not the power to stay; but no being in heaven or earth has the power to pluck His children out of the hand of God. Shall he be cast down who has such a protector? Shall he repine over the petty sorrows of life, whose privilege it is constantly to look up and say to God, "What time I am afraid I will trust in Thee." Shall he not rather rejoice in the fact, that God has assured him that "His light afflictions, which are but for a moment, shall work out for him a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."—S. L. LEONARD. Bristol, Wis., 1861.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Superb New Pettunias for 1861—Ellwanger & Barry. Farm for Sale or to hire—J. B. Brewster, Jr. Near the Oil Regions—A. Farthing, Warden.

Brown's Troches for Bronchial Complaints, &c.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT. ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY 2, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning states that the President expects to hear of a collision at any time at the South. An attack is apprehended at any moment at Fort Sumter or Fort Pickens.

Ex-President Tyler had a long, satisfactory and friendly interview with the President on the 24th ult. The latter expressed the hope that there would be no collision between the Federal and State forces during his administration, and that he should certainly make every effort to prevent riot and to preserve peace.

The National Railroad Convention, which was in session during the last week, held a meeting to take into consideration the condition of National Affairs, and appointed the following gentlemen as a Committee to draft resolutions of their sentiments. Mr. Marsh, President of the Erie Railroad; Mr. Corning, President of the N. Y. Central; Mr. Thompson, President of the Pennsylvania Central, Mr. Garret, President of the Baltimore and Ohio, and M. L'Hommedieu, President of the Hamilton and Dayton. The Committee reported a series of resolutions which were unanimously adopted, to the effect that the plan embodied in the Crittenden resolutions, for dissipating the evils now threatening the existence of the Union, meets our approbation.

The Convention, consisting of about sixty gentlemen, made a visit to the President of the United States, and Gen. Scott.

It is said that the Grand Jury presented Goddard Bailey for larceny of the Indian Trust Fund, and Russel as accessory, together with Secretary Floyd, for conspiracy to defraud the Government.

The Post-office at Pensacola has been abolished, the mail service discontinued; and the Postmasters throughout the country directed to send all letters addressed to Pensacola to the dead-letter office. This course was in consequence of the interruption of the mails by the Florida.

There appears no reason to doubt that a well organized conspiracy is in existence, having for its object the seizure of Washington by the Southern rebels, and that the leaders are fully determined to precipitate a crisis. The arrangements for repelling invasion, however, are ample.

The following paper, proposed by Representative Montgomery, has been circulated in the House: We, the undersigned, members of the 26th Congress, convinced by the various votes taken on the several propositions presented for our consideration from time to time, that there is no hope that any measure which will reconcile existing difficulties between the sections of our country, can receive a constitutional majority, and as none of the present members were elected in view of the existing trouble, and believing that in a time of so great peril it is proper to refer this question to the people of our several districts, propose that the members of this Congress resign, to take effect on the 21st of February next; and that we immediately provide for the election of our successors by the people, who shall assemble on the 21st of February next, and to these representatives, hearing the instructions of the people, the various propositions of compromise now pending, and heretofore to be proposed, should be referred. The election is not to interfere with the officers or employees of the House.

Fifty members of the House have already adopted the plan, and have signed the proposition. A dispatch from Gov. Pickens, says the best understanding exists between Major Anderson and the South Carolina authorities, and there is no apprehension of immediate hostilities.

The friends of the Virginia peace proposition assign as a reason for pressing it on the attention of other Border Slave States, that it will have the effect of preventing them from joining the Cotton States, and if adopted by them, will afford an opportunity for the latter to return to the Union.

Secretary Dix communicated to the House an important document in reply to Mr. Sherman, Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. It gives first the amount of the public debt, and a detailed description of the public debt, and of the different kinds of debt. Second, the amount and details of the floating debt, and unpaid balances, with claims. Third, the amount of acceptances and other acknowledgments of debts by the different Governments. Fourth, the facts connected with the recent sales of Treasury notes. Fifth, the amount required to pay the public dues, accruing prior to the first of July next, and in this connection, the estimated amounts from dues and imports, the public lands and miscellaneous sources up to that date. The Secretary estimates the amount necessary, prior to July next, in addition to the accruing revenues, as \$20,000,000. He then suggests measures to raise this money, and among them refers to the surplus revenue deposited in the States in 1836, as a specific fund which might be pledged or recalled.

Letters received from Paris, by the Asia, state that on New Year's Day the Emperor, Louis Napoleon, on the official presentation of the Diplomatic Corps, expressed to Mr. Falkner, the American Minister, the hope that no State or States had separated, or would separate from the Union. The Emperor also expressed the wish that the United States might long continue a united and prosperous people.

Congressional Proceedings. SENATE.—Mr. Hunter, from the Committee on Finance, reported the Indian Appropriation Bill, and asked to be excused from further service on the Finance Committee. He said it was evident that the party in the majority in the Senate would soon be changed, and he thought justice to himself and the Senate required him to be excused. Mr. Hunter has been Chairman of Finance fifteen years. He was excused.

The Kansas bill was read a third time and passed—yeas 36, nays 16.

The bills for the sale of public lands, and the removal of the Arsenal at St. Louis, and the construction of a new Arsenal at Jefferson barracks, were passed.

Mr. Yule, of Florida, announced the withdrawal of himself and colleague from the Senate.

Mr. Clay read the withdrawal of the Alabama Senators.

Mr. Davis stated that the secession of Mississippi terminated his functions here. In parting he said he felt no hostility against any Senator. He hoped the relations between them might be peaceful, though he must part. If he had offended any he would now make reparation for such offence. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Speaker laid before the House a letter signed by the Alabama delegation withdrawing from further participation in the deliberations of the House, in consequence of the secession of that State.

On motion of Mr. Morris, the Judiciary Committee were instructed to inquire into the propriety of amending the Neutrality laws so as to prevent military expeditions being allowed to aid seceding States.

The House Military Committee have passed a bill appropriating \$1150 for the soldiers of Fort Sumter's losses, by precipitate leaving of Fort Moultrie.

The House resumed the consideration of the Post-route bill, and adopted the Senate's amendment, making the postage of letters to and from San Francisco the uniform rate, 10 cents, whether carried by the steamer or overland.

Mr. Grow offered a resolution that a select committee of five be appointed to inquire whether any secret organization hostile to the United States exists in the District of Columbia, and if so, whether any officer or employee of the Federal Government is in the executive or judicial departments thereof. Adopted.

Mr. Colfax called up the post route bill which passed the House last session, and was returned from the Senate with amendments, which were now considered and nearly all agreed to, including provisions for procuring and furnishing one cent stamp wrappers and envelopes, requiring letters which have been advertised to be sent to the Dead Letter Office within two months, letters for the seaboard to be retained for a longer period, under the Post Office regulations unclaimed, money from the Dead Letter Office to be applied to promote the efficiency of that bureau.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The resolution to fix the 5th of February for the election of U. S. Senator, was adopted. In Executive Session the appointments of Dr. Gunn as Health Officer of New York, Benj. Welch, Jr., as Commissioner General, and W. S. Benton as Auditor of Canal Department, were confirmed.

The Senate took up the bill relative to the Finance Department of the City of New York. On motion of Mr. Sessions, an amendment was adopted retaining Mr. Develin in office as Chamberlain, by a vote of 17 to 10. Mr. Robertson's amendment was also adopted, providing that the same Chamberlain may at any time, and from time to time, change the bank of deposit for the City of New York respectively, upon notice thereof to the Comptroller of said city; and it shall be the duty of any bank or banks holding such deposit at the time of such notice, to transfer the same forthwith to the bank specified in such notice; and in case of the refusal of such bank, it may be compelled by mandamus, to make such transfer, and shall be liable to pay 5 per cent. as damages for detention, besides interest from the date of demand.

In the Senate Mr. Conolly offered concurrent resolutions, that the conservative action of the Border Slave States in refusing sanction to unconstitutional measures of seceding States, merits grateful acknowledgments from the people of New York. That the refusal of Gov. Hicks, of Maryland, to convene the Legislature of that State to promote the objects of the secessionists, excites the profoundest admiration of our country. It will acknowledge him a patriot of the highest order. Liberty will own him a benefactor—the human race a friend. Also, that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to Gov. Hicks. Adopted—27 to 1. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Speaker made the following Committee on the condition and wants of the people of Kansas: Messrs. Turner, Randall, Wells, Macomber, Bergen.

Mr. Camp offered the following: Whereas it is known that the President elect will leave Springfield in a few days for Washington, and whereas the journey to the National Capitol should be marked by such manifestations of popular respect as are due, as well to him, as to the office he is about to assume, and

Whereas, the loyal people of New York will cordially welcome him at every point and assure him of the devotion to the Constitution and laws of the Country, therefore,

Resolved, If the Senate concur, that his Excellency the Governor be requested to invite Mr. Lincoln to pass through this State on his way to the Federal Capital, and tender him the hospitalities of the authorities and the people. Adopted unanimously.

Bills Passed.—To incorporate Artists' Fund Society of New York City. To increase the salary of Deputy County Clerk of New York. Adjourned.

The Governors on Secession.

WE close our extracts from the Messages of the Governors of the various States, and think our readers will be enabled to judge as to the reverence in which the Union is held by the sentiments therein expressed.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The last issue of the RURAL contained a portion of the valedictory of Gov. PACKER, and we now present an extract from the Inaugural of Gov. CURTIN. The Governor pledges himself to stand between the Constitution and its encroachments, instigated by no hatred or ambition, fanaticism or folly. The election of a President has been made a pretext for disturbing the peace of the country, by wresting from the Federal Government the power the people conferred upon it when it was adopted. There is nothing in the life and acts of Mr. Lincoln, to warrant that his Administration will be unfriendly to State or local institutions. Nothing has occurred to justify the excitement which has blinded the judgment of a part of the people, and which is now precipitating them into revolution. If Pennsylvania has any laws infringing upon the rights of any State, or which contravene any Federal law or obstruct its execution, they ought to be repealed. She never has faltered in the recognition of all the duties imposed by the National compact, and will by every act consistent with devotion to the interests of her people promote fraternity and peace between the States. When her trade was prostrated and her industry paralyzed by legislation of the General Government, favoring adverse interests, Pennsylvania waited patiently for another opportunity to declare the public will in a Constitutional manner.

Though the State has suffered from adverse legislation, no voice of disloyalty or treason, nor arm has been raised to strike at the severed fabric of our National Union. It will be our duty to unite with the people of the loyal States in just and honorable measure of conciliation. If they are just and moderate the danger may be averted; ours is a National Government having all the attributes of sovereignty, and among them is the right of self-preservation.

No State or combination of States can secede nor absolve themselves from the obligations of the Union. To permit this without the consent of the rest, is to confess the Government a failure. Pennsylvania will never acquiesce in such a conspiracy nor assent to a doctrine involving the destruction of the Government. If it is to exist, it must have the power adequate to the enforcement of the supreme law in every State. It is the first duty of the Federal Government to stay the progress of anarchy and enforce the laws, and Pennsylvania will give it a united, honest and faithful support. The people mean to preserve the integrity of the Union at every hazard. Amendments to the constitution made in a constitutional manner, our people will consider and act as deliberately upon as their importance demands.

MARYLAND.—Gov. HICKS was petitioned to convene the Legislature of Maryland, and to take certain action with reference to Secession. He refuses to do so, and has published an address to the citizens giving his reasons for refusal. We quote the following extracts: I firmly believe that a division of this Government would inevitably produce civil war. The secession leaders in South Carolina and the piratical demagogues of the North have alike proclaimed that such would be the result, and no man of sense will question it. What could the Legislature do in this crisis, if convened, to remove the troubles which beset the Union? We are told by the leading spirits of the South Carolina Convention, that neither the election of Mr. Lincoln nor the non-execution of the Fugitive Slave Law, nor both combined, constitute their grievances. They declare that the real cause for this discontent dates as far back as 1833. Maryland, and no other State in the Union, with a united voice, then declared the same insufficient to justify the course of South Carolina.

Can it be that the people who then unanimously supported the cause of Gen. Jackson, will now reverse their opinions at the bidding of modern secessionists? I have been told that the position of Maryland should be defined so that both sections can understand it. Do any really misunderstand the position? Who that wishes to understand it, can fall to do so? If the action of the Legislature would be simply to declare that Maryland is with the South in sympathy and feeling, that she demands from the North the repeal of the offensive unconstitutional statutes, and appeals to it for new guarantees, and that she will wait a reasonable time for the North to purge her statute books of unjust laws, and with due justice to her Southern brethren, and if her appeals are in vain, will make common our cause with the border States in resistance to tyranny if need be, it would only be saying what the whole country well know, and what may be said much more effectually by her people in their meetings than by the Legislature chosen eighteen months since, when none of these questions were raised before them.

That Maryland is as conservative as any of the Southern States all know who know anything of her people or history. The farmers and agricultural classes, planters, merchants, mechanics, and laboring men—those who have a real stake in the community, who would be forced to pay the taxes and do the fighting—are the persons who should be first consulted, instead of excited politicians, many of whom have nothing to lose by the destruction of the government, but may hope to derive some gain from the ruin of the State. Such men will naturally urge you to pull down the pillars of this sacred Union, which their allies at the North have denominated a covenant with hell.

The people of Maryland, if left to themselves, would decide, without exception, that there is nothing in the present causes of complaint to justify immediate secession; and yet, against our judgments and solemn convictions of duty, we are to be precipitated into this revolution because South Carolina thinks differently. Are we not equal, or shall her opinions control our actions, after we have solemnly declared ourselves, as every man must do? Are we to be forced to yield our opinions to those of another State, and thus, in effect, obey her mandates? She refuses to wait for our counsels. Are we bound to obey her commands?

The men who have embarked in this scheme to convene the Legislature, will spare no pains to carry their point. The whole plan of operation in assembling the Legislature is, as I have been informed, already marked out. The list of Ambassadors who are to visit the other States are agreed on, and the resolutions which they hope will be passed by the Legislature, fully committing this State for secession, are said to be already prepared. In the course of nature, I cannot have long to live, and I fervently trust to be allowed to end my days as a citizen of this glorious Union. But should I be compelled to witness the downfall of that God-inherited power our fathers established, as it were, by the special favor of God, I will at least have the consolation that at my dying hour I neither, by word or deed, assisted this disruption.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The RURAL of the 19th inst. contained an extract from the valedictory of Gov. BANKS, and we now present the opinions of Gov. ANDREWS, who was inaugurated on the 5th inst. The enrolled Militia of the State exceed 155,000, while the active Militia are but 5,600. The Governor suggests that a large number be placed on an active footing, that the State may be ready to contribute her share of force in any exigency of public danger.

The Personal Liberty law he believes strictly Constitutional. The right of a person to reclaim an alleged fugitive must always be subordinate to the original indefeasible right of every freeman to his liberty. He submits the subject to the wisdom of the Legislature. On secession he speaks to the effect that the people of Massachusetts respond in the words of Jackson, "the Federal Union must be preserved."

The Southern Difficulties.

BUT very little of importance has transpired since our last issue, but we make note of the tendency of affairs, as follows: SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Legislature has agreed on a flag for the State. The ground is to be blue, with a white oval in the center, and a golden Palmetto thereon. There is also to be a white inner crescent in the upper flag-staff corner. The Senate adopted the resolution authorizing the Governor to send volunteers to Florida in case of threatened invasion of that State. The number of men is unlimited.

LOUISIANA.—At the Baton Rouge Convention the following vote was taken on the ordinance declaring the immediate secession of Louisiana from the Union—Yeas 113, nays 17. The Convention has adjourned, to re-assemble again in New Orleans.

MISSISSIPPI.—A dispatch from Jackson, Miss., on the 22d, says the Convention has elected seven delegates to the Southern Convention to meet at Montgomery. The Convention also passed an amendment to raise eight regiments of troops, and Jefferson Davis was elected Major General.

KENTUCKY.—A telegram dated Frankfort, 28th, says that the Legislature will call a Convention, but the call and action of the Convention will both be submitted to a vote of the people.

MISSOURI.—Advices from different parts of the State indicate a Union feeling, and that the Convention will be filled with conservative men.

ALABAMA.—The Alabama State Convention has adjourned until the 4th of March next.

GEORGIA.—On the 24th ult., seven hundred State troops assembled in Georgia and made demonstrations on the United States Arsenal. Gov. Brown demanded the surrender of the Arsenal, which was complied with.

Southern Fortifications.

THE following table of the United States forts and navy yards, south of Mason and Dixon's Line, shows the position, cost, and strength of each:

Table with columns: Where located, Cost, War garrison, Men, Guns. Includes entries for Fort Mifflin, Baltimore; Fort Carroll, Baltimore; Fort Delaware, Del. river, Del.; Fort Mifflin, Annapolis, Md.; Fort Severn, Maryland; Fort Washington, Potomac river; Fort Monroe, Old Pt. Comfort, Va.; Fort Calhoun, H. Rvs, Norfolk, Va.; Fort Mifflin, Beaufort, N. C.; Fort Johnson, Cape Fear, N. C.; Fort Caswell, Oak Island, N. C.; Fort Sumter, Charleston, S. C.; Castle Pinckney, Charleston, S. C.; Fort Moultrie, Charleston, S. C.; Fort Pulaski, Savannah, Ga.; Fort Jackson, Savannah, Ga.; Fort Marion, St. Augustine, Fla.; Fort Taylor, Key West; Fort Jefferson, Tortugas; Fort Barrancas, Pensacola; Redoubt, Pensacola; Fort Pickens, Pensacola; Fort McRee, Pensacola; Fort Morgan, Mobile; Fort St. Philip, Mouth Miss. river; Fort Jackson, Mouth Miss. river; Fort Pike, Rigoles, La.; Fort Macomb, Chef Menteur, La.; Fort Livingston, Barrataria Bay, La.

News Paragraphs.

THE total number of passengers carried between Europe and the United States last year, in the Trans-Atlantic steamers, was about 74,000, of whom 50,000 were bound westward. This is an increase of more than 13,000 in the aggregate, compared with the previous year.

THE number of immigrants arrived at New York in 1860, were 103,621; of these 46,659 from Ireland, 11,112 from England, 1,506 from Scotland, 809 from Wales, 37,636 from Germany, 1,470 from France, 1,366 from Switzerland, etc. The emigration is 25,000 larger than for two years past.

THE municipality of Naples have decreed a statute to Gen. Garibaldi, to be erected in one of the public squares, to be called after him. It has also decreed medals of honor to those of the National Guard who have distinguished themselves during the late memorable events.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The weather had moderated and a thaw had become almost general throughout England.

The Post's Paris correspondent says the Governments of Italy, Spain, Greece, and Turkey are contemplating a reformed tariff in accordance with that lately contracted between England and France.

It is asserted that England will no longer propose to Austria the sale of Venetia.

Lord Palmerston, in his speech, had referred to the situation of affairs in America. He says that there was too much reason to fear that the Union, which had conducted to so much happiness, was in danger of disruption. He expressed a fervent hope that whether the Union is maintained or dissolved, it would be accomplished by amicable means, so that the world might be spared the afflicting spectacle of a hostile conflict between brothers.

FRANCE.—Returns from the Bank of France for November, exhibit, as anticipated, a large decrease in cash of over 82,000,000 francs; an increase in bills discounted, of 69,000,000 francs; and in bank notes, of nearly 33,000,000 francs.

It was stated that a negotiation was pending between France and all the Continental States for the abolition of the passport system.

ITALY.—Advices from Gaeta prior to the present armistice, state that the Piedmontese were constructing new batteries only two hundred yards from the fortress.

It was said that the Cabinet at Turin had resolved to tolerate the intervention of no other power than France, and to resist by force any attempt of the kind. It is not true that the French fleet at Gaeta will be replaced by a Russian fleet.

The Wurtemberg Moniteur says that Sardinia will shortly give notice to the German Diet of the different annexations to, and formations of, the Italian Kingdom, and that the Diet will refuse to recognize any Representative of that Kingdom. The same journal boasts that the German and Russian Federal army can meet any enemy.

AUSTRIA.—An autograph letter from the Emperor Francis Joseph, dated 7th inst., contains a very comprehensive amnesty for Hungary, Transylvania, Croatia, and Slavonia, on account of such persons as have merely aimed at a change in the system of the government as established before October last. The ministers are ordered to put this ordinance into immediate execution.

The Pesth Telegram says the government is resolved to adopt a Provincial Electoral Law for Hungary, on the basis of the 5th article of the law of 1848. The Hungarian Diet will assemble on the 2d of April.

TURKEY.—The dismissal of Safeti Pascha has been rescinded.

The news from Servia reports increasing disquiet there.

PRUSSIA.—The King of Prussia had issued a proclamation, in which, after paying a warm tribute to the late King, he declares himself faithful to the traditions of his house, and desires to protect the Constitution, to elevate and strengthen the people, and advance their position among the German States. He says—Confidence in peace is shaken, but I will endeavor to preserve it, and concludes by asking for the courage and confidence of the people.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadway—Flour dull, and declined 8d since Tuesday. American 28s@32s. Wheat dull, and declined 2d. Buyers demanded a further reduction, and there was some forced sales at 40@42. Red American 113d@115; white 120@122. Corn dull, and 8d lower. Mixed offered at 37d without buyers. White 39s@40s. Provisions.—Pork dull. Lard dull, and slightly declined; quoted at 58s@60s.

The News Condenser.

The effects of our panic have reached England. The winter is very cold in France and England. Gov. Weller has accepted the mission to Mexico. Whole number of patents issued for 1860, 8,896. The school houses of Ohio are worth \$4,707,000. The total taxable property of Ohio is \$888,000,000. The home squadron is to be concentrated in the Gulf. The gold product of California for 1860 was \$42,326,000. The total foreign and domestic debt of Ohio is \$16,927,884. Floods have occurred on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Gold still continues to flow into this country from abroad. They are boring for oil in the vicinity of McConnelville, Ohio.

There are 20 Protestant churches and 104 clergymen in Paris. The steam tonnage of New York is 120,580 tons, mostly marine. The cost of the Crimean war is said to have been \$250,000,000. Rev. Charles Lowell, D. D., of Boston, died on the 20th, aged 76. Twelve slaves were captured last year, and 3,000 negroes rescued. France is actively making preparations for war, it is reported. Railway trains are interrupted by heavy falls of snow in Virginia. Russell, the Indian Fund Bonds Receiver, has been bailed out. A new German paper is to be commenced at Omaha, Nebraska. Fort Kearney and South Pass wagon road have been completed. The average valuation of land in South Carolina is only \$2 per acre. The total valuation of property in San Francisco is \$35,809,689. There were exported from Bangor, in 1860, 120,000 bushels of potatoes. Over \$80,000,000 worth of articles passed over the Erie canal in 1860. The new Armstrong guns cost the English Government \$10,000 each. Prof. C. W. Hackley, of Columbia College, N. Y., died Thursday week. Gov. Denver is a prominent candidate for U. S. Senator from California. Grace Greenwood has been lecturing in Canada, with great acceptance. Forts Johnson and Caswell, off Wilmington, N. C., have been seized. Mayor Wightman, of Boston, asks for the restoration of the license system. The real value of taxable property in the State of Michigan is \$275,000,000. A severe shock of an earthquake was felt at Gorham, N. H., on Friday week. The young Queen of Naples has left Gaeta, probably to seek refuge at Rome. Twelve canal boats, each 96 feet in length, are being constructed in Lockport. An immense amount of fraudulent coin is in circulation throughout the West. The ordinary coining capacity of the Philadelphia mint is \$7,600,000 per month. Cleveland, O., is the 19th city in population in the Union. In 1858 she was the 28th. The Savings Institutions in New York city have on deposit over \$40,000,000. James Dalton, a policeman in Cincinnati, is reported heir to £1,000,000 in England. Ten thousand people attended a Union meeting at Baltimore, on Thursday week. Brigham Young has contracted to construct 400 miles of the Pacific telegraph line. There are 310,000 land owners in Ohio, the average of whose estates are 84 acres. A man was killed in Cincinnati, on the 12th ult., by falling on a slippery sidewalk. The population of the United States is 30,990,000, of which 3,878,000 are slaves. Rarely's late lectures and exhibitions in New York have yielded him \$2,160 per day. In the United States there are nearly six times as many journals as in Great Britain. The banks of New York are nearly glutted with specie. They now hold \$36,000,000. The U. S. Coast Survey Schooner Dana has been seized by the Florida secessionists. Oil has been discovered, in large quantities, in the town of Cuba, Allegany Co., N. Y. There are 9 English, 2 French, 1 Spanish, and 4 German daily papers in San Francisco. News from Denver to the 19th ult., report times improved, and the quartz mills doing well. In the city of Canton, China, there are, on an average, about 5,000 suicides every year. Gov. Banks has gone to Chicago to assume his duties with the Illinois Central Railroad. An enormous cow, weighing alive 1,650 pounds, was slaughtered at Boston last week. Geo. Toppan, Jr., of Boston, recently died of hydrophobia. He was bitten by a pet dog. During the last session of the English House of Commons, 10,478 speeches were made. Floyd, the resigned Secretary, had a banquet given him at Richmond, Va., on the 11th ult. The Bank of Kentucky has made a donation of \$500 for the relief of the poor of Louisville. Lola Montez, the notorious, talented, and eccentric woman, died in New York last week. Snow fell on Monday week to the depth of six inches in West Alabama and East Mississippi. A number of country newspapers have nominated Major Anderson for the Presidency in 1864. The pilots of Pensacola are forbidden, on pain of death, to bring U. S. vessels into the harbor. A drunken man, name unknown, was almost devoured by hogs near Alton, Ill., a few days since. Horse railroads have been introduced into Mobile. The first was inaugurated on Christmas day. There are seven montheims in San Francisco, one of which is medical and another religious. The Dubuque Times says an order has been received from Georgia, for 10,000 bushels of corn. Albany, N. Y., is the largest lumber mart in the country. The trade for 1860 amounted to \$6,000,000. A demonstration was made in Rome, on the 23d, at St. Peter's, in favor of annexation to Sardinia. The Cincinnati Commercial states that the town of Aurora, Ind., is now lighted by water gas. Twenty patriots of the revolution died during the past year. Eighty-two are all that are now left. The Rhode Island Senate has passed the act repealing the personal liberty bill, by a vote of 21 to 9. A child was born in Fort Sumter last week. The infantry department is re-inforced in spite of secession. The Monterey Bulletin announces the discovery of immensely rich silver mines in Northern Mexico. Rocky Mountain News says coal oil has been discovered in the mountains, five miles from Cannon City. Thirty cases of muskets and a large amount of ammunition, for Savannah, have been seized at New York.

RICH AND POOR.

BY RICHARD M. MILNES.

When God built up the dome of blue,
And portioned earth's prolific floor,
The measure of his wisdom drew
A line between the rich and poor;

The Story-Teller.

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

SOWING THE WIND

AND REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.

[Concluded from page 36 last number.]

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

CHAPTER X.

HIRAM FOSTER, after leaving the house of Mr. OVERMAN, did not go directly home. He was in no state to meet his wife, and answer her inevitable questions.

That dark presence, which had never been afar off during the past ten years, drew very nigh to him now; seemed to lay upon him its ghostly hands, and push him forward.

"Listen!" he said; and he stood still, hearkening. "What is it, HIRAM?" There was no sound without.

"A man chased me for three or four squares. "Chased you!"

"Yes. As I came through that lonely place, on this side of Fleetwood's mill, I heard steps behind me, and on looking around, saw the dark figure of a man.

"I heard nothing, HIRAM," said his wife. "There it is again!" He turned towards the parlor, the door of which stood open.

"I shall only lie awake. I never sleep any now." "But what will you do, HIRAM?" Tears began to fall over the distressed face of his wife, to whom the thought came, with a sudden chill, that he was losing his reason.

up stairs. She followed, like his shadow. The revolver, to which he referred, was kept in a locked drawer, the key of which he always carried.

"Why did you do that?" His wild face flushed with anger, and he grasped her arms with a grip that left the marks of his fingers deep in her tender flesh.

"Who is the man?" asked Mrs. FOSTER, seeking to divert his mind. "Who's after your life?" "I'll tell you," he answered; "but you mustn't breathe it to a soul."

"No, — no, HIRAM! That's impossible. Why should he want to injure you?" "He hates me!" "O, no."

"Yes he does. He hates me, and wants to kill me! I know. It's his fault that I lost my place with his father. He's always hated me. I know him. He's a very devil. And now he's trying to kill me. It was he who waylaid me to-night, and he's watching round the house now."

"I'll keep the key for the present," Mrs. FOSTER answered, firmly. "If any body attempts to break in, you shall have the revolver in time for protection.

"It's nothing but your imagination, HIRAM! Nothing in the world. Why will you torment yourself in this way? Lie down and go to sleep."

"If I had my revolver, I could defend myself." "You shall have it the moment I see danger," replied Mrs. FOSTER, in an assuring voice.

"God!" The voice in which this name was spoken sent a shiver to the heart of Mrs. FOSTER. The tone was not blasphemous; nor one of rejection; but it expressed utter hopelessness, as if he had said "For me, there is no help in God!"

A kind of mental stupor now came over him. Nature yielded to the night's exhaustion and sought restoration in apathy, if not sleep.

"I'm sorry to find you indisposed, HIRAM." The young man looked at him a little fearfully, and seemed to shrink away; but did not answer.

"Not for three nights, HIRAM! How comes that?" "I don't know. I get to thinking, and it keeps me awake." He was rousing from his stupor.

"What else should trouble me?" FOSTER's tone was rather sharp, and he looked suspiciously at his father-in-law.

"The loss of a situation doesn't usually trouble a man in the way you are troubled, HIRAM. There is something beyond this, I am satisfied; and, as your best friend, and the one, after your wife, most interested in your welfare, I ask your entire confidence.

"Who says so?" The young man started up, with a look of terror, and he began trembling violently. Mr. PRESCOTT laid a hand upon him and said, with great seriousness of manner, "HIRAM! many people think you are better off in the world than you should be."

"I, for one. And now, HIRAM, I conjure you by every consideration of safety, to make an open breast. If your feet are astray, let me know it, that I may lead you back, if possible, to paths of security."

"Keep off!" he cried. "Don't touch me! I won't be taken." "HIRAM! My son!"

"Tell me, HIRAM? No body wants to harm you," said his wife. "They're after me, the blood hounds!"

"I'll not be taken! I've sworn to that!" HIRAM turned again to the window; but his wife sprang in advance of him, and interposed her body.

"Months before this last act in the tragedy of a life, which but for crime would have been so full of happiness, the work of restitution had been completed by Mr. PRESCOTT and his heart-broken child, even to the last farthing.

Never, — from the day Mrs. FOSTER passed out from the home where her children were born; from the home where she spent; from the home which but for the criminal infatuation of her husband, might have been one of the sunniest homes in all the land — and returned to lay her head in a sorrow too deep for tears upon the breast of her mother, — was she seen beyond the threshold of her father's house.

"What a night followed! We will not linger in detail. It would fill pages. There was no sleep, no rest, no relief from haunting terrors. Not for so long a time as half an hour did HIRAM FOSTER once lie in bed. Fear was all the while conjuring up new alarms, and taking on new shapes.

"I heard nothing, HIRAM," said his wife. "There it is again!" He turned towards the parlor, the door of which stood open.

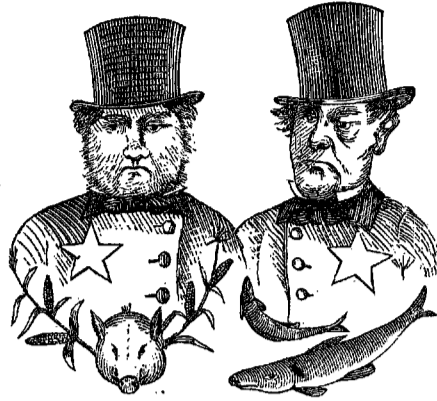
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Wit and Humor.

[ONE of our artists, though a somewhat phlegmatic German, appreciates a "good thing," and on being shown the annexed letter, resolved to "illustrate the subject" (or subjects), thereof. Knowing less of this country, perhaps, than he ought, he has evidently got the impression that Western officials partake of pork and corn, while those of the East indulge in fish and — fish; say cod and herring. In presenting his idea, we of course assume the position of patriotic statesmen, and "know no East, no West," &c.]



WESTERN VS. EASTERN POLICEMEN.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In a late number of your excellent paper, you state that the average weight of the Boston Police is 211 pounds. Now that may be something to boast of down in Boston, but out in Michigan we can beat it "all to nothing."

"My DEAR HUSBAND," said a devoted wife, "why will you not leave off smoking? It is such an odious practice, and makes your breath smell so?" "Yes," replied the husband, "I've been thinking of it, but then only consider the time I have spent to learn to smoke. If I should leave off now, all that time and money would have been wasted, don't you see?" "Oh, I didn't think of that!" And Mr. Scroggs smokes on.

A GOOD ONE.—Some years ago the Knickerbocker Magazine used to offer a brass quarter dollar to the person who made a rhyme to the word "window."

"A cruel man a beetle caught, And to the wall him pinned, oh! Then said the beetle to the crowd, 'Though I'm stuck up, I am not proud; And his soul went out of the window."

JUST SO.—A calm, blue-eyed, self-possessed young lady, in a village "down East," received a long call the other day, from a prying old spinster, who, after prolonging her stay beyond even her own conception of the young lady's endurance, came to the main question which had brought her thither.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MYTHOLOGICAL ENIGMA.

I AX composed of 44 letters. My 18, 38, 6, 7, 36, 5, 4, 7, 32 was the daughter of Pandion. My 23, 8, 40, 1, 41, 23, 39 was the god of the sea.

POETICAL ENIGMA.

THOUGH few we are, great are our powers; The business of the world is ours. We can your secrets tell, or keep; At our command you laugh or weep;

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

A MAN cancelled a debt of \$873 by paying a certain sum on Monday, twice that sum on Tuesday, three times Tuesday's payment on Wednesday, four times Wednesday's payment on Thursday, and so on till Saturday; what sum was paid on Monday?

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN NO. 575.

Answer to Pomological Enigma:—And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—The Sacred Volume. Answer to Puzzle: Gay Lady Ada at a ball, Can chant and talk and play; And Anna Lark at Haddar Hall, Was smart, gallant, and gay; And Ada and gay Anna Lark, Called Anagrams a happy game.

The Publisher to the Public.

PUBLISHER'S SPECIAL NOTICES.

Back Numbers of this Volume will be sent to New Subscribers, until otherwise announced; but all wishing them should Subscribe Soon.

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.

SEND ON THE NAMES.—Now is the time to forward lists of subscribers for 1861, and we hope agent-friends will "hurry up" the names as fast as possible.

NO TRAVELING AGENTS are employed by us, as we wish to give the whole field to local agents and those who form clubs. And beside, we wish it distinctly understood that all persons traveling through the country, professing to hold certificates from us, ARE IMPOSTORS.

CLUBBING WITH THE MAGAZINES, &c.—We will send the RURAL NEW-YORKER and a yearly copy of either The Atlantic, Harper's, Godey's, or any other \$3 magazine, for \$4. The RURAL and either The Horticulturalist, Hovey's Magazine, Arthur's Magazine, or any other \$2 magazine, for \$3. Canada subscribers must add the American postage.

THE RURAL is published strictly upon the CASH SYSTEM—copies are never mailed to individual subscribers until paid for, and always discontinued when the subscription expires. Hence, we force the paper upon none, and keep no credit books, experience having demonstrated that the Cash System is altogether the best for both Subscriber and Publisher.

VOLUNTARY AGENTS for the RURAL.—Any and every Subscriber or reader is requested to act in behalf of the RURAL, by forming clubs or otherwise. Now is the time for its friends to manifest their interest in the paper and the cause it advocates, either by obtaining new subscribers, or inducing others to act in its behalf. If any loose or worn out numbers in showing the paper, — that's the best way to get subscribers, — we will duplicate them in order to make their files complete for binding.

PREMIUMS TO CLUB AGENTS.—It is not to be formed new clubs and secure the valuable Specific Premiums offered therefore. See list and particulars — headed "Good Pay For Doing Good" — in RURAL of Jan. 5 and 19. We are daily sending copies of Dictionaries, Macaulay's England, Lossing's Illustrated U. S., Everybody's Lawyer, and other choice and valuable standard works, as premiums, and have hundreds more which we hope to dispose of in like manner. Now is the Time to Act.

LOOK SHARP, FRIENDS! — If those ordering the RURAL would write all names of persons, post-offices, &c., correctly and plainly, we should receive less scolding about other people's errors. Our clerks are not infallible, but most of the errors about which agents complain are not attributable to any one in the RURAL Office. People who forget to date their letters at any place, or to sign their names, or to give the name or address for copies ordered, will please take things calmly and not charge us with their sins of omission, &c.

THE MONEY WE RECEIVE.—Bills on all solvent Banks in the U. S. and Canada taken at par on subscription to the RURAL, but our agents and other friends will please remit New York, New England, or Canada money, when convenient. Postage Stamps can be remitted for fractional parts of a dollar. For all amounts over \$5 we prefer Drafts on either New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Albany, Rochester, or Buffalo, (less exchange), payable to our order — and all such drafts may be mailed at the risk of the Publisher. If our friends throughout the Union, British Provinces, &c., will comply with these suggestions so far as convenient, the favor will be appreciated.

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 as published.

Table listing various books for ruralists with prices, including 'American Farmer's Encyclopedia', 'The Elements of Agriculture', 'The Elements of Horticulture', etc.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED

AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY WEEKLY,

IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

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

Terms in Advance:

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[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

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AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

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

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AGRICULTURAL.

THE SWORD AND THE PLOWSHARE.

In looking over the past history of the world, the observing man cannot but feel surprised at the little advancement made in agricultural knowledge. Here and there a ray of light may be observed—some bright star shining for a season and giving promise of future good, but in a little while it is lost, and all again is gloom and darkness. That some of the ancient nations possessed considerable knowledge of agriculture we must admit, yet this knowledge is lost to the world, and even its extent and value is a matter of conjecture. War has been the deadliest foe of agriculture—it has been the profession of kings and princes—at once the occupation and the scourge of the people. War has presented the chief road to honor, and fame, and wealth, and consequently the young and the ambitious have sought glory on the tented field, to the entire neglect of the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, which was left to those too old, or too young, or too indolent to engage in the more active and honorable profession of war. This state of things rendered the business of tilling the soil unsafe as well as disgraceful, for the invading army often devastated the land, and the farmer beheld the fruits of months of toil swept away in a day. The sword, in Sacred Writ, is represented as the great adversary of the plow, and in the good time coming, when the earth shall be filled with peace and happiness, the spears are to be turned into pruning hooks and the swords into plowshares.

Advancement has been made in the science and practice of agriculture during the past hundred years, but in no thousand years, since thorns and briars first began to grow, has there been so much real and substantial progress in agricultural knowledge and practice as during the past fifty years of peace and good will among the nations of the earth. Men of science, and wealth, and the highest mental powers, have devoted their knowledge, intellect, and wealth, to the development of the resources of the earth, and those whom the world has delighted most to honor have been the most intelligent and zealous cultivators of the soil. It has not been considered beneath the dignity of princes and kings to encourage and actually engage in the noble and ennobling pursuit of agriculture. No saying of the great and good WASHINGTON, who, though engaged in necessary war, loved peace, is more often quoted or more universally believed, than that which declares that agriculture is the most honorable pursuit in which man can engage.

Within the last few years, the notes of war have been sounded in Europe, the Crimea has been deluged in blood, and the soil of ancient Italy has furnished graves for thousands of both friends and foes. This has had an injurious effect upon the agriculture of Europe, while it has been a source of profit to us, making an increased demand for our agricultural products at unusually high rates. For more than fifty years our country has been favored with peace. No ruthless enemy has invaded our coasts or desolated our land. He that sowed, sowed in confidence and reaped in safety. Our progress in the peaceful arts has been highly gratifying, and knowledge has increased and wealth abounded. With our agricultural implements we have astonished the world, and they are purchased or imitated by all civilized nations. Our surplus corn, and wheat, and meat find ready purchasers in the principal markets of the world, our flag is respected, and our nation honored. But we seem to be tired of peace, and surfeited with prosperity; and without a valid cause, without such reason as should satisfy a true patriot's heart, or an honest man's conscience, some of the States of this Union seem determined to bring upon us all the untold evils of civil war. They are even now turning their pruning hooks into spears and their plowshares into swords, and leaving the peaceful fields of agriculture for the passion, the vice, and the carnage of the camp. Such base ingratitude—such madness—has not been equaled since man's first crime.



THE CELEBRATED HORSE "CRUISER."

We present RURAL readers a very spirited portrait of the horse *Cruiser*, an animal possessing a fame which is world-wide. He was bred by Lord Dorchester, for racing purposes, and when in his three year form was first favorite for the Derby, the great racing event of the year in England. Previous to the day set apart for the trial, bad temper displayed itself, and, if we are rightly informed, when brought to the score, he ran away with and severely injured his jockey, thus clouding the hopes and aspirations of his owner and supporters. He was returned to the stable, but his violence increased to such extent that it was necessary to confine him in a box stall, and the mere mention of his name was sufficient to send a thrill of fear through the veins of all the jockies in the kingdom. Several times his owner had almost concluded to shoot him, and would have done so were it not for the fact that he was the last representative of a strain of blood which was famous in the sporting annals of the "fast anchored isle."

Cruiser was thus a prisoner, when JOHN S. RABBY appeared before the English public as an expert in subduing horses with vicious dispositions, and making them useful and obedient. The animals experimented upon by Mr. RABBY in his earlier exhibitions were noted for evil habits, but *Cruiser* was unapproachable, and it was determined that the Yankee and this equine fury should meet and struggle for the mastery. Press and people were willing to award the meed of praise for whatever of merit there was in Mr. RABBY's system; "what had been accomplished was all very well,—but just try *Cruiser*!" Determined not to be frustrated in his plans, Mr. R. wrote

to Lord Dorchester, requesting that *Cruiser* be forwarded to him in London. His Lordship replied "that the horse could not be sent,—Mr. RABBY must go for him. He had not been out of his box for three years, and to approach him was impossible without endangering life."

We have not space to give the result in detail. Suffice it to say, Mr. RABBY introduced himself, the conflict was terrible, but mind gained a complete mastery over brute force. In course of time Mr. RABBY became proprietor of the animal,—the once dreaded *Cruiser* is now the pet of his conqueror, and is on exhibition at Niblo's Garden, New York city. *Cruiser* is dark brown, of medium size, and with heavier limbs than is usual in horses of such pure blood, and is as gentle and tractable as any stallion that can lay claim to high breeding.

In connection with the foregoing, a brief sketch of Mr. RABBY may not be uninteresting. He was born in Franklin county, Ohio, and is now in the thirty-third year of his age. His father was living in what was at that time almost a wilderness, neighbors being few and far between. JOHN, being the youngest child, had no playmates, and being of a sociable nature, he soon found companions among the farm horses and colts, and it was a source of pleasure to his father, while at work in the fields, to take him out with him, and as soon as he was verging on three years, he was set astride of the plow horse, and in this (to him) exalted position, had his natural fondness for the animal encouraged. At four he had his own pony, and soon became famous for riding out and visiting the neighbors, the nearest of whom were

several miles away from the homestead. When he was twelve his father gave him a colt which he broke to suit his own notions. This colt became one of the finest "trick horses." Stimulated by his success, he bought other colts, and took horses to educate. Such was his reputation, even while yet a youth, that he had pupils sent him from the distance of two or three hundred miles.

It was now conceived by him, says the 'Old Spirit of the Times,' that his success and experience could be reduced into a system; he had dim ideas that what he accomplished was merely the result of intelligent treatment of an animal naturally superior, and that the Creator, having intended the horse for the companionship of immortal beings, must have given the exalted animal intellectual endowments in harmony with his destined purpose. With this developing idea he now for the first time practically noticed that colts, however wild, allowed calves, sheep, and other domestic animals, to associate with them; he, therefore, concluded that the colt was not by nature indifferent to society, but, on the contrary, was friendly with those who would offer no harm. With this notion he went to work and "scraped" up an intimacy with those wild colts, and soon was gratified to find his advances were not repulsed, but, on the contrary, rewarded with positive demonstrations of affection. The practical result immediately following this was, that he could catch and halter colts with perfect ease while others could not come within their reach by many rods. Now was established for the first time clearly in his mind the law of kindness, which is the entire foundation of his system.

CAUSES OF DECAY.

For some time we have heard complaints of the unusual decay of fruits, roots, &c. No care in gathering or storing seems to insure success. Without being able to give any particular light on this subject, we call attention to some interesting facts by Prof. BERKELEY, who has given more attention to this question perhaps than any other living man.

Many productions, both of the farm and garden,—such as roots, tubers, and fruit, which contain a large proportion of water,—are subject to more or less rapid decay. Chemical changes are constantly taking place in the constituent parts; and in fruit especially, sugar is formed at the expense of the lignine and water. As soon, then, as the formation of sugar has arrived at its maximum, or, in other words, when the fruit is ripe, there is a tendency to further change, and decay commences. Carbonic acid is formed, the nitrogenized substance enters into a state of putrefaction, and the sugar undergoes fermentation. The more free the admission of atmospheric air, or its oxygen, the more rapid is the decay. This takes place either in detached spots, which soon become confluent, or the whole mass seems at once affected. In general, even when the cuticle is not ruptured, threads of mycelium, principally belonging to the most common species of *Penicillium*, *Aspergillus*, *Mucor*, and *Oidium*, will be found in the interstices

of the cells, the union of which is frequently completely destroyed, as in tissue affected by frost; but this is scarcely matter of surprise, as the subtle reproductive bodies of mold are capable of penetrating into the most hidden tissues, as is proved by myriads of facts. Mr. Hassall, indeed, has succeeded in producing rapid decay in the soundest fruit by inoculation; the decay, however, may perhaps be as much attributable to the inoculating of putrescent matter, in accordance with the experiments instituted, many years since, by DECAZARZ, and the more recent observations of LEBIG, as to the presence of the mold; though we are far from denying the powerful effects of the growth of fungi in promoting decomposition, living, as they do, at the expense of the substances on which they grow, which they could not do without producing chemical change.

In the case of tubers and vegetables, whether abounding in fecula or sugar, which are destined, in general, to another year's growth, decomposition seldom takes place from mere exposure to the air, except accompanied by such a degree of cold as destroys, to a greater or less extent, their tissues. Still, decay does take place very frequently when they are stored up for use, originating, generally, from numerous points in their substance, and rapidly extending, and passing at length into complete putrefaction. This has, of late years, attracted general notice, from its prevalence amongst potatoes,

and, indeed, other vegetable productions, especially turnips and parsnips. That this is due, in some measure, to weakness of the cellular tissue, is pretty well ascertained; but to what this weakness is owing, is still matter of doubt. It is not simply decomposition, in the regular course of nature, as in fruits; which decay only, in ordinary cases, when their proper functions have been performed. Potatoes are also subject to a dry decay, which is especially distinguished by the circumstance, that tubers so affected will not germinate; whereas, in the potato murrain, the pushing of the eyes is rather accelerated, probably from the partial conversion of fecula into sugar, and an excellent crop may be obtained from highly diseased tubers.

Decay frequently takes place, both in fruits and vegetables, from external injury. In delicate kinds, such as peaches, the damage is in a short time discernible; and, in all, it is soon more or less visible. The cells being ruptured, the vital powers are destroyed, and, in consequence, decomposition takes place; which, according to circumstances, increases with more or less rapidity; besides which, a fit matrix is at once established for the development of fungi.

The great thing in the preservation of fruits, special care having been taken to bruise them as little as possible in the gathering, is to exclude the access of oxygen. As regards the main produce of

the farm, the most approved method of preservation is to exclude the air, taking care to provide as good a drainage as possible, and to be beyond the possible action of frost. The late disease, however, in potatoes, baffled all precautions; and the decay has frequently been as great where every care was taken to exclude moisture, as where no such pains were taken. As a general rule, however, dryness and exclusion from the air are the grand points, together with such a degree of temperature as may not promote vegetation. Under such treatment, healthy produce will seldom decay, and any original tendency to decomposition will most probably be arrested.

The first thing necessary to the preservation of fruit or roots, is that they be well grown and well matured. When either is immature and watery, it is not in a condition for preservation, and decay soon commences. A potato that requires a long season for its growth, the top of which is usually killed by frost, cannot be depended upon for winter keeping. The Hubbard Squash, if well ripened, will keep sound until May; but specimens not fully ripened it is difficult to preserve until Christmas. Care in handling is another important matter. The least bruise causes the living fruit to become a decaying mass of corruption.

MACHINERY AND THE WOMEN.

H. T. B. TO O. M.

A SINGLE lady, in Cayuga Co., who adds age to her other graces, is satisfied with her condition,—please don't understand me to say that she wouldn't get married if she —. I meant to remark that the lady aforesaid was satisfied that the women had been fairly dealt with in the matter of patent rights,—she believes the men folks, when they study how to save labor, study for the women as much as for themselves! "The lords (this informs us,) have not only tried their hands at improved implements for domestic labor-saving, but have been eminently successful therein."

"That 'old oaken bucket' no longer hangs in the well, to be lifted, by almost superhuman efforts, over the high curb, made so to keep the cattle out."

When Dr. LYMAN BEECHER and some of his family were capstined in their carriage, Mrs. STOWS jumped up, and devoutly exclaimed, "let us thank God that none of us are hurt." "Thank God for yourself," said the Doctor, "I'll examine my bones first." So, I imagine, a multitude of fair sisters will exclaim touching the "old oaken bucket" which still hangs in their wells. Even where pumps have been vouchsafed, a big stream does not always respond to a gentle touch,—frozen up in the winter, dry in the summer, rickety, raskety, the old thing has been wished at the bottom of the ocean many a time. Go to the barn-yard, and see if the man has not found out that a "hydraulic ram" will make water run up hill, and any good pipe will make it run down hill—for the benefit of cattle.

"The old iron dinner-pot, of near a hundred pounds, has been melted up, and makes a whole set of cooking utensils, nicely adapted to an elegant stove." That's a fact; but then you know how the miserable thing looks, with all its apertures, at the end of six months,—doors unhung, plates cracked, griddles in three pieces, tea-kettle nose off, boiler burst, and a general explosion among the women! The pipe had to be cleaned,—it never would burn wet or green wood,—though "warranted to bake perfectly," it always left the bottom of the loaf dough, and the top cinders,—a half year having expired, it's about time to send it back to be melted over into a new one, with, if possible, thinner plates and greater pretensions. If the "spirit of the age" would only consent, what terrible alternations from ecstasy to anguish might be avoided, by resolving the thing into the original dinner pot! To do the dear women justice, they really think the concentrated humbug "draws well," "bakes well," and is "large enough for our family," till the day after the warranty has expired, and the elegant polish has turned to rust and dinginess. The whole subject is so horribly suggestive that I can never pardon "old ma,—" your fair correspondent for broaching it.

"Then the coffee roaster, which SUSAN or JAMES (I would like to see a frizzle-headed boy make himself useful in-doors, just once,) can turn so easily while the coffee is browning,"—well, may be they do have one of those things in Cayuga County.

"And the mince mill, cutting the meat for pies as well as for sausages." I can explain that to your entire satisfaction. You see that cutting "sausage meat" fell to the men, and they generally went at it after wriggling round in their dozy chairs six times and making all manner of excuses. When, therefore, "in the course of human events," they saw a chance to make it easier, they produced a machine,—that it is ever applied, except very occasionally, to "cutting the meat for pies," you will permit me to doubt; querrybody knows there is but one in the neighborhood, and that was broken when last heard from.

"Even the castors on the large table saves many a hard lift." I submit, my dear madam, that you are over-enthus in that statement. You very well know there are next to no castors on the every day kitchen tables, and as for that new dining table, that never comes out except when the minister or Mrs. A. makes a visit, or it is our turn to give a Thanksgiving Dinner,—why, then, even the men folks share so largely in the general enthusiasm that they would, if politely asked, help out with a table,—from which I conclude that the few "castors" we have are superfluous.

"O, there's the churn, which the dog, or old 'Dick' makes the butter in."

The dog and old Dick may eat all the butter they churn in the Christian households of this happy land — if they will let a few of the big dairies alone.

"The rain-water is now drawn down from the loft by turning a finger faucet, instead of being lifted up stairs, with all the slops to be mopped up."

Look on that picture, and then on this. Madam sees signs of a shower, goes for the pounding-barrel to put it under the eaves, — recollects that Mr. took it to steep his seed corn in, — looks up Mr. — gets the old barrel, — what has become of the board, — finds another, — washes the dirt from it — gets ferriously washed herself by the driving storm, — gets into the house to see the sun shine out on an empty barrel — suspicious of yellow linen!

"But a little while ago, hand cards, and wheels, and looms, were almost exclusively depended on to clothe the family."

There is some let up here, it is true, but the miserable scamps who got too proud to wear the best "home made," and so took to "broadcloth," have made our dear lady believe that they did it to save mother and sister from the use of the "cards and the loom," — the hypocrites. They require more labor in washing, and starching, and plaiting, and ironing one shirt bosom, than was bestowed on their grandfather's tow shirt in a whole winter, — ruffles, and plaits, and small buttons, white pants, and vests, and embroidered handkerchiefs to be washed once or twice a day, and as much oftener as the "lords," from accidental causes, may require. A room for his young lordship, all to himself, to be swept and cleaned from tobacco stains, with extra meals when he "goes out," may also be reckoned among the improvements. Pudding and milk for supper, with a bowl or two for the older, and basins for the younger, were soon disposed of, — but now, the poor cook has to go through all the intricate windings of Parisian art, and when she's got the gourmands full, she has a pile of dishes to dispose of that would make the fortune of a Connecticut pedlar, if he had 'em to sell.

I have been trying to keep under my suspicions, but I can't, — hang me if I don't believe, your fair correspondent is after a husband, and has been showing off her amiability, and her good opinion of the men, just to catch somebody — she needn't have refused me, I didn't offer, and want a going to. I have a wife who seems satisfied — I suppose because she didn't expect much. P., a highly esteemed bachelor friend, a door or two from me, is not engaged; but my fears will for the present prevent me from suggesting to him a journey to Cayuga Co. — H. T. B.

P. S. Come to think, a little policy is perhaps excusable in such matters, and I will recommend my friend to look in that quarter, if the lady, upon inquiry, proves amiable, is a good cook, and will agree to stop her crinoline at the present expansion. — H. T. B.

HATCHING CHICKENS ARTIFICIALLY.

WISHING to try the experiment of hatching chickens on the Egyptian plan, I fitted up a room sixteen feet square, and nine feet from floor to ceiling, with shelves in the center of the room to put the eggs on. Strips were nailed on the edge of the shelves to keep the eggs from rolling off. The room was heated by a hot-air furnace in the cellar. I commenced purchasing eggs quite early in the spring, and as I purchased them I coated the shell with fresh lard, and packed in bran to keep them fresh till I got enough to put in the heated room. When I got two thousand six hundred and eighty-five, I put them on the shelves in the room and opened the register. About three hundred of the eggs were not greased. The temperature of the room varied from 100° to 106° Fah., occasionally running as high as 108° in the upper part of the room near the ceiling. A pan of water was kept well filled on the stove in the furnace, and wet cloths over the register, and hung around the room in which were the eggs. A thermometer and hygrometer was kept in the room to tell the temperature and amount of moisture. I endeavored to keep the air as nearly as possible saturated with moisture. I examined the eggs every day, and turned them every morning. I kept wondering every day why the greased eggs did not show signs of incubation when those that were not greased did. At the end of ten days the form of the chicken would be distinctly seen in the ungreased eggs, while those that were greased did not show scarcely a red streak. I came to the conclusion that hatching greased eggs was a failure, and removed them from the oven. As soon as I could purchase more eggs, I put into the heated room or oven five thousand four hundred and thirty-two eggs. This time none of them were greased. I kept the temperature and moisture of the room the same as before. On the twentieth day the chickens began to hatch, and continued hatching during two days. The whole number that came out was one thousand and eighty-four. I kept the chickens on the floor of the hatching room and an adjoining room, that was also heated by hot-air for one week, when I removed them to a building constructed for the purpose, that was built of pine boards and battened, one hundred and twenty feet in length and twenty-two in width. This building was warmed by two furnaces, one in each end. There was a system of hot water pipes that ran through the building. The water was heated by the furnaces. From this hatching, six hundred chickens were reared. I ran the institution till I lost about two hundred dollars, when I discontinued it. Thinking I was making this article too long for publication, I have left out the particulars of hatching, feeding, rearing, &c. — E. P. HOWLAND. Battle Creek, Mich., 1861.

[We will be glad to hear from Mr. PAXTON on the subject indicated in his closing paragraph, or any other topic which may suggest itself, whenever he finds it convenient. — Eds.]

well, such as every one should have for the slops of the house, unless they are used for fertilizers. I intend to make a room four feet square, and four feet deep, under the platform, so as to repair the valves if necessary. The pipe leading into the well is one and a fourth inch gas-pipe, and any suction-pump can be attached at the top. It is as much exposed as a pump can be, but never freezes. I am sure that those who try this method will say with me that they will never stone another well. G. WRIGHT. Sterling, Ill., Jan. 21, 1861.

CARE OF WOODLANDS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—The motion of H. T. B. is second. And now that it is moved and seconded, I trust the public will so manifest their approval, that not only the further destruction of our wood lots will be arrested, but groves will be planted where needs be, until our common country shall have that protection from the piercing storm, which the severity of our climate demands. How pleasant, then, would be a drive in winter, when the groves protect the snow where it falls, instead of finding a huge drift here, bare stones yonder, and everywhere a piercing wind, that defies even the buffalo over-coats for protection. Or in summer, how sweet a drive by the side of a grove cheered by nature's sweet songsters; or a walk beneath a grove at the babbling brook, where the herd seek shelter from the midsummer sun. Who knows what sentiments such scenes might awaken. How many who now leave their home after the labor of the day, to seek enjoyment at the village tavern, form habits which a CARSWELL, or even a GOUVER may in vain pour out their eloquence to arrest.

Nor is this moral saving influence its only recommendation. Who that has noticed a domestic animal during a north-east storm, the picture of despair, in vain seeking shelter behind a rail fence, or exposed to a midsummer sun, with tongue hanging, and panting for breath, that did not contemplate a waste of flesh, to say nothing of the appeal to humanity. And remember, oh, ye tillers of the soil, Providence has decreed that he who looks not to the comfort of his domestic animal, looks in vain for the rich reward the animal is ready to bestow for kindness.

Nor should we look at the matter only from a pecuniary point of view. Look at that contracted chest, at that hopeless, hectic cough so increasingly prevalent in our land, and inquire what part the chilling, piercing, unobstructed winds of autumn, winter, and spring, have acted in the drama. Look at the once noble race of aborigines, and ask is fire-water alone the cause of such fatal wasting by lung complaints. Would I could so trumpet forth the importance of the subject, that a united effort would be the result, until every home would become a magnet to attract its inmates from the brothel, to listen to the sweet concert of birds, ever ready to warble their gratitude.

Patient reader, do I hear you complain that your wood lot is becoming ragged and unthrifty? I would advise you to put it under fence. No matter how tough the sod, the falling leaves will rest among the tall grass, and the snow of winter will press it gently down as a mulching, and you will be surprised how soon the whole lot will become a beautiful nursery. You may remove the grown timber for fence or fuel, leaving all brush, and useless, rotten wood scattered over the land for manure, and nothing more is required but to wait patiently the result. Providence, as if partial to the maple, has furnished the seed with wings, with which it will find its place to every uncultivated part of the lot.

It was my intention to offer a few remarks on the management of a grove where nature does not furnish the seed on the spot; but I fear (having wandered from the text,) I have already trespassed too far on your space, and on the patience of your readers. I would, however, remark what has come under my notice in reference to transplanting maples. Go, just as the bud is bursting into leaf, get thirty young trees, about the size of your wrist, cut off all the top, leave a fair portion of root, not over long exposed to the hot sun, plant carefully and give a liberal mulching of coarse manure, and my experience for it, your trees will all live and give beautiful thirty tops, only protect from the cattle.

Whitby, C. W., 1861. W. PAXTON, JR.

HUNGARIAN GRASS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In a recent issue of your Journal you quote from a correspondent of the Northwestern Farmer, who objects to the raising of Hungarian Grass, because it exhausts the soil by the extraction of fatty matter for the formation of its seeds. This is, I admit, to some extent true, but not as much (at least with me,) as he would lead one to suppose. I have raised the Hungarian and also the common millet, for the last eight years, and have yet to find that it is more exhausting than a grain crop. But perhaps this may be owing to my manner of growing it for fodder and for seed.

For fodder I sow the seed quite thick, that the straw may be fine and better fitted to the purpose it is intended for, and instead of letting it remain until the seed is quite ripe, I cut it while yet green, and find it superior for fodder, (judging by the way my horses eat it,) to what it is when left until the seed is perfectly ripe. I do not find any other effect from the use of it than what is greatly beneficial to both cattle and horses. Indeed, mine prefer it to the best timothy hay we are able to raise out here. In sowing the seed very thick, — one bushel to the acre, — I do not find any loss in the produce. Though it does not grow so long, nor so strong in the straw, yet it will produce the same quantity of hay, and of a superior quality. The richer the land the more seed it will bear to the acre.

In order to keep myself supplied with seed of a good quality, I sow as much land as is required, very thin, — say one peck to the acre, — by which means I not only get a superior article, but also a greater produce of seed per acre, the straw being very coarse, but it serves as fodder for oxen, and they will eat it better if cut up for them. I have now in my room, heads of millet seed nine inches long, and thick in proportion. They were not picked heads, but taken from a small patch sown by accident on new breaking. There is another purpose for which I have found the millet of great use. We have, for the last three years, been greatly troubled with the chinch bug, and in order to prevent their ravages among the corn, I have sown a strip about one rod wide between the corn and other grain, and when they (the bugs) are driven out from the wheat or oats, they remain in the millet until they eat their way to the corn, but few of them passing through. You can see the progress they make from day to day by the millet changing color, and appearing as if blighted and dead. By the time

they get to the corn it is so far advanced the bugs can do it but little injury. I have tried it for three years and it never failed of the purpose intended, while at the same time some of my neighbors' corn was badly injured by them.

In conclusion, I would say I am so well satisfied with the millet and Hungarian grasses for fodder (though I prefer the millet,) I do not feel much inclined to look further for a substitute, though I last year sowed a small quantity of Panic Grass Seed, which appeared to do well, but as I needed it all for seed, I cannot say how the fodder will compare with the common millet. I intend to give it a trial this year.

Both the Hungarian and millet grasses are extensively grown in this neighborhood, and are well liked. Roxbury, Dane Co., Wis. 1861. W. H. COOK.

OSIER WILLOWS AND THEIR USES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—For some years the Osier Willow trade has attracted much attention, from the fact that the importations from Europe have so largely increased, amounting, we are told, the past season, to over two million dollars. Now, while we have so large an amount of low-land, comparatively useless for anything else, and which might be applied to the culture of the Osier, it becomes a matter of policy with the owners of such soil to ascertain the most profitable use to which they can appropriate it. But why speak of swampy soil alone, when it will grow just as well on any rich soil, as can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of any one who doubts. I have seen in the town of Seneca, Ontario Co., several patches, all on different varieties of soil, from a creek bottom to some of the fine ridge-lands which adorn that section, and all are flourishing finely. The willow will flourish on dry soil, is evident, from the fact that so many fine willow trees are to be seen adorning rural homes all through our country. In Seneca County, on clay land, may be seen some as fine patches as can possibly grow.

Now, why not use them for hedging. Their rapid growth, making, in some instances, from 7 to 8 feet the first year, and the fact that stock will not browse them, is certainly evidence that they will make excellent fence. And then, in trimming the hedge, the owner has a fine crop for market, which will bring, when nicely peeled, from one hundred to one hundred and twenty dollars per ton in New York city. Here is a chance to make our fencing the most profitable part of the farm, instead of being a tax upon us. Let us think of a few articles to which willows are already applied. Willow cradles receive us when we first enter the world; willow-covered bottles refresh us; willow rattles amuse us; willow wagons draw us; willow chairs support us; willow baskets carry our dinners to school; and from these infantinal or homeopathic uses, we soon begin to indulge in hallopathic principles.

All's Corners, N. Y., 1861. J. M. W.

FROSTY BITS IN HORSES' MOUTHS.—In the RURAL OF JANUARY 19th, you quote what the Ohio Cultivator says about the cruelty of putting frosty bits into the mouth of the horse, all of which every one must admit, and I hope none practice. The best way that I have found to warm them, is to take the bit in both hands, place it across the edge of the manger, and then shove it rapidly eight inches or a foot back and forth, and in less than one-half minute the bit will be warmed by friction.—SUBSCRIBER, Fon du Lac, Wis.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Halter-Breaking Colts.

HORSES, or rather colts, says the Wisconsin Farmer, soon learn under a good master, and the best time to put on the halter is when the colt is with his mother. He should first be taught that the halter is stronger than he is. When this is fairly done, a small rope will hold him. But if he breaks away on the first trial of his strength in pulling back, he will never forget his feat, but will pull, and pull again, though he may see that he is now tied with a cart rope. This is because his memory is better than his judgment. He cannot well distinguish between the size of his first small halter and the large rope that now holds him. He will only recollect that he has broken one halter, and he supposes he can break any other.

A Novel Ice House.

THE Winstead (Conn.) Herald gives this account of the manner in which Mr. Goodwin, of New Hartford, fills his ice house:—

"Mr. Goodwin is supplied with excellent water from a spring at a considerable elevation above his house. Connected with a pipe which supplies the latter is a branch pipe leading to the ice house, across which it is extended. Within the ice-house this pipe is pierced by twenty or thirty small holes, from which as many fine jets of water rise to the roof, falling back in drops over the whole bottom surface of the house. These jets are only let on when the weather is cold, and the doors and ventilators being open, the water freezes as it falls, and in a few days, or weeks at furthest, the house is filled with a single block of perfectly pure, transparent ice. Mr. Goodwin's ice keeps through the entire season, with much less waste than that packed in the ordinary way. It costs him nearly nothing.

Wintering Sheep—A Bad Beginning.

A FARMER who wintered eighty sheep last winter with the loss of only two, which he says were old enough to die any how; who raised without trouble forty-four lambs from forty-seven ewes, and whose fleeces averaged over three and a half pounds, gives in the Ohio Cultivator the following lively description of his experience in keeping sheep the previous season, without the comfortable shelter which his flock now enjoys:

In the fall of 1858, I started into the winter with about eighty fine sheep without any shelter. But O! how I came out! Against spring opened up, I had sixty-six. But that was not all. I had gone to the expense and trouble of getting two very nice bucks; and from about fifty ewes I raised about half as many lambs, by raising four or five by hand. Was this all? No! When I sheared them, I put what wool I had got off my dead sheep in among my other wool, and then my sixty-six fleeces did not average three pounds.

Best Depth for Milk Pans.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Dairy Farmer inquires what is the best depth for milk pans, all things considered—material, durability, &c., and adds: "It was formerly asserted that two inches in depth is as much as ought to be put into a pan of any size at one time, when cream or butter is the object; but lately it is thought by some that evaporation and greater waste more than counterbalance the advantages of this depth; while it is asserted, from the results of some experiments, that six inches of milk will give more cream, in proportion, than one

or two will, and that the butter is of a more uniform color and consistency, by avoiding one source of 'white specks,' in part, at least, from the dried particles or spores of the cream, which may be seen in the form of a tough skin upon the cream, often times so hard that they are not sufficiently broken in churning to form perfect butter.

"Some may think that this is rather a small affair to seek information upon, but let me assure them, if any such there are, that it is by observing the minutia, in every branch of business, is the only way to eminence yet found worthy to be pursued."

In an old volume of the Genesee Farmer there is an account of three carefully conducted experiments, for the purpose of determining whether more butter is obtained from a given quantity of milk, when set in pans partly filled, than when full. Contrary to the expectations of the experimenter, from the same quantity of milk in the full pans, some three or four per cent. more butter was obtained than when set in pans half full.

Weight of Hogs—Gross and Net.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Ohio Farmer, speaking of this subject, says:—"I have just been butchering hogs, and having a platform scale at hand, I weighed them to ascertain the difference between their gross and net weight. The following is the result. The first was weighed alive, and again after being killed, showing the loss in blood:

Table with 5 columns: Live Wt., Gross Wt., Net Wt., Ovals, Blood. Row 1: 293, 333, 290, 32, 7 lbs. Row 2: 380, 420, 376, 34, 4 lbs. Row 3: 310, 340, 306, 34, 4 lbs. Row 4: 388, 418, 374, 33, 3 lbs.

The above were about an average of the hogs killed in this vicinity, and the result shows that a fat hog loses a little less than one-seventh of his weight by being dressed. I also weighed the different parts of one of the above hogs, with the following result: Head, 24 pounds; shoulders, 29; hams, 42; side pork, 90; lard, 17; bone and lean meat, 74; total, 276 pounds. Thus we see that the head is about one-eleventh, the hams and shoulders about one-fifth, clear side pork about one-third, bone and lean meat, about one-third of the net weight of the hog."

Inquiries and Answers.

MAKING CHEESE.—Will the RURAL, or some one of its numerous contributors, please inform a young man, respecting the modus operandi of making cheese? Living out of Chesapeake, as I do, and wishing to start a dairy, you will please inform me, through your paper, how to commence and conduct a dairy.—A SUBSCRIBER, Versailles, Wyandott Co., O.

It would gratify us to furnish "Subscriber" the information desired at once, but the discussion of the topics proposed would monopolize our entire space. All he wishes to know will be given during the present volume. A series of articles on the Dairy have already been commenced, (see issues of January 6th and 19th,) and the subject will be fully agitated. Meanwhile we would be pleased to hear from our correspondents on the question above set forth.

GOOD ENDS FOR HORSES.—In the RURAL of Jan. 29th, while speaking of the stable care of horses, you enter protest against poor beds, and say "a horse can appreciate a good, comfortable lodging place, as well as at least one-half the man." All true, notwithstanding I have a horse that doesn't believe any such thing—bed is to him good for nothing but to paw away. It is impossible, I think, to keep a bed under him. I am far from being the only man whose horse disbelieves sound doctrine, therefore I would be exceedingly happy to learn, through your useful paper, of any method that will oblige a horse of this persuasion to accept of a little straw, lie comfortably down on it, and remember how the thing is done long enough to try it the second time.—SAMUEL STAYNER, Rochester, N. Y., 1861.

We are sorry to hear that Illinois horses have such vitiated tastes, and are somewhat fearful of Prairie Farmers have been lax in certain duties devolving upon them. Horses are teachable, and if brought up "in the way they should go," we would rather pin our faith on their not departing therefrom than on one-half of the "Young America" you could shake a stick at in a month. It may be that the horse of our friend, at some period of his existence, — the hey-day of youth, for instance, — was indulged with a dreaming place, like unto PATRICK, who, having found a feather, thought he would sleep like a rich man for once. Composing his limbs to rest, he soon found MORPHEUS, and, liking his company, remained with the drowsy god till day. Arising, he found himself stiff and sore, and looking down upon his couch, exclaimed, "If 'twan makes a chap feel like that, it bates Banagher clans out how the lords and ladies can sleep at all, at all. Be gorra, Im done wid feathers intirely." Horses, especially those who have previously had good care, sometimes learn this habit when a slovenly groom allows the ordure to accumulate under their feet; others are naturally hot and irritable, and display their temper by pawing and stamping. We have known horses in which this habit had become a vice. They destroyed their litter, broke up the floor of the stable, knocked off their shoes, and injured their feet and legs. JENNINGS, in his work upon the Horse and his Diseases, says:—"Shackles are the only remedy, with a chain sufficiently long to enable the horse to shift his posture, or move in his stall; but these must be taken off at night, otherwise the animal will seldom lie down. Unless, however, the horse possesses peculiar value, it will be better to dispose of him at once, than to submit to the danger and inconvenience that he may occasion."

WATER-PROOF BLACKING.—Noticing an inquiry, in a late number of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, for a recipe to make Water-Proof Blacking, I would recommend the following:—Melt ten pounds of tallow and five pounds of lard in a pot over a slow fire; in another pot (very gently,) two and a half pounds of beeswax; add this to the tallow, mixing well. Take your pot from the fire, and put into it two and one-half pounds of olive oil and two pounds and one-half pints of spirits of turpentine, add ten or twelve pounds of ivory-black while stirring, which should be continued half an hour. Let the mixture cool, and fill boxes in shade.—M. H. D., Salem, West Co., Pa., 1861.

WATER-PROOF BLACKING.—Seeing in the RURAL NEW-YORKER an inquiry for a good Water-Proof Blacking, I take pleasure in sending the following:—One pint castor oil; one-half pound tallow; a lump of good rosin, as large as a walnut; a lump of burgandy pitch, as large as a hen's egg; three cents worth lampblack. This should be melted over a slow fire, and when to be applied, should be about milk warm, and applied with a clean sponge. I have tried it, and think there is nothing better.—A SUBSCRIBER, Verona, N. Y., 1861.

ANOTHER MODE.—One of the RURAL'S Illinois correspondents wants a recipe for a Water-Proof Blacking, for boots, shoes, &c. I will give him one that I know to be good, as I have used it for years, and my father used it before me:—One-half pint linseed oil; ½ pint neatfoot oil; ½ lb. nutton tallow; ½ lb. beeswax; a piece of rosin about the size of a hickory nut, and enough lampblack to make it a dark color. Melt all together till they are well incorporated, and put away to use as you may want it. It is first-rate to keep all kinds of steel plows and other tools from rusting, as well as boots from soaking water.—S. S. WILLIAMS, Morris, Grundy Co., Ill.

SCAR ON THE EYE-LIDS OF CATTLE.—In the RURAL NEW-YORKER of Jan. 5th, Mr. CHAPMAN wishes to know what is the matter with his cattle, and the remedy. As to the cause, I am not certain, but of the remedy, quite. My experience in this is that it most always begins about the eye, and quite often extending to other parts of the body in the form of a scale, or scurfy. Remedy.—Apply equal parts of hog's lard and spirits of turpentine to the parts affected, for a few times daily, and the cause will be removed, and new hair present itself.—R. E. MILLIS, Amber, N. Y., 1861.

VERMONT BUTTER AND CHEESE.—It is printed that Franklin county, Vt., is great in the butter and cheese line. Dairy products were shipped from the St. Albans depot, in 1860, amounting to 2,607,074 pounds of butter, and 1,982,901 pounds of cheese, worth, in the aggregate at least \$500,000; and this was only a part of the product of that section of country.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE WEATHER of the past two months has been remarkably pleasant for the season. We do not remember a winter in a decade of years during which the temperature has been so uniform. While we have frequent accounts of heavy snow storms, both East and West, blocking railroads, &c., it is worthy of note that we have not had a fall of more than four inches of snow at any one time in this locality,—and not six inches on the ground at any period during the winter,—yet fair sleighing almost continually for two months.

FINE AND PROFITABLE TURKEYS.—In a recent letter, A. G. FIERSON, of Manchester, Ontario county, gives these facts and figures:—"On the 15th of January, I killed 30 young turkeys which weighed 460 lbs. after being dressed. I shipped them the next day to Boston, Mass., and they were sold for 16 cents per lb.—amounting to \$80. Freight and charges paid at Boston, \$7.30—leaving \$61.61 that I received for the 30 turkeys, or an average of \$2.06 each. If any of your readers can beat that, I would like to hear from them. The yearling turkey that I bred the above from "still lives," and weighs twenty-five and a half pounds."

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA we have received quite a number of favors during the past two weeks—straws which indicate that the wind is changing. One letter is headed "Republic of S. C.," yet the writer is anxious to secure the RURAL. He can have it, but we decline addressing in that wise yet awhile. Another who wants the paper says:—"As we are not of you, and as our currency has depreciated, what kind will suit you? I suppose United States postage stamps or TOM BENTON'S 'yellow boys' will answer the purpose." Yes, any thing issued by authority of our common uncle—SAMUEL— is acceptable, and so long as U. S. stamps and mint drops are at par throughout the country, there is hope for the Union, the Constitution, the Maintenance of the Laws, the Prosperity of the People, and Perpetuity of the Republic.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER IN VIRGINIA.—The political excitement has been such that we thought many Virginia subscribers might secede from our books this year—or, rather, not invite us to re-enter their names therein. But, though our friends in that and other Southern States did not remit as early as usual, they are now making amends—albeit some express fears that the mails will "fail to connect" before the close of the year. Among other letters received during the past week, one from a friend in Loudon Co., Va., (containing payment for a club of twenty-nine subscribers,) after speaking of the discouragements of the lovers of the Union, says:—"If the Government should stop the circulation of Northern newspapers, I hope they will remit back the excess that we may be entitled to. It appears like a silly request, but we cannot make any calculations until the Secession Federal is over." Yes, friend, if the Old Dominion—the birth-place of WASHINGTON and his compeers—is so unwise as to leave a Union, to the establishment of which her sons so largely contributed, we will return any excess received from her patriotic and Union-loving citizens. But we do not anticipate any such result.

GREAT CROPS OF TURNIPS IN CANADA.—Our Canada friends seem determined to beat the States' farmers in crops and stock raising. We have recently given testimony on some points, and now D. S. BUTTERFIELD, Esq., of Norwich, Oxford county, C. W., takes the stand in this wise:—"In the RURAL of Dec. 22, I noticed your description of a large turnip, weighing 17½ lbs., grown by Mr. F. WEAVER, of Penfield, N. Y., and thought it would not be amiss to give you a short account of the Ruta Baga crop in this county, South Oxford, C. W. The Directors of our County Agricultural Society offered \$20 for the best, and \$10 for the second best acre of Swedish Turnips. The competitors were twenty-one in number, and scattered over the different towns in the county. In connection with JAMES WILLIAMS, Esq., and GEORGE WISEMAN, Esq., of Dereham, I was appointed to examine and report upon the same. Our plan of procedure was to carefully examine and select an average square rod, pull tops, clean off the earth and roots, count and weigh the same, noting the quality of soil, time of sowing, mode of culture, &c. We awarded the first prize to Mr. JOHN REED, of Dereham. The produce of his turnips was 1,429 bushels and 40-00, or 42 87-100 tons per acre. Average weight 5 lbs. 2 oz. each. The second to Mr. WM. AGUR, of the same place; produce 1,266 40-00 bushels, or 37 1-5 tons per acre—average weight, 4 lbs. 3 oz. The average yield of the 21 competitors was 906 bushels per acre. I would have sent you the report in full, but think it would be taxing your space rather more than you would be willing to bear. If you have any better or larger crops of purple-top Swede turnips in the United States, please report, and the farmers of this county will try again next season."

THE FRIENDS OF THE RURAL NEW-YORKER—including long-time subscribers, new recruits, constant or occasional borrowers, and the rest of its readers—are invited to read the announcement headed "Good Pay for Doing Good," on the seventh (advertising) page of this paper. All who can consistently aid in augmenting the circulation of the RURAL, are particularly requested to note the Extra Gifts offered (in addition to former offers,) for lists procured between this date and the 1st of April. The premiums are so liberal that hundreds who have never acted in behalf of the paper, may easily secure from \$3 to \$10 worth of valuable books. Young men will find the opportunity a rare one.

It is proper to state in this connection that we are abundantly satisfied with the result thus far this year—our list being several thousand greater than it was twelve months ago—and hence feel like giving every one disposed to assist in reaching the circulation we have resolved to attain, a decided benefit, even at a temporary pecuniary sacrifice.

GOOD FARMING DEFINED.—A capital definition of good farming was given by a Mr. KANE at an agricultural discussion in Dorsetshire, England. He said he fed his land before it was hungry; rested it before it was weary; and weeded it before it was foul.

Doings of Agricultural Societies.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of N. Y. State Ag. Society is to be held at Albany, on Wednesday next, Feb. 15th.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE AG. SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this Society was held at Harrisburg, Jan. 15th. Hon. JACOB S. HALDEMAN was re-elected President, and most of the other officers re-elected. At a meeting of the Executive Committee some awards were made which are worthy of note and imitation by other Societies. For example, a pitcher of the value of \$50 was voted to a lady of Wilkesbarre, "as a testimonial of appreciation of her efforts and liberality in the decoration of Floral Hall." A goblet valued at \$25 was also awarded to Gen. E. W. STURDEVANT, as an appreciation of his services before and during the exhibition at Wyoming—and a certificate of life-membership voted to Gen. JAS. IRVING, of Centre Co., for his public spirit and liberality to the Society.

WISCONSIN AG' and MECH' ASSOCIATION.—At the annual meeting of this Association, held in Milwaukee, Jan. 22, the following officers were elected: President—T. C. DOUSMAN. Vice Presidents—Alexander Mitchell, H. Crocker, J. V. Robbins, B. Ferguson, H. Durkee, Moses Whitesides, W. D. Melndoe. Secretary—I. A. Lapham. Treasurer—Harrison Ludington. Executive Committee—T. C. Dousman, S. S. Dagget, Simon Robie, W. H. Hobkirk, J. L. Burnham, S. B. Davis. The Sentinel says it was decided to hold the next Fair in Milwaukee, commencing Sept. 10, and to offer premiums amounting to \$7,000. The Executive Committee were authorized to hold a Spring Fair, for the sale of stock, if deemed expedient. [This Association is, we believe, a joint stock one, on the plan of the St. Louis and proposed Western New York Association.]

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (Kalamazoo, Mich.).—At the annual meeting of the Stockholders of the "National Association for Improving the Breed of Horses," \$5,000 was voted to be offered in premiums at the Fourth Annual Fair, for 1861. The precise time is not yet determined, but the list of premiums will soon be made out and forwarded to all applicants. The following officers were chosen: President—Hon. CHAS. E. STUART. Secretary—G. F. Kidder. Treasurer—W. G. Patison. Directors—E. O. Humphrey, Geo. H. Gale, A. Cameron, B. M. Austin, John K. Ward, John Milham, F. E. Walbridge, —Yours, G. F. K.

HORTICULTURAL.

OHIO STATE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE Ohio Pomological Society is one of the most efficient in the country. It was organized in 1847, and the regular meetings are now held biennially, alternating with the meetings of the American Pomological Society; but special meetings may be held at any time, on the call of the President and Secretary; and the Committee ad Interim are expected to meet at least once in each year, in addition to the regular meetings of the Society.

The last meeting was held at Cincinnati on the 15th and 16th ult., and we give a synopsis of the discussions.

APPLES.

Indiana Favorite—Described by Dr. Warder, as red, striped, good size, and resembling the Red Vandevere or Newtown Spitzenburgh; not so fine in flavor, but a better keeper; supposed to be a seedling of the Vandevere Pippin. At this point, a long discussion sprang up on the size indicated by the terms "medium" and "good size."

Buchanan Pippin—A seedling raised by Mr. Buchanan; medium size, red, a long keeper, and best for eating in May.

Minkler—Named from Mr. Minkler, of Illinois; handsome, second rate in flavor, but a good keeper. Hague Pippin—Specimen from Cambridge, Ind.; large, striped, good bearer, good for marketing; origin not known.

Northern Spy—This apple drew out a great deal of discussion. In Northern Ohio it is highly regarded, but in this locality it does not attain the same perfection, and is liable to crack open.

Ohio Pippin—Introduced by Mr. Buchanan under the name of "Ernst Pippin;" fruit very large, roundish conical, excellent flavor, and a good keeper. The proper name of this specimen called out a good deal of discussion. Dr. Warder maintained that it was the same apple known as the Loudon or the Loudon Pippin.

Higby Sweet—First came from Gen. Perkins of Trumbull county; fruit medium size, roundish, ovate, faintly ribbed, flesh tender, sweet, aromatic, and very pleasant.

Dr. Warder presented a New York Pippin, now decided to be identical with the Carolina Red Streak, Victoria Red, and Kentucky Streak; and a Ben Davis apple for comparison.

The Committee decided that they were identical. Baldwin—This is an old variety, and was voted "not very good to eat," but "first rate to bring in the dimes," on account of its prolific qualities.

Belmont—Good for Northern Ohio. Large Striped Pearmain—From Tennessee. Specimen not in good condition.

Bagby's Russet—Specimen wilted; reported to be good from December to April.

Whitney's Russet—Quite small, good, looks like the Pomme grise.

Wagner—Presented by Mr. Miller, who spoke very highly of it.

Pack's Pleasant—Second in quality only to the Canada Red.

May of Meyers—A very long keeper.

July—A long keeper but poor.

Durable Keeper—Presented by Lewis Jones, of Cambridge city, a fair looking, hard apple; not tasted.

Stock Apple—Exhibited by Mr. Bateham, from Delaware county. Fair sized, handsome apple; resembling, when grown, Rawley's Jannet, but not identical with it. It is highly esteemed as a long keeper.

Liberty—From the same county; originated there; mentioned in previous reports; very good market apple for spring.

Chillicothe Seedling—Presented by Dr. Warder. Not known, and not recommended.

Seedling—By Irving Willis, of London, Ohio. Esteemed there for great productiveness and long keeping. Decided not sufficiently good.

Chillicothe Red Streak—By W. F. Bowen. Not known to the Society, but highly approved by Mr. Bowen for productiveness and good keeping qualities.

Holston Sweet—Of Marietta. A fine sweet apple of medium size, yellow, resembling Broadwell. Not known to the Society, but commended.

Knox Russet—By Rev. J. Knox, of Pittsburg. A handsome, small fruit, reddish russet, tender flesh, sweet and good, very productive and profitable. Not known to the Society. Said to be a seedling of Westmoreland county, Pa.

Moore's Seedling—Presented by Dr. Kenyon; originated on the farm of Burriss Moore, in Scioto county, Ohio; a large, striped apple, closely resembling the Buckingham of Illinois and Virginia, promising to be valuable for the Southern market.

Western Beauty—Dr. Warder remarked that the Western Beauty was first seen in Ohio State Fair at Columbus about five years ago. He thinks it originated in Pickaway county, where it is called the Big Rambo. It ripens in July, and can be kept till March. It is an apple very subject to change in grafting.

Ohio Nonpareil—The President introduced a specimen of this fruit, which he said was very popular in the western part of the State. The Society dissented from a view expressed by many Pomologists, that the Ohio Nonpareil resembled the Coggeshall of New England.

Southern Apples—Dr. Warder introduced a number of specimens of apples from the South. The first, the Kentucky Long Stem, from I. S. Downes, of Todd county, Ky., he knew but little of, save from its taste and flavor, which are good. From the same gentleman, a specimen of the Dr. Fulcher was shown, which was believed to be a better article than the Kentucky Long Stem. It was grown on the southern border of Kentucky, in the town of Elkton. The Kentucky Cream was also presented. It resembles the Cluster Pearmain of Indiana. It is said to be a very good keeper.

PRUNING.

The subject of pruning was opened for discussion by Mr. Riley, who believed that the absence of protection to the trunk of the tree, from the rays of the hot sun, was one of the main causes of premature decay, and that the lateral branches should in all cases be so arranged as to give this protection. He did not say this was the only cause of decay, but believed it was the main cause. A want of proper judgment in giving the heading to a tree, in such manner as to produce malformation, was another thing prejudicial to the growth of the tree.

Mr. Petticoles went further than Mr. Riley. He had seen much injury done by borers to trees having long stems. He thought the branches should be as close as possible to the ground.

Dr. Warder said the borer would attack all trees when transplanted, if not thrifty.

Mr. Loomis remarked that he had never seen a healthy tree attacked by a borer. He believed a tree was like the human body in this respect. As long as it remains healthy and sound, the insects would not injure it.

Mr. Catt thought discrimination should be used in training trees; that all trees should be trained according to the natural growth of their branches. The Bellflower should be trained high—the Benoni low, according to the manner in which they spread in attaining their growth. He did not believe it the nature of the borer to deposit eggs in healthy, living bark. In planting, said he, trees should be set toward the southwest.

Mr. Millikin said it was the cupidity of farmers that induced them to seek tall trees. He once bought and planted 150 trees of tall form. They grew for a while, but soon all were attacked by borers.

Mr. Stoms dissented from the opinion that healthy trees are not attacked by borers. He believed the cause of injury was the want of proper shading. He held that trees must be branched near the ground.

Mr. Loomis inquired if the borer ever attacked the north side of a tree, to which several gentlemen answered in the negative. Then he assumed that injury was first done by scorching; after the tree was scorched, it was attacked by borers.

Mr. Stoms believed that the instinct of the borer taught it that a hot sun was necessary to the hatching of its eggs.

Mr. Riley said that all the remarks made tended to confirm his position, that shading the trees was necessary to prevent the attack of borers. The same thing might be observed in regard to fruit trees. In recent clearings he found that young trees left exposed to the sun had been attacked by the borers.

Mr. Stoms said that nurserymen ought not to be compelled to furnish brains as well as trees, but that the Society should give it forth in all its proceedings, and nurserymen ought to tell their customers that no horse or cow, or other large animal, ought to be allowed in any case to run in an orchard, and that trees should be trained with low heads.

Mr. Millikin said that sheep should not be included in the list of animals prohibited from ranging in the orchard. He believed that sheep should in all cases be pastured in orchards.

Dr. Warder took the floor, and spoke at length upon the subject, advocating the utility of setting trees low.

Mr. Graham recommended that trees be washed with soap suds in summer to kill the eggs of the borer. He agreed with what had been said in regard to the trimming of trees.

Mr. Kenyon spoke of the relative effects of the high and low training of trees. He said that a wash of one pound of potash to one gallon of water was a very good preservative of the health and vigor of a tree. He had used this wash on plum trees and found it very effective in the destruction of the curculio. He coincided with the opinions of the gentlemen who had expressed themselves in favor of the low training of trees.

RIPENING PEARS.

Mr. Buchanan had tried to keep pears in the wine cellar, but had found his wine house much better for the preservation of the fruit. As a general thing, his pears ripened better when plucked three days before attaining their full maturity. To ripen them in winter, he brought them into a warm room and kept them there for two or three days.

Mr. Bateham found the chief difficulty in keeping winter pears to be their disposition to wilt. If he put them where they would not rot on account of moisture, they were sure to wilt.

Mr. Taylor had experienced difficulties similar to those complained of by Mr. Bateham.

Dr. Warder said that no two species of pears could be relied on as being ripe at the same time. It is necessary to study the character of each individual variety, in order to understand them sufficiently well.

Mr. Riley spoke concerning one pear—the Vicar of Winkfield. He formerly thought it a very poor fruit, but in keeping a quantity in his cellar some six or eight weeks, he found them of very good flavor, nearly equal to the Bartlett. He put them in a dry cellar, taking care to exclude the light and air. He did not believe it was the atmosphere that shriveled the fruit, but the light.

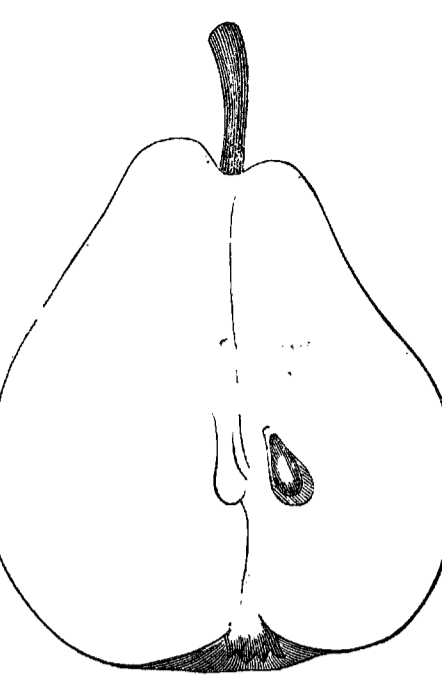
SMALL FRUITS.

Strawberries.—Mr. Wm. Stoms spoke of the varieties. Wilson's Albany was not such as he would plant for his own use. Its flavor was not to the taste, and the fruit stalks were too short. Still its great productiveness makes it profitable. The Iowa, or Washington, was the most reliable and profitable as an early variety. Needs wide planting and good culture. But if he were going to plant largely for market, he would choose the Wilson's Albany. After planting, must be cultivated so as to keep them perfectly free from weeds.

Lavton Blackberry.—Mr. Knox has ten acres of these plants. They produce enormously. The berries are fine when ripe, but the character of this fruit has been injured by picking before ripe. They are luscious, and popular in this market. He had crops for four or five seasons, and never failed, save from the June frosts of 1859. He plants in rows five by ten feet apart. He pinches off the tops, and uses no stakes. They never winter-kill.

TO DESTROY APPLE TREE WORMS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I wish to inform the numerous readers of your valuable paper, my method of destroying the apple tree worms. They were very destructive in many places in Sandy Creek and Oswego county, in 1859. G. S. BUEL'S orchard was most entirely stripped of its leavers, and our badly injured. As this is the time to kill them, I take the opportunity to give a hint on the subject. The egg of the worms are now waxed on the ends of the limbs, about middle way of the tree, the most of them, so that they cannot be more than eight or ten feet out of reach. I take a pair of shears, made for the purpose, with handles about seven or eight feet long, or longer. Make a coarse edge on your shears by filing, and have them made strong, and then in a sunny day you can go around the tree and can see the nests and clip them off at your pleasure. If cut off now and left to remain until spring on the ground or till time to hatch, there will be nothing left of them. I cut them from our cherry trees, and the next summer not one were seen. From one cherry tree I cut twenty-one nests, and if they had been left that summer they would have ruined the tree. Now is the time, in January and February, to kill the worms. They are very plenty on all the trees I have noticed this winter, and next season will damage the orchards much, if not got off. If left on until hatched out, it is four times the work to get them off, and cannot be done thoroughly, besides at that time we have plenty of other work, and the leaves hide the worms. C. ALLEN. Sandy Creek, Oswego Co., N. Y., Jan., 1861.



THE BARTRAM PEAR.

WHEN at Philadelphia last autumn, we were presented with specimens of the Bartram pear. It is of medium size, pale yellow, obovate, juicy, melting, of fine texture, and of the "best" quality. It was brought before the American Pomological Society at its last session in Philadelphia, by R. R. SCOTT. Mr. MITCHELL indorsed its good qualities, and stated that it was well known to Dr. BRINCKLE, who had taken pains to obtain its history from the BARTRAM family. Mr. M. said it was so much superior to the old Bartram pear, that that variety should be discarded and stricken from the lists and this inserted in its place.

THE BOTANY OF JAPAN.

Now that foreigners have obtained access to a portion of the Japanese Empire, we shall soon become acquainted with its Flora; and in a few years, no doubt, our gardens will be decorated with importations from that strange land. Mr. JOHN G. VERRILL, son of the celebrated English nurseryman, is now on a collecting tour in Japan, and will soon have skinned the cream of its Flora. Mr. V. reached Nagasaki on the 20th of July, and immediately commenced his researches. From his letters, published in the London Gardeners' Chronicle, we make the following extracts:

"I have already picked up in an old Japanese garden one or two nice plants, which I think will prove to be good things; from what I have seen as yet I think there are many good evergreens here, but no Conifers of note. Cryptomeria japonica is common, but all the rarer species are further north, and indeed I would rather find them there than here, as I fear they would not be hardy. I propose going on to Jeddo as soon as an opportunity offers, and then probably on to Hakodadi. As the winter sets in early in November in the north, I shall be able, after collecting at Hakodadi, to return to Jeddo, getting seeds of Coniferae, &c., and then, coming back to Nagasaki, take all my collection to Hong Kong. From what I can judge I shall be able to get a good many plants suitable for glass cases. And I hope to send you some seeds of new hardy ferns in my next letter; but they are not yet quite fit.

I have been occupied some time in rambling over the hills in this neighborhood, and looking into all the gardens I can gain access to in the town. The people are excessively civil, and in no one instance have I met with the least hindrance; on the contrary, every one gives me any plant I take a fancy to, and seemed pleased to do it. I have been as far inland towards the center of the island as foreigners can get, but have still a good many hills and valleys to visit. The vegetation on the hills and mountains, the highest of which accessible to foreigners is 2000 feet, is very varied; but at this season of the year there is scarcely anything in flower. I often walk all day and scarcely get more than ten specimens. There are many shrubs seedling, but none of these are ripe, and I am compelled to leave them until my return from the north. Amongst shrubs, Aralia Sieboldi is very common, several species of Viburnum, Camellias, and numerous other evergreens. In the gardens here I have picked up several nice things, of each of which before I leave for the north I will send home a specimen.

The only Japanese nursery near here is about 15 miles distant, and in a part of the country where foreigners cannot go. I have, however, sent a man there to bring me what he can find. All the plants I have hitherto obtained are potted and put away in my garden here at the temple. I have between forty and fifty plants, and almost fancy myself at Chelsea while I am watering them, &c.

I have been collecting specimens of Japan timber trees growing in this neighborhood. I have obtained 33 named kinds, and hope to get a similar collection at Jeddo and Hakodadi. I think these will be very interesting, as being the first collection of the kind made in Japan.

I can give you no description of the beauty of the scenery about here; we are entirely surrounded by hills and mountains, so much so that on entering the harbor you cannot see anything of the town until you are close upon it, and then it bursts upon you all at once. The entrance to Nagasaki harbor is considered by persons who have traveled in many countries to be the prettiest scenery of the kind they ever saw; the mountains are covered to the very top with beautiful trees and shrubs, and you cannot walk for an hour in any one direction without ascending one of them."

Horticultural Notes.

THE WINTER ROSE RADISH.—The editor of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, in copying our article on this Radish, remarks that our engraving is not a good one, as he has grown it; and in this he is no doubt right, for we have seen it very much as he figures it, grown from seeds purchased at the stores, and we think it has degenerated. Some of our frontispieces have been open to criticism, but this is not true of our portrait of the Rose Radish; we assure our RURAL friend that this is a very accurate and fair representation of the Radish as we grew it from the original seed, except that in the colored edition the color should be brighter. The RURAL agrees with us in regard to its excellence.—Horticulturalist.

So well do we agree with our friend of the Horticulturalist, as to the value of this radish, that it is the only winter variety we would cultivate. But we think we obtained the first seed that ever came to this country, having obtained it in 1850, from VILMORIN & Co., of Paris, and we have obtained our seed from the same source ever since. Our drawing represents the radish as we grew it, and we observe that it agrees precisely with the colored representation published by VILMORIN.

PRODUCING DOUBLE FLOWERS.—The Germans, it is known, are very successful in growing seed of Asters, Stocks, and Balsams, that produce very double and beautiful flowers. This is done by growing the plants crowded in pots, in a very poor soil, until the blossom buds are forming, when they are liberally watered every day with rich liquid manure. The effect is a few fine seeds that will produce perfectly double flowers, instead of a great many poor seeds. Mr. JAMES EADIE, in an essay read before the Progressive Gardeners' Society of Philadelphia, alluded to the fact in the following terms:

"Much depends upon the state of growth of the parent plants; if they are growing very luxuriantly previous to setting their seeds, the seedlings will prove strong growers; but if, on the contrary, the plants are weak, and when setting, and while maturing seed, are stimulated into a strong and vigorous growth, the fruit will be larger, and the tendency to produce double flowers very much increased.

"This is a fact well known to the German Florists, who are proverbial for producing double Balsams, Asters, and Stock-gilly flowers. It also explains the reason why the Dahlia and Hollyhock flowers remained so long single, although the plants were so strong growers then as now, and why their seedlings are so certain to degenerate, no matter how strong the plants are, unless every means are taken to stimulate them while setting and maturing seed. It may also explain why Tulips and Pansies are so generally produced single at this day, as any stimulus given to them, while in flower, causes the colors to run and intermix, thus spoiling their beauty in the eyes of critics, for any tendency to double flowers in these plants is accompanied by defective coloring.

"The best raiser of the Stock-gilly that I ever knew, used to grow his plants in very small pots and poor soil, until the blossom buds began to form; he then planted them out in a bed of rich soil, and supplied them liberally with manure water, until the seeds were ripe, and from seeds so produced, he had always a large proportion of plants that had double flowers, and the plants of a fine dwarf habit, which would not be the case when the stimulus was applied during all the period of growth."

THE WEATHER, FRUITS, &c., IN LONDON.—A friend, now on a visit to England, writes us on the 1st ult.—"I have been into several fruit rooms here, and I assure you the fruit is very poor, hardly fit to be consumed by human beings. I visited the Smithfield Cattle Show, and it was a very fine affair, the cattle being superb. The Sydenham Crystal Palace is a triumph of which the nation may well be proud. I also visited the Thames Tunnel, and all other remarkable places in and around London. Every florist is trying to get seeds of the double Zinnias, and I bought a package containing a very few seeds for sixty cents. We are getting very seasonable weather here at present, the ground being covered with 'crystal and white.' I miss the sleighing, stoves, and such like comforts, very much."

MULTUM IN PARVO.—One of our subscribers, Mr. George Hayward, of Brooklyn, has been reading and doing to some purpose. He writes us as follows:—"I have raised this year, upon nine feet square, in my lot at the back of the house, as follows: three and a quarter pecks of onions gathered for winter, besides using a good many green with lettuce; one hundred and fifty heads of good cabbage lettuce; twelve heads of cabbage, and a second crop of greens from the same; eighteen good-sized cucumbers; a good supply of turnip radishes, both spring and fall; half a bushel of strap-leaved turnips." That shows what can be done.—Horticulturalist.

LEAF PLANTS FOR A WARDIAN CASE.—Ten handsome leaf-plants of easy culture for a glass case, we would name Begonia rex, Tradescantia discolor, Tradescantia zebrina, Saxifraga sarmentosa, Hydrangea variegata, any one of the variegated Caladiums, 2 Ferns (1 Adiantum, 1 Pteris or Blechnum); Lycopodium, say L. dendiculatum, cesium, or arborescens; Variegated Periwinkle. This list will afford a great variety of form of foliage, color, and habit, bearing confinement tolerably well, and are plants that can be readily procured of almost any florist.—Gardener's Monthly.

RECORD OF THE PROGRESSIVE GARDENERS' SOCIETY.—We are indebted to the Secretary, R. R. SCOTT, for a copy of the proceedings of the Progressive Gardeners' Society of Philadelphia, being the first annual report for 1860. It is a pamphlet of 180 pages, and gives a pretty full report of the discussions at the various meetings, as well as twelve essays on important horticultural topics.

HINTS.—Trees, especially willows and others, with long fibrous roots, should never be planted near drains of any kind, not even tile drains, as the roots will insinuate themselves into the tile at the joints, and dam the water, causing the drains to be worthless, unless taken up, the stoppage ascertained, and relaid again at trouble and expense.

PRIZE REPORTING.—At the last Fair of the American Institute, Henry S. Olcott, Esq., of New York, was presented with a handsome silver cup for the best public report of the Fair. A similar prize was offered lately by the United States Agricultural Society, and was awarded to Mr. Olcott.

LONGWORTH'S WINE CELLARS.—MR. LONGWORTH has a large stock of wine in his cellars, estimated to be worth two million dollars.

Inquiries and Answers.

LONG KEEPING APPLES.—I have some apples which are two years old, said to be the English Russet. I exhibited them at the Commercial State Fair in 1859, at the Woodbridge Town Fair in 1860, and they are now at the present time as found as when picked from the tree, with a prospect of keeping one year longer. Will you describe the English Russet through your valuable paper and much obliged.—CHARLES N. BERCHER, Woodbridge, Conn., Jan. 1861, 1861.

The English Russet is a valuable, long keeping apple, but its origin, we think, is unknown. It is not certain that it is an English apple. Mr. Downing thus describes it: "The English Russet is a valuable, long keeping variety, extensively cultivated, and well known by this name on the Hudson, but which we have not been able to identify with any English sort. It is not fit for use until February, and may be kept till July, which, together with its great productiveness and good flavor, renders it a very valuable market fruit. It is acknowledged one of the most profitable orchard apples. Fruit of medium size, ovate, or sometimes conical, and very regularly formed. Skin pale greenish yellow, about two-thirds covered with russet, which is thickest near the stalk. Calyx small, closed, and set in an even, round basin, of moderate depth. Stalk rather small, projecting even with the base, and pretty deeply inserted, in a narrow, smooth cavity. Flesh yellowish-white, firm, crisp, with a pleasant, mild, slightly sub-acid flavor. The trees grow very straight, and form upright heads, and the wood is smooth and of a lively brown."

SPROUTING OF APPLE TREES.—I wish to inquire if apple trees can be prevented from sprouting at the roots. I have had a great deal of trouble with mine.—G. H., Middleville, Mich., 1861.

Trees made by grafting on suckers instead of plants raised from seed, are apt to cause trouble, as described by our correspondent. When a tree is stunted by neglect, the sap vessels in the trunk become contracted and do not afford an opportunity for the flow of the sap. The consequence is that dormant buds near the root are pushed into activity, and a mass of sprouts is the consequence. Remove the suckers and give the trunk a good scraping, prune from the top some of the old wood, and in a short time the evil will be remedied. Keep the ground mellow, so that as soon as a sprout appears you can remove it entirely, and not break it off, as this only increases the evil. We have a Seckel pear tree that, when we took possession of the place, had scores of suckers all around the trunk. By pursuing this course for a couple of years it has been entirely cured.

PRICE OF GRAPES.—What should grapes sell at per quart? I sold three bushels last fall at ten cents per quart, or seventy-five cents a peck. Some think they are too high. We call them the Wine grape, for the want of a better name. They are a deep blue, when fully ripe, sweet enough, and the largest will measure three-fourths of an inch in diameter. Ripe this year the last of September. They make a good wine, with five pounds of sugar to the juice of a peck of grapes, and I think if they were very ripe, the wine would do without sugar.—J. K., Marion, Grand Co., Ind., 1861.

Domestic Economy.

TO MAKE A WINDOW SHADE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Place a piece of good bleached cotton, the required size, on a stretching frame, and give it a coat of raw linseed oil, that it may be thoroughly saturated. Let it dry, then paint the scene on the opposite side from that on which the raw linseed was applied. For a mezzotint, use nothing but fine drop black, boiled oil, and turpentine; first dampen the surface of the cloth with raw oil, slightly. The lights are made by scraping off the color with a knife or spatula. Where deep shade is required, use the pigment that you have made thickest, and where lighter ones are used, as in distance, use thinner pigment. The knowledge which artists require in painting, will enable them to judge of the proper consistence. The high lights and semi-lights are made by scraping. The foliage of some trees, for instance, may be made by moving the hand in a circular motion, holding the spatula between the thumb and finger of the blade, and touching the cloth at each half round. The form of foliage must suggest the mode of scraping. A trunk of a tree in the foreground may be made with one stroke of the brush, using thick pigment; and if the light is intended to strike from the left hand, scrap off about the center of the left third part of the trunk, holding the spatula rather flat, so that the shade on the right will not blend too abruptly. There is much to be left to the art and taste of the painter that cannot be described.

In painting with colors, the foregoing rules hold good. Use no lead, as transparent colors are required. Use chalk to diminish the tints, only where actually required, as most all the transparent colors may be rendered thick or thin with boiled oil, and put on the high lights and half lights with the scraping tool. Use neither maglin nor varnish. St. Marys, C. W., 1861. L. M. C.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES.

BUCKWHEAT cakes and molasses make a favorite winter dish for the multitude in winter time. Why not in summer also? We need in winter the food which contains most carbon; that is, the heat producing principle, something which will keep up the internal fires to compensate for the external cold. Meats, everything containing fat, are largely made of carbon, hence we instinctively eat heartily of meats in winter, but have small appetite for them in summer, while other forms of bread materials, meal and flour, are desired all the year. It is because buckwheat cakes are superior to bread as to fatty matter, while the syrup and butter used with them are almost entirely of carbon. So that there is nothing more suitable for a winter breakfast than buckwheat cakes and molasses. In New York, where almost every kitchen is under the same roof with the dining room and parlors, the fumes arising from the baking of the cakes on the ordinary iron instrument which requires greasing are not very desirable. This may be obviated by using a soap-stone griddle, which does not require to be greased to prevent the cakes from sticking. Children and delicate persons should use the finest white flour of buckwheat. The robust, who exercise or work a great deal in the open air, should use the buckwheat flour which contains all the bran, because the bran is the richest part, yielding more nutriment and strength.

If any unfortunate dyspeptic cannot tolerate them, such an one has only to let them alone, and there will be more of this luxury left to those who can eat them with pleasure and impunity, having had the wit to avoid eating them like a glutton. The simple fact that any given item of food "is not good for" one man, does not "set well" on the stomach, is no proof that it is not good for him. This is a practical thought of considerable importance.—Hall's Journal of Health.

TOMATO CATSUP—ICE CREAM, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing a request from a subscriber for a recipe for tomato catsup, I take the liberty of sending one which we have tested, and found not wanting. Also a few others, which are good.

TOMATO CATSUP.—Strain your tomatoes and measure them, boil 4 hours over a slow fire. To one gallon tomatoes add 3 tablespoonfuls of salt, 3 of pepper, 2 of spice, 2 of cloves, 1 of mustard. Boil two hours. Add 1 quart vinegar. Cool and bottle tight.

ICE CREAM.—Take of new milk and cream each 2 quarts; 2 pounds sugar, and 12 eggs. Dissolve the sugar in the milk, beat the eggs to a froth, and add to the whole. Strain, and bring to a scald, but be careful not to burn. When cool, flavor with extract of vanilla or oil lemon. Pack the tin freezer in a tub, with broken ice and salt, whirl the freezer, and occasionally scrape down from the side what gathers on. The proportions are one quart of salt to every pail of ice.

PUFF CAKE.—Three cups flour; 2 cups white sugar; 1 cup butter; 1 of sweetmilk; 3 eggs; 2 teaspoonfuls cream tartar, (in the flour), one of soda, (in the milk) stir all together at once. NELLIE. Le Roy, N. Y., 1861.

BREAKFAST ROLLS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing an inquiry in a late number of your paper for making "breakfast rolls," I will give a recipe which I think most excellent. Take two tablespoonfuls of hop yeast, one pint of sweet milk, one tablespoonful of sugar. Sponge over night, and in the morning add a little soda. Make into small rolls, then let it stand a little time to rise before baking.—M. J. C., Fenfield, N. Y., 1861.

In answer to LOUISE L. of Macedon, N. Y., I will give a recipe for making the best breakfast rolls, according to our notion. Take unbolted, or Graham flour, and boiling water, with a little salt. Mix quite stiff, stirring with a spoon until cool enough to work with the hands, then with the hands roll into rolls three-fourths or one inch in diameter, and bake in a quick oven.—M. G. M., Girard Mich., 1861.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

EXCELLENT.—"Compose yourself, my angel," said Madam. "It was nobody's fault; the cook could not have possibly made good bread with that inferior Salaratus. I promise you that after this day we will use Dr. LAND'S Salaratus in our house; for Mrs. J. tells me that she always uses it, and never has any such luck as this with it—but that, on the contrary, she makes with it the most enchanting pastry, cakes, biscuit, bread, pie-crust, &c., and that it always works like a charm." The grocers sell it. It is manufactured by D. B. DR. LAND & Co., Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE FIRST LOVE.

BY JANE E. HIGBY.

How fast the sands of time have run In life's deceitful glass; How much the changing years have done For WILLIS and his lass.

It seemeth only yesterday Our youthful hearts were met In Love's embrace, that is to-day Nothing but fond regret.

And hopes, and fears, and sorrow's tears, With dull, corroding care, Have follow'd all the fleeting years That left their treasure there.

The wreath that fancy lov'd to twine Upon my brow, is set, And other cherish'd loves are mine, But that one dreameth yet.

In visions of the shilly night I meet that form again, And earth hath not a joy more bright Than is my blessing then.

But day-dreams lure my spirit back The old familiar way, To find his footsteps in the track, And bitter tears will stray.

A widely sever'd path it is That we are treading yet; And, though I never would be his, I cannot quite forget.

Alford, N. Y., 1861.

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

It is one of my idiosyncrasies to have a particular fancy for objects that are diminutive; delicacy of proportion being, in my eye, almost a necessary attribute of beauty. Scenes and objects which are extensive or colossal, may be described as sublime, magnificent, and majestic; but, to such things as have a lilliputian charm about them, the words beautiful and lovely are most appropos. We admire the iris-tinted humming-bird, no more on account of the beauty of its plumage, than for its bewitching tinniness,—and so with all things of similar delicacy.

But, leaving this rather metaphysical side of my subject to wiser heads, I will proceed to enumerate a few of my favorites in the charmed circle of little things, premising, however, right here, that every general rule has exceptions, and that, in consequence there are some little creations in nature and art for which I have little affinity. And first among my likes, I like little ladies, partly, perhaps, because I belong to that class myself, and, very strangely, think a good deal of myself. Be that as it may, however, I feel confirmed in my opinion, by recalling the language which devoted husbands use in speaking of their better halves. They always speak of them as Mr. LAMPOON did of his not long since, as "the little woman down the street," or "the dear little bird at home," though, for all we know, their wives and his are five feet nine at the minimum.

I have also a decided penchant for little hands, as part and parcel of the aforesaid little ladies,—not quite so small, but as soft and white as snow-flakes. Such hands, I mean, to look at, for, I believe large hands are more useful. At least my judgment tells me so, and that has a good deal more common sense about it than my fancies have. Yes, now I think of it, I am certain I have been acquainted with some dear pairs of hands that have grown large and brown in toiling for a husband's comfort, or a child's happiness. To be sure, they are not so pretty to look at, but I respect them infinitely more than I do those white and jeweled little hands of the young lady who reads romances in the parlor, while her mother is making pies in the kitchen.

Next in my list come little feet, if I may be pardoned for introducing such a word to the fastidious ears of a refined public. Really, I shouldn't have ventured it, if I had not thought of those pretty lines of the poet:

"Her feet beneath her petticoat, Like little mice stole in and out, As if they feared the light."

If such an ethereal thing as poetry can harbor the word, surely my common-place prose can. But I do rather wonder at the use of that word "petticoat" in a poem. I wonder if it wouldn't have suited both sets of feet, the human and poetic, just as well, if some French word, that meant the same thing, but didn't sound so vulgar, had been introduced. However, I'm no poet, so I won't play critic on a poet's fine fancies.

I like a little kid or satin slipper, just the size of the little foot, that is, on three-ply carpets or velvet tapestry; but I do not respect the good sense of the owners of such appendages, when they refuse to put on a thick leather shoe, or rubber boot, on a walking excursion, for fear people will think their feet are large.

I admire little children,—not little gentlemen and ladies, whom their mamma sets up in the parlor, as stiff and prime as so many wax dolls, or take into the streets to be admired,—but bona fide children, who have been "brought up" in the country, and own sparkling eyes and rosy cheeks. Those that I like, wear calico dresses, and home-spun aprons, that are not too nice to admit of a frolic in the grass, among dandelions and daisies, or an egg-hunt in the barn, or a game of hide and seek on the hay-mow. Some of the dearest, sweetest little boys I have ever known, go bare-footed in summer, wear coarse checked pinafores, and very often a brimless straw hat. I don't call those pale, dyspeptic, starched and ruffled little creatures that one meets in the city streets, children. They are early in life thoroughly initiated into the love of finery and display, and too often grow up to be stilly dandies and heartless coquettes, which varieties of the genus homo I hold in unqualified contempt. But next to children, I love those first cousins of theirs, the lovely race of little flowers. Not the flaunting, fragrant tulips, or the gay yellow lily, or big brazen-faced sun-flower, looking as though it meant to stare all creation out of countenance; but sky-colored spring-beauties, that seem the reflection of the blue eyes of the children who gather them; and early violets, and the sweet little bells of the lily of the valley, every one brim full of fragrance. There is the verbena race, too, beautiful in whatever dress they wear, and tiny pink rose-buds, snowy candy-tuft, and "bridal wreath."—I like them all.

But, perhaps no flower is so great a favorite with me as the yellow butter-cup that gilds the fields so gorgeously in summer time. I hardly know why I fancy it so greatly, unless it be that I loved it in childhood; and it is a sort of weakness, common to everybody, I believe, to love the things that were dear to them when they were boys and girls. Life is so strange; butter-cups look just as they used to

when I was a wee child; but many an other thing that looked like living ever so much longer, is gone. The butter-cups remind me of my tiny sister ANNIE. She used to gather these golden flowers, and in her infantile glee, tear the shining bits apart and scatter them to the winds. They were such frail things, I thought. But they come now just as they did then, while ANNIE, the darling, is forever gone. In the mornings of every year, for more than a score, these frail blossoms have opened their eyes above her narrow grave, but her soft eyes open not. I gather a cluster of these yellow blooms every summer, and when they fade, I think of ANNIE. Perhaps I am wandering from my text in speaking of her, but ANNIE was a little thing,—only four when she died,—and writing of little things makes me remember her. How they grow in heaven I know not, but to me, sweet ANNIE comes in dreams, as a little angel, with little bird-like wings, and a crown deftly wrought, but tiny as a star. I cannot think her large.

But in accordance with my premises, I want to tell you of a thing or two of little size which I do not like, and never will.

One is a little dumpy man. Certainly no one is amenable for his size; but I do believe I should be un-reconciled to my lot if I were a man, and little as that. I know some little men are talented,—some regular Lilliputs I have seen who were wondrously eloquent; but even in their highest flights of graceful oratory, I have always caught myself thinking, if not saying, "Ah me, what a pity Nature didn't clap an inch or two more on the top of your heads." No, I'm certain nothing would persuade me to marry a little man.

Next in my catalogue come little canes, little dandy canes, such as those elegant gentlemen carry to keep company for a conspicuous watch-chain and ornamented opera-glass. They think, these exquisite, that the ladies admire them for these embellishments; but they don't,—at least, common sense ones, like me, don't. A good, honest cane, large enough to aid an infirm old gentleman down the street, shows that it is made for some good purpose; but these dainty, polished, delicate little canes, are made for nothing, as I can see, but to aid a young man in making a fool of himself.

One or two things more, Mr. Type-Setter, and I'll spare you. Don't you hate these little box stoves that you come across now and then? If you don't, I do. And this is why I once spent a cold winter with a very economical family, who provided me with a little stove, not much bigger than a mouse-trap, and, under Madam Economy's supervision, it proved a very saving piece of furniture. For, as little sticks of wood are a necessary concomitant of similar sized stoves, and as mine host next to never remembered to have any sticks out short, the heat from my little stove was cut short at once, because the wood was not. I effected a change in my lodgings as soon as practicable, and now before I engage a boarding place, I always look to see if there is a little stove on the premises.

Last of all, and worst of all, I dislike little souls. Many people are so greedy for gain, in such haste to be rich, that they forget that souls, like other things made to grow, want nourishment, and so, instead of acting the benevolent part toward them, they shut them up in some pinched-up corner of their bodies, and neglect and starve them, till they become as dry and almost as invisibly little as the kernel of a worthless chinquin. But these maltreated souls are not always going to stay so. Some day they will emerge from their obscurity, and becoming each a NEMESIS, will work terrible vengeance on their despotic masters. Fayetteville, N. Y., 1861. A. M. P.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] SHE JUST LOVED HIM.

"SHE just loved him," Aunt EUNICE CLARK says, when people ask her how she managed to bring up GEORGE so well. She speaks wisely, too, for the old lady never possessed a spark of what is called "government." She used to tell those who thought it their duty to warn her about being "so slack" with GEORGE, that she knew they were right; that she ought to be more severe, but she didn't seem to have any gift that way,—she was sorry, more so than they could be possibly, that GEORGE was such a bad boy; but she could only love him, and there wasn't any use in her trying to do anything else.

Now if Aunt EUNICE had understood human nature, which she did not at all, and had managed GEORGE, she could not have calculated better, for GEORGE was one of those spirited boys whose combativeness is ever ready to overflow, and if any one forbid his doing anything he would surely do it from a spirit of opposition. There were some who were ever on the watch to see him do something wrong, and he took good care not to disappoint them. But his mother never irritated him, whatever were his misdemeanors,—she just loved him. She carried a sad and patient face in those days, which haunted her unruly boy more than anything else.

But as GEORGE grew older, he disappointed those who were ever predicting that he would always be a source of sorrow to his mother. He gradually left off his bad habits,—became industrious and kind to his mother, whose heart was filled with joy, for GEORGE was her only child. But his old disposition remained still, although he did not yield to it, as in the days of his childhood; but it rose up occasionally, particularly when he thought of marrying. There were two girls of his acquaintance, who were his favorites above all others, but he was a long time deciding between them. He had an intuitive knowledge of his mother's opinion, although she had never uttered a word on the subject.

He knew that she thought that CAROLINE MINTURN, although a dashing girl, was bad-tempered, and had no real love for household duties; while he knew that she had ever a smile of welcome for MARY HILL, whom, in his sensible moments, he could but acknowledge himself was much more amiable than CAROLINE. But he still could not help a feeling of spite towards his mother for seeing things as they were; so one day after studying upon the matter, he resolved to ask her advice about the two young ladies, almost declaring mentally that he would marry the one she did not choose. So he told her that he was thinking seriously about marrying one of the two above-mentioned young ladies, provided, of course, that they would accept him, and asked her which of the two she liked best.

"My son," said Aunt EUNICE, tenderly, "marry your own choice, not mine. I promise you to love whoever you do."

GEORGE was melted. He never thought of that interview afterwards without a tenderer feeling towards his mother. Not many weeks after that, MARY HILL was his promised wife, and before the year was ended she became the mistress of his house and heart, and he had the satisfaction of knowing that MARY just filled his mother's affectionate heart. And now, when she is older and more dependent on him for comfort, he just loves her with a truth and tenderness which is ever the mother's richest reward. Geneva, Wis., 1861. B. C. D.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE LAST OF A NOBLE RACE.

BY J. W. BARBER.

[RALPH FARNHAM, the last of that noble band of patriots who fought on Bunker Hill, died at Acton, Maine, a few weeks since.]

DROPPING as the golden stars In the deep ethereal blue, Fading slowly, one by one, From the all-admiring view; Or, as from the western mountain Fades the latest golden ray, Tinging now the crystal fountain In the sunset hills away,— Thus the noble heroes vanish From our nation's galaxy, Passing through the "shadowy valley" To a nobler victory.

O'er the smiling hills of June, Nature spread her softest green, Beauty 'mid the roses lay All the smiling hills between; Down the merry streamlet singing Toward the deeply blueing sea, While a thousand homes were ringing With the peals of "liberty." Gallant sires and gallant brothers, Leave the plowshares on the sod, Boldly hurry to the conflict, Trusting in the freeman's God.

From the fields of Lexington, And from Concord's bloody fray, Where the mountain eagle soared O'er freedom's natal day; Up the hill at early morning See those noble patriots swell, In their souls a fire fit burning Which the despot cannot quell. See them press the friend and brother, While deep thunder rends the sky, Pledged to God and one another, There to conquer or to die.

Leaden truth is sweeping round, Strong in truth they heed it not, In the light of happy homes, Toil and danger are forgot; Hands may fall, but spirit never, Freedom is a child of light, Liveth on, and lives forever,— Lives amid the darkest night. WARREN fell, but freedom triumphed, Charlestown suffered sword and flame, Yet above the fearful carnage Freedom wrote her angel name.

But those heroes have departed, Ripe in years and noble-hearted; As eternal scenes were dawning, Blest they that eventful morning, When they dared the haughty foe, Laughed to scorn the threatened yoke; And above the hills of promise Saw the golden day-star rise,— Saw the mellow light of freedom Fringing all the distant skies.

They are gone, but living yet On the fair historic page, They may guide our rebel feet, Guide our haste and light our age. If the spirits of those heroes O'er earth's scenes are e'er intent,— If from out their bright entrenchments, Earthward, gentians are sent,— Are they not still hovering o'er us, With their mystic power and life, Breathing on these troubled waters, Soothing passion's heated strife? We may hear them through the shadows, Parting where they nobly fall, "Guard the flag that floated o'er us, Love the sacred ensign well." Buffalo, N. Y., 1861.

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

WHEN we consider the relation which man, in his original purity, bears to the Divine, we can not fail to realize the sublimity which filled the heart of the psalmist, when he uttered these words,— "For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor." Man is the noblest work of God,—a combination of heaven and earth,—a type of that eternal power, whereby the sun, moon, and the innumerable stars are kept in their orbits, and around which the lightnings, like swift winged chariots, are made to revolve. But in order to approach our subject more definitely, we will take from out the feeble, perishing casket, which forms the mortal man, the rare but real creation forming the eternal God.

What an inclosed garden is the human heart in its primary stamp! True it is, that disobedient man has greatly marred its loveliness,—has torn away the lily and the rose, and planted in their stead the brier and the thorn,—but when on that bright morn which spake creation's birth, it came forth fresh from the hand of God, every plant fragrant, sweet, and fair, we do not wonder that its Maker looked upon and pronounced it "very good." We do not wonder that He collected its every gem, and studded them in a love-wreathed casket, wherein was engraven His own image. Delightful bower! Well may thy songsters make their nests, and chant upon its festooned vines songs of its purity, benevolence and gratitude! On that bright morn, "when the stars of Heaven sang together, and the sons of God shouted aloud for joy," there descended from Heaven a soft-winged worshipper, and took its place among the sons of earth. Its low wings trailing in the dust, it bowed before the humble, prayer, and lifting its clasped hands to heaven, praised God for the little babe within its confines. Under its new breath of inspiration the whole world knelt in solemn adoration, and from the general heart-altar there arose such a silent flow of gratitude that the angels of heaven veiled their faces, and feared to look, lest they might mar the joyous scene. Ever since that bright morn, gratitude has been an inhabitant of our earth, and the little arbor in every heart-garden is cheered by its genial rays. Thick and fast as the spangled rain-drops from the silver-tinted fountains, blessings descend, filling our outstretched cup, and flooding our souls with new bursts of grateful love.

Away down in the halls of memory, arises the form of a well-remembered one. Endeared by those close associations which form the heaven of our lives, how could we be but one. Pure, holy and almost perfect, with virtues all clustering in a bright nucleus, revolving around which were constellations as faithful as immortal, it was easy for our hearts to entwine their choicest ivy around such oak,—to give the weak, trailing tendrils to other pruning, and to learn to live in that atmosphere which makes us purer as we breathe. To us, that one possessed the keys of heaven; and ever mingled with the consciousness of pardon, is a gentle pleading voice and a magic leading to Calvary. And when, one short year since, we pressed the marble

hand upon the lifeless breast, and smoothed for the last time the plaited locks upon the icy brow,—when we imprinted the warm kiss upon the ashy lip, sealed forever, and then laid her gently beneath the snow-white lily, think you, we knew not what gratitude was? Ah, yes! the silent heart can best express the meaning of that word, as kneeling beside a new-made mound, it thanks God for such a friend.

Permit a scene. Around the little family altar, as the shades of night are gathered close, and the evening zephyr sings a low lullaby, is assembled a band of dear ones. Every heart is lifted in silent worship as the chosen one thanks God for the full blessings of the day. Little hands are taught to clasp and turn towards heaven,—little hearts to bow in holy fear, and little voices to breathe—"My Father." Oh! we sometimes think that the angels around the great white throne must envy, as they linger with seraphic wings over such a scene, the beauty and holiness surrounding it, and would fain exchange their celestial duties, to return to earth and join such worshippers. Let those who are deprived of it speak, and they will say that to them it is a glorious, heavenly picture, over which should be unfurled a pure white banner, angel hands should have the care thereof, and inscribed upon its sacred purity, in shining characters should be—Perfect Gratitude. Adrian, Mich., 1861. MOLLIE.

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

THERE are some people who take to fault-finding as naturally as ducks take to the water,—they seem to be in their natural element only when snarling at somebody or something,—never looking upon or enjoying the bright side of life, but, like the poisonous spider, extracting venom from the fairest blossoms and the choicest fruits. Cold-hearted and ill-natured themselves, they are never willing to see—or, if compelled to observe, will not appreciate a kindly virtue or a noble deed in another, and to the honest and friendly praise, which one good heart is ever ready to accord to another, they ever render the curt rejoinder, or the sneering smile. We have all met such persons and heard them converse. They sometimes play the amiable in society, but sooner or later they betray the hidden venom within the heart. The hand-book of memory which they carry, is not filled with records of the pleasant things of this life,—it does not mention the blessings which they have received, the comforts they have enjoyed, or the favors from others which they are so ready to accept—no, these are not worth treasuring up; but the troubles and cares of which all have their share, are carefully garnered—gathered, as it were, into one "baneful hand," and they appear to take infinite satisfaction in gazing upon the congregated miseries. They really seem to experience a grim sort of pleasure in considering themselves the most miserable of mortals, and not content with thus making themselves supremely unhappy, they render every one around them equally so, as far as they are able. Selfish and uncharitable themselves, they are ever ready to assign the same, or, if possible, worse qualities to others, and in this way do they reveal the bitterness of the fountain within. The generous soul delights, like the beneficent sun, to paint every object around with its own fair hues, assigning with alacrity to others those virtues with which it is itself endowed, picturing forth its own purity and brightness in the characteristics which it so cheerfully accords to others. So the cynic unconsciously reveals his nature in the judgment he deals to others. Seen through the windows of his soul, benevolence becomes extravagance; sobriety, moroseness; cheerfulness, heartless levity; neatness and taste, a love of vain show; and the most harmless amusements are sinful indulgences in his eyes. The brightest virtues and the noblest traits are distorted and discolored in his vision,—the happiest hearts are wounded by the taunts of his tongue,—the most cheerful freestdes are darkened by his presence,—moving through the warm currents of society like the gloomy iceberg of the frozen north, he crushes and chills wherever he goes. Smiles fade in his presence, the purest emotions are chilled by his breath, and the ties of consanguinity and love sundered by his ruthless blows. No character is so pure as to be free from his assaults; no home so happy but he will scent and proclaim the skeleton there. Supremely miserable himself, he is a torment and a dread to others; when his true character becomes known, he is by the many despised, by none loved, by all feared and shunned. E. S. T. East Henrietta, N. Y., 1861.

HAPPINESS.—TILLOTSON truly says that man counts happiness in a thousand shapes, and the faster he follows it, the swifter it flies from him. Almost everything promises happiness to us at a distance—such a step of honor, such a pitch of estate, such a fortune, or match for a child—but when we come nearer to it, either we fall short of it or it falls short of our expectations; and it is hard to say which of these is the greatest disappointment. Our hopes are usually larger than the enjoyment can satisfy; and an evil long feared, beside that it may never come, is many times more painful and troublesome than the evil itself when it comes.

THE YEARS.—They do not go from us, but we from them, stepping from the old into the new, and always leaving behind us some baggage, no longer serviceable on the march. Look back along the way we have trodden; there they stand, every one in his place, holding fast all that was left in trust with them. Some keep our childhood, some our youth, and all have something of ours which they will give up to neither bribe or prayer,—the opinions cast away, the hopes that went with us no further, the cares that have had successors, and the follies out-grown,—to be reviewed by memory, and called up for evidence some day.

ONE DROP AT A TIME.—Have you ever watched an icicle as it formed? You noticed how it froze one drop at a time until it was a foot long or more. If the water was clean the icicle remained clear, and sparkled brightly in the sun; but if the water was but slightly muddy, the icicle looked foul, and its beauty spoiled. Just so our characters are forming. One little thought or feeling at a time adds its influence. If each thought be pure and right, the soul will be lovely, and will sparkle with happiness; but if impure and wrong, there will be final deformity and wretchedness.

A SHOWER OF MINT-DROPS.—If gold and silver rattled down from the clouds, they would hardly enrich the land so much as soft, long rains. Every drop is silver going to the mint. The roots are machinery, and catching the willing drops, they assay them, refine them, roll them, stamp them, and turn them out coined berries, apples, grain, and grasses. All the mountains of California are not so rich as are the soft mines of heaven.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] TRUST IN GOD.

BY E. H. POSE.

Esop dim, clouded skies above thee, Hover shadows all around thee, Yield not to despair,— Folded in the silver lining Of the dark clouds, soon a shining Surface they will wear.

Roll the waves of sorrow o'er thee, Seeming in their power to crush thee, Let not thy faith remove,— All the more severe the chastening, All the nearer thou art resting In thy Father's love.

"Life is but a troubled ocean," Dangerous storms must be thy portion Sailing o'er the tide; But no hidden rocks shall wreck thee, For thy Pilot safe will guide thee, O'er the waters wide.

O'er the billows foaming, tossing, To a haven of "sweet rest," resting, In perfect calm and peace, Anchored there no storms can reach thee, There all troubles and fears will leave thee, There all troublings cease. Geneva, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] "I WOULD NOT ALWAYS REASON."

So says the poet BRYANT, in one of his poetical effusions, and who does not agree with him in this respect? Who would be ever guided by cold reason, and be a faithful subject to her tyrannical sway? BRYANT is said to deal wisely with his themes, and this is a sage remark, quite worthy of the source from whence it came. Certainly, there is no one who can desire to check each impulse, each act or thought prompted by nature, while he looks at it with the forbidding eye of reason, considering it in its various lights and shades when thus seen. Reason should be our guide sometimes, but we may occasionally cast off its fetters, and permit imagination to reign unchecked a short time.

"While we trace The mazes of the pleasant wilderness Around us."

But we should not be entirely ruled by it, so that we can never throw aside its heavy, burdensome weight, and yield to nature's love of mirth and pleasure.

It must be dull enough to be always reasoning and philosophizing, with a grave, solemn mind and countenance, such as one must necessarily have under such circumstances; never relaxing the one from the excited state of its reasoning powers, or the other into a genial smile or a hearty laugh at some merry playfulness, or witty sallies.

It gives one such an air of coldness, and heartlessness, to be always controlled by reason, that it actually makes one almost repulsive. We should never think of loving such a person as we should one who sometimes permits nature's promptings and impulses to appear in his behavior, without being subdued by reason.

It is well to make it our counselor, but not to allow it to become a tyrant over us, restraining the deeper emotions, and making us beings of cool, deliberate calculation, with never one free, unrestrained thought, word or act.

"For the spirit needs Impulses from a deeper source than hers, And there are motions in the mind of man That she must look upon with awe. I bow Reverently to her dictates, but not less Hold to the frail illusions of old time,— Illusions that shed brightness over life, And glory over nature." E. W. O. Seneca Co., Jan. 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WITH THEE ALWAYS.

HAVE friends proved false and left thee in thy extremity? Have adverse tides borne thee down, and left thee alone in the lowest depths of bitter anguish? If so, listen,—do you not hear, in accents soft and sweet, words like these:—"I am with thee always." O, does not thy very being thrill with glad surprise, with intense joy, as this new manifestation of the love and presence of Him who "knoweth our feeble frame," and stands ever ready to minister to our wants.

Then when the sky gathers darkness, and raging tempests hurl fiery shafts in thy pathway, fear not, for He that stilled the tempest on Galilee has lost none of His power, and it is He who promiseth to be with thee "always, even unto the end of the world." Always! Thrice blessed promise. With thee not only when the sun of prosperity shines undimmed by a passing cloud, but

"When the winds of adversity rise, And hopes that were brightest are fled, When storm clouds darken the skies And our joys are all withered and dead."

Then, when the grave closes over the lifeless forms of those held most dear, go not forth into the world again feeling that thou art alone in thy desolation, with not a friend on whom to lean for support in thy unmitigated sorrow, for the great heart of Him who wept with the sisters of LAZARUS, is yearning to pour into thy bruised and bleeding heart the balm of consolation. When thy feet also draw near the swelling flood, and the rushing tide sweeps over thy frail form, bearing thee in triumph out into the chilling waters of Death, then, high above the raging waves, will rise the oft repeated promise,— "I am with thee always." Oxford, N. Y., 1861. F. M. TURANA.

MEETING OUR OWN PRAYERS.—In eternity it will be a terrible thing for many a man to meet his own prayers. Their very language will condemn him; for he knew his duty and he did it not. Those fervent prayers, which the good man labored to make effectual, will be "shining ones" in white raiment to conduct their author into the banqueting-house of the Great King. But the falsehoods uttered at the throne of grace will live again as tormenting scorpions in the day of the Lord's appearing. "Be not rash with thy mouth, nor let thy heart be hasty to utter anything before God," is an objection that forbids more than irreverence in prayer. It forbids us, by implication, to ask for that which we do not sincerely desire. Above all, it forbids the asking from God those blessings which we are hindering by our neglect, or thwarting by our selfishness and unbelief.

BEAUTIFUL REPLY.—"What are you doing?" said a minister, as he one day visited a feeble old man who lived in a hovel, and was sitting with a Bible open on his knee. "Oh, sir, I am sitting under His shadow with great delight, and his fruit is sweet to my taste."

The Reviewer.

CLASS-BOOK OF BOTANY. Being Outlines of the Structure, Physiology, and Classification of Plants; with a Flora of the United States and Canada. By ALFONZO WOOD, A. M., Principal of Female Academy, Brooklyn. [2mo. pp. 822.] New York: Published by A. S. Barnes & Burdett, 75 N. York St. Moore & Nims, Cincinnati; Baker, Mallory & Co., New Orleans; H. D. McGinnis, Mobile; Marshall & Williams, 1861.

THE CLASS-BOOK OF Botany was published in 1846, and was the first Flora of the plants of our country, on the Natural System of Classification. It was then a great advance on all that had appeared from the American press, and so strong was the attachment to the Linnaean, or artificial, method, that it was held by many to be premature. But, its success was beyond anticipation. In the following years it was greatly improved by the analytical tables formed by the author, to whose great discrimination and tact, shown in these tables, the young botanist is under the highest obligations for ease and pleasure in the examination of plants, that it became a favorite work. It was, however, a local Flora, embracing the plants north of Virginia and east of Ohio, with the adjoining parts of British America. Its extension was urged by the friends of Botany at the South, and it has become a Flora of the United States east of the Mississippi, except the lower part of Eastern Florida. Virtually, it includes most of the plants, which are found adjacent to the western bank of the Mississippi, and the country adjoining the great Lakes and north shore of the St. Lawrence.

As the Class-Book is designed to describe all the Flowering Plants of this large area, and contains also four orders of the Acrogens, Flowerless Plants, it must be a respectable volume. It is finely printed, with a clear type, and a judicious use of certain abbreviations and symbols, easily known and remembered, and contains several orders and genera and numerous species not before given in any Flora of the country. For amount of botanical knowledge and fullness of detail, no one volume contains the like in less space.

The part of the Class-Book of Botany on the Structure, Physiology, and Classification of Plants, is admirably executed, and while it must commend itself to students in botany, will afford to them all the aid the Press can give. The analytical tables are so excellent, that beneficial changes are not obvious, and will not soon be called for. Though the science is not yet perfect, the appliances from the highest authority are fully employed in the work.

Besides the indigenous plants, and those commonly held to have been introduced, the Flora contains the exotics which are cultivated to considerable extent, "either as useful, curious, or ornamental." This addition will be a high gratification to teachers and classes in higher schools and academies, and private individuals. Among the rarer are found Camellia, some Geraniums, Fuschia, Clarkia, Sensitive Plant, Sugar Cane, &c., &c.

This speaking, living Text-Book of Botany, must find many learners and friends.

MARTIN'S NATURAL HISTORY. Translated from the Thirty-fifth German Edition by SARAH A. MYERS. Containing Two Hundred and Sixty-two Beautifully Colored Illustrations. First Series. [2mo.—pp. 497.] New York: Phinney, Blakeman & Mason. Buffalo: Breed, Butler & Co.

HERE is a work which will command the attention alike of the teacher, student, and reader of popular works of a useful character. This and the volume which is to follow will comprise, in a condensed form and comparatively small compass, the gist of all information now available respecting the Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral Kingdoms. And as the subject is receiving increased attention, creating a demand for cheap and yet reliable text-books, the publishers cannot fail of being well rewarded for the taste and enterprise exhibited in giving this translation to the public. They announce that "The number, the beauty, and the value of the illustrations, have very justly attracted the attention of students of Natural History, and commended this work as eminently worthy of being reproduced in this country;" and that "The translation has been made with entire fidelity to the original, and enriched with such additional notes as render it more complete in those departments that relate to the animals, plants, and minerals of America."

The work is issued in the best style—the coloring of the plates being "to the life," and therefore worthy the highest commendation. Every student of Natural History should possess a copy of this admirable work. Sold in Rochester by D. M. DEWEY, Arcade.

MISS GILBERT'S CAREER. An American Story. By J. G. HOLLAND, author of "Bitter Sweet," "The Titcomb Letters," "Gold Foll," &c. New York: Charles Scribner.

THE author of this story is already a favorite with the reading and lecture-going public. In his previous works he has shown himself master of a clear and elegant style, fine powers of description, and a delicate appreciation of the finer shades of human life and character. His admirers were especially justified in expecting of Mr. HOLLAND an abler novel than he has written. It must be confessed that this book is not so successful in its aim as the Titcomb letters, which gave our author the public ear. There are deficiencies in the working out of the details of the story which indicate a want of art, and possibly of patience. The leading character, Blague, is sadly deficient in individuality, and he is described rather than portrayed. He certainly fails in impressing himself on the reader's mind as a real personage. The more common characters of the story, who are not put prominently forward, are well worked out, and display dramatic talent of a high order. Notwithstanding these defects, which we have felt bound to note, there are marks of real capacity in the book, and we look upon the author as destined to become a successful writer of novels, if he continues to work in that field of literature. If he had not already won distinction as an essayist and poet, readers would have been easier pleased with Miss Gilbert's Career. The public is exacting in its demands of a man who has already won reputation. Sold by STEELE, AVERY & CO., and ADAMS & DANFAY.

CHAMBER'S ENCYCLOPEDIA: A Dictionary of Universal Knowledge for the People. On the basis of the latest edition of German Conversational Lexicon. Illustrated by Wood Engravings and Maps. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

THIS valuable work has reached its twenty-fourth part, and the publishers are faithfully redeeming all pledges made in connection with its publication. Colliery is the closing subject in the number before us. We cannot conceive of any work which would prove more practical in a young man's library than this, and the mode in which it is published (monthly issues, at 15 cents each), renders its procurement a comparatively easy task for those of limited means. LIBERTY HALL & B&O. are the Agents for Rochester.

BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.—Re-printed by LEONARD SCOTT & Co., New York.

THE issue of this standard magazine for January has been received, and with the initial number of its eighty-fifth volume it seems to have imbibed new life and vigor. The articles are nine in number, and embrace topics suited to all classes of readers. The politician, theologian, the man of letters, the lover of romance, each and all will find an abundance of "good things" spread for their special necessities and desires. DEWEY is the Agent for Rochester and vicinity.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

MARTIN'S NATURAL HISTORY. Translated from the Thirty-fifth German Edition by SARAH A. MYERS. Containing Two Hundred and Sixty-two Beautifully Colored Illustrations. Second Series. [2mo.—pp. 497.] New York: Phinney, Blakeman & Mason. Buffalo: Breed, Butler & Co. Rochester: Liberty Hall & B&O.

THE DEERSLAYER; OR, THE FIRST WAR-PATH. A Tale. By J. FENIMORE COOPER. Illustrated from Drawings by F. O. C. DARLEY. [2mo.—pp. 367.] New York: William A. Townsend & Co., Rochester; Liberty Hall & B&O.

CHRISTIAN NATURE. By HENRY BOBROW. [2mo.—pp. 407.] New York: Charles Scribner. Rochester: E. D. B&O.

SONGS FOR THE SORROWING. By H. N. With an Introduction by Wm. B. Williams, D. D. [2mo.—pp. 282.] New York: Phinney, Blakeman & Mason. Rochester: Dewey.

THE CHILDREN'S PICTURE-BOOK, OF QUADRUPEDS, and other Mammalia. Illustrated with Sixty-one Engravings by W. H. HAVRY. [pp. 276.] New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester: STEELE, AVERY & CO.

STORIES OF RAINBOW AND LUCKY. Up the River. By JACOB ABBOTT. [pp. 192.] New York: Harpers. Rochester: STEELE, AVERY & CO.

Spice from New Books.

Cutting Hay on the Alps.

THE him of the factory has not silenced the shepherd's song; and the Alps are still the principal dependence of the people, but are now chiefly private property, yet subject to general laws. Only so many cattle can be kept upon a certain space, and persons are appointed to count them and attend to the clearing of the pastures. Every man is bound by oath to give the number correctly. No one is allowed to have a great flock of sheep to the injury of the wild hay, and no one is allowed to begin cutting it before August. This is to prevent accidents to those in the valleys, who must receive notice of the time, because it comes tumbling down from the heights with such force, that persons may be killed or seriously injured if they do not keep out of the way. Those who cut it are obliged to fasten themselves to the cliffs with hooks or clamping irons, by which they hold with one hand and use the sickle with the other, and in this way they gather a hundred pounds a day, where neither goat nor Chamois would think of browsing. — Cottages of the Alps.

Only a Pebble!

ONLY a pebble! Oh man, that stone which you thrust so contemptuously out of your way, is older than all else on this earth! When the waters under heaven were gathered together unto one place, that pebble was there. Who can tell us the story of those first days, when the earth was in sore travail, when her heaving bosom belched forth torrents of fire, vast avalanches of hissing, seething water, and volumes of deadly vapors? When glowing, blazing streams of lava threw a bloody red glare on the silent, lifeless earth, and amidst a trembling and thundering that shook the firmament, a thousand volcanoes at once lifted up their fiery heads; when out of the foaming waters there rose suddenly the rocky foundations of firm land and greeted the light that God had created?

That pebble was Life's first offspring on earth. The Spirit of God moved on the waters, and life was breathed into the very gases that were hid in the heart of the vapory globe. They parted in love, they parted in hate; they fled and they met. Atom joined atom; loving sisters kissed each other, and this love, the great child of that Spirit on earth, brought forth its first fruit, the pebble! Other stones also arose; out of the dark chaos new brothers were seen to appear, and countless friends stood by the side of the first comer. Warmth spread through their limbs, electric currents shaped and fashioned them into ever new forms, and they were joined into families and races each in his kind.

And now the wild struggle subsided. The fierce spirits of fire were banished far down to the dark caverns of the earth; but in angry passion they still rage and roar below, rise in powerless fury until the earth trembles and the heart of a man is awed, or pour forth streams of burning lava through mighty volcanoes. Thus the flames bring us, even now, messages from the vast deep, and the lava shows us that what is firm and fast on the surface is still boiling and seething below. Ever yet the unruly spirits trouble the earth. Here they lift Sweden or Chili high out of the vast ocean, there they draw Greenland and Italy down towards their unknown home. Ever yet the stones live; they lift up and sink islands, they fashion new lakes and fill up large streams; they pour fiery cataracts from lofty mountains and bury whole cities under vast volumes of ashes. They are ever active, and change, day by day, the very soil on which we live. Such were the pebble's earliest days: is he not well-born? — "Stray Leaves from the Book of Nature," by M. SCHLEZ DE VERE.

A Storm of Locusts.

AS we went quietly through the streets the two soldiers by whom I was escorted raised a sudden cry, exclaiming, "Allah! Allah! turn away from us this plague by which we are threatened, and direct it toward the land of the unbelievers!" "Wherefore this cry?" asked I of those who uttered it.

"Turn your eyes toward the east," said one.

I looked in that direction and perceived that the horizon was wrapped in gloom, the stars appearing as if obscured by a veil; on asking my attendants the cause of which, they said: "Do you not see the locusts coming? Allah protect us!" Now a drowsy tumult began to vibrate in my ears, increasing in loudness until it broke out into a deafening noise. In every direction the Marebays were to be seen issuing from their dwellings, armed with all such utensils of iron and of copper as they could lay their hands on. Men, women, and children now began to beat upon their pots and pans with all their might, uttering piercing shrieks in accompaniment, and crying at intervals, with astounding loudness, "Haddid! Haddid!" (iron! iron!) In spite of this fearful din, however, the locusts kept steadily advancing. The black veil by which the east was obscured kept enlarging and spreading out until it came over our heads; the air became thick and murky; the sky disappeared from our gaze as if a great sheet had been spread out above us, with holes in it here and there, through which a few stars were visible. Then I felt a pelting as if of elastic hailstones which rebounded from me, and in a few moments the earth was thickly covered with a dense layer of the insects. Fortunately, the easterly wind on which they came now ceased to blow, a gale from the north beginning to whistle wildly up, carrying the plague away with it toward the tribes encamped to the south of us.

Once upon the ground, the locusts commenced devouring every thing they could feed upon—but as their fall was of short duration, the devastation committed by them was not very great, and the people were comforted. "The grace of the Prophet and the power of the word haddid saved us this time," said my guards; "instead of being an evil, in fact this visitation will be a gain to us, for the locust is as useful when dead as he is destructive when alive. He eats up our crops now and then; well, we eat him in our turn."

The scene was a striking one as I advanced into the camp. Each tent was lighted up to an unusual extent, while every member of the caravan, armed with a torch and having a bag slung round his body, was occupied in catching locusts. Satisfaction beamed on every face, so that one might have supposed these good people were picking up gold—for the Arabs are remarkably fond of locusts, which they dress in several ways. Some boil or broil them, having first cut off their feet, legs, and heads. Other dry them in the sun and grind them to powder, which they mix with milk or knead up with flour, seasoning with butter and salt the paste thus made. But it is not the Arabs themselves only who love this curious manna, for the apes, camels, oxen, and poultry all do equal honor to it. The camels, in particular, devour it greedily. It is dried or cooked for them by being heated up in a large hole between two layers of burning charcoal. — "Life in the Desert," by COL. L. DU ROUVER.

RURAL OUT-BUILDINGS—No. 1.

The pleasures and pains of life are made up of small joys and small sorrows, those of every day occurrence, that light up the face with constant smiles, or corrode the heart, like the constant dripping of water upon the stone. Hundreds and thousands of our people are seeking home and home pleasures in the country—in the suburbs of our cities—and large villages—and yet many fail to find that which they seek. In place of pleasure they find trouble and vexation. In a few brief hints, from time to time, we will point out some of the causes of disappointment.

It is not a fine or costly house, extensive grounds, or commanding gateways that give an air of taste to a country mansion. We have often seen places where all these things existed, where money was lavished like water, and yet there was an absence of taste in little things that painfully forced the impression upon the beholder that the owner was a man of wealth, fond of display, with some notions of rural life, but without sufficient taste to make or enjoy a home in the country. As a general thing in building and improving an estate, we commence on too large a scale, and either become tired of the trouble or the outlay before the establishment is finished. The consequence is that the work is never completed, or is finished in a careless and cheap manner, that contrasts strangely with that first done.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

A SNOW STORM ON MOUNT ROSA.

IN the "Glaciers of the Alps," a volume recently sent out by JOHN TYNDALL, F. R. S., we have the following description of a Snow Storm upon Mount Rosa, at an elevation of more than fifteen thousand feet above the level of the sea:

"The fall of snow was, in fact, a shower of frozen flowers. All of them were six-leaved; some of the leaves threw out lateral ribs like ferns, some were rounded, others arrowy and serrated, some were close, others reticulated, but there was no deviation from the six-leaved type. Nature seemed determined to make us some compensation for the loss of all prospect, and thus showered down upon us those lovely blossoms of the frost; and had a spirit of the mountain inquired my choice, the view, or the frozen flowers, I should have hesitated before giving up that exquisite vegetation. It was wonderful to think of, as well as beautiful to behold. Let us imagine the eye gifted with microscopic power sufficient to enable it to see the molecules which composed these starry crystals; to observe the solid nucleus formed and floating in the air; to see it drawing towards it its allied atoms, and these arranging themselves as if they moved to music, and ended by rendering that music concrete. Surely such an exhibition of power, such an apparent demonstration of a resident intelligence in what we are accustomed to call 'brute matter,' would appear perfectly miraculous. And yet the reality would, if we could see it, transcend the fancy. If the Houses of Parliament were built up by the forces resident in their own bricks and lithologic blocks, and without the aid of hodman or mason, there would be nothing intrinsically more wonderful in the process than in the molecular architecture which delighted us upon the summit of Mount Rosa.

And thus predigal nature rained down beauty, and had done so for ages unseem by man. And yet some flatter themselves with the idea that this world was planned with strict reference to human use; that the lilies of the field exist simply to appeal to the sense of the beautiful in man. True, this result is secured, but it is one of a thousand all equally important in the eyes of nature. Whence those frozen blossoms? Why for Aeons wasted? The question reminds one of the poet's answer, when asked whence was the Rhodora:

"Why wert thou there, O rival of the rose? I never thought to ask, I never knew; But in my simple ignorance suppose The self-same power that brought me there, brought you."

THE HUMAN BODY.

THAT all the organs were designed to discharge peculiar functions, no one can doubt. If there be design in a watch, there is design in the construction of an eye; and if there is design in the construction of an eye, there is design in the construction of every organ in the human body. GALEN, that wonderful man, whose opinions influenced the medical world for thirteen hundred years with unbounded sway, was converted from atheism by the dissection of a human body. Nor shall we deem such an event singular, if we consider, for a moment, how wisely and wonderfully it is made.

Look at the elements wrought into this animal economy; at its structure and functions. What variety of parts! How unlike! How singular its structure! How diverse its functions! Here are bones and blood, solids and fluids; here the opaque muscle, and the transparent humour; the brilliant, adorning, vegetating hair; the keenly sensitive nerve; the more than curious digestive apparatus; the breathing lungs and beating heart. How various the organs designed for multifarious uses! In health they discharge all their functions well.

Here are gathered into one frame, "compacted by that which every joint supplieth," harmonized, and stowed side by side, the most different, conflicting elements—oil and water, acid and alkali, solid and fluid, vegetable and animal, iron and oxygen. In this organism, all these, and more, not only tolerate each other, but harmonize and co-operate together for the general good. Each is indispensable to its fellow, and one cannot say to the other, "I have no need of thee." Such are the elements, not heterogeneously commingled, but wisely arranged in this body. — How to Enjoy Life.

THERE is a better principle than that the majority shall rule—it is that justice shall rule.

To appear well, a country home, be it large or small, must be finished. It must have an appearance of completion and repose, and not of unfinished hard work. It must be suggestive of country quiet, and not of city bustle; hence there is nothing more appropriate than a summer-house in a sequestered spot, or a rustic chair under the shade of some spreading tree. No garden of any extent appears well or comfortable without such places for rest and repose. Without them it has a tiresome look, suggestive of aching limbs.

But, it must be remembered that these arbors, &c., must be simple, in keeping with the place, and the objects for which they are designed. No great temple should be made for a summer-house, and unless it is in full view of the house, it should not be of showy carpenter's work, but simple ranches from the woods cut in proper shape and nailed. Any ingenious carpenter or gardener can put up an arbor in this style that will cost but little. A very pretty design for a rustic arbor we observed in the Horticulturalist for October last, which we give our readers.

The principal sticks should be selected from three to four inches in diameter, and as nearly straight as possible; these are to be used for posts, plates, girders, and principal rafters. The rest, forming the ornamental work, may be from half an inch to two inches in diameter. The roof is covered with bark.

DRINKING IMPURE WATER.—Set a pitcher of iced water in a room, inhabited, and in a few hours it will have absorbed from the room nearly all the respired and perspired gases of the room, the air of which will have become purer, but the water utterly filthy. This depends on the fact that the water has the faculty of condensing, and thereby absorbing all the gases, which it does without increasing its own bulk. The older the water is, the greater its capacity to contain these gases. At ordinary temperatures a pint of water will contain a pint of carbonic acid gas, and several pints of ammonia. This capacity is nearly doubled by reducing the temperature to that of ice. Hence water, kept in the room awhile, is always unfit for use, and should be often renewed, whether it has become warm or not. And for the same reason, the water in a pump should be allowed to be pumped out in the morning before any is used. That which has stood in the pitcher over night is not fit for coffee-water in the morning. Impure water is more injurious to the health than pure air, and every person should provide the means of obtaining fresh, pure water, for all domestic uses.

LYING IN BED.—It is often a question among people who are unacquainted with the anatomy and physiology of man, whether lying with head exalted or level with the body, was the most wholesome. Most consulting their own ease on this point, argue in favor of that which they prefer. Now, although many delight in bolstering up their heads at night, and sleep soundly without injury, yet, we declare it to be a dangerous habit. The vessels in which the blood passes from the heart to the head are always lessened in their cavities when the head is resting in bed higher than the body; therefore in all diseases attended with fever, the head should be pretty nearly on a level with the body; and people ought to accustom themselves to sleep thus, and avoid danger. — Medical Journal.

The Young Ruralist.

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

THE OLD NUMBER FOUR FLOW.

BY J. R. RAMSAY.

LAST time I returned to "my father's plantation," The vale-dimpled landscapes were vividly green; The breezes were filled with the sweet exhalation Of flowers and songs, and the sky was serene. My spirit rejoiced in the beauties of summer, And fancy took flights unattempted before; But suddenly sank when I saw a new comer Had taken the place of the "old number four."

My joy was dispell'd by the shadows of sorrow, As all the reverses arose to my view Since I steer'd the old plow, with its share like an arrow, Its iron-bound beam and its handles of blue. How oft in the fields, when the crimson of morning Made golden the mist on night's shadowy shore, As the wood-robin welcomed the daylight returning, I turned the brown furrows with "old number four." And all the day best with the thrilling reflection That soon as the eventide slowly drew near, I would clasp to my breast, with a gush of affection, My golden-haired MARY, the tenderly dear; And wander with her, in my rapture a sharer, "Nearer a rosette sky round earth's flowery floor, Till earth seem'd to fade and the heavens come nearer The field that was furrowed by "old number four." Perhaps, after all, 'tis this rose of our spirits, Picked out from life's wormwood, yet gathered in vain, That gives the old plow such a "halo of merits," Being mingled with joys that return not again. But my heart fondly turns from life's wearisome changes, And beats for the beauty that blest it before; And loves to contemplate wherever it ranges The rapture connected with "old number four." Hamilton, C. W., 1861.

PUNCH ON LABORER'S DWELLINGS.

THE London Punch is doing a very good work in exposing many evils in England, some of which may be unknown, and the enormity of others overlooked because so common. The majority of English farm laborers live in cottages on the farms where they are employed. For the use of these they pay a certain rent, or as is generally the case, they receive certain wages with the use of the cottage. Many of these dwellings are unfit for the habitation of human beings, and great efforts have been made by the benevolent for their improvement, and not without some success. PRINCE ALBERT has been very active in this movement. PUNCH, it seems, was invited by a landlord to visit his fine stables, and also took

occasion at the same time to get a peep into the cottages of the laborers, and publishes some fine engravings, showing what he saw, and giving the points in the conversation between himself and the "British Landlord."

In the first wood-cut we have "the British Landlord" introducing Mr. Punch into his stable, where a warmly clothed and nicely groomed horse is subjected to inspection. "LANDBOY (log).—Yes, Mr. Punch. Nice, clean, airy boxes, plenty of light, perfect drainage and ventilation; the best of food and water, and kind treatment. That's my plan!" On the opposite page, "the British Landlord" and Mr. Punch have entered one of the landlord's laborer's cottages. In a miserable truckle bed lies a sickly wife and infant; and on the edge of the bed sits a poor, half-starved specimen of the laborer, trying to warm his hands over a scanty fire. A rope is stretched from the fire-place across the room, on which hangs some ragged bits of clothing, fresh from the wash-tub; and in different corners, children and a grown-up man are huddled on shake-downs; whilst a scantily clothed young woman stands close to the door, which she has opened to admit Mr. Punch and the "British Landlord." The latter looks rather glum upon it; whilst Mr. Punch, tapping him on the arm with one hand, and pointing to the miserable occupants of the hovel with the other, says—"Your stable arrangements are excellent! Suppose you try something of the sort here! Eh?"

PUNCH has also got up a curious petition for the signature of laborers.

THE PEASANT'S PETITION.

The Petition of the British Peasant to the British Landlord, Humbly Complaining thereof unto your Honor, That your petitioner having ventured upon the liberty (for which he hopes to be pardoned of having peeped into the stables of your honor (but he solemnly declares, with no evil intentions, and he would not take an oath without leave), has perceived that if thought, sense, and kindness were ever manifested towards animals; it is in your honor's stables aforesaid.

That the residence in which your honor humanely places your horses is well built, water-tight, and well ventilated, is excellently floored; and has an excellent supply of water, that its drainage is perfect, and its light cheerful, and that the creature that cannot live contentedly therein must be a beast.

That the arrangements for the health and comfort of your honor's horses seem to your petitioner perfect, and designed to make the animals happy when at home, and fit when they come out to perform any amount of work which your honor may call on them to do.

That (contrary to the arrangements in your petitioner's dwelling, begging pardon for mentioning such a place,) separate places are provided for your honor's horses, so that they sleep apart, and are in no way detrimental to one another.

That your petitioner, knowing the kindness of your honor's nature, as shown by this provision, and by hundreds of other acts of your honor's, not to speak of your honor's lady, and the young ladies, (all of whom he humbly wishes a happy new year, if he may be so bold,) takes the liberty to believe that your honor cannot know that your petitioner's cottage, on your honor's estate, is badly built, is not drained, has no ventilation, has a rotten floor, and is so cold that in the winter the only way your petitioner and his family can keep bodies and souls together is by huddling together, adults, children, grown-up lads and girls, all together in one wretched bed-room, out of which they come half poisoned by the foul air, not to offend your honor's delicacy by saying anything more than that they are good for far less work than could otherwise be got out of them.

Your petitioner, therefore, for himself, his wife, four grown-up children, and five little ones, Humbly prayeth unto your honor, THAT YOU WILL BE GRACIOUSLY PLEASED TO TREAT HIM LIKE A HORSE. And your petitioner will ever pray and work, &c., &c.

PET SHEEP.

I AM fond of pets, and like to have a number of them about my yards and barn. It is pleasant to be recognized with affection by the animals around us. They thrive better under kind treatment than when subject to kicks and cuffs. There is a choice in animals to make agreeable pets. Some persons prefer dogs, and many of them have the faculty of becoming very agreeable. But there is always a fearful drawback to the pleasure derived from dogs in that dreadful malady, hydrophobia. But give me a lamb for a pet, the emblem of innocence while young, and useful when too old for a plaything. I have two pet sheep which I will describe, hoping I thereby to encourage some of your young readers to choose their pets of this useful class of animals. Their names are Tidy and Bokin. They are a cross between the Cotswold and Leicester, and will be four years old next May. They know their names as well as the boys, and are prompt to answer when called. They lead as well as a horse, and are useful in taking the flock from field to field. They are well cared for, have a stable, stalls, halters, &c., and are frequently invited into the house to see company, and are much admired for their stately bearing and dignified manners. They are somewhat aristocratic in their feelings, and do not like to associate with common sheep. Tidy is very tall, being three inches taller than Mr. RABBY'S famous Shetland pony, girls four feet, and weighs two hundred and twenty-five pounds. Bokin is more portly—girls five feet five inches, and weighs two hundred and forty pounds. So much for pets. East Bloomfield, Jan. 21st, 1861. MYRON ADAMS.

TATTLERS.—Don't you feel a little ashamed, you mean, sneaking creature, whoever you are, going around and telling what you hear people say,—meddling with everybody's business, and making mischief generally. Do you want to know my opinion of you. I think you don't deserve a place upon the earth, for there is no spot bad enough for you. I don't despise a right down mean person half so much as I do these contemptible, mean decent folks; for the reason that I always know just what to expect of the former, while of the latter I am only looking for decent actions and then, in the end, get so terribly took in. Yes, I should think you respectable tattlers would want to put your heads in a knot hole, every one of you.—Put.

DIFFERENCE.—A very little thing makes all the difference. You stand in the engine room, of a steamer; you admit the steam to the cylinders, and the paddles turn ahead; a touch of a lever, you admit the self-same steam to the self-same cylinders, and the paddles turn astern. It is so, oftentimes, in the moral world. The turning of a straw decides whether the engines shall work forward or backward.

A MAN should not allow himself to hate even his enemies; because, if you indulge this passion on some occasions, it will rise of itself in others; if you hate your enemies, you will contract such a vicious habit of mind as, by degrees, will break out upon those who are your friends, or to those who are indifferent to you.—Plutarch.

LITTLE DROPS of rain brighten the meadows, and little acts of kindness brighten the world.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Timby's Patent Barometer—John M. Merrick & Co. True Seeds, etc.—Schroeder & Co. Roe's Western Reserve Premium Cheese Vat—Roe & Blair. A Superior Farm for Sale—H. C. Wood. Something New—J. Whitley, Jr. Double Guinea Seed—J. H. Day. County Agents Wanted—Handkins & Co. Nursery to Let for a Term of Years. Apple Seeds for Sale—J. Reppel. Family Newspaper—Handkins & Co. Book Agents—J. Whitley, Jr. Woman of New York—Handkins & Co. Stencil Tools—D. L. Milliken. Employment—J. Whitley, Jr. Something New—J. H. Day. Agents Wanted—J. Whitley, Jr. Piano-Pneumonia in Cattle—Geo. J. Soatgood. Italian Bees—S. R. Parsons. Hand-made Stencil Tools—J. E. Bryan.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Brown's Troches for Bronchial Complaints, &c.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY 9, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

It appears from official sources that representations concerning the troubles of foreign vessels in Charleston Harbor have been made to the Government by British, Spanish and Bremen Ministers. Secretary Black's reply is to the effect that the President would deeply regret that any injury should happen to the commerce of foreign or friendly nations, and especially that British subjects at Charleston should suffer by the anomalous state of things existing there. Mr. Black quotes from law to show that the jurisdiction of the Federal Government to collect duties on imports is exclusive. Whether the existing state of things at Charleston will or will not be regarded as sufficient reason for not executing the penalties incurred by British subjects, is a question Lord Lyons will see no necessity for bringing up until it practically arises. Each case will doubtless have its own peculiarities. Mr. Black regrets that this consideration compels him to decline giving any assurance on the point presented.

Secretary Dix has instructed the commanders of Revenue Cutters, if attacked, to make the best defence in their power, and if assailed by superior force, to run the vessels ashore and blow them up. He has written to the Collector of New Orleans to apply to the Governor of Louisiana to revoke the seizure of the Government hospital, and ordering that 260 patients be removed. Mr. Dix denounced it as an act of outrageous barbarism, disgraceful to any age or country.

Acting P. M. General King, has received complaints from Northern gentlemen that letters from the South had been violated. One writes that six letters addressed to him by a lady in Mobile, and not on political subjects, have evidently been opened by unauthorized parties. The Department has promptly instituted an investigation.

The Grand Jury have found three cases against Bailey for larceny. One joint indictment against Bailey and Russell. Three indictments against Russell for receiving stolen bonds. One joint indictment against Bailey, Russell and Floyd, for conspiracy to defraud the Government.

More care is now taken than heretofore by both the Navy and War Departments, to prevent their secret or private orders from obtaining premature publicity, which has on several occasions frustrated the designs of the administration to the public detriment.

Applications continued to be received here from Post Masters in the seceding States, for supplies of postage stamps, blanks, wrapping paper, &c., but these are furnished on the condition that the Post Masters will acknowledge and conform to the laws affecting the postal service.

A special Washington dispatch of the 31st ult., states that Col. Hayne, of South Carolina, has presented South Carolina's ultimatum regarding the occupation of Fort Sumter to the President. South Carolina proposes to pay full value for all the Federal property within her jurisdiction if the President will cause Fort Sumter to be evacuated and the troops withdrawn.

The boundary dispute which has existed for so many years between Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and which was amicably submitted to the Supreme Court for decision, has been prospectively settled by an interlocutory order to that effect. The papers are to be filed in August next, and the decree to be given at the next session of the Court.

The Commissioners from New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, North Carolina, Virginia and Indiana, arrived on the 3d inst.

An official copy of the Louisiana ordinance of secession has been received, and the delegation from that State in Congress, with the exception of Mr. Bouligny, will probably withdraw. He is the only one from the seceding States who has taken part in the proceedings since the seceding ordinances have been passed.

Gov. Hicks, of Maryland, is to be before the Select Committee as a witness concerning the alleged conspiracy to seize Washington.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—The Pacific Railroad bill was taken up. Mr. Chandler moved to amend so as to give six sections of land per mile instead of one. Adopted.

Mr. Clark moved to amend that the grant of lands and bonds is to be made on the express condition that Congress shall hereafter have power to amend the provisions of the act, but not to diminish the specified amount of contribution. Adopted.

Mr. Wilkinson moved an amendment the effect of which is to provide for the Northern route. He said he did not see the propriety of voting \$36,000,000 to a State just in the act of secession, and not giving a Road to States true and loyal to the Constitution. He characterized the bill from the House as a bill of abominations. After discussion the amendment was agreed to. Ayes, 22; nays, 19.

The bill, thus amended, was then taken up and passed by a vote of 37 to 14.

The Agricultural Report from the Patent Office was received and referred to the Committee on Printing. The annual report of the Commissioner of Patents was received and ordered printed.

The Diplomatic Appropriation bill somewhat amended, was passed.

The Executive Judicial Appropriation bill was amended and passed.

The bill to erect the territory of Jefferson was considered and amended, changing the name to Idaho.

Mr. Trumbull called up the resolution offered yesterday for the appointment of a Joint Committee to provide a mode for counting the votes for President and Vice President, and notifying the President elected, which was passed.

Several amendments from the Committee on Indian

affairs were adopted, and the bill postponed till Monday. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia to inquire into the expediency of retroceding to Maryland a portion of the District, not necessary to the wants of the Federal Government.

On motion of Mr. Aldrich, the Committee of Ways and Means were instructed to consider the expediency of repealing the tariff on sugar.

The Speaker presented the President's message: To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I deem it my duty to transmit to Congress a series of Resolutions adopted by the Legislature of Virginia on the 19th instant, having in view the peaceful settlement of the existing questions which now threaten the Union.

They were delivered to me on Thursday, the 24th inst., by Ex-President Tyler, who has left his dignified and honored retirement in the hope that he may render service to his country in this her hour of peril.

These Resolutions, if well perceived, extend an invitation to all such States, whether slaveholding or non-slaveholding, as are willing to unite with Virginia in an earnest effort to adjust the present unhappy controversies in the spirit in which the Constitution was originally formed, and consistently with its principles, so as to afford to the people of the slaveholding States adequate guarantees for the security of their rights, to appoint Commissioners to meet on the 4th of February next, within the City of Washington. Similar Commissioners have been appointed by Virginia to consider, and if practicable, agree upon some suitable adjustment.

I confess I hail this movement, on the part of Virginia, with great satisfaction. From the past history of this ancient and renowned Commonwealth, we have the fullest assurance that while she has undertaken the full and complete discharge of her duty, she will not depart from the path of peace, and that she will persevere in her efforts. It is highly gratifying to know that other patriotic States have appointed and are appointing Commissioners to meet those of Virginia in council. When assembled, they will constitute a body entitled, in an eminent degree, to the confidence of the country. The General Assembly of Virginia have also resolved that Ex-President Tyler is hereby appointed by the concurrent vote of each branch of the General Assembly, a Commissioner to the President of the United States, and Judge John Robinson is probably appointed by a like vote a Commissioner to the State of South Carolina and the other States that have seceded, or shall secede, with instructions, respectively, to request the President of the United States and the authorities of such States to agree to abstain from the proceedings contemplated by the action of this General Assembly, from any and all acts calculated to produce a collision of arms between the States and the Government of the United States.

Washington, Jan. 28, 1861.

Mr. Grow moved a suspension of the rules to take up the Senate's amendment to the Kansas bill, which passed—117 to 42. So the Kansas bill has passed both Houses.

On motion of Mr. Stanton, the House, under suspension of rules, passed a bill more effectually organizing the militia of the District of Columbia—119 against 42.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter written by Mr. Cobb, stating that he had received the certified secession ordinance of Alabama, and therefore he felt it his duty to decline any further participation in the business of the House. He adds, that he need not express his deep regret at the circumstances which render this step necessary on his part. God save the Country. Mr. Cobb made a few affecting remarks on taking leave, imploring his friends to do something with a view of uniting all the States.

A message was received from the President announcing that he had signed the Kansas bill, when Martin N. Conway, of Kansas, took the oath and was admitted to the House.

Mr. Sherman called up the bill authorizing the President, at any time before July first, to borrow on the credit of the United States a sum not exceeding \$25,000,000. Certificates to be issued for not less than \$1,000, with coupons payable semi-annually with interest, and the faith of the United States pledged for the payment of the interest and principal. Passed 126 to 42.

The Indian Appropriation Bill was taken up, when Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, moved to proceed to the consideration of the Senate's Resolution to count the votes for President and Vice President, and notify the persons chosen of their election. Carried.

Messrs. Washburne, Adrian, Ely, Anderson and Craig were appointed committee for that purpose. Adjourned.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—Mr. Spinola moved to take from the table the bill to submit to the people the Crittenden proposition for the settlement of the National crisis, and moved its reference to a Committee of the Whole, on Friday. Lost.

A motion to refer to the Committee of Federal Relations without instructions, passed—15 to 8. The bill to provide for the redemption of State Stock, issued to the Auburn and Rochester railroad, passed.

Mr. Ketchum called up the concurrent Assembly resolution tendering to the President elect the hospitality of the State, and it was adopted. Yeas, 24—Nays, 1.

Messrs. Hillhouse, J. McLeod, Murphy and Abell were appointed a Joint Select Committee on the part of the Senate, on the Virginia resolutions.

The bill making an appropriation for the purchase of Arms for the State was taken up in Committee of the whole, and made the special order for Wednesday.

A majority and minority report of the Committee on the Virginia Resolutions was submitted. The majority report names David Dudley Field, William Curtis Noyes, James S. Wadsworth, James C. Smith, A. B. James, Erastus Corning, Addison Gardiner, Greene C. Bronson and Wm. E. Dodge, as Commissioners to represent this State at Washington, on February 4th. Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Pierce presented the majority report of the joint committee on the Union resolutions. The committee appointed David Dudley Field, Wm. Curtis Noyes, James S. Wadsworth, Jas. C. Smith, A. B. James, Erastus Corning, Addison Gardiner, Greene C. Bronson, Wm. E. Dodge, Commissioners. The Commissioners are to be subject to the control of the Legislature of the State. The Commissioners express dissent from the proposition of the General Assembly of Virginia, but declares New York, while adhering to the position she has heretofore occupied, will not reject an invitation for

a conference that holds out the possibility of an honorable settlement of the national difficulties.

The Annual Appropriation bill for the next fiscal year was reported, and made the special order for February 8th.

The action of the Military Association of the State was transmitted by the Speaker. A series of resolutions were adopted by the Association condemning the action of the seceding States, and professing devotion to the Union, and the readiness of the Association to hold themselves in preparation at all times to aid in enforcing obedience to the Constitution and laws.

The bill relative to the attendance of petit jurors at County Courts and Courts of Sessions was passed. Adjourned.

The Secession Movement.

LOUISIANA.—The State Convention re-assembled in New Orleans at noon, of the 29th ult., when a salute of fifteen guns was fired. At 12 1/2 o'clock, the Convention went into secret session on the question relating to the navigation of the Mississippi river.

There have been no military movements here in relation to affairs in Pensacola. It is expected, from Mr. Mallory's dispatch, that no action will be taken by the Federal Government. The Convention have elected, *visa voce*, John Perkins, A. Declonet, D. F. Kenner, C. M. Conrad, E. Sparrow, and H. Marshall delegates to the Montgomery Convention, after a highly exciting debate. Slidell and Benjamin were defeated. The Revenue Cutter Cass and her officers have surrendered to Louisiana.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning announces that the New Orleans Mint was taken possession of by the Secessionists, on the 1st inst. Secretary Dix made a draft upon the Assistant Treasurer at New Orleans for the coin and bullion in the Branch Mint, about \$360,000, and that worthy refuses to pay over. On the receipt of this refusal, the President called an extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet, and the whole subject was considered. It is understood that Senators Benjamin and Slidell were sent for to know if they were aware of this transaction. The Government telegraphed the Collector and Treasurer for the facts connected with this seizure.

TEXAS.—Dates from Austin, Texas, to the 29th ult., are received. The Texas Legislature had assembled, and Gov. Houston had sent in his message. He favors the call of a State Convention. Both Houses had voted to repeal the Kansas resolution, passed by the Legislature in 1858. The House took up and passed the Senate bill, directing the Comptroller to proceed to Washington and recover \$180,000 due the State. A resolution had unanimously passed the House, declaring that the Federal Government has no power to coerce a Sovereign State after pronouncing her separation from the Union. The Senate will pass the same resolution by a similar vote. The resolution declaring secession, was tabled twice. The military committee have prepared a bill to arm the State. It was rumored that a body of men were on their way to seize the arsenal at San Antonio. Gen. Twiggs has called in the troops to protect it. The Knights of the Golden Circle have offered him their services. Gen. Twiggs denies the report of his resignation, but has informed the President that he will not use his sword against his countrymen, and when Texas demands the arsenal, he will surrender it to her.

VIRGINIA.—The Senate adopted resolutions looking to increase taxation to meet appropriations.

The Governor communicated resolutions from Gov. Hicks, announcing the readiness of Maryland to respond to the appointment of Commissioners. Gov. Hicks concludes by rejoicing that Virginia has taken this step, and trusts it will be met by a corresponding spirit in other States.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Convention bill has passed both Houses. It is to be submitted to the people.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—Col. Hayne's communication to the President was completed and delivered at a late hour on the 2d inst. In it a demand is made for the surrender of Fort Sumter.

First—On the grounds of the right of eminent domain and sovereignty; and secondly, on the ground of the right of the sovereign State to condemn to public use any property necessary for its own protection and dependence, by paying therefore a fair compensation.

The document assumes the complete independence of South Carolina, and this assumption carries with it the first supposition. Under the second head he argues that the position of the Administration is absurd if the fort be regarded as property only, and the purpose be to protect it. He considers the various usages in protecting property, and shows that a collision would not afford protection, whether the fort be taken or not, the property would be injured. This injury, he says, can be avoided, and every dollar secured, as South Carolina pledges herself to pay its full value.

He proceeds to consider the question of the refusal to settle the question as one of property, as one of dollars and cents,—the Government basing its whole action on the idea of protecting property. Colonel Hayne contends that the question should be considered as one involving property alone. As such it could easily be arranged. He says further, that he is instructed to assure the President that any attempt to reinforce, would be considered a declaration of war. The Cabinet is in session on the communication. The anticipation is that the President will only reply to Col. Hayne that he will send a communication to Congress, and that he will reply to the reasoning in a special message. This course deprives Col. H. of a rejoinder. Col. Hayne thinks there will be no attack on Fort Sumter until after the organization of the Southern Republic, unless an attempt be made to re-inforce.

KENTUCKY.—The Kentucky Senate passed by a vote of 25 to 12 Mr. Fiske's resolution appealing to the South to stop the progress of revolution, protesting against Federal coercion, and resolving that when the Legislature adjourn on the 6th of February, it be to the 24th of April, to hear the responses of our sister States to our application to Congress to call a National Convention.

Political Intelligence.

THE Democratic State Committee of Pennsylvania have adopted a call for a Convention on the 21st inst.

THE Republican Joint Legislative Caucus to nominate a U. S. Senator, met in Albany on the 2d inst. Ansel Bingham, of Bensselaer, presided. The Clerks of the Senate and Assembly, and Mr. C. S. Underwood, Journal Clerk of the Assembly, acted as Secretaries. All the Republican Senators and Assemblymen were present, except L'Amoreux, who was absent from sickness. The rules of the Assembly were adopted to govern the Caucus, and the floor was cleared of all but members and privileged persons. Senators Sessions and Mr. Farnam acted as Tellers. Ten ballots were taken when Ira Harris was nominated.

E. R. BARNELL, Douglas Democrat, was elected Speaker of the California Assembly on the 17th ult.

THE Democratic Convention assembled on the 31st ult., at Albany, and Peter Cagier called the Convention to order, on the part of the State Committee. Ex-Lieut. Gov. Church was nominated temporary chairman.

The following committee were appointed on permanent organization: Chancellor Walworth, Saratoga; J. B. Skinner, Wyoming; Bullard Johnson, Oswego; Dennis McCarthy, Onondaga; Edmund Driggs, Kings.

Also the following committee on credentials: T. H. Houghtaling, Cayuga; R. H. Cushing, Montgomery; C. W. Armstrong, Albany; Eli Cook, Erie; Jas. R. Flanders, Franklin.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted: Resolved, That in the judgment of the Convention, in view of the present public exigency and peculiar nature and objects of this body, it is expedient to admit to seats all alternates who may have been sent here without entering into, or determining any questions of regularity, or organization, or prejudicing thereby the decisions of any previous Democratic Conventions, as to questions of organization.

After an adjournment, Hon. R. H. Walworth reported the following permanent officers of the Convention: President—Amasa J. Parker, Albany.

Vice Presidents.—1st Dist.—Charles O'Connor, James Wadsworth, Gilbert Deane, A. Belmont. 2d Dist.—J. H. Brown, Gov. Kemble, S. J. Wilkin, Geo. Thompson. 3d Dist.—Erastus Corning, Jas. S. Thayer, S. Sherwood Day, C. L. Kerstead. 4th Dist.—A. C. Paige, Bishop Perkins, Wm. Coleman, John D. Willard. 5th Dist.—Horatio Seymour, S. L. Edwards, W. C. Crane, G. W. Bond. 6th Dist.—Hiram Gray, Henry Stevens, Charles Stebbins, John H. Prentiss. 7th Dist.—Peter Yawger, Charles H. Carroll, Jacob Gould, John Magee. 8th Dist.—H. S. Redfield, Fred. Martin, Geo. Palmer, Thomas A. Osborne.

Secretaries.—1st Dist.—S. J. Tilden, N. Taylor. 2d Dist.—E. O. Perrin, J. W. Elseffer. 3d Dist.—J. A. Griswold, C. W. Armstrong. 4th Dist.—H. R. Wing, F. Spraker. 5th Dist.—L. B. Sylvester, J. A. Clark. 6th Dist.—A. White, Ira Crane. 7th Dist.—Geo. Hastings, E. M. Anderson. 8th Dist.—L. Jones Peck, C. F. Bissell.

On motion a committee on resolutions was appointed as follows:

1st Dist.—S. J. Tilden, Judge Dean. 2d Dist.—W. H. Ludlow, Wm. Kelly. 3d Dist.—A. C. Niven, J. D. Willard. 4th Dist.—John Cramer, A. C. Hand. 5th Dist.—H. Seymour, A. Loomis. 6th Dist.—H. Ballard, C. Stebbins. 7th Dist.—Isaac Butts, Geo. Hastings. 8th Dist.—G. W. Clinton, J. A. Verplanck.

Mr. Ludlow, from the Committee on Resolutions, reported a unanimous series of resolutions. The First declares that the crisis is of such a nature as should raise patriotic citizens above considerations of party, and impel them to make sacrifices to avert the calamities that threaten us. The Second sets forth the compromises that have been made by the nation in quarrels with Foreign Governments, and declares it monstrous to refuse to settle such controversies with our people by compromise. The Third favors the adoption of a policy satisfactory to the Border States. The Fourth favors the appointment of a Committee of five to memorialize the Legislature urging them to submit the Crittenden compromise to a vote of the Electors of the State at the earliest practicable day. The Fifth urges Congress to provide at an early day for Constitutional amendments, or falling action by Congress, urges the Legislature of the State to take initiatory steps for summoning a general Convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution. The Sixth favors the response of the Virginia Resolutions for a meeting of Commissioners. The Seventh names Millard Fillmore, Addison Gardiner, Greene C. Bronson, Erastus Corning, Horatio Seymour, Washington Hunt, Amasa J. Parker, Chas. O'Connor, Samuel J. Tilden as Commissioners. The Eighth says that the worst and most ineffective argument that can be addressed to seceding States is civil war. The Ninth exhorts seceding States to stay the sword, and non-seceding Southern States to join hands in staying the progress of dissolution.

The resolutions were adopted without amendment. Mr. Cook, of New York, moved that the thanks of the Convention be extended to Simon Cameron, Senator from Pa., for the noble stand he had taken for the Union. Adopted.

Chancellor Walworth moved the adoption of a similar resolution for Mr. Crittenden. Adopted.

On motion of S. J. Tilden, a committee was appointed to correspond with Democrats of other States on the subject of a general Convention, to amend the Constitution of the United States. The following is the committee:—Wm. Kelly, Wm. Cassidy, J. B. Plumb, Lyman Tremain, Edward Cooper.

Judge Hart moved that in default of National and State Legislatures to adopt the measures suggested by the resolutions of this Convention, this body may again assemble at the call of the President. Adopted.

The following were appointed to present resolutions of this Convention, to Congress and the State Legislature: Horatio Seymour, Ex-Chancellor Walworth, Gen. Ledyard, Bishop Perkins and H. D. Barto. To memorialize the State Legislature: Judge Willard, Judge Paige, J. H. Prentice, Darius A. Ogden, Geo. B. Guinnips.

A vote of thanks was passed unanimously to Judge Parker and other officers of the Convention, and after a brief return of thanks from Judge P., the Convention adjourned *sine die*, but subject to the call of the President.

HIGH TREASON.—Judge Smalley delivered an important charge to the Grand Jury in the United States Circuit Court, on the law of high treason. He told them that the seizure of United States property, and firing on the United States flag by persons owing allegiance to the United States, constituted high treason by levying war; that no State could absolve citizens from their allegiance to the General Government; and that neither South Carolina nor any other State could legally protect citizens of other States in waging war against their Government. He laid down the legal definition of treason, and declared it to be the duty of all good citizens to do everything in their power to suppress rebellion, expose treason, and bring traitors to justice.

DEATH OF EX-GOV. ROB'T LETCHER, OF KENTUCKY.—The Louisville Journal announces the death of Ex-Governor Robert Letcher. His history and character are well known to Kentuckians. He had filled many honorable positions in public life, commencing his political career as a member of the State Legislature, representing his district through several terms in Congress, occupying the gubernatorial chair, and retiring with the close of his mission to Mexico under Mr. Fillmore.

The News Condenser.

- The Japanese Embassy has got home.
—The Milwaukee Postmaster is a defaulter.
—Lola Montez was 42 years old when she died.
—The swill-milk nuisance continues in New York.
—Applications for patents rejected last year, 8,612.
—Col. Fremont is spoken of as Lincoln's Minister to France.
—The Gulf Squadron has been ordered home from Mexico.
—Mad dogs have made their appearance in Prairie du Chien.
—A lady of Wheeling, Va., has laid in a trance for ten days past.
—The Massachusetts Legislature will repeal the Personal Liberty bill.
—Thirty-five men were killed last year in duels in the United States.
—Bronze coin, to the amount of \$200,000, is about to be issued in France.
—Some of the street railroads in England are now importing cars from America.
—The Oswego Starch Company made about 8,500,000 lbs. of starch the past year.
—Fourteen persons are in the Tombs, New York, awaiting trial for capital offences.
—The value of dry goods imported into New York, the past year, is \$101,944,900.
—In the city of Canton, China, there are, on an average, 5,000 suicides every year.
—The citizens of Washington have resolved themselves into a special police force.
—Snow fell to the depth of eight feet in the vicinity of Montreal, Wednesday week.
—The Presbyterians of Ireland now have five synods and nearly five hundred churches.
—The receipts of the U. S. Colonization Society last year, from all sources, was \$14,368.
—Orange Co. sent to New York and Brooklyn, during 1860, nearly 6,000,000 quarts of milk.
—The Constitutional Government is in full operation in Mexico;—or was a few days ago.
—The Rome (Ga.) Courier says that on Sunday week snow fell to the depth of three inches.
—In 1860, of the 347,525 persons in the United States owning slaves, two only owned 1,000.
—The number of fires in Quebec last year were 56. Property destroyed valued at \$90,256.
—An agent of the French Government is bargaining for the purchase of the Great Eastern.
—Dogs killed one hundred and fifty sheep, valued at \$1,000, at Chatham, Ill., on Saturday week.
—Coal is \$14.50 a ton at Charleston and Savannah, and \$17.50 at Mobile and New Orleans.
—Abraham Lincoln has been presented with a \$250 gold-headed cane, by a California friend.
—There are 62 weeklies published in San Francisco, whereof 18 are English, 3 French, and 1 Italian.
—There was a heavy fall of snow in Kansas last week, falling to an average depth of two feet.
—The rebellion in New Zealand places the Wesleyan Methodist Missionaries in great danger.
—The population of Montreal, Canada, as indicated by the census now being taken, is about 90,000.
—A cave, 2,000 feet deep, has recently been explored near San Domingo, on the Tehuantepec route.
—Wolves have been very plenty in Outagamie and Calumet counties, Wis., since the winter set in.
—The sales of fruit, last year, from the farm of Mr. Briggs, of Marysville, Cal., amounted to \$100,000.
—By railroad accidents in 1860, there were killed in the United States 74 persons, and 315 wounded.
—The Minnesota Legislature have changed the name of Toombs county to call it after Maj. Anderson.
—The vast almshouse of Philadelphia is overflowing, with hundreds applying at the doors for admission.
—A gentleman, heretofore standing high in St. Louis, has committed forgery to the amount of \$40,000.
—South Carolina owns more slaves, in proportion to her population, than any other State in the South.
—The public school houses in Bangor are furnished with slabs of slate 3 feet by 6, instead of blackboards.
—John Jackson, proprietor of the Sunday Transcript, published at Philadelphia, died on Tuesday week.
—The Lexington (Va.) Gazette does not believe that there are 250 secessionists in the county of Rockbridge.
—The Collector at Mobile has refused to honor Federal drafts, under orders from the Governor of Alabama.
—The English newspapers term with melancholy narratives of death among the poor, from exposure to the cold.
—The prices of wheat, flour, beef, pork, and most Oregon products, are now lower than was ever before known.
—A merchant in New York refused to sell fifty tons of lead when he learned that it was destined for Georgia.
—The present annual production of tobacco has been estimated by an English writer at 4,000,000,000 pounds.
—Through the influence of the Emperor and Empress, shops are now shut in Paris on Sunday, to a great extent.
—The Kingdom of Prussia, according to the last statistical tables, contained 4,178 physicians and 1,626 chemists' shops.
—Orders have just been issued for the enrollment of all persons subject to military duty in the District of Columbia.
—The glass manufacture of the country is now a million less than three years ago, and the importation much greater.
—A company of agriculturists from Tennessee are negotiating for lands along the line of the Illinois Central Railroad.
—There are 14 tanneries in Santa Cruz Co., Cal., employing 50 men, and producing 40,000 side of leather per annum.
—Timothy O. Howe, the Republican caucus nominee, has been elected United States Senator by the Wisconsin Legislature.
—Bears are forsaking the mountains in Yolo Co., Cal., in great numbers, and committing great ravages in the settlements.
—It is stated that the latest "fashion" announced from Europe is that of dressing very plainly when going to church.
—Mr. Douglas received in Michigan just one vote more than he did in Wisconsin, thus: Michigan, 65,062; Wisconsin, 65,061.
—It is estimated that there are 30,000 Americans in Europe, and that they spend among them a sum of \$150,000,000 per annum.
—Both Mississippi and Louisiana have declared their purpose not to blockade the Mississippi river against "friendly States."
—There is a girl of 21 in the prison at Georgetown, Va., who has become hopelessly insane from inordinate use of tobacco.
—J. M. S. Cozzen, formerly member of Congress from the Baltimore District, Md., died of apoplexy at Cairo, on the 31st ult.
—A shock of an earthquake, and snow six inches deep, visited Knoxville, Tenn., on the 13th ult., for the first time in 20 years.
—A scientific expedition is about leaving France to explore Southern Siberia, and particularly that portion contiguous to the Amoor.
—American sewing machines, in richly ornamented cases, were among the most fashionable of the New Year's gifts in Paris this season.
—Several ladies regularly attend the medical lectures of professors of the University of St. Petersburg, and take notes, like students.
—A regiment of volunteers has been formed in the Southern part of Indiana to aid the people of Kentucky, in case of insurrection among the slaves.

AN HOUR AT THE OLD PLAY-GROUND.

BY HENRY MORFORD.

I sat an hour to-day, John, Beside the old brook stream, Where were schoolboys in old times, When manhood was a dream. The brook is choked with fallen leaves, The pond is dried away— I scarce believe that you would know The dear old place to-day.

The Story-Teller.

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

FRED CARLTON'S VALENTINE: OR, LOVE VERSUS SKATES.

BY JESSIE CARVER.

FRED CARLTON was just twenty-one,—intelligent, good looking, and accomplished. His father occupied the honorable position of village lawyer in one of our western cities, and FRED, his only son, had ever been indulged in every wish or fancy. He had just returned from B— College, where he had graduated with the highest honors, and was now at home, waiting, like MICAWBER, for "something to turn up."—meanwhile, unlike that worthy individual, luxuriating in all the comforts of a happy home, gay society, and a freedom from care and restraint unknown to him since his boyish days.

seen going to the Dr.'s morning, noon, and night,—sometimes to get a recipe for his mother from Mrs. MEANS, or a prescription from the Dr. or some such errand, always happening to step into the parlor to speak to Miss BESSIE, and sometimes staying the remainder of the day. BESSIE,—little mix,—was well enough pleased to chat with him. She would play and sing little French songs for him, and he could hold worsteds, sharpen her pencils, and make himself generally useful. If she wanted to go to visit at any distance, FRED's pony and cutter and FRED's self were always at her command, and the ardent little flirt made good use of them.

—a confusion of lace paper, satin and cupids. On the inside he wrote a few lines,—the beauty of which consisted in their emanating from the writer's heart instead of brain,—not particularly original in construction, as "love" rhymed to "dove," and "bliss" with "kiss." Enclosing this in a huge envelope, he directed and mailed it himself, waiting at the Post-Office to see the doctor take it from the box, glance at the superscription over his spectacles, deposit it in his pocket, and walk slowly homeward. In vain FRED watched for his expected Valentine, but he seemed for once doomed to be neglected. Night-fall came, and yet no token of anything from BESSIE, or any other fair maid. As he went to his room to arrange his dress preparatory to making his usual evening call, he spied a little frame hanging beside the mirror, and upon examining it found it contained a pencil drawing; the subject, or outline, he could not make out in the fading twilight. He quickly procured a light, and to his grief and vexation, found it to be an exact sketch of his downfall and ducking upon the ice! The artist had done justice to the scene, and every point was faithfully depicted,—the old stump, supporting the mirror in an erect position, the glare of ice, so deceitfully smooth, but its shining surface just broken, as our unfortunate FRED sinks in its center, his arms aloft in the air, vainly endeavoring to extricate himself. The expression of his face was too comical, and spite of his chagrin and vexation, he could not help smiling at the truthfulness of the sketch. Beneath, in a delicate running hand, which he recognized too well, were these familiar lines—

HUSBANDS AND WIVES.

It was the freshest of April mornings, with a soft wind, that had ruffled all manner of sweet scents from dimpled hollows, purpled over with young violets, and solitary brook-sides, fringed with white anemone stars, and wafted them into the city streets, to revive many a wearied dweller among paving stones. Mrs. Arden, standing at her window, looked down at the few feet of earth that city people dignified with the title of "garden," and felt the sunny spring influences even there.

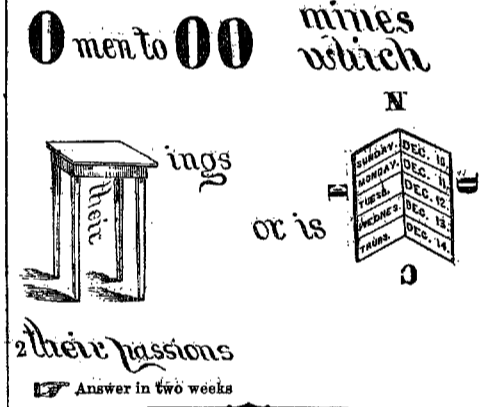
Wit and Humor.

ARTEMAS WARD ON SECESSION. ARTEMAS, the great Showman, gives a rich speech on secession in a late number of Vanity Fair. We quote the conclusion—endorsing the writer's views as to how and by whom the "fin" should be done, and admiring his patriotic stand relative to the stars and stripes:

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker. GRAMMATICAL ENIGMA. I AM composed of 26 letters. My 1 is an article. My 2, 6, 7, 8 is a common noun. My 10, 17, 18, 23 is a personal pronoun. My 15, 4, 20, 22 is a conjunctive adverb. My 6, 8, 9 is a common noun. My 15, 19, 22, 26, 18 is an irregular verb. My 9, 13, 12, 15, 10, 18 is a proper noun. My 25, 24, 11, 21, 18, 19 is an adverb of time. My 14, 1, 16, 17, 13, 19 is a verb in the infinitive mood. My whole is an old saying. Worcester, Liv. Co., N. Y., 1861. S. E. COX. Answer in two weeks.

ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



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

Two ships, the Brooklyn and Star, are intending to cannonade Fort Moutrie and Fort Johnson, and wish to ascertain if they are near enough to have their guns take effect on the two forts. They know the distance between the forts to be 600 rods. They separate and measure the angles, and find them to be as follows:—At the Star, the angle subtended by the two forts was measured, and found to be 47° 25'; and that by Fort Moutrie and the other ship, was found to be 60° 19'; at the Brooklyn, the angle subtended by the two forts was measured, and found to be 48° 10'; and that by Fort Johnson and the other ship, was found to be 47° 40'. Required the distance between the two ships; the distances between the ships and the forts. R. D. McCORRICK. Rochester, N. Y., 1861. Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 576.

Answer to Geographical Enigma:—Slander, whose edge is sharper than the sword. Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—True love. Answer to Rebus:—When a great be empty, put coal on. When a great be full, stop putting coal on. Answer to Charade:—Eye-lash. Answer to Mathematical Problem:—32,333 + miles

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.]

“PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT.”

[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

VOL. XII. NO. 7.]

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1861.

{WHOLE NO. 579.

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

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

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 personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Heavens 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 NEWS-PAPER in America.

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AGRICULTURAL

FARMERS' CLUBS.

It is now the time of year for the farmers to attend to intellectual improvement. The most active and industrious man can find some time which, without prejudice to outdoor duties, he can give to study and reflection. Agriculture is eminently an experimental science. Mere hypotheses are of little value unless they have been tested by actual trial. It becomes the farmer, then, while he keeps a sharp eye upon all the suggestions of theoretical science to be still more on the alert, to avail himself of all the results of observation and experience which his own farm furnishes, or which he accumulates by reading. Every farmer ought to add to his knowledge every year, and thus to become more and more completely master of his business. But it always will so happen that the knowledge which each farmer acquires is peculiar. Each individual is directed by the character of his farm, the amount of his capital, or his own tastes and capacities to a particular kind of experience. Each man, if at all intelligent, will thus become an adept in some special department of the business. One man becomes skillful in the rearing of horses, another is celebrated by his neat stock, hogs or sheep. Another is celebrated for his fruit and vegetables; another still for his hay and grain crops, his corn or potatoes. Now these several kinds of success depend on conditions. Nothing in farming happens by accident. There are good reasons for the success of each of these men. They may reside in the same town and neighborhood. Each one may possess knowledge which would be extremely valuable to his neighbors. By a system of exchange all this accumulated experience might be made available to all. In fact this is the method pursued among scientific men. Each one among them makes experiments or observations in a special department of nature, and by means of books, periodicals, and the papers of learned societies, these become available for all. This is, in fact, the method of exchange in trade with which all are familiar, and which all, of necessity, practice.

Now, what farmers need is a system of exchange, in the matter of knowledge and experiment. This brings us to the subject of this article—FARMERS' CLUBS.

The principle upon which these should be founded is, that of exchange of ideas. Let the farmers in a given locality, be it large or small, agree to meet once a fortnight or once a week, for the purposes named above, to exchange their ideas on various points of farming. The question arises, How shall this result be easiest and most successfully reached? We venture to make a few suggestions on this point. There need be little of organization. Let the Chair be taken by each member in turn. Let there be a paper prepared by some member at each meeting; he choosing the subject for himself among those regarding which he has acquired the most experience and information. After the paper is read, let there be a few moments allotted to each member for remarks or criticism of the views put forth. This course will concentrate the discussions and give definiteness to the aims of the club. By taking such a course the best results of the reading and experiments of a large number might easily become the property of all who participate in the association. In this way, if the club was kept up, all the members would have a definite reason for collecting carefully all the results of their own experience and observation. They would have before them a definite reason for special reading in order to compare their own experiments with those of others, and put them to such tests as are supplied by a wide induction of facts. The influence of such an association would be felt almost at once in a higher grade of agricultural intelligence and improved practical farming. Papers would often be produced in such clubs which would be worthy of publication or delivery as lectures, thus extending

their sphere of usefulness over a still wider range. The mere discipline of writing such papers would be of incalculable advantage to all who engaged in it. In a short time a body of Transactions would be accumulated which would become a storehouse of valuable hints for the descendants of those who began their accumulation.

But we shall be met with objections of this kind among practical farmers:—"I cannot write long papers," say such. "I have not the skill in composition necessary for the composition of such papers." But we ask such persons if they cannot tell what they know, in talking? We never meet a farmer, however defective his education, who cannot with great ease and clearness tell the results of his experience in stock raising, or with various crops and soils. If a man can talk he can write. The trouble with men who are not accustomed to composition is, that they are not satisfied with writing naturally as they talk. If the practical farmer is willing to lay aside all thought about fine writing, and simply set down his ideas as they come to his mind, he will have no trouble. When the Duke of Wellington was Premier in England he asked a member of the House of Commons to take a seat in the Cabinet. The answer was, "I cannot talk in the House." "Nonsense," said the old veteran, "do as I do, say what you think, and don't quote Latin." If our farmer friends will take Wellington's advice and write down simply and naturally "what they think," they will find no difficulty. It may be said by some, "My education is defective. I cannot write or speak grammatically, and my spelling is bad." What of it, my friend? Will that make your experience any less valuable? Your bad education is your misfortune, and you ought to take good care that your children do not suffer in the same way; but do not let it keep you from the benefit of a Farmers' Club. Go to work; write down your thoughts in their natural order about any subject you have studied out carefully, and you will have no trouble. Many men have become forcible writers and speakers who never learned to spell, and who were innocent of all knowledge of HUGH BLAIR or LINDLEY MURRAY. We are thus anxious to recommend writing in Farmers' Clubs, as, without this, the discussions are apt to become desultory and vague, and soon fade out of the memory.

If such clubs were to be formed in every neighborhood a vast amount of curious and valuable observation would be saved from oblivion, and the reflex influence on the intellectual growth of farmers themselves would be elevating and valuable in the highest degree. Other and subordinate good results might be effected by these clubs. Each association would feel the necessity of agricultural books and periodicals. Works which would be too expensive for one might be prepared by a slight assessment on the members, and all the works thus procured would be consulted in turn, and an agricultural library would gradually grow up as the possession of every club.

These clubs would tend to promote social intercourse and self-respect among farmers, leading them and their children as a class to set a higher estimate on the profession. They would tend to excite a healthy pride in good farming, in the introduction of improved methods and machinery. They would render practicable the making of experiments by joint action which would be too expensive and hazardous for single individuals. They would facilitate the introduction of improved breeds of cattle, sheep, and horses. In short, all the advantages of associated action in a sparsely peopled community may be secured by these clubs, when conducted with good sense. We hope to hear from many which shall be formed during the present winter, and that those now in operation may be so managed as to largely benefit members and community.

THE DAIRY.—NO. III.

THE COW AND HER KEEPER.

All the elements contained in milk exist in the food which the animal consumes, put together and combined nearly or quite in the form in which they there occur. Certain plants contain one substance, as the leguminous, which are rich in materials for casein. Peas and beans are peculiarly in this class, and are valuable for producing growth in young animals, and for increasing the curd in milk. On the other hand, those plants containing oil, will materially increase the quantity of butter in the milk. But as the milk must contain both the oil for butter and casein, or the curd, it follows that if food be furnished to the cow rich in either of these elements, but deficient in the other, there may be serious loss, inasmuch as all fed to her beyond what she requires for her sustenance, and to supply the demand for the milk, must be rejected and thus wasted.

It is by the skillful combination of all these elements, existing ready formed in certain plants, and feeding them to the cow in such a manner that she can consume the largest amount, under the most favorable circumstances for its thorough digestion, that her utmost value is obtained. The use of concentrated food becomes of prime importance to every man who wishes to reach the highest value from his cow. Thousands, nay, tens of thousands of dollars are annually lost to the dairyman for the lack of this knowledge, or the want of practice upon it. If the farmer who devotes his dairy to butter were to feed his cows daily with a small quantity of any of the unctuous oils, as cotton seed oil, or rape oil, mixed with bran, or meal of any kind, he would find

his butter product largely increased, so much so as to furnish a great profit on the extra food consumed. The same would hold good in regard to the cheese dairy, though to a greater degree.

In confirmation of the importance of concentrated food, I give a statement obtained from Mr. H. SACKRIDER, who lives at Hobart, in Delaware county, of the products of a single cow for seven months.

271 pounds butter, sold at 20c @ 1b,	\$54 20
Calf fattened and sold for	5 00
Milk sold	12 50
Milk used in family of six grown people	10 80
Total for seven months	\$82 50
The other five months would probably be worth at least	8 50
Making, for the year,	\$91 00

I inquired his method of keeping. He fed his cow her own milk and the slops of the house, as he kept no pig. Here, then, was the secret of his large yield of butter. Among the dairymen through that region two firkins of butter, or 160 pounds, is considered a good average for a cow. Mr. SACKRIDER'S cow produced more than 100 pounds above the average. Probably if the whole milk had been used for butter, she would have given at least double, or four firkins.

The cow was the pet of her owner, and when I saw her, in high condition, but not large. If placed upon the scales she would have weighed from 700 to 750 pounds. She indicated a dash of Short-horn blood, but would pass for a native.

While on the subject of Delaware county, I may as well remark that nowhere in the State have I found that peculiar sweetness of flavor to the milk, nor richness of color and flavor in the butter, as here, especially in the portion, where the soil is colored by the decomposition of the red shales of the Catskill Mountains. I noticed it on my first entry into the county, in the early summer, and then late in the fall when again passing through. It may be all fancy, but I thought I discovered a marked difference. One fact I believe to be established, and it is that more butter is produced from a cow in this county, than any other in the State. The difference may be due to its mountainous locality, for it is truly Alpine, and it may also be due to its people. I do not propose to solve the question. I only know that I never tasted sweeter milk or better butter than while in that county.

JOHNSTON, in his Agricultural Chemistry, (a work which every young farmer should own and read,) says we have reason to believe that the natural and immediate source of the fat of animals is in the oily matter which the food contains. Hence, the farmer who wishes to fatten his sheep or cattle, feeds them with food rich in oil, as oil cake, or linseed oil mixed with cut straw, bran, or meal.

Until quite recently no experiments had been made for a sufficient length of time, or by competent persons, to test the theories of the laboratory, or the closet. Special feeding had produced peculiar and unlooked for results, but it was left for TROTS. HORSFALL, an English farmer of moderate means, but possessed of abilities which eminently fitted him for the task, to reduce the whole subject of special food, and its application to a favorable result, to the definite proportions of a science.

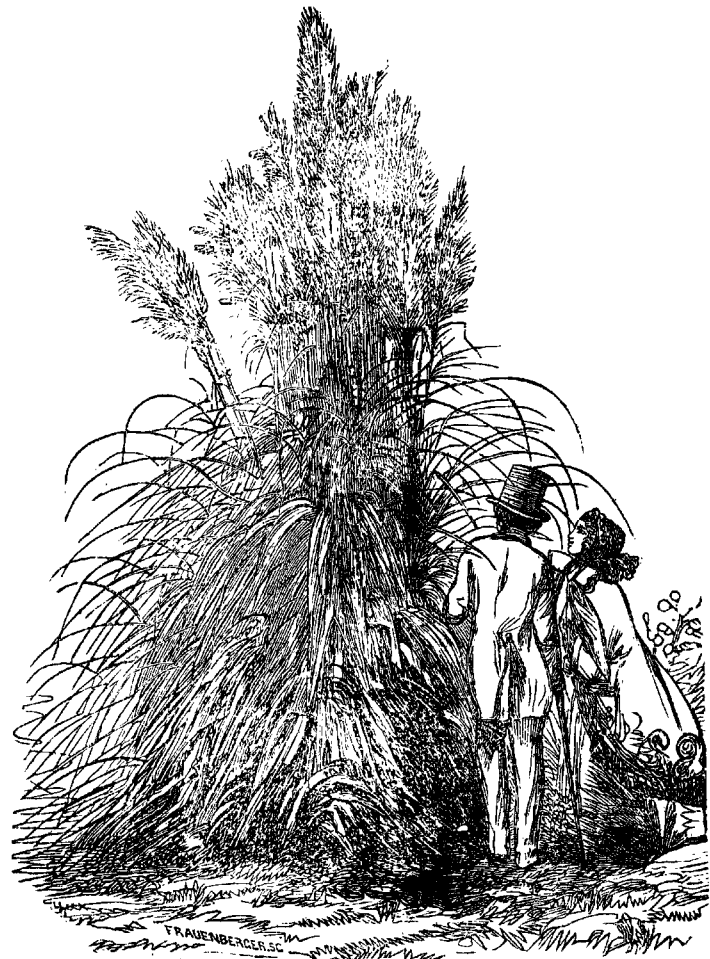
His experiments, conducted with great care and skill, and running through a series of years, were at length communicated to and published in the English Royal Agricultural Society's Journal, and re-published in the Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society for the year 1856. And I venture the assertion, without the fear of contradiction by any intelligent farmer, that there has never before been published so much valuable knowledge for the dairyman, and stall feeder, in so small a compass.

Mr. HORSFALL directed his experiments to establish the fact, that by affording an ample supply of the proper elements, he could increase the animal condition, and also increase and improve its product. It could not be done with the ordinary farm produce, of which he usually fed cabbages and kohlrabi, in moderate quantities. Of meadow hay it would require, beyond the amount necessary for the maintenance of the cow, an addition of full 20 pounds for the supply of casein in a full yield of milk, (16 quarts,) 40 pounds for the supply of the oil for the butter, and 9 pounds for the phosphoric acid. It would therefore require the cow to consume 60 lbs. additional, of hay, to keep her in condition, and supply the full yield of milk.

This being simply impossible, he turned his attention to what are termed artificial, special, or feeding substances, and to select such as would be rich in albumen, oil, and phosphoric acid, regard being had to their comparative cost, with a view to profit.—r.

A CHAPTER ON SWEENIE.

SOMETHING over two years since, the following query was made in the RURAL, viz.—"What is the best remedy for Sweeney?" Having waited thus long and patiently for some able pen to come forth in vindication of the wrongs, outrages, and useless tortures to which the noblest animal given us for our use, is so often needlessly subjected by those self-styled V. S.'s, methought I would fire a squib from my pop gun, in hopes it might call out a thunderbolt from some big battery of experience. The same principle applies in investigating disease in the brute, as the human subject, and to one disease as to all others, and consequently so far as the analogy holds good, the same reasoning to the one as well as the other.



PAMPAS GRASS.

PERHAPS it would not be considered, by our readers, a very grave offence should we introduce, and almost for the first time, a little of the ornamental on the first page of the RURAL. It being understood, then, that we have the approval of our friends, we leave the horses, and cows, and sheep, and barns, and a most beautiful engraving of the pig that took the prize at the late Dublin Exhibition, and which we will give in a future number, and introduce a plant which we have observed and admired almost every day the past summer. Many times have we resolved to furnish our readers with a description and engraving, and now we purpose to carry our resolution into effect. It is no other than the PAMPAS GRASS of Brazil, which there grows in such abundance as to cover the vast Pampas, or level plains, for hundreds of miles.

The London Horticultural Society was the first to introduce this plant as worthy the attention of cultivators in Europe and America, and large quantities of seeds were distributed by this Society in 1856, and in the Autumn of 1858 the reports from cultivators in all parts of England, spoke in glowing terms of the huge proportions and magnificent appearance of this famous grass. The finest specimen we have seen was on the grounds of ELLWANGER & BARRY of this city. At the base it was some eight or nine feet in diameter, and the flower-spikes about the same distance from the ground. In our northern climate the plant must be removed to the cellar or greenhouse in winter, but as far South as Washington it would doubtless prove entirely hardy.

Messrs. HOVRY of Boston, and some gentlemen in the neighborhood of New York city, have good plants. Mr. HOVRY gives his experience and opinions in his magazine, as follows:—"Coming from a tropical country it could scarcely be expected to prove hardy in our climate, and this has proved to be the case thus far; a splendid specimen in our own collection, grown with much care, and planted out the second year, and well protected, having been killed in the winter of 1858. Disappointed in this experiment, another plant was carefully potted,

shifted from time to time, and finally placed in a large tub about eighteen inches in diameter. During winter it had the protection of a cool green-house. Last spring it was placed out in the open air with other plants, and soon began to make a vigorous growth, forming a splendid tuft of long slender rush-like leaves, gracefully drooping to the ground. The latter part of August it began to throw up its stout reed-like stems, from which sprang two flower-spikes that attained the height of eight feet, terminated with plumes of feathery flowers fifteen inches long, of a light or silvery color, which actually glistened under our bright sun. It has been justly described as a "fountain of foliage, acquiring more and more force from day to day, till at last the gushing fluid sprang up into jets of living silver."

Such is the Pampas grass as grown under unfavorable circumstances; when allowed to acquire strength in a deep rich soil, it attains the height of twelve feet and throws up forty or fifty of its magnificent plumes, as represented in our engraving. South of Washington, where it will prove hardy, and attain these or larger dimensions, what a treasure it must be! In our gardens it is doubtful whether any protection will make it safe to leave it out in the open ground; but no matter; though we may not have the pleasure of witnessing such grand specimens, smaller plants possess beauty enough to pay for all the winter room they require. We doubt not it could be kept in a dry cellar with perfect safety, and transferred to the open ground in spring, lifting it after blooming in autumn, as we do many other plants.

When, growing it requires an abundance of water. The soil should be rich and light, and the aspect warm. As soon as the weather becomes severe, it should be removed to the green-house, where, placed in a good position, its mass of gracefully recurved leaves render it a conspicuous and very ornamental object. By increasing from time to time the size of the tub, large and very fine specimens could undoubtedly be obtained. It is well worth all the labor that may be bestowed upon it. It is readily propagated by dividing the roots.

And now, Mr. Inquirer, allow me to say to you in all candor, that the very best remedy under the canopy of heaven, in my humble opinion, for Sweeney or any other disease, is to know you have got it! The second is like unto the first, viz.—to know what you have when you have got it. The third is of minor importance, viz.—what will restore the diseased organ to a healthy condition.

The above premises, at first thought, may seem nonsensical, (and with many will at the last,) and yet a little reflection will teach almost any brain that is too large to fill the cranium of an oyster, that in nine cases out of ten, and I had better say 999 in the 1,000, of the fatal cases of disease in the horse which they have seen treated, a scientific examination would have demonstrated that the first remedy spoken of had not been given or understood. Having owned as many as ONE horse in the last thirty years, and seen two others, I propose to give a case in point, and if it does not demonstrate any of the above positions, will perhaps prompt an inquiry which may be of some use.

Some four or five years since, a friend of mine owned a most magnificent animal, which, for style, speed, and docility, is seldom equalled. In passing

his stable one day, he saw his horse standing in the yard, looking as though he was repeating the last four lines of the "Beggars' Petition," apostrophised no doubt. Upon inquiry, learned that sometime previous, while the ground was frozen, he was letting him play at the halter, and in making a turn, he remembers that he slipped, and from that time on had been more or less lame. Especially on starting had he shown it, and when standing, had put this foot forward. A learned Veterinary Surgeon, whom he had consulted, had told him that the horse was not really lame, but had contracted the foolish habit of standing with this foot forward. His remedy, (oh, shade of DADD and YOGART, pardon!) founded upon this view of pathology, was to put on a stife shoe on the well foot, and thereby make him stand on this, and learn to keep it under him. Upon removing this excrescence of ignorance, the animal immediately resumed his position upon the well foot, with every look and act of gratitude, more easily imagined than described. Fortunately for the case in point, the horse, from this exposure sickened, and died soon after with pneumonia; and while a learned disciple of Aesculapius was making a post-mortem, and talking learnedly to the gaping crowd of grey and red hepat-

ization of the lung, and its difference from tubercular, which was as well understood, no doubt, as the Indian dialect in the House, several years since, by the sarcastic BONNE. Poor Farmer, with scalpel, (alias butcher's knife), was busy in dissecting each limb from coffin to shoulder joint. On the same side we found the appearance of the limb healthy until we got to the shoulder joint, where the whole of the tissues which compose the joint were thickened and highly vascular, showing a high degree of inflammatory action.

Now, here was a valuable animal ordered from a warm stable into the open yard, and compelled to stand on an inflamed joint three weeks, (six being necessary to the cure,) through the ignorance of one of these self-styled V. S.'s. It must be evident to every reflecting mind that the horse, when the joint became unendurable, would lie down until no doubt he became thoroughly chilled, which was the exciting cause of the lung disease with which he died. Were this an isolated case, or an exception, and not the rule, it would be of far less importance in this place. Be this as it may, one thing is sure, viz.,— unless we have a clear idea of what we have to deal with, we shall stand a good chance of being like the blind leading the blind. What then is Sweeney? Physiologists tell us that in all organs of locomotion we have two sets of antagonistic muscles, that are, or should be, nearly balanced in power, and that these muscles are supplied with nerves, upon which their power of action wholly depends. It was the venerable JOHN HUNTER, I think, that laid down this law of the system, viz.,— "If you destroy the nervous influence to an organ, you destroy in the same ratio the function of that organ." Now, Sweeney, as it is called, is no more or less than an injury which the nerves that supply the muscles of the shoulder have received, either from over-exertion, as in running, or a direct blow,—or, what is more commonly the cause, nine times in ten, of too hard a draft in a collar too large.

Having seen a colt three months old sweened in both shoulders, we concluded it could have been done in no other way than by running, or coming in contact with a foreign body when in motion, and this, for both shoulders, would have been a singular coincidence. What are the phenomena attending this. First—From five to eight, or ten days, seldom over eight, the muscles of the shoulder which has received the injury, is swollen, and painful to pressure, and the animal is more or less lame. Generally about the fifth or sixth day the swelling and pain begins to subside, and with it the lameness disappears. After the tenth day have never, in an uncomplicated Sweeney, seen the horse lame, nor do I believe he ever is. About this time the muscles begin to waste, and then an altered motion in the horse's gait, analogous to what there is in old toppers from paralysis of one side. You ask them if there is any pain in the limb which they drag after them, and they will answer you in plain English, No. The horse gives you the same answer by standing as well on that limb as the other, by drawing as well as before; and when you ask him to trot, he answers you in just as intelligent language as the toper, viz.,—by a want of his natural motion. The animal which was a square traveler before, now becomes what over-wise horsemen know as a paddler; not as sure footed, but otherwise as well fitted for his duties as before. Having heard it stated times without number, that horses were lame from Sweeney for months and months, would here enter my feeble protest against all such nonsense, and caution each and every one to look carefully from the hoof to the shoulder for a more serious complication with this disease, where the lameness continues after the tenth day, or where the horse favors one foot more than the other. The distinguishing features between disease of the hoof and shoulder, may be taken up at another time.

And now, Mr. Inquirer, I trust you have got two of the best remedies for your disease. You should now know it when you see it, and when you know it, should know that you have simple paralysis of the nerves which supply the muscles of the shoulder joint. Now let me ask you, for humanity's sake, to look around you, and inquire if the numberless patients of paralysis which you meet in our large cities, have been blistered from one end of the limb to the other,—or had their skin blown up,—or a stroke or horse-radish root six or eight inches long stuck under the skin and allowed to rot out, in a two-legged brute, for a similar pathological condition to what you have here in a four-footed one. Remember the language of horses is not like Balaam's Ass, but more intelligent than many of their masters, to those who appreciate them.

Ask yourself the simple questions,—What do I want to accomplish? And how am I to do it? Common sense will answer you by saying, that you want to restore the nerve force to these wasted muscles, in the simplest way possible. If you are not too lazy, you can do it with simple friction by the hand. I know an old Dutchman that professes to cure this disease with a corn cob which grew on a stalk producing three ears; but you must keep the butt of the cob constantly up, or else "it won't make the naves run right!" Any stimulating liniment, with friction, persevered in, will accomplish the same thing.

Were I a learned M. D., would give you a formula something after this wise:—Oleum Tiglii, 1 ounce, Oleum Origanum, 2 ounces, &c., &c. But as I am simply Poor Farmer, will say in plain English, that a compound of many of the essential oils will do. And one that I have never known to fail in the last twenty years, is the following:—Oil of Spike, 1 oz.; Oil Origanum, 2 oz.; Tar, 1 oz.; Crude Oil Amber, 2; Spirit Turpentine 2; pulverized Cantharides, 4 oz. Mix, and shake well before using. Two table-spoonfuls to the shoulder, well rubbed in, is enough per day.

The strength of the Cantharides depends much on the way they have been saved, &c., and should you chance to get a pure article, your proportion of it may be too strong. Have never found it necessary to vesicicate the skin. Perhaps it would be as well to mix the rest, and then add this until you find what the skin will bear. If your collar fits the horse, and you will apply this twice a day, unless the skin gets sore, and then omit for a few days, until the soreness subsides, you can work your animal every day, and restore him to a healthy condition. Should you trust it to the second person to do, and he gets careless and blisters the skin, have it well washed every day with castile soap, and then grease with fresh lard until the hair gets out that has been lost.

A GOOD BED FOR SWINE.—Warmth is a great desideratum in wintering swine. Ours sleep this winter in the manure thrown from our horse stables, and a very comfortable place they find it. We believe it an advantage all around, as the horse manure will be better kept, and well mixed with swine manure and straw.—JNO. SANFIELD, Feb., 1861.

LONG ISLAND LANDS—AGAIN.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I notice in your issue of the 12th inst., an anonymous article headed "Suffolk County, Long Island," in which it is stated that the cost of clearing land in that County, between Thompson and Suffolk stations, is "about fifty dollars per acre." The truthfulness of this statement is a fair specimen of the truthfulness of the whole article. It so happens that thirty acres of the land to which he alludes as having been cleared and cultivated the past summer, has been done by my sons, and as to the expense, I think myself pretty well "posted up." It will not exceed twenty dollars per acre. I speak of my own land—and that is a fair sample of the average between the stations named.

Your correspondent says, "no returns can be expected the first, and but little the second year." Who would expect returns the first year, while the process of breaking up is going on? But, by the way of experiment only, small patches of corn, potatoes, turnips, and buckwheat were put in, with, (as my sons write,) most satisfactory results. The cost of the manure used was less than one-fourth the value of the crops. Where there was with others "but partial success," as alluded to by your correspondent, there were but partial and imperfect efforts made to ensure it.

With regard to the culture of cranberries on Long Island up-lands, the results already obtained are conclusive and satisfactory. In 1859 a silver medal was awarded by the American Institute, to Mr. YOUNG, of Lakeland, for "best twenty-five bushels of cranberries." These were grown upon less than one-third of an acre,—the plants having been set in 1854, and cultivated without manure of any kind. No one who ever made the experiment failed to get the plants to grow, and to fruit after the first year. The profits of cranberry culture on Long Island, as stated to me by Mr. YOUNG and Mr. DUBOIS, the most extensive growers whom I met, "are very great indeed—greater than they ever thought could be realized anywhere." My own opinion is, that the growing of hay and potatoes alone, to say nothing of the cultivation of small fruits, can be made as remunerative, owing to market facilities, as the cultivation of wheat in Western New York or Canada West. Sufficient and reliable data have been obtained, which will warrant this conclusion. Your correspondent, had he wished to state facts from which his readers, if intelligent agriculturists, could form an opinion for themselves as to the capabilities of these lands, might have told you that at Deer Park, only four miles west of Thompson Station, upon soil just like that between Thompson and Suffolk stations, clover and timothy have been and are successfully and extensively grown—and that clover has been very successfully used as a fertilizer. He might have said too that on the same farm, from a ten acre field of clover sod three thousand bushels of potatoes were grown, worth in the field at the time of digging, over fifty cents per bushel. Are these some of the "stories manufactured by speculators and other interested persons" to which your correspondent alludes?

There are other facts connected with the various articles which have from time to time appeared against Long Island lands, which it is well enough for all who have read them to know. Some years since, lengthy advertisements of these lands appeared in various journals, under the signature of Dr. PECK, of the city of Brooklyn—which advertisements, so far as the nature and capabilities of the soil are concerned, I believe, upon personal examination, to be substantially correct. These advertisements did not appear in the American Agriculturist, a paper owned and edited by one ORANGE JUDD, of New York. During the spring of 1860, articles appeared in Judd's paper, evidently intended to counteract the effect of the advertisements just spoken of, and damaging to Long Island lands. Some owners of these lands have since brought an action against Judd for \$10,000 damages. It is said the issue of this suit will very much depend upon the value of the lands as it shall appear in evidence upon trial. It is just possible that the article which lately appeared in your journal is the "cropping out" of ignorance and prejudice; but in view of the fact just stated, it is more natural to surmise that it was written either by Judd himself, or by some one in his interest. At any rate it would have had greater weight than any anonymous article can have, had the author given his name to the public in connection with his statements, as a guarantee of his willingness and ability to substantiate them. Yours respectfully, ELAM STIMSON, St. George, Brant Co., C. W., 29th January, 1861.

REMARKS.—Entertaining a favorable opinion of their value, we have no desire to depreciate Long Island Lands,—but, having published several articles in their favor, could not refuse a rejoinder from one whom we supposed, and still suppose, to be uninfluenced by any third party. Though the author's name was not given in connection with the article alluded to, it is in our possession—in connection with a note, saying the writer is responsible for his statements. In justice to Mr. JUDD, we may add that we do not believe he knew anything about the article until it appeared in the RURAL, though we may be mistaken.—ED.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Seeing that the ox of W. I. S., of Gaines, works well, eats well, and runs well, all he has got to do is to feed him well, and I warrant him to get fat if not worked too much.

THE FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP can be cured by thorough paring, and a salve, made of lard and finely pulverized blue vitriol, applied every three or four days for three or four times, and then once in two weeks for two or three times. The sound ones must be dressed with the salve also, and the diseased must be separated from the sound at first dressing. No use for tobacco or anything but the vitriol and lard, or butter. If the weather is hot, a little tar mixed with the salve makes it stick better. I pulverize the vitriol by hanging up an iron pot or wash kettle, put in half a pound of vitriol and a cannon ball, and move the pot so that the ball will roll round on the vitriol and it will pulverize it as fine as wheat flour.

MANURE HEATING.—H. T. B. need take no fear the dung or straw in sheep sheds will heat if kept dry, and all sheds should be water-tight. Whoever saw dung or straw heat without it got water, and a good deal of it. See RURAL NEW-YORKER, Jan. 5th, page 6.

SCAB ON THE EYES OF CATTLE.—If W. W. CHAPMAN will rub a little unguentum on the eye lids of his cattle, it will cure the scab he mentions, but he must be very careful to put on very little. I have known some very valuable cattle killed by applying too much, and letting out in cold storms immediately afterwards. Put on a very little, rub all over the diseased part, and a little outside of the scabby place. The first application generally will effect a cure.

Twelve cents worth of unguentum will cure a dozen cattle, else they are worse than any I have seen. Will Mr. CHAPMAN please report after he has seen the effect of the unguentum? JOHN JOHNSTON, Near Geneva, N. Y., 1861.

The Bee-keeper

A Hive with Movable Frames. EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In a late number of your valuable paper, you have answered an inquiry about feeding bees, and in your remarks you speak of a hive with frames. Now, I am trying to get a start in the "bee line," and want to get a right start, and as I have never seen a hive made as you speak of, if it will not be asking too much, I should like a description of the hive, or a description of the best hive in use that is practicable for a farmer to have.—C. D. TRWASKERY, Lamotte, Ill., 1861.

THE HIVE spoken of is one with movable frames, something like picture frames, inside of which the bees make the comb. These frames can be taken out at any time and examined, to ascertain the quantity of honey stored for winter, to exterminate the bee moth, or for any other purpose. This may be considered a hazardous system by those not acquainted with bees; but a little tobacco smoke will quiet the bees so that they may be examined with safety. The timid may use the bee-hat, made of wire, and then there is not the least danger. This hive gives the keeper entire control of his bees; and he does not, therefore, work in the dark or depend upon good luck for success. This system of keeping bees was first practiced, we think, by DZIERZON, of Prussia, in 1845; but instead of a frame he used only a cross-bar, so that the comb was attached to the hive on the sides, and in moving them it was necessary to use the knife to detach them. This plan was improved upon, if our memory serves us correctly, by Baron BERLEPSCH, who invented the square frames so that the combs could be removed without the least injury. About the same time, and without knowing what was doing in Germany, an invalid minister, forced to seek outdoor exercise, Rev. L. LANGSTROTH, undertook for his amusement the study of the honey-bee, and invented and patented a hive very much like that of DZIERZON, as improved by BERLEPSCH, with movable frames. The right to make any number of hives the purchaser may need is sold, we believe, for \$5, and may be obtained for any of the Western States, of R. C. OTIS, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, with all necessary descriptions. They are simple, and can be made by any one handy with tools, at a small cost. We have not the least interest in this or any other hive, but this seems to be the only sensible way of keeping and caring for bees. We have used these hives for some years, so we speak from experience. If the experience of other bee-keepers differs from ours, we will cheerfully publish the facts, as our only object is to elicit truth.

Size of Colonies.

1. On the 16th of June, 1855, I prepared two hives, by inserting in each a set of sixteen frames furnished with guide comb. Both sets were of exactly the same weight, and were arranged in two tiers, in the same manner in each hive. I then introduced in the one a swarm of bees weighing six pounds, and in the other a swarm weighing three pounds, and gave them queens which, judging by the hives they were taken from, were equally fertile. On the 8th of October following, when all the brood had emerged in each, I took out the frames, and brushing off the bees carefully, weighed each set separately. On deducting the weight of the frames and guide combs, I found that the combs built and filled by the six-pound colony weighed 40 pounds 64 oz., and those built by the three-pound colony weighed 17 pounds. The product, in combs and honey, of the larger colony was thus ascertained to be 6 pounds 64 oz., or more than twice the product of the smaller colony; and this excess was the result, exclusively, of the greater working force which that colony had from the start. This experiment shows that three pounds of bees are insufficient to enable a colony to labor advantageously.

2. I repeated the experiment in the same manner in 1856, excepting that I gave the weaker colony four pounds of bees. The season was unfavorable, and on the 15th of October, the stronger colony had produced only 19 pounds 2 oz. of combs and honey, and the small 10 pounds 9 oz. Hence the stronger had produced, proportionally, only 3 pounds 44 oz. more than the weaker.

3. Simultaneously with this second experiment, I fitted up another hive in like manner, and introduced in it a swarm weighing five pounds. Weighing the product of this colony at the same time in October, it proved to be 15 pounds 15 oz. I judged hence that six pounds of bees was probably about the weight which a swarm or colony should have when hived.

4. In 1857, which was an unusually good honey year in my neighborhood, I again repeated these experiments, giving the stronger colony seven pounds of bees, and the weaker six pounds. The result, as ascertained in October, when all the brood had emerged, was that the stronger colony had produced 50 pounds, and the weaker 50 pounds 11 ounces. These experiments are certainly not to be regarded as furnishing a rule applicable under all circumstances and in all localities. But they show that in a comparatively poor honey district, such as mine is, a swarm should contain about six pounds of bees, in order to be able to labor to most advantage. Some important particulars also require to be taken into consideration, when bees are to be weighed. Those with which I experimented were taken from clusters hanging outside of their respective hives, and may be supposed to have had comparatively little honey in their stomachs. One hundred and seventy-seven of them weighed half an ounce—being at the rate of five thousand to the pound. When about to swarm, bees naturally, or instinctively, gorge themselves with honey; and at such times one hundred and twenty-five would probably weigh half an ounce, or four thousand to the pound.—BERLEPSCH, in American Bee Journal.

The Bee Annoyance in California.

SINCE the extensive importation and production of bees in California, they have become, in many respects, a source of great annoyance. The house-keeper, in cooking, the grocer and fruit dealer, all have them swarming by hundreds, and perhaps thousands, around their premises, rivaling the house fly in troublesome propensities. A Sacramento coal dealer recently obtained a quantity of coal which had a case of molasses broken over it. When the coal was brought into the yard, the bees collected in such quantities that he spent half a day with a hose in washing off the coal in order to remove the temptation. They have partially destroyed the produce of several vineyards near Sacramento; when the grapes were gathered it was found that the little thieves had extracted the juice. As a matter of course, a large number of bees are necessarily destroyed while poach-

ing on forbidden ground. Is there no remedy for these difficulties? asks the Sacramento News. Can bees be kept from annoying everybody but their owners, and at the same time preserve their own lives? or must the evils complained of continue to increase in magnitude?

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Fast Work Wanted.

THE editor of the Connecticut Homestead having attended a county fair where a new race track had just been completed, and fired into enthusiasm by the spirit of the occasion, takes a prophetic glance at the results of the general adoption of race courses. He does not overlook foot races, as an efficient means of limbering the joints of stupid laborers,—proposes a race of wheelbarrows, loaded with 300 pounds of dirt, best two in three, half-mile heats, as a means of quickening the pace of Michael and Patrick,—thinks that cow races would be useful for animals that frequent poor pastures, as many now cannot travel far enough in a day to fill their stomachs on the scant herbage,—and does not forget that many cats miss their prey from a want of greater quickness, and he therefore proposes cat races, as a means of preventing the heavy deprivations now committed, and thinks if cats generally could be brought up to a 2.40 speed, it would prove the salvation of many a grain bin and root cellar. He even asserts that many a hen brings up a lean, half-starved brood of chickens, for want of higher activity in scratching, and thinks some means should be devised to bring them up to the scratch. He is of opinion that when horse racing becomes universally popular, that mothers will name their children after fast animals, "and the Bibles will be lit up with blazonry of modern horse nomenclature, as for example, Flora Temple Smith, born Oct. 10, 1860—Patchen Smith, Nov. 1, 1861."

A Plea for the Birds.

HON. SAMUEL A. LAW, of Meredith, in this State, and for the last three years Member of Assembly from Delaware County, has written a communication upon the Act of last winter, one section of which forbids the killing at any time of the nightingale, night-hawk, blue bird, yellow bird, Baltimore oriole, finch, thrush, lark, sparrow, martin, swallow, robin, or bobolink, between the first day of February and the first day of September, under a penalty of fifty cents for each bird killed. The reason for the passage of this law he states to be the agency of these birds in preventing the increase of noxious insects. It has been urged that the robin was so destructive to cherries and strawberries, as to justify its destruction. This opinion, Prof. J. W. P. JENKS, of Middleboro', Massachusetts, has successfully refuted. The plan adopted by him was, to obtain birds at day-break, mid-day, and sunset; to obtain them from village and country; and to preserve the contents of their gizzards. He demonstrated conclusively that insects injurious to vegetation constitute the natural and preferred food of the robin, and that during two-thirds of the year the bird takes no vegetable food whatever. Whenever vegetable food was found in the body, it was only in limited quantities, and mixed with insect food. This was only in the months of June, July, August and September, and then the vegetable products consisted mainly of elderberries and pokeberries. The edible fruits destroyed were in too minute quantities to warrant complaint.

Experiments with Potatoes.

THE following statement of experiments in the cultivation of potatoes, made by GEORGE R. UNDERHILL, Queens Co., N. Y., was communicated to the American Agriculturist, by the Secretary of the Glen Cove Farmers' Club.

Planted 4½ acres of land with Mercer potatoes in furrows 2½ feet apart. Harvested 1270 bushels. Average yield per acre 260 bushels.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Crop sold for \$652.00, Cost of Manure \$392.00, Expenses of Culture \$110.00, Cost of Seed \$25.00, Total Expenses \$627.00, Net Profits (25.64 per acre) \$125.00.

Three plots were set off, and the potatoes carefully measured, for the purpose of testing the comparative profit from the use of different kinds and qualities of manure; the results of the experiments were as follows:

Plot No. 1, containing one acre, was enriched with 100 loads of New York stable manure, and 350 lbs. guano per acre. The manure was placed in the bottom of the furrows, the guano sowed on it, and the potatoes dropped on both, and covered with a plow. Yield 250 bushels.

On Plot No. 2, containing one acre, used 150 loads old New York stable manure, and 350 lbs. guano per acre. Yield 308 bushels.

Plot No. 3, containing three quarters of an acre, on low damp ground, manured the same as No. 1—except four rows in which no guano was put—yielded at the rate per acre of 347 bushels.

The crops from rows in which guano was used, exceeded in value that in which there was none, at the rate per acre of \$54.00, Cost per acre for guano 10.00, Net gain by the addition of the guano 44.00.

With the exception of three of four rows on the lower side of the damp ground, in which the potatoes were nearly all decayed, there was not a bushel of rotten ones in the whole piece. The seed used, was about the size of hen's eggs, with the chit end taken off, and cut in two pieces.

Inquiries and Answers.

DURABILITY OF CHESTNUT TIMBER.—In renewing my subscription to the RURAL NEW-YORKER, I embrace the occasion to ask of any one who can furnish it (through the RURAL), some explanation, or confirmation, of an article in the RURAL of December 23d, taken from the Boston Cultivator, respecting "the durability of chestnut shingles." All my experience and observation with chestnut lumber, (contined, however, to weather boarding and fencing boards,) condemns it for any purpose where nails have to be used, on account of the nail hole, in a very few years, becoming large enough to slip over the nail head.—Geo. T. PAUL, Smithfield, Fayette Co., Va., 1861.

RIFE BOOTS AND SHOES.—Noticing in the RURAL of the 26th ult. the complaint of C. W., that boots and shoes were picked before fully ripe, I send you the following recipe for mauling them, and also rendering them water-proof. One-half pint neatfoot oil; 2 oz. beeswax; 2 oz. spermaceti; 6 oz. mutton tallow; 1½ oz. gutta serena,—mix over a slow fire, and apply while warm.—W. W. A., The Square, N. Y.

INCOMBUSTIBLE WHITE WASH.—In the RURAL of January 12th, I noticed an inquiry for fire-proof paint, or wash. I send you the following:—Pass fine, freshly-slaked lime through a fine sieve, and to six parts of the lime thus obtained, add one quart of the purest salt and one gallon of water, boil the mixture and skim it clean. Then, to every five gallons of this mixture, add one pound of alum; half pound of copperas, and put in slowly three-fourths pound of potash and four quarts of fine sand. It adheres firmly to wood or brick.—YOUNG SUBSCRIBER, Malone, N. Y.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE WEATHER.—Great and Sudden Changes.—In our last number brief mention was made of the weather—stating that for two months it had been remarkably pleasant for the season—that the temperature had been very uniform, with little snow, and fair sleighing almost continually during the winter, in this locality. The paper containing this favorable report had scarcely gone to press ere a great change occurred in the weather—a severe snow storm commencing on Wednesday night and continuing through the day following, (7th inst.) the mercury being 6 below zero at 2 P. M., and while the snow was falling rapidly. At 10 P. M. the mercury reached 16 below. High winds prevailed during the storm. About one foot of snow fell in twenty-four hours. We find on examination that many peach buds are destroyed, and fear the crop will prove an entire failure in this section. Late Saturday night the weather moderated materially; on Sunday and Monday the streets were flooded with water, and now (Tuesday A. M.) the sleighing has disappeared.

BEST BREED OF SWINE FOR THE WEST.—"Agricola," who professes to have had no little experience with the best breeds of swine known in the West, writes to the Valley Farmer that he places the Chester County White first on the list, without hesitation. He has found the hogs of this breed "perfectly hardy, prolific breeders, and good nurses; thriving well in our climate, and under good management attaining a weight of 400 to 500 lbs. with good treatment, at the age of from 12 to 18 months—and being, in fact, all that could be desired of a hog." It is also said they are quiet and peaceable, good graziers, and fatten readily at any age desired. After speaking well of the Berkshires and Suffolks, the writer concludes:—"But, taking all things into consideration, it will be difficult to find a breed possessing more good traits for Western men than the Chester White. And those who are raising hogs would find a cross of this breed of inestimable value. It would increase their size, improve their form, hasten their maturity, and, what is more important than all else, materially lessen the amount of food for a given number of pounds of pork. This, too, would be the case with all the breeds mentioned—but none of the other breeds combine so many excellent qualities."

UNPARALLELED FEUCINDITY.—A member of the Society of Friends, who resides in Cayuga county, sends us the following remarkable statement. He believes it to be perfectly reliable, as a relative knew something of the case, and had no doubt of the correctness of the account. Our friend writes:—"The following well authenticated statement exhibits an instance of extraordinary fecundity in a sow of the Chinese breed, which, it is believed, may challenge competition with any other upon record. She was in the possession of JOSEPH TRINBY, of Writtle Parish, in Essex, England. The fact is made public with the view of demonstrating the superiority of that breed (for fecundity) over perhaps that of any other. In six years (the time she lived, being killed by accident,) she had fifteen farrows of pigs, viz.—First farrow, 15—brought up 12; second, 16—brought up 10; third, 21—brought up 13; fourth, 18—brought up 12; fifth, 29—brought up 20; sixth, 24—brought up 12; seventh, 25—brought up 12; eighth, 15—brought up 11; ninth, 25—brought up 19; tenth, 21—brought up 9; eleventh, 25—brought up 11; twelfth, 21—brought up 11; thirteenth, 27—brought up 10; fourteenth, 11—brought up 10; fifteenth, 5—brought up 5. Farrowed 301—brought up 177, so that, dividing 177 by 6, the years she lived, she brought up 29 each year and 3 over, on an average. It may be remarked that it was the practice to allow but half the farrow to be with her at a time."

AMERICAN STOCK JOURNAL.—This valuable monthly entered upon its third volume in January, and, judging from its improved appearance and interesting and varied contents, must be achieving merited success. It is the only journal of its class in this country, and worthy the support of all specially engaged in breeding and improving domestic animals, or rendering them profitable. D. C. LINSLEY, Editor and Proprietor, No. 25 Park Row, New York. \$1 per annum.

CLINTON CO. OFFICERS.—President—F. L. C. SALLY, Plattsburgh. Secretary—Wm. H. Baily, Plattsburgh. Treasurer—Roswell O. Baker, Beekmantown.

Doings of Agricultural Societies.

NEW JERSEY STATE AG. SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this Society was held at Trenton, Jan. 15th. The report of the Executive Committee shows that the operations of the Society were successful during the past year—and that of Mr. Treasurer SEXTON confirms it, pecuniarily, by exhibiting a balance of \$2,603.19 in the treasury. Board of officers elected for 1861: President—N. N. HALSTED, Esq., Hudson county. Vice Presidents—A. W. Markley, Camden; N. S. Rue, Fillmore; A. V. Bonnel, Flemington; Henry Hilliard, Passaic; Benjamin Haines, Elizabeth. Secretary—Wm. M. Force, Trenton. Treasurer—C. M. Saxton, Orange. Executive Committee—E. A. Doughty, Atlantic Co.; John C. Deacon, Burlington; Cornelius Forner, Bergen; John R. Graham, Camden; Hon. Downs Edmonds, Jr., Cape May; Benjamin F. Lee, Gloucester; John C. Littell, Essex; Col. John B. Jessup, Cumberland; C. Van Vorst, Hudson; David Sanderson, Hunterdon; U. B. Tibbs, Mercer; I. S. Buckalew, Middlesex; Dr. A. V. Conover, Monmouth; B. S. Condit, Morris; John S. Forman, Ocean; M. J. Ryerson, Passaic; Hon. Joseph K. Riley, Salem; Joseph Thompson, Somerset; Thomas Lawrence, Sussex; William Reid, Union; Philip F. Brakesy, Warren. A General Committee was also appointed, consisting of as many members in each county as there are members in the House of Assembly.

ILLINOIS STATE AG. SOCIETY.—Officers for 1861-2: President—W. H. VAN EPPS, Dixon. Executive Committee—Lewis Ellsworth, Ex-President, Naperville, and the following Vice Presidents—C. B. Denio, Galena; A. J. Matison, Galena; R. H. Holder, Bloomington; R. H. Whiting, Prolestown; J. W. Singleton, Quincy; A. B. McConnell, Springfield; Wm. Kile, Paris; W. S. Wait, Greenville; H. S. Osburn, Pinckneyville. Board of Councilors—Ex-Presidents Jas. N. Brown, Berlin; H. C. Johns, Decatur; C. W. Webster, Salem. Treasurer—J. W. Bann, Springfield. Rec. Secretary—John Cook, Springfield. Cor. Secretary—John P. Reynolds. The Fair for 1861 is to be held at Chicago, Sept. 9-14. The Society offers cash premiums amounting to \$20,000. Citizens prizes, \$2,000. The Illinois Society must be in a prosperous condition to announce such liberal prizes.

NEW YORK LOCAL SOCIETIES.

ONTARIO CO. AG. SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was held at Canandaigua, on the 6th inst. Officers elected for 1861: President—LINDLEY W. SMITH, Farmington. The other officers are the same as last year, viz.: Vice Presidents—W. G. Donilon, C. Edward Shepard, Theo. Sprague, John Robinson, John H. Benham, Sanford G. Angevine, Lester Sprague, David E. Hammond, Wm. Johnson, Shotwell Powell, Jared H. Boughton, Hiram Tat, Joshua Swan. Cor. Secretary—Gideon Granger, Canandaigua. Rec. Secretary—John W. Holberton, Canandaigua. Treasurer—George Gorham, Canandaigua.

THE SENeca FALLS UNION AG. SOCIETY last week elected the following officers for 1861: President—Geo. W. RANDALL. Vice-President—John Cuddeback. Secretary—Simeon Holton. Treasurer—Fred R. Mandy. Directors—Philo Cowing, Lyman F. Crowell, John G. Hoster, John Lautenschlager, Stephen G. Armstrong, J. B. C. Vreeland. This Society held its first Fair last season. Its entire receipts were \$1,405.67—expenditures, \$1,032.28—leaving a balance of \$373.44 in the treasury. This is an excellent beginning. The Courier says: "Efforts are to be made to have the Society incorporated by the Legislature, and we have no doubt that it will soon become one of the most prosperous Agricultural Societies of the State."

CANASERAGA AG. AND MECH. SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, held at Danville, on the 2d inst., the following officers were elected: President—HUGH McCARTNEY. Vice Presidents—Lester B. Faulkner, H. Dyer, W. W. Healey, W. T. Oatis, Geo. Coe. Secretary—Geo. A. Sanders. Treasurer—T. B. Grant.

DRYDEN AG. SOCIETY (Tompkins Co.)—Officers for 1861: President—PETER V. SNYDER. Vice President—Charles Givens. Secretary—A. F. Houpt. Treasurer—Eli Spear. Directors—Jackson Jamison, Oliver Tyler. Fair to be held the last of September.

HORTICULTURAL.

HORTICULTURE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

We are indebted to the Secretary, EBEN WRIGHT, Esq., for a copy of the Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for 1860, a neat pamphlet of ninety-five pages.

The Committee on Ornamental Gardening visited the Woodlawn Cemetery, where they found everything kept in a very neat and tasteful manner, and were particularly pleased with many plants of that beautiful and too much neglected shrub, *Kalmia latifolia*, growing in the grounds, which were the most perfect they had ever seen.

The COMMITTEE ON FLOWERS report that the past season has been remarkably favorable for the production of flowers, and the floral shows were far superior to that of past years.

The COMMITTEE ON FRUITS say that winter fruit, apples and pears, have ripened up a month or more earlier this year than usual, while the pears have an unusual tendency to decay.

STRAWBERRIES.—The Committee say that no variety is more profitable than Hovey's Seedling when well cultivated. The Jenny Lind is a favorite variety to grow with the Hovey.

La Constance.—This is a new French variety exhibited for the first time this season, by Hovey & Co. Fruit very large, color of Hovey's Seedling, of regular conical form, quite firm, flavor good, great bearer, and may prove a valuable variety for amateurs.

Wonderful.—A new English variety, large size, coxcomb shape, dark color, firm, flavor good; said to be very productive.

May Queen.—Same origin as the last; small, early, flavor fair; same season as Jenny Lind; not desirable.

Bonte de St. Julien.—A foreign sort. Fruit large, color rich crimson, coxcomb shape, flavor peculiar, great bearer.

Duke de Malakoff.—Large size, color dark, flavor decidedly poor, not worthy of cultivation.

La Belle Bordelaise.—A French variety of strong Hautbois flavor, highly esteemed by some and as strongly disliked by others; very productive. To amateurs, who are fond of a strawberry of this flavor, it is of value.

Every one would not indorse the last remark regarding the quality of foreign strawberries.

Cherries.—The Black Tartarian takes the lead for size and quality. Black Eagle was as fine as usual. The Cumberland appeared very well. The Downer is, perhaps, all things considered, one of the most valuable sorts. It is grown extensively for market.

Raspberries.—The varieties most extensively cultivated are Franconia, which is grown by market gardeners; Knevett's Giant, which does not bear transportation as well as the former variety; though a very much better fruit; and the Brinckle's Orange, which is very handsome and productive, but not a favorite with the market farmers.

Currants.—A new and very pretty currant, the Glorie of Sablons, has been introduced from France. It is very small, acid, and valuable only on account of its unique and pretty striped appearance. The Cherry Currant, which is extensively cultivated, is a very large, coarse, acid variety, of decidedly poor quality. It may do for a market fruit until it is more fully known.

Gooseberries.—Two or three contributed English sorts grown to great perfection. Of the American varieties, Houghton's Seedling and Mountain Seedling take the lead. The latter is a new sort that originated among the Shakers at New Lebanon, New York, and on account of its erect habit, great productiveness, good size, and freedom from mildew, promises to be a valuable acquisition, though the fruit is not of the very highest quality.

Blackberries.—The Dorchester seems to be the favorite, while the Lawton is not extensively cultivated.

Peaches.—The crop of peaches was good this year, and some splendid specimens of Coolidge's Favorite, Crawford's Early, and other well known sorts, were on our tables. There is strong reason to believe that the peach is recovering from its diseased condition, and that we shall again be able to raise peaches as of old.

Grapes.—The crop of grapes this year has been almost an entire failure. We are obliged to go without grapes two years out of three. Even the Concord, that is claimed to be ten days or a fortnight earlier than the Isabella, did not, as a general thing, ripen this year. What is true of this variety, is true of all varieties of good quality. A few Diana, Delaware, Hartford Prolific, and other grapes, were shown, of very satisfactory appearance.

Allen's Hybrid and Allen's No. 13 were on exhibition several times, and were tested by your Committee.

The former is a grape of the best quality, and said to be hardy. If such should prove to be the case, and our seasons will allow of its ripening, it must be a valuable sort. Of the No. 13 we cannot say as much in praise, though time may prove it to be equally valuable. A grape was sent to the Society called the Union, but your Committee believe it to be identical with Ontario. It is evident that the cultivation of hardy grapes in this State has thus far been nearly or quite a failure; and yet every year there are new varieties announced that are superior to all others, the best grape in

THE OPORTO GRAPE.

AMONG the new grapes we had an opportunity to examine the past season was the Oporto, shown by E. WARE SYLVESTER, of Lyons, N. Y. It is a black grape, and we have no doubt is a native. It will never become popular for eating, but is very strongly recommended for wine.

Mr. SYLVESTER furnishes us with the following facts in regard to this grape, and also an engraving of a bunch which was taken by our engraver from a cluster of the fruit the past autumn:

"A few years since my attention was directed to a grape cultivated by farmers and amateurs in this vicinity, for the manufacture of wine for medicinal, sacramental, and social purposes. The cut is a good representation, drawn by actual measurement from a cluster this season. The skin is black, covered with bloom; the juice is thick, and when fully ripe, dark red, staining the hands a purple color, and imparting to [wine made from it, without water, the dark color usual to Port wine.

There is an opinion that the original vine was given to Miss or Mrs. Dunlap, by a ship captain, and that he brought it direct from the city of Oporto, which would make it a foreign grape; but the growth of the wood, the shape and texture of the leaves, its perfect hardiness, with the vines never laid down, in lat. 43 deg. north, lead me to the conclusion that it is an American seedling, though it may be the child of foreign parents.

The wine made from it has the flavor and peculiar



bouquet of old Port, and is pronounced by good judges nearly or quite equal to the best imported Port; and there is no doubt in my own mind that from this vine may be manufactured a wine which would supersede the foreign article."

the world, and to be just what the public need, which, after a fair trial, prove to be no better, if as good as the old and well known varieties.

Pears.—The crop of this fruit has been remarkably large this year. Never, in the history of the country, have pears sold so low in Boston market as during the month of September of last year. Bartlett pears, of good quality, sold as low as two dollars per bushel, while those of inferior quality sold at a still lower rate. The question is often asked, what varieties shall we raise? One of our intelligent cultivators will answer, plant for six varieties, Bartlett, Seckel, Beurre Bosc, Fulton, Winter Nelis, and Buffum. Another would add, or substitute, Beurre d'Anjou, Merrim, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Flemish Beauty, Sheldon, Swan's Orange, and other sorts. The Glout Morecean has done unusually well this year. It is pretty certain if a soil is at all adapted to the production of pears, one cannot get far astray, if he plants these sorts, while experience may teach him that there are other varieties that can be grown to profit.

Particular attention is given by the Committee to seedlings, which we shall notice hereafter.

THE COMMITTEE ON VEGETABLES make some very sensible remarks on the importance of the kitchen garden. "The kitchen garden is often regarded by those who may be following larger and more complicated pursuits of life, as a spot hardly deserving notice; yet to the intelligent and reflecting mind, what place can be made more attractive? No land pays a higher rate of interest than a well managed kitchen garden, and the quantity of vegetables it may be made to produce, under proper cultivation, is really astonishing. The eye, as well as the other senses, cannot fail to be pleased by a well stocked vegetable garden; it not only contributes largely to good living, but also to healthy exercise and refinement."

The Victoria Marrow pea is stated to be worthy the attention of every cultivator of this delicious vegetable. It is very productive, but not as early as the Champion of England. The Early Daniel O'Rourke pea is one of the earliest and most productive; a well grown peck measure of them, even full, will weigh in the pods about seven-and-a-half pounds. Myatt's Linneus rhubarb is recommended as the best early, and Victoria the best late. The Caboon does not merit cultivation in Massachusetts. The best favored variety ever tasted by the Committee is a seedling variety called Early Prince Imperial. It is peculiarly adapted to family use, though it may not prove sufficiently productive for the market gardener. The Hubbard squash is still receiving the highest praise from all that desire a fine squash for the table. A special premium in plate, valued at \$25, was awarded to JAMES J. H. GREGORY for its introduction. This is right. If Mr. GREGORY will now discard every other squash and grow pure seed, he will confer a still greater benefit upon community. Unless this is done we fear that in a few years it will be impossible to obtain pure seed of this valuable squash, which we consider the only winter variety worthy of cultivation

AMERICAN NUTS.

OUR fondness for everything foreign sends us abroad for many things, which, after all the trouble and expense necessary to obtain them, are no better, sometimes really inferior, to what we have at home. This unpatriotic partiality for the products of other countries, to the neglect of what grows or may be grown on our own soil, or manufactured in our shops, has long been the subject of severe reproach by our public speakers and writers; especially political economists of the Protectionist school; and much logic and some force has been expended to teach our people that iron, wool, flax, silk, &c., and their manufactures can be as successfully produced here as elsewhere. With no intention of invoking legislative aid for the encouragement of American nut-growing, and no ambition to convince the American producer that foreign nut-bearing trees may be so reconciled to our soil and climate as to yield fruit in their native abundance and perfection, I call attention to the subject for the sake of pointing out the comparative neglect with which the American nut-eating public treat the fruits of our own forest trees, and the, perhaps, consequent indifference cultivators feel in regard to this branch of agricultural economy.

That the different kinds of American nuts, with perhaps the occasional exception of chestnuts, are accounted by our people inferior to the foreign varieties, is plainly manifest in groceries and on hotel tables. Go into any establishment of the former kind, of any pretension, and inquire for almonds, filberts, English walnuts, Brazil nuts, and what you

ask for is almost sure to be produced; call at the same place for black walnuts, butternuts, hickory nuts, chestnuts, beech nuts, and there is no probability that you will find all, quite likely none of them. So, too, at public houses where nuts form part of the dessert at dinner, the table is invariably supplied with imported varieties, to the (so far as my experience goes,) utter exclusion of native sorts. Indeed, to such an extent is the prejudice in favor of foreign over home grown nuts carried, that there is little doubt a majority of our city population, as well as scores of country people, are more familiar with the flavor of almonds and Brazil nuts than that of butternuts and hickory nuts. It is with American nuts somewhat as with American fruits; hundreds of children living in the country, in localities well adapted to the growth of the finest fruits, eat their half dozen or more oranges each summer, who have never tasted or seen a pear or peach of any but the commonest kinds.

A comparison of the flavors of domestic with those of foreign nuts must convince any unprejudiced judge that the preference shown by us to the latter is not founded solely on their superior merit. Take, for instance, the black walnut and the Brazil nut, the former, perhaps the coarsest of native, the latter, one of the least delicate of foreign nuts, and what advantage has the Brazil nut over the walnut, that tempts us to buy the one while bushels of the other are suffered to go to waste on our farms? Let specimens of both be submitted to an uneducated taste—one that has not learned to inquire under what sun a fruit was ripened before it can judge of its qualities—and I think the probabilities are, that the Brazil nut will be voted rank and greasy in comparison with the other. The almond probably stands first of all nuts in general estimation, and so far as flavor is concerned, it is perhaps entitled to this distinction; but it has an objectionable dryness and consequent hardness, rendering it more difficult of mastication, and less satisfactory than if it possessed greater moisture; comparing its excellencies with those of my favorite nut, I think the almond needs its artificial advantages of foreign growth, importation and high price to enable it to keep place above the rich, fine, plump, well cured fruit of the hickory. Then, there is the delicious butternut—the best of them fully equal to the English walnut, and far superior to the filbert—and the beech nut, small, but of exquisite sweetness—if it were not vulgar to choose American nuts, what need would there be of bringing hither those of foreign countries at such expenditure of money, except for the satisfaction of curiosity, or to make up a deficiency in the home supply? The impression seems to be that our domestic nuts, which can be had for the picking up, are of no value—well enough for children, perhaps,—but that only the choice kinds, such as are brought long distances, and cost much money, are worthy the attention of grown-up people.

But the low opinion in which American nuts are held by our own population, ought not to discourage the raising of them; its effect should be rather to stimulate attempts to improve and popularize them. The inferior lots of domestic nuts which are often brought to market, are, perhaps, a partial excuse for the preference of nut-eaters for foreign varieties. Doubtless many persons who have bought and eaten chestnuts and hickory nuts have never opened a plump, full-sized, full-flavored specimen of either kind. It is a principle in Political Economy, that demand creates supply; the converse of this is true in an important sense; the production of an article of improved quality excites demand where none existed for the original or inferior type. That our domestic nuts are susceptible of some degree of improvement we can easily believe by comparing the fruit produced by different trees of the same kind. From one chestnut, or hickory, or butternut tree you will gather large, plump, full-meated, sweet-tasting nuts; another produces small, shriveled, mean-flavored ones. My limited experience in nut-gathering goes to show that the quality and abundance of the fruit depend, in a great measure, on the situation of the tree. I have picked up more and larger chestnuts under a tree standing out in a field, apart from other, or, at least, many other trees, than I could ever find under one of the same kind in the woods. Yet, a favorable situation does not always insure good fruit; there seems to be a difference in the nature of trees of the same kind. I know a fine, thrifty hickory standing in a cultivated field, many rods from any other tree, which has always borne fruit of small size and of second-rate quality.

This subject of the improvement of American nuts is well worthy the attention of amateur as well as professional fruit-growers. If it be true that nut-bearing trees yield more and better fruit in an open exposure than in a close forest, to what point of excellence might not their products be brought by careful cultivation. Is there any reason why they should not be susceptible of improvement as well as the apple, peach, pear, plum, cherry, or strawberry? Thanks to those who have devoted themselves to the production of new and improved kinds of this latter and similar fruits, we have now an abundant supply of them, answering to every shade of appetite, and extending through the whole season from spring till late autumn. Apples, indeed, we have in winter, and pears and grapes may, in time, come to be common at that season; but nuts seem designed to complete the variety of winter fruits. Their rich, concentrated, oily nature indicates their peculiar fitness as food for cold weather. Then, let each of us plant a few seeds of nut-bearing trees, the best we can obtain—and try what garden culture will do for them. They will at least serve for ornament; and what nobler shade tree can be desired than a well-grown chestnut or hickory? Indeed, the walnut, butternut, and beech are far handsomer than the universal locust. And let us live in anticipation of the day when our DOWNINGS, WILDEBS, KIRTLANDS, ELLWANGERS, BARRYS, and others, may give their names to improved varieties of American nuts.

South Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

PEACHES AND PEACH BORER.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Now that general attention is being directed to the choicer kinds of fruits, especially dwarf peaches and grapes, is not that old favorite, the peach, somewhat neglected. Being interested prospectively in quite an extensive young orchard of the latter, I have watched your very useful paper with unusual anxiety for "practical notes," from successful cultivators, of this noble, but rather transient fruit. The peach is popularly regarded as the most delicious orchard fruit of our climate; and certainly in a pecuniary view, considering its early bearing, its adaptability to rather poor soils, and the small amount of labor required, it stands at the head of them all, at least in those sections of our country known as "the peach districts." The large amount of money drawn from some of the cities during the "peach season," is a fact worthy of note by suburban farmers in places where this fruit is known to succeed very well. From a pretty close observation for several years past, I am of the opinion that Michigan will soon rank as a great fruit-growing State. Apples, pears, grapes, and strawberries, have yielded in profusion, and all who witnessed our peach trees, literally loaded down with Red and Yellow Rare Ripes, the past season, will agree with me that the peach orchard (precarious though it may be in some seasons) is an "institution" that will not be ignored by us at present.

I would recommend setting the trees one rod apart in the rows, and the following varieties as the best shippers, and most profitable for a successional orchard here,—ripening through six weeks, usually from the middle or last week in August, viz:—Troth's Early Red, Serrate Early York, Grosse Mignonne, Coolidge's Favorite, Large Early York, Yellow Rare Ripe, Crawford's Early, Old Mixon Free, Red Cheek Melocoton, and Crawford Late. The only formidable enemy to the peach tree in this part of the West, is the "Grub," or larva of the *Egeria Excitiosa*, which works between the bark and the wood near the collar, and therefore much easier reached than the "Apple Borer," which encases itself, through a tortuous course, in the hard wood.

Nearly all the supposed winter-killed peach trees that have come under my observation, were those first undermined, or girdled, through total neglect of heading this insidious destroyer. I have been reviewing pretty carefully the score of preventives that have been suggested, and have come to the conclusion that the simplest, and therefore the most practical way of abating this nuisance, is the heaping of mounds of earth, eight or twelve inches high, around the base of the tree, after a thorough knife worming in May. The earth may be leveled, and the tree re-examined, late in the fall, after the Beetle has ceased laying her eggs, which is usually done in June and September.

It would be perhaps useless to enter into a lengthy explanation of the rationale of this treatment,—but would state that the plan has been found to work well in practice, where carried out faithfully every year.

Grand Rapids, Mich., 1861.

Horticultural Notes.

WEATHER AT NEWBURGH.—MR. DOWNING writes us, February 8th:—"Very cold again this morning, 14° below zero,—yet, on the whole, we have had a mild, pleasant winter, except a few very cold days. January 13th, 20° below zero. Peach buds all killed."

GENESEE VALLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this Society was held at the Court House, Rochester, on the 8th inst., and the following officers elected for the ensuing year: President—JAMES VICK. Vice Presidents—J. Angus Gould, L. A. Ward, Wm. A. Reynolds. Secretary—C. W. Seelye. Treasurer—F. W. Glen.

CHICAGO GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.—The annual election of this Society took place on Monday, January 7th, at Chicago, Ill., when the following officers were elected: President—C. D. BRADGON. Vice Presidents—J. Worthington, C. Layton. Secretary—Edgar Saunders. Treasurer—J. C. Ure. Executive Board—C. D. Bradgon, J. Worthington, J. C. Ure, J. C. Grant, A. T. Williams. Librarian—William Lombard.

LOSS OF THE PEACH CROP.—The severe cold of Thursday night, the 6th inst., has no doubt destroyed the peach buds in this section of the State, and over a large extent of country. The thermometer, in sheltered places in this city, indicated 13° below zero, but in some exposed places in the country, it was lower. We have examined buds from several orchards, and have not yet found one sound, or that would produce fruit.

Inquiries and Answers.

PEARS ON QUINCE STOCK.—What kinds of pears flourish best on quince stock? Will the Louise Bonne de Jersey do well? What time is best to graft?—I. H. M., Saguit, N. Y.

Louise Bonne de Jersey does well on quince—nothing better. Our nurserymen have not yet found out all the varieties that are adapted to dwarf culture, but enough is known to furnish a good list. In addition to the one mentioned, there is—Doyenne d'Été, Thyson, Rostiezer, Beurre Diel, Buffum, Stevens' Genesee, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Vicar of Winkfield, Glout Morecean, and many others that do admirably on the quince root by budding, which may be done as soon as the buds are sufficiently matured. The American Pomological Society recommend the following varieties for quince culture:—Beurre Superfin, Beurre Hardy, Buffum, Belle Lucrative, Belle Epine Dumas, Beurre d'Amaluis, Beurre d'Anjou, Beurre Diel, Beurre Langeller, Catillac, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Doyenne d'Alencon, Eater Beurre, Figue d'Alencon, Glout Morecean, Louise Bonne de Jersey,

Napoleon, Nouveau Poitean, Rostiezer, Soldat Laboureur, St. Michael Archange, Urbaniste, Uvedales St. Germain, (for baking,) Vicar of Winkfield, White Doyenne.

SAVING APPLE SEEDS.—Will you, or some of your subscribers of experience in the nursery business, inform me the best way of sowing apple seeds for raising seedlings for grafting? Whether it would be proper to freeze the seeds, or soak them in water before sowing, or not?—A SUBSCRIBER, Holley, N. Y., 1861.

We would mix the apple seeds at once with sand, slightly moist, and put it away in a cool place, secure from mice, until time for planting, which is as soon as the ground is in working order. Apple seeds, as soon as taken from the pome in the fall, should be dried and stored away as described, if not planted at once. We once knew a lot of apple seeds so much dried when received as to be considered worthless. They were placed in a barrel with warm water, and allowed to soak for six hours. Then taken out and partially dried, and placed in boxes, with sand, for about ten days, and planted. Nearly all vegetated.

Domestic Economy.

RECIPES FOR ICE CREAM.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In reply to ANNIE I would say, take one quart of new milk, add half pound coffee sugar, half dozen well beaten eggs, and scald until it nearly boils. After it becomes cold, add flavor to the taste, and freeze as soon as you can. This recipe I have used in my business for several years, and find it as good as any I am acquainted with.—CONFECTIONER, Homer, N. Y., 1861.

To one quart of milk add one teaspoon white sugar. Heat the milk scalding hot (with care not to scorch it), add to the milk four eggs, well beaten, and let it cook till as thick as porridge. Season with strawberry, or to suit the taste. Stir occasionally while cooling and freezing.—JENNIE, Abington, Pa.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In your issue for Jan. 26, "ANNIE," of Brockport, wishes some of your readers to send a recipe for making Ice Cream.

WHIPPED ICE CREAM.—To one quart of milk add three teaspoonsful of flour, stir it very smooth and boil over a slow fire till it is cooked. Set away to cool, then sweeten quite sweet, and flavor to your taste. To every quart add three pints or two quarts of thick cream. (Sweet cream of course.) Whip the cream and mix it in. Judge by the taste whether it is flavored and sweetened enough; if not, add more, stirring it thoroughly, and then freeze.

PHILADELPHIA ICE CREAM.—Two quarts of sweet cream; three spoonfuls of arrow root; whites of eight eggs, well beaten; one pound of loaf sugar. Boil the milk, thicken with the arrow root, and pour the whole on the eggs. Flavor and freeze.

The rule for freezing it is to use one-third salt and two-thirds ice, chopped fine.—RURAL READER, Palermo, N. Y., 1861.

A BATCH OF CAKES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—As I have some good recipes which I have not seen in your paper, and thinking that they might not come amiss, I send you some. If these meet with a good reception, I will try again.

SILVER CAKE.—Two cups white sugar; 1 cup butter; 1 cup sweet milk; the whites of six eggs beaten to a stiff froth; teaspoonful cream tartar; half do. soda.

GOLD CAKE.—Two cups brown sugar; two-thirds cup butter; two-thirds cup sweet milk; yolks of six eggs, and one whole egg; 1 teaspoonful cream tartar; half teaspoonful soda.

SODA JELLY CAKE.—One cup sweet cream; 2 cups sugar; 2 eggs; half teaspoonful soda; 1 of cream tartar; flour to the consistency of batter cakes. Bake on tins about an inch thick, pile on a plate with a layer of jelly between each.

DONATION CAKE.—One and three-fourths pounds sugar; 1 pound butter; 1½ pounds flour; 1 pint sweet milk; 5 eggs; teaspoonful soda; fruit if you please.

I have tried the whole of these and know them to be good. JENNIE PERKINS. Huntington, Feb. 1861.

THE TOOTHACHE.—An exchange gives the following:—"My dear friend," said H., "I can cure your toothache in ten minutes." "How? how?" I inquired. "Do it in pity." "Instantly," said he. "Have you any alum?" "Yes." "Bring it and some common salt." They were produced. My friend pulverized them, mixed them in equal quantities, then wet a small piece of cotton, causing the mixed powder to adhere, and placed it in my hollow tooth. "There," said he, "if that does not cure you I will forfeit my head. You may tell this to every one, and publish it every where. The remedy is infallible." It was as he predicted. On the introduction of the mixed alum and salt, I experienced a sensation of coldness, and with it—the alum and salt—I cured the torment of the toothache.

HOW TO CURE BACON.—In answer to the question, "how to cure bacon by the mild process," a late number of the *Irish Gazette* gives the following directions:—"Singe off the hair, and scrape thoroughly clean; when cut up, rub the flesh side well with common salt, and pack the pieces on top of each other on a tray with a gutter round it to catch the brine; once every four or five days the salt should be changed, and the bitches moved, placing those on top at the bottom; five or six weeks of this treatment will suffice to cure the bacon, when they may be hung up to dry, first rubbing them over with coarse bran, or any sort of sawdust except deal; if smoking be preferred, hang in a chimney; if not, in a dry, airy part of the kitchen not too near the fire.

WISCONSIN CAKE.—One cup milk; two eggs; one cup sugar; half cup butter; two cups flour; two teaspoons cream tartar, one soda.

GINGER DROP CAKE.—Two cups molasses; one of butter; one of sweet milk; one spoonful of ginger; half do. of cinnamon; half tablespoonful saleratus; stir and drop on buttered tins.—NELLIE, Le Roy, N. Y., January, 1861.

PREMIUM FRUIT CAKE.—Two-thirds of a cup of butter; one and a half of sugar; 3 eggs; a cup of milk; four of flour; a full cup of chopped raisins; two-thirds of a cup of currants; the same of citron; two small teaspoons of cream tartar; one of soda; spices to suit.—MRS. G. W. ALLEN, Rochester, N. Y.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

"D. B. DE LAND & Co.'s Saleratus forever," shouted KATE, as she ran up the stairs, followed by BRIDGET, with a freshly baked pan of biscuit in her hands. "DR LAND'S Saleratus forever." They were indeed tempting, and no wonder that the girls were delighted with their first experiment with this favorite of housekeepers. This Saleratus is perfectly pure, healthful, reliable, and of uniform quality. Manufactured and for sale at wholesale by D. B. DE LAND & Co., Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y. Sold also by all dealers.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] OH, HUSH THAT SONG.

BY CLARA F. YAWGER.

Oh, hush that song,—the tears have started,— And broken spells my soul have bound;

The summer wind was softly blowing, And warbling many a glad some bird,

'Twas when the eye of day was closing, (Oh, many and many a year gone by,)

The streams meandering through the meadows Were glittering in the golden glow,

Those tuneful lips that sang were breathing,— Those lips forever silent now,—

That peerless one since then has faded, And meekly closed her dark eye's lid,—

The hand and heart, so fondly pledged, Lie mouldering in a Southern grave;

Then hush that song,—the tears have started,— And broken spells my soul have bound;

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE BROKEN-HEARTED MINISTER.

BY HATTIE HOPEFUL.

Poor, broken-hearted man, said Mrs. Toby, how I pity him. His wife is not a Christian,—then, recollecting herself, she added, she did not know as she ought to say that;

When she had concluded this sympathetic, but uncharitable harangue, we ventured to remark that we supposed she was his choice, or, at least, ought to have been, since man is the one to whom society accords the right to choose a life partner.

But I think he was not much acquainted with her when he married her.

Ought he not to have formed a better acquaintance first, instead of hastily rushing into matrimony before ascertaining whether she would be a suitable companion for life? If people would exercise prudence, patience, and honesty, in the selection of life partners, there would be fewer broken hearts, and fewer petitions for divorce than now.

Instead of first being prepared for the active duties of life, the mere girl is taught to think she must have a beau, to secure which, she must be fashionably dressed, and early sent into society.

No life is all happiness, all pleasure, or all prosperity. Stern duties, earnest labor, sad reverses, must, at some period of life, be shared by all.

Individuals are at fault in encouraging hasty marriages. Pretended friends are ready to advise, encourage and recommend, unsolicited, some friend or dependent, to rid themselves of a burthen, or secure some other object in view.

Why, then, should she be expected always to attend church, or co-operate with her husband in his duties connected therewith? Was he not employed with the understanding that he had a large family, and a wife in feeble health?

ALL SHOULD LEARN TO SING.—As it is commanded of God that all should sing, so all should make conscience of learning to sing, as it is a thing that cannot be done decently without learning.

In ministerial visits, the poor, the aged, and the infirm, though residing at a distance, ought not to be forgotten. If they are not paying members, they would be more likely to become such than if they were neglected, and it ought to be remembered that their mite is more than the rich man's treasures.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WILLIE IS DEAD.

"WILLIE is dead!" Our informant was a neighbor who left a few minutes after, and now the words are passed from one member of the household to another in subdued accents. The children drop their toys, and sit silent and thoughtful.

It is the effect of the simple news of his death in another home, what must it be in the one where it occurred? How anxiously watched the parents thro' the night hours; how they counted the fast falling pulse, and gathered hope from every look of recognition; but just as the sun was rising, the last life-drop vanished silently as the dew from flowers.

In after years, when time has gathered much of dust, and some of ashes, into the Urn of Memory, when those who are left have wrung their hearts with a more bitter anguish, they will look back upon this dispensation as one of mercy and of love,—but they cannot see it now, and many, many tears are shed over little WILLIE'S grave.

There is something sweet in the death of a child. We love to look upon the placid beauty of its face ere passion has set his seal upon it. Life does not seem to be rent by such a force from a being like that, as from the strong man, whose heart is set upon the world.

A THOUGHT FOR HUSBANDS.—Rev. Dr. Thomas Brainard thus feelingly admonishes married men: "I would ask husbands to appreciate those who make the joy of their dwellings. Are not the kindnesses of wives often unnoted, unthanked, unregarded? They are shut out from the world's applause; let them rest in the assurances of your gratitude and consideration.

LOSS OF CHILDREN.—In the first days of affliction, words are but poor consolation, for we know how bitter the cup of their sorrow. Yet words even, from those who have trodden the same dark way, may be like balm in the wounds, for there is a companionship in grief.

ALL SHOULD LEARN TO SING.—As it is commanded of God that all should sing, so all should make conscience of learning to sing, as it is a thing that cannot be done decently without learning.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] A PATRIOTIC DREAM.

BY A. H. BULLOCK.

With visions strange, that smile or lower, Imagination teems, When we, at midnight's silent hour, Are in the land of dreams.

But off they come, as if by chance, In Fancy's endless train,— With wildest phantoms sore entrance The frenzied sleeper's brain.

They took me to the land of PENN, Where, in that same old hall, Were met again those valiant men, Who burst the Lion's thral.

And he was there, whose master hand Had fixed the lightning's path,— And he, whose thrilling tones, so grand, Did rouse the people's wrath.

There "RICHARD HENRY LEE" arose, And said, "I am resolved Our Union — though evil minds propose — Shall never be dissolved.

Like a shrill echo came that sound From every warrior's grave, Who foremost fell on battle ground — His life for Freedom gave.

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

The West is settled with people of every latitude, from the Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. The New Englander, fresh from his rocky soil; the straight-forward New Yorker; the genial, careless Southerner, — all unite upon the common ground of the West, to build their homes.

The first effect is the want of a common sympathy. The influences under which each individual has been reared are so different from those which have surrounded his neighbor, that the people possess little in common. Hence there is an isolation in social feeling.

Another effect of the great variety of character in the West is a lack of unity in pushing forward the interests of education and morality. Forests are becoming cities, and beautiful villages are gemming the wide rolling prairies.

There is another and more favorable effect arising from the diversity of elements in the West. Amidst so many different tastes and beliefs, there is a wider range of thought, and more comprehensive views, than in the older sections of country where constant intercourse and common sympathy build up a unity of sentiment.

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to render them bigoted in their views, or partial in action. Her greatest danger lies in a disregard of virtue and religion. Thousands are in her midst who, in oppressed Europe, learned to associate religion and tyranny.

Happy shall he be that upon those moving elements makes impressions of enduring excellence.

Butler, Wis., 1861. M. OSBORN.

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

HUSHED is the lute whose quivering tones had floated down with their soulful harmonies, touching the hidden spring which unlocks the door of our hearts' holy of holies,—but the echo of that rich, soft music lingers still.

Morn in the east! All nature takes up the glad chorus welcoming the "King of Day" as in a flaming chariot he appears above the horizon, kissing the dew from the hill tops, and down in the valley shedding his warm and cheering smile.

And the little rivulet has a voice,—a low, musical laugh, such as haunts us in our dreams. The gleeful sunshine looks into its sparkling waters, ever loving to listen to its merry music.

There are voices of little children, fresh and sweet as the May winds,—their gleeful notes drop like fairy pearls and hold us spell-bound, with their delicious melody.

There are spirit voices, gentle and harmonious, winning and soft as the evening zephyrs, which float round our path like soothing angels.

There is a voice in the wild, wild wind, as it chants a sad requiem o'er the deserted hearth-stone,—as it rises grand and solemn 'mid the solitude of dark towering mountains,—breaking 'mid rocks,—modulated low and sweet as Æolian harp when it wanders down in the valley.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE TOMB OF THE LAST SIGNER.

The ancient seat of Carroll, of Carrollton, and his tomb, is distant about fifteen miles from Baltimore. Entering the gateway, we drove through a noble avenue, planted on each side with trees of every variety, and soon found ourselves in front of the Carroll mansion, which is a long, comfortable two story building, terminated at the north end by the chapel, which has become famous as the repository of the remains of the gallant old signer of the Declaration of Independence.

MEN OF PRINCIPLE.—The man of principle needs not the restriction of seal or signature, or any legal instrument. He deals in solitude as in public, at midnight as in the sunshine. His grasped hand is as good as a bond, and his promise as sterling as gold.

LOOKING PEOPLE IN THE FACE.—I have known vast quantities of nonsense talked about bad men not looking you in the face. Don't trust that conventional idea. Dishonesty will stare honesty out of countenance any day in the week, if there is anything to be got by it.—All the Year Round.

A DINNER OF FRAGMENTS is often said to be the best dinner; so there are few minds but might furnish some instruction and entertainment on their scraps, their odds and ends of thought.

Sabbath Musings.

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

BY MARGARET ELLIOTT.

WHAT is Truth? O, quiet dreamer, Hast thou seen it in thy way? Found'st thou aught that is not seeming, And in all thy placid dreaming?

What is Truth? Tell me, O, scholar! Searcher into hidden lore! Have the ancients ever known it,— Or the waves of Time e'er thrown it,— Like the sea shell,—on the shore?

What is Truth? Tell me, O, Poet! Weaver of the mystic rhyme! In thy warp of wondrous romances, Woven of brilliant, stary fancies, Are there threads of Truth sublime?

THE ANSWER.

Thou hast asked me, O, my brother, What is Truth, and where it dwells? Hast forgotten thou art mortal, And too weak to ope the portals Where the fount of knowledge wells?

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE GARDEN OF THE HEART.

In imagination I saw a garden, the garden of the heart. The plant of Disobedience choked that of Obedience, while the plant of Unforgiveness covered that of Forgiveness with its broad, poisonous leaves.

Wearily toiled the gardener over his garden, and he sighed as he saw that it bore no resemblance to the one given him for a pattern,—which was perfect, pure, and lovely,—so beautiful that angels hovered over it, and spoke in low, sweet accents of His great love and care.

First he pruned the plant of Self-Esteem, which tended much to destroy Vanity. "Be of good cheer," said a voice; therefore he took courage, and cultivated a little plant called Cheerfulness, which grew on one side of his garden.

The gardener was growing old, but still he toiled; he labored for a garden free from weeds. His hair was white and thin, his step feeble, his eye less bright; but he looked still to the Divine garden. "Forgive, even as thou would'st be forgiven;" he heard, and he murmured in reply, "Help Thou me to forgive." He cast his eyes to his own garden, and almost wondered as he beheld it.

THE PROVINCE OF THE PULPIT.—Christianity embraces all. It shows the sovereignty of its principles, not by destroying anything whatever, but by assimilating all things to itself. To the Christian, everything becomes Christian. Nothing is absolutely foreign to the province of the gospel. It saves the whole of man. It saves the whole of life. Nothing, except sin, is profane. Life is not divided. There is no point at which Christianity stops abruptly.

The Educator.

SCHOOL MATTERS OF NEW YORK.

On the 31st ult., H. H. VAN DYCK, Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of New York, submitted to the Legislature the following tables and abstracts, exhibiting the operations of the Common School system of the State for the year ending September 30th, 1860.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS.—The whole number of reported school districts in the State, exclusive of cities, is 11,382; being an increase of 24 during the past year.

SCHOOL HOUSES.—The number of school houses in the State is reported at 11,656; of which 11,379 are in the rural districts. This shows an increase over the number reported in 1859 of 74.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.—The number of persons in the State, between the ages of 4 and 21 years, is reported as follows:

Table with columns: Cities, Rur. Dist., Total. Rows for 1860, 1859, and Increase.

The number of pupils attending the public schools in 1859 and 1860, is stated thus:

Table with columns: 1859, 1860. Rows for Cities, Rural Districts, and Total.

Assuming the correctness of the enumeration and report of attendance at school for the rural districts, it appears that, of the 912,412 persons of school age thus reported, 599,229 attended school during the last year, for a longer or shorter period.

The reported number of children attending the public schools for a series of years is as follows:

Table with columns: 1856, 1857, 1859, 1860. Rows for 10 months and over, 6 to 9 months, 4 to 5 do, 2 do, Less than 2 months, and Totals.

In regard to this subject, I repeat the observations made in the last annual report from this Department, that "not much reliance can be placed on the correctness of the returns as to attendance in the schools, either at this or any previous period."

TEACHERS EMPLOYED.—The teachers employed during the last two years, are thus classified:

Table with columns: 1859, 1860. Rows for Males, Females, and Totals.

As many teachers are employed in more than one district during the year, the number above stated is probably exaggerated. A more true indication of the number of persons actually engaged in the business of teaching is found in the report of the "number of teachers employed at the same time for six months," or more.

Table with columns: 1859, 1860. Rows for Cities, Rural Districts, and Totals.

This may be fairly assumed as the number of teachers actually employed when all the schools are supplied. These returns clearly indicate that, so far as our common schools are concerned, the business of teaching is rapidly passing into the hands of females.

SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARIES.—The Superintendent calls the attention of the Legislature to the district libraries. He says that in many of the cities and larger villages, where the sum annually distributed is sufficiently large to keep the libraries in proper condition by the purchase of recent publications, they no doubt answer a most desirable end.

the districts five times the number of volumes now received, and that of a valuable standard character.

"YOU ARE A STUPID BLOCKHEAD!"

ARE you sure of that? Is it not just possible that the boy's teacher is the stupid one? Are you quite certain that your questions, or your explanations, are expressed in intelligible language?

But grant that the boy is naturally a "stupid blockhead." Is it his fault? Had he the making of his own brains? And is it not misfortune enough to have been born a blockhead without your repeatedly reminding him of the disagreeable fact?

INDIFFERENCE AND CAPTIOUSNESS.

WITHOUT the zealous co-operation of the community, our schools can never reach that high point of excellence to which it was the design of their friends and founders to carry them.

Nothing can be more unjust to the public schools than complaint without investigation, condemnation without a hearing. Sweeping and indiscriminate denunciations can have little or no foundation in truth.

OUR COMMON SCHOOLS.

THE common school gives the key of knowledge to the mass of the people. I think it may with truth be said that the branches of knowledge taught therein, when taught in a finished, masterly manner,—reading, in which I include the spelling of our language;

BROODING ON ONE THOUGHT.—If you think long and deeply upon any subject, it grows in apparent magnitude and weight; if you think of it too long, it may grow big enough to exclude the thought of all things besides.

HUMBOLDT said ten years ago, "Governments, religion, poetry, books, are nothing but the scaffolding to educate a man. Earth holds up to her Master no fruit but the finished man.

THE chief art of learning is to attempt but little at a time. The widest excursions of the mind are made by short flights, frequently repeated; the most lofty fabrics of science are formed by the continued accumulation of single propositions.

RURAL OUT-BUILDINGS—No. II.

In our last we stated that an arbor must be simple and in keeping with the place and its objects; and that unless near the house, so that both could be seen at the same view, it should not be of showy carpenter's work.

The builders of arbors make two great mistakes. In the first place, they are made too expensive and too showy. These structures are not for show, but for rest and comfort.

It is well to have a summer-house in a situation somewhat retired, but it should be so placed, if possible, as to command a good view of the surrounding



country, and if this is impossible, it should give a view of the most interesting part of the grounds, as no one would like to sit long in a position where nothing pleasant is to be seen.

In our last issue we gave an engraving showing a good rustic summer-house, designed by GEORGE E. HARNEY, of LYNN, MASS., and now we give another from the same source, requiring more expense and carpenter's skill.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

ALL ABOUT DOGS.

NEW YORK CITY is the center of the canine trade for this continent, many persons being engaged exclusively in buying and selling, and breeding and training dogs of all descriptions.

The Newfoundland is the most popular dog with all classes, and large numbers of them, both pure breed and mongrels, are sold annually. Perfect blackness of color is the American test of purity of breed, and pups answering this demand sell at \$10 to \$25 each.

For sporting and hunting dogs—beagles, harriers, pointers, and setters, well trained, bring high prices. The black and tan German beagle sells in great numbers at \$15 to \$40 for shooting and hunting purposes.

NATURE FOR THE UNION.

THIS country is geographically one. The bounds of nations are not arbitrarily assigned; they are, in general, determined by fixed laws. A people indeed, as in the case of the Romans, may conquer other nations, and gather them all under one despotic head.

which men can contravene only to their own detriment or destruction. The immutable law of God, as expressed in nature, makes the territory assigned to the Anglo-Saxon race on this continent one nation.

The country is thus physically one, and therefore its organic life is one. We cannot divide a tree without destroying its life. We cannot divide a river without producing an inundation.

THE PLANNING OF CITIES.—The London Builder says that a spider's web furnishes a better plan for the laying out of new cities than any which has yet been devised by surveyors and engineers.

The Young Ruralist.

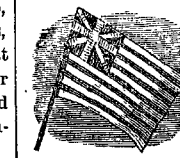
THE AMERICAN FLAG.

THERE never was a more fitting time than the present to give a few facts regarding the adoption of our country's flag—a flag that has afforded protection to every American citizen in every land—a flag which the weakest nations of the earth have honored, and the strongest dared not insult.

It was in January, 1776, when the British were in Boston and the Americans encamped at Cambridge, that WASHINGTON unfurled the first American, or, as it was called, the Union flag.

When General HOWE saw this flag with the Union device in the corner, waving over the American camp, he expressed great joy, for he regarded it as a token of friendship for England, and an evidence that a conciliatory speech which the King had made recently to the British Parliament was well received by the army, and that submission would soon follow.

On the 18th of January, 1777, Congress ordered "thirteen stars, white, in a blue field," to be put in place of the British Union. This has ever since been the design of our flag, a star having been added for



every State admitted into the Union, while the original number of stripes are retained. For the engravings in this article, we are indebted to LOSSING'S finely illustrated History of America.

MUSCLE AGAINST BRAINS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Athletic sports have become very fashionable. Ball-playing, and skating, and boat-racing, claim the special attention and all the leisure time of the youth of our villages.

THE YOUTH AND THE PHILOSOPHER.

A GREEK youth of talents rare, Whom Plato's philosophic care Had form'd for virtue's nobler view, By precept and example too, Would often boast his matchless skill

At length, quite vain, he needs would show His master what his art could do; And bade his slaves the chariot lead To Academus' sacred shade.

How'er, the youth, with forward air, Bows to the sage, and mounts the car. The lash resounds, the coursers spring, The chariot marks the rolling rye,

Triumphant to the goal return'd, With nobler thirst his bosom burn'd; And now along th'indented plain, The self-same track he marks again,

For he, deep-judging sage, beheld With pain th' triumphs of the field; And when the chariot drew nigh, And, flush'd with hope, had caught his eye,

"With indignation I survey Such skill and judgment thrown away; The time profusely squandered there, On vulgar arts beneath thy care, If well employ'd, at less expense, Had taught thee honor, virtue, sense; And rais'd thee from a coachman's fate, To govern men and guide the state."

NAMES OF THE MONTHS.

PROBABLY there are many among us who do not and yet would like to know from whence the months of the year derived their separate names;—then listen and we will try and give you the desired information.

February, the second month, is derived from the Latin word *Februus*, to purify; for this month the Romans offered up expiatory sacrifices for the purifying of the people.

March, the third month, anciently the first month, is derived from the word *Mars*, the god of war.

April is so called from the Latin word *Aprilis*—i. e., opening; because in this month the vegetable world opens and buds forth.

May, the fifth month, is derived from the Latin word *Majores*, so called by Romulus, in respect toward the senators; hence *Maies* or *May*.

June, the sixth month, from the Latin word *Junus*, or the youngest of the people.

July, the seventh month, is derived from the Latin word *Julius*, and so named in honor of *Julius Cesar*.

August, the eighth month, was called in honor of Augustus, by a decree of the Roman senate, A. D. S.

September, the ninth month, from the Latin word *Septem*, or *seven*, being the seventh from March.

October, the tenth month, from the Latin word *Octo*, the eighth, hence we have October.

November, the eleventh month, from the Latin word *Novem*, nine, being the ninth from March.

December, the twelfth month, from the Latin of *Decem*, ten, so called because it was the tenth month from March, which was anciently the time of beginning the year.—*Selected*.

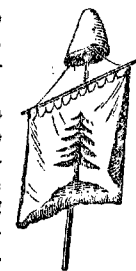
MEN AND ANIMALS.—How superior are men in intellectual and moral qualities to the animal creation! For example, let a bird discover a store of seeds or fruit, and the foolish thing goes and tells of his good fortune, and all the birds in the neighborhood flock to enjoy it.

PASSION AND REASON.—Truth enters into the heart of man when it is empty, and clean, and still; but when the mind is shaken with passion as with a storm, you can never hear the voice of the charmer though he charm never so wisely; and you will very hardly sheathe a sword when it is held by a loose and a paralytic arm.

HASTE.—Haste and rashness are storms and tempests, breaking and wrecking business; but nimbleness is a full, fair wind, blowing it with speed to the haven.—*Fuller*.

WHEN, in a case of doubtful morality, you feel disposed to ask, "Is there any harm in doing this?" please answer it by asking yourself another, "Is there any harm in letting it alone?"

ONE-HALF of the time ordinarily spent in vain efforts to regain lost health, would suffice to preserve it.



NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Book for the Times—J. W. Bradley. Fruit and Ornamental Trees for Spring of 1861—Billwanger & Barry. Howard's New Mower—R. L. Howard. Bailey's Original Packages of Stationery and Jewelry—J. L. Bailey. Wheeler & Wilson's Improved Family Sewing Machines—S. W. Childs, Agent. Cutters Wanted—Dick & Fitzgerald. New Cuyahoga Grapes—C. P. Bissell & Salter. Experienced and Reliable Agents Wanted. Farm for Sale on the Ben—A. N. Wright. Agents Wanted—F. Besch. Apple Seeds for Sale—J. Van Deusen. Farm for Sale Cheap—J. Van Deusen. SPECIAL NOTICES. Brown's Troches for Public Speakers.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY 16, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

THE Peace Convention organized according to the programme, and has thus far been conducted with closed doors. On the 6th inst., a resolution was introduced proposing to conduct the proceedings with open doors. It was earnestly debated. The result was a restriction upon Commissioners communicating their doings to outside parties. The Commissioners are social, harmonious, but are yet discussing no movements looking to practical results.

The nomination of Judge Pettit for Judge of the District of Kansas has been determined upon.

Secretary of State Black will probably soon be nominated as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in place of Justice Daniels, deceased.

Steam frigates Colorado, Mississippi, and Minnesota, now at Boston, and the Roanoke, at Brooklyn, are at once to be put in requisition for service, connected with collection of revenue at certain ports where the same can not be collected by the usual means.

The tellers to count votes for President and Vice-President, are Trumbull of the Senate, and Washburn, of Illinois, and Phelps in the House.

Several Alabama Post-Masters declined to render accounts, saying they would wait the action of their States.

Additional evidence continues to be received of violation of private correspondence in the South.

The President's course in relation to the proposition of Hayne was similar to that towards the former Commissioners, that he had no authority to treat for disposition of the forts and other public property. It was his duty to defend them to the best of his ability, and the consequences must fall upon those who attack them.

Gov. Letcher, of Va., was on the floor of the House on the 6th inst., and was greeted by members from the North and South. He expresses the opinion that Virginia will accept no plan of compromise guaranteeing less than the Crittenden propositions, and adds that the Virginia Convention will recommend secession as their ultimate action unless that is complied with.

The following in relation to the revenue cutter Robert McClelland, which was surrendered to the State of Louisiana, is derived from an official source. The cutter is one of the largest and best in the revenue service, just rebuilt and refitted. Her commander was Robert Breshwood, of Virginia. On the 19th of January, four days after Secretary Dix took charge of the Treasury Department, he sent Mr. Wm. H. Jones, Chief Clerk in the first Commissioners office, to New Orleans and Mobile, to save if possible the two cutters in service there. Capt. Morrison, a Georgian, commanding the Lewis Cass, at Mobile, must have surrendered her before Mr. Jones' arrival. On the 29th of January the Secretary received the following telegraph dispatch from Mr. Jones:

"NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 29th.

"To the Hon. J. A. Dix, Sec'y of the Treasury:

"Capt. Breshwood has refused positively, in writing, to obey any instructions of the Department. In this I am sure he is sustained by the Collector, and I believe acts by his advice. What must I do?"

"Signed, W. H. Jones."

To this dispatch Secretary Dix immediately returned the following answer:

"TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Jan. 29th.

"To Wm. H. Jones, New Orleans:

"Tell Lieut. Caldwell to arrest Capt. Breshwood, to assume command of the cutter, and obey the order through you. If Capt. Breshwood, after arrest, undertakes to interfere with the command of the cutter, tell Lieut. Caldwell to consider him a mutineer and treat him accordingly. If any one attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot."

JOHN A. DIX, Sec'y of Treas."

This dispatch it is said must have been intercepted both at Montgomery and New Orleans, and withheld from Mr. Jones, and that the conduct of Capt. Breshwood was consummated by means of a complicity on the part of the telegraph line with the States of Alabama, and Louisiana, which latter State has accepted the cutter.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning states that the impression in Washington among gentlemen who are well acquainted with the subject, is that no apprehension need be sustained relative to an immediate attack on Fort Sumter, as that question will be referred to a Southern Congress. Meanwhile the South Carolina authorities will keep strict guard of the coast to intercept any attempt to reinforce Major Anderson. All domestic supplies and mail facilities are to be denied and every possible means taken to weaken and starve out the garrison.

The testimony of Ex-Senator Benjamin before the Indiana Bond Committee is said to have been very direct and damaging to Secretary Floyd. He asserts that when he became accidentally aware of Floyd's manner of giving acceptances, he warned him against it, and Floyd promised to desist. Afterwards Floyd issued them to the amount of \$4,000,000.

Col. Hayne, in reply to the President, on the 9th inst., says:—"Although an emphatic refusal to my demand closes my mission, I desire a correct impression to prevail that South Carolina wished to purchase Sumter. South Carolina would make compensation alone for the property, but the idea of purchasing it entirely is inconsistent with the assertion of the paramount right in the purchaser. South Carolina claims to have dissolved her political connection and destroyed all political relations with your Government, with everything within her borders. She is a separate and independent Government, exercising sovereignty over every soil and fort, except Fort Sumter. The avowed intention to hold Sumter as a military post by a foreign government, leaves the authorities there to determine the proper course to be pursued. He asks the President if he is aware that holding fortresses by a foreign power against the will of the authorities, is the highest insult that can be offered. He says South Carolina does not wish Fort Sumter because of a misplaced confidence in a government which deceived her. He

thinks the reply to his demand, that the occupation of Fort Sumter is no cause for irritation, but a protection to Carolina, is ironical for a grave subject. If the responsibility rests on Carolina, that government is unconscious of the fact."

The President has approved and signed the \$25,000,000 loan which passed both Houses as originally reported, with amendments providing that the revenue from the loan authorized by the act of June, 1860, or so much as may be deemed necessary, shall be applied to the redemption of treasury notes issued under the act of December, and for no other purpose.

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to exchange at par the bonds of the United States for said Treasury notes at legal interest and shall not be obliged to accept the most favorable bids as provided for, unless he shall consider them advantageous to the United States, and any portion of said loan not taken under the first advertisement, he may advertise according to his discretion.

By reason of the receipt of information of the seizure of New York ships at Savannah, together with the recent action of the New Orleans Custom House, in obstructing the interior commerce, in effect levying tribute, and the declaration of the Montgomery Congress in opening the Southern ports free to foreign commerce, John Cochrane of New York will call up and press to a passage the bill introduced heretofore by him providing for the thorough execution of the Federal Revenue laws for the protection of the commercial interests of the nation against flagitious attacks upon them by the seceding States.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—A message was received from the President, transmitting from the Governor of Kentucky resolutions applying to Congress to call a Convention to present amendments to the Constitution. The President said it afforded him great pleasure to perform this duty. He felt confident that Congress would act with the consideration to which the resolutions are entitled, on account of their patriotic source, as well as great importance. The subject was laid on the table.

Mr. Wigfall offered a resolution inquiring of the President why troops were concentrated in the District of Columbia. Mr. Pearce advocated the resolution, which passed.

A bill to provide a government for Idaho, was taken up. Mr. Green's amendment changing the boundary, was adopted. On motion of Mr. Wilson, the name was changed to Colorado. The bill passed.

Mr. Pearce reported the deficiency bill, with the House amendment, and recommended the Senate to insist on their amendments, and asking for a Committee of Conference. Agreed to.

The President sent a message to both Houses, giving the correspondence between himself and Col. Hayne. Hayne's letter of January 31, after stating the refusal to surrender Fort Sumter to be the occasion for war, and stating the question to be one of mere property, he says:—"If the evils of war are to be encountered, especially the calamities of civil war, elevated statesmanship would seem to require that it should be accepted as an unavoidable alternative of something still more disastrous—such as National dishonor, or measures materially affecting the safety or permanent interests of the people, that it should be a choice deliberately made and entered upon, and of set purpose; but that war should be incident or accident attendant upon policy professedly peaceful, and not required to effect the object which was avowed as the only end intended, can only be excused where no warning has been given as to consequences. South Carolina cannot, by her silence, appear to acquiesce in the imputation that she is guilty of an act of unprovoked aggression in firing on the Star of the West. Though an unarmed vessel, she was filled with armed men, entering her territory against her will. Gov. Pickens' instructions to him accompanied Hayne's letter."

Secretary Holt replied on the 6th, acknowledging the President's receipt of Hayne's letter. He but gives a summary of Hayne's instructions, which are to this effect:

"I do not come as a military man to demand a surrender of the fortress, but as a legal officer, as the State Attorney General, to claim for the State the exercise of its undoubted right of eminent domain, and to pledge the State to make good all injury to the rights of property which arise from the exercise of the claim."

The proposition, therefore, is to buy Fort Sumter, sustained by a declaration in effect, that if South Carolina is not permitted to make a purchase, she will seize the fort by force of arms. As an invitation for the negotiation for the transfer of property of friendly Governments, this proposal impresses the President as having assumed a most unusual form. He has, however, investigated the claim on which it proposes to be based. Apart from the declaration that accompanies it, the title of the United States to the first is complete and incontrovertible. Now, as to its interest in the property proprietary, in the ordinary acceptance of the term: It might be subjected to the exercise of the right of eminent domain, but it has political relations to it of a much higher and more imposing character than those of mere proprietorship. It has absolute jurisdiction over the fort and soil on which it stands, which is clearly incompatible with claims of eminent domain. This authority is derived from the peaceful cession of South Carolina herself, under provisions of the Constitution of the United States. South Carolina can no more assert the right of eminent domain over Sumter, than Maryland can over the District of Columbia. The President, however, is relieved from further necessity of prosecuting this inquiry, from the fact that he has not the constitutional power to cede or surrender it.

The question of reinforcing Sumter was so fully disposed of in my letter of January 23d, to Senator Slidell, a copy of which accompanies this, that its discussion need not be renewed. I then said:—"At the present moment, it is not deemed necessary to reinforce Major Anderson, because he makes no such request. Should his safety, however, require reinforcements, every effort will be made to supply them."

The Vice-President announced that he had received the resolutions of the Democratic State Convention of Ohio. Objection was made to their reception, on the ground that they were not specially addressed to the Senate. After some discussion, the resolutions were received. Yeas 33—nays 14.

The Naval Appropriation bill was taken up and passed, when the Senate adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.—Mr. Taylor sent to the Clerk's table the Louisiana ordinance of secession, which was read. After the reading, Mr. T. took leave of the members and withdrew.

Mr. Bouligney, another of the Louisiana Representatives, made an explanation that he had not received an official notice of the ordinance of secession. He was not elected by the Convention, and would not be governed by their action. He was the only member of Congress elected as an American Union man,

and to this principle he should stand forever. When I came here I took an oath to maintain the Constitution of the United States. Does not that mean the Union of the States? By that oath I shall stand. Whenever my immediate constituents instruct me to withdraw from the House, their wishes shall be complied with. I shall, however, not only withdraw, but resign my seat, but after I do so, I shall continue to be a Union man, and stand under the flag of the country that gave me birth.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President, including a resolution from the Kentucky Legislature, which asks Congress to call a National Convention to amend the Constitution. He commends the proposition.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the bill re-organizing the Patent Office, and amending the Patent Laws. It came from the Senate last session, and was now passed by the House with amendments.

An amendment appropriating \$125,000 for the purchase of the Wendell establishment for a public printing office, was debated and adopted.

Mr. Colfax called up a bill to suspend mail service in seceding States, which, after debate, was passed—131 against 26.

The House passed a bill for the adjustment of the claims of the Puget Sound Agricultural Co., under the treaty of Great Britain. It authorizes persons residing in Washington Territory, within one year, to make application for confirmation of the title to the lands claimed by them.

The Speaker laid before the House the message of the President, including the correspondence between himself and Col. Hayne, of South Carolina. Referred to a select committee of five, and ordered printed.

On motion of Mr. Boteler, a resolution was adopted requesting the President to communicate to the House the correspondence between our Government and that of Peru since 1854, on the subject of the free navigation of the Amazon and its tributaries. Adj.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The Virginia Commission Resolutions were taken up. Mr. Montgomery offered an amendment expressing a willingness to unite with the Legislature of Virginia and other States, in an application for a Convention to assemble at an early day, to propose amendments to the Constitution for ratification by the several States. After a protracted session, the resolutions on the Virginia propositions were amended by adding the names of John A. King and Gen. Wool to the Commissioners, and then passed. The bill appropriating \$500,000 to arm the State came up as special order, and was passed.

Mr. Hammond introduced a resolution asking the Convention at Washington to sit with open doors. Adopted.

Thurlow Weed was appointed Commissioner to Washington, under the Virginia resolutions, in place of Addison Gardiner, declined.

ASSEMBLY.—Reports on the Institution for the Blind, and criminal statistics of the State were sent in. The Governor presented resolutions from the Kentucky and Minnesota Legislatures, which were ordered entered on the journal and printed.

The Governor also transmitted a letter from John A. Dix, asking the passage of a bill to authorize the indorsement of the State to United States bonds to the amount of deposit fund in this State. On motion of Mr. Robinson the letter was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Assembly at 12 o'clock, on the 5th inst., in accordance with law, proceeded to nominate a candidate for United States Senator in place of William H. Seward. Ira Harris, of Albany, was nominated by all the Republicans except Anthony, Field, Finch and Rice, absentees; Pendergrast not voting. Horatio Seymour, of Oneida, was nominated by all the Democrats except Cozzans, not voting, and Long, Odell and Woodruff, absent. For Harris 88; Seymour 31.

The House then nominated E. W. Leavenworth and J. Carson Brevoort, for Regents of the University, in place of David Buell and George B. Cheever, the Democratic vote being cast for Jeremiah W. Cummings and John D. Willard. The two Houses then went into joint session, the nominations being found to agree. Ira Harris was duly elected to the United States Senate, and Leavenworth and Brevoort Regents of the University.

The Secession Movement.

The Secessionists met at Montgomery, Alabama, on the 4th inst. R. W. Barnwell was chosen chairman pro tem. An impressive prayer was offered by Basil Manley. On motion of R. B. Rhett, Howell Cobb was elected as permanent President by acclamation, and Johnson F. Harper was elected as permanent Secretary. All the delegates were present except Mr. F. Morton, of Florida.

The Congress has been held with closed doors and but very little of the transactions have leaked out, but we learn that on the 8th a Constitution and Provisional Government were unanimously agreed upon. It is said a strong and vigorous government will go into immediate operation with full power and ample funds. No proposition for compromise or reconstruction will be entertained.

A committee was appointed to report on a flag, a seal, coat of arms, and a motto for the Southern Confederacy.

The President was directed to appoint committees on foreign affairs, finance, military and naval, postal, commerce and patents. Hon. Jeff. Davis, of Miss., was then elected President, and Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Ga., Vice President of the Southern Confederacy. The vote was unanimous.

A resolution was adopted for a committee of three Alabama Deputies to report on what terms suitable buildings in Montgomery for the use of the several departments of the Provisional Government can be obtained.

An ordinance was passed continuing in force until repealed or altered by the Southern Congress, all laws in force in the United States on the first of November last. It is understood that under this law a tariff will be laid on all goods brought from the United States.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Finance to report promptly a tariff for raising revenue for the support of the Government.

LOUISIANA.—The New Orleans Convention decided for the present to recognize the Central Government at Washington for postal arrangements, and the future to be provided for by the Southern Congress. Resolutions were passed indorsing the action and appointments of the Montgomery Congress, and a salute of 100 guns were fired in honor of Davis and Stephens.

Pensacola advices of the 2d are received. A truce had been concluded between Lieut. Slimmer and the State forces. The Mississippians were to start for home on the 4th. The Alabama troops remain until relieved.

TEXAS.—The Texas convention met at Austin on the 28th. The ordinance of secession passed on the 1st—166 to 7. The Governor, Legislative Supreme Court Judges and Commissioners were present. It is to be voted on the 23d of Feb., and if adopted, to go into effect on March 2d. The Governor recognizes the Convention. The people declare their attachment to the South, and desire a joint Southern Confederacy, and if none is formed, will form the Republic of Texas.

VIRGINIA.—Very few delegates elected are submissionists. They intend to exhaust every honorable means, but will go for secession unless the Southern rights are fully guaranteed. If the peace congress fails to effect a settlement, the convention will doubtless refer the question to the people.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The House, on the 4th inst., passed unanimously a resolution declaring that in case reconciliation fails, North Carolina goes with the other Slave States.

The Late Storm.

On Wednesday, the 6th inst., we were visited by a storm which has not had a parallel for many years. The fall of snow was not very heavy in this immediate vicinity, but the wind blew with such force as to cause drifts which laid a complete embargo upon mails, railroads, etc. The storm culminated during Thursday night, when the thermometers hereabouts indicated 13 or 14° below zero, according to position. The storm had a wide range as we are informed by telegraph. Rock Island, 2°; Chicago, 14°; Kalamazoo, 5° below; Buffalo, 6° below; Nunda, 20° below; Oswego, 23° below; Utica, 36° below; Albany, 20° below; Ogdensburg, 38° below; Waterbury, 40° below; and thus it varied all through New York State. At Albany on the 7th, the thermometer at noon stood at 38°; at 7 o'clock P. M., zero; at 11, 10° below zero; on the 8th, 7 A. M., 28° below zero was observed by the registering thermometer—showing a fall of 66 degrees in 19 hours, and the lowest point on the record since the winter of 1855, when the same thermometer, in the same position, marked 27 degrees below zero. The barometer rose about 14 inches during the same time. In N. Y. city the gale was very furious, unroofing buildings, blowing down trees, chimneys, &c., but it lacked the coldness observable in other portions. The telegraph from Baltimore stated that the gale unroofed thirty houses. Walls and chimneys were demolished and trees uprooted. Tide lowered three feet.

In Canada the thermometer indicated at various points from 10° to 40° below zero. There was much more snow than in New York. The telegraph from Collingwood on the 8th, said, "The weather is clear. Snow 8 feet deep in drifts of half a mile. Thermometer 11° below."

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The London Times in another editorial on the American crisis, is very bitter on President Buchanan. It says few men who have been called upon to play so important a political part have been found so utterly unequal to their situation.

A prospectus had been issued of an India Cotton Company. It is proposed to establish agencies. It is proposed to purchase cotton of the growers direct, and to endeavor to improve the process of picking and cleaning by machinery.

An influential meeting took place at Manchester to devise measures to relieve the cotton trade of the anxiety resulting from their dependence on the Southern States of America. Resolutions were passed recommending efforts commensurate with the danger, and approving the steps taken for the formation of a Cotton Supply Co. Several American vessels were registered at Liverpool under the British flag, to enable them to carry salt to South Carolina, and return with cotton, without fear of capture.

FRANCE.—The proceedings in the Senate and Legislature are ordered and placed at the disposal of each journal every evening.

France, it is said, is making extraordinary military and naval preparations. The excuse is the menacing attitude of Denmark and the speech of the King of Prussia. There is great activity in the French arsenals and forts. A camp at Chalons is to be formed early in the spring, consisting of 60,000 men under Marshall McMahon. There was uncommon activity at Toulon arsenal, as the government intends sending three or four fleets to sea, together with twenty steel-clad frigates.

ITALY.—The batteries of Gaeta unexpectedly opened, on the morning of the 22d, a heavy fire against the Sardinians. The latter promptly replied and compelled the place to remain silent and the besiegers continued the fire. Fourteen vessels were before Gaeta. At noon on the 22d the fleet got into line. The Sardinians are actively erecting new batteries.

Garibaldi calls for fresh donations to procure the necessary means for facilitating to Victor Emanuel the enfranchisement of the rest of Italy. The Vigilance Committee are urged to penetrate every Italian with the idea that in spring Italy must have a million of patriots under arms.

ATHENS.—Has issued an official ordinance relative to the 30,000,000 florins loan already announced.

SPAIN.—Rumors have been current of disturbances in certain provinces in Spain, but the Correspondence Autographa says that they are unfounded.

DENMARK.—The Danish Minister of Marine ordered the equipment of 22 steamers. The reserved corps of sailors are ordered to assemble the 1st of March. A committee is appointed to purchase gun boats.

HANOVER.—A dispatch says the last difficulty in reference to the redemption of the State dues is removed.

INDIA AND CHINA.—Tien Tsin dates are to November 21st. An installment of the Admiralty had been paid. A great part of the expedition have arrived at Hong Kong. Twenty-five hundred English troops and a quota of French troops were left at Tien Tsin. Lord Elgin and Hope Grant arrived at Shanghai, December 4th, and on the 7th both started for Japan. The Peiho was completely frozen up. Baron Gros and Mr. Ward had been at Canton. A steamer had been up the inland waters near Canton with perfect safety. The rebels were still in force and gained strength. The Yamgts was much infested with pirates.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadstuffs.—Wakenfield, Nash & Co., Richardson, Spence & Co., Bigland, Althya & Co., report flour dull, and a decline of 60 lbs per barrel on the week. Quotations 286@316d. Wheat dull, 16@21 per centum lower. Red western 116@13c. Corn dull and declined 6d@9d since Tuesday; mixed 36@37s; yellow 39@39d. Provisions.—Pork dull. Lard steady.

The News Condenser.

- The debt of Virginia now exceeds \$32,000,000.
—Liquor selling has been entirely stopped in Harden, Iowa.
—The English Duke of Athol has a deer pasture of 400,000 acres.
—The Great Eastern is undergoing repairs at Milford Haven, England.
—The St. Louis cathedral spire, in Louisville, Ky., is 286 feet high.
—Diphtheria is making sad ravages in Hancock and Franklin counties, Me.
—State of Kentucky leases its State Penitentiary now for \$3,000 a year.
—The Capital of Washington Territory has been removed to Vancouver.
—All the free negroes have been driven out of Charleston, South Carolina.
—The Postmaster at Mobile denies that letters have been violated in his office.
—Three deaths of children in New York, Thursday week, from burns and scalds.
—The next State Fair of the Illinois Agricultural Society is to be held in Chicago.
—Seventy thousand persons are employed in connection with the French railroads.
—The cultivation of cotton in Asiatic Turkey is receiving some attention in England.
—Rev. Mr. Spencer lost all his five children in a fortnight, by diphtheria, at Pawlet, Vt.
—There are 5,000 miles of canal in Great Britain, representing a capital of \$200,000,000.
—The Florida volunteers, under Col. Chase, are said to have retired from Pensacola.
—Ex-Secretary Cobb was defeated as a candidate to the Georgia seceding convention.
—A family which applied to a charitable society in Newburyport for aid, keeps 17 cats!
—In Providence, R. I., during the year 1860, 102 persons died, aged 70 years and upward.
—Last year's wheat crop of the six Northwestern States is estimated at 94,000,000 bushels.
—There are in London 26 refugees, homes, and industrial schools—15 for boys and 21 for girls.
—The earnings of the N. Y. State prisons last year were \$238,627, and the expenses \$282,705.
—Mrs. Burch died recently at Junius, N. Y., aged 112 years. She was married 90 years ago.
—The military force of Pennsylvania is 355,000 men, of whom 19,000 are uniformed volunteers.
—The plague is said to be raging in the Southern parts of Asia, hundreds of deaths occurring daily.
—The grand jury at Washington have letters which fasten complicity upon Floyd in the bonds robbery.
—Timothy Maloney, editor of the Tompkins County Democrat, died of consumption, Wednesday week.
—A plan is being adopted for lighting the ships in the British navy with gas, manufactured on board.
—On the 31st of Dec. last, there was, in the New York State Treasury, a cash balance of \$5,040,470.99.
—The quantity of gold, silver, copper, and bronze coinage, in Great Britain, is valued at \$45,000,000,000.
—A brilliant meteor passed over Bermuda, Jan. 5, exploding some distance from land with a terrific report.
—The census marshals of New York return 32 cases of intermarriage between whites and colored persons.
—A proposition to erect a marble statue to Ex-Gov. Banks has been rejected by the Massachusetts Legislature.
—A young man, who, two years ago, inherited \$70,000, is now posting bills at Chicago. Rum has ruined him.
—By letters from Liberia, December 15, it appears that the Liberian Republic had captured two slave schooners.
—The Savings Banks in Rhode Island have deposits to the amount of \$9,163,760 in the names of 35,405 persons.
—It is said the Pope has recently disposed of some fine works of art, from the Vatican, to the Emperor of Russia.
—The measles are now prevailing in Elliottsville, N. Y., to such an extent that all the schools there have been closed.
—There is some talk of a reduction in the postage rates between France and England, from four pence to two pence.
—A boy was in prison, in New York, from Saturday night to Monday morning, for stealing a pickle, valued at half a cent.
—The house in which Thomas Jefferson was born, at Shadwell Depot, Albemarle Co., Va., was burned on Thursday week.
—Hon. Allen Ayrault, a leading politician and agriculturist of Livingston county, died at Genesee, on Monday week.
—The oyster-packing trade of Baltimore, for the year 1860, reached the sum of three and a half million dollars in value.
—A disease, something like the black tongue, has made its appearance, recently, among the horses and cattle of Des Moines.
—A little boy in Oxford, Mass., a few days ago, fell into a pig-sty, and was dreadfully mangled by a hog before he was rescued.
—Druidical remains, similar to those in Ireland, and the hoar-stones of England and Scotland, have been discovered in India.
—Two Jewish converts, of the name of Leman, have been ordained priests, and are in the Romish Church service, at Lyons.
—The medical colleges in the United States, so far as reported, graduated, last year, 1,497 students, as doctors of medicine.
—A gun has just been cast at Pittsburg, with a twelve-inch bore, which will throw a ball over six miles. It is called the "Union."
—The snow in the northern towns of Herkimer Co. is said to be full five feet deep. A sudden thaw would cause a terrible freshet.
—The census of Missouri shows that State to have 1,407,536 whites, 113,188 slaves, and 3,902 free negroes, or, in the aggregate, 1,524,626.
—There are now thirty-six living of the five hundred and eighty-six who mustered into service from New Orleans, in December, 1814.
—The New Orleans journals are explaining and apologizing for the interference, by force, of the free channel of the Mississippi river.
—From the French postoffice returns for 1860, it appears that, on an average, every inhabitant of France writes eight letters per annum.
—A soldier of the war of 1812 committed suicide in Mississippi, a few days ago. He was moved by grief for the dissolution of the Union.
—The Glasgow Examiner states that one day in Christmas week, the thermometer was actually, in some parts of Scotland, 40° below zero.
—The Jordan Transcript announces the death of James Martin, at Ebridge, on Sunday week, at the age of one hundred and twelve years!
—Henry Dow, a lad of 16 years of age, has been sentenced by Judge Vredenberg, of New Jersey, to be executed on the 4th of April, for murder.
—The contractors of the Southern Pacific Railroad have bound themselves to complete 25 miles of the road, west of Marshall, Texas, by May 1st.
—A piece of land was recently sold in London at the rate of \$1,900,000 per acre, sufficient to cover it with silver equal to half a dollar in thickness.
—Henry L. Wilson, brother of Charles L. Wilson, of the Chicago Journal, and the business manager of that establishment, died on Saturday week.
—The school mistresses sent out to Oregon by Gov. Slade, of Vt., were to pay a fine of \$500 if they married under one year. Most of them paid the fine.

FIFTY AND FIFTEEN.

With gradual gleam the day was dawning,
Some lingering stars were seen,
When swung the garden gate behind us—
He fifty, I fifteen.

the magical piece in her hand." "I've got it! Oh,
I've got it," she shouted, "all my wishes, and we
shall all be so glad."

"Thank you, MISS MARGARET," said he, trying to
smile, "it will be a great treat to them." Then going
back to his trouble he said abruptly, "We are plain,

Corner for the Young.
For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
CLASSICAL ENIGMA.

THE BOOK FOR THE TIMES.
THE TEACHINGS
OF
PATRIOTS AND STATESMEN,
OR,
The "Founders of the Republic"
ON
SLAVERY

The Story-Teller.

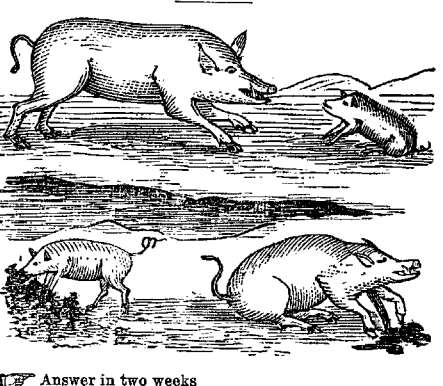
[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]
MAGIC
BY EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER.

CHAPTER I.

THANKSGIVING MORNING in New England! Not
such a bleak, desolate morning as sometimes comes,
even on festal days, when the brown earth lies bare

"It was very late when he got back, father," said
MARGARET gently, "and he had so many errands to
attend to. I thought he looked sad and anxious too."

STRING OF PEARLS.
BETTER is a portion in a wife than with a wife.
THOUGH a good life may not silence calumny, it
will disarm it.



ILLUSTRATED REBUS.

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

A POLE, standing perpendicularly at the foot of an inclined
plane, was broken by a storm 30 feet from the top, when
it was observed that the top struck the plane 25 feet from the
foot.

CHARADE.

My first is a vowel that royalty claims;
It is the initial of ten Christian names.

Wit and Humor.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]
A HINT TO THE WISE.

A SAGE of ancient time was walking out,
His mind absorbed in contemplative thought,
Musing upon a subject most profound,

Wit and Humor.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]
A HINT TO THE WISE.

A SAGE of ancient time was walking out,
His mind absorbed in contemplative thought,
Musing upon a subject most profound,

Wit and Humor.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]
A HINT TO THE WISE.

A SAGE of ancient time was walking out,
His mind absorbed in contemplative thought,
Musing upon a subject most profound,

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 577.

Answer to Mythological Enigma:—The smiles of a pretty
woman are the tears of the purse.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,

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

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THE PRINTER'S STORY.

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MISERY loves company, and so does a marriageable
young lady.

A PIANO affords a young lady a good chance to
show her fingering and her finger-rings.

It makes a great difference whether glasses are
used over or under the nose.

The man who follows the sea thinks he shall get
up with it one of these days.

The man who confines himself to the drink best
for him is well-supplied.

Why is a solar eclipse like a woman beating her
boy? Because it is a hiding of the sun.

Toucny people of all classes are apt to wear spec-
tacles of the highest magnifying power.

A RECENT philosopher discovers a method to avoid
being dunned! "How?—how?—how?" everybody
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NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

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TWO DOLLARS A YEAR. "PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT." SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.

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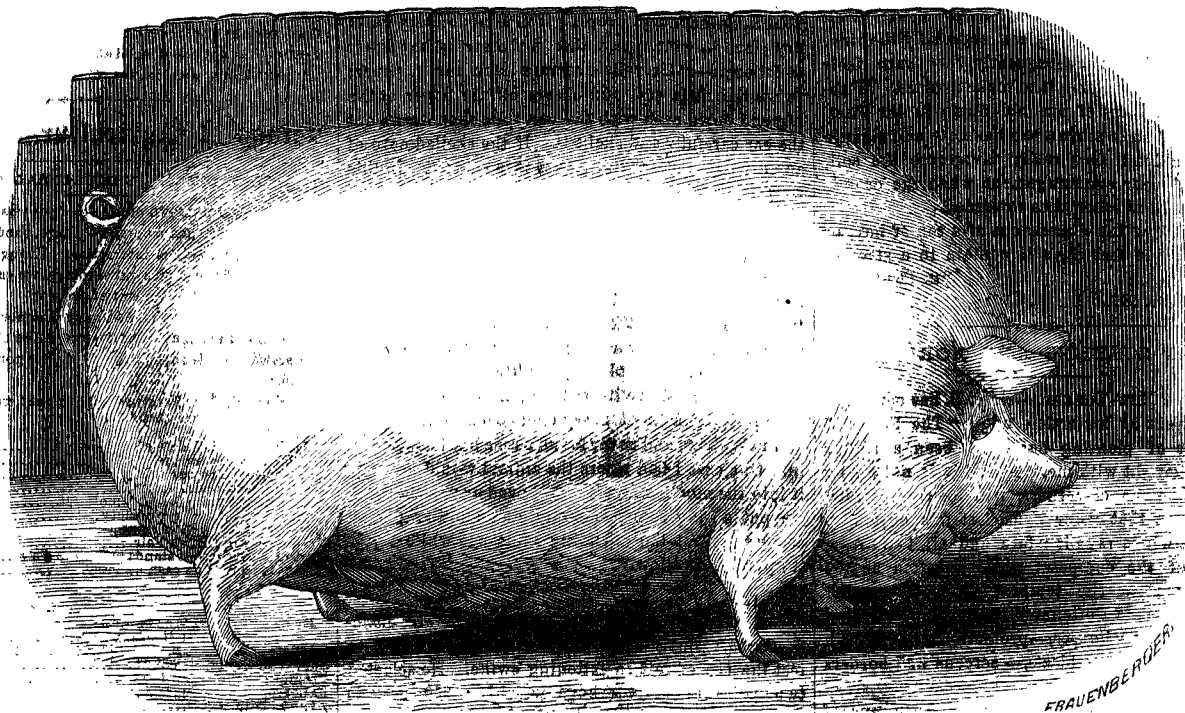
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AGRICULTURAL.

IS COTTON KING?

It may be a matter of interest to agricultural readers just now, to look at the possible bearing of any disturbances in the South which may interfere with the usual supply of cotton. As it is claimed that "Cotton is King," we ought to know its pedigree and legitimate claims (if it have any), to bear its name and sway. Of the importance and value of cotton as a textile fabric, there can be no doubt. But it should be borne in mind that fibrous plants are very numerous, and that the Almighty has not shut us up to one source, important as it may be for our supply of vegetable fibre for clothing. There are probably fifty different species of plants which yield vegetable fibre in such a form as to be useful in some degree, and, under favorable circumstance, for the manufacture of cordage, paper, and cloth. In addition to this, we have the wool and hair of different animals, either domestic or capable of being domesticated. We have the various varieties of the silk worm, some of which, like that lately introduced into France from the East, can be cheaply fed and reared, and made to produce a coarse fabric suitable in point of cheapness for common wear. It may be said that none of these have been proved equal in cheapness and excellence to the cotton. But it may be answered that no man can predict the effect of the application of scientific and inventive intellect to the general subject of textile fibres under the impulse of necessity. The inventions of HARGREAVES and ARKWRIGHT in England, and of WHITNEY in this country, (actually created the cotton culture in the South, and the cotton manufacture in England. It is unsafe for politicians or economists to presume on peculiar advantages which the Creator has given to any one country or climate. There is a law of compensation which presides over all God's blessings. It may be doubted whether cotton is a "King" at all, and with still better reason may it be doubted whether the cotton of the Gulf States of North America is "King."

Let us look at this matter a few moments. Cotton grows freely in almost all the warm countries of the globe. In almost all these countries it may be supplied to an indefinite extent. The limitation upon its production is either the lack of civilization, and a government which can protect regular labor, as in Africa; or in the means of transporting it to market, as in India. It is well known that half a century ago India was the great cotton growing and manufacturing country of the world. Our older readers can remember when "India Cottons" were common in our own country. What has changed all this, and enabled Old and New England to carry cotton fabrics to India? It is not that India has ceased to raise cotton, or weave it, for a hundred millions of people are clothed with cotton of their own raising. It is simply because English and American talent has applied machinery to clean, and spin, and weave the cotton, so that by these means they are able to enter into a successful competition even with the marvellously cheap labor of the rice-eating natives of India and China. In this way England, herself, has thrown her fabrics made of American cotton into India, and by reducing the demand for raw cotton there, has reduced the amount grown. Raw cotton is easier obtained from America than from India, for want of the means of transportation over the immense distances between the cotton fields and the Indian sea ports. The quality of the American article is better, but this depends, in a great measure, on the skill of the cultivator. The railroad system of the English in India is now about coming into activity, and this will enable the natives to reach a market with all the cotton they may have a demand for. It may be safely said that in five years' time India may be made to supply a very large part, if not the whole of the English demand for raw cotton.



BRUCE'S YORKSHIRE PIG.

WINNER OF THE FIRST PRIZE AT THE WINTER MEETING OF THE ROYAL DUBLIN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WHILE the improved breeds of cattle have excited almost universal attention, and have formed one of the most important features in our Annual State Fairs; while the contest between the friends of long and short wooled, and South-Down Sheep has been both interesting and exciting; and while many have exhibited undue interest in fancy breeds of fowls, the pig for many years has been almost forgotten. Knowing this fact, the managers of our Fairs have provided few pens for this family of domestic animals, and but a small portion of those provided have been occupied. That all breeds are alike profitable to the feeder, or that the subject is unworthy the serious attention of farmers, we cannot believe. We present our readers with a portrait of one of the finest hogs we have seen for a long time. She was exhibited at the Winter Fat Cattle Show of the Royal Dublin Society, and obtained the first prize in the class of "single pigs, large breed, of any age," and is an enormous white Yorkshire pig, of great depth and thickness. She was bred and is now

owned by Mr. BRUCE, of Milltown Castle, Ireland, and is nearly two years old. Mr. B. had previously obtained with this animal four first class prizes, and we present her as a perfect model of a large pig. The engraving we copy from the *Irish Farmers' Gazette*. There is a great prejudice in England against large pigs, and the old Yorkshire has been modified in size as well as improved in form. While in this country, packers pay the highest price for large hogs, in England a pig weighing from six to eight score, or from 120 to 160 pounds, will bring more in market than one of greater weight. The Yorkshire pig is one of the oldest as well as one of the largest breeds, but until improved by modern breeders it was extremely long-legged and weak-loined; very long from head to tail, color chiefly white, with long coarse curly hair, and yielding a coarse flabby flesh. The improved Yorkshire, sometimes called *Lincolnshire*, however, "is well-formed throughout, its head of fair length, with pleasant, mild, docile countenance; ears droop-

ing, but not too large; back broad, and very slightly curved, with wide well-set rump, chine and loin broad; ribs springing; deep sides and full chest; color white; hair long, and thinly set. It is a fine specimen of the pig; grows very fast, feeds rapidly, and will readily, under good management, attain to from 275 to 350 pounds in twelve months from birth, and the quality of pork is remarkably good, having a good proportion of fine lean flesh." This change was effected by the Lincolnshire breeders, but those of Yorkshire have improved the form, and at the same time preserved the size of this old breed. J. A. CLARKE, in the *Cyclopaedia of Agriculture*, says, "the specimens lately exhibited of the large Yorkshire breed have attained a size too large for any useful purpose, and would exceed in weight that of a moderately grown Scotch ox. The present taste of the public is decidedly set against such an overgrown sort; at present, however, they make large prices." Here we have no such prejudices against large pork for packing.

Our readers are aware of the issue of the late Chinese war. The capital of England and France can now avail itself of the teeming millions of China with their rich lands and cheap labor for the supply of cotton. The Chinese are a migratory people,—they will go anywhere, or do any kind of work, for money. They are the Yankees of the East. The English can establish Chinese colonies in Australia and introduce the cultivation of cotton there to any extent. We know that our cousins over the water are very philanthropic, but they are not scrupulous when their own power or safety is put in jeopardy. All the islands of the Pacific may be thus made to yield the coveted staple. So can Egypt and Turkey, Sicily and Algeria, Jamaica, British Guiana, Central America and Brazil, and English capital and skill are present in all those countries. The exploration and civilization of Africa has for many years been a favorite subject with the English people and Government. Africa furnishes the finest cotton lands on the globe. Love of money is everywhere the great civilizing force. When the petty tyrants of Africa find that a man is worth more to plant cotton and hoe cotton than to sell to the coast slave dealers, the trade in cotton will supersede the trade in men. If they continue to make raids for captives, these petty kings will be more likely to send them into the cotton field than to the slave ship.

The recent letter in the *Evening Post* from Hon. E. G. SQUIER, shows that nothing is needed but a stable government to make Central America one of the most profitable cotton regions in the world. England is an adept at protectorates, and we are not exactly in the condition to enforce the MONROE doctrine for the benefit of the Southern Secessionists. It should be remarked that in this effort to open new fields of supply for cotton, France and England have a common interest, and will work together. Lord JOHN RUSSELL has just put all the Consuls of the British Government at the service of the Manchester Cotton Supply Association, and thus we find that private capital and self-interest are re-inforced by government in the great work of seeking new fields of supply for the mills of Great Britain. The secession movement and its possible consequences have set all this powerful machinery into the intensest activity. For years this Association has been making explorations, but apparently with no great vigor. Now all these considerations of danger and self-interest are increased in force by the general dislike of the slave system of the South. Such machinery, with so much capital, with so much weight of motive drawn from morality and self-interest combined, can hardly fail to be effective. The manufacturing districts of the Northern States are alike interested with England to ascertain the

extent to which their laboring population are liable to suffer from a stoppage or diminution of the supply of cotton. It is true that there seems at present to be little danger from this source. As cotton is the main dependence of the seceding States, and as their taxation will be enormously increased by their late action, they must raise cotton in order to raise money,—to raise money from their cotton it must be sold. It will be sold to those who have money to buy it. If the Southern ports are blockaded, the cotton can be sent by railroads overland nearly as cheap as it can be shipped by sea. If war or insurrection stop the cotton supply from the South, we shall have open to us through the command of the sea all those new sources of supply which the activity of the English and French shall lay open.

But though we see no reason to fear a deficiency of raw cotton for our mills, we have another kind of fibre upon which we can fall back, and this can be raised in all the Northern States, and to any extent. It is known that flax can be prepared for spinning by jennies in the manner of cotton. Several mills for its manufacture have been started in our country. But so little pains have been taken by farmers who raise flax (mainly for the seed,) to prepare the fibre and get it to market, that for all the finer fabrics the manufacturers were obliged to import from Europe, mainly from Russia. Upon this there was a duty equal to that laid on imported linen, so that they get no protection. Their success, so far as quality is concerned, was complete. But the active competition of foreigners in the substantial absence of all protection, finally induced them to abandon the manufacture of the finer class of goods. The coarser fabrics are still made at a profit, and, without doubt, when attention is given to the preparation of flax, so that the home supply will be equal to any demand made upon it, the same might be true of the more delicate fabrics. A recent letter to the writer from a distinguished manufacturer, whose means of information have been unusually good, says that there is so much flax raised, for the seed alone, in the single State of Ohio, that if the quality of the article was properly attended to, and the fibre well broken and cleaned, it would serve, in addition to the seed, to supply the entire Union with linens. Beyond all question the Northern States are able at any time to raise sufficient flax to replace the whole amount of cotton now spun without any serious addition of cost to the consumer. It was recently stated in Boston that flax could be purchased in Ohio, carried to Roxbury, cottonized, and delivered at the place where it was grown for fifteen cents per pound. The process of separating the ultimate fibres of the flax from each other, and preparing them for spinning with same ease as cotton or wool, is now well under-

FINE WOOL SHEEP—HIGH FEEDING.

MR. RURAL:—I notice the remarks of S. H., of Oneonta, in your issue of Jan. 26th, on raising fine wool. His fleeces of fine wool, weighing on the average 4 lbs., are very respectable. If every farmer would raise 4 lb. fleeces, these would be little use for advocating a higher system of feeding; but Mr. S. H. must be aware that his is rather an exception and not a rule. It may do very well as far as the wool is concerned, but generally those that have wool to sell have mutton sheep also to sell, and I maintain that from 60 to 70 cents expended daily for either corn or buckwheat at present prices, to his 100 sheep, over and above what he now feeds them, would, in my views of feeding, pay a good profit. In the first place it would enable him to sell his mutton sheep immediately after they are shorn, when mutton generally brings a much higher price than late in the season; besides his lambs, owing to richer milk from their mothers, would be both larger and fatter, and he would ultimately have much larger sheep. Nothing prevents a Merino sheep from being one-third heavier when they are fat for the butcher-market, but the poverty-stricken way they are kept in their youth. I have often had yearling Merinos weigh 126 lbs. gross, when sold, and that is a fair weight for much larger breeds.

S. H. says 5 lb. fleeces won't bring so much per pound by 10 cents as those weighing only 4 lbs.—that is if the buyer and seller are honest. No such deductions were ever made on any five pound fleeces, nor 6 lb. ones either, that I have sold. I shall boast nothing about honesty; but I wonder if any one would believe that S. H., if offered 50 cents per pound for 5 lb. fleeces, would tell the buyer, "No, I am too honest to take that; those fleeces weigh 5 lbs. each, and are not worth over 40 cents. You can have them for that!"

There is in my opinion, a great gain in high feeding, every way. The high feeder can have his yearling wethers ready for market and get as high a price as many a farmer gets when two years older, and that allows him to keep more breeding ewes; therefore he can turn off his increase either in lambs or yearlings. Often good fat lambs will bring as much in market as many three year old Merino wethers, or even more. I was raised amongst sheep, have had care of them all my life, and I am more and more convinced that the better they are kept, the better they pay. Breeding ewes should not be kept too fat, else there is often serious losses at yearning. Neither should the young ewes intended for breeders be kept too fat; but all the wethers and old ewes kept from breeding cannot be made too fat. Any man may see at once that if lambs can be sold to the butcher for \$2.50 to \$3, it is folly to keep them poorly and sell them for \$2.50 to \$3 at 3 1/2 years old, which is generally the price of the common run of Merino wethers at 3 to 3 1/2 years old. Even if they get \$2 per fleece for keeping them, at the price of hay here, that would never pay. A sheep, if fed as much good hay as he will eat, will consume 500 pounds during the feeding season, and that consumes the fleece or the 4 pounds at 50 cents, which would be pasture and expenses lost. No, sir, sheep kept in that way will not pay here. We must keep them on straw and grain till March, if not longer, and then feed good hay as the weather gets warmer. In that way we winter them both cheaper and better, and then we have a large part of our meadows for other purposes. When hay is worth from \$8 to \$10 per ton at the barn, it won't pay to feed to sheep when wool is 40 to 50 cents per pound, unless grain is fed along with it, heavy fleeces raised, the lambs got to market or kept until yearlings, made fat and got to market immediately on being shorn, or before if practicable. But enough about sheep at present. JOHN JOHNSTON. Near Geneva, N. Y., 1861.

PRACTICAL SERMONS ON SHORT TEXTS.

DEEPENING THE SOIL. "SOILS should be plowed as deep as the substratum will admit of its being done by the force of the ordinary team, at least once in a course of crops."—JUDGE BURL.

In this country it will be found a general rule, that the plow seldom penetrates more than four or five inches into the soil, and in most cases the soil is plowed to the same depth for every crop that is grown upon it, thus exposing only two surfaces, as it were, to atmospheric action. This may, and did, answer very well when the soil was newly cleared, as the superabundant forest contained a large amount of fertilizing matter near the surface; but this matter having been used up, the continuation of this system of plowing has resulted in worn-out lands, with a concrete hard-pan intervening between the cultivated and the uncultivated soil, preventing the roots of ordinary crops from entering the sub-soil in search of food, and also in a great measure obstructing the drainage of surface water, and the ascent of moisture by capillary attraction. It would be well if our farmers would pay more attention to this important matter. In carrying out a system of rotation of crops, I would here strongly recommend the soil to be turned up in the first course to the depth of four inches, and to be deepened one or two inches at each successive crop till the seeding to grass, when it would be twelve or fourteen inches deep. On the commencement of each rotation after grass, begin again at five inches. In this way a new stratum of soil would be turned up, each

year, to receive the ameliorating influence of the atmosphere, and also allow such manure as is applied to become thoroughly incorporated with the soil.

SUGAR FROM SORGHUM—HOW MADE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Since the publication of my article on Sorghum in your issue of Dec. 1st, I have received a host of letters, all from "RURAL Readers," inquiring how I made sugar.

I answer, First—My Evaporator cost sixty-five dollars at Laporte, Ind., and fifteen dollars freight. It is six feet in diameter, the rim six inches high, the bottom flat, one-half inch thick, and weighs one thousand pounds.

Second—This Evaporator reduces 50 gallons of juice into molasses per hour, or 600 gallons per day, making from 12 to 16 gallons of molasses per hour—depending on the ripeness and purity of the cane.

Third—An acre of cane will produce from 100 to 320 gallons of molasses, this is my own estimate, from four years' experience in cultivating sorghum.

Fourth—The best time to plant the cane is when you would plant corn, the earlier the better, to ensure perfection.

Fifth—I made sugar simply by boiling the juice down thicker than for molasses and setting it away to grain.

I will remember an incident in my early years, bearing upon this subject. There was a piece of ten acres or more cleared, about our log house, having on it here and there a tree left standing.

Sometimes, doubtless, money ruled the hour, but oftener the wants of a numerous family demanded, or seemed to demand, an increased area of cultivable land; and in this connection, we may well remember the grant to the Israelites to cut down the timber, and make a wall against any city that was to be subdued.

The foregoing is the result of my own experiments, and I hold myself responsible to the public for the proof of the statements I have made.

In conclusion, I would say to farmers,—east and west of the Mississippi,—plant Sorghum, and not a garden patch, but five or ten acres,—get a good mill and an evaporator like mine, and if you are not satisfied with the result by this time next year, you may sentence me through the tribunal of the RURAL NEW-YORKER.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Perhaps some of the readers of the RURAL will be glad to hear a word from Iowa, concerning the crops and other agricultural matters.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing in a late number of your paper an article respecting hens, and the profits from keeping them, I will cheerfully add my testimony in their favor.

a fine, refreshing rain, which gave new life to our withering crops, and fresh vigor to the farmer.

Our corn crop averaged about seventy bushels to the acre, excluding those farmers who plant their corn about the middle of June, drop from six to eight grains in each hill, plant even without first plowing the land, and after planting, perhaps run the cultivator through once, and then leave Nature to do the rest.

Considerable attention is being paid to the raising of Sorghum. Farmers say that it makes a superior article of molasses. If the raising of Sorghum continues to progress, Iowa will soon be able to furnish herself with molasses, independent of disunionists.

Manuring is much neglected here. Some think that to manure land is useless, especially the rich, black soil of Iowa; consequently they burn their straw, instead of keeping it to make manure.

I wish to know the dimensions of a ton of hay, or how many cubic feet does it contain in a stack of solid hay?

WM. BAXTER. Iowa City, Iowa, 1861.

FOREST SCREENS AND BORDERS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—H. T. B. has conferred a public benefit by his article upon "The Forests." The subject of planting has often been a matter of serious thought with me.

It is doubtful, however, whether any sharp reproof we might apply to those who have gone before us, would serve in anywise to mitigate our troubles, or make them more endurable.

I will remember an incident in my early years, bearing upon this subject. There was a piece of ten acres or more cleared, about our log house, having on it here and there a tree left standing.

Sometimes, doubtless, money ruled the hour, but oftener the wants of a numerous family demanded, or seemed to demand, an increased area of cultivable land; and in this connection, we may well remember the grant to the Israelites to cut down the timber, and make a wall against any city that was to be subdued.

The foregoing is the result of my own experiments, and I hold myself responsible to the public for the proof of the statements I have made.

In conclusion, I would say to farmers,—east and west of the Mississippi,—plant Sorghum, and not a garden patch, but five or ten acres,—get a good mill and an evaporator like mine, and if you are not satisfied with the result by this time next year, you may sentence me through the tribunal of the RURAL NEW-YORKER.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing in a late number of your paper an article respecting hens, and the profits from keeping them, I will cheerfully add my testimony in their favor.

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in water, or tying red strips of cloth to their feathers, is all wrong. The hen should be taken gently from the nest, when beginning to set, — placed in a suitable coop on the ground, under cover, — well fed and watered, and in two or three days, at most, let out.

Hens one or two years old are most profitable. The hen-house must be kept clean, — whitewashed two or three times during summer. I make, yearly, by throwing in muck and loam, from time to time, from four to six horse-carloads of superior manure, which I have found most valuable for starting corn in the spring.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Horses' Feet Balling with Snow. A CORRESPONDENT of the Spirit of the Times asks how to prevent snow balling in a horse's foot — and the editor responds:—Soft soap made with wood ashes, in Canada West, invariably rubbed on the soles of horses' feet, which causes them immediately to cast the snow therefrom.

Testing Seed Corn. A CORRESPONDENT of the Nebraska Farmer, after describing his method of selecting seed corn in the field in autumn, and keeping it in a moderately warm dry place in winter, says that in the spring he tests it as follows:—"He rolls or wraps each ear in paper; twists the little end, and shears off the paper at the big end down even with the ear. He then draws out the ear carefully and shells it. If the shelled corn of any ear does not fill the paper, it is rejected.

To Relieve Choking Cattle. ONE who is familiar with cattle gives the following directions for relieving them from choking:—"Put one arm over the neck, so as to have one hand on each side, find the substance that the animal is choked with, then place your thumb below it on each side, and shove it gently up into the mouth.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Annalen der Landwirtschaft states some interesting experiments to test the use of salt in fattening swine. He selected two pairs of barrow hogs weighing 200 pounds apiece. One pair received their daily allowance of food two ounces of salt; the other pair, similarly fed, none.

A WRITER in the American Agriculturist, while treating this topic, disquisitions thus:—"Not a leak in the roof, though that would be bad, but in the floor, which is worse, and many leaks, too, leaks between every plank! Why should this be allowed? Why not make the floor tight as possible, and have one gutter near the heels of the stock, to carry off the urine into a tank below, or in a heap of muck or other absorbent? Or, in place of this arrangement, have the floors well covered with litter, of straw, peat, tanbark, sawdust, plaster, or any dry absorbent material.

OHIO! BROOD CORN.—I noticed in a back number of the RURAL (Feb., 1860, I think), a communication relating to brood corn, in which a variety called the "Ohio" was recommended best for cultivation.

FOR-RISING AT THE WEST.—As the RURAL gives valuable advice on the raising and management of sheep and cattle, I would be pleased if some of your readers would give one on the management of hogs,—their experience in raising, profits, and also the best breeds.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION. OF Fruits, Grains, Dairy Products, &c., on Thursday, was not large, but included superior specimens in each class.

GRAIN FAIR.—A. B. Benham, Hayden, Tomp. Co., \$15. BUTTER DAIRY FAIR.—Robert Harvey, Leyden, Lewis Co., \$30. CHEESE DAIRY FAIR.—Leonard S. Stranding, Deer River, Lewis Co., \$50.

DISCRETIONARY.—A. H. Buck, Lowville, Lewis Co., (Cheese Dairy Fair.) S. Med. Special premium, Hiram Olmstead, Walton, Del. Co., (Butter Dairy,) \$10. GRASS CROP.—C. L. Kierstead, Ulster Co., crop Grass, 4 tons 1,720 lbs. per acre, Trans.; Solomon Walrath, Canton, St. Lawrence Co., special premium on Scotch Wheat, Trans.; Solomon Walrath, Bread from Scotch Wheat, Bridgman's Gardener.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS. Tompkins County Agricultural Society, \$30; Ithaca Farmers' Club, 20. DRAINING, &c. A. H. Buck, Lowville, Draining Past Swamp, \$10. GRASSES, &c. Mrs. Isaac Clement, Mechanicville, 100 varieties, \$15. FIELD CROPS. SPRING WHEAT.—CLIFF Eames, Rutland, Jeff. Co., 3 acres 82 bushels, crop 101 bushels, \$15. Mr. Hiram Olmstead, Walton, Del. Co., presented a crop of 67½ bushels Spring Wheat raised on 2 acres and 18 rods. The crop did not meet the requirements of the Society, as to the amount per acre, (80 bushels), therefore not awarded any special premium.

FEDRING CORN AND COB MEAL.—In the fall of 1857 I fed an ox on corn and cob meal to fatten. When killed, his paunch contained a mass two-thirds filling it, entirely composed of the hard, flint shell which envelops the end of the kernel and is left on the cob in shelling. This was so hard that it could not be broken with the pole of an ax.

FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP.—Another Remedy.—In the RURAL NEW-YORKER of January 5, a subscriber wants to know what will cure this disease. I will give him an infallible remedy, as I have tested it myself, and I never had to use it more than once, one application being sufficient either for the Foulis in horned cattle or Foot Rot in sheep: Take one-and-a-half gills of vinegar; 2 oz. verdigris; 1 oz. of white arsenic; 2 oz. of bole armeniac; 3 oz. of honey; 2 oz. of salt peter; ¼ oz. blue vitriol. The blue vitriol and salt peter to be dissolved, and the whole to be mixed together and applied with a feather to the hoofs after they have been well cleaned from mud.

DOINGS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES. N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Society was held last week at Albany. The attendance was not large, though quite respectable, and the sessions interesting.

By Cash Payments as follows:— 1860. Premiums at Winter Meeting, 1860, \$633.00 Expenses at do. 61.73 Survey of Onondaga county, 539.75 Expenses of previous fairs, including settlement of Albany claim of 1859, 3,023.31 Salary of Entomologist, Dr. ASA FITCH, 1,000.00 Expenses of Library and Museum, 145.07 Postage and Express, Samuel W. Johnson, of Gettysburg, 189.68 Printing, Advertising and Stationery, 534.69 Interest on \$10,000 loan, 2,520.49 Premiums at Elmira Fair, 1,782.71 Cash on hand to new account, \$18,563.82

Mr. Secretary JOHNSON read the Report of the Executive Committee, which comprised many interesting facts and suggestions. It will be published in the Society's Transactions. On motion the usual Committee of twenty-four—three from each Judicial District—was appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year, and recommend a place for holding the next Annual Fair. The Committee subsequently made the following report:

President—Hon. GEORGE GEDDES, of Onondaga. Vice-Presidents (one for each Judicial District)—John Jay, of New York; Benj. F. Camp, of Westchester; Herman Wendell, of Albany; John A. Corey, of Saratoga; S. D. Hungerford, of Jefferson; Ezra Cornell, of Tompkins; D. D. T. Moore, of Monroe; Samuel W. Johnson, of Gettysburg. Corresponding Secretary—E. P. Johnson, of Albany. Recording Secretary—Erasmus Corning, Jr., of Albany. Treasurer—Luther H. Tucker, of Albany. Executive Committee—J. C. Peters, of Genesee; N. Lapham, of Clinton; John Winslow, of Jefferson; E. Sherrill, of Ontario; Samuel Thorne, of Dutchess. The Committee reported that Watertown was the only place which had applied for the Fair, and recommended that the subject of selecting the place be referred to the Executive Committee.

The report of the Committee was adopted, and the officers nominated duly elected. A motion, offered by Mr. PETERS, of Genesee, to hold a Fair, in July or August next, at Canandaigua, or some other point in the interior of the State, for the Trial of Agricultural Implements; was referred to the Executive Committee. The proposition seemed to meet with much favor, and the Ex. Com. subsequently decided to carry it out. A resolution, in favor of the passage of the Assembly bill, authorizing the collection of agricultural statistics, was adopted. A resolution approving of the proposed exhibition of industry of all nations, in London, in 1862, and pledging the Society to aid in the enterprise, was adopted.

On motion of Hon. T. C. PETERS, a resolution was adopted affirming the impossibility of offering separate premiums for imported cattle, and in favor of their taking their chances of prizes with domestic cattle. Several important questions were introduced and discussed during the sessions, and referred to the Executive Committee for action. On Wednesday evening, Dr. ASA FITCH, Entomologist to the Society, read a paper on the entomological peculiarities of the past season, and Mr. J. S. GOULD read an essay on Grasses and their cultivation.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION. OF Fruits, Grains, Dairy Products, &c., on Thursday, was not large, but included superior specimens in each class. We have only space to give the list of premiums awarded as follows: GRAIN FAIR.—A. B. Benham, Hayden, Tomp. Co., \$15. BUTTER DAIRY FAIR.—Robert Harvey, Leyden, Lewis Co., \$30. CHEESE DAIRY FAIR.—Leonard S. Stranding, Deer River, Lewis Co., \$50.

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BARLEY.—Hiram Mills, Lowville, Lewis Co., 2 acres, 108½ bushels, 15. OATS.—C. E. Bloomfield, 3 3/4-100 acres, 305½ bushels, \$15; 24, Ira R. Peck, East Bloomfield, Ontario Co., 15 acres, 1,284 bushels, 10. POTATO.—Sylvanus Burris, Oaks Corners, Ont. Co., 1 acre 28 bushels, \$5; 2d, E. S. Hayward, Rochester, 1 1/2, 100 acres, 349 bushels, 5.

PEAS.—E. C. Peck, East Bloomfield, Ontario Co., 1 1/2-100 acres, 92 bushels, \$8. DISCRETIONARY.—Hiram Olmstead raised 955 bushels Ruta. Beggs on 35 rods land and 254 bushels Carrots on 44 rods of land, \$8.

GRAINS AND SEEDS. One bushel the amount of grain exhibited. WINTER WHEAT.—A. I. Pine, Pittsford, Res. Co., \$3; 2d, C. W. Wells, 2; 3d, E. S. Hayward, 1. SPRING WHEAT.—C. W. Wells, \$3; 2d, A. I. Pine, 2; 3d, D. W. C. De Forest, De Forestville, Res. Co., 1. RYE.—E. S. Hayward, \$3; 2d, A. I. Pine, 2. BARLEY.—Four Rowsed.—Hiram Mills, \$3; 2d, C. Oaks, Oaks Corners, Ont. Co., 2; 3d, Henry Wier, Johnsonville, Res. Co., 1. BARLEY.—Two Rowsed.—A. H. Buck, \$3. DISCRETIONARY.—E. Merriam, for sample Russian Barley, Trans.

OATS.—H. W. Mills, "Scotch Oats," \$3; 2d, C. W. Wells, 2; 3d, H. Wier, "Poland Oats," 1. BROOKWEAT.—C. W. Wells, \$3; 2d, H. Wier, 2. FLAX SEED.—H. Wier, \$3; 2d, same, 2. YELLOW CORN.—A. I. Pine, \$3; 2d, H. Wier, 2; 3d, C. W. Wells, 1. WHITE CORN.—H. Wier, \$3. PEAS.—A. H. Buck, "Black Eyed," \$3. BEANS.—H. Wier, \$3; 2d, A. I. Pine, 2; 3d, H. Wier, 1. TIMOTHY SEED.—2d, A. I. Pine, \$2. DISCRETIONARY.—Oliver Vanvalden, Cortland, Cort. Co., one quart English Turf, New York, 1. Mrs. H. Wier, 15 lbs. Corn in ear, California Mills, and Broom Corn Mills, Trans. and Downing.

DAIRY. BUTTER.—3 tubs, J. S. Holbert, Chemung, Chem. Co., \$15; 2d, Ira E. Merriam, Leyden, Lewis Co., 10. BUTTER MADE IN JUNE, AUGUST, AND NOVEMBER.—Wm. Pugh, Turin, Lewis Co., \$15. WINTER BUTTER.—Cliff Eames, Rutland, Jeff. Co., \$5; 2d, A. I. Pine, 3; 3d, C. W. Wells, 2. CHEESE.—Cliff Eames, \$15; 3d, Moses Eames, 10. FRUITS. APPLES.—20 varieties, Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, (40 varieties) \$4; 16, Wm. H. Slingerland, Norwanskill, \$3; 2d, A. I. Pine, Barry and I. Best dish, D. W. C. Forest, S. S. Medial. PEARS.—Collection (41 varieties), Ellwanger & Barry, Dip. and S. Med. Best var. Isabella Grapes, R. P. Wiles, Albany, S. S. Med. Dr. Freese, Buffalo, exhibited sample Raisins, sample Seedling Potatoes, &c. Acrost year got 684 bushels. Bridgman. Wm. H. Slingerland, Carrots and Mangel Wurzel, Trans. D. L. Halsey, Victory, Cayuga Co., 3 Rowen Ducks, (Dressed), S. Med. M. Van Alken, Cohoes, Van Alken's Washing Machine, S. S. Med. Marcus Prick, Ireland's Owners, Waterbury, S. Med. D. B. Prindle, East Bethany, N. Y. Corn Planter, S. S. Med. Miss Lucy N. Andrus, Turin, Lewis Co., Pencil Drawing Lewis Co. Fair Building, S. S. Med.

REGISTRATION.—A valuable practical Essay on Irrigation was presented, and is in the hands of the Committee on Essays, and the Essay will appear in the Transactions, with report of Committee. On Thursday evening the Annual Address was delivered by the retiring President; after which the President elect, Hon. GEORGE GEDDES, pronounced the following Inaugural: "Gentlemen of the New York State Agricultural Society:—I assume the duties of this place in obedience to your action, not at all in accordance with my own pleasure. I have been content to be a learner in the past, and feel somewhat diffidence at being placed at the head. I know what the Society has done for the State. Its past is secure—what shall be in the future, I do not predict. This Society has done for the State of New York, or rather the State of New York has done through the Society, more in its sphere of duty than has been accomplished by any other Government with so little expense.

The Society has risen in calm and quiet progress; the law that created it has but amended it. It did not give it a legal form and existence. It has moved in its own strength. The public spirit of the localities where its Fairs have been held, has provided for them. In relation to those Fairs, I have not had the advantage of comparison by foreign travel, but I believe that our Fair will compare with the best, and I believe to have been the best representation upon a single field, of more value and excellence than has been elsewhere gathered. Since you have been pleased to make me your President, I should be anxious to inquire into its responsibilities. The Society owes its success to its Executive Committee—not so much to its President as to that Committee. In them you have been exceedingly fortunate. Gentlemen who have been many years with us, have asked, "Some have retired, and some have been elected. I fear that I am not equal to the discharge of their practical knowledge, and I decline to part from friends so thoroughly tested. I thank you for the honor you have done me in this appointment. Were I ungrateful, I should be ignorant of the duties of the office. I am, however, and asking your indulgence, I turn to the Executive Committee, and ask them to do me to as my predecessor—to attend all the meetings, and if possible, to make this a year of success.

Rural Notes and Items.

"FARMERS, WRITE FOR YOUR PAPERS."—This has long been the motto of the Prairie Farmer, always a capital paper—whether conducted by WRIGHT and WRIGHT, or of yore, or EMERY and BRADDOCK, as now—and here is a suggestive item on the subject from its first number for 1861. Readers of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, who ought also to be writers for its practical departments, will please consider the remarks copied for their edification:—"Send us your experiences—tell of the lessons you have learned the past season. We are not altogether selfish in this asking. We ask it that there may be a mutual benefit. It assists the man who writes, because the effort to put it upon paper involves an analysis of his subject, and begets new thoughts and often new conclusions. It assists us, because it adds to the usefulness and practical value of the paper to practical men; and it aids our readers, because they are thus enabled to compare the experience of others with their own—to amend their practice when the reflection of the ideas of others mirrors its faults. It will please us, therefore, if there be at once frank, mutual friendship and reciprocal relations established between ourselves and our readers, and among our readers themselves—a desire to mutually benefit, aid, and encourage, by cheerfully and promptly advising, and writing for each other."

DEATH OF A VENERABLE FARMER.—In Claremont, N. H., on the 29th ult., the Hon. ISAAC HUBBARD departed this life, aged 90 years and 6 months. A long and useful life has thus been closed, and Mr. HUBBARD has gone to the grave mourned by all who enjoyed his acquaintance. The Boston Cultivator says he died in his early home on the banks of the beautiful Connecticut, rendered attractive by his superior taste and skill. His business concerns were conducted with a great degree of probity and uprightiness. Industrious, frugal, just and benevolent, he lived a quiet, peaceful, happy life. He was one of the early settlers of Claremont, and contributed his full share to promote the prosperity of this flourishing town. He will be remembered as an intelligent and successful cultivator and stock raiser. For a long series of years he had the reputation of sending the best fatted beef to Brighton Market. He raised and fed the mammoth ox "Olympus," which was exhibited in various parts of this country, and afterwards sent to England.

STEAM PLOWS IN FRANCE.—A Parisian journal, Le Genie Industriel says that ten steam plows, with twelve-horse power engines to operate them, are now being made under the orders of the Emperor by Mr. DIXON, of Bar-le-Duc. The locomotive is to be placed on one side of the field, the plow to be drawn by an endless chain, the opposite extremity of which is secured by an anchor. The plows are in gangs of eight, four to operate in one direction and four in the other. After each passage of the plows back and forth, the engine and the anchor are moved along at the side of the field a distance corresponding to the width plowed, which is about four feet. This plan was tried several years ago in England.

KENTUCKY STATE FAIR.—Notwithstanding the excitement about Secession, our Kentucky brethren seem to think that the old-fashioned plan for saving and strengthening any government,—encouraging agriculture and mechanic arts,—is the best, and they have, consequently, set apart five days (17—21) in September, for holding their Annual State Exhibition. Louisville is the point designated. The amount of the premium list reaches \$3,000, and the prizes are judiciously distributed between the departments of agriculture and manufactures.

THE HOP CROP OF NEW YORK.—The returns of the Inspector show that, from Jan. 1, 1860, to the Jan. 1, 1861, the amount of hops inspected in this State was 2120 bales, weighing 403,680 pounds. Of this amount, 406 bales only were the growth of 1860. With the exception of 1859, when the total reached 1850 bales, weighing 286,350 pounds, this is the smallest yield of any year since 1851.

HORTICULTURAL.

VEGETATION OF SEEDS.

In a few weeks the changing seasons will again bring "seed time." The precious seed, containing the germ that under favorable circumstances will produce a plant like its parent, will be committed to the earth. But, much that is sown will fall in stony places, and be withered by the scorching sun as soon as the tender roots reach out in search of nourishment from the soil; some will be choked with thorns and weeds, and never reward the sower for his labor or expense. So it was ages ago, so it is now, and so it will continue to be, perhaps, for ages yet to come. The lovers of flowers are now providing themselves with seeds for the coming spring, from the different dealers. We think it perfectly safe to say that at least eighty per cent. of these seeds are good, and will produce plants if properly treated, and yet we have no doubt that nine-tenths will never be seen again after they are committed to the earth. It is well then that we should investigate the cause of this destruction of valuable seeds, and ascertain if we can, the conditions necessary to their growth.

A portion of the people think altogether too lightly of this subject. They appear to entertain the idea that seeds will grow anywhere, and under any circumstances. Hence it matters but little whether what they plant is good or bad, the result is the same. They have seen the farmer make a hole and throw his corn into the ground, and in a little while it was up and growing. They have learned, too, that the seeds of our native trees and weeds grow without planting and care, and from these facts they get the idea that it is of little consequence where or how seeds are planted, so that they are in the ground. But, these should remember that the seeds planted by the farmer produce stronger and more robust plants than those of the florist, and thus are enabled to bear more hardships and to live under more unfavorable circumstances. Still, the farmers are fast learning that the better they prepare the ground, and the more they study the nature and wants of the plants they cultivate, the better the crop. Another fact should be remembered, that not one seed in a thousand sown by our forest trees and shrubs, produces a living plant. We cannot afford to purchase costly seeds and lose such a large proportion, which we will do if we plant in the same manner. Our weeds are hardy and prolific, very tenacious of life, and are able to propagate themselves under the most unfavorable circumstances, otherwise they would not be weeds. Most of our troublesome weeds are of foreign origin, the seeds being brought here by accident. Perhaps the largest part thus introduced have lived for a season and perished unnoticed, while the hardiest became naturalized. If the florist would be satisfied with only the most hardy and prolific flowers, such as would take care of themselves, then he might pursue a careless system of planting and cultivation, fill his garden with dandelions and poppies; but he wants the rare and beautiful flowers of every land, as far as climate will permit, to adorn his garden. He must have those that flourish naturally in warmer climates, and under more genial skies, and to do so, care and skill is required, and a different system of culture than is necessary for the propagation of weeds. There are others who have altogether an exaggerated view of the difficulties to be encountered in the growth of plants from seed. These views may have been the result of repeated failures. They think a Hot-Bed or a Green-House essential, and that without these conveniences little can be done in growing valuable plants. This is not the case, yet it is a fact that in a hot-bed, if properly managed, seeds will grow freely; and, if well that we should ascertain why this is so.

In the first place, however, we will examine the causes of failure. If fine seeds are planted too deep, they either rot in the damp, cold earth, for the want of the warmth necessary to their germination, or after germination perish before the tender shoots can reach the sun and air, so that that which was designed for their support and nourishment proves their graves.

If the soil is a stiff clay, it is often too cold at the time the seeds are planted to effect their germination, for it must be understood that warmth and moisture are necessary to the germination of seeds. Neither of these will do alone. Seeds may be kept in a warm dry room, in dry sand or earth, and they will not grow. They may be placed in damp earth, and kept in a low temperature, and they will most likely rot, though some seeds will remain dormant a long time under these circumstances. But place them in moist earth, in a warm room, and they will commence growth at once. Another difficulty with heavy or clay soil is, that it becomes hard on the surface, and this prevents the young plants from "coming up," or, if during showery weather they happen to get above the surface, they become locked in, and make but little advancement, unless the cultivator is careful to keep the crust well broken.

If seeds are sown in rough, lumpy ground, a portion will be buried under the clods and never grow, and much that start will not find a fit soil for their tender roots, and perish. A few may escape these difficulties, and flourish.

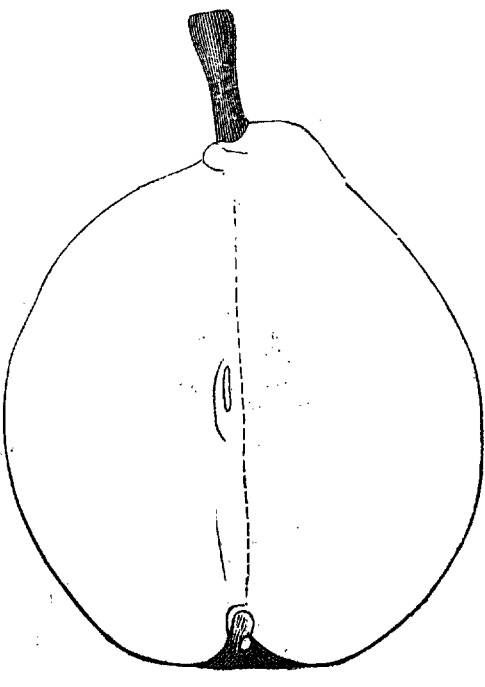
All of the above cases show good reason for failure, but there is one cause of failure in which the reason is not so apparent. The soil, we will suppose, is well prepared, fine as it can be made, and of that loamy or sandy character best fitted for small seeds. We will suppose, too, that the seed were sown on the surface with a little earth sifted over them, and that this was not done until the season was so far advanced as to furnish the warmth necessary to secure vegetation. Under these very favorable circumstances many seeds will grow, and if the weather is both warm and showery, very few will fail. But if, as is very common at the season of the year when we plant our seeds, we have a succession of cold rain storms, many will perish. A night's frost will ruin all. If, however, the weather should prove warm and without showers, the surface will become very dry, and the seeds having so slight a covering will be dried up and perish as soon as they germinate, and before the roots attain sufficient size and strength to go down where the soil is more moist.

It is to overcome these evils that Hot Beds are useful. By being protected on the sides and ends with boards and covered with glass, they confine the moisture which arises from the earth in mist, and thus the atmosphere is kept humid and the surface moist, and the plants are not subjected to the changes of temperature, as a uniform state can be maintained, no matter what the weather may be. The bottom-heat of the hot-bed warms the soil, and enables the grower to put in his seed early and obtain plants of good size before the soil outside is warm enough to receive the seed. The principal advantages of the hot-bed, however, can be secured by what is called a Cold Frame.

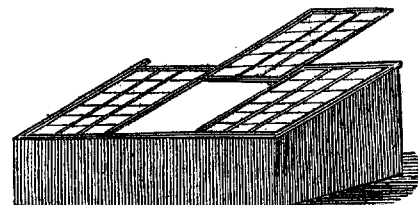
DORCHESTER BEAUTY PEAR.

AMONG the new pears we had an opportunity to examine and taste the last season, was the *Dorchester Beauty*, a seedling of Mr. CLAPP'S, of *Dorchester, Mass.* It is inferior to *Clapp's Favorite*, which we before noticed, and far less promising; yet it is a handsome pear. The *Native Fruit Committee of the American Pomological Society* describe it as "a handsome, but rather poor fruit." The *Fruit Committee of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society*, say "the tree is a fine grower, and very productive; size rather large, 2 1/2 by 2 1/2 inches; form, obovate; skin, yellow, with a carmine cheek, inclining to orange, and containing a few gray dots; stem, three-fourths of an inch long, inserted in a very small cavity, with several faint rings; calyx, medium; segments, erect, set in a superficial plaited basin; core, medium; seed, plump, light brown; flesh, not very juicy; flavor, pleasant; quality, very good. Ripe, from the middle of August to the middle of September."

This is one of the most beautiful looking pears that have been produced, but the specimens tested by the Committee were dry, and of ordinary quality. The past season having been unfavorable to the production of fruit of high flavor, it is not safe to express a very decided opinion of any new fruit.



This is simply a hot-bed frame, with glazed sash, as shown in the engraving, placed upon a bed of fine, mellow earth, in some sheltered place in the garden. By the exclusion of air, and the admission of sun, the earth becomes warm, and the moisture is confined, as in the hot-bed. After the frame is secured in its place, a couple of inches of fine earth should be placed inside, and the frame closed up for a day or two before the seeds are planted. As the cold-frame de-



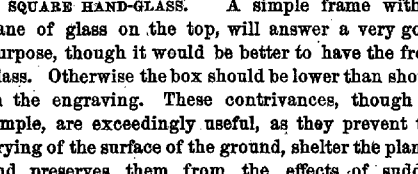
HOT-BED FRAME.

duced plants. *Buttercups*, the plaything of children, and the overspreading plague of some grass regions, are from Europe. Some localities in Maine are absolutely golden in the season of their flowering. The *Barberry*, which has so thoroughly established itself in this vicinity, is European, and has not elsewhere taken such a hold. *Celandine*, which fills our waste places with its delicate green leaves at the very beginning of spring, and displays its pretty yellow blossoms later, with which children anoint their warty fingers to rid them of their excrescences, is European. The *Water Cress*, common in our markets in spring, the *Hedge Mustard*, which sends up its gaunt spikes of fruit so commonly by the roadsides, the *Shepherd's Purse*, covering waste places everywhere with its early green, the *Wild Radish*, which has become a very troublesome field weed, are all European. Among the common and more or less troublesome usurpers of the soil are *St. John's Wort*, *Bladder Campion*, *Mouse-Ear Chickweed*, *Purslane*, *Common Mallow*, or cheeses as the children call them, nearly all the *Clovers*, *May Weed*, and *White Weed*. This last is a thorough plague in grass lands. Its strong roots kill out the grass and are difficult to extirpate. Its origin here is differently explained. Some say it was introduced as a pretty flower; others that it was brought over, like many others, with grass seed or in luggage. In Europe it is a pet of the poets, and, under the romantic names of *Ox Eye Daisy* and *Marguerite*, it has been celebrated in verse. Here it is universally execrated as an intolerable pest. The *Canada Thistle* is not by any means a Canadian visitor. It comes from Europe, and its legion of seeds have spread it broadcast over the land. The *Burdock*, equally common and the sport of children, comes from the same source. *Succory* or *Cicory* has established itself thoroughly around Boston. This is the same plant cultivated abroad for the "Chicory," which is used to adulterate coffee; the root being used after roasting and grinding. Here it is only known for its beautiful starry blue flowers. The *False Dandelion* has completely established itself in our grass lands, and sends up its branching *Sower-thistle* in autumn, covering our parterres with its yellow blossoms. Many unquestionably think it a late blossoming of the true *Dandelion*, which is quite a different plant. Other worthless visitors are the *Low Thistles*, *Mullein*, *Toad Flax*, *Blue Verbena*, *White Verbena*, *Motherwort*, *Bindweed*, *Nightshade*, *Thorn Apple*, all of the *Pigweeds*, all of the *Amaranth*s, *Smart Weed*, *Bitter and Curled Dock*, and *Field Sorrel*, and *Nettle*.



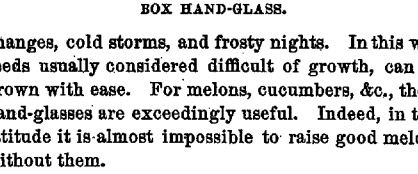
HAND-GLASS.

The same object may be accomplished in a way even more simple, by hand-glasses. The engraving above shows one form. The back may be either board or glass, and if the former, it should be placed so as to face south-east, tho' the better way is to have the ends board and the sides glass. Another and very convenient style of hand-glass is made square, being a simple frame with glass set in the sides and top.



SQUARE HAND-GLASS.

A simple frame with a pane of glass on the top, will answer a very good purpose, though it would be better to have the front glass. Otherwise the box should be lower than shown in the engraving. These contrivances, though so simple, are exceedingly useful, as they prevent the drying of the surface of the ground, shelter the plants, and preserves them from the effects of sudden



BOX HAND-GLASS.

changes, cold storms, and frosty nights. In this way seeds usually considered difficult of growth, can be grown with ease. For melons, cucumbers, &c., these hand-glasses are exceedingly useful. Indeed, in this latitude it is almost impossible to raise good melons without them.

But, where these conveniences are not to be had, though we hope there are few of our readers so unfortunately situated,—make a good bed of light, mellow soil, in a sheltered situation in the garden, and as soon as the weather becomes settled, and the ground warm, sow the seeds, carefully covering with a little fine earth, and if the seeds are small, sift it on. Then cover the bed with damp moss, which will prevent the surface from drying. The covering must be removed as soon as the young plants make their appearance above the ground.

If these hints are heeded, we think our readers will have little cause to complain that their seeds refuse to grow. In a future number we will resume the subject.

INTRODUCED PLANTS.

In the last year's Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, we find an interesting article under the above heading, by CHARLES J. SPRAGUE, from which we make the following extract: "There are few places which afford such an abundance and variety of naturalized foreign plants as the vicinity of Boston. The number of plants recorded in Dr. GRAY'S Manual of the Northern States, as being acclimated in that region, is 260 out of 2351, or just one-ninth of the whole. Of this number more than one-third are to be found more or less commonly around Boston. The causes of this are the immigration of people of many nations who have brought with them, in their apparel or luggage, the seeds of the commoner plants of their own country, which would be likely to adhere to them; seeds mingled with the grass seed imported here; and others attached to the many articles of merchandise coming constantly into the country.

Some of these have spread themselves so widely as to have become intolerable pests to the agriculturist, who does not know, perhaps, that the enemy he seeks to destroy is a foreign one. It is a singular fact, that nearly all the weeds which have become the special curse of New England farmers are intro-

duced plants. *Buttercups*, the plaything of children, and the overspreading plague of some grass regions, are from Europe. Some localities in Maine are absolutely golden in the season of their flowering. The *Barberry*, which has so thoroughly established itself in this vicinity, is European, and has not elsewhere taken such a hold. *Celandine*, which fills our waste places with its delicate green leaves at the very beginning of spring, and displays its pretty yellow blossoms later, with which children anoint their warty fingers to rid them of their excrescences, is European. The *Water Cress*, common in our markets in spring, the *Hedge Mustard*, which sends up its gaunt spikes of fruit so commonly by the roadsides, the *Shepherd's Purse*, covering waste places everywhere with its early green, the *Wild Radish*, which has become a very troublesome field weed, are all European. Among the common and more or less troublesome usurpers of the soil are *St. John's Wort*, *Bladder Campion*, *Mouse-Ear Chickweed*, *Purslane*, *Common Mallow*, or cheeses as the children call them, nearly all the *Clovers*, *May Weed*, and *White Weed*. This last is a thorough plague in grass lands. Its strong roots kill out the grass and are difficult to extirpate. Its origin here is differently explained. Some say it was introduced as a pretty flower; others that it was brought over, like many others, with grass seed or in luggage. In Europe it is a pet of the poets, and, under the romantic names of *Ox Eye Daisy* and *Marguerite*, it has been celebrated in verse. Here it is universally execrated as an intolerable pest. The *Canada Thistle* is not by any means a Canadian visitor. It comes from Europe, and its legion of seeds have spread it broadcast over the land. The *Burdock*, equally common and the sport of children, comes from the same source. *Succory* or *Cicory* has established itself thoroughly around Boston. This is the same plant cultivated abroad for the "Chicory," which is used to adulterate coffee; the root being used after roasting and grinding. Here it is only known for its beautiful starry blue flowers. The *False Dandelion* has completely established itself in our grass lands, and sends up its branching *Sower-thistle* in autumn, covering our parterres with its yellow blossoms. Many unquestionably think it a late blossoming of the true *Dandelion*, which is quite a different plant. Other worthless visitors are the *Low Thistles*, *Mullein*, *Toad Flax*, *Blue Verbena*, *White Verbena*, *Motherwort*, *Bindweed*, *Nightshade*, *Thorn Apple*, all of the *Pigweeds*, all of the *Amaranth*s, *Smart Weed*, *Bitter and Curled Dock*, and *Field Sorrel*, and *Nettle*.

It will be noticed that in the above enumeration are comprised most of the troublesome weeds which infest our grounds. It is somewhat singular that the agriculturist should have to thank other regions of the globe for the most valuable as well as the most vexatious plants which grow under his eye. Some of the plants enumerated have become so completely naturalized as to make it difficult, without sufficient data, to affirm their foreign origin. There are some curious points in regard to this naturalization. Many of the commonest of European weeds have never taken possession here, while others have multiplied prodigiously. Of the many European violets, only one, the *Viola Tricolor*, has established itself, and that sparingly. As we have numerous species of violets ourselves; this seems the more strange. Out of 132 species of *Carex* or *Sedge*, only one is foreign, and that only in one small locality. As *Sedges* must inevitably be cut with grass in the season of hay, it is singular that the foreign species should not have been brought here with grass seed. The laws which govern the growth of plants in different localities are obscure in their workings. We find individual species establishing themselves everywhere, while other closely allied species refuse to be transplanted. Some garden plants defy the care and attention of the florist, while others overrun the garden wall and take full possession of the neighboring farmer's field, destroying his harvests as they move.

THE NORTHERN SPY APPLE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I observe that the discussions of the Fruit Growers of Western New York, at their recent meeting, indicate that the *Spy* has been more than usually successful the past season. This has also been the case here, in a very marked degree. Scions of this variety were first introduced here about the year '45, and grafted in the tops of large trees, where they made a fine growth, and in some cases produced a few specimens within the next four or five years. In most cases, however, they have, by their non-bearing quality, been a severe tax upon the patience of cultivators. One of the oldest growers of this fruit hereabouts, who has a large number of the trees, realized a full crop for the first time, in 1857; since which time his trees have produced little or nothing until the past season, when another full crop was realized. Indeed, throughout the entire State, so far as I have been able to learn, the past season has been one of unusual fruitfulness with this variety. Having seventy or eighty fine thrifty trees of this kind, large enough to have produced full crops for the last five or six years, but which had failed to realize my expectations, I had for the last year or two seriously contemplated re-grafting them, but the profuse crop of the past year, and the great beauty and fine quality of the fruit, have induced me to delay the operation; although, from past experience, we can by no means feel sure that the improvement will be permanent. There are also abundant

reasons to fear that the spot or scab, to which it is subject at the East, will also attend it here. On young trees especially it seems disposed to bear only on the inner branches, for which reason the fruit lacks color and flavor, unless the trees are kept thoroughly pruned.

With me the fruit averages very large, and doubtless for that reason fails to keep as long as it has the credit of doing at the East. It is now in its prime. Plymouth, Mich., Feb. 11th, 1861. T. T. LYON.

The Northern *Spy* is now more abundant in our market than any other variety. In this respect it seems to have taken the place of the *Baldwin* and the *Greening*. A few such seasons as the past would make the *Spy* very popular here.

INSECT POWDER.

A VEGETABLE powder, under the name of "Persian Insect Powder," has lately been introduced into the drug market, for the extermination of insects, vegetable parasites, &c. Until recently, the botanical source of this powder has not been known. For a number of years it was erroneously considered to be a native of Persia, but it has been traced beyond question by Dr. Koch, as having its origin in the Caucasian provinces, and to be the confused blossoms and flowers of *Pyrethrum roseum* and *Pyrethrum carneum*. It is of a yellowish, gray color, perfectly odorless, yet slightly irritating the nostrils; at first almost tasteless, but afterwards leaving a burning sensation upon the tongue. The high price obtained for it, taken in connection with the scarcity of the article, has induced dealers to adulterate it with plants of similar characteristics, such as chamomile flowers, *Teabane*, &c.; but the presence of these extraneous substances can, without difficulty, be detected by their peculiar odor, and from the fact that, in proportion as these substances are introduced, the efficacy of the power is impaired.

From experiments lately made in Europe, it has been sufficiently demonstrated that the plant can be propagated from the seed, and that it will thrive in a climate similar to that of our Northern States.

I have recently been informed by a gentleman who obtained some of the seeds of this plant from the Agricultural Bureau at Washington, that the plants therefrom are in a flourishing and prosperous condition.

As its effects for the destruction of bugs, roaches, parasites on delicate plants, &c., have been fully established, and it being otherwise harmless, its introduction into general use would be of great importance to families and horticulturists, from the fact that it would exclude the use of poisonous articles, now resorted to for such purposes, which are often the cause of serious accidents.—*Amer. Journal of Pharmacy*.

Inquiries and Answers.

INJURY TO AN ORCHARD BY MICE.

I AM in trouble, and if you, or some of your numerous correspondents, will help me out of it, I shall consider it a favor. Two years ago last fall I commenced to set a young orchard. Of the first set, (150,) I lost fifty. I then tried another nursery, setting in the spring, and lost but very few. Yet my field was not filled. Last spring I filled out the field, and lost but three. Last fall I had three hundred trees all alive, doing first-rate, of the best varieties that I could obtain from three different nurseries. It made me feel good to walk through the lot. During the present week I was out to see my trees, and found that the mice had eaten the bark from one-third of them, clear round, from one to six inches up the trees. My anxiety is to save the trees alive.—ASA CROSBY, *Cato, Feb.*, 1861.

There is no more truthful saying than that prevention is better than cure. Perhaps most of these trees may yet be saved, but if so, it will be at the cost of a good deal of time and anxiety. If a piece of tarred cloth had been tied around the base of each tree, they would have been saved. A piece of tin may be bent around so as to keep the mice from the bark, or a couple of horse-shoe drain-tiles, or a wooden box, will answer the same purpose. It is well also to destroy all harbors for mice, and a little effort at the destruction of the mice by poisoning, has often been successful in getting rid of these destructive vermin. But as the evil is now accomplished, we will suggest the best remedy we know of. If the tree is small, and only a small portion is girdled, cut the bark even at the edges, and then take the bark from some limbs, and fit it as nicely as possible in the place girdled, thus restoring the bark taken from the trunk, by that taken from the limbs. It may be in one or more pieces, and secured in place by grafting wax, and over this any soft material may be tied. The way it is done is shown in the engraving above. If the tree is too large, and the bark is removed too great a distance from the tree for this operation, after smoothing the injured bark, cut scions, and by them connect the upper and lower portions of the bark, as shown in the second engraving. These shoots or scions must be made wedge-shaped, and inserted in a cut made by a chisel, about an inch above and below the edges of the gnawed bark, and well secured in their places.

A correspondent, of Indiana, writes:—"I think I have found out a very satisfactory way of disposing of those trees whose trunks have been winter-killed or girdled by mice. I cut the tree off with a saw just below where the bark is sound, and then insert, between the bark and wood, scions, as for cleft grafting. These make a thrifty growth, and if allowed to grow without being mutilated with the knife, will make fruit in a short time. Had I known this plan five years ago, I think that three hundred trees would now be growing for me, at one-tenth the trouble and cost I have had in digging out old trees, and in buying, hauling, and planting new ones, from the nursery."

THE COLBERT APPLE.—I noticed in the *RURAL* of Feb. 23, an inquiry from a subscriber in regard to the *Colbert* apple. I have several young trees of this kind. They fruit well, are large, red striped, pleasant, sub-acid, good for culinary purposes, for eating tolerably good, rather coarse flesh, but liable to fall when fully grown on account of their size and weight. It is a late fall apple, and often keeps till January. *Colbert's Market Apple* is a stranger here. I wish now to make an inquiry, to wit: how much orchard grass seed is required per acre, and the best time to sow it.—I. N. AVERTY, *Wampsville, Mad. Co., N. Y., Feb.*, 1861.

About twenty-four pounds, or two bushels of orchard grass is usually sown on an acre, either in the autumn or early in the spring. When sown with clover, only about one-half this quantity of seed is necessary.

GRAFTING, &c.—In my orchard, which I am trying to improve in various ways, are two thrifty apple trees—the largest in the orchard—from eight to twelve inches in diameter below the limbs, but they bear little fruit, and that is worthless. Will you, or some correspondent, have the kindness to inform me which is the surest and quickest way to obtain good fruit,—to graft, or remove them, and supply their places with young bearing trees? Also, which is the best time to paint outside work—spring or fall?—C. W. TUNNAY, *Dighton, Feb.*, 1861.

By grafting the old trees you will obtain good fruit several years before you could obtain any from young trees, and in larger quantities. Paint either late in the autumn or very early in the spring.

LOCUST THORN FOR HEDGES.—Will the *RURAL*, or some of its numerous contributors, please inform me whether *Honey Locust* is adapted to the purpose of making a hedge. When is the proper time for planting the seeds? Is it best to plant the seeds in a nursery, or in the hedge row? Is it necessary to scald or soak the seed before planting?—N. E. PARENTIS, *Eastville, Ohio, Feb.*, 1861.

Put hot water upon the seeds and allow them to soak twelve hours. Plant in April, in rows, and transplant to the hedge when one or two years old. For further information, see *RURAL* of January 12, of present year, page 14.

Domestic Economy.

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In your paper of a recent date, a subscriber asks for a recipe for Sirup of Sarsaparilla,—herewith you have two:

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP.—Take of the bruised root of sarsaparilla 12 ounces, boil for two hours in 2 gallons water, strain and add 4 lbs. sugar, 4 lbs. maple sugar, and 1 gallon sugar-house molasses,—boil again and remove from the fire.

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP—such as is used for flavoring soda water.—Take 12 lbs. brown sugar; 3 oz. extract liquorice; 3 oz. sassafras bark; 2 gallons of water,—boil and strain.—X. Y. Z.

SEEING an inquiry in the *RURAL NEW-YORKER* for a recipe to make Sarsaparilla Sirup, I send mine, which I know to be good.—Sarsaparilla, one pound; red gacuum, half do.; sassafras bark of roots, one-third do.; burdock roots, one-third do.; boil until the strength is all out, then simmer down to two quarts, add two pounds of good sugar, let boil, and skim. When cool, bottle for use. Dose from one-third to one-half of a wine glass three times a day on an empty stomach.—A. SUBSCRIBER, *Scioto Co., Ohio*.

To make Sarsaparilla Sirup, take shavings of liquorice root one ounce; sassafras bark, one ounce; sarsaparilla, six ounces,—boil in soft water six hours, then add three drachms of magassarum bark, and boil half an hour, leaving six gills of the liquor. Add half pound of loaf sugar and half pint of alcohol.—S. J. J., *Canton, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., 1861*.

SARSAPARILLA SIRUP.—One-half sarsaparilla; one-fourth gacuum chips; two of yellow dock; one oz. iodide potassium. Cover with soft water, boil down to two quarts, strain, add two pounds loaf sugar, one pint Holland gin while warm. Cool and add the iodide.—JAS. G. IRWIN, *Southwest Oswego, N. Y.*

DOMESTIC DUTIES.—A knowledge of domestic duties is beyond all price to a woman. Every one of our sex ought to know how to sew, and knit, and mend, and cook, and superintend a household. In every situation of life, high or low, this sort of knowledge is of great advantage. There is no necessity that the gaining of such information should interfere with intellectual acquirement or elegant accomplishment. A well regulated mind can find time to attend to all. When a girl is nine or ten years old, she should be accustomed to take some regular share in household duties, and to feel responsible for the manner in which her part is performed, such as her own mending, washing the cups and putting them in place, cleaning silver, or dusting and arranging the parlor. This should not be done occasionally, and neglected whenever she feels it convenient; she should consider it her department. When older than twelve, girls should begin to take turns in superintending the household, making puddings, pies, &c.; to learn effectually to do these things themselves, and not stand by and see others do them.—*Mrs. Child*.

COMFORT WITHIN DOORS.—How to Make a Lounge.—Many a one lives a lifetime wanting the little luxuries pertaining to comfort within doors, because of an impression that he cannot afford to buy, and therefore cannot have them. It is not so,—although the gloss of silk, or mahogany polished, may not be had, a little application in leisure hours, a little thought and considerable determination or perseverance, will procure all the comforts, if not the show. Money expended to fit up one show room, or to purchase one marble-top table, if applied in the purchase of some easy chairs, would give daily pleasure, and a few inch boards and four pieces of scantling can easily be put together to form the frame work of a lounge. Cover this first with a cushion of common cotton cloth, stuff it with corn husks or straw, then another covering of cheap calico, and you have a resting place equal, so far as comfort is concerned, to the best sofa. Try it, farmers' wives.

CURE FOR NEURALGIA.—Some time since we published, at the request of a friend, a recipe to cure neuralgia. Half a drachm of sal ammonia in an ounce of camphor water, to be taken a teaspoonful at a dose, and the dose repeated several times, at intervals of five minutes, if the pain be not relieved at once. Half a dozen different persons have since tried the recipe, and in every case an immediate cure was effected. In one, the sufferer, a lady, had been subjected to acute pains for more than a week, and her physician was unable to alleviate her sufferings, when a solution of sal ammonia in camphor water relieved her in a few minutes.—*Alta Californian*.

TO MAKE HARD SOAP OF SOFT.—Take good soft soap, any quantity you choose, bring it to a boiling heat, then add salt gradually, stirring it constantly till you observe it separate,—something like curds and whey. Then let it cool, and you can cut it into bars and take out, leaving the ley in the kettle. To purify it further, put the soap again into the kettle, and add an equal quantity of water, and for every five pounds of soap, one-fourth pound of rosin,—make it boil, and again add salt as before. When cold cut it into bars and lay it up to dry.—A PRACTICAL HOUSEWIFE, *Gorham, N. Y., 1861*.

COOKING EGG PLANT.—A correspondent asks how to cook egg plant. Cut the plant in thin slices, sprinkle with salt, and let them stand half an hour, pour off the water that the salt extracts, and dry the plant with a towel. Beat an egg, dip the plant in it and then in rolled cracker, fry brown in butter. Some prefer simply dipping them in flour without the crackers, or rolling them in flour without the egg. Season highly and cook slowly.—S. J. T., *South Side, Staten Island, N. Y., 1861*.

FIRST PREMIUM CORN BREAD.—Scald a pint of Indian meal, add to it a pint of sponge; half teacup of molasses; small teaspoon of salaratus, stir in flour with a spoon till quite stiff, put in pan, let it rise, and bake it one hour.—MRS. E. S. H., *Rochester, N. Y.*

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

TAKEN.—However, that is neither here nor there; she went home to breakfast, and had scarcely reached the full favor of her first sip of tea, when the servant passed her a plate of biscuit, the sight of which, to say nothing of smell, immediately threw her into violent hysterics. "Oh!" she exclaimed, in an agonizing tone of voice, "take the horrid things from my sight." This sad spectacle would have been prevented had the cook used D. B. De Lano & Co.'s Chemical Salaratus, instead of the worthless, impure stuff which did find its way into that otherwise peaceful and happy household. D. B. De Lano & Co., Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y., make a perfectly pure and reliable Salaratus. It can be procured of most dealers in groceries, and at wholesale from the grocers in large towns, and of the manufacturers.

Ladies' Department.

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

O, it is pain, 'tis agony to know That those we love so tenderly below Will sometimes prove unkind;

Perhaps it was an idle breath that fanned The zephyr; and with desolating hand Left sadness in the soul.

O, I had thought of Friendship as a thing Too precious, far too pure an offering, To free from earthly stain,

And Love an emblem of the deathless mind, Too changeless, gentle, and refined, To cause one throb of pain.

O, morning dew is not more brief, I said, Than Friendship,—but a moment prized, then fled, Leaving us doubly lone;

We strive, we yearn to gain a flower so pure, But, having gained, we deem the prize secure, And soon 'tis fled and gone.

In there not spurned here, I cried, Where envy, jealousy, and human pride Will cease to mar our love?

An angel, white-robed, from the viewless Heaven, Sighed, not on earth, 'Tis given,— Seek it in worlds above.

South Denby, N. Y., 1861. MARY A. B.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] EXTRAVAGANCE IN DRESS.

IN THE RURAL OF FEB. 2d., I noticed continued observations on "over dressing," and as the subject is one in which all women are interested, we presume that those who wish are at liberty to engage in the discussion.

There is no greater evil for the philanthropist to oppose than that of over dressing. Were the custom destroyed, the human family would not only be benefited socially, but mentally, morally, and physically.

With me the effect of over dressing has been a lifetime lamentation; I regard it a curse in many ways, but the least important consideration is the idea of "pleasing gentlemen."

There is a consideration which, with woman, should be pre-eminently above the one of merely pleasing; for there are now hundreds and thousands of women in our land who have been ruined by a love of dress.

Fashion is a tyrant, and sends more women to the haunts of vice than all other causes united; and if the Sisters of Charity are longing for a great work to do, let them, with the chain of example, draw their sister women from the clutches of this monster;

There is a sweet, magic charm in those three simple words,—the old homestead. It awakens buried memories; it kindles the soul with the recollections and associations that made home the dearest and best place on earth in the days of our youth and childhood.

There are moments in the life of every one when the past will arise to the mind, and we behold loved friends and scenes so plainly that it seems like the opening of a new grave. We forget the present, we care not for the future; our soul is dwelling upon the past.

And yet with all these pleasant memories there is mingled a tone of sadness; for there arises a picture so mournful that we would fain turn away from it. We would not if we could forget it, though the picture were thrice as gloomy and dark.

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his dark pinions. We saw and feared his coming. We knew when he crossed our threshold, though his step was silent and his form unseen. With bursting heart and tearless cheek we stood by the couch of the dying, and saw Death's icy glances steal over the beloved eyes that would never again beam with love and affection in our family circle.

We well remember how very lonely the old homestead seemed to us. How weeks and months passed ere the dark shadow which Death had cast over it grew less drear and gloomy, and it has never seemed to wear so joyous and cheerful a look since Death broke the chain that bound the dear home circle.

Gainville Seminary, N. Y., 1861. AGNES PATTERSON.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] TO FARMER'S WIVES.

WITH your permission, Messrs. Editors, I would like to say a few words in defense of "hired help," in reply to an article entitled "Hard Truths," which appeared in the RURAL OF DECEMBER 1st, and signed "A Farmer's Wife."

As a general rule, good mistresses have good help. Such has been my experience while engaged in teaching for four years, and boarding at many different places in the country, village, and city.

As when I was a child, I have seen the farmer's wife, who is the mistress of the household, and she is the one who is the mistress of the household.

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Choice Miscellany.

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

"A LARGE circle round the moon last night."—Extract from Washington's diary, Dec. 12, 1799.

The century was growing old,— The night was wearing to its noon,— A monarch on Mt. Vernon stood, And gazed a while upon the moon.

No other crown his brow had prest, And yet a Nation bowed to him With homage such as never yet Has greeted robe and diadem;

When thrice that moon arose and set, A hand had pressed that noble brow And left a glistening coronet As cold and white as virgin snow.

Wherever sped the fearful tale, A sad and dirgelike wail was heard, That trembled up from ev'ry heart As zephyrs stir the Eolian chord.

Our Banner floated on the sea, As o'er the waves our vessels sped; But ope, around its folds entwined, Proclaim that "WASHINGTON IS DEAD!"

And thus, wherever hearts were true, And love of Freedom fired the brain, The Freeman would his oath renew, And Slavery shake her loosened chain.

My Countrymen! from sea to sea, From land to land, its folds are spread; Unchanged in all save added stars, As when it waved above his head.

Oh would his spirit might return, To breathe upon the smould'ring fires That in Columbia's sons must live To make them worthy of their sires,

For "Liberty" and "Common Weal." Athens, O., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE WINTER TIME.

WINTER! Glad old Winter, is peculiarly the intellectual harvest-field of the farmer. In budding spring-time, 'tis true, odd hours may be devoted to intellectual feasts,—sweet morsels may be picked up during summer showers, when out-door work is precluded,—and, when the driving Autumn storm beats ceaselessly against the window-pane, a cozy seat in the parlor may be given up to literature; but in winter, when the fierce frost king comes down from the North, and takes up his abode in the fields,—wages fierce nightly warfare with the elements, the farmer seeks the shelter of his cottage roof, the cheery comfort of his fireside, and gives himself up to mental culture and the bliss of the home circle.

Search the "wide, wide world," and you find no spot so sacred, so loved, or fraught with interests so great as the home-circle of the agriculturist. The farmer talks nature's language, partakes of nature's bounties, breathes full inspirations of the pure air of heaven, and is thus assimilated to the character of nature's God.

And, too, the farmer's evening visit. The "sovereigns" discuss politics,—the ladies, domestic economy and the additions to the next State Fair,—while the children seek the kitchen, and enjoy "hugely" "blind man's buff" and the like.

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you are building an enduring shelter, to which their hearts may flee when chilled by the cold world which they so soon must buffet.

Alfred, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE MELODY OF WATERS.

FROM the morning stars that sang together the ocean caught the key-note, and a thousand mountain rills and pleasant lakes joined in the harmony.

For, as thoughts flow softly in a dream, so do light-winged visions float around us as we listen to the falling rain drops,—to the "rain upon the roof."

Laughing over the pebbles with a music clear as of silver bells, the streamlet hastens down the mountain side, into the vale below, and sighing there, doth all the lily and the rose to sleep, and throw a spray, light as the breath of the morning, over the meek-eyed violets.

Calm lies the broad blue water, but each tiny wave lifts its speck of foam to the sunbeams, and rings out a sweet refrain to the laughing winds, and weary feet that tread the shore rest, and sorrow is charmed away, and a mantle of peace falls softly over the weary cares and gloomy fears, for the music is very soft.

The ocean hath a minstrelsy. The waves mount upward and talk to the stars,—as if they told the story of all time, so deep are the moanings,—as if of hidden things of the future they spoke, so mysterious are the muffled voices,—full many a funeral dirge is chanted, full many a destiny revealed,—and listening, over the heart of man a tide of sorrow rolls,—for the feeling of awe and dread awakened by the mighty voice of the ocean.

In the voice of the waters there have lingered tones that could play upon the spirit's harp, calling thence music plaintive in its sad burthen, or light and gay. The captive in a strange land hangeth his harp upon the willows, and while the waves play at his feet, sings of the rivers in his own loved land.

Then, mountain rill, ring out thy myriad fairy bells,—broad river, awake thy richest tones,—ocean, breath forth thy deepest harmonies,—for the Lord of Glory doth bow His ear to listen, and sometimes He doth set the gate of Paradise ajar, that the murmurings of the River of Life may flow down, and blend with earth's sweet music,—the melody of waters.

Hillsdale, Mich., 1861. BESSIE DAY.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] GENIUS AND APPLICATION.

SOME persons commence their career of active life under the most brilliant prospects of the highest success, and that full promise given at the outset fails of realization. The result is only a medium success.

Why such results from these various promises at the outset? Mainly for this reason; the one class of individuals relied upon genius, native talents, to accomplish greatness for them; the other class brought earnest and persevering application to their aid.

Isaac Newton was a man of genius, but application to his chosen pursuit did more for him than genius, since he himself declares that what he accomplished was owing to patient thinking.—Morning Star.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WIT AND WISDOM OF SYDNEY SMITH.

A BOOK with the above title has recently been published in England. We give an extract in which the laughing philosopher shows up the extravagance and folly of the government:

"The world never yet saw so extravagant a government as the Government of England. Not only is economy not practised, but it is despised; and the idea of it connected with disaffection, Jacobinism, and Joseph Hume. Every rick in the ocean where a cormorant can perch is occupied by our troops,—has a Governor, Deputy-Governor, Storekeeper, Deputy-Storekeeper,—and will soon have an archdeacon and a bishop. Military colleges, with 34 professors, educating 17 ensigns per annum, being half an ensign for each professor, with every species of nonsense, athletic, sartorial, and plummygerous. A just and necessary war costs this country about 1000, a minute; whipcord 15,000*l.*; red tape 7,000*l.*; lace for drummers and fifers, 19,000*l.*; a pension to one man who has broken his head at the Pole; to another who has shattered his leg at the Equator; subsidies to Persia; secret service-money to Thibet; an annuity to Lady Henry somebody and her seven daughters,—the husband being shot at some place where we never ought to have had any soldiers at all; and the elder brother returning four members to Parliament. Such a scene of extravagance, corruption, and expense as must paralyse the industry, and mar the fortunes, of the most industrious, spirited people that ever existed."

THE highest charity is to pay liberally for all things had or done for you; because to underpay workmen, and then be bountiful, is not charity. On the other hand, to give, when by so doing you support idleness, is most pernicious. Yet you cannot refuse to give a street alms, if your charity has no other channel; you would feel that refusal in such a case was a mere pretext to save your money. But if your wealth is wisely and systematically given, then the refusal of idle appeals does no harm to the heart.

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Sabbath Musings.

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

THE shades of evening gather, The stars look down on me, As by my closet window I lift my voice to Thee.

I thank Thee, heavenly Father, For the blessings of this day, And that I have the privilege Of kneeling here to pray.

I ask Thee for the pardon Of all my sins this day, That through my SAVIOR'S sufferings They may be washed away.

And now, oh, righteous Father, I pray Thee be Thou near In every hour of trial, In trouble, or in fear.

Direct my erring footsteps In all Thy ways aright, Till, freed from earth's temptations, I dwell with Thee in light.

South Cayuga, N. Y., 1861. NELLIE.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] CHRIST WITH US.

How consoling the thought to the Christian, that the same tender affection still animates the breast of our Blessed SAVIOR, exalted though he is, that prompted Him to leave His holy abode and become an inhabitant of this sin-polluted earth.

Do we, at times, mourn the absence of our Heavenly Father's smiling face? Hear JESUS cry in deepest agony, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Are temptations rolling upon us like a flood? Forty days and nights did He endure the assaults of the evil one. Do we mourn the departure of loved ones? See the immaculate Son of God at the grave of LAZARUS. "Jesus wept." Are supposed friends unfaithful?—those we trusted proved recreant to the trust? One of his chosen twelve betrayed the Lamb of God to his enemies.

Oh, blessed be GOD, we have a High Priest who is touched with the feeling of our infirmities, for he was in all points tempted like as we are. Tried and tempted one, look up, hear JESUS' voice whisper, "As thy day, so shall thy strength be," and be assured that "these light afflictions which are but for a moment," if rightly improved, "shall work out for you a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

Chicago Co., N. Y., 1861. SYBIL.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] JOHN IN PATMOS.

NEVER was an exile so cheered in his banishment. Domitian sent John to work in the mines of the earth; but God called him to explore the deeper and richer mines of futurity and heaven. He does not seem to have had any human society in Patmos, but he was not alone! That ocean rock of the Cyclades, like Carmel in the days of old, was covered with horses and chariots of fire. Thus, the imperial edict, though unintentionally, sent him "to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly of the Church in heaven, and to Jesus, the Mediator of the new covenant," to hear and see how "the blood of sprinkling" was honored at the eternal throne of God, and all the godlike universe of being; for, from the "tops of the rocks" of Patmos, he beheld this beautiful vision of immortality, as well as the prophetic visions of futurity. Thus, this lone island in the Aegean sea was to him "a gate of heaven" wider than Bethel to Jacob, or Horeb to the elders of Israel, or Tabor to Peter, or the Sanhedrim to Stephen. Who would not submit to exile, even on a solitary island, for the sake of such revelations? John could well afford to let all the curtain, thus drawn off from the invisible world, drop its folds upon the scenes and society of the world.—Philip.

TIME—ITS IMPORTANCE.—The eloquent Robert Hall thus moralizes upon this oft-repeated subject:—"Time is the most precious of all our possessions; by far the greatest deposit we have received, in regard to what depends on its use. There is nothing in eternity but what springs out of time. All the good which eternity has in store, and all the evil, all the promises and all the threatenings of God in Scripture, all will be realized in consequence of, and in proportion to, the improvement or abuse of the present time of our probation. Time is the seed of eternity. At the judgment, the question which will decide your destiny will be no other than this—how you have used your time? And the less there remains of this precious article, the more valuable it should appear. The narrower becomes the isthmus that separates us from eternity, the more time seems to enlarge itself in moral magnitude. In a word, to squander time is to squander all."

LOVE TO CHRIST.—They that love CHRIST love to think of him, love to hear of him, love to read of him, love to speak of him, for him, to him. They love his presence, his yoke, his name. His will is their will, his dishonor is their affliction, his cause is their care, his people are their companions, his day is their delight, his word is their guide, his glory is their end. They had rather ten thousand times suffer for CHRIST than he should suffer for them.—Mason.

DEW.—There is dew in one flower and not in another, because one opens its cup and takes its in, while the other closes itself, and the drop runs off. God rains His goodness and mercy as wide-spread as the dew, and if we lack them, it is because we will not open our hearts to receive them.

IN the world to come, our knowledge will be measured, not by the amount of thought-power we have, but by the amount of heart-power.

WHATSOEVER makes right living, according to the law of GOD, difficult to a sincere man, that is a burden.

TWO duties must run through a Christian's life like the warp through the woof, blessing and trusting.

The Traveler.

LETTERS FROM CALIFORNIA.

New Series.—Number Three.

Mule-packing—Size of a pack-train—Amount carried per mule—How they are unladen—Packers in the evening—Their hardships and sufferings—Advantage taken by the mountain traders.

SAN JUAN, CAL., Nov. 10, 1860.

THE majority of RURAL readers, doubtless, are aware that packing by mules is the principal, and about the only way, by which the mining population of California, in the remote and almost inaccessible parts of the mountains, are supplied with provisions and other necessities of life. The sturdy, hardy, indomitable miner, in his search for gold and sudden wealth, is not to be baffled by hardships or deprivations of an ordinary character. In their prospecting and exploring tours, they surmount the apex of the Sierra Nevada; and again you find them delving away at the busy occupation of a miner's life, in some narrow auriferous gulch, or on some limpid mountain stream, wending its tributary and silent course through a vast ravine—lonely, dismal, and almost impenetrable. Talk of solitude! You find it here, monotonous and sublimely grand, with heaven-soaring mountains on either side of you, whose peaks never doff their white night caps, nor change their toilet, nor exchange vestments, but stand like stoic sentinels heralding the power, the glory, and the greatness of the infinite God!

On every side one vast wilderness; shut out from the busy world, the miner pursues his exciting labors in his restless search for gold, deprived of all the luxuries, pleasures, and enjoyments of the outside world. He absolves himself from society, from friends, from kin, to pursue a calling attended with risk to health and life, in an effort to amass an independence. The miner spends his life in a cabin in some ravine, gulch, or on some mountain stream, year after year. In many places there are quite a number settled down in one locality, which they call a mining camp; but these mining camps throughout the mountains seldom attain any great population, without the diggings prove more than ordinarily rich, and then it is but temporary; for as soon as the ground is pretty well worked, and does not pay fair wages, the miner seeks new fields for his labor. These mountain settlements have all to be furnished, of course, from the great cities of the State, with the food they eat, wearing apparel, mining implements, and the necessities of life, which, to the miner, are limited in number, but important in their character.

The supplies above mentioned, in the absence of wagon roads extending to many mining localities, have to be packed upon mules over the summit of the mountains, and down their steep, almost precipitous descents, these animals wend their way along the narrow and serpentine course of the trail. Mules are particularly adapted to this service, and their superiority over horse kind has been thoroughly demonstrated. Sure in their footing, capable of standing a great amount of fatigue, their value to California has been incalculable. An ordinary sized pack-train is usually comprised of 20 to 40 mules, according to the extent of the demand for provisions, &c., in the mining locality with which they do business. The train is generally owned by traders who have stores at the mining camps. Usually one trader owns a pack-train, and does the whole packing for the settlement. These pack-trains are generally managed and attended to by native Californians or Mexicans; their great experience in mountain packing gives them the preference over any others. A mule can carry from three hundred to three hundred and fifty pounds, and travel thirty miles a day without being fatigued. The Mexican mules are generally employed in packing in California, owing to their great powers of endurance. The freight is made fast to a kind of Spanish pack-saddle, called an *aparajo*, by means of ropes, &c. One of the packers goes on ahead with a mule, attached to which is a bell; the others follow out in line with instinctive regularity. When night comes, the packers halt with their mules, generally selecting some good grazing locality; the mules come up in rotation, forming a circle, get down on their haunches, and are relieved of their burdens, which done, they go off following, or keeping in close proximity to the one with a bell. The packers build a fire, cook their supper, crack jokes for an hour or two, or play a social game of cards, and, after appointing from their number a guard for the night, roll themselves in their blankets and lie down to rest, the cold earth for their couch, the blue heavens for their canopy.

Verily, how little do those who live in brown stone houses, and walk on velvet carpets, or ride in gilded coaches, realize the fatigue, suffering, and danger attending the development of the great wealth of our country, of which we proudly boast. While at certain seasons of the year the life of the packer is full of novelty and peculiar pleasure, at other times it is fraught with hardship and suffering unparalleled. Many times a storm overtakes a train in the mountains; the mules succumb to exhaustion, lie down and die; the packers themselves, amid cold wintry blasts, at last, in the desolate howling forest, find the same melancholy fate,—the snow for their winding sheet, and their bodies food for wild beasts. Perhaps, as was often the case in early days, the supplies expected by this very train are needed in some far-off isolated mining camp, and thus the loss of the train entails misery and starvation upon hundreds of persons. Several years since, the miners on the Middle Fork of Feather river ran out of provisions during a cold and dreary winter, when snowed in on all sides from 20 to 40 feet deep. Three hundred started across to obtain succor and relief from starvation; before they found any, several of their number perished in the snow.

Again, some of the mules make a mistake, and down, down they go, over the rugged sides of the mountain, against rocks, trees, and other obstructions, to their final and utter destruction. It is a novel scene to pass a mule train upon a trail in the mountains; the tinkling of the bell, the "hippa-mul!" of the Mexican muleteers, echoes in the still unbroken silence of the forest, sounding strange to an inexperienced ear, and lending enchantment to the wild monotony of the event.

Many of the mining camps are hemmed in by deep snows for four and six months of the year, and provisions have to be packed sufficient to last the winter, while the weather is mild. When there is a prospect of provisions running short, and, in many cases, when there is no just grounds for alarm, the mountain trader takes advantage of it, and adds to the price of his goods, many times fabulous, unprecedented, and cruel! Thus the words of Cowper are literally verified in these mountain fastnesses—the last place usually where tyranny erects her throne

and brandishes a bludgeon, and man with wealth and power is there as elsewhere, an oppressor of the weak, an abuser of his race. Yes—

"Man's inhumanity to man
Makes countless thousands mourn."
S. B. R.

THE AGAPEMONE, BRIDGWATER, ENG.

ONE bright day in the year 1854, being in the neighborhood of Bridgwater, we took it into our head to pay a visit to this mysterious institution, whose associations had been so notoriously disreputable. Previous inquiry had informed us that the head of the establishment, named PRINCE, was once the curate of an adjacent village, and distinguished for his evangelicism; but having been led into some extravagances, (in consequence of his success,) was suspended by his Bishop. He then commenced preaching in the open air, in and around Bridgwater, at first earnestly entreating men to fly from the wrath to come. Then he limited the time during which salvation could be obtained, and the number who should enjoy it. The next step was to constitute the church he had succeeded in forming, the *only true church*, and the climax was to proclaim himself the incarnation of the Holy Ghost, and, as such, deserving of the profoundest homage of all upon whom he bestowed salvation. This character he now retains,—this homage he now receives,—and is called "Lord," by all who are allowed to approach his august presence, or in any way connect themselves with him. Even tradesmen are not patronized unless they consent to open their accounts with the "Lord."

Having secured a sufficient number of converts, some of them possessed of wealth, missionary efforts were abandoned, land was purchased, and a building raised, bearing the title "The Agapemone," or in the popular phrase, "Temple of Love." Of the life within little is known. The external display is great. When the "Lord," himself, goes out, he rides in the State carriage of a deceased Queen, drawn by blood horses, accompanied by outriders and blood-hounds, and having by his side his Queen, (not his wife, necessarily, for but a little before, his wife was dismissed to the laundry, and a charming girl from the laundry elevated to the throne,) dressed in the regal purple. As to what passes within the walls of the temple, people can only conjecture, and conjecture is not slow to draw the most horrible conclusions from the barest probabilities. Had we yielded a credulous ear to all we were told, our ideas of the place would have been associated with scenes not surpassed by the orgies of pagan Rome in honor of Venus. Infanticide, hatred,—in fact, some would have it to be a perfect hell, in which every foul passion found unrestrained expression. However, we wished to see and judge for ourselves.

About an hour's walk upon rising ground brought us to the spot. The buildings are not remarkable, except for a lion rampant upon the top of the chapel, sustaining a flag-staff, from which floats at certain times a banner, bearing the symbols of purity and affection. Walking up to a low building outside the gates, and used as a laundry, our steps were checked at the door-way by finding the eyes of half-a-dozen, not hours, but of the plainest women imaginable, fixed upon us. We do not say this disrespectfully, but we had dreamed a little on the way about "bewitching forms of loveliness." Perhaps the public imagines (in keeping with its other notions,) that here beauty is regnant. It is not so. These ladies might have refined intellects and kindly hearts, but we cannot find it in our heart to say other than that they were the most untempting forms of womanhood we ever contemplated. Their gaze conveyed the question—what do you want? We expressed our wish, a messenger was sent to the "Gentlemen," and we were told that they would soon make their appearance at a little gate to the left. There we took our station, and soon saw two gentlemen approaching, scrupulously dressed in white chokers and black kid gloves. Taking our card, the wicket was opened, and a step placed us within the limits of that mysterious "abode of love." We were, first of all, led through the out-buildings and shrubbery. Here, at a signal from our guides, golden pheasants ran from their shelter, and doves fluttered from their cootes, and played fearlessly around our feet. This we were told to regard as typical of the feeling which characterized the institution. In the stables we found the "bloods" and hounds before described, living in the best of stalls and kennels. When we passed into the gardens, a scene of exceeding loveliness burst upon us. The ground had been so skillfully laid out that the distant hills, while they formed a back ground, seemed to be the natural limits of the spot. On the side facing the south were a number of green and hot-houses, mimicking the great Exhibition of '61; those parts not glass, gorgeously painted, and surmounted with gilded minarets and spires. In these every climate was imitated, the choicest exotics flourished and bloomed, and birds of rich plumage and sweet song pleased the eye and charmed the ear. In one of these houses, trellis work ran up the sides and along the ceiling, bearing some of the magnificent and odorous parasites of India, which sending down their tendrils, burst into clusters of waxen blossoms, shaped like stars, and absolutely intoxicating in their exquisite perfume. Musical instruments of various kinds lay around, as if just abandoned by the performers. Into the chapel and "abode of love" we were not permitted, and narrowly as we watched, the only indication of life we saw was a female face for a moment at one of the windows. With one more glance at the ornamental gardens, with their mosaic of flowers and sparkling fountains, and a hearty expression of thanks, we left.

Our first thought was, that to one weary of the friction of the world, and possessed of wealth, this place promised the most perfect retreat that taste could desire. The thought had hardly presented itself before we began to analyze the character of the institution, and were not long in concluding that it, and all such epicurean realizations, embodied the most intense selfishness, and the most absorbing self-worship, the most degrading idolatry of all. In all others, some redeeming features may, perhaps, be found. To all usual objects of worship, some excellencies are attributed, which elevate the idol above the devotee, but to which he may approximate; but here self is the center and circumference of all. The flowers breathe their perfume, the birds utter their song, wealth contributes its luxuries, and desire is sated by a thousand ministers, not that the heart may go up to God in recognition of His wisdom, or in gratitude for His mercies, but that the individual may be gratified. Not a thought, not a deed, but has this as its sole intent. To live is self. What can be worse for human nature,—more contrary to the original design? Having no high standard of excellence, morality is forgotten; no duty, no high and holy work, no mission, the mind loses its vigor, and becomes hopeless, because aimless. Confined to self, there comes at last a crushing sense of *vacuity*,

worthlessness, loss, under which some have sought to fly back again into the world, though penniless, and others have perished at their own hands. No more powerful light could be thrown upon the truth, "no man liveth to himself," and no more convincing proof could be given that "all things" are unable to throw around life that charm which springs from simple usefulness.

Since our hurried visit, some dreadful revelations have been made by so called "apostates," who have instituted proceedings for the recovery of their property; but for all we know, PRINCE still lives, with a sufficient number of dupes to support him in luxury and wantonness; and hitherto shielded from the interference of law by the privacy of his doings, the difficulties of escape, and the horror which haunts those who have fled from this misnamed "abode of love."
J. M.
Middleport, N. Y., 1861.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

ELECTRICITY—BEECH AS A CONDUCTOR.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In your issue of Feb. 2d, I read an article headed "The Beech as a Non-Conductor," in which I was much interested. It seems to me the writer has not given the reason why the beech is so seldom struck by lightning, or persons, or animals, which may have taken refuge under it. Any one at all familiar with the science of electricity knows that green wood is a conductor; dry, baked wood a non-conductor; charcoal a conductor, and ashes a non-conductor. These properties beech wood possesses in an eminent degree. Not only so, but the limbs of the beech are peculiarly adapted to conduct a charge of electricity silently from the cloud to the earth, or from the earth to the cloud, as the case may be.

To illustrate my idea, let a person take a charged Leyden jar in one hand, and present a knuckle of the other to the knob connecting with the inside coating, and he receives a shock; but let him, while holding the charged jar, present, instead of his knuckle, the points of three or four needles, and he will be surprised, perhaps, at the result; for instead of the shock as before, the electricity is conducted off silently, and no effect is produced. Now, let us apply these principles to the subject under consideration. Let us suppose a cloud charged with positive electricity (that is having more than the earth,) comes over an isolated, (or, if you please, one in the forest,) green beech tree, and what is the effect? Instead of a discharge of the electric fluid of which we are sensible by the report which we call "thunder," it is taken by the numberless points of the limbs and conveyed silently to the earth, the great reservoir of electricity.

In the two cases mentioned by Mr. HURDIS the limbs or top of the tree were dead, and consequently non-conductors. In the first case mentioned, there were other trees surrounding the beech "uninjured and untouched." That is not at all surprising, when we remember that the *dry beech* was a non-conductor, and consequently, if not capable of conducting the electricity silently away, must be destroyed by the passage of the fluid over it. In the other case "the top of this, too, was dead, but not decayed in the least;" the fluid passed on, injuring the tree until, "finding a good conductor, it went down harmless." This effect I attribute to the cause mentioned above. Let it not be understood that I think the beech a safe shelter during a thunder-storm, but it seems to me that our knowledge of electricity, and the conducting properties of the green beech, will warrant us in believing it much safer, under such circumstances, than a position in an open field or under any other tree in our climate.
H. R. TABER.
Marion, N. Y., Feb., 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I can just as well account for difference of opinion on *Lightning*, as anything else; but any observing man who has roamed in the beech woods as much as we old settlers have in an early day, (when our pasture was very extended,) to find our roaming cattle, knows that the idea that it is frequently set forth by our "Lightning Lecturers," that lightning never strikes a beech tree, is *not true*. Facts are stubborn things, and cannot be subverted. I have frequently seen beech trees that had been struck, as many perhaps as any other kind of timber. Now, has not the height of a tree more to do with it than the kind of timber? The tall hickory is said to be a good conductor. I once saw where lightning had struck a very tall hickory of about twenty inches diameter, following it down within some twenty or twenty-five feet of the ground, then left the hickory, glanced and struck a scrubby beech near the top and shattered it so that it killed it. Now, if the beech is a non-conductor, and the hickory a good conductor, why did lightning leave the hickory for the beech. I once saw an article from a Kentuckian, who wrote that the best way to tap maple trees was to dig down at the roots—cut off a small root, and set the bucket under and catch the sap from the root. That was just as rational as to suppose that lightning never strikes a beech.
YANKEE.
Troy, Mich., Feb., 1861.

SCIENCE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.

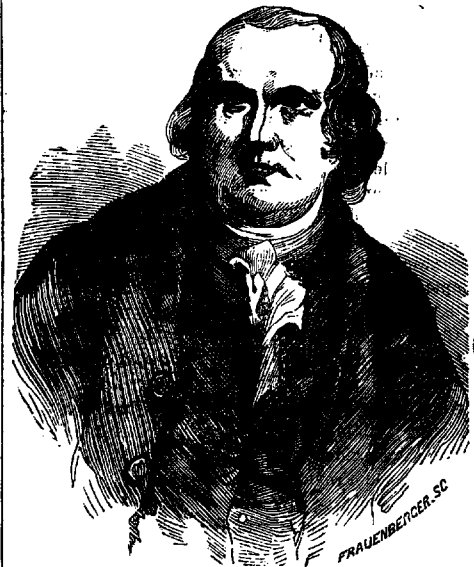
DR. C. WALLICH, who accompanied the recent expedition to survey the projected North Atlantic telegraph route between this country and England, has collected some important new facts in natural history. His main object was to determine the depth to which animal life extends in the sea, together with the limits and conditions essential to its maintenance. He has proved that at a depth of two miles below the surface animal life exists. Here, where the pressure is calculated to amount to at least one ton and a half per square inch, and where it can hardly be conceived that the most attenuated rays of struggling light can penetrate, Dr. Wallich has not only discovered the minute infusorial Foraminifera, whose calcareous envelopes protect them from pressure, and whose organization is of the simplest character, but he has obtained, from a sounding 1,200 fathoms deep, a number of star fishes, (genus *Ophiocoma*), adhering to the lowest fifty fathoms of the deep sea line, which must have rested on the bottom for a few minutes, so as to allow those star fishes to attach themselves to the rope; so that it is now established that in these regions of watery desert and everlasting darkness, there exists a "highly-organized species of radiate animal, living, entwining, and flourishing, with its red and light pink tints as clear and as brilliant as its congeners which dwell in shallow and comparatively sunshiny waters."

Doubtless others exist, for this is but a preliminary inquiry so conducted, and in time we may come to hear of a new submarine fauna, peopling these dark abodes, and preparing this subaqueous floor just as the land on which we now walk, once submerged, is believed to have been prepared.

The Young Ruralist.

ROBERT MORRIS.

AMONG the host of great and good men who proved themselves lovers of liberty, and the unflinching friends of their country in its hour of darkest trial, no one is more entitled to the gratitude of a free people, or more worthy of being held up for the admiration and imitation of American youth than ROBERT MORRIS, of Philadelphia. He was the great financier of the Revolution, and to his large credit, his immense wealth, his unsullied honor, and his consummate ability, the Americans were indebted for the means necessary to carry on the war, and bring it to a successful issue. Truly has it been said, that "the Americans owed, and still owe, as much to the financial operations of ROBERT MORRIS, as to the negotiations of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, or even the arms of GEORGE WASHINGTON." In the times of deepest distress, when the army was without food and clothing, and destitute of ammunition, when the public credit was so low that a soldier could not buy a pair of boots with a pocket full of Continental paper money, when dissatisfaction everywhere existed, and mutiny was boldly talked of in the camp, and Congress could devise no means of relief, ROBERT MORRIS was seldom appealed to in vain. Either from his own abundant resources, or by loans from his friends, for which he became responsible, aid was furnished, and the drooping spirits of the army and their commander cheered while their wants were partially supplied.



ROBERT MORRIS was a native of Lancashire, England, where he was born in 1733. His father, a Liverpool merchant, removed to this country while ROBERT was a boy, and soon after died, leaving him an orphan at 15 years old. ROBERT served a regular apprenticeship to the mercantile business, and at the breaking out of the Revolutionary war was a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia. On the third of November, 1776, Mr. MORRIS was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress, and his well known abilities as a merchant caused him to be selected a member of the Committee to negotiate bills of exchange, to borrow money for the Marine Committee, and to manage other fiscal concerns of Congress.

Mr. MORRIS never hesitated to become individually responsible for means required by the public service. An interesting illustration of this fact is furnished in his conduct in the December following the Declaration of Independence. For some time previous, the British army had been directing its course towards Philadelphia, from which Congress had retired, leaving a committee, consisting of Mr. MORRIS, Mr. CLYMER, and Mr. WALTON, to transact all necessary Continental business. While attending to the duties of their appointment, Mr. MORRIS received a letter from Gen. WASHINGTON, then with his army on the Delaware, opposite Trenton; in which letter he communicated to Mr. MORRIS his distressed state, in consequence of the want of money. The sum he needed was ten thousand dollars, which was essentially necessary to enable him to obtain such intelligence of the movement and position of the enemy, as would authorize him to act offensively. To Mr. MORRIS Gen. WASHINGTON now looked, to assist him in raising the money.

This letter he read with attention, but what could he do? The citizens generally had left the city. He knew of no one who possessed the required sum, or who would be willing to lend it. The evening approached, and he left his counting-room to return home. On the way, he accidentally overtook an honest quaker, with whom he was acquainted. The quaker inquired of him the news. Mr. MORRIS replied that he had but little news of importance to communicate, but he had a subject which pressed with great weight upon his mind. He now informed the quaker of the letter which he had received, the situation of General WASHINGTON, and the immediate necessity of ten thousand dollars. "Sir," said Mr. MORRIS, "you must let me have it. My note and my honor will be your only security." The quaker hesitated a moment, but at length replied, "ROBERT, thou shalt have it." The money was soon told, was transmitted to WASHINGTON, whom it enabled to accomplish his wishes, and to gain a signal victory over the Hessians at Trenton, thus animating the drooping spirits of patriotism, and checking in no small degree the proud hopes and predictions of the enemy.

Another instance of patriotic liberality is recorded of Mr. MORRIS in 1778, or 1780. These were distressing years of the war. The army was alarmingly destitute of military stores, particularly of the essential article of lead. It was found necessary to melt down the weights of clocks and the spouts of houses; but, notwithstanding resort was had to every possible source, the army was often so destitute that it could scarcely have fought a single battle.

In this alarming state of things, General WASHINGTON wrote to several gentlemen, and among the rest to Judge PETERS, at that time secretary to the Board of war, stating his necessities, and urging an immediate exertion to supply the deficiency. This it seemed impossible to do. Mr. PETERS, however, showed the letter of WASHINGTON to Mr. MORRIS. Fortunately, just at this juncture, a privateer belonging to the latter gentleman had arrived at the wharf, with ninety tons of lead. Half of this lead was immediately given by Mr. MORRIS, for the use of the army, and the other half was purchased by Mr. PETERS of other gentlemen, who owned it, Mr. MORRIS becoming security for the payment of the debt. At a more advanced stage of the war, when pressing distress in the army had driven Congress and the commander in chief almost to desperation,

and a part of the troops to mutiny, he supplied the army with four or five thousand barrels of four upon his own private credit; and on a promise to that effect, persuaded a member to withdraw an intended motion to sanction a procedure, which, although common in Europe, would have had a very injurious effect upon the cause of the country; this was no less than to authorize General WASHINGTON to seize all the provision that could be found, within a circle of twenty miles of his camp. While financier, his notes constituted, for large transactions, part of the circulating medium. Many other similar instances occurred of this patriotic interposition of his own personal responsibility for supplies which could not otherwise have been obtained.

Allusion has been made above to the gloomy posture of affairs during the year 1780; at this time the wants of the army, particularly of provisions, were so great as to threaten its dissolution. This state of things being communicated to Mr. MORRIS, he immediately proposed the establishment of a Bank, the principal object of which was to supply the army with provisions. This plan becoming popular, ninety-six subscribers gave their bonds, on this occasion, by which they obliged themselves to pay, if it should become necessary, in gold and silver, the amounts annexed to their names, to fulfil the engagements of the Bank. By this means, the confidence of the public in the safety of the Bank was confirmed.

Mr. MORRIS headed the list with a subscription of £10,000; others followed to the amount of £300,000. The Directors were authorized to borrow money on the credit of the Bank, and to grant special notes, bearing interest at six per cent. The credit thus given to the Bank effected the object intended, and the institution was continued until the Bank of North America went into operation in the succeeding year.

In the year 1781, Mr. MORRIS was unanimously appointed by Congress Superintendent of Finance, an office then for the first time established. No man in the country probably was as well fitted for this important task, as he possessed a happy expedient of raising supplies, and enjoyed the entire confidence of the country for punctuality in the fulfillment of his engagements. At the time of his appointment the treasury was more than two millions and a half in arrears, and the greater part of this debt was of such a nature that payment could not be delayed. But Mr. MORRIS was equal to the work, and the face of things soon began to change through his exertions. At the close of the war, Mr. MORRIS continued his mercantile pursuits; but an unfortunate speculation in lands robbed him of his fortune, and left him much embarrassed. He died at Philadelphia, on the 8th of May, 1806, in the seventy-third year of his age.

AN AMERICAN WEED IN ENGLAND.

AN aquatic weed, said to be a native of this country, is causing a great deal of trouble in the small streams of England, and even in the Thames, threatening to seriously impede navigation, and creating a good deal of anxiety. It is called the *Anacharis alismatrum*, but is commonly known as the American weed. It is thought to have been brought from this country, adhering to sticks of timber that had been rafted down some of our streams. It throws out roots and branches even when floating, and when stopped by any obstruction, soon forms fields, to the dismay of navigators. We do not think this plant can be found in the Northern States, but it may grow South. When Mr. Wood's new work on the Flora of the Southern States is published, we may obtain some knowledge in regard to it.

Mrs. S. C. HALL, writing from Ensham, on the upper Thames, says:—"It is in this neighborhood we begin to perceive the dangerous results of the recent and rapid growth of the weed, *Anacharis alismatrum*, commonly called "the American weed." It has not been known in England more than ten years; but during that brief period it has spread so extensively—almost universally—through every district of our island, as very frequently to affect the traffic of rivers and canals, to impede the currents of minor streams, and even to fill up isolated ponds. It has already rendered the Thames, in some parts, almost impassable without difficulty.

A small pamphlet, written by WILLIAM MARSHALL, Esq., of Ely, gives its history as far as it can be given. "The intruder is so unlike any other water-plant, that it may be at once recognized by its leaves growing in threes, round a slender stringy stem. The color of the plant is a deep green; the leaves are about half an inch long, by an eighth wide, egg-shaped at the point, and beset with minute teeth, which cause them to cling. The stems are very brittle, so that whenever the plant is disturbed, fragments are broken off. Although, at present, it cannot propagate itself by seed, (all the flowers being male,) its powers of increase are prodigious, as every fragment is capable of becoming an independent plant, producing roots and stems, and extending itself indefinitely in every direction. Most of our water-plants require, in order to their increase, to be rooted in the bottom or sides of the river or drain in which they are found; but this is independent altogether of that condition, and actually grows as it travels slowly down the stream, after being cut." This weed is "a foreigner" there can be no doubt. Weeds very closely resembling, if not identical with it, are found in American rivers. Mr. Marshall is of opinion that it is an importation from North America; and that, probably, its first visit was paid to us in a load of American timber. He considers that all attempts to "get rid of it" must be futile; that it never can be eradicated, and that all we shall be able to do is to "keep it down." Its rapid spread is one of the marvels of nature. It is becoming a serious evil; the Commissioners of the Thames should lose no time in grappling with the common enemy."

AMERICAN WEED.

THERE are some who refuse a favor so graciously as to please us; and there are others who confer an obligation so clumsily, that they please us less by the measure than they disgust us by the manner of a kindness, as puzzling to our feelings as the politeness of one who, if we had dropped our handkerchief, should present it to us with a pair of tongs.

Good service is prompt service. It ceases to be a favor when he upon whom the service is conferred has lost in patience and hope deferred what he might have bestowed in love and gratitude.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Harper's New Monthly Magazine—Harper & Broc. Fine Imported Flower Seeds—Jas. Wick. Root & Western Reserve Premium Cheese Vat—Roe & Blair. Astor House, New York. Apple Trees for Sale—C. H. Rogers. Apple Seeds—J. B. Condit. Farm for Sale—C. H. Rogers. Superior Flower and Vegetable Seed—McElwain Bros. Raspberry Plants—Chas. Lyon. Local Agents Wanted—E. O. Frost. A Good Business Chance—Agents Wanted. Gardener Wanted—James Smith.

SPECIAL NOTICES. Brown's Troches for Coughs.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY 23, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

The Government has official information from the Collector at New Orleans, notifying that duties on goods passing up the river will be collected at New Orleans in behalf of the Treasury of Louisiana.

The President received a telegram from Mobile, announcing the maltreatment of the British Consul there. Lord Lyons has called at the State Department for facts.

The report of the Select Committee, of which Mr. Morris, of Ill., was chairman, gives detailed facts relative to the abstraction of the Indian trust bonds. Thirty or forty witnesses were examined, including Ex-Secretaries Floyd and Thompson. The latter is exonerated from any complicity in the theft; but he as well as former Secretaries of the Interior, are censured for the insufficient manner in which the bonds have been held in that Department, there being no adequate responsibility attached to the custodian. According to Russell's own evidence, he did not know at first where the bonds of which he obtained possession, came from. Bailey was an agent for the negotiation or sale of the bonds, and Lea was an intermediate party between Russell and Bailey. It was also ascertained that Mr. Floyd gave acceptances to the amount of nearly \$7,000,000, or from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 more than Russell, Majors & Co. ever loaned, while these contractors received all the money that was due them.

The President has issued a proclamation declaring that an extraordinary occasion requires the Senate to convene for the transaction of business on the 4th of March at noon that day, viz: to receive and act upon such communications as may be made to it by the Executive. The proclamation is in accordance with usage, and to enable the incoming President to nominate for confirmation the members of his Cabinet.

The Secretary of the Treasury says in a letter to Mr. Sherman, the liabilities due, and to fall due before the 4th March next, are nearly \$10,000,000. The accruing revenue will, it is estimated, net about \$2,000,000, leaving \$8,000,000 to be borrowed. There is in the Treasury, subject to draft and letter, more than \$5,000,000, while drafts to about \$2,000,000 are unanswered. The short time to elapse before the close of the present session renders it indispensable for the Secretary to advertise for a loan. An appropriation of \$200,000 is asked for to replace the ordinance, ammunition, &c., which has been seized at various Southern ports.

The session of the Sub-Committee of the Peace Conference lasted till midnight on the 14th, and was at times stormy. Guthrie's proposition was substantially that of the Kentucky Legislature, and was finally carried with the proviso, that no territory shall hereafter be acquired without the approval of three-fourths of the Senate.

Investigations of fraud upon the Congressional library, reveal most extraordinary speculations on the part of the succeeding members. They have gone off loaded down with valuable books, the property of the United States, in utter disregard of the commonest rules of decency.

Letters received on the 15th from the South give assurances of a vacation in the secession excitement, and state that hopes of an amicable adjustment of the difficulties are strengthened. The exertions of the officers of the Provisional Government are expected to be given in favor of a settlement. The announcement is made from sources entitled to such confidence that apprehensions of trouble at Washington are removed.

Some Postmasters recently appointed in the seceding States, decline to take the oath to support the Constitution of the United States. Of course the offices will have to be discontinued, if persons cannot be found to take and hold them according to law.

Advices from Colville Depot, Dec. 23, represent the English and American Northwestern boundary commissioners as progressing satisfactorily. The first stone of the final monument of the boundary was laid October 25th. The chief commissioner has started for home.

Special Agent Jones, dispatched by Secretary Dix to New Orleans, has satisfied himself that the revenue cutter McClelland was surrendered to the authorities of Louisiana through complicity between Collector Hatch and Capt. Brushwood, before the ordinance of secession.

It is understood that delegations from Virginia, North Carolina and Missouri, will vote against the report of the Peace Conference. Maryland, Kentucky, and Tennessee will go for it. It will probably be adopted by a majority of the States represented in the Conference. The telegraph this (Monday) morning says that those who were most hopeful of beneficial results from the Peace Conference are beginning to despair, and some of the Commissioners have advised their distant friends accordingly.

Lieutenant Gilman, one of the officers in command of Fort Pickens, arrived at Washington on the 15th inst., with dispatches, from Lieutenant Slemmer and the commander of the vessels off Pensacola, to the government. He left Pensacola on Saturday evening, having received a passport from Major Chase, who is in command of the Florida troops. He says the following vessels are off the harbor: the Brooklyn, Sabine, St. Louis, Macedonian and Wyandotta. The Brooklyn did not land her supplies for Fort Pickens, Lieut. Slemmer having notified them that he had ample supplies for three months. There are 1,200 troops at Pensacola, and it is all that Maj. Chase and others in command can do to restrain them. Lieut. Gilman says he would not be surprised if an attack was made at any moment. The health of the officers and men on board the vessels is good.

The Supreme Court of the United States, recently, in the California land case, established an important principle as to that State, in effect that when a claimant has obtained a confirmation of title and a patent, the adverse party in possession cannot in an action resist the title of the patentee.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—Mr. Foote offered a resolution that a committee of three Senators be appointed to make arrangements for the inauguration of the President elect. Adopted.

The Naval Appropriation bill was then taken up. Mr. Hale offered an amendment, to build 7 steam sloops of war. Carried. Yeas, 30; nays, 18. Several appropriations for the Pensacola Yard were struck out.

Mr. Holt offered an amendment repealing the act preventing the purchase of patented articles. Mr. Pierce proposed to amend—"except arms." Agreed to, and amendment carried.

Vice President Breckinridge being sick on the 16th, the Secretary called the Senate to order. On motion of Mr. Powell, Mr. Foote took the chair.

Mr. Hale said that he had been asked by the unanimous request of the naval committee, that the vote exonerating Mr. Thompson from serving on the naval committee be re-considered. The vote was re-considered, and Mr. Thompson was not excused.

The resolution for printing 25,000 additional copies of the agricultural report from the patent office was passed.

The bill providing no extra numbers of any document to be printed without a joint resolution of both Houses was passed.

The bill to carry out the treaty with New Grenada was passed.

The Tariff bill was taken up, the question being on Mr. Seward's amendment extending the time when duties shall be paid to three years. The effect is to leave the system as it is now, and was, after some discussion, agreed to—yeas, 25; nays, 18. Mr. Seward moved to strike out all in the bill relating to the warehousing system. Agreed to. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. McClernand introduced a resolution which was adopted, reciting that by the seizure of the Mint, Moneys, Custom House, &c., by the revolutionary authorities of Louisiana, the United States are put at defiance; and calling on the President, if not incompatible with the public interest, for all the facts in the case, and what steps, if any, have been taken or contemplated, to recover property.

Mr. Sickles offered a resolution recommending the celebration of the 22d as a National Holiday. Adopted.

On the 13th inst., the House opened with prayer by Chaplain Stockton, in which he said; "Bless the outgoing Administration; may it close its labors in peace, without further violence and without any stain of blood, and we pray for the incoming Administration—that Thy blessing may rest on the President elect in his journey hitherward; that Thy good Providence may be around him day and night, guarding him at every step; and we pray that he may be peacefully and happily inaugurated, and afterward by pure, wise and good counsels, that he may administer the government in such a manner as that Thy name may be glorified and the welfare of the People, in all their relations, be advanced, and that an example of civil and religious liberty be followed in all the world."

The Senate was notified of the readiness of the House to have the Electoral votes counted. The Senate entered with tellers and other officials, and took stations; and after a short address from Mr. Breckinridge, he opened the different certificates, which were read by the Secretary of the Senate. The reading of all the Electoral votes having been completed, the tellers reported the result, whereupon the Vice President, rising, said:—

"Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, having received a majority of the whole number of Electoral votes, is duly elected President of the United States for four years, commencing on March 4th, 1861; and Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine, having received a majority of the whole number of Electoral votes, is duly elected Vice President of the United States, for the same time."

A committee was appointed in conjunction with the Senate, to wait on and notify the President elect of his election.

A debate took place on the amendment to the postal bill, increasing the pay of route agents \$1,000 per annum. Passed.

The amendment to the deficiency bill in controversy between the two Houses having been settled through the Committee of Conference, the Senate receded from the appropriation of \$300,000 for carrying into effect the contract of the Navy Department with A. W. Thompson, for certain harbor and coal privileges on the Chiriqui isthmus.

The House adopted the report of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing amendments of the Legislative and Executive and Judicial appropriation bill. By this the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to discontinue refining at the Mint whenever considered expedient, but leaves the place for coining as it is now. These passed the Senate. Adjourned.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The bill to authorize the State indorsement to United States bonds, came up for a third reading. Mr. Spinola moved to recommit, and advanced an opinion that as at present drawn, it was in conflict with the Constitution. After some debate, the bill was passed—17 yeas, 7 nays.

The bill to appropriate \$50,000 for the relief of the people of Kansas, came up from the Assembly. After some discussion the bill was read a third time and passed—22 yeas, 5 nays.

The Senate concurred in the joint-resolution appointing a Committee to meet President Lincoln; when a communication from the Governor was received, announcing the declension of Mr. Weed to serve as Commissioner. The resolution of the Assembly appointing Francis Granger Commissioner to Washington in place of Thurlow Weed, was called up. On motion of Mr. Truman, it was laid on the table—15 to 13.

Mr. Conolly moved to request a report from the Long Island Railroad Company, of all its business, stockholders, &c., stating as the reason for the resolution that the officers of the road had refused to show their stock books to the shareholders. Adopted. The President appointed Senators Ferry, Ketchum, and Conolly a Select Committee on the part of the Senate, to make arrangements for the reception of the President. Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Doty, Private Secretary to Governor Morgan, presented a communication from the Governor, transmitting a letter from President Lincoln, as follows:

SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 4, 1861. SIR:—Your letter of the 30th ult., inviting me, on behalf of the Legislature of New York, to pass through that State en route to Washington, and tendering me the hospitalities of her people, has been duly received. With feelings of deep gratitude to you and them for this testimonial of regard and esteem, I beg you to notify them that I accept the invitation so kindly extended.

Your obedient servant, A. LINCOLN. P. S.—Please let ceremonies be only such as to occupy as little time as possible. A. L. To His Excellency, E. D. Morgan, Governor of New York.

Gov. Morgan, in communicating the letter, stated that Mr. Lincoln would be in Albany next Monday, and he had delegated a portion of his Staff to meet him at Buffalo and escort him to the Capital.

Mr. Ball moved the appointment of a Joint-Committee of five from the House, and three from the Senate, to make preparations for the reception of the President elect. Carried.

Messrs. Ball, Ferry, Pendergast, Bergen, and Provost, were appointed on the part of the House. The bill appropriating \$50,000 to the relief of the suffering in Kansas was passed—yeas 88, nays 22.

Concurrent resolutions appointing Francis Granger, Commissioner to Washington, in place of Thurlow Weed, declined, were called up and adopted.

The Senate bill to enable the United States Government to raise money on their bonds, was reported favorably. On motion of Mr. Robinson, the bill was read a third time and passed—89 to 3. Adjourned.

The Secession Movement.

LOUISIANA.—The State Convention adjourned on the 12th, until the 4th of March, to await the action of the Southern Congress.

TENNESSEE.—As far as heard from, all the Union candidates are elected by overwhelming majorities. The Convention is defeated by a very large vote.

ALABAMA.—Standing Committees were announced on the 12th, in the Congress of the Southern Confederacy.

A dispatch was received from the Louisiana Convention, opposing the election of Davis and Stephens. A resolution was referred continuing Custom House officers in office.

A resolution that, as soon as the President is inaugurated, Commissioners be sent to the Government of the United States, was referred.

During the secret session, resolutions were passed taking charge of all questions or difficulties now existing between Sovereign States and the Southern Confederacy and the United States, relating to the occupation of forts, arsenals, navy yards, and other public establishments, and the President was directed to communicate this resolution to the Governors of States.

Congress appointed a committee of six to make arrangements for the inauguration, which was to come off on the 18th inst.

An official copy of the Texan ordinance was presented, with the credentials of the delegates, one of whom has arrived. Objection was made to its reception, on the ground of its not being ratified. Mr. Grigg, of Texas, was invited to take a seat.

An act was passed in secret session continuing Custom House officers in office until the first of April, and requiring them to take an oath of fealty to the Provisional Government.

The Secretary of the Treasury was instructed to report a plan for reducing the expenses of collecting the revenue 20 per cent.

TEXAS.—The Texas Convention passed an ordinance favoring the speedy foundation of a Southern Confederacy. It elected seven delegates to the Southern Congress.

VIRGINIA.—The returns from twenty counties in Virginia, show a much larger vote in favor of the Union, than the entire vote for secession in all the State.

A joint resolution will be offered at the Virginia Convention, requesting Messrs. Hunter and Mason to resign their seats in the United States Senate, on the ground that their secession sentiments do not represent the voice of Virginia.

The State Convention met at Richmond on the 13th inst. John Jenney, of London, was elected President, and made a Union speech, but said Virginia would insist on her rights as the condition of remaining in the Confederacy.

Movements of the President Elect.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the President elect, left his home in Springfield, Ill., on the 11th inst., en route for Washington. Large crowds, made up of all parties, gathered at the various railroad stations along his course of travel, eager to see and hear the man who is to preside over the destinies of our country for four years from the 4th of March, and to do him honor, and whenever time has permitted, he has addressed the Sovereigns. Mr. LINCOLN has not allowed politicians or letter-writers to draw out his line of policy, and it was thought that a development would inevitably be made in his addresses. We are inclined to the belief, however, that not much satisfaction has been obtained thus far by those who are most anxious to read his secrets. We give his speech at Buffalo, N. Y., the first in this State, where he remained more than twenty-four hours, and where it was hoped a leak might be discovered.

Mr. Mayor and Fellow-Citizens of Buffalo, and the State of New York:—I am here to thank you briefly for this grand reception given to me, not personally, but as the representative of our great and beloved country. (Cheers.) Your worthy Mayor has been pleased to mention in his address to me the fortunate and agreeable journey which I have had from home, on my rather circuitous route to the Federal Capital. I am very happy that he was enabled in truth to congratulate myself and company on that fact. It is true, we have had nothing to mar the pleasure of the trip. We have not been met alone by those who assisted in giving the election to me—I say not alone, but by the whole population of the country through which we have passed. This is as it should be. Had the election fallen to any other of the distinguished candidates instead of myself, under the peculiar circumstances, to say the least, it would have been proper for all citizens to greet him as you now greet me. It is evidence of the devotion of the whole people to the Constitution, the Union, and the perpetuity of the liberties of the country, for which I am unwilling on any occasion that I should be so meanly thought of as to have it supposed for a moment that these demonstrations are tendered to me personally. They are tendered to the country, to the institutions of the country, and to the perpetuity of the liberties of the country, for which these institutions were made and created. Your worthy Mayor has thought it to express the hope that I should be able to relieve the country from the present or I may say the threatened difficulties. I am sure I bring a heart true to the work. (Tremendous applause.) For the ability to perform it, I must trust in the Supreme Being who has never forsaken this favored land, through the instrumentality of this great and intelligent people. Without that assistance, I shall surely fail. With it, I cannot fail. When we speak of threatened difficulties to the country, it is natural that it should be expected that something should be said by myself with regard to particular measures. Upon more mature reflection, however, others will agree with me that when it is considered that these difficulties are without precedent, and have never been acted upon by any individual, situated as I am, it is most proper I should wait and see the developments, and get all the light possible, so that when I do speak authoritatively, I may be as near right as possible. (Cheers.)

When I shall speak authoritatively, I hope to say nothing inconsistent with the constitution, the Union, the rights of all the States, of each section of the country, and to do up to the reasonable expectations of those who have condescended to my remarks. In the confusion allowed me to say that you, as a portion of the great American people, need only to maintain your composure, stand up to your sober convictions of right, to your obligations to the constitution, and to act in accordance with them, sober convictions, and the clouds which now arise in the horizon will be dispelled, and we shall have a bright and glorious future, and when this generation has passed away, tens of thousands will inhabit this country where only thousands inhabit it now.

The English papers claim a right to navigate the Mississippi, which they say secession cannot abrogate. By the treaty of Paris, signed on the 30th of November, 1782, it was stipulated that "the navigation of the Mississippi, from its source to the ocean, shall forever remain free and open to the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States."

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Lord John Russell, in a letter, tendered to the Cotton manufacturers, through the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, the services of British Consuls in cotton producing districts, to assist in determining the possibility of obtaining from other sources such supplies as may compensate for the possible falling off under the present crisis.

It is rumored that England, France and Russia are on the point of coming to an understanding for a peaceable solution of the Danish question.

The American crisis is the leading topic in the journals, and among the business community. Mr. Seward's speech is published at length, and its merits freely discussed. The London Times applauds his argument that South Carolina is guilty of rebellion, and says they are the principles which should have emanated from the President.

Queen Victoria opens Parliament in person on the 5th, and Napoleon the French Legislature on the 4th.

FRANCE.—France has intimated to other governments the necessity of a Conference of their respective representatives, on or before the 15th of February, to consider the Syrian question, as the French occupation ceases in March. There is a vague report in circulation that orders for two hundred gun-boats have been given to private builders.

It is asserted that the Pope insists on the execution of the Paris Convention on the subject of the occupation of Syria.

It is reported that France has demanded explanations of recent warlike speeches of the King of Prussia. This is denied at Berlin.

Business in France is very dull.

The Army and Navy Gazette says the Emperor has resolved to construct, with all dispatch, ten iron cased frigates of the La Glorie class. This is no mere idle rumor, but a stubborn fact.

The Patrie says it is not true, as some journals have said, that the French Government has encouraged Denmark to resist the demands of Germany. Neither is it true that France is organizing a squadron to be sent to the Baltic.

AUSTRIA.—Austria is raising a loan of 30,000,000 florins, in anticipation of taxes becoming due.

It is again asserted that a treaty exists between Prussia, Austria and Russia, guaranteeing Venetia to Austria.

It is said that the Emperor of Austria has decided to grant a constitution to Venetia, which will leave the government to the Italians.

It is asserted that Metternich notified Thouvenot that Austria will consider an attack by Garibaldi, on any part of the Austrian territory, as *casus belli*.

Austria is making full preparations to suppress the recent Hungarian outbreak.

ITALY.—The siege of Gaeta continued suspended. The cause assigned is insufficient means to carry it out. It is reported, via Rome, that the first firing recommenced with vigor on both sides.

It is said that Francis II received a letter from Napoleon, counselling the King to cease resistance. The King's reply was not known.

Out of 360 elections known, in South Italy, 290 favor moderate policy. The latest from Gaeta says a flag of truce was sent from the fortress to the fleet, and the firing was soon suspended on both sides.

King Francis had sent a fresh circular to the Minister, stating that he was resolved to meet all the perils of his position to the end.

Returns from Southern Italy are favorable to the Government.

It is said that Prince Carignan has gone to Gaeta to negotiate for the surrender of the fortress.

Italian troops, in pursuing the reactionists, had entered the Roman States. Sardinia demanded a restoration of the soldiers made prisoners by the Papal Zouaves, and seized Bishop Sabine as a hostage.

Debats says the Italian Parliament proclaimed Emanuel King of Italy, immediately on assembling.

Nothing was known relative to Garibaldi's reported departure from Caprera. It is thought by some that he had gone to Dalmatia. In a letter to an English friend, he expressed an anxious wish to make a journey to England, but was unable to fix the time. He thanked the people for their moral and material aid.

SPAIN.—The Spanish infant Don Juan has decided to relinquish his pretensions to the crown, reserving only the eventuality of being elected by universal suffrage.

DENMARK.—A ministerial ordinance has been addressed to all the functionaries whose duties are in any way connected with the calling out of the soldiers for the army, ordering them to take such steps as will enable them to execute as speedily as possible the orders for the military convocation already proclaimed, or for any other which may be made.

It is said that the Great Powers urgently requested Denmark to grant concessions to Schleswig.

INDIA.—The India mail has arrived with Calcutta dates to Dec. 22d. The Times' correspondent at Calcutta says there is not a contented mind nor tranquil tongue in all the Province, by the mismanagement of Mr. Grant. The \$2,000,000 annuity spent in the indigo manufacture, have been this year withdrawn from circulation, and in a poor country like Calcutta, the consequences are naturally those of discontent.

CHINA.—The China intelligence is to December 15th, from Hong Kong. Lord Elgin was at Shanghai on the 8th of December, and is expected at Hong Kong immediately.

At Shanghai great alarm existed from reports brought in of the movements of the rebels.

Foo Choo was quiet. Disturbances had broken out in the northeast part of the Province, and one or two walled places had been taken. The John Adams, Niagara, Hartford, and gun-boat Saganaw, were at Hong Kong.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadstuffs.—Flour quiet at steady quotations—28@30c. Wheat in moderate demand at steady prices. Red Western 115@125d; Southern 125@135d; white Western 135@135d; Southern 140@150c. Corn slightly dearer, but difficult to sell. Some quote 6d cheaper. The range for mixed and yellow is 37@385@6d; white 38@39@6d.

Provisions.—Pork dull and unaltered. Lard quiet at 57@60 for good and really choice.

THE LONDON TIMES ON SECESSION.—The London Times of the 10th ult., alluding to Lord Palmerston's speech at the recent Southampton banquet, says:—"The third topic dwelt upon by Lord Palmerston is the future, if, indeed, we may not say the actual disruption of the American Union. While Italy is consolidating, America is disintegrating. That privilege of a single entire nationality which Italy is shedding tears of blood to obtain, America is flinging recklessly away. The Southern States expected sympathy for their undertaking, from the public opinion of this country. The tone of the press has already done much to undeceive them, and if anything more is required, they have the assurance of our disapprobation from the person whose public station gives him the right, and whose intuitive sympathy with the feelings of the nation gives him the power, better than any one, to express its opinions."

The News Condenser.

- The debt of Virginia now exceeds \$32,000,000.
—The French distillers are making brandy out of coal.
—Judge Whitney of Birmingham, N. Y., died on the 14th.
—Hydraulic engines are being used to blow church organs with.
—No less than \$1,500,000 are invested in bee culture in Ohio.
—Several printers have recently been driven from South Carolina.
—John McManus died of starvation in Brooklyn, N. Y., last Sunday.
—Coal now produces to the State of Pennsylvania \$30,000,000 per annum.
—In the tongue of the right whale there are from 300 to 800 gallons of oil!
—A score-and-a-half of Sioux Indians ask to be made citizens of Minnesota.
—The receipts of U. S. Colonization Society last year, from all sources, was \$14,868.
—Cambridge, Md., was lighted with gas; for the first time, on Saturday night week.
—The levy of French soldiers is to be 50,000 greater this year than it was in 1850.
—There are nearly seventeen thousand deaf and dumb persons in Great Britain.
—A subscription is being raised in Virginia to purchase the birth-place of Gen. Scott.
—There are confined in Auburn prison at the present time no less than 804 criminals.
—Snow fell to the depth of eight feet in the vicinity of Montreal, Wednesday week.
—Peru has just sent 15,000 bales of her cotton across the Isthmus, most of it to Europe.
—The South Carolina postmasters are still ordering postage stamps from Washington.
—It is a singular fact that no divorce has ever been granted in the State of South Carolina.
—No less than 1,500 lives were lost by nautical disasters in the Gulf of Venice during 1850.
—The total number of hands employed in the English cotton factories in 1850 was 387,190.
—The deaths in New York last week numbered 267, a decrease of 38 from the week previous.
—Congress has voted to make the 22d of February, Washington's birthday, a national holiday.
—The number of lakes and ponds laid down in the map of Berkshire county, Mass., is ninety-six.
—England obtained from other sources than the United States in 1850, 860,000 bales of cotton.
—In some places on the mountains in Williamstown, Mass., the snow is six feet deep on the level.
—A mass of copper, weighing 13,000 pounds, was recently taken from the mines near Ontonagon.
—The national debt of the United States amounts to about a dollar and a half for each inhabitant.
—It is reiterated that a National Convention will probably be the means of settling our difficulties.
—The Grand Haven (Mich.) Clarion says that several cases of diphtheria, have appeared in that place.
—Samuel H. Black was arrested on Friday, in New York, on a charge of counterfeiting copper cents.
—Judge Lord, of the Land Court, St. Louis, has declared that religious journals are not "newspapers."
—Eighty-seven arrests were made on Sunday week in New York, for violations of the Sunday liquor law.
—A lady swallowed a cambric needle at New Albany, Ind., last week, and suffers acutely in consequence.
—There are in England and Wales 300,000 Sunday school teachers, and 2,500,000 Sunday school scholars.
—The estimated number of persons indirectly dependent on cotton manufactures in England is 1,000,000.
—A horrid Indian massacre of seven emigrants in Carson Valley, is reported in the news from Pike's Peak.
—King Victor Emanuel has granted 200,000 francs in aid of the public schools to be established in Naples.
—John A. Rockwell, formerly Member of Congress from Connecticut, died on the 11th inst., of apoplexy.
—In the year 1850, as appears by the census, the number of slaves that escaped from the South was 1,011.
—The total number of new buildings erected last year in Boston is 984, costing in the aggregate \$5,978,161.
—A writer in the Medical Times recommends sulphur as highly efficacious in the treatment of rheumatism.
—Dispatches received by distinguished secession leaders indicate that an export duty will be laid on cotton.
—At the late Presidential election San Francisco polled nearly four thousand more votes than New Orleans.
—The New York Times says the sentiment in favor of enforcing the laws grows stronger in Congress daily.
—Rocky Mountain News says that coal oil has been discovered in the mountains, five miles from Cannon City.
—The attempts hitherto made in Australia, with the view to the introduction of the salmon, have proved failures.
—It is said that nearly \$1,000 was cleared at the Concert, in Troy, Monday night, in aid of the Kansas Relief Fund.
—There is a great deal more feeling of animosity now than ever, in France, between the clergy and the government.
—By letters from Liberia, December 15th, it appears that the Liberian Republic had captured two slave schooners.
—In St. Louis last week there were eighty-four deaths, sixty-one of which were children five years old and under.
—The Supreme Court of Indiana has decided the "Liquor Law" of that State to be constitutional in every particular.
—Fifty bbls of cotton, valued at between five and six millions of dollars, cleared from New Orleans Monday week.
—There is a house in Union, Conn., tenanted by three families, where three births happened in one night last week.
—The depreciation in the value of slave property in Missouri, consequent upon the secession movement, is forty per cent.
—The measles are prevailing extensively at Baldwinville, Oneida county. Some 250 cases are reported within the village.
—The citizens of Cortland, N. Y., are making an effort to establish telegraphic communication between that place and Ithaca.
—A pine tree was lately cut in the lumbering region near Eau Claire, Mich., which yielded over six thousand feet of lumber.
—A drayman of New Orleans deliberately rolled a hog-head of sugar over the head of a little child, and killed it.
—From one thousand hills of hops planted one year ago, in California, one thousand pounds of hops were gathered last fall.
—The quantity of Anthracite coal sent from Pennsylvania in the year 1850, was 8,500,000 tons; increase over 1859, 618,717 tons.
—Garibaldi continues to call for his million of armed Italians, who shall effect the redemption of the whole Peninsula.
—A little girl named Buckley, of South Adams, Mass., aged about 12 years, slid down a hill into the river on Monday, and was drowned.
—Dr. Foster, who tore down and trampled upon the American flag at Covington, Ky., a few days since, has been fined \$20 for that offence.
—Russia is rapidly extending her telegraphs into the Amoor country, intending to reach the Pacific and the vast country of Siberia.
—The census of Missouri shows that State to have 1,407,536 whites, 113,188 slaves, and 3,902 free negroes,—in the aggregate 1,624,626.
—The Amherst (Mass.) Railroad is again open for public travel after nearly three weeks' suspension, and a monstrous amount of hard labor in clearing away snow and ice.

THE SNOW-DRIFT.

O, SWEEP creation! cradled in the skies,
Crowning with beauty all the field's expanse;
Thy Parian glow and sculptured symmetries
Believe the wildest wonders of romance.

chair was in its accustomed corner by the parlor fire,
and in it sat the dear old lady, with her placid smile
of welcome for all; while grandfather stood near her,
erect and dignified, his hands crossed on the top of
his ivory-headed staff, which was his constant com-

"Well, JENNY," said Mr. NEWMAN, when they
gathered again around their own fireplace, "how was
it about that wish-bone? Did it prove to be a good
one?"

The Story-Teller.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.)
MAGIC

BY EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER.
(Continued from page 60, last week.)

The old Newman homestead, where Thanksgiving
gatherings had been held time out of mind, was a
large substantial farm-house, built in the style of the
old Puritans, with beams of solid oak that seemed as
lasting as iron.

FUN, FACT, AND FANCY.

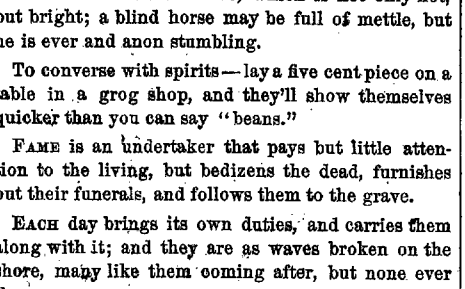
A MAN'S good fortune often turns his head; his bad
fortune as often averts the heads of his friends.
The farewell of some wives to their husbands every
morning—buy and buy.

Corner for the Young.

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

I AM composed of 17 letters.
My 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15 is a season of the year.
My 5, 9, 10, 11, 17 is found in the earth.

ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



POETICAL ENIGMA.

I'm a singular creature, of inventive art,—
No science can prosper, without I take part;
Yet in paper or book you cannot me discern;

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

Find two numbers, such that their product shall be equal
to the difference of their squares, and the sum of their squares
shall be equal to the difference of their cubes.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 578.

Answer to Grammatical Enigma:—A rolling stone gathers
no moss.
Answer to Illustrated Rebus:—Ought men to cypher (sigh
for) ought which undermines their understandings, or is in-

THE BOOK FOR THE TIMES.

THE TEACHINGS
OF
PATRIOTS AND STATESMEN,
OR,
The "Founders of the Republic"
ON
SLAVERY

IT is not a PARTISAN BOOK, but a compilation from the
reports of Debates and other reliable sources, of the SPEECHES
and OPINIONS of the
FOUNDERS OF THE REPUBLIC
on the question of SLAVERY, as expressed in the CONGRESS
of the CONFEDERATION, in the CONVENTION to form the
CONSTITUTION, and in the several STATE CONVENTIONS
to ratify the same.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, SILAS WRIGHT,
JAMES BUCHANAN, &c., &c.,
the agitation of the Slavery Question in the House of Represent-
atives in 1850, the RETIREMENT OF SOUTHERN MEM-
BERS, the so-called GAG RULE and vote thereon, the
Great Speech of Henry Clay,

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
THE LARGEST CIRCULATED
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY WEEKLY,
IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY
BY D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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we take the following:
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judge justly as to the question which for many years has most
absorbed our politics, to buy this book. The acts and senti-

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VOL. XII. NO. 93

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1861.

{WHOLE NO. 581.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
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With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

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AGRICULTURAL.

INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

A Small Farm—How to Make it Profitable.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Will you confer a favor on me, and others in like circumstances, who depend on the cultivation of a few acres for the support of themselves and families, by giving the best course to pursue to make the most of the small parcel of land we possess? That you understand my circumstances, I give the following particulars: Location.—Fifty-six miles Northwest of Milwaukee, on the Levee and Milwaukee Railroad; one mile from Rolling Prairie Depot; five miles each way to a village; one containing 1,500 inhabitants, and the other 3,000.

Soil, &c.—I have five acres of rich, black prairie, capable of raising good cabbage or onions without manure. Average Markets.—Wheat, 75 cents; corn, 37; barley, 37; oats, 18; potatoes, 18; butter, 13; cheese, 10; eggs, 8; hay, \$6; pork, \$5; cabbage, onions, &c., very little sale, except very early for Milwaukee and Chicago markets.

Now, how shall a man go to work to support a family of five persons, and lay by something for a rainy day, off of this five acres of land, in condition as specified? Please give particulars, and oblige an old subscriber.—L. L. F.

Our Wisconsin friend will have need for all the skill and energy he possesses to "make a living for five persons and save a little for a rainy day," from a farm of five acres, situated as it is among the cheap and rich prairie lands, and abundant produce of the West. Did our correspondent live within a few miles of a large city affording a good market, we would say grow small fruits,—strawberries, raspberries, currants, and blackberries,—for market, as well as early and choice vegetables, the production of which would afford a large amount of profitable labor. Land is the farmers' capital, and our friend will find it somewhat difficult to manage things profitably with the small interest he has in the soil. Well-directed labor is the producer of wealth. Iron, by labor, is made much more valuable than the same weight of gold. A great amount of labor must be laid out upon this piece of land to produce support for a family. A laborer with no interest in the soil, whose only capital is ten shillings invested in a shovel, can produce by his labor a dollar a day. The small farmer with five acres, and therefore with several hundred dollars invested in land, and with the necessary skill to labor wisely and efficiently, should do as well as this, and better; but to do so, a system must be pursued that will afford much more work than ordinary farming, or the owner will be doing nothing and earning nothing a great portion of the year.

For the sake of making this matter plain, we will suppose the whole lot put down to grass and cut and sold for hay, as this will afford the least labor. If the product is two tons per acre, and sold at the price stated by our correspondent, the money received will be only \$60. A crop of corn would require more work, and we will suppose the whole put into corn, and the product 80 bushels to the acre. This, at 37 cents per bushel, would yield \$148. It is evident that some system must be pursued that will afford more profitable labor, and at the same time return something to the soil. Suppose, then, we procure pigs, and feed out the corn. This will give plenty of manure and considerable labor in feeding, killing and marketing. Five pounds of corn, if economically fed, will make about one pound of pork, so that every bushel of corn fed out will return 60-cents, or \$240 for the whole crop. Another way to increase the labor would be to grow roots, such as carrots, beets, and especially parsnips, for making pork. In this way, we think, twice as much feed can be obtained from the same land as in growing corn.

If cows and other stock are kept, no animal should be allowed on the land, but everything should be cut and fed out. Corn, clover, and green oats would be found economical for summer feed, while hay, roots and a little corn should constitute the winter feed. Hon. JOSHUA QUINCY, Jr., says, by this system, he is enabled to keep on 17 acres as many cattle as by the old system he kept on fifty. Still, the prospect of mak-

ing money in the dairy business on so small a piece of land is not flattering. A good average yield of butter from cows, we believe, is 160 pounds each. This, at 13 cents per pound, would make the product of each cow about \$20. It will take unusually good management and a good deal of labor to keep a cow on three-fourths of an acre of land. But suppose seven are kept on this five acres, we have only \$140 as the product of their butter. Of course a better plan would be to keep a less number of cows, and some pigs, to which the skimmed milk should be fed. We are only endeavoring to show the probable results of different methods if exclusively followed.

The onion crop requires a great amount of labor. With good clean culture, on a rich soil,—and we think the black soil of the prairies would be admirable,—600 bushels would not be an extraordinary crop. At the East they sell at from 40 to 60 cents a bushel. At the lowest price an acre would produce \$200. If the market is good at the West, we know of no better crop for a five acre farm. Bee Keeping, if properly managed, could be found exceedingly profitable, as, in addition to the honey, the natural increase is so great that the revenue is not small from the sale of swarms. Then, they feed on the product of the land for miles around. Two hundred swarms, if only averaging twenty pounds each, at the low price of twelve cents per pound, would give about \$333, and this estimate we think is far too low.

The first object of the farmer should be to provide for his household. A well kept garden of one acre will furnish a family many of the luxuries of life, and about all the necessaries that can be produced in our climate, except flour, clothes, fuel and meat, and go a good way towards furnishing the latter. On such a piece of land we grow a magnificent supply of summer vegetables, as good as grace the tables of the best hotels in the land, or the finest private establishment. Our spinach, lettuce, peas, beans, beets, cauliflower, early potatoes, corn, cucumbers, tomatoes, &c., are unsurpassed, while we have strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, early apples and pears, and plums and melons in abundance. At the setting in of winter, we find our cellar well filled with potatoes, beets, carrots, turnips, celery, squashes, cabbage, and a score or two of barrels of Baldwin, Northern Spy, Greening, Spitzenburgh and Swaar apples, and fifty or sixty pounds of honey, bottled fruits, &c. All this, and a great deal more, we produce from our small farm of one acre, to say nothing of the gay flowers that border our walks, and the beautiful bouquets that grace our tables every summer's day.

Splints on Horses.

As the columns of the RURAL NEW-YORKER are open to give all the information you can to young and old, and as I am a beginner in life, I am in need of information in regard to splints on horses legs. What is the cause? Is it apt to produce lameness, or cause the horse to stumble, &c.? If curable, what is the remedy and treatment? Any information from you will be thankfully received by—A SUBSCRIBER, Solano Co., California, Dec., 1860.

SPLINT is a very common disease, and is situated between the large and small metacarpal bones, and generally on the inside. In the young animal these bones are connected by ligamentous substances which become inflamed and the excited vessels throw out a bony deposit. This would seem to be an effort of nature to strengthen the parts by ossification. The bony substance being deposited under the periosteum, or covering of the bone, puts it upon the stretch, causing pain, and lameness follows. Should the ossifying process be slow, lameness is not usually exhibited. The location of the disease has much to do with producing lameness. If situated nearly midway between the knee and fetlock, the gait of the horse would not be affected, but if near the knee joint they stiffen and cramp its action, and if low down they interfere with the play of the back sinews.

Causes.—We are not ready to indicate the causes of this disease. Veterinarians are by no means certain, and this doubting has led to much speculation. It may come from a blow, or injury in the form of a sprain. It may be the result of predisposition in the breed, and to this constitutional tendency HENRY WILLIAM HERBERT inclined.

Treatment.—English veterinarians claim to have been most successful in its removal by the operation of periosteotomy, which consists in making a small incision through the skin at the upper and lower parts of the splint, passing up a small, narrow knife, and so cutting down on and dividing the periosteum, thus relieving the tension and irritation. A small seton from one incision to the other is used for two or three weeks to keep up a counter irritation. In very slight cases a blister may be applied with good results. Iodide of mercury, one drachm, and one ounce of palm oil, are most suitable for this purpose.

Dr. DADD objects to the manner of treatment just given. He says:—"Some surgeons blister for the cure of splint; others saw off the tumor; and periosteotomy has been resorted to in view of cure; but, unfortunately, splint is no more curable than spavin when once the cartilage is converted into bone; and as, in the majority of cases, it is but an eyecore, and detracts but little from the value, and still less on the score of usefulness of the horse, it may be well to pause ere we operate for the cure of an incurable disease." We give Dr. D.'s mode of procedure:—"In the early stages, supposing some inflammatory symptoms present, we resort to cooling, evaporating lotions; these are various. The following will prob-

ably answer the purpose; we have used it extensively, and found it efficient; Acetic acid, 2 ounces; water, 8 ounces; chloric ether, 1 ounce. Mix; take a pad, composed of three or four folds of cotton cloth, immerse it in the mixture, place it over the seat of splint, then confine it so as to produce slight pressure on the tumor, the outer bandage to be moistened as often as convenient. Rest at this stage is highly important, because the periosteum, or else the interosseous fibro-cartilage between the splint and cannon, is inflamed, and all motion aggravates it. In a case of long standing, and even in one having a well-marked tumor, stiffness and lameness may be relieved by the occasional application of acetate of cantharides."

Corn Meal and Potatoes.

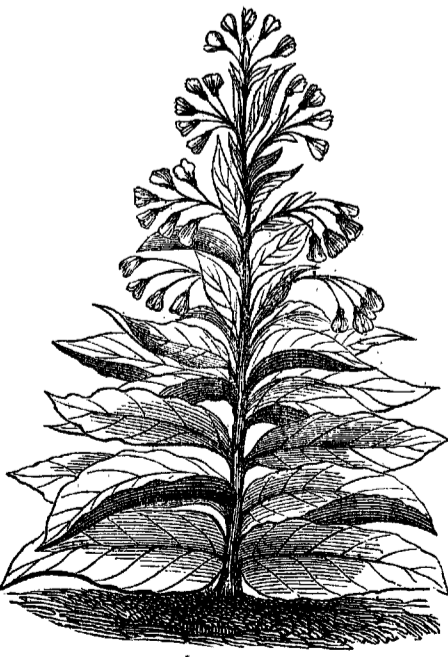
EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I wish to inquire, through the columns of the RURAL, how much Indian meal is equal to one bushel of potatoes, and if it will be better for them if cooked?—A. B., *Calcedonia, Wis. Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

FOR the sake of economy, we should say by all means cook both the meal and potatoes. A great portion of the concentrated food given to animals is wasted, passing away undigested. If grain is fed to horses without being ground or bruised, a portion passes through the stomach without being completely digested, and a flock of fowls need no better fare than to be allowed the range of the dung heap, and will grow fat on the wasted grain. A striking illustration of this system of feeding is to be seen at the West, where cows and fattening cattle are fed large quantities of corn either in the ear or on the stalk. Their droppings, after heavy rains have washed away the soluble parts, look like heaps of broken corn—the tender germ being digested while the harder part of the kernel remains as sound as when eaten. Bruising or grinding wonderfully helps digestion, but cooking so prepares the food for the operations of the stomach that little or none of the nutritive matter is wasted, but is absorbed by the capillary vessels and assimilated by the various parts of the body. It has been ascertained by experiments in feeding, that fifteen pounds of Indian meal are equal to one bushel of potatoes; or that one pound of meal is as valuable as four of potatoes.

Tobacco—Growing and Curing.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I wish information, through the columns of your valuable paper, with regard to the culture of tobacco. How treated, what time it should be set, and how managed after cutting? Information in respect to the above will be thankfully received by a reader of the RURAL.—F. JOHNSON, *Burton, Feb.*, 1861.

We have on hand a number of inquiries of similar import to the above, some of which have quietly rested in our pigeon holes for months. But, as the season is advancing, it becomes necessary to give the desired information. More Tobacco is probably grown in Onondaga than in any other county in this State, and in the last volume of Transactions of the State Agricultural Society, we find in the Agricultural Survey by Hon. GEO. GRUNDY, an interesting report of the products of that county, from which we make the following extracts showing the method of growing and curing Tobacco. This will probably give all the information sought by our correspondents. As to the culture and use of tobacco, we are of opinion that the former is decidedly injurious and exhausting to the soil, and the latter in most cases as deleterious to the human system. Still, as people will consume the weed, thus creating a great demand for its production and rendering its culture profitable, it may be our duty to furnish needful information on the subject of its cultivation and preparation for market:

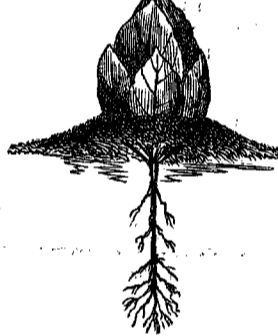


TOBACCO PLANT IN FULL BLOSSOM.

The cultivation of Tobacco, as a crop, was commenced in this county in 1845, by CHESTER MOSES and NATHAN GRIMES, both of the town of Marcellus. By the census of 1855, it appears that in the preceding year there were raised, in the whole county, 471 1/2 acres, yielding 554,987 pounds; which gives, as the average yield, 1,178 pounds to the acre. It is thought that this crop pays a better profit on suitable ground, when skillfully handled, than any other raised here. Expensive buildings are first necessary; then high

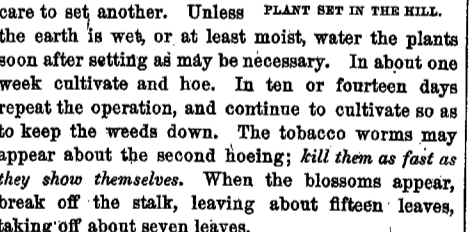
manuring, careful and laborious cultivation, accompanied with skill, and a sacrifice of manure for other crops—unless it can be purchased—are to be taken into the account by any person who intends to enter on its cultivation. In the immediate vicinity of manure that can be purchased, this crop is increasing; perhaps it is in other places, but what the effects may be on the profits of other crops, there has not been sufficient time to determine since the introduction of what is now a staple. Mr. BENJAMIN CLARK, of Marcellus, who is perhaps better acquainted with the facts in regard to the culture of tobacco than any other man here, estimates the production of 1859, as of the value of \$150,000.

From Mr. CLARK, the following facts and estimates in regard to this crop are derived: A warm, rich, well drained, and mellow soil should be had, and then twenty-five loads of rotten barn-yard manure should be put on an acre. The land being in high condition, this amount of manure will be consumed by a crop. The plants should be set about the first of June, three feet four inches, by two feet to two feet six inches apart. To raise the plants, the fall before pulverize the bed fine, and mix with the soil hog or some other manure that has no foil seeds in it. Sow seeds on the well raked bed, as soon as the ground can be properly prepared in the spring, about one ounce to a square rod, equally distributed all over the bed. Roll hard with a hand roller, but do not cover the seed. Glass should be kept over the bed until the plants appear, which will be in two or three weeks; after they are up and started, the glass will be required only at night and in cold days. The bed should be kept moist and free from weeds. When the plants are three inches high they are large enough to set. To prepare the land, the manure should be applied as early as the ground is dry enough to plow. The last of May plow and harrow again, so as to mix the manure well with the soil. Mark the land one way for rows, three feet four inches. Make hills by hauling up a few hoes full of dirt and press it well with the hoe. In taking the plants from the bed take care to keep the roots wet. Unless the ground is quite damp, put a pint of water on each hill half an hour before setting. Make a hole, put in the root, and press the dirt close to it, all the way to the lower end. If any plant does not live, take care to set another. Unless the earth is wet, or at least moist, water the plants soon after setting as may be necessary. In about one week cultivate and hoe. In ten or fourteen days repeat the operation, and continue to cultivate so as to keep the weeds down. The tobacco worms may appear about the second hoeing; kill them as fast as they show themselves. When the blossoms appear, break off the stalk, leaving about fifteen leaves, taking off about seven leaves.



PLANT AND ROOT AS SET.

After topping, break off all the suckers. In about another week, go over again, breaking off suckers and killing worms. In another week repeat the operation.



PLANT SET IN THE HILL.



PLANT READY TO TOP; PLACE FOR TOPPING, &c.

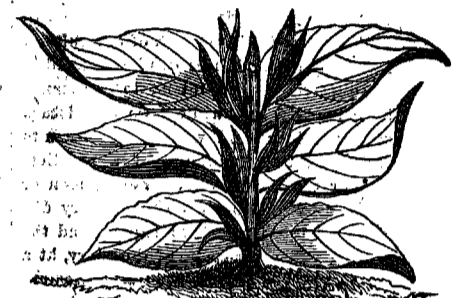
By this time the crop is ready to begin the harvest. This may be known by the suckers which start at every leaf, and when they have all appeared down to the lower leaf, the plant is ready to cut, every sucker having been removed as it appeared. The stalks are cut at the root. In a warm day out in the morning and evening. In the middle of a hot day, the leaves



PLANT AFTER TOPPING.

will burn before they are wilted. The best way is to cut in the afternoon and lay on the ground to wilt. This withering forwards the process of curing, and so

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PLANT WITH THE SUCKERS GROWING.

thickens the plant as to make it practicable to hang it without much loss in breaking leaves.

The conclusion of the above article—including the mode of curing, &c., with illustrations—will be given in our next number.

FORESTS—INFLUENCE ON CLIMATE.

THAT a tree should ever need an advocate, is strange enough. It can assert priority of claim,—"the right of possession,"—it was here before the white man,—before the Indian even! It is about as handsome as any man, full as honest, and sometimes a good deal more useful. It is the most perfect specimen of architecture that human eyes ever looked upon. If a tree must be felled,—if what no man could create, must yield its beautiful form, and its valued life to man's necessities, let the sacrifice be made with sorrow and regret,—let the woodman spare the tree if he can. I adduce valuable testimony to the importance of forests, as follows:

From the Report of the Secretary of the Bombay Geographical Society for 1850.

It was early remarked by HUMBOLDT, that men in every climate, by felling the trees that cover the tops and sides of mountains, prepare at once two calamities for future generations,—the want of fuel and a scarcity of water. Trees, by the nature of their perspiration, and the radiation from their leaves in a sky without clouds, surround themselves with an atmosphere constantly cold and misty. They affect the copiousness of springs, not, as was long believed, by a peculiar attraction for the vapors diffused through the air, but because, by sheltering the soil from the direct action of the sun, they diminish the evaporation of the water produced by rain.

When forests are destroyed with an imprudent precipitation, as they are everywhere in America, the springs entirely dry up or become less abundant. The beds of the rivers, remaining dry during a part of the year, are converted into torrents whenever great rains fall on the heights. The sward and the moss disappearing with the brushwood from the sides of the mountains, the waters falling in rain are no longer impeded in their course; and, instead of slowly augmenting the bed of the rivers by progressive filtration, they furrow, during heavy showers, the sides of the hills, bear down the loosened soil, and form those sudden inundations that devastate the country. Hence it results that the destruction of forests, the want of permanent springs, and the existence of torrents, are three phenomena closely connected together.

In India their effects are very appreciable. At Dapoolie the climate is much more hot and dry than formerly; streams now dry up in December which used to flow until April or May. This is attributed to the destruction of forests which formerly covered the neighboring hills, now barren and desolate. In southern Coucan, within the space of fifteen years, the climate has been greatly deteriorated by the diminution of vegetation, and consequently of rain. The people of Pinang have memorialized government against the destruction of their forests, feeling sure that the result, by its continuance, will be the ruin of their climate. The dreadful droughts which now so frequently visit the Cape de Verd Islands are avowedly due to the removal of their forests; and in the high lands of Greece, where trees have been cut down, springs have disappeared. In India, a few years since, a proprietor, in laying down some grounds, well watered by an excellent spring, for a coffee garden, at Genmore, despite the advice of the natives, cleared the adjacent grounds, when the supply of water vanished. Cases are also cited, where the clearing of jungles was followed in every case by an almost immediate diminution of water; when the jungle was allowed to grow again, the water returned; the springs were opened, and flowed as formerly. The St. Helena Almanac for 1843, gives particulars of the increase of the fall of rain for the last few years attributable to the increase of wood; within the present century the fall has nearly doubled. The plantations seem to have performed another service to the island. Formerly, heavy floods, caused by sudden torrents of rain, were almost periodical, and frequently very destructive; for the last nine years they have been unknown.

JOSEPH FREDERIC SCHOUER, Professor of Botany at Copenhagen, speaks as follows of the influence of forests upon the atmosphere:—"We find the most evident signs of it in the torrid zone. The forests increase the rain and moisture, and produce springs and running streams. Tracts destitute of woods become very strongly heated, the air above them,

ascends perpendicularly, and thus prevents the clouds from sinking, and the constant winds (trade winds or monsoons) where they can blow uninterruptedly over large surfaces, do not allow the transition of vapors into the form of drops. In the forests, on the contrary, the clothed soil does not become so heated, and, besides, the evaporation from the trees favors cooling; therefore, when the currents of air loaded with vapor reach the forests, they meet with that which condenses them and change into rain. Since, moreover, the evaporation of the earth goes on more slowly beneath the trees, and since these also evaporate very copiously in a hot climate, the atmosphere in these forests has a high degree of humidity, this great humidity at the same time producing many springs and streams.

Testimony of this kind could be accumulated, and I hope that the reading public will give the matter serious thought.—R. T. B.

ABOUT CHEESE-MAKING.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In a late number of the RURAL, I noticed an inquiry from one of your Ohio subscribers, asking information relative to the process of manufacturing cheese. It would be difficult to give in writing a clear idea of the somewhat complicated method of cheese-making; it would require at least several long articles to give an intelligent description of the making, curing and caring for the cheese dairy. The best treatise on the subject that I have seen, was written some years since, by A. L. FRISB, a practical dairyman of Herkimer Co., and published in the Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society.

The present and prospective price of cheese will induce many to engage in this branch of agriculture, and doubtless many butter dairies will be changed to cheese; and to all those who intend to commence cheese-making I would say, while I do not discard written methods or theories, I would advise them to avail themselves of the experience of a practical cheese-maker for the first season. Young men or women can be obtained from the cheese dairy districts that would be competent to superintend the manufacture, and subsequent care of the dairy, at a cost of \$2.50 to \$3.00 per week for young women, and \$16 to \$20 per month for young men; or, if preferred, good tenants can be obtained, who would rent farms for a share of the products. The usual rate here is, the tenant has two-fifths of the cheese and butter, and one-half of the grain.

Let me give your readers who are unacquainted with this branch of farming, something of an idea of the proceeds and expense attending our dairy business. Our dairy farms average about 200 acres, divided as follows:—woodland, 25 acres; meadows, 50 to 60 acres; plow land, 10 to 20 acres, and balance pasture. This farm would keep team, 30 cows, and raise young stock sufficient to replace the old, worn out cows, and

Table with 2 columns: Product and Price. Includes items like Produce for market, 10,000 lbs Cheese at 10c, 200 lbs Butter at 18c, 600 lbs Pork at 7c, Calf skins, and Beef (old cows).

Total, \$1,158 00. The expenses to carry on the farm, providing the proprietor and his "better half" are workers, would be: For hired man, one year, \$150 00; For extra help, haying and harvesting, 100 00; Total, \$250 00.

The profits would depend of course on the amount of capital invested in farm, cows, &c., and this varies so much that we will not attempt to fix the valuation.

I would be pleased to have some of your correspondents furnish your paper with a similar estimate of the produce and expense of wool and grain farms. F. SMITH, Norway, Herkimer Co., N. Y., 1861.

SERMONS FROM SHORT TEXTS.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

"An annual change of crops upon a field, while under tillage, tends very much to economize its fertility, and to increase the profits of the labor bestowed upon it."—JONAS BOWEN.

Yet mark, a change or rotation of crops does not add to the fertility of the soil, but only prevents the particular elements contained in it from being exhausted so quickly as they would by a succession of the same crop. The addition of manure in some form or other is absolutely necessary to prevent the diminution of the vegetative power of the soil. The exhaustive powers of each grain, or white crops, taken from the land may be stated to be, wheat 40 per cent., rye 30, barley 26, oats 25, corn about 20, peas 10.

A well prepared fallow adds about 10 degrees to the fertility of the soil; clover mown, 12; pasture, 20; 10 tons of ordinary farm yard manure per acre, 62 per cent.

In carrying out an alternating system of crops, the profits gained depend much on the manner in which it is done. Col. B., of Norfolk Co., C. W., pursued a three course system for several years, that maintained the soil (a sandy loam,) in such condition that his winter wheat averaged 40 to 45 bushels per acre, every year. He kept 300 acres of his farm exclusively for the production of wheat. The land was divided into lots of 100 acres each; each year one lot was under fallow, one in wheat, and the other in clover. Sheep enough were kept on the wheat stubble and the clover, after mowing one crop, to leave the land pretty well enriched by their droppings. The clover hay was used to feed the stock on the farm in winter, and the manure made applied to root crops on other portions of the farm. The sheep spent a good deal of their time during winter herded on the clover field. The clover was allowed to grow for some time, I think till June, before being plowed under for the fallow. Three plowings were given to the fallow, and the wheat sown as early as possible in the fall.

This system is similar to the one pursued in Norfolk Co., England, except that there white turnips are grown in place of a naked fallow, the sheep fed off on the turnips in the field during the winter as well as pastured on the clover. This three course system is not, however, one to be recommended as profitable, except where wheat and mutton both command a high price and ready sale.

I think the following rotation, which may be called a seven course system, is one that will be found most profitable, regard being had to the adaptability of the farm and locality for particular crops. First year, oats or peas; 2d year, roots or corn, heavily manured; 3d year, barley; 4th year, wheat, seeded down to grass or clover, the grass to remain 3 years before again breaking up the soil,—the last year it is to be pastured the entire season. It is not by a succession of heavy manuring, followed by heavy cropping, that

a farm may be made profitable, and kept up in fertility, but rather by a steady and continual perseverance in a good and judicious system of cultivation—and if this is so carried out as to maintain an equilibrium between the productive powers of the soil and the exhaustive powers of the crop grown upon it, we need have no fear of "prospective," or rather progressive, "sterility" resulting. J. M. Hamilton, C. W., 1861.

THAT MACHINERY QUESTION.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I can't help laughing in my sleeve to see the conduct of the "angelic sisterhood" to which, of course, that Cayuga O. M. belongs, (I hope.) Why, for several years, ever since machines have been so common, the cry has been that the men had all the helps on their side, while the women, poor creatures, must work every bit as hard as did their grandmothers. You feminines? Every one of you know that you have said so repeatedly and groaned because no more machines were invented for your benefit. But now, when H. T. B., in a friendly way, has taken up your cause, and tried to show that you were really neglected,—you are ready to knock him over in a minute. How dare he insinuate that you haven't had as much done for you as the men. It is just exactly as it is with a man and his wife when they quarrel. You look on quietly and they will fight it out, but you take the woman's part and tell her "that her husband is a bad fellow, and you will help her whip him out," and she'll pull your hair quicker than a flash, and tell you "that her husband is enough sight better than you are." Why, H. T. B., I don't see for the life of me how you ever dared to undertake this "woman cause." You might know you would have every "old maid" in creation after you, and, between you and me, they are the meanest creatures on earth. They are a meddling, fault-finding, uneasy set of beings,—they don't know what they want, but you answered that question fully when you said they wanted "husbands." I've only one more suggestion, and that is if you think anything of your friend P., for "conscience sake" don't send him into Cayuga Co. after that O. M.,—if you do, you'll rue the day, take my word for it. Psi.

February, 1861.

TO PREVENT SHEEP RUNNING OVER STONE WALLS.—We often hear it said by many good farmers, that "I should like to keep sheep, but I have so much stone wall it is impossible to keep them in their proper places." I herewith send the RURAL NEW-YORKER my method of making a good stone wall, the best kind of fence for sheep, which you are at liberty to give your readers if you think it worth anything. Take common fence boards 16 feet long and 6 inches wide. Saw a portion of them 2 feet long, raise up the cap stones of the wall, place these short boards under, letting them project out from the wall one foot—placing them 8 feet apart—then take the 16 feet boards, and place them on the short ones in a transverse direction, and nail with wrought nails, taking care to place the short boards so as to receive the ends of two long ones, or so as to break joints as in making board fence. If the cap stones should be too light, you can easily double them. This done, you have a durable and cheap fence that will prove effectual against the most lawless flocks. Old boards and siding may be used, and answer a good purpose.—FRANK GRAHAM, Bailey Hollow, Pa., 1861.

The Bee-keeper.

Bee-keeper's Association. We would inform our readers that a Bee-keeper's Association, (the first in the United States, we believe,) was formed in Cleveland last spring, which held a meeting, also, last autumn. The proceedings of this Association have been interesting and instructive. The Association at its last meeting "adjourned to meet again at 10 o'clock, on the second Thursday of March, 1861." We are informed that the following important question is to be discussed at the coming meeting:—"What form of hive gives the Bee-keeper the most perfect control with ease of manipulating the bee, and at the same time allows of the greatest increase of surplus honey?" This question should, and will, probably, call out a large number of "patent right" men, and hence a lively discussion may be expected. Those who are interested in Apiculture will please make a note of this, and prepare themselves accordingly.

A Hive With Movable Frames. EDs. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In the impression of the RURAL of Feb. 16th, from your article respecting "A Hive with Movable Frames," I make the following extract:—"This system of keeping bees was first practiced, we think, by DZIERZON, of Prussia, in 1845; but instead of a frame, he used only a cross-bar, so that the comb was attached to the hive on the sides, and in moving them it was necessary to use the knife to detach them. This plan was improved upon, if our memory serves us correctly, by Baron BERLEPSCH, who invented the square frames, so that the combs could be removed without the least injury. About the same time, and without knowing what was doing in Germany, an invalid minister, forced to seek out-door exercise, (Rev. L. L. LANGSTROTH,) undertook, for his amusement, the study of the honey-bee, and invented and patented a hive very much like that of DZIERZON, as improved by BERLEPSCH, with movable frames."

It would appear from the foregoing,—does, at least to me,—that Mr. LANGSTROTH "invented and patented" his "movable frames" about the same time that the Baron of Berlepsch improved upon the Dzierzon cross-bar hive, by inventing the "square frames."

Whether other readers of the RURAL get the same impression from a perusal of the above extract that I do, I cannot say,—not having conversed with any,—but if they do, as a matter of history, I would state that their impression is erroneous.

There seems to be an opinion prevailing among "patent bee-hive" men, that the "movable frames" used as designed by the Rev. Mr. LANGSTROTH are an "old invention," and hence Mr. L. is not legally entitled to a patent on them. How this may be is not for me, but the patent laws, to decide. By the way, however, I would remark, that if the "movable frames" used as designed by Mr. LANGSTROTH, are an "old invention," as some seem to believe, it seems a little singular that the celebrated Apiarist of Europe, Rev. Mr. DZIERZON, should have preferred the "movable cross-bars" to the "frames," when the "frames" would have saved him such an enormous amount of labor, to which he was continually subjected by detaching, by the aid of the knife, the combs from the sides of the hives.

What I propose to say respecting the "frames" devised by both Mr. LANGSTROTH and the Baron of BERLEPSCH, is, that Mr. LANGSTROTH is "justly entitled to the priority of date." Mr. LANGSTROTH

patented his "movable frames" in 1852,—when he devised them I am not prepared to say,—whereas the Baron of BERLEPSCH did not devise or "adopt" movable frames till 1855.

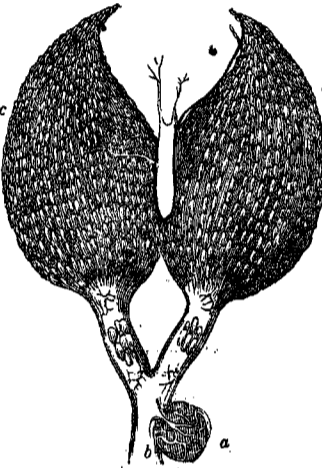
I also notice an error in regard to the price of an individual right to use Mr. LANGSTROTH'S movable-comb hive in the Western States. Mr. OTIS advertises thus:—"An individual or farm right to use this invention, including one hive, will be sold for ten dollars." M. M. BALDRIDGE, Middleport, Niagara Co., N. Y., 1861.

OUR remarks in answer to the inquiries of a correspondent, who desired information respecting the Movable Frame Hives, were made from memory, without consulting with books for dates, as we could give all the information sought without this. The improvements of Mr. LANGSTROTH were made about the same time with those of DZIERZON, but Mr. L. takes precedence in point of time over Baron BERLEPSCH, for we find by the Patent Office Report that Mr. LANGSTROTH'S patent was obtained in 1852. It is not claimed in any European work that we have seen, that Baron BERLEPSCH made his improvements on the DZIERZON plan until 1855.—Ed.

Questions for the Curious.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I have been an apiarist for many years, but do not understand all the mysteries of bees. It is generally admitted that the queen lays all the eggs in the hive, and the question is how the eggs for drones are all in the cells that were made to hatch the drones in, and the eggs for working bees are in the cells that were made for the working bees, and the queen eggs are in the cells made to hatch queens? Does the queen distinguish between the different kinds of eggs when she lays them, or do the others separate them, and place them in proper order? Or is it the mode of reasoning that makes the difference? If the queen lays each egg in the cell where it hatches, she must have some previous knowledge what kind of egg she is going to lay.—A. WILLIAMS, Marcellus, N. Y., 1861.

We believe the theory now pretty generally adopted is this: The "spermatheca" or fertilizing fluid is contained in a little sac, shown in the engraving, (a) and opening into the viaduct (b). The ovaries (c, d)



are double, each consisting of a great number of ducts, filled with eggs, which gradually increase in size, until they are sufficiently matured, when they pass down the viaduct, are fertilized by the sperm from the seminal sac and are then deposited in the cells. The abdomen of the Queen Bee in being forced into the worker cells for the deposition of the eggs, receives a slight pressure which causes a flow of the seminal fluid necessary to their fertilization. The drone cells being larger, the abdomen of the queen receives no pressure and the eggs are not impregnated, and drones is the result. In support of this theory it is shown that young queens, if confined and not permitted to take their flight for the purpose of meeting the drones on the wing, will lay only drone eggs, even in worker cells. Those who believe this theory, consider that the eggs of an unimpregnated queen have sufficient vitality to produce drones, but not workers. This ingenious theory originated, we believe, with Mr. SAMUEL WAGNER, of York, Pa. Queens, it is believed, are produced from eggs that by ordinary treatment would produce workers. But they are placed in cells much larger than those of workers, or drones, and somewhat resembling a small pea-nut, as shown in the engraving, and are generally made on the edges of the combs, and with the mouth hanging down. It is a question yet undecided, whether the eggs are laid in these cells, or are placed there by the workers, being removed from worker cells, where they have been laid by the queen. In these cells are deposited, for the use of the queen larvae as soon as hatched, a larger quantity of food than is given the workers, and of a different character, which, when fresh, has the appearance of starch, and when old, a light quince jelly. It is a little acid, and is called royal jelly. The manner of treatment, in connection with this food, is supposed to produce the queen from an egg that if allowed to remain in a worker cell would have hatched an imperfect female, or worker.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Clover and Meadow Lands.

The Valley Farmer speaks thus concerning the management of clover and meadow lands:—"Stock should always be turned off from clover so early in the fall as to allow the plants to make a growth of leaves sufficient to protect them from the action of the snow and frosts of winter. When eaten off to the ground, and the surface becomes trod hard and compact, the roots will be drawn up frequently three inches above the surface before spring.

If clover and meadow lands have already received close fall feeding, by all means stock should be kept off during February and March, so that the surface may become somewhat lightened by the rain and frosts, that the tender growth of spring may proceed without injury. One hundred pounds of feed gleaned from a clover or timothy field in the winter or early spring, will cut short the crop of the coming season five hundred pounds or more; so that it will prove the most miserable economy to allow a hoof to press upon lands that are intended either for hay or summer pasturage.

Effects of Corn-Cob Meal.

As this subject is now being discussed in the columns of the RURAL, we give the views of a Connecticut farmer as expressed before the Homestead Club. He says:—"As every one is invited to give his free opinion in your farmers' club, I venture a word. I have fed corn-cob meal for many years, both to cattle and horses, and I suppose with decided advantage, and as I have never had any animals sicken when on this diet, I infer that there is nothing injurious about it. To working oxen or milch cows I have never exceeded four quarts per day, and to fattening animals double the quantity. These last

had a bushel of roots daily. I prefer a mixed feed, grinding oats with the corn for oxen, and rye for milch cows. It is very well known that corn meal alone is very heavy feed, and unless great caution is used, animals become sickened. Now the cobs ground up with the corn, even if they contain no nutriment, which is far from being proved, form an excellent divisor to separate the meal and create the stimulus of distention in the stomach, so essential to the perfect digestion of its contents. For this purpose we give out straw with meal, not supposing that when fully ripe it has much more nutriment in it than good saw-dust.

Coating Fence Posts with Cement.

WM KENNEY, of Paris, Ky., makes the following suggestions in the Country Gentleman of the 14th inst.—A few evenings since while engaged in setting fence posts, I was revolving in my mind the many suggestions offered for their preservation, and while thus engaged an idea occurred to me, that I do not recollect to have ever heard advanced, and which I submit for your consideration and use. Hydraulic cement has been used for many purposes other than stopping leaks and plastering cisterns. It makes a hard and durable paint, mixed with flax seed oil, for wood work and out-door machinery much exposed to weather, and is impervious to water. After once mixing it with water and suffering it to harden, it cannot be again dissolved, and on plastering cisterns when fully dried, it is there for all time, and as hard as adamant. Now suppose we were to prepare a solution of this cement in water, and give the ground end of our fence posts several successive dippings, drying after each dipping, to the depth we want them to stand in the ground—might it not make some of the less durable timber more durable for posts—equally so with the yellow locust or cedar? The materials are cheap, and it costs nothing to try it—and had the idea occurred to me before I was about finishing mine, I should most undoubtedly have tried it.

Raising Calves.

The issue of the Connecticut Homestead for February 14th, contains a criticism from the pen of S. I. BARTLETT, upon an article given in the RURAL of Nov. 24, 1860, by J. A. EDWARDS. The subject is one of importance to stock growers, and we copy the remarks of Mr. B., as follows:

I am inclined to think that the calves have not received their due share of attention in the pages of The Homestead, therefore I was glad to see in a late number an article on raising calves, copied from the Rural New-Yorker. For one, I can fully indorse the opinion of the writer of that article, in regard to early calves. It is my practice to raise one or more winter calves every year, and the advantages are many. First, butter is always worth more in winter than in summer, so that new milch cows are more profitable at that time of year than in the warm season, and with good care and feed, they will give as much milk in winter as in summer. Second, if the farmer wishes to buy calves, they can be bought much lower in the fall and winter than in the spring. Third, they are apt to receive more attention during winter, because the farmer is about the barn more, and can provide for their wants better than in summer, when he is necessarily busy about the farm. Fourth, they are ready to turn out as soon as the grass will give a good bite, and they will be strong and healthy, and better prepared to withstand the cold of winter than late ones. Lastly, they are ready to market six months or a year earlier than the late ones. They should have new milk at least two weeks, and then skim-milk may be given once a day for another week, when it can be substituted entirely for new milk, but it should not be given in such quantities as to cause them to scour. After they are five weeks old, a little linseed oilmeal should be put into their milk, increasing the quantity from time to time, and when they are eight weeks old, if milk is scarce, they can be fed wholly on it, put into a little warm water. At this time they will relish a few roots, and they will do them good. I have fed a calf this winter on beef scraps, a single handful, dissolved in warm water, night and morning, and he did as well on it as on skim-milk. Calves should lie loose, in a warm airy place, have plenty of litter, and plenty of good fine or aftermath hay to eat, and occasionally a shovelful of dirt to lick. Calves raised in this way cannot fail to be good ones, especially if of a good breed.

Inquiries and Answers.

BEST FOOD FOR BREEDING SOWS.—Will you, or some of the readers of the RURAL, inform me, through the columns of the same, what is the best food for sows that have small pigs, where no milk is to be had? It has been said that corn meal was not good, as it dries up the milk.—FRANK GRAHAM, Bailey Hollow, Penn., 1861.

CEMENT FLOORS FOR CATTLE STABLES.—I would like to inquire whether any of the RURAL'S subscribers have had experience in water-tight cement for a floor for stable cattle, in the basement of a barn, with a wall on three sides, laid in lime and sand, so it will not be exposed to the frost? Will some one give me the desired information? By so doing you will much oblige.—A. R. DANIELS, Mentor, Ohio, 1861.

OATS FOR SHEEP.—Will you, or some of your numerous readers, please inform me, through the columns of the RURAL NEW-YORKER whether oats are good for sheep? If not, what is the best grain they can be fed?—E. S. JENKINS, Clyde, N. Y., 1861.

This subject has been pretty fully discussed in various volumes of the RURAL. Summing up the experience of quite a number of sheep-breeders it would appear thus:—"The condition of the animals at the period when the grain was first given is the governing feature. If they were weak and poor, and oats were given somewhat freely, disastrous results generally followed,—if in good store condition, and the allowance was fed out judiciously, the effect was beneficial.

In regard to the second query of our correspondent, writers and experimenters seem to be about equally divided. Some argue that the oats is the natural grain of sheep,—others have had "better luck" with corn. Either grain, if fed out with care and judiciously, we are inclined to think will aid and assist the individual who desires the best interests of his flock.

USE OF HEN MANURE.—Seeing an inquiry in the RURAL of February 23, in regard to the best way of using hen manure, I thought I would send you my method. Pulverize the manure, and add as many bushels of plaster as you have of manure, and to every five bushels of this mixture, add one of salt. I have used this for ten years. For corn, I put a handful of the mixture in the hill when I plant, and, if I have enough, a top-dressing after hoeing.—P. C. DANIELS, Oswego, N. Y., 1861.

HORSES PULLING AT THE HALTER.—Seeing an inquiry in the RURAL of February 24 for breaking a horse of pulling at the halter, I give you my mode of treatment, which is the best I ever knew for that purpose. Take an inch rope, put it around his neck, and throw it over a pole in front of him, about as high as his head—the pole being fixed solid—run the rope back under the pole to one of his hind feet, hitch it around his fetlock, fasten, and let him pull. This is the best remedy I have ever tried, and will effect a cure.—H. F. HERRICK, New Berlin, Orange Co., N. Y., 1861.

In answer to the inquiry, how to break a horse of pulling at the halter, I would say to him to the knob of a tree, or something that will give, but not let him loose. I think this an effectual remedy.—J. W. O., North Huron, Wayne Co., N. Y., 1861.

Rural Notes and Items.

DISCONTINUANCE OF THE RURAL AMERICAN.—Some friend has mailed us the Rural American of Feb. 23d, —the only number we have seen this year, except one dated Jan. 20th, (Sunday.) The number before us announces the discontinuance of the R. A., the article commencing thus:—"It becomes my painful duty to announce to my subscribers, that misfortune has come upon me, and the consequence is, that the Rural American ceases to exist with this week's issue!" Then follows a long explanation—the gist of which is that the former political course of the R. A., and the recent hard times, caused the catastrophe. If all he says of his troubles is true, Mr. MINNEN'S case is a pitiable one indeed; and, though he has prored our bitterest enemy—having wilfully slandered and libelled us, beyond reparation,—he has as much of our forgiveness and sympathy as human nature will permit us to extend.

The fate of the R. A. teaches a lesson which should be heeded—for, though the reasons assigned may have had some influence, we apprehend they are not the true causes of its failure. The R. A. was simply a cheap imitation in mechanical style, &c., of a journal which the public declared and still revere, by its substantial and extensive support, to be superior in all that constitutes an Agricultural and Family Newspaper. Under the head of "THE RURAL NEW-YORKER and one of its Imitators," we discussed this subject at some length in our issue of Dec. 8, 1860,—stating, in conclusion, that the claims of this RURAL were based upon its merits alone—that we did not wish it mixed or confounded with any other "Rural,"—and finally inviting the public to examine and compare the two papers, in Contents, Appearance, Price, &c. There we let the matter rest, without further notice of the R. A. or its venomous attacks, and the verdict of the public has been so flattering and unanimous that we are content with the result. In some instances traveling agents of the R. A. have professed to be acting for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, but when the papers arrived the fraud was exposed—the subscribers receiving the R. A. We hope the publisher was not cognizant of such transactions. In some cases, people have written us, that they would form clubs for this RURAL if we would take \$1 per copy—otherwise for the R. A., as it was so cheap (?)—but whenever we replied at all, our answer was Nay—that the RURAL NEW-YORKER could not be afforded, and would not be furnished, at less than its published rates. We hope those who subscribed for the R. A., on account of its cheapness—and the agents who formed clubs therefor—are satisfied with the dividends received from their investments and efforts; while such as have been deceived by traveling agents will, we trust, learn wisdom therefrom.

THE FAMINE AND DESTITUTION IN KANSAS are no doubt real, reports to the contrary, notwithstanding. On Monday of this week we received several letters from Linn, Wabanssee, and other counties, which speak of the suffering of the people for want of clothing and provisions. In a letter containing payment for a small club of subscribers, Dr. WM. B. CARPENTER, of Linn Co., says he cannot add to the number on account of the extreme destitution, and adds:—"No one can have any conception of the number of destitute families among us. I give it as authentic, that at the expiration of fifteen days from now, not less than 600 persons will be in want of rations in my own township, and unless something occurs to send us a supply for these hungry creatures, some will have to be borne to their tomb." A letter from C. A. HORTON, of Wabanssee, says:—"As regards the destitution prevailing here, I would state that crops were a complete failure from the fall wheat planking of 1859 to the present, and as most of the settlers had little means left after building dwellings and paying for their claims, many are destitute of clothing and provisions. Breadstuffs have been borrowed from one another until the supply is nearly, and with some quite, exhausted."

SKANATHLES FARMERS' CLUB.—In reply to our remark (in RURAL of Jan. 26th,) that we had not been favored with a direct communication on the subject of the recent proceedings (annual meeting) of this Club, the worthy Secretary writes us, contradicting the statement and saying he sent a copy. True, friend BAUGHMAN, you did send a copy, but not direct to us—for we published two numbers of the RURAL between the date of the letter and its receipt from the person to whom it was addressed! You also sent a letter, addressed to us, (in a business letter from a third person,) but it was not received until our notice had been prepared.

The Secretary writes that the Club last year held 94 meetings. "Our library contains 161 volumes. Our fair occupied three days. The Society erected a substantial building, 100 feet long and 28 wide, for the accommodation of exhibitors. The sum of \$365 was freely contributed to pay the expenses incurred, as ours is a free fair." All this gives evidence of the right spirit, and we hope the farmers of other localities will emulate an example so laudable.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—We are indebted to C. EDWARDS LESTER—a name somewhat known in the annals of literature—for a paper of Tomato seed, labeled "Lester's Perfected Seedling," &c., "price, 25 cts. per 100 seeds." Accompanying it we are favored with an autograph letter, requesting the publication of an article from a New York paper, which Mr. L. thinks "will interest many of your [our] readers if you [we] print it." Inasmuch as the article is the best kind of an advertisement—giving the origin of his Tomato, where the seed may be obtained, &c.—we refer Mr. LESTER to our Terms of Advertising for conditions upon which his long story can be told in the appropriate department of this journal. People who ask so much space gratis, and charge so high for seed, are not on our free list.

P. S. The Tomato is a good one, as we can attest. Having grown it last year, we can furnish Mr. L. a quantity of the seed at half the price he asks!

JAPANESE WHEAT.—Caution.—A correspondent asks us about what is advertised as a new kind of Grain, and called Japanese Wheat. We have never seen the article, or anything in its favor, except an advertisement which claims that it will produce 300 bushels per acre!—an assertion so decidedly un-Munchausenian that none but the greenest of the green, or most confiding of the confiding, need be cautioned to beware. The Valley Farmer—published at St. Louis, in which place the grain is sold—says the Japanese Wheat is "a new commodity to gull the people and get their money." After asking when the day of humbugs will be over, the same paper adds:—"A certain party came to the 'Valley Farmer' office, and wished us to advertise it—but we would not insert it for any price. The people can use their money to better advantage."

WHEAT IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Speaking of the growth of wheat in the vicinity of old Dartmouth, last season, the N. H. Journal of Agriculture says:—"Col. CULVER, of Lyme, has grown on six acres of fall sown wheat, 180 bushels, and on three spring sown, 120 bushels. The Town farm, in Hanover, on a field of six acres, produced 228 bushels. JOHN D. BRIDGEMAN raised, on a little less than two acres, 96 bushels; and ELIJAH TENNEY, East Hanover, from three bushels of seed, on 2 1/2 acres of soil, grew 126 bushels of nice spring wheat."

REMEDY FOR BLIND STAGGERS.—A writer in the Charleston Courier gives "an effectual remedy for that formidable disease in horses, the blind staggers," the recipe being as follows:—"Gum camphor, one ounce; whisky or brandy, one pint—dissolve. Dose—One gill, in a half pint of gum arabic, fax seed, or other mucilaginous tea, given every three or four hours; seldom necessary to give more than three doses. The horse must be kept from water twenty-four hours. Never bleed in this disease."

ERIS COUNTY (Pa.) AG. SOCIETY.—At the recent annual meeting of the Stockholders of this Society, the following officers were elected for 1861: President—ANTHONY SALTSMAN. Vice President—John P. Vincent. Rec. Secretary—Samuel P. Beecher. Cor. Secretary—Irvin Camp. Treasurer and Librarian—Wilson King. Also, twenty-four Managers.

UNION AG. SOCIETY 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, (Indiana).—The following officers were elected for 1861: President—J. D. G. NELSON. Treasurer—H. H. Hitchcock. Secretary—Jno. Mitchell. A Board of Directors composed of one from each of the eight counties comprising the District, and an Executive Committee. Fair first week in October.

HORTICULTURAL.

CULTIVATION OF FLOWERS.

In our last we endeavored to give some information in regard to the vegetation of seeds, and we hope our friends will be prepared at the opening of spring to test the value of our suggestions. We now purpose to say a few words about the cultivation of flowers. As we before pointed out some mistakes in the sowing of seeds, we now call attention to another great mistake made by the lovers of flowers, and one which has done a good deal of mischief—the cultivation of too many varieties. The amateur visits the nurseries, or reads the catalogues of seedsmen, and makes up his mind to purchase a collection of the finest things to be had. They are obtained, and the result is a great amount of labor expended on a great many flowers, none of which receive that care which is necessary to the full development of their beauty. The labor is found to be so great and the result so unsatisfactory, that the amateur florist becomes discouraged, and perhaps the next year the garden is entirely neglected. It is well for the nurseryman to cultivate everything that can be obtained in our own and other lands, for he has every taste to suit and new things to test, but the object of the amateur is not a great show of sorts, but a fine effect—to make the garden gay and beautiful. This can best be accomplished by a few good flowers well grown. Nothing is more unsatisfactory than a great mass of poorly grown flowers.

The fault we have mentioned seems to be the fault of the country. We appear to grow flowers more for ostentation than for the love of the beautiful. Our ambition is to have a greater variety than our neighbors, while the quality of the flowers is of secondary consideration. Perhaps, however, the taste for the beautiful is not lacking, but we lack the knowledge how best to gratify that taste. In Europe it is quite different. There special attention is given by individuals and families, and even whole neighborhoods, to the cultivation of a particular flower, and the result is that they not only grow them to the greatest perfection, but effect such an improvement that the grower or village becomes celebrated for its Carnations or Pansies, or Hollyhocks, or Ten-Week Stocks, or Asters, and the florists in all parts of the world seek to obtain seeds from the favored locality. Sometimes the workmen of an establishment make a specialty of a certain flower, and contend with each other, or with persons of other places, for prizes made up by subscription among themselves or donated by employers for the purpose of encouraging refined taste and innocent and delightful amusement. When we arrive at something like this in our country, we may hope for rapid and permanent improvement.

Horticultural Societies exist in many of our large cities and villages, and many more are being established, but if the shows of nurserymen were excluded, in most cases the exhibitions of really fine flowers would be meagre indeed. We really hope the coming season will exhibit an improvement in this respect, and that our readers will remember that one flower well grown is better than a score of poor, weedy things. No one need be ashamed to show half a dozen good Asters, or Ten-Week Stocks, or as many Dahlias or Roses, for it is the quality and not the quantity that shows merit in the cultivator. This fact should not be forgotten by judges.

But, what can be done the present spring toward preparing for a creditable exhibition? Bedding plants can be obtained at almost any nursery, and a dollar or two will buy a fine collection of Verbena. A few Hybrid Perpetual Roses may also be obtained that will flower the present season. Also of Picocheas and the Improved Hollyhocks can also be procured at most of our nursery establishments, as well as of Dahlias. Then the whole collection of Annuals are available. Select a few of the best, give them special care, and you can make a show the coming summer and autumn that will astonish yourself and secure many good prizes.

FRUIT CULTURE IN MICHIGAN.

This following interesting report on Fruit Culture in Michigan, made by T. T. LYON, Esq., to the American Pomological Society, we copy from the published Transactions:

The State of Michigan, so far as its capacity for fruit growing is concerned, may be considered as subdivided into three portions, which may be characterized as follows: 1st. The South-western, or prairie region, with a climate and soil akin to those of Indiana and Illinois, subject to the bleak, dry, piercing winds which during the winter sweep down from the Rocky Mountains, and to the heat and aridity which frequently characterize our Western summers, attributable, doubtless, to a similar cause. Another peculiarity of this region is to be found in the soil, which is exceedingly rich in vegetable matter, based, in many cases, upon a retentive sub-soil. This, in connection with the peculiar climate, tends to the production of a rapid growth, continuing late in the season, so that the winter often comes upon it in an unripened state, and with its tissues so loaded with sap as to unfit it to withstand the sudden and intense frosts which not infrequently characterize our winters. For these reasons many of our eastern varieties of fruit trees are found to lack hardiness, and resort is being had to varieties which have been proved capable of standing these severe tests, although in some cases of only second quality so far as the fruit is concerned. Other varieties, although of sufficient hardiness, are, doubtless, from a similar cause, found to be unfruitful in this locality.

2d. The Eastern and central portions, which we call the timbered region, may be considered as extending from the North line of Ohio to the South, and embracing those portions as far North as the region of Saginaw Bay; and, in the vicinity of Lake Michigan, extending from the Kalamazoo river on the South, to Grand Traverse on the North.

This region, although portions of it partake of the peculiarities of those adjoining, is more nearly assimilated, in climate and soil, to the Northern portion of Ohio, and Western Central New York. This is true to such an extent that nearly all varieties of fruit that prove successful in those regions, are found to be equally so here.

3d. The more Northern portions of the lower peninsula, and the whole of the Lake Superior region, may be considered as a "Terra Incognita," so far as fruit culture is concerned; although the small fruits such as whortleberries, blackberries, raspberries, &c., are very abundant and excellent.

In the accompanying lists reference will only be had to the first two portions, and, if we consider the peculiarities above described, it will be obvious that the preparation of lists of fruits adapted to the entire State must be a work of much difficulty.

Apples.

The best six varieties of apples for an orchard of one hundred trees: Early Harvest, 5; Fall Pippin, 20; Red Astrachan, 5; Rhode Island Greening, 50; Lowell, (known here as the Mich. Golden Pippin), 20; Steele's Red Winter, 80.

O* the above list, Fall Pippins and Rhode Island Greenings are open to the charge of unproductiveness, in the South-western portion of the State, where New York Vandevere and Belmont may be substituted for them.

Best twelve varieties of apples for an orchard of one hundred trees: Early Harvest, 3; Fall Pippin, 5; Red Astrachan, 3; Yellow Bellflower, 5; Large Yellow Bough, 2; Rhode Island Greening, 10; Lowell, 4; Roxbury Russet, 5; Gravensend, 4; Red Canada, 20; Kerwick Codlin, 4; Ladies' Sweeting, 10.

Best twenty varieties of apples for an orchard of one hundred trees: Early Harvest, 3; Belmont, 2; Red Astrachan, 2; Yellow Bellflower, 5; Large Yellow Bough, 2; Roxbury Russet, 10; Early Joe, 2; Rhode Island Greening, 10; Anna's Summer Pearmain, 3; Esopus Spitzenberg, 5; Gravensend, 3; Jonathan, 5; Fall Pippin, 2; Swaz, 3; Pomme de Noige, 1; Northern Spy, 3; N. Y. Vandevere, 4; Ladies' Sweeting, 7; Hubbardston Nonesuch, 2; Red Canada, 20.

The above lists are constructed so as to give, as far as possible, a proper succession of varieties during the year; and, as the fruit from this number of trees would far more than supply the wants of a family, the lists are so arranged as to furnish the surplus during the winter, when the fruit can be easiest kept, and most conveniently marketed. It is, however, the opinion of the writer, that from twenty-five to thirty varieties, at the least, would be requisite to fully gratify the varied wants and tastes of a family of discriminating fruit fanciers.

Best varieties for a market orchard of one thousand trees, where there is a reliable market near by, and where this is to be the chief business: Early Harvest, 25; Hubbardston Nonesuch, 50; Red Astrachan, 25; N. Y. Vandevere, 50; Sweet Bough, 25; R. I. Greening, 100; Lowell, 25; Baldwin, 50; Gravensend, 50; Jonathan, 50; Fall Pippin, 50; Roxbury Russet, 150; Tolland Sweet, 25; Red Canada, 800; Ladies' Sweeting, 25.

Best varieties for a market orchard of one thousand trees, remote from market, where, from any cause, the marketing of summer or autumn varieties may be inconvenient: Fall Pippin, 50; Rhode Island Greening, 200; Hubbardston Nonesuch, 200; Esopus Spitzenberg, 200; Vandevere of N. Y., or West, 200; Red Canada, 400; field Seed—no further, 800.

Many persons at the present day, who wish to connect orcharding with farming proper, consider it more convenient and profitable to plant but a single variety. Although doubting the propriety of hanging our hopes upon the success of a single variety, it is believed that no other variety will be found so productive, reliable and profitable as the Red Canada.

Pears have been but sparingly planted in this State, hence our knowledge of the comparative value of different varieties, as drawn from home experience, is hardly of a satisfactory character. The lists here given are, consequently, the result, to a great extent, of the writer's experience, and that of a few friends with whom he has been able to confer.

Best six varieties of the pear, for family use, on the pear stock, for an orchard of one hundred trees: Bloodgood, 5; Swan's Orange, 15; Bartlett, 20; White Doyenne, 25; Belle Lucrative, 10; Winter Nellis, 25.

Best twelve varieties on the pear stock: Madeleine, 5; Flemish Beauty, 5; Bloodgood, 5; Swan's Orange, 10; Rosteezer, 5; White Doyenne, 20; Starling, 5; Oswego, 5; Bartlett, 10; Lawrence, 15; Belle Lucrative, 5; Winter Nellis, 15.

Best varieties on the quince stock—Bloodgood, Doyenne d'Éte, Rosteezer, Stevens' Genesee, Belle Lucrative, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Duchesse d'Angoulême, Bourne Del, Glean Merceau, Vicar of Winkfield, Doyenne d'Alencon.

Best varieties, and the number of each, for a pear orchard of one hundred trees—if for family use and market combined: Madeleine, 5; Flemish Beauty, 5; Rosteezer, 5; Swan's Orange, 10; Lawrence, 10; White Doyenne, 10; Doyenne d'Éte, 10; Winter Nellis, 10; Tyson, 5; Belle Lucrative, 5; Bourne Oswego, 5; Bloodgood, 5; Doyenne d'Alencon, 2; Starling, 5.

If strictly for market: Madeleine, 5; Flemish Beauty, 10; Bartlett, 15; Swan's Orange, 10; White Doyenne, 15; Vicar of Winkfield, 15; Winter Nellis, 10; Tyson, 5; Bloodgood, 5; Starling, 10.

With the low prices that rule in our markets for this fruit, it is doubtful if the planter would find the cultivation of dwarfs remunerative, until the tastes of buyers can be cultivated to a higher standard. The writer, therefore, does not recommend to plant them at present, except for amateur or testing purposes.

Peaches. Until within five or six years, we have felt sure of a crop of peaches in this State, as often as each alternate year; but more recently, during the succession of severe winters, a large proportion of the trees have been killed, and many of the remainder badly injured. At present, as a general rule, we can hardly reckon with certainty on more than one year's crop in five, although there are numerous localities scattered about the country where the crop is comparatively certain; generally, such as are sheltered by high grounds or protected by water. Among the most noted of these, is the strip of country lying along the east shore of Lake Michigan, from the south line of the State, north to the valley of the Grand river, and perhaps further, and extending back from the lake a distance of twenty or twenty-five miles. In this tract of country, and especially near the lake, the crop is said seldom or never to fail. The loss of the peach crop in this State is occasionally the effect of late spring frosts, but is more frequently caused by the winter killing of the fruit buds.

Best six varieties of peaches: Serrate Early York, 5; Early Slocum, 10; Coolidge's Favorite, 10; Billy Crawford, 25; Barnard's Seedling, 30; Late Crawford, 20.

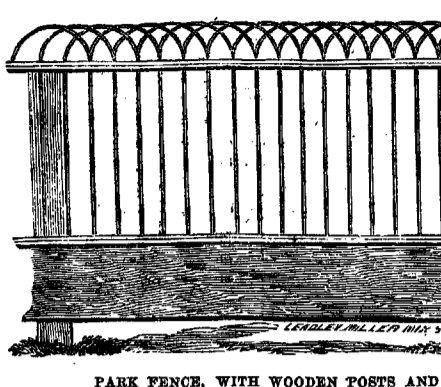
The number of each, in an orchard of one hundred trees, is appended as an indication of the relative value or productiveness of each. Best twelve varieties of peaches: Serrate Early York, 5; Early Slocum, 10; Coolidge's Favorite, 5; White Imperial, 15; Barnard's Seedling, 10; Billy Crawford, 15; Large Early York, 5; Late Red Raripere, 5; Jacques Raripere, 5; Olden's Free, 10; Pool's Late Yellow, 10; Crawford's Late, 10.

With the present ample railroad facilities for transportation, our Northern markets are supplied with peaches in advance of the season, so that the very early varieties become less profitable. Under this state of affairs, the following is believed to be a profitable selection for a market orchard of one thousand trees of this fruit: Barnard's Seedling, 800; Crawford's Early, 400; White Imperial, 100; Crawford's Late, 200.

Among the apples grown in this State, and which have proved unworthy of further cultivation, are two varieties ripening nearly with Early Harvest, and believed to have been introduced here from Western New York. They are known here by the local

PARK AND GARDEN FENCES.

A good looking, durable and cheap fence is a most desirable "institution," and one which many of our readers, no doubt, have failed to obtain, even after making considerable outlay for the accomplishment of the object. It is no strange thing in travel-



PARK FENCE, WITH WOODEN POSTS AND RAILS.

ing over the country to see fences that have been built at great expense, and only a year or two previous, in utter ruin, from fault either in the design or construction. A good, straight fence, and one that is not ill looking, is the exception and not the rule, in almost all sections of the country. Five years ago we had not in Rochester even a tolerable fence around one of our many public squares. Some were so dilapidated that the enclosures were no better than commons, and were the places of resort of the vagrant cows of the neighborhood, while others were boarded up, and inaccessible to either man or beast.

Some three or four years since, a new style of fence was invented and introduced by REUBEN COOK, Esq., of this city, which was received with general favor on account of its neatness, strength and comparative cheapness. Nearly all our public parks are now surrounded with this, the style shown in the first engraving. The rails of this fence are wood, as are the posts and balusters, and the balusters are iron rods, about half an inch in thickness, though they are made of various sizes, as desired, from one-fourth to half-an-inch. The top of the iron rods, or balusters,

name, Harvest Redstreak, and Summer Swaz. To these may be added Sops-of-Wine, Romanze, English or Poughkeepsie Russet, Scoloped Galliflow, Tewksbury Blush and Green Newtown Pippin.

CULTURE OF ANNUAL FLOWER SEEDS.

The soil for these should not be over rich, and should be dug deep; the surface should be rendered smooth and fine before sowing the seed; small seeds sown on rough ground fall between the clods and into the crevices and get buried. Attention to this simple hint will save growers much disappointment, and seedsmen a great amount of blame; for, in cases of failure, the quality of the seeds is almost invariably impeached. Hardy Annuals may be sown from the middle to the end of September for spring flowering; the plants ought to be thinned out before winter, to prevent their damping off, and transplanted early in the spring, to the flower border, or, when more convenient, may be sown where they are to bloom. Many of the Hardy Annuals, especially the Californian, flower more profusely, produce finer blooms, and remain longer in perfection during the spring months than at any other season of the year. For summer and autumn flowering, sow from the middle of March to the middle of June. A common error in the cultivation of Annuals is in allowing them to grow too close together; and many of what would otherwise be an attractive bed of Annual Flowers, are ruined for want of thinning. We therefore say, thin early, and sufficiently to afford ample space for the perfect development of the plants left. It is also very important to afford support to such kinds as require it, before they get broken or injured by wind or heavy rain; perhaps the simplest method of doing this is to place among and around the plants small neat branches, like pea stakes; the lateral shoots will extend among and hide the stakes, and the support afforded by this simple and inexpensive means will, in most instances be found all that is required. But perhaps the common practice of covering the seeds too heavily, causes more disappointment than all other errors. Small seeds should be covered very lightly, and with soil not liable to cake by exposure to sun and air. Common garden loam and leaf soil, or old dung, passed through a fine sieve and well intermixed, will be excellent for covering with. Half-Hardy Annuals should not be sown in the open border before May, and the ground will require the same preparation, &c., as recommended for Hardy Annuals. But the best method of raising these, is to sow in pans, or boxes, in April, or on a bed, about three inches thick, of light soil, placed on a gentle hot-bed formed of stable manure or vegetable refuse, and protected with a frame or hand-glass. Water sparingly, and give plenty of air, when the plants appear, and thin out, or prick off in small pots, and be careful to get the plants well inured to the weather previous to planting in the open border, and also to give water as may be necessary, after planting, till established.—Hand Book of Annual Record.

every case has proved our statements correct. Our friends, therefore, need brover no more, but come to the proper source for their information.

After the severe frost in January, 1860, which injured the peach buds, we made the following remarks upon its effects: "THE PEACH BUDS.—Some of the peach growers in this section were a little anxious after the last severe cold to ascertain its effects upon the peach buds, as rumors that they were badly injured began to gain credence. On trees that from any cause made a rapid growth late in the season, some of the buds have been destroyed, but in the main they are unharmed."

Later reports and examinations have shown that the buds have received more injury than we supposed. However, we have yet hopes of a fair crop in this section. A letter received from Ohio speaks discouragingly of the prospects in some portions of that State. The present year, in some orchards in this section, we have been unable to find a live bud, while in others, particularly along the lake shore, the injury appears to be even less than last year, three-fourths of the buds being sound. The idea that the facts in regard to the prospects of a crop cannot be ascertained until after blossoming in the spring, is incorrect. Of course we cannot tell whether untimely frosts in the spring will kill the blossom or not, but whether all, or a portion, of the blossom buds are winter-killed, or whether all are safe, can be ascertained now beyond a doubt. We cannot tell how long a man may live, or how soon he may die, but the fact that he is now alive and well may be learned without difficulty.

PROGRESSIVE GARDENER'S SOCIETY, PHILADELPHIA.—The following officers have been elected for 1861.—President—JOHN POLLOCK. Vice-President—James Eadie. Treasurer—H. A. Dreer. Secretary not yet elected.

Inquiries and Answers.

TO DESTROY LEAF-ROLLERS.—The orchard on the place on which I live is completely overrun by an insect known here as the leaf-roller; a worm that strips the trees of their foliage and blossoms. By striking the trees with a brush, I find that they will spin off on a web like a spider, when they can be easily brought to the ground by cutting their thread in two with the brush. I noticed that when on the ground they immediately made for the tree. I cut a ditch four inches deep near the tree, slanting, or concave, so that they would fall back in attempting to crawl up, and would frequently get from a pint to a quart at one time in the ditch, when I would pound them with a stick until they were all killed. But in a few days they would be as numerous as ever, owing to young ones coming out. I could kill all on twenty trees in one day. My object in writing is to know if you, or any of your subscribers can give a more speedy or effectual remedy than the one I have tried? I know that my plan will exterminate them for the present, but if they continue to hatch out for any length of time, it would be tedious. I suppose some application will have to be made to the trees. If you know of any, advise me through your columns. Any information on this subject would be thankfully received by—A. SUBSKORZAK, Tamara, 1861.

The caterpillar described by our correspondent we presume is the Palmer Worm, and we give engravings, showing it in the grub and perfect state, from FROM. They were very injurious here in 1858, and it was only by the greatest perseverance that some of our best orchards were saved. In 1859 and 1860, they were less numerous. Jarring the tree, and catching the worms as they hang suspended, seems to be the best remedy. A swab, coated with tar, is effectual for this purpose. An old tin pan served in the same way, and fastened to a pole, may be used for catching them. Soap-suds, applied by a garden engine, is said to prove quite destructive to the worms, and whale oil soap is recommended. The engraving shows the perfect insect doubt the natural size, the cross-lines, A, being the true size. The worm is also shown of two sizes, the larva, when small, being somewhat tapering, as represented in the small figure.

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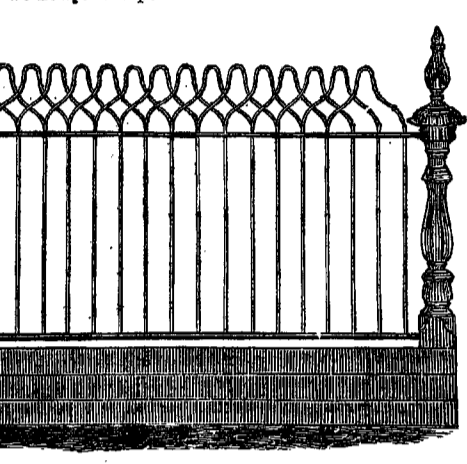
The above are two out of about a dozen inquiries from Michigan which we have received within the past two or three weeks. These inquiries we cannot better answer than by publishing in full, as we have done in another column, the very interesting report of the American Pomological Society, made by the Chairman of the Michigan Fruit Committee, T. T. LYON, Esq.

ON THE WILLOW.—Will you please inform me, through your paper, where the Oster Willow is to be obtained, or whether it is the same as our common Weeping Willow, and greatly obliged—A. SUBSKORZAK, Sherburne, Chenango Co., N. Y.

are now made more ornamental, as shown in the lower engraving, at the same cost, which is about \$1 per foot, for a fence four feet high with half-inch rods, and about 50 cents per foot for the same height with rods one-fourth of an inch in diameter.

The lower engraving shows a fence made upon the same principle, but entirely of wrought iron, except the posts which are cast iron, and the base, which is of stone. This style is designed for front-door yards and cemeteries, and costs about \$1.75 per foot.

Many of our private citizens, as well as the city authorities, have obtained this fence, particularly the one with wooden rails, and it may be now seen in almost every street, especially in the suburbs. So far they have proved firm and durable, and have given general satisfaction. We think they are worthy the attention of RURAL readers in other places. They have already, we learn, been constructed in Lockport, Albion, Waterloo, Lyons, and other villages, both East and West of Rochester. In a few weeks spring work will commence, and it is solely for the benefit of those of our readers who may desire to improve their grounds by surrounding them with new and tasteful fences, that we now call especial attention to one with which we



DOOR-YARD, OR CEMETERY FENCE—WROUGHT IRON.

think they will be well pleased. The matter is important at all times, but just now is particularly interesting and seasonable.

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The willow used for basket making is not the Weeping Willow. We think the Oster can be obtained at most of the nurseries.

Domestic Economy.

TOMATO CATSUP—BOILED CUSTARD.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing a request for making catsup, I send you a recipe which is the best I have yet found, and which I think it would be difficult to change for the better. Slice a peck of ripe tomatoes with half a dozen onions, placing them in layers, and sprinkling amongst the whole one-third of a teacup of salt. Let them stand twenty-four hours, put into a porcelain kettle,—brass is unhealthy, and gives an unpleasant metallic taste,—add sixpence worth of cinnamon, three cents worth of cloves, a horse-radish cut thin, four inches long, a teaspoonful of black pepper, a tablespoonful of cayenne, and half an ounce of ground mustard. Boil away a little more than one-half, let stand a few hours, and bottle. It need not be sealed, a cork is sufficient to prevent the flavor from escaping. It is very fiery at first, but in two or three days is ready for use. As there is no vinegar or sugar to cause fermentation, it will keep any length of time if in a cool, dry place. I have known it kept three years. If your condiment loving readers will try this once, they will pretty likely send vinegar where SHAKESPEARE threw physic. The tomatoes are acid enough of themselves.

BOILED CUSTARD.—Beat the yolks of seven and the whites of two egg with a teacup of sugar. Heat a quart of milk, and add the eggs, stirring constantly till it is of the consistency of thick cream. Remove from the fire before it curdles in the least, (a little practice will be necessary to show just when,) and when it cools, flavor to your taste. Put it in cups or a large dish, as you design it for dessert or for tea. Just before it is wanted, beat the whites to a stiff froth, and pile them on the custard, laying a few spoonfuls of tart jelly over the whole.—NELLIE, Alexander, N. Y., 1861.

GINGER BREAD, CAKES, AND CRULLERS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—The following recipes I have proved to be good, and therefore send them to you, in consideration of the numerous inquiries for them by the ladies of the RURAL.

GINGERBREAD.—One cup of molasses; 1 cup of sugar; 1 cup of sour cream; 1 tablespoonful of butter, or take 1 tablespoonful of buttermilk with a cup of butter; 2 tablespoonfuls of ginger; 2 large teaspoonfuls of saleratus; a little salt. Mix it, not very stiff, roll out like baker's gingerbread, and bake from ten to fifteen minutes.

HARD SUGAR CAKES.—Two cups of white sugar; 1 cup of butter; 3/4 of a cup of water; 1 teaspoonful of saleratus; spice with nut-megs. Roll these thin, and bake quick.

COUNTRY CRULLERS.—One bowl of cream; 1 coffee cup of sugar; 1 egg; a little salt; 2 teaspoonfuls of saleratus. Mix rather stiff.—H. C. H., Mendon, N. Y., 1861.

TOILET SOAP.—Readers of the RURAL will oblige me exceedingly by informing me how to make, in a simple manner, in my own kitchen, a good toilet soap,—a description of the handiest oils or fats necessary, the right kind of potash or soda, the mode of scenting; and, in fact, the whole modus operandi, as homespun as possible.—L. M. C., St. Mary's, C. W., 1861.

PRESERVING BUTTERMILK.—Take a vessel that will contain nearly twice as much as you wish to save. While milk is plenty, fill it two-thirds full of buttermilk, and then fill up with water. Drain off the water and refill with fresh once a week, stirring it well each time after filling, and you will have a good article always ready.—A PRACTICAL HOUSEWIFE, Gorham, N. Y., 1861.

TO TAKE STAINS OUT OF SILVER.—Steep the silver in soap lye for the space of four hours; then cover it over with whitening, wet with vinegar, so that it may lie thick upon it, and dry it by a fire; after which rub off the whitening and pass it over with dry bran, and the spots will not only disappear, but the silver will look exceedingly bright.

FURS.—Fine furs should be kept in a cold place. An experienced dealer will tell, the moment he puts his hand on a piece of fur, if it has been lying in a warm dry atmosphere; it renders the fur harsh, dry, and shabby, entirely destroying the rich smooth softness which it will have if kept in a cold room.—The Lady's Newspaper.

KITCHEN ODORS.—A skillful housekeeper says, that the unpleasant odor arising from boiling ham, cabbage, &c., is completely corrected by throwing whole red peppers into the pot—at the same time the flavor of the food is improved. It is said that pieces of charcoal will produce the same effect.

KNITTING STOCKINGS.—HUSK MATS.—Will some of the good elderly ladies who read the RURAL, give directions to knit a heel and prettily shaped toe? Also, how to make a husk mat or delaine or rag mat, as I have some scraps that can be used for nothing else.—PRUDENCE, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1861.

BLACK WRITING INK.—Take one-fourth pound of copperas; 1/2 pound of logwood; 1/2 pound powdered nut-gall; 2 ounces gum arabic, and 1 gallon soft water. Boil the galls till the strength is out; then add and boil the other articles,—strain and bottle for use.—J., Glendale, O., 1861.

UNION CAKE.—One cup of butter; 2 cups of powdered loaf sugar; 1 cup of sweet milk; 3 cups of sifted flour; 1 cup of corn starch; 4 eggs; 2 teaspoonfuls of lemon extract; 1 teaspoon of soda; 1 cream tartar.—P., Otisco, N. Y., 1861.

OX MARROW POMATUM.—Take two ounces of yellow wax; 10 ounces lard; 8 ounces beef marrow; melt all together, and when cool, perfume with the essential oil of almonds.—J., Glendale, O., 1861.

SCOTCH SHORT-CAKE.—One pound of white sugar; 1 of melted butter; 1 of Zante currants; 2 quarts of flour; 1 glass of brandy—spices,—knead well.—ETRENA, Peoria, N. Y., 1861.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

ROMANCE.—But poor Miss SQUELLEN! Her anger, rage, and vexation; the rapid succession of bitter and passionate feelings that whirled through her mind as she surveyed, first, the biscuit, then the pastry, &c., which was spread before the gaze of her lascivious guests! How she vowed that Saleratus had been her ruin; that but for the eccentric and unaccountable peculiarities of this preparation, she should at that moment have astonished the assembled company with creamy cakes and delicious pastry. If she had only used D. B. D. LARD & Co.'s Saleratus, which is perfectly pure and reliable, she would have been spared all this mortification. She procured Dr. LARD'S Saleratus the very next day of her grocer, and has had no such trouble since! It can be purchased from any good grocer, and is sold at wholesale by the manufacturers at Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y., and by the principal grocers in all parts of the country.

Ladies' Department.

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

BY F. H. GUILITS.

'Twas in autumn, I remember, In the golden month September, When I met thee first, my darling MILLIE MAY; And life's burdens touched me lightly, And its sun beamed out more brightly In the glory that thine eyes shed on my way.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] DRESS AND OVERDRESS.

As the columns of this obliging sheet were, not long since, opened to "free speech" on the subject of dress, I suppose it is not too late for me to free my mind on the all-important topic.

phoses do not occur, I shouldn't wear a dress with a very long sweep to it, nor thin shoes with no soles, or next to none, nor pink and cerulean silks, with white gloves, to go shopping in.

But the worst over-dress I know of is that variety which takes all the money one has, and more too, to keep it on.

But to sum up all in a few closing "finalies," I would say with some sage who lived long ago, that "a pretty face is worth a dozen letters of recommendation."

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

It is but a tiny tress of golden hair. Why press it so closely in thy hands? Ah! there is another ringlet of darker hue, nestled closely beside it, 'neath the folds of the gilded paper.

Doubly dear was NELLY to you now,—your only sister. Often, hand in hand, did you stray to LINA's grave, and as you strewed it with the early spring flowers, you talked, in your childish way, of the time when you would meet your darling LINA again.

As years passed away, LINA and NELLY were forgotten by others, but you have felt their loss more keenly than at first. How often have you sighed for a sister's sympathy, and kindly counsel.

OUR GRANDMOTHER'S TOILET.

In no particular has the present generation become more fastidious than in what is requisite for the use of ladies in their own dressing-rooms.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THE ROBIN'S MORNING SONG.

BY GEO. A. HAMILTON.

Just as the night was fleeing, And day began to dawn,— When rays of light were gleaming Across each green-laid lawn,

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

Thus far, there have been other things that have flourished more in our land than poetry. We are a busy people, and have not much time to devote to courting the muses.

Yet we have poets for whom we need not blush. True, we cannot yet boast of any great Epic; but we need not feel much ashamed of this, when we remember the short period we have existed as a nation.

Our poetry does not generally possess a strongly enough marked national character. While one or two of our poets would be known as Americans by their poetry, there are others of our bards whose nationality would never be discovered by the perusal of their poems.

The moral tendency of the writings of our principal poets is good, though they are not as religious in their character as could be desired.

*OUTLINES, in CAMPBELL'S "Gertrude of Wyoming."

GLOBIFY a lie, legalize a lie, arm and equip a lie, consecrate a lie with solemn forms and awful penalties, and after all it is nothing but a lie.

You may speak out more plainly to your associates, but not less courteously, than you do to strangers.—Friends in Council.

IN "THE BIG WOODS."

In the lumber regions of Michigan, they have been having busy times. The tick of axes has been heard in the solemn woods, like watches in a goldsmith's window, and sawmills have laughed hoarsely at each other from valley to valley.

There were nests in that tree, and when spring leaves her breath upon the gale, the birds shall come again, vainly seeking their old homesteads.

But the voices of the coming teamsters disturb your reverie, and "whoa-haw!" answers back the distant hill, and "gee!" goes thundering through the ravine.

But there's another "length to cut," and girded anew, you mount the chopper's rostrum, softly singing to yourself in pauses, a bar of "Woodman! spare that tree," that put no bar, however, to the destruction going on around, and by and by you have a clearing—corn goes through the sword exercise, and salutes the morning with its green blades, and pumpkin vines, like children "just let loose from school," run all over the field.

THE CHANGES OF TIME.—Time changes all things. It is the language of our hexameters at school, and of our declamations at college; it is confirmed by the lamentable experience of our manhood, and remembered in the bitter reflections of our age.

SENSITIVE PEOPLE.—There is no help for being sensitive, but it ought to teach a person tenderness towards others. It does not, however, a great many people who pride themselves upon their "frankness," and always "speak their mind," are the very last ones who will hear the same things from anybody else.

DOMESTIC HAPPINESS.—Six things, says Hamilton, are requisite to create a "happy home." Integrity must be the architect, and tidiness the upholsterer.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] GOD THE CHRISTIAN'S STRENGTH.

My flesh and my heart failed, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.—Psalms, 73: 26.

Yes, though disease may waste the frame And bear our strength away, And sorrows crowding on the heart Make dark the weary day,

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] EARTH'S GUARDIAN ANGELS.

Not once alone did the angels sing "Peace on earth, good will to men," but evermore ministering spirits do hover near, with blessings for the children of men.

Beside the river the lily wept, and the rose upon the mossy bank, for the river's bed was dry, and the violet thirsted.

PRAYER.

A MONARCH vested in gorgeous habiliments is far less illustrious than a kneeling suppliant, ennobled and adorned by communion with God.

PRAYER is a heaven to the shipwrecked mariner, an anchor to them that are sinking in the waves, a staff to the limbs that totter, a mine of jewels to the poor, a security to the rich, a healer of diseases, and a guardian of health.

THE THIEF IN OFFICE.—The Gospel admits no ambiguous morality. It does not promulgate one code for those who are in office, and another for those who are out.

THE GOSPEL TRIUMPHING.—We often take desponding views of Christianity. But look at this statement, showing the advance the Church has made.

The Reviewer.

COINS, MEDALS AND SEALS, Ancient and Modern, Illustrated and Described. With a sketch of the History of Coins and Coinage, Instructions for Young Collectors, Tables of Comparative Rarity, &c. Edited by W. C. FISKE, author of "East Life in Egypt" and "Nubia: Tent Life in the Holy Land." New York: Harper & Brothers—1861.

THERE is now among many a strong fancy for coin collecting. Like other similar fancies this may become a diseased passion. But, guided by adequate knowledge and good sense, the collecting of coins may be a pleasant diversion, and conduce to the improvement of the individual and the preservation and diffusion of historical knowledge. As soon as a people begin to be civilized they begin to trade. As soon as they begin to trade they begin to invent some contrivance to serve as money, or a representative of value for the purposes of exchange. Shells, beads, pieces of iron, or the skins of furbearing animals, answer this purpose in the rudimentary conditions of society. But a very little advance in knowledge of the arts and experience of the necessities of trade have uniformly led to the employment of the precious metals. When a unit of value has been established and fixed by the weight and fineness of the pieces of metals used, some stamp or coinage mark indicating the weight and fineness is naturally adopted. This is generally done by the authority of government, and the money then passes current by governmental authority, and becomes a legal tender in disputes and in courts of law. It will be seen at a glance that the history of coinage is part and parcel of the history of trade and civilization. As coins have been generally dated and marked by some allusion to the chief authority or reigning sovereign, they have often settled dates, and become of definite value in ascertaining dynasties and connecting periods with each other. The execution of the coinage furnishes an illustration of the progress of the arts through different periods and in different countries. A collection of coins reveals to the eye of the connoisseur a clear idea of the state of the fine arts as well as the mechanical arts through the period which the collection covers. This manual, prepared by Mr. FISKE, furnishes as much knowledge of Numismatics, or the science of coins, as most persons can afford the time to acquire. It seems to have been prepared with much pains-taking. The engraving is well done, and the book, taken as a whole, is an excellent manual for the collector, and adequate introduction to a branch of curious antiquarian learning upon which numbers of books have been written. For sale by STEWART, AVERY & Co.

CONSIDERATIONS on some of the Elements and Conditions of Social Welfare and Human Progress. Being Academic and Occasional Discourses and other Pieces. By G. S. HENRY, D. D. [pp. 415.] New York: D. Appleton & Co.

THIS work, as the title indicates, is a collection of miscellaneous. The articles are, however, united by a community in tone and aim, and are very properly collected in the same volume. There is, however, one exception to this remark. The earlier and the later articles, while pervaded by the same scholarly enthusiasm and moral spirit, show that there has been in the author's mind something like a change from a strong sympathy with conservatism to the position of an ardent reformer. This change is typical of the process through which the minds of many men have passed within a few years. No one who knows Dr. HENRY can doubt the purity of his patriotism and the sincerity of his convictions in whatever changes his mind has undergone. The discourses are elevated and scholarly in character, affluant and flowing in diction, full of enthusiasm for high education, and a lofty scorn for all that tends to degrade or undervalue elegant culture. The thinly disguised allusion in one of these discourses to the distinguished editor of the Tribune, is not calculated to enhance our estimate of his authority on the aims or methods of education. As a piece of good-natured satire, it strikes home with telling force. The articles on President-making are worthy of careful study by those who are seeking for the causes of our national disintegration. The article on Politics and the Pulpit is an eloquent defence of the right and duty of the pulpit to discuss political questions in their moral aspects and bearings. This volume is a worthy addition to the library of all thoughtful men, and is an admirable illustration of the intimate relation of high culture and the philosophic spirit with the deepest interests of human life and society. With most of the conclusions we heartily coincide, and where we dissent we involuntarily pay a tribute of respect to the candor and breadth of view with which the author's opinions are put forth. Sold in Rochester by L. HALL & BROTHER.

BRYANT AND STRATTON'S COMMERCIAL LAW FOR BUSINESS MEN—Including Merchants, Farmers, Mechanics, etc., and a Book of Reference for the Legal Profession, adapted to all the States of the Union, to be used as a text-book for Law Schools and Commercial Colleges. By AXON DEAN, LL. D., Professor of Law in the Law Department of the University of Albany. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

The long title of this book gives us a description of the contents. There may be different opinions among members of the legal profession on the value of this work for those to whom it has been adapted. It is a proverb among the members of the bar that "the man who attempts to be his own lawyer has a fool for his client." Doubtless this old saw contains a certain amount of truth. But we do not see why the general propriety of employing a lawyer for law business need to neutralize the value of a book like this. The knowledge of general principles which this book contains, cannot fail to be of use to the business man in the conduct of his affairs, in settling questions of right and wrong, where doubt arises, and in pointing out the natural method of adjusting difficulties and preventing lawsuits. As a manual of education for those in preparation for business life, it will doubtless be valuable. The reputation of the author, as a lawyer and teacher, is a sufficient guarantee that the work has been well and correctly prepared. For sale by L. HALL & BAO.

FAST-DAY SERMONS: or, The Pulpit on the State of the Country. [pp. 338.] New York: Rudd & Carlton.

THIS book impresses a thoughtful man with an emotion of deep sadness. It is the fearful proof of the dark chasm which has grown up between the North and the South, and furnishes more than a glimpse of one of the most powerful causes of the present state of our country. In the extreme views coming from the North and South on the subject of slavery, we have a sad exhibition of what may be called geographical morality. The obvious sophistry and want of fair interpretation of scripture, which mark both extremes of opinion, show how completely the excitement of the time has permeated all classes of men without distinction. It is painfully evident that the man who would seek to mediate between the opposite poles of opinion, and find the common foundations on which all ought to stand, would be denounced with equal zeal by both classes of extremists. The book is a literary and moral curiosity, but it contains little that is of permanent value for the principles which are settled, or the practical measures that are suggested. For sale by ADAMS & DANNETT.

CHRISTIAN NURTURE. By HORACE BUSHNELL. [12mo.—pp. 407.] New York: Charles Scribner.

THIS work was first published more than a dozen years ago, and gave rise to a very brisk theological controversy. It had passed out of print, and is now re-issued with large additions intended to confirm and illustrate the positions originally taken in the work. It is designed to furnish a philosophical and theological basis for the doctrine of Infant Baptism. Very many christians, who are believers in Infant Baptism, will hesitate to accept the principles on which Dr. BUSHNELL defends it. Apart from its peculiar positions, the book contains much discussion on the training of children, which will be read with great profit and interest by all persons interested in the subject. Dr. BUSHNELL is a brilliant writer and an original thinker. If his works do not always carry conviction, they are sure to excite interest and suggest thought. Sold in Rochester by E. DARROW & BAO.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW. American Edition. Volume LIV. No. 1. New York: Reprinted by Leonard Scott & Co.

THE January issue of this Review contains ten articles, as follows:—Church Expansion and Liturgical Revivals; Japan and the Japanese; The Victoria Bridge; Political Ballads of England and Scotland; Ocean Telegraphy; Autobiography of Dr. A. Carlyle; Motley's History of the United Netherlands; Forbes and Tyndal on the Alps and their Glaciers; The Kingdom of Italy; Naval Organizations. Here is, most assuredly, enough of good, substantial reading, with sufficient variety, to suit the literary wants of any one. DREWRY, Agent.

THE AMERICAN QUESTION IN ITS NATIONAL ASPECT. Being also an incidental Reply to Mr. H. R. HELPER'S Compendium of the Impending Crisis of the South. By ELIAS PRINSENER. New York: H. H. Lloyd & Co.—1861.

THIS book owes its appearance to the excitement on the state of the Union, produced by the slavery question. As the title indicates, it attempts an exposure of the fallacies of the book which had so wide a circulation under the title of the "Impending Crisis at the South." Prof. PRINSENER endeavors to exhibit the unreliable character of the statistics and inferences of Mr. HELPER, and his incompetency to treat the difficult subject which he undertook. The latter portion of the Professor's book is occupied with a calm and, in general, sensible examination of the present condition of our affairs, the danger of secession to the Southern States, and a new proposition for compromise. The work is moderately anti-slavery, but unexceptionable in its tone, and were it not for the fact that extremists North and South are so little inclined to thought or reason, it might be read by both parties with great benefit. For sale by D. M. DEWEY.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE ILLUSTRATED HORSE DOCTOR: Being an Accurate and Detailed Account of the Various Diseases to which the Equine Race are Subjected; together with the Latest Mode of Treatment, and all the Requisite Prescriptions, written in Plain English. By EDWARD MAYHEW, M. R. C. V. S., author of "The Horse's Mouth," "Dogs: their Management," Editor of "Blain's Veterinary Art," etc. Illustrated with more than Four Hundred Representations. [8vo.—pp. 688.] New York: D. Appleton & Co. [From the Publishers.]

THE PRINCIPLES OF BREEDING; or, Glimpses at the Physiological Laws involved in the Reproduction and Improvement of Domestic Animals. By S. L. GOODALL, Secretary of the Maine Board of Agriculture. [pp. 164.] Boston: Crosby, Nichols, Lee & Co.

OLD MACINKAY; or, The Fortress of the Lakes and its Surroundings. By W. P. STRICKLAND. [12mo.—pp. 404.] Philadelphia: James Challen & Son. Rochester—DARROW & BROTHER.

ULAH, AND OTHER POEMS. By AMANDA T. JONES. [12mo.—pp. 309.] Buffalo: H. H. Otis—1861.

Spice from New Books.

National Lyrics—Yankee Doodle.

JUST at the present time, when it has become fashionable in certain portions of the Republic to hiss at our National Airs, and to heap insult upon those who would cherish them, the following paragraph from a work recently issued by APPLETON & Co., entitled "A Run through Europe," of which ERASMUS C. BENEDICT, Esq., is the author, has a tone that is very refreshing:

"In the quiet of the evening, as I sat in my room, looking broadly out upon Trafalgar Square, my thoughts ran back over my rapid zigzag run through Continental Europe, and naturally and inevitably compared the free constitutional popular monarchy of England with imperial France, imperious Austria, and bigoted Italy. I thought of the great battles of modern times—those terrible days of slaughter that have taken their names from the fields soaked with human blood—not one of them was fought on British soil, though in some of them the British soldier was in the thickest of the battle, and under British leaders, covered their arms with glory. The statues of George IV and Charles I were fading in the twilight, and the lion of the Percy's high born race, and the lofty column and sculptured monument of Nelson, whose greatest achievement gave its name to the square, were dusky relieved against the sky. I was in that dreamy mood in which the will seems to give up the mind to the control of association, and images come and go with as little sequence as the phantasmagoria of actual dreams—Arms and Literature—Chevy Chase, and Bannockburn, and Marston Moor—and the Boyne, and Wellington, and Cromwell, and Marlborough, and Nelson, came and went, till arrested by the strain of a strolling musician, who, with a gentle instrument like a flageolet, whose tones were quite in harmony with my thoughts, struck up the air of Yankee Doodle. Let any one, who for months has been absorbed with scenes so unlike anything American, judge how, for a moment, everything European would vanish even more quickly than a phantasmagoria, and home, and friends, and country—the success of our arms, and the pride of our national glory, would fill his heart with the joy of affection, and his eye with those waters that well up from the deepest springs of the soul—I was entirely overcome by it. I remember freshly when it was fashionable to laugh at Yankee Doodle, as a vulgar air, written to make fun of our extempore Yankee soldiers of olden time. How it was written by Dr. Shaakburgh, or some one else, and given to the Yankee soldiers as a celebrated European air, to ridicule their fondness for European fashions.—Notwithstanding all its simplicity, our troops have kept time to its measures on all fields of glory—and it is quite impossible to imagine an air more perfectly fitted to the national tone of such a people as ours. As we have grown stronger and greater—as the stars and stripes have floated higher and higher, over more and more fields of triumph, so Yankee Doodle has risen in the scale of merit, and, I believe, it is at last discovered to be not a new, nor an American air, nor a burlesque, nor a musical drollery—but it is found among the most precious musical archives of I do not know how many musical nations—preserved, and separated, and selected for immortality, by the sifting of ages of traditional popular harmony. It is, indeed, among the music of

WINTER, GOOD BYE.

Musical score for 'Winter, Good-bye' with lyrics: Win-ter, good-bye, Parting is nigh; But, ah! to part from thee Draws not a tear from me. Win-ter, good-bye, Part-ing is nigh; Win-ter, good-bye, Part-ing is nigh; Win-ter, good-bye, Part-ing is nigh.

(From Mason's Normal Singer, by permission)

the nations. Its chords have vibrated with the heartstrings of the people in all ages. The Alpine echoes have repeated its strains—it has more than once broken out among the arizozo trills and graces of emancipated Italy—the Suliste has rallied to it in the forest glades of Greece—France has been made insane by it—Cromwell led his troopers to its resistless quickstep—blind Ziska's Invincible Brethren strode to his miraculous triumphs in the spirit of its rebellious measures. One writing from this city to New York, in 1848, said—"Oddly enough, the staple air of the 'Grand Quadrille of all Nations,' at the Opera House, is Yankee Doodle, which prevades the entire composition and gives it most of its character." In 1848, how all the nations at the sound of its key-note struck off into its harmonies. Let no one say with a sneer or a sardonic smile that the strains of 1848 were short and the music evanescent. The instrument is not broken—the music is not lost—the right soul knows that it will yet burst forth—no one knows whether in years or in ages—in more swelling and universal symphonies—and in the great contra-dance of nations they will take their measure from Yankee Doodle, and constitutional liberty will marshal the sets and call the figures.

American Humor.

THE most obvious characteristic of American humor is its power of "pitching it strong," and drawing the long bow. It is the humor of exaggeration. This consists of fattening up a joke until it is rotund and rubicund, unctuous and irresistible as Falstaff himself, who was created by Shakespeare, and fed fat, so as to become for all time the very impersonation of humor in a state of corpulence. That place in the geography of the United States called "Down East," has been most prolific in the monstrosities of mirth. Only there would a tree'd oon have cried to the marksman with his gun pointed, "Don't fire, Colonel, I'll come down!" Only in that region do they travel at such speed that the iron rails get hot enough to serve the carriages with heat instead of hot-water bottles, and sometimes so hot that on looking back you see the irons writing about like live snakes, trying to wriggle off to the water to cool themselves. Only there they travel so fast that the signal-whistle is of no use for their engines, because, on one occasion at least, the train was in, and smashed in a collision, long before the sound of the whistle got there! Only there can a blow be struck so "slick" as to take an animal's ear off with such ease, that the animal does not know he is one ear short until he puts his forefoot up to scratch it. Only there, surely, are the thieves so "cute" that they drew a walnut log right out of its bark, and left five sleepy watchers all nodding as they sat astride a tunnel of walnut-wood rind. North Carolina, we suppose, can not be "Down East," else some of the stories that "Ski" tells in his "Fisher's River Scenes and Characters" have the old family features as like as two peas. Charles Lamb's idea of the worst possible inconvenience of being in a world of total darkness was, that, after making a pun, you would have to put out your hand and grope over the listener's face, to feel if he was enjoying it. It would require a broad grin to be felt. Some of these stories are of the sort to produce a broad grin which might be felt in total darkness.—North British Review.

Where Wealth Begins.

WEALTH begins in a tight roof that keeps the rain and wind out; in a good pump that yields you plenty of sweet water; in two suits of clothes, so to change your dress when you are wet; in dry sticks to burn; in a good double-wick lamp, and three meals; in a horse, or a locomotive, to cross the land; in a boat to cross the sea; in tools to work with; in books to read; and so in giving on all sides, by tools and auxiliaries, the greatest possible extension to our powers, as if it added feet, and hands, and eyes, and blood, length to the day, and knowledge, and good-will.—"Conduct of Life" by RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

FLYING FISH.

THE usual length of this fish is from ten to twelve inches, but at the Island of St. Helena I have seen it offered for sale from fifteen to twenty inches long, where it is used, as in the West Indies, for food, and is of very sweet and delicate flavor. This species is named the Solitary Flying-fish (*Exocoetus solitarius*), from not being seen in large flocks like the others; and it appears to have other specific differences. When watching these fishes close, as they passed under the stern of the ship, I remarked that the extension of both the pectoral and ventral fins was effected with an audible rustling noise, and only a vibratory motion was perceptible afterwards; nor was there any expansion and contraction of those organs during flight, after the first effort. Had there been any percussion of the pectoral fins, it would have been distinctly visible, owing to the proximity of the fish; indeed, to procure percussion of the fins it would be requisite to have an elaborate muscular apparatus; and as on dissection such is not found, the

theory of that action of the fins may be considered unsupported by fact.

It was also remarked that the fish, when keeping in a direct line of flight, proceeded for a great distance; but when this was deviated from, and it turned round, (which action was apparently performed by the tail, not by the pectoral fins,) it only proceeded about the length of a yard and dropped into the water. The greatest length of time I have seen them fly has been thirty-two seconds, and their longest flight from 200 to 250 yards. The Flying-fish has a steady flight, resembling that of some birds, but when pursued by enemies, or frightened by the passage of the ship through the water, it loses this graceful style of volition, its flight becomes hurried, irregular and awkward,—a kind of scrambling pace,—and infrequently drops into the water and again renews its flight in the same unsteady manner. When a large shoal of them emerged at the same time from the sea, it was perceived that some of them dropped immediately, others passed over a distance of twenty yards and fell, while the rest continued a steady flight of 170 to 200 yards, and passed out of sight. Their long pectoral fins or wings have the rays united by a fine, delicate membrane, flexible and transparent; the color of this membrane varies, and some have the ventral fins so large as to appear to have four wings. Gatherings of a Naturalist in Australasia.

MEANING OF WORDS.

How many words men have dragged downwards with themselves, and made partakers, more or less, of their own fall! Having originally an honorable significance, they have yet, with the deterioration and degeneration of those that used them, or those about whom they were used, deteriorated, or degenerated thereto. What a multitude of words, originally harmless, have assumed a harmful meaning, as their secondary lease; how many worthy have acquired an unworthy. Thus "knave" once meant no more than lad, (nor does it now in German mean more); "villain" than peasant; a "boor" was only a farmer; a "varlet" was but a serving-man; a "menial" one of the "many" or "household"; a "churl" but a strong fellow; a "minion" a favorite; "man is God's dearest minion," (Sylvester). "Time-server" was used 200 years ago quite as often for one in an honorable as in a dishonorable sense, "serving the time." "Conceits" had once nothing concealed in them; "officious" had reference to offices of kindness, and not to busy meddling; "moody" was that which pertained to a man's mood, without any gloom or sullenness implied. "Demore" (*des moeurs*, of good manners) conveyed no hint, as it does now, of an overdoing of the outward demonstrations of modesty. In "crafty" and "cunning" there was nothing of crooked wisdom implied, but only knowledge and skill; "craft," indeed, still retains very often its more honorable use, a man's "craft" being his skill, and then the trade in which he is well skilled. And think you that the Magdalene could have ever given us "maudlin" in its present contemptuous application, if the tears of penitential weeping had been held in due honor by the world?

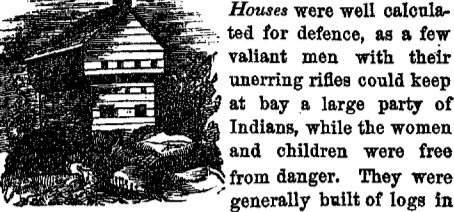
INGENUITY OF AN INSROT.—Being in the habit of rising early, I have my breakfast table got ready over night. On sitting down this morning, a remarkable circumstance attracted my attention. About twelve inches from the table, and over the sugar basin, I saw suspended in mid-air two small lumps of sugar about the size of large peas. At first I felt much surprise, for I looked, and looked, and looked again; but sugar it was, and there they were—a fact. I blew at them, they moved, like the pendulum of a clock, but what held them I could not see. I thought of Mahomet's tomb being suspended between heaven and earth; then I thought of the spirits from the spirit-rapping world; but surely, I thought, they had not reached this peaceful spot in Kent. However, I lifted the candle up to the ceiling, and away ran a slender along the ceiling, which at once told me that the busy little thing had been to work in the night. I then closely examined, and saw that each lump was suspended by a single thread or web of the spider, and whom I must have disturbed, or he would have had them up in his aerial abode before long.

A REMEDY FOR SLEEPLESSNESS.—How to get sleep is to many persons a matter of great importance. Nervous persons, who are troubled with wakefulness and excitability, usually have a tendency of blood on the brain, with cold extremities. The pressure of the blood on the brain keeps it in a stimulated or wakeful state, and the pulsations in the head are often painful. Let such rise and chafe the body and extremities with a brush or towel, or rub smartly with the hands, to promote circulation, and withdraw the excessive amount of blood from the brain, and they will fall asleep in a few moments. A cold bath, or a sponge bath and rubbing, or a good run, or a rapid walk in the open air, or going up or down stairs a few times just before retiring, will aid in equalizing circulation and promoting sleep. These rules are simple, and are of application in castle or cabin, mansion or cottage, and may minister to the comfort of thousands who would freely expend money for an anodyne to promote "Nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep."

The Young Ruralist.

EARLY PLANS FOR DEFENCE.

IN the early history of our country, when the Indians roamed over our forests and prairies, ready to attack the settlers for the purpose of revenging any real or imagined injury, or for the purpose of plunder, it became necessary to provide means to successfully resist these sudden and often unexpected attacks. One plan adopted was to build what was called a Block-House, or Log Fort, in every settlement, to which the inhabitants could resort at the first alarm. These Block-Houses were well calculated for defence, as a few valiant men with their unerring rifles could keep at bay a large party of Indians, while the women and children were free from danger. They were generally built of logs in the form represented in the engraving, two stories high, with narrow openings through which those inside could fire upon their assailants. In the more important of these forts, openings were prepared for cannon.



But, it often happened that the attack of the Indians was so sudden and unexpected that the people had not time to reach the fort or to collect together for mutual defence. This made it necessary to devise some means for protecting the dwellings of the people. This was effected by surrounding them with palisades, as shown in the engraving. Trunks of trees eight or ten inches in diameter were cut in uniform length, and put into the ground like fence-posts, but close together. The upper ends were sharpened, and the whole fastened together with green withes or other contrivances to make a strong fence. While enjoying the fruits of the toils and sacrifices of the early settlers of this country, it is well that we should occasionally look back to the history of their sufferings, as it will give us a better realization of the glorious privileges we enjoy. The neat little engravings given in this article and others that we have before published, are taken from that highly interesting and instructive work, Lossing's History of the United States.

LABOR.

SINCE the fiat of the Creator which drove our first parents from the Garden of Eden, work has been ordained for man, and from the decree, by the sweat of thy brow shalt thou live, there seems to be no escape. Work either of the mind or body is one of the necessities of our being. God, when he issued his decree, seems at the same time to have implanted in our very nature a necessity to fulfill that decree. That command, then, has not only the force of a decree, but also that of an absolute necessity on our part. Should we not then submit with becoming humility to the decree, and be active rather than idle. The farmer, as he proceeds to plow and sow his fields, sees all nature aglow with activity and beauty,—the tiny grass-blade awaking from its winter's sleep, directing its spire upward to meet the first ray of the morning sun, as well as to point him to that Supreme Giver who maketh the grass to grow,—the trees opening their trunks to take out their supply of summer clothing, and the lambs skipping and playing about the fields. He hears the twittering notes of the birds caroling their morning song, every note of which is a whole hymn of praise to Him who said not even a sparrow fell to the ground without his knowledge. He feels the activity he sees, and performs cheerfully the work before him, thereby recognizing the great decree, and acting manfully his part.

LABOR.

The MECHANIC, as he daily shoves his plane, drives his nails, or fashions his work to the desired shape, feels, in his increased strength and improved health, the benefit of labor. The SCHOLAR, as he pores over his lessons by the midnight lamp, piling fact upon fact, gleaning "here a little and there a little," feels himself amply repaid for his toil and trouble, by his increased store of knowledge. Thus by submitting to the original command his toil becomes a pleasure. Should we then be ashamed of work? ashamed of our dusty work shops? No! Let us adhere to the original decree, and sustain the working-man as the only true nobleman. Jordanville, February, 1861.

THE YEAR 1860.

SURELY another year has flown by as on the wings of the wind. It has gone, laden with many mementoes of real, every-day life, and fanciful imaginings. Could it speak, it would tell of many a sad thought, and many, very many, joyous ones. Many a looking forward into the unseen future, with fond hopes and bright anticipations, made life very dear; and the world, beautiful as it is, enchained our attention with living realities, prompting to noble impulses, earnest resolves, and the ardent purposes of youth, with which life and health have nerved us.

And now, having bid the year departed a kindly farewell, we can but hope that the new year which has dawned upon us may be fraught with as rich blessings, joyous anticipations, and happy realities, as was the past, and all be spent in noble deeds, good works, christian zeal and fidelity.

Let our motto ever be, "Onward and Upward," through all the varying changes of our lives, and let "Duty point with outstretched fingers Every soul to action high,— Woe betide the soul that lingers, Onward, onward, is the cry."

Truly, the past has been an eventful year. Stirring and exciting times in the Government—States seceding, and the Union, so long the boast of Americans and freemen, on the brink of dissolution. Verily! troublous times pervade our once glorious Nation. Oh! that peace and amity may be restored to the now almost shattered Union, and may we ever look up in love and gratitude to that Being who presides over the destinies of Nations, praying that He may bless and preserve each and every one of His children to some good purpose, learning from the past wherein lie our short-comings, being enabled thereby to correct our errors and amend our ways, that peace and happiness may abide with us. Waterport, Oct. Co., N. Y., 1861. DAY SEMMERS.

BUSTLE is not industry, any more than impudence is courage.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

New Works just Published by G. P. Putnam. The Book for the Times. Cook's Park Cemetery and Division Fences—R. Cook. The Oporto Grape—E. W. Sylvester. Farm for Sale—Sam'l Cochran. Fairfield Seminary—J. R. Van Pelt. Improved Willow Feeder—J. M. Wood. Maplewood Young Ladies Institute—Rev. C. V. Spear. Thorough-Bred Stock for Sale—L. Bower. Agents Wanted—J. S. Pardee. SPECIAL NOTICES. Brown's Troches for Public Speakers and Singers.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH 2, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

The Secretary of Treasury sent to the House elaborate documents, on the 21st ult., in which he says he believes that duties on imports will continue to be collected at ports of entry established in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, and vessels entered and classed in the usual manner, but the collectors will assume to perform duties under State authority. Only about half the officers of customs in these States have resigned, while others have entered upon the duties of the Government of the States without considering it necessary to perform this official ceremony. The documents embrace correspondence relative to customs, New Orleans mint, &c.

Official advices were received on the 21st from Fort Sumter. Nothing occurring of especial interest. The garrison is in want of money but had no convenient means of supplying it.

Dispatches from Europe announce the determination of the European powers to abide by the fixed policy of recognizing no new government before its recognition by the government from which it has separated.

Gen. Scott stated, on the 21st, that he had intelligence from Charleston, that Fort Sumter would be attacked that day. It is said that the intelligence came from Major Anderson himself. Per contra, the government has information that an attack will not be made before the 4th of March.

The administration has been advised of the fact that agents are at the North purchasing steamers for the Southern Confederacy. Advices from Montgomery indicate that the Southern Confederacy will regard any attempt of the United States to maintain authority in the seceding States as an act of war, which will be followed by instantaneous reprisals. A large number of privateers are in readiness to commence operations on the ocean at a moment's warning. It is reported that arrangements are already made in California for privateering on the Pacific Ocean when occasion calls for them.

A letter from an army officer at Savannah says lists for volunteers for the army of the new Confederacy have been open one week, during which time 35 men entered as privates and 2000 applied for commissions.

Capt. Meigs has returned from Florida, by the direction of Secretary Holt, to resume the charge of the Washington Aqueduct, leaving in charge the fortifications at Tortugas, to Major Arnold, of the artillery. He represents that they are in good condition to resist an attack in any quarter, and probably by this time they have been reinforced.

The telegraph of Saturday night brought the following startling intelligence: We cannot believe that partisanship could thus transform men into demons, and though we incline to the idea that the sanguinary portions of the dispatch are void of truth, we give it as a matter of news.

On Thursday night after Mr. Lincoln had retired at Harrisburg, Pa., he was aroused, and informed that a stranger desired to see him on a matter of life and death. He declined to admit him unless he gave his name, which he at once did. Such prestige did the name carry that while Lincoln was yet disrobed, he granted an interview to the caller. A prolonged conversation elicited the fact that an organized body of men had determined that Lincoln should never be inaugurated, or leave the city of Baltimore alive, if indeed he ever entered it. The list of names of the conspirators presented a most astonishing array of persons high in Southern confidence, and some whose fame is not confined to this country alone. Statesmen laid the plan, Bankers endorsed it, and adventurers were to carry it into effect. As they understood, Lincoln was to leave Harrisburg at 6 o'clock this A. M. by special train, and the idea was, if possible, to throw the cars from the road at some point where they could rush down a steep embankment and destroy in a moment the lives of all on board. In case of a failure of this project, their plan was to surround the carriage on the way to the depot at Baltimore and assassinate him with dagger or pistol shot. So authentic was the source from which the information was obtained, that Mr. Lincoln, after consulting with his friends, was compelled to make arrangements which would enable him to subvert the plans of his enemies. Greatly to the annoyance of the thousands who desired to call on him last night, he declined to give a reception. The final council was held at 8 o'clock. Mr. Lincoln did not want to yield and Col. Sumner actually cried with indignation, but Mrs. Lincoln, seconded by Mr. Judd and Mr. Lincoln's original informant, insisted upon it. At 9 o'clock Mr. Lincoln left on a special train. He wore a Scotch plaid cap and a very long military coat, so that he was entirely unrecognizable. Accompanied by Superintendent Lewis and one friend, he started, while all the town, except Mrs. Lincoln, Col. Sumner, Mr. Judd, and two reporters, who were sworn to secrecy, supposed him to be asleep. The telegraph wires were put beyond the reach of any one who might desire to use them.

The telegraph from Baltimore this A. M., (Monday) states that a large crowd greeted the arrival of the train with the Presidential party at York. Mr. Wood announced from the rear platform that Mr. Lincoln was not aboard, having gone direct to Washington. Mr. Wood then introduced Robert Lincoln (who happened to stand beside him), to the people, when at 11:40, the train passed the Maryland boundary. The Committee from Baltimore joined the party at Washington, consisting of W. G. Sneath, W. T. Marshall, W. T. Blunberg, W. Bell, J. M. Palmer, and T. S. Corcoran, the latter on behalf of the Electoral College. All of them feel very indignant at the want of confidence in the citizens of Baltimore, as evinced by Mr. Lincoln's course, though it was understood he was opposed to it but was overruled by other parties who have assumed the control of his movements. A crowd blocked up all the Calvert street depot, and on the arrival of the train, greeted it with groans on learning that the report of Mr. Lincoln's having stolen a march was not a hoax. Most ample arrangements had been made for securing the safe and

respectful transit of Lincoln through the city. The Police force was all out and fully equipped, and all good citizens were anxious that no indignity should have been manifested. The apprehension entertained, was that certain disreputable parties who lately attached themselves to the Republican organization here, and who were expected to make a demonstration, would have caused bad feeling in the minds of some and partially caused a disturbance. Otherwise there was no reason to apprehend anything unpleasant here.

Not a little sensation prevailed throughout the city this morning, as soon as it became known that Mr. Lincoln had arrived in the early train. He was met at the station by several gentlemen of distinction, without any formality, and was immediately driven to Willard's Hotel.

He was yesterday advised to come hither without delay. Preparations had been made to meet him at the station this afternoon, and the Mayor of Washington was to make a welcome address; but Mr. Lincoln has thus spoiled the programme.

About ten o'clock, Mr. Lincoln, accompanied by Mr. Seward, paid his respects to President Buchanan. After an interview between the President and Mr. Lincoln, the former introduced the latter to the members of the Cabinet who were then in session. Mr. Lincoln, in company with Mr. Seward, subsequently paid his respects to Lieut. Gen. Scott. Mrs. Lincoln and family, and sister, arrived in the afternoon train.

At 4 P. M. a delegation, without respect of party, headed by Senator Douglas, called on Mr. Lincoln and paid him their respects. The meeting was less formal, perhaps, than would be the case with any other gentlemen, from the fact that they were all friends and acquaintances before. The interview between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Douglas was peculiarly pleasant.

Mr. Puleston, Secretary of the Peace Congress, presented a communication to Mr. Lincoln, announcing that the members of Congress were anxious to pay their respects to Mr. Lincoln. At 7 o'clock Mr. Lincoln left his hotel and proceeded in a carriage to the residence of Mr. Seward, with whom he dined. At 9 o'clock Mr. Lincoln received the Peace Congress. Gov. Chase, of Ohio, introduced Mr. Tyler. Mr. Lincoln received him with all the respect due his position. The several delegates were then introduced to Mr. Lincoln by Gov. Chase in the usual manner.

Nothing decisive has occurred in the Peace Conference. Indications are that the majority report will be adopted by a close vote. The proposition for a National Convention is gaining ground.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—Mr. Briggs, from the Committee on Claims, reported a resolution to repeal the joint resolution in favor of Wm. H. DeGroot. Adopted.

The report of the Committee of Conference on the Deficiency Bill made on Saturday was taken up and agreed to.

Mr. Simmons then offered an amendment, reducing the loan from \$21,000,000 to \$15,000,000, with a proviso that no part of the loan be applied in the present fiscal year. Agreed to.

A proviso was added to the clause concerning Treasury notes, that the time of issuing should be limited to June 30, 1862. Also, an amendment fixing them at \$50 instead of \$20. Agreed to.

The tariff bill was taken up. A duty of 40 per cent. was placed on all wines.

An amendment of the Committee, lessening the duty on sugar, and placing a duty of 4 cents per lb. on tea, and 14 cents on coffee, was agreed to—23 against 17. An amendment placing 5 per cent. on wool, was carried 26 to 19. An amendment of 15 per cent. on books, periodicals and watches, was carried.

Mr. Hale moved that statuary and paintings of American Artists be free, but a duty of 10 per cent. on all others adopted. A duty of 15 per cent. on copper ore was adopted.

Mr. Doolittle presented the credentials of Timothy O. Howe, Senator elect from Wisconsin.

Mr. Pierce reported from the Committee of Conference on the Executive and Legislative Appropriation bill, that the committee had agreed. The report was agreed to by the Senate.

The bill for the payment of the expenses incurred in the suppression of Indian hostilities in California, was taken up and passed.

A resolution giving a quit claim to certain lands in Iowa, was taken up. After discussion the resolution passed.

The bill making payment for the suppression of Indian hostilities in Utah was taken up and passed.

HOUSE.—A resolution repealing the act for the benefit of De Groot was passed.

Amendments to the Naval bill were considered. Mr. Garnett opposed increasing the Navy to make war on a portion of the country.

Mr. Morse advocated the Senate amendment, and Mr. Garnett's amendment was rejected. The Senate amendment was agreed to—111 to 38.

The bill authorizing the issue of \$50 Treasury notes was taken up and passed.

The bill organizing the Territory of Colorado was taken up and passed. Mr. Grow offered an amendment, making the bill conform to those pending, relative to Nevada and Dacotah, which, after some debate, was agreed to, and the bill passed—90 against 42.

Mr. Dawe from the Select Committee of five, to whom was referred the President's special message of Jan. 8th, made a report as to the stationing of vessels of the Navy in such a manner as to neglect the defence of the whole Atlantic coast during the prevalence of lawless violence. The number of ships lying in port, dismantled and unfit for service, is 28, mounting in the aggregate 874 guns. None of them could be repaired and put under sail short of several weeks time, and many of them would require for that purpose at least six months. No order has as yet been passed to put any of them in readiness. The committee discussed other subjects connected with the Navy, and propose a resolution that the Secretary of the Navy, in accepting without delay, or urging the resignations of the officers of the Navy who were in arms against the Government, when tendering the same, and of those who sought to resign that they might be relieved from the restraint imposed by their Commission from engaging in hostility to the constituted authorities of the Nation, has committed a grave error highly prejudicial to the service, to the honor and efficiency of the Navy, for which he deserves the censure of the House.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and took up the Tariff bill by a vote of 93 to 36.

The first Senate amendment reducing the loan from \$21,000,000, was concurred in.

The Oregon and Washington war debt bill was debated and passed. Adjourned.

The Southern Confederacy.

The inaugural ceremonies on the 18th, it is said, were the grandest pageant ever witnessed in the South. There was an immense crowd on the Capitol Hill, consisting of a great array of the beauty, military, and citizens of the different States. We give a few paragraphs from Jefferson Davis' Journal.

Gentlemen of the Congress of the Confederate States of America, Friends and Fellow-Citizens:—Called to the difficult and responsible station of the Chief Executive of the Provisional Government which you have instituted, I approach to the discharge of the duties assigned me with an humble distrust of my ability, but with a sustaining confidence in the wisdom of those who are to advise with me in the administration of public affairs, and an abiding faith in the virtue and patriotism of the people. Looking forward to the speedy establishment of a common government to take the place of this, and which, by its great moral and physical power, will be better able to contend with the many difficulties which arise from the conflicting interests of separate nations, I enter upon the duties of the office to which I have been chosen with the hope that the beginning of my career, as a confederacy, may not be obstructed by hostile opposition to your enjoyment of the separate existence and independence which, with the blessing of Providence we have asserted and intend to maintain. Our present condition, achieved in a manner unprecedented in the history of nations, illustrates the idea that government rests upon the consent of the governed, and it is the right of the people to alter and abolish governments whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established.

We have vainly endeavored to secure tranquility and obtain respect for the rights to which we were entitled, as a necessity, not a choice. We have resorted to the remedy of separation, and henceforth our energies must be directed to the maintenance of our independence and the perpetuity of the confederacy which we have formed. If a just perception of national interest shall permit us peaceably to pursue our separate political career, my most earnest desire will have been fulfilled. But if this be denied us, and the integrity of our territory and jurisdiction be assailed, it will but remain for us, with firm resolve, to appeal to arms and invoke the blessings of Providence on a just cause. As a consequence of our new condition, and with a view to meet anticipated events, it will be necessary to provide a speedy and efficient organization of the branches of the executive department, having special charge of foreign intercourse, finance, military affairs and postal service. For the purpose of defence, the confederate States may, under ordinary circumstances, rely mainly upon their own resources, but in the present condition of affairs, there should be a well-instructed disciplined army, more numerous than would usually be required on a peace establishment.

The separation of the Confederate States has been marked by no aggression upon others, and followed by no domestic convulsion. Our industrial pursuits have received no check. The cultivation of our fields progresses as heretofore, and no considerable diminution in the production of the staples which have constituted our exports, in which the commercial world has an interest scarcely less than our own. This common interest of producer and consumer can only be interrupted by an exterior force which is not to be obtained by the foreign markets, a course of conduct which would be detrimental to manufacturing and commercial interests abroad. Should reason guide the action of the government from what we have suggested, a policy so detrimental to the civilized world, the Northern States included, could not be tolerated by even a stronger desire to inflict injury upon us. But if this be otherwise, a terrible responsibility will rest upon it, and the suffering of millions will bear testimony to the policy and the wisdom of the course pursued. In the meantime, the well known resources for retaliation upon the commerce of an enemy.

The Constitution formed by our fathers is that of these Confederate States, as their expression of it, and the judicial construction it has received, we have a right which reveals its true meaning. Thus instructed as to the correct interpretation of that instrument, ever remembering that the rights here are but trusts held for the people, and that delegated powers must be strictly construed, I will hope to do diligence in the performance of my duties that may not disappoint your expectations, yet to retain, refining, something of the good will and confidence which will welcome my entrance into the office to which I am honored to be invited. Times to look around upon a people united in heart, when one purpose of high resolve animates and actuates the whole; when the sacrifices to be made are not weighed in the balance of expediency, but are held as sacred, and when the obstacles may be removed, but they cannot long prevent the progress of a movement sanctioned by its justice and sustained by a victorious people. Reverently let us invoke the God of our Fathers to guide and protect us in our efforts to perpetuate the principles which by His blessing we are now endeavoring to establish, and transmit to their posterity, and with a continuance of His favor ever gratefully acknowledged, we may hopefully look forward to success, to peace, and to prosperity.

Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, took the oath of office as "Vice-President" of the Southern Confederacy on the 18th ult. The form was as follows:

"You do solemnly swear that you will faithfully execute the office of Vice-President of the Confederate States of America, and will, to the best of your ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution thereof—so help you God."

The Committee on the Constitution was made up as follows:—Alabama—R. W. Walker and R. H. Smith. Florida—Jackson Morton and J. B. Owens. Georgia—Robert Toombs and T. R. Cobb. Louisiana—A. DeCade and General E. Sparrow. Mississippi—A. M. Clayton and W. P. Harris. South Carolina—R. E. Rhett, Sr., and J. Chestnut, Jr.

The tariff bill under consideration at Montgomery is not different materially from that of the United States. It will apply to all goods imported North. Bonds will be exacted from all shippers in non-seceding slave holding States, to guard against deceptions.

Private dispatches from Montgomery state that so soon as his Cabinet is announced, President Davis will dispatch Commissioners to the Federal Government to treat for the concession of the forts, arsenals, &c., and negotiate a treaty of peace. A Treasury bill will be passed empowering the Treasurer to accept cotton instead of money for bonds. It is asserted that English agents are now at Montgomery offering liberal advances.

Congress passed an act admitting free all breadstuffs, provisions, munitions or materials of war, living animals, agricultural products in a natural state. Also, goods, wares, and merchandise from the United States, if purchased before the 4th of March, and imported before the 14th of March. Texas is to be exempted from the operation of tariff laws.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was resolved that the Finance Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of laying export duty on cotton. Adopted. The President nominated, and Congress confirmed, Mr. Toombs, Secretary of State; Mr. Meminger, Secretary of the Treasury; and Pope Walker, Secretary of War.

News Paragraphs.

In the year 1841, during the brief existence of the Lone Star Republic of Texas, a letter sent from Arkansas to Brazoria, paid the following postage:—\$1.66! Fifty-two letters can now be sent over the same route for that amount.

The full complement of employees in the Pacific mills, Lawrence, Mass., is now 2,100, and will be 2,700 as soon as the machinery is all set up in an extension of the main building just completed.

By the annual report of the South Carolina Railroad, it appears that the income of the year, as compared with that of 1859, has suffered a diminution of \$97,000. The receipts of cotton are 78,711 bales less than in 1859.

Gov. PICKENS, of South Carolina, has a suit pending in the Marine Court in New York, against the Atlantic Steamship Company, for loss of baggage when he returned from his Russian Embassy. He appears in Court as a citizen of the United States, and could not maintain the suit otherwise.

TERENCE BELLEVUE McMANUS, one of the Irish refugees of 1848, breathed his last two or three weeks since in San Francisco. He took, with Meagher and Mitchell and O'Brien, a prominent part in the troubles of 1848 in his native country. He was arrested and sentenced to penal servitude in Australia, but escaping, took up his residence several years ago in California. He was very popular among the residents there.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The English Parliament was opened according to programme on the 5th ult. The Queen delivered her speech in person. She alludes pointedly to the political troubles in the United States, expressing her fervent wishes that there may be an amicable adjustment of all the difficulties, in the following terms:

Serious differences have arisen among the States of the North American Union. It is impossible for me to look without great concern upon any event which can affect the happiness and welfare of a people closely allied to my subjects by descent and closely connected with them by the most intimate and friendly relations. My heartfelt wish is that these differences may be susceptible of satisfactory adjustment. The interest which I take in the well-being of the people of the United States cannot but be increased by the kind and cordial reception given by them to the Prince of Wales during his recent visit to the Continent of America.

The underwriters of London and Liverpool had advanced their rates 1 per cent. on cargoes from Southern States, owing to the increased fires on cotton ships and war vessels.

Mrs. Gore, the distinguished novelist, is dead.

In Parliament, Lord Palmerston stated that instructions had been sent to the Governor General of Canada, not to give up Anderson without express orders from the Imperial Government, and there was therefore no chance of his being surrendered without the point being fully discussed. He could not say whether a *habeas corpus* writ would be obeyed in Canada, but it could not be executed immediately, as the St. Lawrence river was blocked up with ice, and it was impossible to take Anderson through American territory. He believed the case, according to the treaty, is quite clear, and that the claim of the United States must be established by showing that Anderson was guilty of murder according to the laws of England. No English jury would convict Anderson of murder, and the claim was not likely to be substantiated.

The new Indian loan of £3,000,000 was all awarded at and above 98 1/2 per cent., which was the minimum offered by the Government. The total bids reached £13,000,000.

The Bank of England had agreed to the government proposition for reducing the allowance of the national debt. The government payment is reduced £5,000 per annum.

FRANCE.—The French Chambers opened on the 4th. The Emperor's speech opens with an explanation of liberal concessions and greater latitude to the Legislature. It refers to the satisfactory nature of the commercial reforms and treaties, and then proceeds to foreign affairs. He said he had endeavored to prove that France sincerely desires peace, and that without renouncing her legitimate influence she does not pretend to interfere where her interests are not concerned.

Non-intervention has been his policy in the Italian complications, and the motive for sending the fleet to Gaeta was to furnish a last refuge to the King.

Erroneous interpretations and a partial departure from neutrality, at length necessitated the withdrawal. He points to the recognition of the annexation of Savoy and Nice as an evidence of the maintenance of the rights of France, and to the proceedings in China as the way the honor of France is avenged.

He rejoices at the restoration of the christian cross in China, and to the protection of the Syrian christians against fanaticism. He considered it necessary to increase the garrison at Rome, when the security of the Pope appeared threatened. He concludes by asking that apprehensions be dispelled and confidence be restored; his firm resolution being not to enter into any conflict in which the cause of France should not be based on right and justice.

Marshal Bosquet is dead.

It is said that the principles of the Conference at Paris, on the Syrian question, have been agreed to by the Powers.

The Paris Monitor announces the annexation of Morocco to France.

England has been invited by France to stop Garibaldi's career, but declines on the plea that the Neapolitans ought to be left to settle matters themselves.

ITALY.—The siege of Gaeta continued, but rumors of negotiation for its surrender prevailed. The remainder of the garrison at Naples had gone to Gaeta. The besiegers had blown up three powder magazines and destroyed the side curtain of the citadel. The garrison had asked an armistice for two days to bury the dead, which was granted. Cialdini sent them necessaries for the wounded.

The Italian elections proved more and more favorable to Cavour. It is said that Cavour will propose the following to Parliament:

Proclamation of Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy, with full power for an unlimited period, a loan of three or four hundred million of francs, and the calling out of the military reserves.

The Pope has ordered his soldiers to return to Rome, notwithstanding the orders of M. Demerode to the contrary.

Fifteen thousand Sardinian soldiers had passed through Umbria on their march to the kingdom of Naples. The reactionary movement in the Abruzzi was organized by Count Pratair and M. Demerode. The Sardinians have evacuated the Papal Territory, in compliance with the orders of the Emperor Napoleon. The Spanish vessels which were dispatched to Gaeta have been repulsed by Admiral Persano.

Francis II has issued an appeal to the Sicilians, offering them the Constitution of 1812, a Sicilian army and navy, and an entire administration. He asks of them to give an asylum to a royal family abandoned, but brave and too well instructed by misfortune.

Letters from Genoa state that while the elections were proceeding in one of the communes of the province of Massina, a party of Bourbonists entered the hall and butchered in cold blood the President of the Electoral college and his two sons.

PRUSSIA.—In the Chamber of Deputies an amendment to the address of the King was proposed, expressing the wish that Prussia might be placed at the head of the German Confederation. After debate, in which the Ministers opposed the proposition, it was rejected by a very large majority. The King intends to proceed to Konigsburg in May, to be crowned.

TURKEY.—The Sultan refuses his assent to the prolongation of French occupation in Syria. A commercial crisis is raging at Galatz. The Montenegro are ravaging the villages of Nicosset, killing men and women, and burning houses.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Generally quiet and steady. Wakefield, Wash & Co. report flour quiet. Prices easier, but quotations remain unchanged; 23@31 1/2. Wheat steady; red 11@12; white 12@14. Corn quiet and steady. Mixed and yellow, 87@88. White 33@34. Richardson, Spence & Co. report corn advanced 6@1/2. Provisions generally steady.

The News Condenser.

- Oil has been struck in Madison Co., N. Y.
— The Chinese call our President, *Phai-si-tien-tih*.
— Penny bathing houses are proposed in Philadelphia.
— Russia has now a splendid fleet in the Mediterranean.
— The cost of the Crimean war is said to have been \$250,000,000.
— Railways trains are interrupted by heavy falls of snow in Virginia.
— The average valuation of land in South Carolina is only \$2 per acre.
— The total valuation of property in San Francisco is \$35,809,639.
— Snow fell in some parts of Alabama recently to the depth of five inches.
— The small pox has entirely disappeared from Columbia, South Carolina.
— There are in England and Wales 39,338 known thieves and depredators.
— There are now nine Cardinals' hats vacant in the Sacred College at Rome.
— The wheat crop of Minnesota last year is estimated at 8,000,000 bushels.
— Counterfeit three on the Beverly Bank of New Jersey are in circulation.
— A stay law has passed in the Senate, both of Virginia and North Carolina.
— The real value of taxable property in the State of Michigan is \$275,000,000.
— The Scheidt has been frozen over at Antwerp for the first time in 40 years.
— No taxes are now paid in Hungary, in consequence of the political troubles.
— The correspondent of the London Times has been ordered to quit Rome.
— The ordinary coinage capacity of the Philadelphia mint is \$7,500,000 per month.
— Letters from Dresden represent the winter in Germany as one of unusual severity.
— Hon. Joseph Ridgway, a former Congressman from Ohio, died at Columbus, Jan. 31st.
— A factory for the manufacture of fire arms is about to be established at Camden, S. C.
— The campaign against the Navajoe Indians is being prosecuted with great vigor.
— More than half the convicts in Massachusetts State Prison are under 26 years old.
— A family which applied to a charitable society in Newburyport for aid, keeps 17 cats.
— The snow in Northern Vermont is deeper than it has been known for ten years past.
— The Cherokees have rebelled and seized Fort Gibson. These Indians are slaveholders.
— The ice for miles above and below Hudson is still unbroken, although quite weak.
— Wine, called Valerio, two thousand years old, has been dug out of the ruins of Pompeii.
— Arming the whole of the French army with six-shot revolvers, is under consideration.
— In Canada it is estimated that there are now 45,000 fugitive slaves from the United States.
— The liabilities of the government due, and to fall due before the 4th inst., are \$10,000,000.
— There is uncommon destitution and suffering among the poor working classes at Marysville, Cal.
— The Charleston Mercury notices the result of the Virginia election under the heading "Bad News."
— Ohio has passed a law guaranteeing the Bonds of the United States to the amount of \$2,700,000.
— The deliberations of the Peace Conference will not probably be closed before the end of the week.
— Gen. Wool, whose illness at Washington was announced, is much better, and is now considered out of danger.
— E. Signor, near Mettville, Onondaga Co., felled a tree recently, and found 75 pounds of clear honey therein.
— The Dubuque Times says that an order has been received in Dubuque, from Georgia, for 10,000 bushels of corn.
— Seven persons were drowned in attempting to cross a stream in a sleigh, in Mercer Co., Ill., on the 10th ult.
— The reported convalescence of Florence Nightingale is contradicted. She is growing worse, instead of better.
— The second daughter of Gen. Harney has just been married, in Paris, to Count De None, an officer in the Guard.
— The oyster dealers of Fairhaven, Conn., put up annually 251,450 tin cans, and 446,832 wooden kegs of oysters.
— A bill has been introduced into the N. Y. Assembly forbidding the use of camphens in hotels and boarding houses.
— The plan for conducting the ceremonies of Mr. Lincoln's inauguration does not differ materially from the usual routine.
— An intelligent young Chinaman, clerk in a tea store at St. Louis, was married last week to a pretty young American girl.
— The six States which have formed themselves into a Southern Confederacy, contain 2,189,147 whites, and 2,165,721 slaves.
— Mr. Buchanan leaves the White House for Wheatland, on the 4th of March, immediately after Mr. Lincoln's inauguration.
— At the close of the year 1860, there were in Europe 16,140 actors and male singers, and 21,000 actresses and female singers.
— At Montreal, Canada, they have had a snow-shoe walking match, the winner walking five miles in a trice short of 56 minutes.
— Mr. Bouigny, of Louisiana, continues to act in the House as a *bona fide* member, irrespective of the secession of his State.
— Boston used an average of 17,238,000 gallons of Cochituate water daily, last year, equal to 97 gallons a day to each inhabitant.
— The defalcations of the Louisiana State Tax Collectors, during the last thirty years, have swindled the treasury out of \$356,000.
— The Black Warrior river, Alabama, recently rose to an immense height. At Tuscaloosa, it was 64 feet above low water mark.
— General Jose Antonio Paer, Minister Plenipotentiary of Venezuela to the United States, has been recalled by the government.
— A woman of forty-two, Anna Marston, attended the funeral of her eighth husband in Portsmouth, England, on the 18th ult.
— There are one thousand one hundred and two newspapers and four hundred and eighty-one magazines now published in Great Britain.
— Father Kemp and his "Old Folks" appeared for the first time in England, at St. George's Hall, January 24th, and were well received.
— Paris contains 503 newspapers, of which 42 are devoted to politics, and have to deposit caution money in the hands of the government.
— The most valuable cargo ever brought from China to New York, arrived last week. The tea, cassia, and raw silk, were valued at \$800,000.
— California contributed nearly eleven thousand dollars towards the erection of the Washington monument at the late Presidential election.
— A "general service of funerals" in France is conducted by a company in Paris, authorized by law, managed by a director, with a fixed tariff of prices.
— If all the property of the State of Connecticut were equally divided between every man, woman and child in the State, each would have \$750.
— The formal opening of Bergen Tunnel took place Thursday week. It is 4,900 feet long, and cost \$500,000. The train was about six minutes passing through.

THE SNOW.

SILENTLY down, gracefully down,
Over the forest and over the town,
Robbing the earth in a pure white gown,

I felt at once I should there find the quiet contentment
which was not often a guest in my city abode.
Uncle PHILIP and Aunt FANNY received me with
sincere and unaffected cordiality.

Mountains, and early in September I was to return to
my city home. Then it was that we pledged the
mutual vows, before only recorded upon the tablet of
each heart.

Wit and Humor.

SOME LITTLE JOKERS.

WHAT miss will ruin any man? Mis-management.
WHAT miss always makes her lover go astray?
Mis-lead.
A COUNTRY editor, speaking of a blind sawyer,

Advertisements.

G. P. PUTNAM, NEW YORK.

Irving's Whole Works - Sunnyside Edition.
Irving's Life of Washington.
Irving's Washington for the People.
Bayard Taylor's Travels.

The Story-Teller.

EDITH RAYMOND.
A LOVE STORY
BY KATE CAMERON.

"Edith!" My father spoke in the tender tone of
voice he always used in uttering my name; it might
be because it was my dead Mother's name,—it might
be because my countenance was so faithful a por-
traiture of her, his first and long-lost love.

"PAUL is an Artist, my dear," said his aunt, turning
to me, "and I am very glad you are here to help
entertain him."
I too was very glad, and yet I could scarce help
chiding myself for the interest I felt in one whom I
had never beheld.

On a delightful September morning, I took a fond
leave of my good uncle and aunt,—they could not
have been more kind and affectionate to an own
daughter, and I felt that they would always be very
dear to me.

Corner for the Young.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 19 letters.
My 1, 12, 8, 19 was a Jewish king.
My 2, 8, 13 is a Latin preposition.

BIOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 16 letters.
My 1, 6, 15, 11, 16, 5 was an eminent Irish naturalist.
My 2, 6, 8, 16, 18 was an American poet, historian, and editor.

A LOT OF PUZZLES.

ALL the papers are very busy just now in originating
puzzles to tax the ingenuity of both young and old,
incited thereto, doubtless, by the first given below, which has
wounded the Parisians for some time.

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

A GENTLEMAN purchased a span of horses, for which he
gave his note of \$600 on interest, at six per cent, for such a
length of time as will make the interest equal to one, plus
the quotient of the principle, divided by the square root of
the sum of the principle and interest.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 578.

Answer to Classical Enigma.—William Hickling Prescott.
Answer to Illustrated Rebus.—Big pig, little pig, root,
hog, or die.

STANDARD TEXT BOOKS.

Prof. St. John's Manual of Geology.
E. P. Smith's Manual of Political Economy.

NEW PUBLISHING FOR SUBSCRIBERS.

THE NATIONAL EDITION OF IRVING'S WORKS.

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Sketch Book. 1 vol.
Columbus and his Companions. Mahomet. 2 vols.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY WEEKLY.
IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY
BY D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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but all wishing them should subscribe soon.

RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

VOL. XII. NO. 10.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1861.

{WHOLE NO. 582.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,

AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

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

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 personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. AS A FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently instructive and entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of peasant intelligences, 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 in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

SPRING-TIME REFLECTIONS.

MANURES, AND THE MANNER OF APPLICATION.

THE warm, sunny hours with which we have recently been favored, are only the advent harbingers of blessings in store for the sons and daughters of earth. All greet them with joy, and to none can they prove more welcome than to the farmer, who, after a season of repose and comparative inactivity, holds himself in readiness for the campaign which is so soon to open. These glorious Spring days teem with prophecies the realization of which sober Autumn may witness—they bud with promise, but whether we partake of the fruit is, in great measure, the result of our own endeavor. He who presides over all, and in whose hands are our destinies, has said, that seed-time and harvest should not fail, yet these are conditions to which man must not only subscribe, but he must bring heart and soul to the work if he would enjoy the bounties with which Providence rewards the earnest laborer.

In successful farming we may consider it an axiom that to be fed by the soil, the agriculturist must feed it in return. In many portions of our country, young as it is, we can already perceive the baneful effects of constant cropping, without giving back to the land any of the elements of fertility removed. It was thought by our fathers that a soil naturally so rich as marked various States in the Confederacy, was inexhaustible. Indeed, it is so argued with reference to certain tracts of our Western prairies at the present day, and yet a generation has hardly disappeared before these ideas have given place to sterility, and "worn-out lands" have become the patrimony of their children. This condition of affairs will inevitably result where the rule is from the farm, and those who would avoid such disastrous consequences will be obliged to reverse the order, putting prominently into their creed and their action the better guiding principle, to the soil. We must collect and prepare every material calculated to renew the energies and preserve the constituents of our heritage, and as we "would freely receive, freely give."

The use of special fertilizers for keeping up the condition of our estate, may be well enough when every source to which we can turn for plant-food upon our own domain has been invaded, its supplies devoted to their legitimate purposes, and that in the manner best calculated to yield the greatest profit from the materials used and the labor expended. This latter is the point to which we wish now to direct the attention of our readers. Very many have large quantities of manure, but the mode of application is such that not a tithe of the benefit is obtained therefrom which might be received, and what is gained seldom comes just when wanted.

Manures may be divided into two general classes, liquid and solid. In one or the other of these forms they are given to the soil. But few experiments with liquid fertilizers have been made by American farmers. The population of our country is not sufficiently dense, and land is too plenty and too cheap to make it pay, except in gardens near large cities, where a ready market and good prices can be obtained for vegetable productions. In a liquid state we have a more speedy exhibit of its properties, and where it can be used with pecuniary advantage, the profits are quickly transferred to the credit of the producer.

The solid form is the one in which our farmers feed their lands. The principal reasons for this mode of application, in addition to those already advanced, are the ease with which it may be handled, and the high rates of labor. In certain portions of Europe, where help can be obtained for a meagre outlay of capital, liquid manures are held in very great estimation, and with justice. But the condition of the manure when applied by the majority of our farmers, is not proper. We hear a great deal

about fertilizers which are long, short, green, or partially decayed, and but very little concerning those which are well rotted, and finely pulverized. Now, this latter state is just what the producer should desire. He cannot afford to wait for the profits of an investment any better than those pursuing other callings, and yet were we to judge from the deposits made by many tillers of the soil, we would readily conclude they were sowing for their posterity to reap. When the materials for enriching land are comminuted; a less quantity is needed, this can be directly applied, and the results are speedily apparent to both eye and pocket.

Let the crop be what it may, the necessary pabulum ought to be found in the soil just as soon as growing vegetation requires it, and it should be in proper condition for absorption by the roots. In every stage of growth organic food is an essential to the development of the plant, and, therefore, it must be present at the date of planting. Mineral elements are more vigorously drawn upon at certain periods than at others, and as many of these fertilizers undergo important changes in the soil before they are fitted for plant-food, it is best they should be incorporated with the soil previous to the deposit of the seed. For example, bone dust, when given to wheat lands, oftentimes exhibits greater proof of its virtue two or three years following its application than during other periods. Unfermented manures are frequently put upon corn with the idea of benefiting the crop on the ground, but this method is, probably, as often a failure as a success, after crops receiving the more decided effects.

As regards the peculiar mechanical operations connected with the application of fertilizers, the RURAL has already published the views of practical and experienced agriculturists. There is the same diversity of opinion upon this topic that marks all other subjects, and the various modes,—surface-manuring, plowing under, thorough incorporation with the soil, etc.—have defenders and opposers. We are of the opinion that a rule to be followed without exception, cannot be given for this portion of farm operations. CAMPBELL'S Agriculture contains a paragraph or two upon this branch of our subject which we cannot refrain from condensing and giving to our readers. All kinds of manure, according to Prof. C., should be as thoroughly incorporated with the soil as possible. Heavy manures, as lime or plaster, he would apply to the surface after breaking up, then stir the soil, and their weight gradually sinks them during cultivation. Soluble ingredients, such as the alkaline salts in ashes, are soon carried down by rains. Fermented manures should be speedily covered, or mingled with the soil, because their ammonia is in a volatile form, and unless composted soon escapes. The tendency of volatile matters is to the surface, and when thus passing through the soil they are arrested and absorbed. This fact is especially distinguishable upon porous soils.

As regards top-dressing, Prof. C. considers it favorable to grass and clover crops in the winter and spring. Organic manures have their soluble ingredients carried down into the soil by rain, and the roots find their food at the very beginning of their spring growth. The unrotted portions of the manure remaining upon the surface are soon covered by the leaves, and decaying, form a rich, warm mold about the roots. Top-dressed corn will do well if newly gathered manure be used, containing uric acid, and other matters readily soluble. During Autumn and Winter, manures may always be applied to the surface without serious loss, and often with decided advantage. At all events, if they are to be exposed to the washings of rain, it is better it should be done upon the field than around the barn.

The subject we have thus somewhat hastily treated, is one of vital import to all those whose interests are connected with the soil, and we hope that the labors and experiments of the busy period so soon to open will be conducive to "progress and improvement" in our system of agriculture.

H. T. B. VISITS JOHN JOHNSTON.

On the shore of a beautiful lake—you're badly mistaken if you think I am going to write a romance—lives JOHN JOHNSTON, the Farmer. He was born seventy years ago, in the south of Scotland.

"Blood will tell," undoubtedly, for Mr. JOHNSTON reproduces the remarkable race of his grandfather and his father, in behalf of Agriculture and Agricultural Improvement. Several years of his early life were spent with his grandfather, who rented a large farm, and conducted it with marked ability; here he took his first lessons in draining land, high feeding, and progressive farming generally—lessons he has shown no disposition to forget.

After renting and managing a farm on his own account for a few years, Mr. JOHNSTON removed with his family to America, in 1820. He came near purchasing a farm at Rochester, N. Y., but missed that chance, as many others, to their subsequent regret, have done, and purchased three miles from Geneva, N. Y., on the eastern shore of Seneca Lake, where he has ever since resided.

Mr. JOHNSTON'S "worldly goods" now consisted of \$1,200, which he paid out for one hundred and twelve acres of land, partly cleared, nearly destitute of buildings, and no way implicated in fancy farming. He was now forced to run in debt for his outfit to the amount of some twelve hundred dollars. This, with the cost of his improvements, it may be well

imagined, gave him some "lineal" and taxed his energies to the utmost. His "theory" of farming was now to be put to a severe test. Others might indulge their fancy—he must have "farming pay." He had been forewarned by a prominent citizen that "nobody can make money by farming in these parts—the only way to do that is by the 'rise' of land,"—a theory unfortunately prevailing in many new countries.

Mr. JOHNSTON was now fairly in the field. The success which attended his efforts in his prominent position before the agricultural public, as the advocate of "high farming," justify the personal details. His history throws light upon a problem of vital importance to thousands who wish to know how a farmer in moderate circumstances can pay off his debts, rise to competence, and—if such a thing should seem to be necessary—to affluence.

First—He was industrious. When he went to see a Geneva banker, he found him in bed. However, he gives it as his mature and deliberate opinion, that those who would do the most work, should work ten hours a day, take their rest regularly; and plenty of it—an opinion in which I most heartily concur. Impaired energy, incurable disease, premature death, follow attempts to do too much.

Second—He did his work well—plowed deep for those times, and turned the sod well over.

Third—He saved his manure, and applied it—which all farmers did not do in those days, if indeed they do now. Observing that one of his acquaintances neglected to cart out his manure for several years, Mr. JOHNSTON told him "one day, that for a moderate sum he would take his manure out of his way, and clean up his yards handsomely." The owner of the manure considered it, said he thought the price asked was reasonable, and he would be glad to give it, but was afraid his neighbors would laugh at him. Mr. JOHNSTON waited a little longer, and so did the manure; he then said to his acquaintance, "Really, that manure is a very great annoyance to you, I will not only take it out of your way, but I will pay you \$50 for it." The owner now began to think that if Mr. JOHNSTON could afford to pay fifty dollars for it, and draw it, it must have some positive value, and he could afford to cart it out on his own land. Accordingly he commenced drawing it at once.

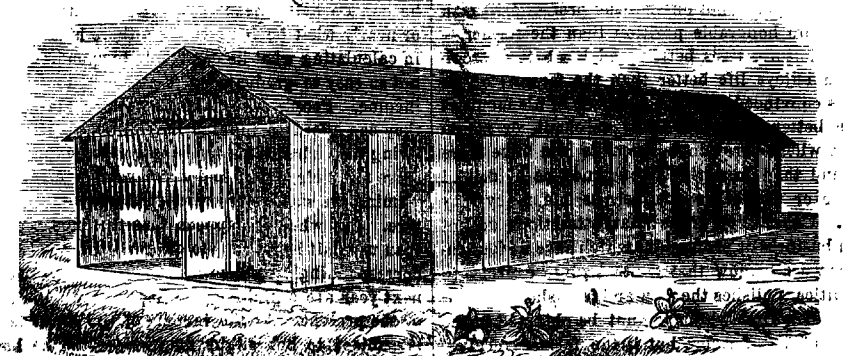
Fourth—Mr. JOHNSTON pulled his stumps. At the cost of about 18 cents apiece, he removed some two thousand stumps, believing that it would cost more to work round them and lose the land they occupied, than to remove them. He employed a machine for that purpose.

Fifth—We now come to what makes Mr. JOHNSTON'S experience particularly valuable to American farmers. While he was still under the necessity of husbanding his resources, and could not afford to misapply a dollar, he commenced tile draining, and continued it from year to year, till he expended more than five thousand dollars, and laid more than fifty miles of drains. No sooner had he purchased a farm than he sent to Scotland for model tile; these he took to sundry brick makers, who were unable to copy; he then applied to a manufacturer of earthen ware at Waterloo, N. Y., who said he could make the tile, if Mr. JOHNSTON could afford to pay his price. Three thousand tile were engaged, at \$24 per thousand, which was cheap enough, as they had to be molded by hand. Mr. JOHNSTON used these with satisfactory results. He then told the manufacturer that he would pay him \$16 per thousand for ten thousand. The manufacturer took time to consider, and subsequently informed Mr. JOHNSTON that he would furnish the tile, as he had invented a machine for molding them. Mr. JOHNSTON afterwards agreed to take all the tile he could make, at (I think) \$12 per thousand. This was the origin of tile making in America,—there are now five establishments in full blast in Mr. J.'s vicinity. Mr. JOHNSTON'S services as the pioneer tile drainer of America are highly appreciated. It is not long since several eminent agricultural gentlemen of this State,—including Col. L. G. MOORE, ERASTUS CORNING, JAMES S. WADSWORTH, HORACE GREELY, LUTHER TUCKER, D. D. T. MOORE,—presented Mr. JOHNSTON with a magnificent service of plate as a token of their appreciation. I will not say Mr. JOHNSTON is proud of it, but I will say, he has a right to be!

Sixth—Mr. JOHNSTON, by a liberal application of lime, salt, and plaster to his land, has done much to demonstrate their value. He first applied lime to a half acre of wheat,—thought he could discover a difference in the fall, but in the spring, soon after the snow left, he could see where the lime was put very distinctly; took many friends to see it during the season, and when he harvested it, found that his limed land gave him twice as much wheat as the other. Encouraged by this experiment, he borrowed money of a friend and purchased a whole lime kiln at nine cents per bushel, and applied it at the rate of eighty bushels per acre. Such a liming will last, he thinks, five or six years. His soil is clay loam, and is not benefited by ashes; but he is a decided advocate of salt, which he applies at the rate of 300 or 400 pounds per acre. He also makes a free use of plaster upon his grass ground.

Seventh—Mr. JOHNSTON'S advocacy of high feeding is well known. He feeds large quantities of oil meal—sometimes as many as fifty tons in a winter—buys coarse grain, but never sells any. In this way he makes abundance of good manure for the farm, and has the best animals for market.

Mr. JOHNSTON claims to be no theorist; he recom-



TOBACCO HOUSE WITHOUT DOORS AND BOARDING, &c., TO SHOW THE MANNER OF HANGING THE TOBACCO.

mends what he has tried, tells what he knows, practices what he teaches. It may be proper to observe that he not only made his farm support itself, but pay for the improvements; and for several additions to it, which from time to time he made.

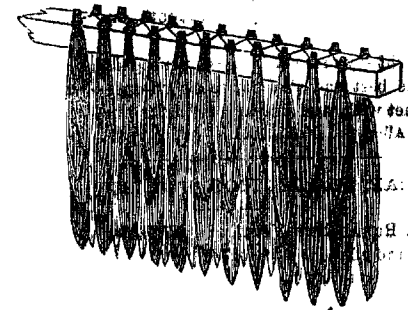
I may mention here, that Mr. JOHNSTON sat up a threshing machine about 1822, believed to be the first threshing machine in America.

I cannot, in justice to Agriculture, second to no earthly interest, close this notice of one of its most enlightened, enthusiastic and efficient promoters, without claiming for him the respect due to eminent services. Whether judged by his zeal in a good cause, his energy of character and force of will, or by the results of his labors, he is entitled to rank among the distinguished of mankind. Not claiming the discovery of new principles or processes, he has seized with a vigorous understanding, and a determined purpose, upon cardinal points in husbandry, and while American farmers denied, doubted, or delayed, he pushed boldly on, reducing theory to practice, and forcing acquiescence by the logic of facts. His celebrity has imposed upon him a large correspondence from every section of our Confederacy, (the South included,) which he conducts with admirable promptness and patience. He gives advice, and answers questions, in all departments of practical life. Active and healthy, we trust he may long be spared to his family, his friends and his country.—H. T. B.

CULTURE OF TOBACCO.—CURING.

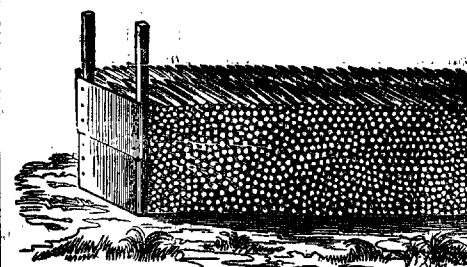
ACCORDING to promise we conclude the article commenced last week on the Culture of Tobacco, and its value as a farm crop.

After wilting, draw to the house, which should be twenty-four feet wide, fifteen feet high, so as to have three tiers, one above the other. A building of this width and height, thirty-five feet long, will store an acre, or the run of tobacco. The girls on the side of the building should be five feet apart; a row of posts through the middle is necessary to put girls in, to hold the poles that the plants are tied to. The best poles are made of basswood sawed one and one-half by four inches, and twelve feet long.



HANGING TOBACCO ON THE POLES.

The plants are handed to a man who, standing on a movable platform made by a light plank, receives them, and beginning at the top tier he winds a piece of prepared twine around the stalk, fastening the first plant to the pole; the second plant is placed on the other side of the pole, and a single turn is made around the stalk; then again the third stalk is put on the same side of the first, the twine passed around, and the next on the other side, and so on to the end of the pole, where the twine is made fast. About thirty or thirty-six are hung on a pole, one-half on each side. If this twine gives way, it is manifest that they will all be let loose. The poles are put on the girls



TOBACCO STACKED AFTER STRIPPING.

about fourteen inches apart. In this way the whole building is filled. Skill is now demanded to regulate the ventilation until the crop is cured, which is determined by examining the stem in the leaf, which should be hard, up to the main stalk. Then in damp weather the tobacco can be taken down and laid in piles, with the tips together to keep it from drying,

and so secure this, cover over with boards. The next thing is the removal of the leaves from the stalks, taking this time to separate the broken leaves from the unbroken ones. They are then made into parcels of 16 or 18, called "hands," and are fastened by winding a leaf around them. The "hands" tips on tips, the square ends out. This preserves the moisture. The pile should be kept covered with boards, and the sides also covered, leaving the wound ends against the ends of the box, press with a lever or screw until 400 pounds is in, then fasten on the top. The tobacco now goes through the sweating process, and will lose about ten per cent. in weight before it is for use.

This tobacco is known in the market as "seed leaf," and is principally used for wrappers for cigars; the refuse is exported. A crop handled in the manner described, and with skill, will sell in New York city at from twelve to fifteen cents a pound; but from want of proper care and skill, the crop of this county does not bring an average price of over eight cents.

Cost of Crop.

The plants are worth per acre	\$ 2 50
Manure, 10 cords, say	20 00
Fitting ground and marking	4 50
Planting and setting	5 00
Cultivating and first hoeing	2 00
Cultivating and second hoeing	1 50
Topping, and killing worms, say	1 00
Suckering, first and second times	2 00
Suckering, third time	4 00
Harvesting and hanging (four men and team one day)	6 00
Stripping one tun	20 00
Five packing boxes	5 00
Labor of packing	1 50
Twine, for hanging	1 00
	\$86 00

A tun, at 13 1/2 cents, is worth \$270; deduct 10 per cent. for shrinkage, and 1 1/2 cents per pound for transportation and commission, in all \$52, leaves \$218 as net proceeds. The cost being taken from this, \$66, and we have \$152 for use of land and buildings.

This is the best statement that can fairly be made for this crop. If the price be put at the average our growers get, viz., eight cents per pound, we have for the crop, 1,800 pounds, after shrinking, \$144. Deduct \$66 for cost, and \$22.50 for commissions and transportation, in all \$88.50, which deducted from the amount received, leaves \$55.50, as the ordinary profit per acre.

EDUCATION FOR THE FARMER.

THIS subject has commanded the attention of many minds; it has occupied the columns of newspapers, the pages of books, and the valuable time of clubs, conversational meetings, and audiences at fairs; yet it is a question still open for solution. I do not know that I can add anything to what has been said, but shall we maintain silence on a subject of such momentous importance, so vital to the interest of farmers, and of our country? Because the truths of Christianity were once set forth by our SAVIOR, elucidated by the Apostles, and frequently preached to the people since that time, shall they be neglected now? The voice of the whole Christian world answers, "No,—let them be held up to our view continually,—let them be set forth distinctly,—let them be applied practically,—or we shall forget them." The tongue of man was given him to speak, his ears to hear, and his mind to perceive the truth. Let these faculties be exercised.

If it be of vital importance that truths so well known should be frequently enunciated to make them valuable to us, is it not also important that a subject affecting so directly the welfare of the farmer as much as education does, should be constantly talked about? We may be ready to acknowledge truth, but unless it be kept before our minds, other truths are impressed thereon, and we become occupied with them. If a just idea be set forth plainly, and urged upon our attention, we not only acknowledge its truth, but we are made ready to carry it into execution. From a want of interchange of thought, men become

indifferent about intellectual matters, and at last lose faith in the potency of ideas.

This train of thought was awakened in my mind by the question of a young man of intelligence, who has labored steadily for some time on the farm. "What use can a farmer make of an education?"

Does not education fit the farmer for the pursuit of his vocation? On further conversation, I discovered that he referred to that style of education fashionable in some High Schools and Colleges, which certainly does lead boys into habits diametrically opposed to the steady, quiet pursuit of the farmer, and the old query came up, how shall a boy be so educated that he shall "be a man for a' that?"

The youth gets a notion that the professional man holds a more honorable position than the farmer,—has more leisure, lives better, and has better associates, and enjoys life better than the farmer; or, he becomes convinced that the exercise of his faculties will be better rewarded as a merchant, or manufacturer, where shrewdness seems to him to be more in demand than in agriculture; hence he is drifted into one or the other channel, as his fancy may dictate.

Nor need the farmer be behind hand in intellectual matters of a different character. Books are plentiful and cheap, papers easily to be had, libraries abundant, lectures plentiful, and social intercourse much favored by ease of intercommunication by rail, steamboat, or private conveyance.

Are we not convinced of what the quality and essence of a farmer's education should be? Do we not plainly see what must be its direction? Can we as easily point out the means to be employed? Let us ponder, let us strive. Let us seize every suggestion of value, and rest not until the great problem of education for the farmer be solved.—H. C. V.

WORKING FOR WAGES—TAKING LAND.

TAKING a farm to work on shares seems to be considered the next best thing to owning one. Hiring out by the day, month or year, is accounted comparatively vulgar, and, with native Americans, is fast becoming obsolete.

Whatever may be said in favor of taking land, there are certain reasons why it is better for men of small capital to engage by the month or year at a fixed rate of wages. Those who have only their labor to invest in farming, or whose means are so limited that they cannot afford to run the risk of bad seasons or failures of crops from any cause, have a much safer, surer dependence in the equal, steady, moderate gains arising from selling their work at a fair price per month or year, than in the more capricious—sometimes larger, sometimes smaller—returns resulting from a division of the products of the farm.

labor, and sometimes a considerable portion of the gains of former years. To those who depend for a support on a share of what they raise on other men's farms, such seasons are especially disastrous, while the hired laborer is not sensibly, if at all, affected by them. But the pecuniary loss to the farmer from an unusually cold, or wet, or dry, or frosty season, or injury by insects, or depressed markets, or whatever other hindrance, does not comprise the whole damage he sustains; the disheartening, discouraging influence he suffers in consequence of failure to realize all he expected from his labor is, many times, not the least important item of loss.

Again, nothing contributes more to the formation of a habit of reckless, extravagant expenditure, than an irregular income. Those who know what their income is, know what they can afford to spend; and, if they have fixed rules of economy, and are determined to save a certain sum each year, they can regulate their expenses accordingly, and gradually, by moderate but sure and steady gains, accumulate for themselves a respectable little capital wherewith to engage in business on their own account.

South Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

ABOUT CHEESE-MAKING.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In looking over the columns of your paper, I notice an inquiry, by some young gentleman who, perhaps, is just about to enter into matrimonial responsibilities, wanting to know the process of making cheese.

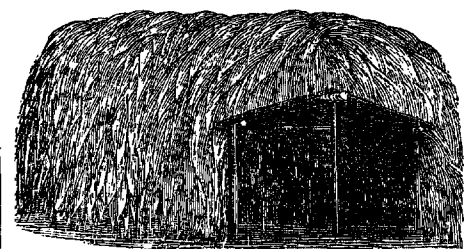
Let, A good selection of cows is necessary. 2d, One of the best cheese vats must be had. 3d, Adjustable cheese hoops. 4th, A good press. Having procured these implements, we proceed to the process of making cheese.

In the first place, we strain the night's milk into the milk vat, then pour cold water into the water vat, sufficient to abstract the animal heat from the milk. In the morning we skim the cream off the milk, and build a fire in the heater before we commence milking, then we strain in the morning's milk, and heat to from 85° to 90°, after which add rennet enough to coagulate the milk sufficiently to commence work in from 30 to 50 minutes. Now the curd should be broken up fine. For this purpose we use a curd knife, which we consider preferable to our hands.

I might say more of interest, perhaps, but consider this the best and shortest mode of operation I have ever met with, and tried. STEPHEN THOMAS. Scio, Alleg. Co., N. Y., 1861.

CHEAP PROTECTION FOR ANIMALS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—We saw, recently, so cheap and efficient a means of protection for domestic animals, that we cannot refrain giving it to the readers of the practical in the RURAL NEW-YORKER. Protection is all important, and the how, as here sketched, is within the reach of all.



Here we present an engraving of the said shelter,—you see it is wind and almost frost-proof, and, after all, nothing but a straw-stack well piled over and around a cattle shed. The amount of suffering such a structure would save the prairie farmer's herds, we leave for his conjecture, premising that we are well satisfied with the operation of ours, of similar architecture, both for cattle and swine. W. E. G. Amboy, Lee Co., Ill., 1861.

As intimately connected with the foregoing, we give a brief article from a correspondent of the Prairie Farmer, on "Good Shelter for Stock." It is as follows: Proportioned to the number of cattle, procure two pieces of scantling, (say 6 inches by 8—20 feet long.) With a two-inch auger bore a hole, a foot or eighteen inches from each end, and one in the middle. Then procure six posts, (either round or square), 7 feet 6 inches long. Make round tenons suitable for the auger holes, and set the posts in the ground in a line east and west—three in front and the other three

about eight feet in the rear of the first; put on the plates, and steady the posts by ramming the earth well around them. Lay rails or poles across the plates about a foot apart, over the entire frame. Now lay on corn stalks so as to form a ridge just midway between the plates, (18 inches high,) the entire length of the shelter, then begin to form the cover by laying on more stalks so that the shuck end shall lay on the ridge first made, till the entire length of the shelter has been gone over, putting the stalks first on the south side, and then on the north; now lay on another ridge lengthwise the shelter, over these; first put on the rails, and on this ridge put on a second cover of stalks, being careful to have them meet well on the ridge, the north side being finished up last that snow and rain may pass over.

Shelters of this kind are more readily put up than any kind I have ever tried, and form a secure protection from leaking rain or snow as there is little danger of the top being blown off by violent winds. For calves, sheep, or fattening hogs, shelters four or five feet would be abundantly high. Corn stalks put up in this way keep as nicely for provender as if carefully stored away in ricks for late use, and may be used for food, when shelters are no longer needed for the season.

THE RATS ON SECESSION.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In No. 5 of your present volume, I find an article taken from the American Agriculturist, on blowing up rat-holes with powder, to drive away the rats. Now, for one, I would like to have the plan rat-fied, or changed for something better. There are several ways to drive them off, but I am sure I would not be justifiable in driving them from my premises to those of my neighbors. They will be sure to go. There are some of my neighbors who drive them from their barns by taking a drum and beating on it a few evenings in succession; but they are sure to be a nuisance to some one. I will give my plan of destroying them by wholesale, which may be a benefit to some of my brother farmers. I make a hole in my granary, or wherever I wish to lead them into, of convenient size, with a slide that I can shut by fall, a string leading outside of the barn. I then bait them, and let them have free access a few nights. When I think they are about all in, I slip up and draw the slide, then I get S&X to hold a good strong bag over the hole, draw the slide, when a little thumping from the inside will soon have them all into the bag, where you can dispose of them as you see fit. If you do not get them all, try again. If any have a better plan, I would like to see the rat-fication in the RURAL. O. P. F. Owego, Tioga Co., N. Y., 1861.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Pressing the Sorghum. Mr. H. G. BULKLEY, of Kalamazoo, Mich., states that by slightly steaming the cane of Sorghum before it is pressed, all the juice can be easily extracted with a common set of pressure rollers, which must greatly increase the production. As the pressing of this cane constituted the chief difficulty with farmers in obtaining syrup from it, this discovery is of great importance to them.

How to Make Water-Tight Ponds.

THE great Illinois stock farmer, Mr. STRAWN, gives in the Prairie Farmer his mode of making water-basins, as follows:—"After excavating the basin he fences it in, and uses it as a yard to feed his cattle and hogs in. The bottom thus becomes well puddled by the trampling of their feet, making it almost water-tight. He has basins thus prepared that have not been empty of water but once in 12 years."

Hard Crust Formed in Plowing.

It is well known that when land has been plowed for many years at a uniform depth, a hard crust is formed at the bottom of the furrow. The Country Gentleman says:—"We lately had occasion to inspect a piece of ground that had been plowed and was soon flooded by a creek, and all the loose or plowed soil washed completely away, leaving this under crust, untouched, and showing every mark and scratch of the plow as it passed over. The crust had been made so compact by the whole weight of the plow, and that of the turning sod superadded, that the flood made not the slightest impression upon it, although the soil was naturally quite uniform down to a depth of two or three feet."

Carrying the Whip.

THERE is more in the movements of the driver of an ox-team, and in carrying the whip, than most farmers think, says the Ohio Farmer. Oxen, however quick in their movements, or upright their gait in the yoke, soon become dull, and get the practice of "shoving" or "hauling," in consequence of the driver lagging along, or, as is often the practice, going ahead of his team, and from time to time stepping back and whipping them. A driver of an ox-team should walk directly opposite the yoke, walk straight, and carry his whip as upright as a soldier would his gun. Use a whip-stock with a short lash, and touch the cattle only with the lash, and never strike them on the nose or over the eyes."

Seed Corn—Early Germination.

THE Bureau Co., (Ill.) Republican says that Dr. CHAMBERLIN of that county has been experimenting with seed corn, in the view of hastening germination, and has made several discoveries which are made public. The Republican says: "Last year Dr. CHAMBERLIN of this place made some practical experiments, and demonstrated that nearly half the time may be saved in germinating the seed by the use of chloride of lime. Not satisfied with the success of last year, he is again experimenting. In his office he has four boxes; in the first is corn planted without soaking, and the seed not germinated; and in the second, the seed was soaked in warm water, which has just commenced to germinate; in the third is seed soaked in a solution of lime, and green blades are just peeping from the ground; in the fourth is seed soaked in a solution of chloride of lime and copperas, in equal parts, and the blades are now nearly three inches above the ground. All the seeds were planted at the same time, in the same quality of soil, and taken from the same ear. The boxes have all had an equal share of heat and light, neither allowed any advantage over the other. "This experiment should attract the attention of farmers. We conclude from four to six weeks may be saved by the use of chloride of lime and copperas, which is a matter of no ordinary moment, when we reflect that a delay in the germination of the seed of two weeks, frequently places the crop within the reach of the frost in the fall. Another fact of some importance may also be mentioned. The copperas used in soaking will prevent the birds, squirrels,

worms, &c., from eating the seed. Dr. CHAMBERLIN assures us that one pound of chloride of lime and one pound of copperas, in water, will soak enough seed for twenty acres. The cost will not be over twenty-five cents. Every farmer could afford to make the experiment, even if he should fail to derive any benefit from it."

Turning Stock to Grass Early.

A RECENT issue of the American Farmer has an article on this subject, from R. W. DOWNMAN, of Fauquier County, Virginia, given in response to a solicitation on the part of the Editor. We extract as follows:

Talking with graziers, I find the opinion to be general in this county, (which annually fattens for market upwards of twenty thousand hogs,) that the earlier cattle are turned to grass the better. When I commenced grazing, four years ago, I found this to be the general practice, and I followed it without making any experiment myself, but I am informed by one of my neighbors—Mr. Charles J. Stovin—who has grazed for thirty years past, on an average, two hundred head of cattle annually—that he has seen the experiment tried. Two lots of cattle, equal in all respects, and which had been wintered alike, were selected in the spring, and one lot turned to grass ten days earlier than the other. The first lot took a start of the other and maintained it through the season, being ready for market one month sooner than the second lot.

There can be no doubt whatever as to the fact that, in our county at least, the sooner we can get them to grass in the spring the better. The grass at that season is tender, and has the quality of purging the cattle, loosening their hides, and causing them to shed off. It thus prepares their systems to take on fat rapidly as soon as the pasturage becomes stronger and more mature. Later in the season it seems to lose this quality in a measure. I have known men to turn their cattle on their meadows for eight or ten days, early in the spring, so as to give them a start against the regular pasture becoming fit to turn on.

This is one of the finest grazing sections in the country. The land seems to be naturally adapted to grass, running into sod very quickly after a fallow. One of my neighbors—Mr. J. J. Hunton, of Woodstock—has a field of one hundred acres of green-sward, upon which he fattens from eighty to ninety head of cattle every year; and in a good grass season I have seen portions of the field from which a good swath of grass might have been cut when the cattle were taken off in July. On the rest of his estate he fattens about two hundred head. On the adjoining estate of Airley, Mr. Charles J. Stovin fattens about two hundred and seventy-five head. He has a field of about one hundred and fifty acres, on which this spring he turned one hundred cattle and ninety sheep, and kept them there until the first of June, when a portion of them were moved off.

There are sods in this county nearly fifty years old, and so firm and strong that, to quote the language of our representative, the Hon. Wm. Smith, "a bullock of a thousand weight may walk over them after a week's rain without soiling his hoofs more than a lady would soil her delicate satin slipper by crossing a Turkey carpet." This may sound like hyperbole, but until all that doubt, I say "come and see."

Inquiries and Answers.

FLEAS ON DOGS.—As you publish something in your paper for "all the world, and the rest of mankind" also, will you tell me what to do to kill the fleas on my dog? He scratches at them good, yet they do not seem to mind it much. They do not seem to be much in favor of secession,—perhaps they do not know it is fashionable, and as they do not choose to go of their own accord, I would like to oust them.—PETE, Dryden, N. Y., 1861.

ENGLISH DAIRY CHEESE.—Will some of the RURAL'S numerous readers give me the rules for making what is called English Dairy Cheese, and oblige—P. T. HAZELTINE, Mascoutah, Dane Co., Wis., 1861.

In answer to the inquiry of Mr. HAZELTINE, we cannot probably do better than give an article written on the subject by "P.," and published in our last volume. The writer passed a goodly portion of his time in the dairy region of this State last summer, and took much pains to learn all the "art and mystery" of cheese making. The method is as follows:

"This cheese is a single meal, or, in other words, the milk is run up or set directly from the cow, both night and morning, no artificial heat being used in any part of the process. The milk is colored to a butter color by annatto, rubbed down in milk and added before the rennet. The preparation of the rennet, and the quantity used, is the same as in other good dairies. The milk stands an hour after the rennet has been put in. The curd is then cut up in the usual way, and worked moderately as it begins to settle. The whey is gradually withdrawn, and as soon as it begins to harden, so as to hold together, it is put into a cloth and sink, and gently worked and pressed till the whey is well out. It is then broken up again, salted at the rate of an ounce of salt to three pounds of curd, and put into the hoop or vat, and moderate pressure put on. The hoops are 13 or 14 inches by 5 or 6 inches deep, but the cheese when pressed should not be over 4½ inches thick. The manipulations are much as in other dairies, except that when the cheese is turned the first and second times, it is well rubbed with salt, and stands in the press three days. In one dairy, instead of rubbing on the salt, after standing in the press for twelve hours, the cheese was put into a strong brine for twelve hours, taken out, wiped dry, and put back in the hoops or vat, and pressed two days longer. No grease is used upon the cheese, and they are cured in a cool, damp room, if possible. They get a very hard rind, are sent to market in bulk, about the 1st of November, and handle as safely as so many pieces of plank. They weigh, usually, when taken from the press, about 25 pounds, and when cured, 20 to 21 pounds. The cheese is expensive to make and handle, as compared with the larger and two meal cheese. It is, however, rich, mild, and easily cured, and much sought after in the cities, among the English population, in the same manner as the Limburgh cheese is the favorite kind with the Germans. Neither, however, have any superiority over some of our best American cheese that is well cured."

WARTS ON THE EYES OF HORSES.—I wish to inquire, through your valuable paper, of your numerous contributors, what will remove a wart from a horse's eye? I have a valuable horse that has a wart about half an inch from the corner of his eye, nearly as large as a quarter of a dollar, and it seems to be inclined to spread. If some one will tell me what will remove it, they will much oblige a subscriber.—W. W., Tioga Co., N. Y., 1861.

These excrescences, arising from the outlying covering of the skin, are sometimes very annoying to horses, especially when occurring about the eye. Treatment.—A wart having a broad base, Dr. DADD says, should be treated in the following manner: Take a common suture needle, and arm it with a double ligature; each ligature is to be composed of three threads of saddle's twine, well waxed; pass the needle right through the centre of the wart, close down to the skin; tie each half separately, with a surgeon's knot, as tight as possible; cut the ends off pretty close to the knot, and in the course of a short time the whole will drop off. A wart having a small crumpled pedicle may be removed in the same way, by tying a single ligature round its base. If the exposed surfaces should not heal readily, moisten them occasionally with tincture of aloes and myrrh; and if they show a disposition to ulcerate, sprinkle them with powdered charcoal and bloodroot, equal parts.

To GET RID OF SORELEGS.—I noticed an inquiry in the RURAL on this subject. I have found unbleached ashes the most effectual for the purpose. Sow annually at the rate of two bushels per acre, for two or three years in succession, and the sore leg will entirely disappear.—J. M., Hamilton, C. W.

Rural Notes and Items.

A WORD TO RURALISTS.—Now that the political excitement is likely to subside, for want of proper nutriment, we not only look for a restoration of confidence, but a return to such habits of thought and action as will insure the increased prosperity of the People and Country. The agitation waxes at a favorable time for Ruralists, for the season of their greatest activity is approaching,—but whether the trouble ceases or not, it is alike the duty and interest of our friends to pursue their calling with industry and skill. For whoever is President or whatever party administers the Government, that avocation which feeds all and clothes all, must be intelligently and energetically pursued, as it is the real foundation of the sustenance and prosperity of both People and Nation. Every Producer is a Patriot—and there is at present great need of a demonstration of love of kindred and country on the Farm, and in the Shop and Factory. If the bar-room and corner grocery political brawlers (self-elected statesmen)—as well as many party editors and speech-makers—of all sections, were obliged to go to work in Garden, Field or Factory, the political troubles of the country would be forgotten in three months, and an era of unexampled peace and prosperity most successfully inaugurated. We think RURAL readers will concede thus much. Would that the political doctors might prescribe so safe a remedy, and their patients (which we cannot expect to reach,) take the medicine!

A word, in this connection, about the Agricultural Press, which has not been greatly favored during the Presidential campaign and the late "troubled times." Though we have no special cause of complaint—this Journal having rode out the storm unharmed—we would suggest that the present is a good time to substitute Rural Newspapers for some of those which have so long been at the top of the wave. The Agricultural Press deserves well of the public, and we hold it to be the duty of the industrial, producing classes, to give it ardent support and encouragement—a substantial recognition of its general usefulness and earnest advocacy of the cause of Improvement in Agriculture and kindred Arts and Sciences.

WONDERFUL WISDOM AND BENEVOLENCE.—One W. of Yates Co., lectures us, condemns a correspondent, and proposes to benefit our readers vastly, (for a valuable consideration,) in this wise:

How many strange and foolish theories are started and palmed off upon your numerous readers for "valuable information" which are as worthless as the useless nostrums they recommend. It, perhaps, to a certain extent, may be laudable, but there are cases where ignorance is so glaring, and the consequences of following such directions are so pre-eminently dangerous, that I have sometimes thought the free admission to your columns of all sorts of articles, would not really disadvantage the farming interest. Now, I assume that it is a disease—not a habit, and being a disease, it can be cured by the application of the proper remedy. I can cure it, but am in honor bound not to make a public disclosure; but if I do, the money shall be his. Of course, I will return him cured for \$10, or for the same will instruct him so that he can apply it himself, and it is withal so simple and common sense that it is matter of surprise that our veterinarians have not seen it before. I will impart all the information requisite for a complete cure for the above, accompanied with a pledge of honor not to impart it to others without the same pledge, by addressing W., box —, N. Y., enclosing the money. If the disease is not disclosed and the remedy not an effectual one, the money shall be returned.

That is refreshing. On reading the first sentence, thought we must at once engage the writer to edit the RURAL. The next, though less clear, made us feel bad for our readers; while the third induced us to pity the ignorance of J. H. S., as much as the fourth caused wonder at the profound wisdom of W. But the remark about a secret and sure remedy, and being "in honor bound not to make a public disclosure," with the generous offer to impart knowledge so valuable for the paltry trifle of ten dollars and a pledge of honor, &c.,—together with the surprise expressed that our Veterinarians are all ignorant of the cure, (leaving the reader to infer that unless he invested an X at once, the great secret might be lost to the world,)—increased our admiration of W.'s profundity and benevolence. And on reading the conclusion—about sending \$10 to an anonymous address, and the assurance that, if the remedy did not prove effectual, the money would be refunded—our emotions were inexpressible. But, seriously—though we have a foretime been favored with various communications attempting to advertise free gratis, the above is the greatest dodge of all. Of course we would not insert such a proposition in our advertising columns, as we reject all such matters; and if the writer really supposed it would be given, with the assurance, he must be a greater curiosity than the whole of Barnum's Museum—a marvel of assurance or veridancy. But the richest part of the whole is that the letter (which contained the name of the writer, though separate from the article, and marked private,) was not even post paid! The P. M. at the place where it was mailed, noticing the address, and being a friend of ours, kindly put on a stamp, and sent along the precious document!

FARMER'S CLUB OF LITTLE FALLS.—We are indebted to PHILIP REED, Esq., Treasurer, for a pamphlet containing the annual address delivered at the Fair of this Club, on the 12th of October last, by Hon. L. CHANDLER BALE, also, the Annual Report of the Secretary and Treasurer. The address is an able one, and contains many valuable suggestions. The Reports of the officers are interesting, and show that the Club made considerable progress in advancing its objects during the year 1860. Successful Fair Grounds were obtained and improved, and a permanent exhibition held. The Club already has a library of 125 volumes, and holds frequent meetings for lectures, discussions, &c. It has a balance of about \$80 in the treasury. The recent annual election resulted as follows: President—S. S. LANSING, Manheim. Vice President—A. Wilcox, Little Falls. Secretary—X. A. Willard, Little Falls. Co-Secretary—A. W. Eaton, Little Falls. Treasurer—P. Reed, Little Falls. Directors—R. D. Brown, W. M. Door, Asa Wilcox, S. S. Whitman, A. Reed, W. A. Fester.

CARRINGTON'S DRAINING FLOW.—A Subscriber, who inquires relative to "an implement for making underdrains without the use of tile or other material, by applying sufficient power to force it the required depth, and form an opening for the escape of water,"—saying he has seen a notice of such an one from A. B. DICKINSON, in some paper—informed that the article alluded to is, probably, Carrington's Drain Flow. It was illustrated and described, and also advertised, in the RURAL of March 31, 1860, to which we refer our correspondent and others, for particulars. The plow is strongly recommended by Mr. DICKINSON and other practical farmers.

WHERE ARE THE FAMOUS STALLIONS?—A correspondent from Erie Co., this State, wishing to know "where those of those horses—Patchen, Messenger, Toronto Chief, Bashaw, Jupiter, or Abdallah—will stand this coming spring." He adds that he has several mares, old and young, which it is desirable to try with full blood horses, if within reasonable distance and terms. Cannot answer, but presume the owners of some of the horses named will be likely to impart the information at proper time, through our advertising department. Neither can we yet say where a Spanish Jack is to be kept, about which the same correspondent inquires.

"JAPANESE WHEAT" A SPECIES OF MILLET.—We are indebted to JOHN HINER, P. M., Columbiana, Ohio, for a few grains of what was sent him, from St. Louis, in response to an order for Japanese Wheat. It is simply a variety of Millet—a small, round seed, resembling our wheat about as much as a turtle's egg does a goose egg. It is evidently an unimproved humbug—and probably the same article sold at St. Louis a year or two ago under the name of Hungarian Grass!

FINE WOOL.—We are in receipt of a very excellent sample of Spanish Merino wool, from the flock of Mr. M. S. ABLE, of Orwell, Vt. An Orleans Co. (N. Y.) correspondent informs us that Mr. A. has been engaged in breeding sheep and growing fine wool for a number of years, and has sent a number of bucks to that county, the stock of which has proved to be decidedly fine. The sample of wool before us is certainly of superior quality.

READER, if you wish to Do Good and receive GOOD PAY therefor, read what is printed under head of "The Publisher to the Public," on page 88,—not omitting the offer of Extra Gifts for Clubs formed before April. As the period of competition is limited, early action is important. The times are improving; form new clubs and thus secure valuable prizes.

HORTICULTURAL.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

In previous numbers we have given general rules to be observed in planting seeds, and also pointed out some errors to be avoided. We purpose in this and future numbers to give directions somewhat more specific for the management of the Flower Garden.

The best soil for the garden is a mellow loam, but almost any fair soil can be made suitable by draining, deep digging, and enriching with good stable manure, or compost made of stable manure, leaves, sandy loam, &c.

For the front of the house, there is nothing so appropriate and beautiful as well-kept grass, with a few flowering shrubs, and if large enough, evergreen trees and others that only attain a small size, like the Mountain Ash.

In making the lawn, thoroughness is particularly necessary, for we do this for a permanent work. Any error or neglect in this respect cannot be remedied without destroying what we have done and commencing anew.

THE PEACH BUDS.—We have continued our observations in regard to the condition of the peach buds, and find them injured in Western New York, more than at first we were disposed to believe.

ground upon the gravel. This should be replaced with gravel.

We have not time to give a list of the most desirable shrubs for the lawn, but will do so next week, together with directions for making borders, &c.

DETERIORATION OF FRUIT TREES.

The causes of the deterioration of tree fruits are, the excessive cropping of the orchards by grain-growing farmers with but a scanty supply of manures, which robs the surface soil of the fertilizing elements obtained from the manures, the atmosphere and the rains and snows, that give thrift to the trees and mellowness to their fruits.

Pruning.—Farmers do not prune their fruit trees to remove too great a crop, nor do they scrape off the moss and rough bark to save the trees from becoming "bark bound," nor wash them with solutions to ward off insects and "sun stroke," and so their fruits dwindle into insignificance.

The Causes of the scarcity of Fruits are deterioration and ruin of old orchards by neglect. Fruit trees have not been planted in a corresponding ratio with the increase of our population; the losses caused by the death of many trees after planting, owing to the unprepared state of the soil, an improper method of planting and cropping the lands close to the trees immediately after they are planted;

How is such a change to be effected? It may be effected by imparting information to farmers in a plain and sociable style as to the best way to produce tree fruits profitably. Tell them how to renovate a neglected orchard, and how to prepare the soil for a young orchard; how and when to plant the trees, and how to treat them when planted; what varieties are best suited for different soils and localities.

I say to every farmer in the land, plant out young orchards, or renovate your old ones. They will make you rich, the country rich, and exalt the national character. We have quadrupled our production of grain within the last quarter of a century; let us now turn our attention to the culture of tree fruits, and we will soon be enabled to export as much of them as we do now of grain, and when you are old and leaping upon your staff, your descendants will flock around you to get a feast of fruits from the parental orchard.

WALTER ELDER, Philadelphia, Pa.

Horticultural Notes.

THE PEACH BUDS.—We have continued our observations in regard to the condition of the peach buds, and find them injured in Western New York, more than at first we were disposed to believe.

locality, and but very little fruit may be expected from the Isabella except from buds closely connected with the old vine. The above announcement, I am well aware, will be received with some hesitation and much regret; but so far as my examination of the fruit buds is concerned, I am constrained to admit the fact.—H. N. LANGWORTHY, Greece, near Rochester, March, 1861.

TO SAVE TREES FROM MICE, &c.—To prevent mice or other vermin from eating the bark of trees, take, in the fall, soil from the privy vault, and thin it with water. Then take a broom and give your trees a good washing, which will not only keep the mice from eating the bark, but will do considerable benefit to the trees by taking off all the moss and rust, and leaving the bark clear and clean when washed off by rain in the spring.

Beware of Poisonous Mushrooms.—At a recent coroner's inquest at Ipswich, England, the jury gave verdict of "Death caused by eating poisonous mushrooms," and recommended that great caution be exercised by persons eating this article. Dr. A. S. Taylor, in his work on Medical Jurisprudence, says "there does not appear to be any satisfactory rules for distinguishing the wholesome mushrooms from those which are poisonous, and in some persons even edible mushrooms will produce disorder of the stomach and bowels."

Solanum Capsicastrum.—This is a neat little plant, chiefly valuable for producing in abundance its pretty little fruit in autumn and winter. The berries are bright scarlet, glossy and round, about the size of a cherry. It requires similar treatment to the capicum. Sow the seeds in a hot-bed in March, or in the house in April. Prick out the seedlings singly and plant in a large pot, when necessary. Rich sandy loam will suit it well. In the autumn it will be covered with its bright scarlet berries.

Apologetic.—In consequence of the pressure upon our columns of important political news—which all are anxious to read in the present crisis of the country—we are compelled to resign a portion of the space devoted to Horticultural matter. This will account for the non-appearance of several matters prepared for this number, for which our friends may be looking.

Inquiries and Answers.

GROWING CRANBERRIES.—By reading an article in the last volume of the Rural, by E. STRATTON, of Bay City, Mich., I was induced to get a few cranberry plants to try my luck in that line. I went thirty miles into Canada, into a wild marsh, and got about two hundred plants, and set them out about the first of May. I kept the hoe pretty busy to keep the weeds down, but some of the vines grew three or four inches last summer, and in the fall I picked thirty well grown berries from the vines. I planted last May. Has any any beat that? If so, let me hear from them. I wish to hear from the friends of the Rural, and what time of the year the water may remain on the ground to make it beneficial to the plants; and should the ground be kept clear of grass the whole time it is kept for the purpose of cranberries; or will the experience I wish to inquire after avail? Please answer, and oblige a new beginner in the cranberry culture.—ABRAHAM WITMER, Suspension Bridge, N. Y., 1861.

We have had no extensive experience in cranberry culture, though we have done a little in this way. When the plants get pretty thorough possession of the ground, they are said to overcome the weeds without help. New plantations require a good deal of labor to keep them clean. We do not believe it necessary to flood cranberries, if it is done, the spring of the year is the best time. Where spring frosts are common, they are flooded to preserve the blossoms.

I HAVE a piece of swampy land of about half an acre in extent, and will be thankful if you will favor me with information regarding its name, how and when it can be obtained, and whether the flower belongs to the moss-like leaves I send with it? There are two other colors, white and pink, and being a great admirer of flowers, would like to obtain some of the kind, but am entirely ignorant of its name and nature, or whether I must obtain the seed or the root. Please enlighten me.—Mrs. E. G. S., East Randolph, N. Y.

The flower sent me is a Gnaphalium, and the leaves supposed to belong to it are branches of a common moss. We judge both were taken from a winter bouquet, and if not made in France, the flowers probably came from that country. Their natural color is white, but the French stain them of various colors, and make them up with grass and moss, into wreaths, bouquets, &c. We have a native Gnaphalium growing on our commons and by the road-sides. The Gnaphalium is a perennial plant, and was kept for sale by nurserymen, but now we have much better everlasting flowers, and it is not cultivated to any extent. Among the best of these is the Globe Anemone, of various colors; the Helichrysum, of several varieties; Aconitum roseum, and Xeranthemum. All these are of easy culture, and make beautiful winter ornaments, especially in connection with some of the ornamental grasses.

BARREN PLUM TREE.—I do not wish to trouble you with inquiries, but as you always seem willing to answer them for the benefit of my fellow-readers, I will make a few for the first time. Can a barren plum tree be made to bear fruit? If so, what kind of treatment would it require? Would the liberal use of the pruning-knife be of any benefit? We have a fine tree which is about six years of age, but it has never yet borne fruit. It appears to be a healthy one in every respect.—YOUNG SUBSCRIBER.

If your tree is in a rich soil, and making a vigorous growth of wood, pruning the roots might induce fruitfulness. Pruning the branches in June, when in full leaf, would be very likely also to induce the formation of fruit buds. It is not best, however, to be in too great a hurry for a little fruit. If you have planted a good tree of a fine variety, the delay in fruiting will doubtless be to the advantage of the tree, and in the end to your own profit.

WILLOW FOR HEDGES.—A subscriber wishes to know whether Osier Willow will make good hedging for field fences, and if so, where can the willows be got? Will the willow grow from cuttings? If so, what kind of soil they be cut, and how planted? Is the bunch willow, that grows along streams, Osier?—E. H. N., N. Y.

Some of the basket willows, or Osiers, may make a good fence if properly cut back; but their chief value for basket-making is their tall, slender growth, which would be an objection for hedge-making. The common yellow willow, we believe, is the one used at the West. Cuttings of willow, stuck in the ground in the spring of the year, will grow.

CAMBRIDGE BOTANIC GARDEN GRAPE.—Can you inform me as to the quality and habits of the Cambridge Botanic Garden Grape, whether it is hardy or not, or will ripen on the south side of a wall? One was sent as a present to me, and I am at a loss where to place it, or whether it is a No. 1 grape.—SUBSCRIBER, Glen Cove.

The Cambridge Botanic Garden Grape is a foreign variety, and is generally known as the Black Prince. It is much disposed to shank, and its culture in the open ground, we think, would be labor lost.

THE ENGLISH WALNUT, &c.—Can you, or any of your numerous subscribers, give me any information or experience in regard to grafting the shell bark, or hickory nut, &c., whether the English walnut is too tender for this climate?—S. FORBES, Penn Yan, N. Y., 1861.

The English walnut is a little tender in this latitude when young, and the ends of the shoots are injured in the winter. If the tree makes a very rapid succulent growth, it sometimes suffers rather severely. As it grows older, it becomes more hardy. There is a dwarf variety that bears very early, and is the most suitable for gardens, called Dwarf Prolet.

Political Intelligence.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S INAUGURAL.

Fellow Citizens of the United States:

In compliance with a custom as old as the Government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly, and I take in your presence the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States to be taken by the President before he enters on the execution of his office.

I do not consider it necessary at present for me to discuss those matters of administration about which there is no special anxiety. Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican administration, their property and peace and permanent security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while stood as a beacon open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so. Those who nominated and elected me, did so with a full knowledge that I have made this and many similar declarations, and have never recanted them, and more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance, and as a law for themselves and me, the clear and emphatic resolutions, which I now read.

"Resolved, That the maintenance, inviolate, of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions, according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend, and we denounce the lawless invasion, by armed force, of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as the gravest of crimes."

There is much controversy about the delivering up of fugitives from service or labor. The clause I now read is as plainly written in the Constitution as any other of its provisions.

"No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom service or labor may be due."

It is scarcely questioned that this provision was intended by those who made it for the reclaiming of what we call fugitive slaves, and the intention of the law given, is the law. All members of Congress swear to support the whole Constitution, to this provision as much as any other. To the protection, then, that slaves whose cases come within the terms of this clause, "shall be delivered up," their oaths are unanimous.

Now, if they would make the effort in good temper, could they not, with nearly equal unanimity, frame and pass a law by means of which to keep good that unanimous oath? There is some difference of opinion whether this clause should be enforced by National or State authorities. But surely that distinction is not a very material one. If the slave be surrendered, it can be of little consequence to him or to others by which he is to be taken, and should any one, in any case, be content that this oath shall go unkept on a merely unsubstantial controversy as to how it should be kept?

Again, in any law upon the subject, ought not all the safeguards of liberty known in civilized and humane jurisprudence to be introduced, so that a free man be not in any case surrendered as a slave? And might it not be well at the same time to provide by law for the enforcement of that clause of the Constitution which guarantees that "the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States?"

I take the official oath to-day with no mental reservations, and with no purpose to construe the Constitution or laws by any hypercritical rules, and while I do not choose now to specify particular acts of Congress as proper to be enforced, I do suggest that it will be much safer for all, both in official and private stations, to conform to and abide by all those acts which stand unrepealed, than to violate any of them, trusting to find impunity in having them held to be unconstitutional.

It is seventy-two years since the first inauguration of a President under our national constitution. During that period fifteen different and greatly distinguished citizens have in succession administered the executive branch of the government. They have conducted it through every peril, and generally with great success. Yet, with all this scope for precedent, I now enter upon the same task for the brief constitutional term of four years, under great and peculiar difficulties.

A disruption of the Federal Union, heretofore only menaced, is now formidably attempted. I hold that it is an attempt to nullify a law and of the Constitution, the Union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. It is safe to assert that no government ever had a provision in its organic laws for its own termination. Continue to execute all the express provisions of our national Constitution, and the Union will endure forever, it being impossible to destroy it, except by some action not provided for in the instrument itself.

Again, if the United States be not a Government proper, but an association of States in the nature of a league or confederation, it can be peaceably unmade by less than all the parties who made it. One party to a contract may violate, break it, so to speak, but does it not require all to lawfully rescind it? Descending from these general principles, we find the proposition that, by legal contemplation, the Union is perpetual, confirmed by the history of the Union itself.

The Union is much older than the Constitution. It was formed in fact by the articles of association in 1774. It was matured and continued in the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It was further matured, and the faith of all the then thirteen States expressly pledged and engaged that it should be perpetual, by the articles of confederation in 1778, and finally, in 1787, one of the declared objects for ordaining and establishing the Constitution was to form a more perfect Union. But if the destruction of the Union by one, or a party only, of the States be lawful possible, the Union is less than before, the Constitution having lost the vital element of perpetuity.

It follows from these views that no State upon its own mere motion can lawfully get out of the Union, that resolves or ordinances to that effect are legally void, and that acts of violence within any State or States against the authority of the United States are insurrectionary and revolutionary according to circumstances. I, therefore, consider that, in view of the Constitution and the laws, the Union is not broken, and, to the extent of my ability, I shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the States. Doing this, I deem it to be only a simple duty on my part. I shall perfectly perform it so far as is practicable, unless my rightful masters, the American people, shall withhold the requisite authority, or in some authoritative manner direct the contrary.

I trust this will not be regarded as a menace, but only as the declared purpose of the Union that it will constitutionally defend and maintain itself. In doing this there need be no bloodshed or violence, and there shall be none unless it is forced upon the national authority.

The power confided to me will be used to hold, occupy and possess the property and places belonging to the Government, and collect the duties and imposts; but beyond what may be necessary for these objects, there will be no invasion, no using of force against or among the people anywhere.

among the people that object, while strict legal right may exist for the Government to enforce the exercise of these offices. The attempt to do so would be so irritating, and so nearly impracticable withal, that I deem it better to forego, for the time, the uses of such offices.

The mails, unless molested, will continue to be furnished in all parts of the Union. So far as possible the people everywhere shall have that sense of perfect security which is most favorable to calm thought and reflection. The course here indicated will be followed, unless current events and experience shall show a modification or change to be proper, and in every case and exigency my best discretion will be exercised, according to the circumstances actually existing, and with a view and a hope of a peaceful solution of national troubles, and the securing of fraternal sympathies and affection.

That there are persons in one section or another who seek to destroy the Union at all events, and are glad of any pretext to do it, I will neither affirm nor deny. But if there be such, I need address no word to them. To those, however, who really love the Union, may I not speak before entering upon so grave a matter as the destruction of our national fabric with all its benefits, its memories, and its hopes?

I would it not be well to ascertain why we do it? Will you indeed so deprecate a step, while any portion of the hills you fly from are no real existence? Will you, while the certain hills you fly to are greater than all the real ones you can form? Will you risk the commission of so fearful a mistake? All profess to be content in the Union if all constitutional rights can be maintained. Is it true, then, that any right plainly written in the Constitution has been denied? I think not. Happily the human mind is so constituted that no party can reach to the audacity of doing this. Think if you can of a single instance in which a plainly written provision of the Constitution has ever been denied.

If by the mere force of numbers, a majority should deprive a minority of any clearly written Constitutional right, it might, in a moral point of view, justify revolution,—it certainly would if such right were a vital one,—but such is not our case. All the vital rights of minorities and of individuals are so plainly assured to them by affirmations and negations, guarantees and prohibitions, in the Constitution, that controversies never arise concerning them; but no organic law can ever be found with a provision specifically applicable to every question which may occur in practical operation,—no foresight can anticipate nor any document of reasonable length contain express provisions for all possible questions.

Small fugitives from labor be surrendered by National or State authorities? The Constitution does not expressly say. Must Congress protect Slavery in the Territories? The Constitution does not expressly say. From questions of this class spring all our Constitutional controversies, and we divide upon them into majorities and minorities. If the minority will not acquiesce, the majority must, or the Government must cease. There is no alternative for containing the Government within the limits of one side or the other. If a minority in such cases will acquiesce rather than acquiesce, they make a precedent, which, in turn, will ruin and divide them, for a minority of their own will secede from them whenever a majority require to be controlled by such a minority. For instance, why won't any portion of a new confederacy a year or two hence arbitrarily secede again precisely as portions of the present Union claim to secede from it? All who cherish disunion sentiments are now being educated to the exact temper of doing this. Is there such a perfect identity of interest among the States to compose a new Union, so to produce harmony and prevent renewed secession?

Plainly the central idea of secession is the essence of anarchy. A majority held in restraint by constitutional check and limitation, and always changing easily with deliberate changes of popular opinions and sentiments, is the only true sovereign of a free people. Whoever rejects it does of necessity fly to anarchy or despotism. Unanimity is impossible.—The rule of a minority, as a permanent arrangement, is wholly inadmissible, so that rejecting the majority principle, anarchy or despotism in some form or other, is all that is left.

I do not forget the position assumed by some, that constitutional questions are to be decided by the Supreme Court, nor do I deny that such decisions must be binding in every case upon parties to a suit as to the object of that suit. While they are also entitled to very high respect and consideration in all parallel cases by all other departments of the Government; and while it is obviously possible that such decision may be erroneous in any given case, still the evil effects following it being limited to that particular case, with the chance that it may be overruled, and thus a healthy precedent for other cases, it better be borne than could the evils of a different practice. At the same time the candid citizen must confess that if the policy of the government upon a vital question, affecting the whole people, is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court, the instant they are made, in ordinary litigations between parties in personal actions, the people will have ceased to be their own, unless having to that extent practically resigned their government into the hands of that deservedly eminent tribunal. Nor is there in this view an assault upon the Court or the Judges. It is a duty, from whatever source derived, that better be borne than could the evils of a different practice. At the same time the candid citizen must confess that if the policy of the government upon a vital question, affecting the whole people, is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court, the instant they are made, in ordinary litigations between parties in personal actions, the people will have ceased to be their own, unless having to that extent practically resigned their government into the hands of that deservedly eminent tribunal. Nor is there in this view an assault upon the Court or the Judges. It is a duty, from whatever source derived, that better be borne than could the evils of a different practice.

One section of our country believes slavery is right and ought to be extended; while the other believes it is wrong and ought not to be extended. This is the only substantial dispute. The fugitive slave clause of the Constitution, and the law for the suppression of the foreign slave trade, are each as well enforced, perhaps, as any law can be in a community where the morals of the people impede the execution of the law itself. The great body of the people abide by every legal obligation, in both cases, and a few break over in each. This, I think, cannot be perfectly cured, and it would be worse in both cases after the separation of the sections than before. The foreign slave trade, now imperfectly suppressed, would be ultimately revived without restriction in one section, while fugitive slaves, now only partially surrendered, would not be surrendered at all by the other.

Physically speaking, we cannot separate. We cannot remove our respective sections from each other, nor build an impassable wall between them. A husband and wife may be divided, divorced, and go out from the presence and beyond the reach of each other, but the different portions of our country cannot do this. They cannot but remain face to face, and intercourse, either amicable or hostile, must continue between them. It is possible, then, to make that intercourse more advantageous, or more satisfactory, after separation than before? Can aliens make treaties easier than friends can make laws? Can treaties be more faithfully enforced between aliens than laws can among a friendly people? Suppose you go to a lawyer and say, "You cannot fight always; and whenever you much loss on both sides, and no gain on either, you cease fighting, then the identical questions, to terms of intercourse are again upon you. This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it.

I cannot be ignorant of the fact that many worthy and patriotic citizens are desirous of having the National Constitution amended. While I make no recommendation of amendment, and fully recognize the full authority of the people over the whole subject, to be exercised in either of the modes prescribed in the instrument itself, I should, under existing circumstances, favor rather than oppose a fair opportunity being afforded the people to act upon it. I will venture to add that to me the Convention mode seems preferable, in that it leaves amendments to originate with the people themselves, instead of only permitting them to take or reject propositions originated by others, and especially chosen for the purpose, and which might not precisely suit, as they would wish others to accept or refuse.

I understand a proposed amendment to the Constitution—which amendment, however, I have not seen—has passed Congress, to the effect that the Federal Government shall never interfere with the domestic institutions of States, including that of persons held to service. To avoid misconception of what I have said, I depart from my purpose not to speak of particular amendments, so far as to say that holding such a provision as implied constitutional law, I have no objection to its being made express and irrevocable. The Chief Magistrate derives all his authority from the people, and they have conferred none upon him to fix the terms for the separation of the States. The [Concluded on page 82.]

Ladies' Department.

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

BURIED HOPES.

BY MARGARET ELLIOTT.

Went for the buried hopes! Slipped away from the tightening clasp of hands that held them with eager grasp...

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

THE BEAUTIFUL.

God has given us ten thousand aids to worship Him. Everywhere, has He scattered tokens of His love, power, and beauty, as suggestive influences to draw our souls out and upward toward Him...

The Alps, gemmed with a brilliant coronet of snow and ice, and robed in clouds of purple and roseate hue, stand in their eternal vastness and solitude...

Flowers, too, spring up in our pathway everywhere, like sweet messengers of mercy, and never are they so precious and beautiful as when culled by the hand of sorrowing affection for the graves of the loved and lost.

All do not feel the power of beauty alike. To some, sublimity is the principal element; while another will forget the grandeur of Niagara itself, in admiration of the exquisite flower that grows upon its banks.

Infancy and childhood, in its fairest forms, is, perhaps, the most beautiful example of perfect grace and loveliness given us from heaven.

We be to the hearts whose obtuse or cold nature shuts in their souls from an appreciation of the beautiful. It is the most blessed and powerful aid we possess by nature, in our aspirations after immortality.

HOME LIFE.—Even as the sunbeam is composed of millions of minute rays, the home light must be constituted of little tenderesses, kindly looks, sweet laughter, gentle words, loving counsels.

taste, and high moral and intellectual culture. The young Christian is often led to the indulgence of this habit, under the false plea that it does no harm.

WOMAN AND HOME.

THERE is a bundle of delights bound up in the sweet word home. The word is typical of comfort, love, sympathy, and all the other qualities that constitute the delights of social life.

A good mother is worth an army of acquaintances, and a true-hearted, noble-minded sister, is more precious than the "dear five hundred friends."

Those who have played round the same door-step, basked in the same mother's smile, in whose veins the same blood flows, are bound by a sacred tie that can never be broken.

There is little beauty in the lives of those women who are drawn into the gay circles of fashionable life, whose arena is public display, whose nursery in her true glory; in the inner sanctuary of home life.

A MOTHER'S LOVE.

MANY a mother lives whose gray hairs have no beauty in the eyes of her children, and claim no reverence from those for whose welfare she would cheerfully pour out her heart's blood.

There is none in all this cold and hollow world, no fount of deep, strong, deathless love, save that within a mother's heart.

How to be handsome.—It is perfectly natural for all women to be handsome. If they are not so, the fault lies in their birth, or in their training, or in both.

FAILINGS.—The finest composition of human nature, as well as the finest china, may have flaws in it, though the pattern may be of the highest value.

Choice Miscellany.

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

THE GULF STREAM.

BY MRS. A. L. PORTER.

THERE is a mighty river ever sweeping From where the tropic skies bend o'er the sea;

And never is its swift, warm current falling, When mightiest streams move sluggishly and slow.

Upon the borders of that stately river No city rears its domes — no towers gray

No, through the great Atlantic's melting zones, Steadfast, calm, and swift, warm, and slow;

Sounded may be thy fame, "Father of Waters;" To the "Fair Rhine" may be captured thousands strong;

By Arno roam — where dwell Italia's daughters — Or for the classic Tiber raise a song;

A type sublime thou seemest, Ocean river, In thy proud grandeur, winding through the sea,

Careless alike, if Power blooms or praises, Where Duty's voice is heard, quick to obey,

That fearless, through life's dark, bewildering mazes, Steadfast, and strong in right, pursues its way.

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

PENCILINGS.

LIFE'S PROBLEM.—The brief winter day is fading, and here I sit by the window, thinking, thinking, till my brain is weary.

What wilt thou have me to do? Ah, my heart, looking up to the Holy One, is there no shrinking from duty, no hiding thine eyes from where God's finger pointeth?

Not one of the countless voyagers On life's mysterious main Hath laid down his burden of sorrows

DREAMLAND.—It is very bright and beautiful, filled with sunlight and music. Its landscapes are lovely, its skies bright, and not a note of discord is heard

Jingle, jingle, jingle. Here's a sleigh. Your enterprising friend and neighbor, Roberts, pioneers the merry cavalcade that before the day is gone shall make music wherever they go.

LOVE OF CHILDREN.—"I love God and little children," says a German writer; as if there were some connection between the two, as there certainly is.

EVERY man complains of his memory, but no man complains of his judgment.

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

PARENTAL INSTRUCTION.

How interwoven with the hearts, thoughts, and destinies of millions of the human race, are the precepts inculcated in early youth.

Parents, then, cannot be too careful in every thing that relates to their children, or in any of the duties and responsibilities devolving upon them.

Neither should either parent take the part of the child, when corrected by the other in a proper manner.

Children should be taught to be obedient, to respect the aged, and deport themselves properly, but herein they have, been and are still retrograding.

WINTER IN THE COUNTRY.

All this time you have been toying with your toilet, and now that it is finished, you take a more prospective view of the outer world.

Another, in the ghastliness of death, was one in full maturity of womanhood, the watchword of whose life had been "Onward."

TWO WAYS OF PREACHING.—A young minister once, in a sermon addressed to a fashionable audience, attacked their pride and extravagance as seen in their dresses, ribbons, ruffles, jewels, &c.

BREATH OF RELIGION.—Religion should influence its professor in all the relations of life. Whatever he does, he should do it better for being a Christian.

SENSUALITY.—The wicked and sensual part of the world are only concerned to find some and room enough to wallow in; if they can but have it, whence they have it, troubles not their thoughts; saying grace is no part of their meal; they feed and grovel like swine under an oak, filling themselves with the mast, but never so much as looking up either to the boughs that bore, or the hands that shook it down.

Sabbath Musings.

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

UNREST.

'Tis ever with us; we are ever seeking for some unobtainable good. Ever reaching forward to the future, while off with thankless, unrepentant hearts, we take reproachfully our daily gifts.

Look ahead upon the various scenes that life is teeming with. And say if, with a single item of humanity, thou wouldst Exchange thy lot. Each heart its sorrows lieth, each heart its joys.

Wisdom infinite allots to all earth's sons, as a month's heat of Good and evil. Joy may not predominate, but we, revealing in the gifts, forget the Giver. Sorrow may not reign.

And, with weak, powerless hands to mark our outer conduct, Let us, with humble, loving care, pursue our course on the altar of Our hearts, which shall arise, in prayer and praise, up to The Great White Throne.

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

GOING HOME.

First, I looked upon the face of a dead girl, in whose living form was enshrined all that is pure and lovely. She was a very marvel of truth and beauty.

Next, I gazed upon the pale brow of a youth stretched upon his bier, who had but just tasted his first draughts of Fame, and they were sweet, oh how sweet.

Another, in the ghastliness of death, was one in full maturity of womanhood, the watchword of whose life had been "Onward."

There are a hero of many battles lay confined with his martial cloak around him, and by his side his trusty sword, as much prized as if it had been Damascus.

What shadows we are, What shadows we pursue.

Rochester, N. Y., 1861.

YOUR breakfast bell rings. Your wife puts her arm in yours at the bottom of the stair. Ah, where summer blooms all the years in two loving hearts, what if on the brow of both it snowed?

RELIGION.—Religion should influence its professor in all the relations of life. Whatever he does, he should do it better for being a Christian.

THE wicked and sensual part of the world are only concerned to find some and room enough to wallow in; if they can but have it, whence they have it, troubles not their thoughts; saying grace is no part of their meal; they feed and grovel like swine under an oak, filling themselves with the mast, but never so much as looking up either to the boughs that bore, or the hands that shook it down.

The Educator.

(Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.) DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

It is a fact now acknowledged by all who are acquainted with educational matters at the present day, that the schools of our cities and large towns are superior to those in the rural districts.

It cannot be expected that the rural districts will possess all the appliances necessary for giving an advanced course of instruction at present, if it would be desirable at any time; but there is no good reason why, in all the rural districts, which is the most important of all, our country schools should be inferior to those of large towns.

The great want of all our schools is, that of trained teachers. The doctrine which holds that any person possessing proper intellectual and moral qualifications is prepared to instruct the young, is false.

This want of training several States have aimed to meet in the establishment of Normal Schools. These schools aim to be professional, and all young persons, before entering upon the profession of teaching, should, if possible, avail themselves of the advantages there offered for the study of the Science of Education and the Art of Teaching, especially the latter, for teaching is an art.

For those who cannot avail themselves of these advantages, and those who may wish to teach only for a short time, the want should be met as fully as possible, in the establishment of Institutes, sufficiently frequent, and of sufficient duration to admit of several weeks' training under experienced teachers.

With a band of teachers thus drilled, good and attractive schoolhouses, and with a reasonable attention from parents, under the supervision of officers qualified to conduct these Institutes, and to counsel and instruct the teachers, our country schools would soon rival those which, in the efficiency of their instruction, are considered the best in the world.

SCHOOL MATTERS OF NEW YORK.

In our issue of February 16th we gave condensations of such portions of the State Superintendent's Report to the Legislature as our space permitted, and now publish those matters of general interest which the condition of our columns compelled us to omit at that period.

SCHOOL FINANCES.—The Superintendent presents the following summary of the financial reports of the public schools for the year ending Sept. 30, 1860:

Table with columns: Receipts, Cities, Rur. Dist. Balance on hand, Oct. 1, 1859, Amount received of State Apportionment, Proceeds of Gospel and School Lands, Amount raised by district taxes, Amount raised by rate bills, Amount received from all other sources.

Table with columns: Payments, For teachers' wages, For libraries, For school apparatus, For colored schools, For expenses of school houses, viz.: sites, building, hiring, purchasing, repairing, and insuring; fences, out-houses, furniture, &c., For all other incidental expenses, Amount on hand, Oct. 1, 1860.

If the amount remaining on hand, October 1st, 1860, (at the close of the school year), be deducted, it will give us the actual payments for school purposes during the twelve months preceding, in the cities, of \$1,731,134.60, and in the rural districts, \$1,953,112.35; or a total in the State of \$3,744,246.95.

APPORTIONMENT OF SCHOOL MONEY FOR 1861.—From the following statement we can learn the amount of school money and its apportionment for the current year:

Table with columns: Money Apportioned, From common school fund, From United States deposit fund, From State school tax, Balance in treasury.

The above account is apportioned as follows, viz.: For the payment of school commissioners' salaries, For district quotas, as per table, For pupil " " for Indians, For libraries, as per table, For libraries for Indians, Balance for contingent apportionments.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS AND THEIR DUTIES.—Superintendent VAN DYCK offers some wholesome suggestions to this class of individuals. The Commissioners were chosen for the various districts into which the State is divided at the last general election, and entered upon their duties January 1st, 1861.

Upon the character or efficiency of the officers recently chosen, I am impelled, in view of the past, to suggest that the Legislature should make provision in some manner for enforcing the faithful discharge of the duties pertaining to the office under consideration.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.—The Teachers' Institutes, held in the various counties during the last autumn, under the auspices of the school commissioners, were not as numerous as those of the preceding year, although the appropriation by the State, for instruction and contingent expenses, was materially increased at the last Legislative session.

NORMAL SCHOOL.—The number of pupils in this department of public instruction during the past year was 321, and of its graduates during the same period, 73, of whom 32 were males and 41 females.

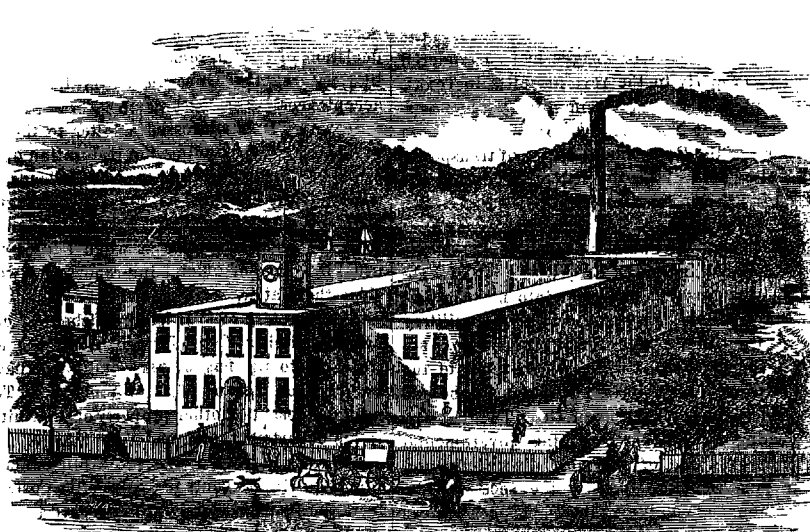
THE KIND OF TEACHERS WE WANT.—A great deficiency in the character of the instruction imparted in our Common Schools has been its lack of adaptation to the ordinary business avocations of the community. In comparatively few instances is any effort made to convey knowledge not embraced within the limits of the most elementary branches.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

THE AMERICAN WATCH.

We believe in American industrial institutions, and that it is the especial duty of Americans to excel "all the world and the rest of mankind" in the arts of Production and Manufacture—that we should avail ourselves to the fullest extent of the great natural advantages of our soil and climate, and the inventive genius, skill, and industry of the people, to become, more than any other, a Nation which shall, so far as possible, produce both the necessities and luxuries of life.

These thoughts, founded upon views long entertained, are expressed as introductory to what we purpose saying and quoting, voluntarily, relative to the manufacture of The American Watch. This business is conducted by THE AMERICAN WATCH CO., (represented by APPLETON, TRACY & CO., Waltham, and ROBBINS & APPLETON, New York City.) a fine view of whose extensive Manufactory is given above.



THE AMERICAN WATCH COMPANY'S MANUFACTORY, WALTHAM, MASS.

have become celebrated as time-keepers, and are fast supplanting those of foreign manufacture. We know whereof we affirm in this respect, from personal knowledge, and the testimony of friends upon whose judgment the utmost reliance can be placed.

Among the many tributes to the value of the American Watch, and the enterprise of its manufacturers, we have seen nothing better expressed than an article in Harper's Weekly, descriptive of a visit to the establishment at Waltham.

GOVERNOR BANKS, of Massachusetts, recommends in his last Message, that the dome of the Boston State House be gilded. That dome is the most conspicuous object as you approach the city; and it is seen from all the neighboring heights, as the dome of St. Peter's is seen from the villas about Rome.

Now if, some winter morning, when you wish to get a little nearer to the secret of that thrift and character, you take one of the trains that are incessantly departing westward from Boston, after crossing the Back Bay, and gliding through the gardens of Brookline and Brighton, skirting the valley of the Charles River, you will find yourself in the pretty village of West Newton.

Now if, some winter morning, when you wish to get a little nearer to the secret of that thrift and character, you take one of the trains that are incessantly departing westward from Boston, after crossing the Back Bay, and gliding through the gardens of Brookline and Brighton, skirting the valley of the Charles River, you will find yourself in the pretty village of West Newton.

Of all the manufactures, that of watches must be the most exquisite and delicate. But why should Europe make our watches? asks common sense and the genius of American enterprise.

There are some two hundred and forty or fifty hands employed, of which about a third are women, and only about a dozen in all are foreigners, mainly Englishmen; and the work is almost exclusively done by machinery; but machinery so delicate and beautiful that, when your mind has become a little excited by observing the innumerable, and to you, inexplicable processes of the different shops, you feel as if you had seen the human brain in full play, thinking out watches.

The fineness of the work is bewildering. Here are screws of which a hundred and fifty thousand make a pound. They are kept in little glass phials, like those of the Homeopathic medicine cases. And here are shavings of metal so fine that five thousand must be laid side by side to make an inch; and here are measures that will indicate the ten-thousandth part of an inch.

The precision of the work by machinery methodizes the whole business. The Company may have turned out about forty or fifty thousand watches, and these are all divided into different classes, sizes, &c. For instance, there may be a thousand or five thousand "foundations" out and shaped to-day. They are all exactly of the same size; each line in one corresponds with the same in all the others.

Wondering and charmed you follow on through the different work-shops of the cheerful and airy factory—for it is open everywhere to the sun, there is no deleterious dust from any of the processes. There is one room—the salamander room—in which the enamel for the dial is set in a fervid furnace, and the heat is not less than a hundred degrees of Fahrenheit.

And there is one pleasant impression—the pleasantest of all—that you bring away. While the infinite variety of machinery seems almost self-intelligent, the workmen and women impress you with the heartiest respect; and when, as you pause in the office, you are shown the beautiful watch that was recently given by the citizens of Waltham to the wife of Governor Banks, you are irresistibly reminded that he came out of a factory in this very town to be Speaker in Congress and Governor of his State; and reflect that, as you have just seen the making of watches that mark the time of day, so, among the makers, you have seen the men whose intelligence and ability mark the time of our civilization and progress—a time in which the welfare of society is getting to be more and more established upon the only permanently sure basis, the self-respect and intelligence of labor.

There are the spires of Waltham—the pretty white town of West Newton—and, what here are the steep tiers of dark brick houses rising to the State House. You observe that Boston has not yet its gilt crown on; but remembering what you have seen—reflecting that now it is shown that we can furnish ourselves with the best watches so much more cheaply than when we import them—you will stop at the foot of the State House steps long enough to say, 'You deserve a crown, because these things have been done under your eye and by your spirit.'

Then, if you choose, you may rise and invite Beacon street to give three cheers for the twentieth century!

CURIOUS HORSES.

We have now on exhibition in London four "African Horses," of which we read in the handbill that they are of perfect symmetry, well matched, and all of a dark-brown color, the tallest being 31 inches high. The owner had the honor of exhibiting them to her most gracious majesty, who expressed herself much pleased with them. The horses, or rather ponies, are now stalled in the same room where the talking fish was formerly exhibited.

WONDERS OF CHEMISTRY.

SCIENCE is full of wonder, but chemistry is the science of wonders. The following from Lyon Playfair will awaken curiosity:

The horseshoe nails dropped in the streets during the daily traffic reappear in the form of swords and guns. The clippings of the traveling tinker are mixed with the parings of horses' hoofs from the smithy, or the cast-off woollen garments of the poorest inhabitants of a sister isle, and soon afterward, in the form of dyes of brightest blue, grace the dress of courtly dames. The main ingredient of the ink with which I now write was possibly once part of the broken hoop of an old beer barrel.

RECORD OF THE WEATHER AT WASHINGTON.—The method of recording and predicting the weather, pursued each day at the Smithsonian Institute, is peculiarly simple. They have a map of the United States hung upon a board, with pins stuck through at the points where the observers of the Institute are stationed.

USING ZINC IN CONTACT WITH PLASTER AND IRON.—A report of a committee appointed by the Central Society of Architects, in Paris, recommends "that where zinc is used, it should be applied with great care, as certain precautions, very simple, but never to be overlooked, are indispensable. Thus—contact with plaster, which contains a destructive salt, is to be avoided; also, contact with iron, which is very injurious and liable to cause a rapid oxidation. Eave-gutters should always be supported by galvanized brackets, and no gutter or sheet zinc should be laid on oak boards."

The Young Naturalist.

REASON AND INSTINCT.

Eds. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Philosophers teach us that the main difference between beings governed by reason and those governed by instinct is, the former in all their undertakings make mistakes, and they perfect nothing but by trials and experiments, while the latter never make mistakes in any of their calculations, and are, consequently, susceptible of no improvement. To illustrate—they say, that the youngest parent bird is taught by instinct how to provide for her young, and to use the signs and sounds for communicating to their young, as well as the old bird that has reared many broods.

Now, then, I do not rightly understand the rule, or else I have witnessed an exception. It has been a question among metaphysicians, "which is the mother of the chicken;" &c. I will not attempt to discuss this question, but will relate the case above referred to.

About two years ago last August, as I was one morning passing through the barnyard, I observed an old hen sitting right where I wished to pass. A few feet from her sat a half-grown pullet, one she had reared the same season. As I approached, she showed little inclination to move out of my way. With my foot I assisted the old hen from her sitting posture, and immediately three little chicks ran from under her; at the same time, the pullet arose and two chicks ran from under her, also. The clucking of the old hen called the chickens all to herself, in spite of the efforts made by the pullet to restrain them. Chickens will follow the hen that clucks,—the pullet didn't know how to cluck!

I passed on and thought no more of it, until a few days after, as I was passing near the same spot, I saw the same hen and pullet sitting a few feet apart, as before. With a good deal of bustling and squalling, the old hen got up, and one solitary chicken ran from under her, while four sprightly little fellows ran from under the pullet, and as they moved off, the whole five little chicks ran after the pullet, and even the old hen, rather than be left alone, followed her important young assistant, which by this time had learned to cluck as fast as any old hen in the yard. But I think if she had made the same noise in other circumstances, I should have mistaken her meaning, yet the little chicks seemed to understand her quite well.

Time passed on. The pullet improved daily in clucking, and, strangest of all, she soon learned to practice all the airs assumed by maternal hens. She would bristle her feathers, spread her wings, and squall vociferously, if any stranger came too near her adopted protegee.

Now it seems to me that instinct failed to perform her work, and the young hen was under the necessity of looking to reason for a guide. Probably the old hen had commenced laying before she had weaned her former brood, and when she felt like sitting had driven some other hen from her nest, appropriating the eggs to herself just as they were ready to hatch. But I cannot imagine what caused the pullet to desire sharing the family cares with her mother.

Java, Ohio, Feb., 1861. W. B. C.

A FEW FACTS FOR "S. M."

MRSSA. EDITORS:—In looking over the columns of the RURAL a few weeks ago, I saw an article on "S. M.," in which he says, "Give us pure, unadulterated wine, for mercy's sake, and let us hurl our most severe denunciations at the drugged wines, and brandies, &c." If "S. M." will look out and read the following Scripture references, he will find that God has hurled his denunciations and woes at wine and wine drinkers—pure unadulterated wine, too, and not drugged wines or brandies.

Again, "S. M." says, "I fear this denouncing the use of wine, is not hitting at the right place." It is hitting at the very stepping stone of debaucheries. Every man or woman who manufactures wine for a beverage, is supporting and extending a system which is proving the ruin of our noblest brothers. They are nourishing a viper around their own hearthstones, which will eventually coil its slimy folds around the manliest form and ruin the noblest soul. No one can be in favor of the Temperance Reform, or a supporter of it, who countenances in the least the drinking of wine. Again, "some noted writer has said that man needs some stimulant, let that be what it will; and if that is the case, strong drink will be resorted to in the absence of wine." Another noted writer has also said that "there is only one stimulant that never fails, and never intoxicates—Duty." A man who has a clear conscience and a clean heart, needs no wine to drown ill deeds.

REFERENCE.—Prov. XX, 1; XXXI, 17; XXXIII, 29, 30, 31, 32. Isa. VII, 22; XXIV, 9; XXVIII, 1, 7. Jer. XXIII, 9; XXV, 27, 28. Num. IV, 8. Dan. I, 8; V, 1, 2, 3, 4. Lev. X, 9. Judg. XIII, 4. Hos. III, 2. Luke I, 15. Rom. XIV, 21. Eph. V, 18. 1 Tim. III, 3, 8. 1 Pet. IV, 3. Alfred University, N. Y., 1861. MINNIS MINTWOOD.

THE "SPECTRE OF THE BROOKEN."—D. S. writes from the Isle of Wight, describing a sight of this phenomenon, which he obtained on the highdowns behind Bonchurch—"A dense fog was setting in from the sea, and pouring along the flanks of the downs, above which the wreaths of mist were piled up like a wall immediately in front of us. Behind us an almost level sun was shining brilliantly across the summit of the downs, right upon the wall of fog. The refraction of the sun's rays through the mist, produced a beautiful iris, of an oval form, the colors faint, but perfectly distinct. While we were looking with admiration on this, we became conscious of dark spectral forms of colossal dimensions, in the center of the halo. On raising our arms and lifting our hats, our movements were mimicked by the images, and we at once perceived that the appearances we were gazing on were no more than our own shadows, projected by the sun at our backs on the fog-wall, and there received as the images of a magic lantern on the white sheet. After watching these singular phenomena for some minutes, as they and the surrounding halo alternately faded away or increased in distinctness with the decrease or increase of the density of the mist, the fog reached our position, and, of course, the spectres were lost altogether."

TRIFLES NOT TO BE TRIFLED WITH.—A friend called on Michael Angelo, who was finishing a statue. Some time afterwards he called again; the sculptor was still at his work. His friend, looking at the figure, exclaimed: "You have been idle since I saw you last!" "By no means," replied the sculptor; "I have retouched this part, and brought out this muscle; I have given more expression to this lip, and more energy to this limb." "Well, well," said his friend, "but all these are trifles." "It may be so," replied Angelo; "but recollect that trifles make perfection, and that perfection is no trifles."

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S INAUGURAL.

[Continued from page 79.]
people themselves can do this if they choose, but the executive, as such, has nothing to do with it. His duty is to administer the present government as it came to his hands, and to transmit it, unimpaired by him, to his successor. Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope in the world? In our differences, is either party without faith of being in the right?

If the Almighty Ruler of Nations with His eternal truth and justice be on your side of the North, or on yours of the South, that truth and that justice will surely prevail by the judgment of this great tribunal, the American people. By the form of the government under which we live, by this same people, have wisely given their public servants but little power for mischief, and have, with equal wisdom, provided for the return of that little to their hands at very short intervals. While the people retain their virtue and vigilance, no administration, by any extreme wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the Government in the short space of four years.

My countrymen, one and all, think well upon this subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to hurry any of you in hot haste to a step which you would never take deliberately, the object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied, still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and, on the sensitive point, the laws of your own framing under it; while the new Administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change either.

If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied hold the right side in the dispute, there still is no single reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, christianity, and a firm reliance on Him who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulties.

In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without yourselves being the aggressors. You have no oath registered in Heaven to destroy the Government, while I shall have the most solemn one to preserve, protect and defend it.

I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break the bonds of our affection. The mystic chords of memory stretch high from every battle-field and patriot grave to every living heart and hearth-stone all over this broad land, and will swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH 9, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

A NEW NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN was duly inaugurated as President of the United States, on Monday last, the impressive ceremonies being undisturbed, except by the plaudits of an immense concourse of people. The Inaugural Address of the President, which we publish elsewhere, is considered by men of all parties, so far as we have heard opinions expressed, an able and statesmanlike paper—eminently firm and dignified, yet conservative and national in its positions, arguments and conclusions. The last Presidential Inaugural which we specially commended, emanated from a Democrat, but this one is conceded to be superior to that or any other promulgated during the past twenty years—for, while it is imbued with sentiments of lofty patriotism, it exhibits that firmness of purpose, and kind regard for the rights and interests of every and all sections of the Union, befitting the great crisis in our national affairs. It shows that ABRAHAM LINCOLN by no means contemplates being the mere President of a party or section, but of a whole nation of thirty millions of freemen—that he will alike protect and seek to promote the best interests of the whole American Confederacy, North and South, East and West. We have only a telegraph report of the Inaugural—have read no expressions of opinion by the press of any party or section—but firmly believe its sentiments will be acceptable to the great mass of people throughout our widely extended country. The assurance that the Government will be administered according to the Constitution—that the Laws will be kindly yet firmly and impartially enforced—will be likely to restore Confidence, and induce wise men of all parties and sections to second the efforts of one so solemnly pledged to sustain the Union, the Constitution, and the Laws.

A telegraph dispatch from Washington, thus speaks of the reception of the Inaugural, and the ceremonies which followed:

"During the delivery of the Inaugural, which commenced at 1 1/2 o'clock, Mr. LINCOLN was much cheered, especially at all allusion to the Union. President BUCHANAN and Chief Justice TANEY listened with the utmost attention to every word of the address, and at its conclusion the latter administered the usual oath, in taking which Mr. LINCOLN was vociferously cheered.

The Chief Justice seemed very much agitated, and his hand shook perceptibly with emotion. The Inauguration to-day makes the eighth ceremony of the kind at which Chief Justice TANEY has officiated, having administered the oath of office successively to Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan and Lincoln. The ceremony was exceedingly impressive.

After the conclusion of the Inauguration ceremony, the President was escorted to the Senate Chamber, thence to his carriage, and the military accompanied him to the White House, with Mr. Buchanan and the Committee of Arrangements. On reaching the Executive mansion, the troops formed in a double line in Maine Avenue, and the band playing the Presidential party passed through to the mansion. Mr. Buchanan accompanied Mr. Lincoln to the Main Hall, and there took his farewell leave of him, expressing the hope, in candid terms, that his administration might prove a happy and prosperous one. The Ex-President then retired to the residence of District Attorney Old, where he will temporarily sojourn till his departure from the city to-morrow evening."

THE CABINET.

Though not formally announced, it is supposed that Mr. LINCOLN'S Cabinet will be constituted as follows:
Secretary of State—WM. H. SEWARD, of New York.
Secretary of Treasury—S. P. CHASE, of Ohio.
Secretary of War—SIMON CAMERON, of Penn.
Secretary of the Navy—MONTGOMERY BLAIR, of Md.
Secretary of Interior—C. B. SMITH, of Indiana.
Postmaster General—GIDEON WELLS, of Conn.
Attorney General—EDWARD BATES, of Missouri.
It is intimated that Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio, may be substituted for Mr. CHASE, in which case the latter will probably take a mission to Europe.

Affairs at Washington.

The War Department received dispatches from the 26th ult., stating that Gen. Twiggs had surrendered the military property to the revolutionists in Texas. The telegraph was from the commissary of subsistence, and dated at New Orleans. He adds that as a loan, the use of the Government means of transportation was allowed to take the federal troops to the seaboard, and they were also permitted to take with them three or four cannon and their side arms.

On the 26th ult., the Secretary received documents from Texas, showing that as early as the 7th of February Gen. Twiggs was entering into negotiations with the Texans for the surrender of the military property. Col. Waite was several weeks ago appointed to succeed Gen. Twiggs as the chief of the military department in Texas, but it appears he had not reached there at the time of Gen. Twiggs' surrender, which is considered by the governmental authority here as one of the most disgraceful and atrocious acts yet committed by the secessionists. The correspondence on file at the Department shows conclusively that Gov. Houston was greatly instrumental in inducing Twiggs to surrender the government property.

On the 27th a dispatch to the War Department by Gen. Twiggs, announced that he had surrendered to Texas all forts, arms, and munitions in that State.

Gen. Twiggs' name has been stricken from the Army roll as a Coward and Traitor.

The United States Court on the 26th ult., in the case of the Indian trust bonds fraud, dissolved the injunction, deciding the Government bonds legal where holders of bonds received them without notice of fraud, and the United States has no redress.

A dispatch to the Government on the 28th ult., reports that a large expedition is leaving Galveston for the Rio Grande, consisting of six companies from Galveston and Houston, and two from the interior. The object is declared to be protection to the frontier in the event of the United States troops being withdrawn. Col. Ford, an old ranger, commands the regiment.

The Peace Convention adjourned *seu die*. Many Commissioners have gone home. Leading members of the Convention in the Border States express satisfaction with the Franklin plan of adjustment and express their determination to make it a distinct issue in the approaching election. They maintain that their States can be held in the Union by it.

Here is the plan of Mr. Franklin of Pa., which is a modification of that of Mr. Guthrie of Ky., in full detail:

SEC. 1. In all the present territory of the United States north of the parallel of 36° 30' of north latitude, involuntary servitude, except as punishment of crime, is prohibited. In all the present territory south of that line the status of persons held to service or labor, shall not be changed. Nor shall any law be passed by Congress or the Territorial Legislature to hinder or prevent the taking of such persons from any of the States of this Union to said territory, nor to impair the rights arising from said relation. But the same shall be subject to judicial cognizance in the Federal Courts, according to the course of the common law. When any territory north or south of said line, with such boundary as Congress may prescribe, shall contain a population equal to that required for a member of Congress, this form of government be republican, be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, with or without involuntary servitude, as the constitution of such State may require.

SEC. 2. No territory shall be acquired by the United States, except by discovery, and for naval and commercial stations, depots and transit routes, without the concurrence of a majority of all the Senators from the States which allow involuntary servitude, and a majority of the Senators from States which prohibit that relation; nor shall territory be acquired by treaty, unless the votes of a majority of the Senators from each class of States hereinafter mentioned be cast in support of the two-thirds majority necessary to the ratification of such treaty.

SEC. 3. Neither the constitution, nor any amendment thereto, shall be construed to give Congress power to regulate, abolish, or control, within any State and Territory of the United States, the relation established by contract between the laws thereof touching persons bound to labor or service in the District of Columbia, without the consent of Maryland, and without the consent of the owners, or leasing the owners who do not consent just compensation; nor the power to interfere with or prohibit the sale, or the power to bring with them to the city of Washington, retaining and taking away, persons so bound to labor or service; nor the power to interfere with or abolish involuntary servitude in places under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States within the States and Territories where the same is established or recognized; nor the power to prohibit the removal or transportation of persons held to labor or involuntary service in any State or Territory of the United States to any other State or Territory, thereof where it is established or recognized by law or usage; and the right during transportation by sea or river, of touching at ports, shores and landings, and of landing in case of distress, but not for sale or traffic, shall exist; nor shall Congress have power to authorize any higher rate of taxation on persons held to labor or service than on land. The bringing into the District of Columbia of persons held to labor or service for sale, or placed there in depots to be afterwards transferred to other places for sale as merchandise, is prohibited, and the right of transit through any State or Territory against its dissent is prohibited.

SEC. 4. The third paragraph of the second section of the fourth article of the constitution shall not be construed to prevent any of the States, by appropriate legislation and through the action of their judicial and ministerial officers, from enforcing the delivery of fugitives from labor to the person to whom such service or labor is due.

SEC. 5. The foreign slave trade shall forever be prohibited, and it shall be the duty of Congress to pass laws to prevent the importation of slaves, coolies, or persons held to service or labor, into the United States or the Territories, from places beyond the limit thereof.

SEC. 6. The first, third and fifth sections, together with this section six of these amendments, and the third paragraph of the second section of the first article of the constitution, and the third paragraph of the second section of the fourth article thereof, shall not be amended or abolished without the consent of all the States.

SEC. 7. Congress shall provide by law that the United States shall pay to the owner the full value of his fugitives from labor in all cases where the marshal or other officer whose duty it was to arrest such fugitive, was prevented from so doing by violence or intimidation from mobs or riotous assemblages, or when, after arrest, such fugitive was rescued by the violence or intimidation, and the owner thereby prevented and obstructed in the pursuit of his remedy for the recovery of such fugitive. Congress shall provide by law for securing to the citizens of each State the privileges and immunities of the several States.

Information is before the proper authorities, tending to prove that an organized band of 500 men had sworn that Mr. Lincoln should never sleep in the White House. A detective who joined them said the plan is as follows:—The entire band are to occupy a position as near to the President on inauguration day as they can obtain; one of their number, standing in the centre of them, is to shoot Mr. Lincoln with an air gun, when the crowd of men arranged round the assassin will so hide him as to render detection impossible.

The Post Master of Madison, Florida, is using domestic manufactured postage stamps contrary to law. The Department has been furnished with a specimen.

The War Department received dispatches from Major Anderson on the 28th ult. He has not been sick. He says the work continues on the bomb proof batteries at Cummings' Point, but he could with the guns of Fort Sumter sweep the whole away in a few moments.

Advices from Charleston state that shortly after the arrival of Jeff. Davis in that city, he paid a visit to Fort Sumter, and had a long interview with Major Anderson. It was afterwards given out at Charleston that there would be no fight at Sumter. The floating battery was launched on the 25th ult., and the Dahlgren guns were hourly expected. All the troops on furlough were ordered to return by Wednesday the 27th ult.

tion of the legality of the acceptances issued by Secretary Floyd. He holds that by authoritative decisions of the Supreme Court in previous cases of like nature, the Government is liable for these acceptances.

Secretary Holt addressed a letter to the Governor of Louisiana, demanding the restoration of the Government property seized at New Orleans. He denounced the seizure as an act of flagrant and atrocious spoliation. Gov. Moore returned the letter with the endorsement, that when addressed in the usual language of official intercourse, he would consider the matter.

The Secretary of War has published an official order, dismissing Gen. Twiggs from the army for treachery to the flag of his country, in having surrendered, on demand of the authorities of Texas, the military posts and other property of the United States in his department, and under his charge.

The recently passed post route bill contains a section requiring 10 cents pre-paid letter postage to and from the Pacific Coast, without regard to distance.—All drop letters are hereafter to be prepaid with postage stamps.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—Mr. Johnson, of Arkansas, presented the credentials of Charles B. Mitchell, Senator elect from Arkansas.

On motion of Mr. Wade, the bill in relation to the discontinuance of the postal service in the seceded States was taken up and passed,—34 to 12.

Mr. Simmons offered an amendment, repealing the Act for preventing the Secretary of War purchasing patented articles. Mr. Pierce said it had been repealed except a portion relating to the fire arms amendment. Adopted.

The annual report from the Smithsonian Institute was received and ordered printed.

The bill for the organization of the Territory of Colorado was taken up. Mr. Green moved that the Senate concur with the amendment of the House. The House amendment was agreed to—yeas, 26; nays, 19.

The bill to organize a Territorial Government of Nevada was taken up and passed.

The bill to organize the Territory of Dacotah was taken up and passed.

Mr. Fessenden made a report from the Conference committee on the Diplomatic bill. Agreed to. So the Consular and Diplomatic bill passed.

Mr. Seward presented credentials of Mr. Harris, Senator elect from New York.

The House amendment to the Post Route bill was agreed to, and the bill passed.

The committee of conference on the patent bill reported. The report was agreed to, and the bill passed.

The committee of conference on the tariff bill reported, recommending the concurrence of the House amendment, striking out the duty on tea and coffee. Agreed to and the bill passed.

The army bill was taken up and passed.

The Vice President announced the reception of a communication from Ex-President Tyler, President of the Peace Convention recently held. That convention approved of what was enclosed, asking Congress to submit the same to the Legislatures of States. The Clerk read the proposition agreed upon, which was modified from Mr. Guthrie's plan. On motion of Mr. Crittenden it was ordered printed, and referred to the select committee, with instructions to report.

[RURAL readers can find the communication referred to,—the Guthrie-Franklin plan,—in Washington News.—Ed.]

Mr. Trumbull presented the credentials of Mr. Lane, Senator from Indiana.

He reported from the committee appointed to visit the President and Vice President elect.

Mr. Lincoln said:—With deep gratitude to my countrymen for this mark of confidence, and with great distrust of my ability to perform my duty, even under favorable circumstances, now rendered doubly difficult by existing national peril, but with firm reliance on the strength of our free government and the ultimate loyalty of the people to the just principles on which it is founded, and above all, with unshaken faith in the Supreme Ruler of nations, I accept this trust and shall be pleased to signify my acceptance to the respective Houses of Congress.

Mr. Hamlin said:—Please communicate to the two Houses of Congress my acceptance of trust confided in me by a generous people, and while the position was neither sought nor desired, I am truly grateful for the confidence reposed in me, and deeply sensible of the obligation imposed. It shall be my earnest effort to discharge my duty in a manner which shall subserve the interests of the whole country.

A resolution allowing Commodore Paulding to receive a grant of land and sword from Nicaragua, was taken up. The grant of land was stricken out, and it then passed.

A bill reimbursing Commodore Paulding's expenses in defending suit by one of Walker's men, was passed.

A report of the Select Committee on the Peace Conference and Crittenden's proposition, was taken up. Mr. Douglas asked that the resolutions of the House also be taken up. Agreed to.

Mr. Lane reported from the Committee of Conference on the Oregon war debt bill, that the Senate agree to the House amendment, with an amendment making the amount paid \$2,400,000, and allowing the Auditor to receive additional evidence in regard to supplies furnished, &c., and that the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to pay the claimants in the bonds of the United States. The report was agreed to.

By consent, Mr. Crittenden, from the Select Committee on the proposition adopted by the Peace Convention, offered a report recommending the adoption of the proposition.

Mr. Seward said that the Senator from Illinois, (Mr. Trumbull,) and himself formed a minority on that committee, and wished to present a substitute as a minority report; but the minority held that was not competent, so he asked leave to submit a joint resolution in his own name, in which the Senator from Illinois concurs:

Whereas, The Legislatures of Kentucky, Illinois, and New Jersey, have applied to Congress to call a Convention, for proposing amendments to the Constitution, therefore,

Resolved, That the other States be instructed to take the subject into consideration and express their will to Congress, in accordance with the 5th Article of the Constitution.

The bill relative to the distribution of books, reports of the Supreme Court, &c., was passed.

The bill donating land in Minnesota and Oregon for school purposes passed.

HOUSE.—The Speaker presented the report of the Committee of 33 on the condition of the Union. The House adopted the resolutions as reported by Mr. Corwin. Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, previously moved to lay them on the table, but the House refused by a vote of 66 to 24. The vote on the adoption was 136 against 53. The resolutions read:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the committee, the existing discontent among the Southern people, and the growing hostility among them to the Federal government, are greatly

to be regretted, and that whether such discontents and hostility are without just cause or not, any reasonable, proper and effectual remedies and additional and more specific and effectual guarantees of their peculiar rights and interests as recognized by the Constitution, necessary to preserve the peace of the country and the perpetuity of the Union, should be promptly and cheerfully granted.

Resolved, That we recognize the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that all attempts on the part of the Legislature of any of the States to obstruct or hinder the recovery and surrender of fugitives from service or labor, are in derogation of the Constitution of the United States, inconsistent with the unity and good neighborhood that should prevail among the several States, and dangerous to the peace of the Union.

Resolved, That the several States be respectfully requested to cause their statutes to be revised with a view to ascertain if any of them are in conflict with or tend to embarrass or hinder the execution of the laws of the United States, made in pursuance of the second section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States, for the delivery up of persons held to labor by the laws of any State, and causing therefrom; and the Senate and House of Representatives earnestly request that all enactments having such tendency be forthwith repealed; as required by a just sense of constitutional obligations and by a due regard for the peace of the republic; and the President of the United States is requested to communicate these resolutions to the Governors of the several States, with a request that they will lay the same before the Legislatures thereof respectively.

Resolved, That we recognize Slavery as now existing in fifteen of the United States by the usages of the laws of those States; and we recognize no authority, legally or otherwise, outside of a State where it so exists, to interfere with slaves or Slavery in any States, in disregard of the rights of their owners to the peace of society.

Resolved, That the faithful observance on the part of all the States of all constitutional obligations to each other, and to the Federal Government is essential to the peace of the country.

Resolved, That each State be requested to revise its statutes, and, if necessary, so to amend the same as to secure, without legislation by Congress, to citizens of other States traveling therein, the same rights and immunities as citizens of such State; and also protect the citizens of other States, traveling orjourning therein, against the popular violence or illegal summary punishment, without trial in due form of law for infractions of the laws of such State.

Resolved, That each State be also respectfully requested to enact such laws as will prevent and punish any attempt whatever in such State to recognize or set on foot the lawless invasion of any other State or Territory.

Resolved, That the President be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing resolutions to the Governors of the several States, with a request that they be communicated to their respective Legislatures.

Resolved, That as there are no propositions from any quarter to limit slavery in the District of Columbia, or in places within the limits of States that permit the holding of slaves, or to interfere with the inter-State slave trade, this committee do not deem it necessary to take any action on those subjects.

After the adoption of the Resolutions of the Committee of Thirty-three, the House took up the joint resolution reported by the Committee, which reads as follows:

"JOINT RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

"Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two-thirds of both Houses concurring, That the following article is proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of the said constitution, viz:

"Article 12. No amendment of this constitution having for its object any interference within the States with the relations between their citizens and those described in section three of the first article of the constitution, shall originate with any State that does not recognize that relation within its own limits, or shall be valid without the assent of every one of the States composing the Union.

Mr. Corwin moved to strike out article 12, and insert in its stead as follows:

"That no amendment shall be made to the constitution which will authorize or give Congress power to abolish or interfere within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State." Carried.

Mr. Morrill, of Maine, offered a resolution that the Select Committee on the abstracted bonds, be and are hereby invested with full power to examine witnesses as to William H. Russell, or any person for whom he indirectly paying money, to any officer of the United States, or any other person to assist him in obtaining contracts or allowances from the Government, or assist him in the transaction of business with the same.

On motion of Mr. Colfax, the House concurred in the Senate's amendments to the bill stopping mails in seceding States.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The proceedings of Parliament were unimportant.

In the House of Commons, Lord John Russell said that the San Juan question with America was still open, but England had made a proposition in a fair spirit, and hoped it would be acceded to.

With regard to the fugitive slave Anderson, the only correspondence had been a demand from America for his extradition, and a simple acknowledgment of the demand.

The Great Eastern will again be ready for sea in March. Her destination is said to be New York.

FRANCE.—A London letter in the Paris Monitor asserts that a number of English merchants are about to present an address to the Queen, praying that a negotiation be opened with France for a mutual reduction of existing armaments.

The Bonaparte-Patterson case was again before the French Court on the 8th.

The Imperial Attorney explained its legal bearing, and said the only question is, is the marriage null or one of publication in France? and argued that this had been decided in the affirmative.

The Court adjourned its judgment eight days.

ITALY.—A Turin telegram of Feb. 13th, says:—Gaeta will capitulate to-morrow morning. Cialdini will occupy Mount Orlando and all the fortifications, and after the departure of the royal family he will occupy the city, the garrison remaining prisoners of war until Messina, Civitella, and Deltrout shall be surrendered. The King and Queen will then, with their suit, depart on board the French ship *Murète*.

AUSTRIA.—It is said the subscriptions to the new loan exceed 30,000,000 florins.

The Comit of Pesth had voted an address to the Emperor of Austria as King of Hungary, declaring that the recent Royal rescript had destroyed the confidence created by the Imperial diploma of October last. The law prohibits the payment of taxes by the Diet, and a forced loan could remove the citizens from the lawful ground they have taken, and unreserved return to a constitutional life can alone save the King and the country. The Comit of Odenburg has resolved to pay taxes as heretofore till the Diet shall have taken its resolution.

SWITZERLAND.—A Berne telegram of the 13th says it was thought, through the medium of the Swiss Consulate at Algeria, that Mr. Cobden proposed that Switzerland should mediate between the contending States of America. The federal counsel had declined the proposition on the ground that it was not qualified for such an office, but at the same time expressing thanks to Mr. Cobden.

COMMERCIAL.—Liverpool Breadstuffs.—Flour dull and quiet. Specially maintained. Extra State 29@29 1/2. Wheat quiet and steady. Red, 11s 6@11s; white, 12s 6@12s. Corn quiet. Mixed, 37s 6d; white, 38s@38s 6d.

Provisions.—Pork dull. Lard dull at 66@68s 6d.

The News Condenser.

—The London Institute contains 60,000 volumes.

—The President elect was born on the 12th of February, 1809.

—MaGregor Laird, the African explorer, has just died in England.

—There were 912 convicts in the Auburn Prison, on Monday week.

—"The first clearance of the season" is announced at Cleveland.

—Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Hamlin received calls together in New York.

—Jeff. Davis, the President of the Southern Confederacy, is 53 years old.

—Gov. Morgan has donated \$200 for the relief of the Kansas sufferers.

—Ulcer cases have broken out in a British vessel-of-war, built of green timber.

—Mr. Lincoln has already received 700 applications for office from Minnesota.

—The Oswego Times says Fort Ontario, at that place; is now garrisoned by rats.

—The number of persons who annually arrive to the age of 100, in France, is 148.

—The price of Kosuth notes in Hungary has advanced as much as 40 to 60 per cent.

—The pods of the Southern black locust tree are exported to England as food for cattle.

—Near St. Paul, Minn., on the 6th ult., six horses were frozen to death in one stable.

—Special religious services are now held in London, conducted in the Gaelic language.

—Small pox is prevailing in New York, there having been 12 deaths from it within a week.

—The Pennsylvania House passed a joint resolution giving \$30,000 for the relief of Kansas.

—The Manufacture of beet-root sugar in France has fallen off the last year about one-fifth.

—A number of the mills in Lowell, Mass., contemplate a reduction in the hours of labor.

—A few gentlemen of New York city have presented an elegant carriage to Mrs. Lincoln.

—The Postmaster of New Orleans has issued a skin plaster which is received in payment of postage.

—The Montgomery Convention has passed an act establishing the free navigation of the Mississippi.

—Andrew Johnson, the patriotic Senator from Tennessee, commended life as a practical shoemaker.

—Mrs. Gore, the great English authoress, recently deceased, wrote 200 volumes of books in her lifetime.

—A mechanic of Hartford, Ct., has invented a machine which will make 100,000 slate pencils per day.

—Mr. Doxat has retired from the editorship of the London Observer, after 54 years and 6 months' service.

—A J. Hinkley has contracted to clean the streets of New York city for five years, for \$279,000 a year.

—In China, the owners of female slaves who do not procure husbands for them are liable to prosecution.

—The steamer *Pioneer*, for Dr. Livingstone, the African traveler, has got as far as the Cape of Good Hope.

—A bill for the suppression of fortune telling has passed the Lower House of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

—There are five living ex-Presidents of the United States—Van Buren, Tyler, Fillmore, Pierce, and Buchanan.

—It cost the city of Cincinnati for lighting the public lamps, for the quarter ending February 1st, \$16,000.

—The contributions to the Kansas Relief Fund in New York city, for the week ending Feb. 16th, were \$15,141.

—The exports of books from England are five times the value of the imports, the former nearly a million dollars.

—Mr. McDermott's wife and two children were burnt to death in his dwelling, Sunday night week, at Point Pleasant, N. J.

—The population of Toronto, Canada West, according to the census just taken, is 44,425. The increase in five years is 2,665.

—There is at present over thirty-seven millions of specie in the banks, a larger amount than ever before held in New York.

—The Neptune Insurance Company of Philadelphia, a twin sister of the Quaker City Company, has made an assignment.

—The Chicago Journal publishes the city tax list of real estate to be sold for non-payment of taxes, covering six pages!

—Mount Baker, the Oregon volcano, was in active operation at last accounts, throwing off clouds of smoke and steam.

—Mr. John Lamb, a tanner of Pennsylvania, is using petroleum, or rock oil, for the t

STARS OF MY COUNTRY'S SKY.

BY LYDIA R. BIGOURNEY.

Are ye all there? all ye all there, Stars of my country's sky? Are ye all there? are ye all there In our shining homes on high? "Count 'em! Count 'em!" was their answer, As they gazed on my view, In glorious perihelion, Amid their fields of blue. "I cannot count ye rightly, There's a cloud with sable rim; I cannot make your number out, For my eyes with tears are dim. O, bright and blessed Angel, On white wing floating by, Help me to count and not to miss One star in my country's sky." Then the Angel touched my eyelids, And touched the frowning cloud, And its sable rim departed, And it fled with murky shroud. There was no missing Pleiad 'Mid all that sister race. The Southern Cross shone radiant forth, And the Pole Star kept its place. Then I knew it was the Angel Who woke the hymning strain That, at our dear Redeemer's birth, Flowed out on Bethlehem's plain. And still its echoing key-tone My listening country held, For all her constellated stars, The diapason swell'd.

The Story-Teller.

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

EDITH RAYMOND.

A LOVE STORY

BY KATE CAMERON.

[Concluded from page 76, last number.] Just as I wished, my father was the first to enter the room; an introduction was hardly necessary, and in a few moments the two persons dearest to me on earth were apparently most interested in one another. I was very happy, and would have risen and re-arranged my toilet, had not an occasional paroxysm of pain warned me that for one day, at least, I must remain perfectly quiet. In an hour more, mama and BERTHA came in from a shopping expedition. They had learned from the servant that there was a gentleman in the parlor with Miss EDITH; so their outer wrappings were laid aside, and they entered the room, dressed in faultless taste. Father introduced them, and I could see PAUL's admiring gaze fixed upon BERTHA all the while he was listening to mama's studied greeting. I did not wonder at it, it seemed to me that my half-sister had never before looked so bewitchingly lovely, and I well knew how devout a worshipper at the shrine of the graces was my Artist-lover. Dinner was announced, and my father stopped as he was passing my couch to stroke my head, and say, "poor child!" then stepping into the hall, he waited for Mr. VERNON, who bent down and kissed my brow, and then I was alone. I could not think, my suffering was too great for that, but there was an undefined shadow of approaching sorrow, which seemed to dim my spirit. I longed to lift the veil, and meet the dread certainty, whatever it might be, face to face. In the afternoon, the conversation turned upon music and the opera; and mama reminded BERTHA that the celebrated cantatrice, whom she had been so anxious to hear, was to appear for the last time that evening, and expressed her regret that "dear EDITH" would be unable to go, otherwise they might get up a delightful little company. PAUL glanced at BERTHA, then at me; he felt sure, he rejoined, that EDITH would excuse him for one evening, especially as she needed repose most of all things, and he should be only too happy to wait upon the ladies. After a little hesitation, they acquiesced; but I saw that my father looked displeased, although he did not speak; yet the cloud which I had learned to interpret, darkened his brow for a moment. "Shall I not help you up stairs, EDITH?" he asked at last, kindly; "I fear this excitement has been too much for you; your cheeks are flushed, and your hands dry and hot," he continued, standing by my side. "No, dear father," I answered, "let me stay here until evening, I am already feeling better." Most of PAUL's conversation was addressed to mama and BERTHA, though he often looked at me with a smile, or spoke some kind word, as if in atonement for a greater neglect. The short winter afternoon drew to a close. The family took tea, and the ladies went to dress for the evening. PAUL sat by my side until they came down, and then, with a fond "Good night," he left me and joined them. BERTHA was dazzlingly beautiful, in jewels, ermine, and velvet. Mama, dressed full as richly, wore an exultant smile. She felt that she was helping her daughter win a prize in Life's lottery. No sooner had the carriage rolled from the door, than I said, faintly, "now, father, dear, I am ready," and taking me in his arms as he would an infant, he carried me to my room, and rang the bell for the maid to assist me in undressing. Very kindly did he kiss me, and again murmur, "poor child." For hours, dark phantoms and an undefined dread hovered about my pillow; at last, a troubled, but deep slumber, brought the balm of forgetfulness, and when I again awoke, it was late in the morning. I felt too weak to rise, and when my faithful attendant came softly into the room, I asked her to bring me toast and coffee, and told her I should not attempt going down stairs that day. On her returning with the refreshments, she said, "Mr. VERNON is in the parlor, and wishes to know how you are feeling to-day, and how soon he may hope for the pleasure of seeing you." "Tell him," I answered, "that I am better, but very weak; I shall be happy to see him to-morrow morning." In a little while I heard strains of music; the sweet voice of BERTHA blended with the rich tones of her piano. My heart told me that she was not playing for her own amusement merely, and I was not surprised to learn that Mr. VERNON had remained to dinner, and left late in the afternoon, again expressing his regrets at my continued illness. The following morning I was able to meet the family at breakfast. At an early calling hour, PAUL came again. Mama and BERTHA were both out, and we spent two hours with nothing to interrupt our pleasant converse. Very kind, considerate, and thoughtful of my comfort, seemed my betrothed; but not one word was spoken of our future, and I felt that it was not for me to introduce the subject. PAUL urged another engagement for not remaining

with me through the day; but said he would come in again towards evening, and then he left. At five o'clock he called, but for a moment, he said. He hoped I was now quite well; the next day we would go out together, and visit some of the places of interest in the city. He trusted I did not doubt his love for me, and thus "striving to make assurance doubly sure," he again went away. That evening mama proposed to father that they should give a party in honor of his future son-in-law. Father did not seem to think it necessary,—indeed, I felt that he disapproved of PAUL's attentions to BERTHA. However, he did not dispute the point, but, as usual, left it all to his wife. She and BERTHA arranged the matter, and fixed the time one week from that night. I fancied I saw in this plan a plea for lengthening PAUL's visit, which I knew he had not originally contemplated as lasting more than a week at the furthest. But I was not to have a voice in the matter, and why should I not rejoice at anything which could keep him near me? The day following, PAUL called for me early, as he had promised, and we had a delightful time; visiting picture galleries, and stately edifices, some of the "horns" of our great city. I felt very proud of PAUL as I leaned upon his arm, and he said, warmly, "You look like Glenwood and yourself, to-day, dear EDITH." But when we returned to the house, and I had gone to my room to lay aside my outer garments, mama and BERTHA quite monopolized him, and made him promise to remain through the rest of the day. He chatted with them until dinner time, while I sat by the window, sewing. But why dwell thus minutely upon the events of those days? Is it because I dread the record of the next week's occurrences? On the sabbath, PAUL accompanied us to church, and I heard his voice, clear and full, in the responses. We sat beside each other and used the same Prayer Book; it was bound in velvet, and my name was engraved on the gold clasp. "Will you give this to me, EDITH?" he asked, as the services concluded. "Certainly, if you wish it, PAUL; but it is a strange request." He hurriedly placed it in his breast pocket as if it could soothe the troubled throbbings of his heart. A day or two more passed, in which BERTHA saw PAUL quite as often as I did. He seemed entranced when listening to her musical voice, or watching her countenance which was ever the same in its perfect radiance. It lacked the changing expression that was the chief charm of PAUL's own face. BERTHA was more like a living picture, or breathing statue. One evening I had been alone in my chamber, watching the rich sunset hues of the western sky, when remembering a new volume of poems which I had left on the center-table, I went down to get them, that I might thus beguile the time of its weariness until PAUL should come, as he had promised to do at seven o'clock. I opened the parlor door and saw it was quite dusky there, for the windows were toward the east, and already had twilight wrapped the earth in shade. What was my surprise to hear the voices of PAUL and BERTHA proceeding from the recess of the damask draped window. They did not hear my soft steps. I had approached the table and taken the book, which I readily found, when I heard BERTHA say,—"But what will EDITH think? I must not take you away from her." "EDITH is generous," was the response; "nor would she wish my hand without my heart, and that is yours, my beautiful BERTHA! Must I plead in vain?" But I could hear no more. With noiseless, yet hurried tread, I left the apartment, and in another moment had reached the library door. Father was there alone; he had just, lighted the gas, and as he saw the startled expression of my face, he exclaimed, "Why! child, what is the matter?" "PAUL,—BERTHA,—" I gasped, and throwing myself into his arms, I laid my head upon his shoulder, and sobbed long and convulsively. Gently did he soothe me, and when I became more composed, I told him all, how I had over-heard PAUL's declaration of love to my sister, and how sure I felt that it was reciprocated. My father's face wore a stern look which almost frightened me; but I did not cease my intercession until he promised to do as I wished,—give BERTHA, instead of me, to PAUL. "You are right, child," he said, at last. "Mr. VERNON is no longer worthy your love. It shall be as you request. And," he added, bitterly, "if the daughter prove to be like the mother, he will be punished, he will be punished!" So the bell was rung, and a servant sent to the parlor with the word that Mr. RAYMOND wished to see Mr. VERNON for a few moments in his library. Five minutes elapsed, which seemed an age to me, and then I heard PAUL's footsteps, slow and unsteady, along the hall, and when he entered the room, a troubled look of doubt and uncertainty was on his usually frank and open brow. I stood by my father's chair; he motioned PAUL to be seated, and then proceeded:—"I am informed, Mr. VERNON, that you have transferred your attentions from my eldest daughter to her sister, and I felt that I had a father's right to learn the truth from your own lips." He stammered a reply, but I interrupted him. "Forgive me, PAUL, for overhearing words that were not intended for my ear. I went into the parlor unperceived by you, while you and BERTHA were conversing in the window, and so I now give you up to her. Be true to her, PAUL, for she is child-like and trusting." At that moment she seemed to me as aunt FANNY had said PAUL's mother did to her,—"just like a baby." But I,—I was a strong woman,—I could endure anything! And I continued, holding out my hand, "Good bye, PAUL, God bless you. It will not be right for me to see you again for a long while." He seized my hand, pressed it to his lips, and said, "My noble EDITH, Heaven will reward you for all this." He seemed much affected. My father remarked with some bitterness, "I presume, Mr. VERNON, that you will require nothing more from me. Having but these two daughters, it will be impossible for me to accommodate you, should you choose to make another change in the object of your affections," and ere PAUL could reply to this well merited sarcasm, he was coldly bowed from the room, and my father clasped me to his heart. "What can I do for you, my poor, dear EDITH?" he asked with pitying fondness. "Only help me to be strong, my father; I must not think now." "I felt how it would all end," continued he, "when I saw how much Mrs. RAYMOND was captivated with this young man; I knew something wrong would be the consequence. Depend upon it, she is at the bottom of it all. It is her maneuvering to secure so desirable an alliance for her daughter, and you, my child, are the sacrifice." "Don't, father, don't,—I cannot bear this now,—I must not dwell longer upon this painful theme. Good night, my dearest friend," and kissing him, I

left him for my own room, which I resolved to keep until PAUL should leave town. The next day, a small package was handed me; on opening it, I found an elegantly bound Prayer Book, far more costly than the one which, at his own request, I had given to PAUL, accompanied by a pencilled note: "I replace your Prayer Book, EDITH. Would that I could as easily restore your peace of mind, and happiness of heart. But you will be happy. It is I who have sinned, and who must suffer. I am unworthy your remembrance. Forget me if you can. PAUL." Well might he say, "if you can." Forgetfulness is not a boon granted to those who sorrow over blighted hopes! For one whole day, mine was the mournful task to uphold every fond memory and anticipation, which had bloomed or budded in the garden of my heart. With tear-dimmed vision did I read the lesson which none can fully understand until stern experience has written it in their own history. "Alas! for the bright promise of our youth! How soon the golden chords of Hope are broken. How soon we find that dreams we trusted most Are very shadows!" Henceforth the name of PAUL VERNON must not have power to thrill my very being; he was no longer my own, but another's,—and that one my sister,—the daughter of my father! For his sake I must be calm; it was my duty. And then I remembered that each one must bear a cross, and this was mine; and then I prayed for strength to endure this heavy sorrow, and my prayer was answered. Think not that with that serene twilight hour, ended my sufferings. Ah, no! only from that time I ceased to bear the burden alone. It was a relief to me when I learned that the talked-of party had been given up; that was a step further than mama dared go. Having gained her object in securing PAUL for BERTHA, she forbore to add aught to the crushing weight of my grief. My father told me when PAUL had gone, and once more I mingled with the household bodily, but there was little of spiritual intercourse between us. My only social hours were spent in father's library. At my request he promised not to give Uncle PHILIP an account of the recent events, which we knew would excite his indignation; it was better to wait until all was over, and then he would have no opportunity to remonstrate with PAUL. The wedding was to be in April, for PAUL had decided to go to Italy, to remain, at least two years. I could but think how fondly I had ever hoped to visit that classic shore, but not mine the coveted boon. I must stand silently by and see another in the enjoyment of the blessing. But I soon found that idleness must be avoided if I would retain any degree of composure. I had sufficient pride, to keep my cheek from paling, and my form from wasting, until the cold world should bestow its pity upon the broken reed. But in my hours of solitude, it was so hard to be cheerful, and I determined to be constantly employed. I marked out for myself a thorough course of Historical and Biographical reading. I also offered to write two hours daily for father, copying business letters or important papers, and soon had the satisfaction of finding myself an indispensable assistant to him. This, with a daily walk for healthful exercise, and the reading, occupied my mornings. Writing, sewing, music, or poetry filled up the remaining hours of day; and the evenings were sometimes devoted to lectures, or a church service, which I attended, accompanied by some lady acquaintance; for intimate friend I had none. Then I began to accuse myself of selfishness, and thought of my sister so soon to leave me, and I was doing nothing for her,—nothing for the bride of my PAUL. It cost me a severe struggle, but I conquered, and then I offered to aid her in her preparations. She seemed very grateful, and kissed me with unusual affection,—I thought with a pang of remorse for the wrong she had done me. A portion of each day I now spent in the sewing room, and garment after garment passed from my hands completed. At last I placed the finishing stitches in the bridal robes of snowy satin, trimmed with costly lace—and it was my own hand that fastened the orange wreath and graceful veil over the sunny tresses of the fair bride. They were married in church on a warm April evening. Father and mama formed part of the group around the altar, but I sat alone in our own seat, holding the prayer book which PAUL had given me. Like a vision of beauty BERTHA glided past me through the aisle. I could not see PAUL's face, but the tall and graceful form, the wealth of dark-brown hair, were visible, and I felt his presence. The impressive service commenced, and soon I heard the rich tones of PAUL's voice, vowing to another the love once pledged to me. With a fixed, stony gaze, I looked, until I could not see for the tears that blinded me, and then I bowed my head upon the prayer book, at the moment the newly-wedded knelt at the altar. I prayed for grace and strength, and they were given me. And when the organ poured forth its deep-toned melody, my spirit seemed to rise exultant above the cares and changes of this fleeting world—and I thought of that blessed home above, where "they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven." Slowly did they pass from the church. My father paused a moment, and I took his arm and returned home in the carriage with him and mama. When I entered the drawing-room, PAUL and BERTHA were receiving the congratulations of their friends. Father was standing near, and he led me up to them. BERTHA kissed me, with the words, "My darling sister, I am very happy!" But PAUL only took my hand and said,—"EDITH!" I moved through the crowded rooms that night, striving to make it pleasant for all our guests. Perhaps I carried my complaisance too far for a young lady of twenty-three. I might have been too patronizing; for I heard one lady say to another, "Well! really, Miss RAYMOND is getting to be quite an old maid! She already wears that benevolent smile characteristic of the race." But I cared little for the opinion of the world; I had the approval of my own conscience, and I was content. A week intervened between the wedding and their departure for Europe. That occurred on the first of May, the anniversary of my journey to Glenwood. We had sent cards to Uncle PHILIP, with a brief account of what we knew would be to him startling intelligence, immediately after the marriage. He replied at once with great affection; but it was easy to see his indignation was thoroughly aroused. Very kindly did he urge my coming to Glenwood again for the summer, but that was not for a moment to be thought of. I must wait for time to heal the wounds of estrangement, ere I could trust myself to revisit those loved scenes. My father proposed that I should accompany him on a long tour through some of the Western States to the great lakes, Niagara, and the Thousand Isles. Mama had already declared her intention of spending the season at Newport and Cape May. All this was talked over before Mr. and Mrs. VERNON left us. I was glad to have PAUL know that I should not remain

at home. They sailed on a bright morning. BERTHA smiled amid her tears as she parted from her mother, but she bade father and me a cheerful good-bye. PAUL said but little—but when I gaily remarked, "Think of me in Florence," he answered, with a touch of sadness, "I shall never forget you, EDITH!" Had he already repented? But that was no concern of mine. For a long while we were all lonely. It was mama's first real trial, the parting from her darling child; but she consoled herself with her preparations for the summer's pleasures. We left New York the same day, traveling in opposite directions. Delightful were our ramblings through that long summer. My father, ever kind to me, his pet child, seemed to redouble his thoughtful attentions, and spared no pains or expense to gratify my slightest wish. Our tour was protracted until late in September, then, as we were on our homeward way, we received a telegram, begging us to hasten, as Mrs. RAYMOND was very ill. We rodd day and night, but when we reached home it was too late for human aid to avail aught. She only lived three days. In her dying hour she called us to her bedside, and taking our hands in hers, already cold with the death-damp, she bade us ever love her darling BERTHA, and prayed us to forgive all that she had done to cause us pain. That death hour drew the veil gently over her past errors, and my father and I never again spoke of her save with that charity which "thinketh no evil." Letters were exchanged with BERTHA after her mother's death, and then for a year we heard nothing. The winter months we spent in our city home, and the following summer we went to Glenwood. Another Autumn, and we heard from the wanderers. A letter from PAUL announced the advent of a daughter, named from their chosen abode, "FLORENCE." There was not a word of returning to America. Two years more, and only an occasional letter reached us. These again ceased, and we scarce ever mentioned the absent ones who had brought upon themselves this apparent oblivion. I had now passed my twenty-seventh birthday, and had so long worn the dignity of housekeeper, that I felt even older. One day a large letter, with a foreign post-mark was brought in. It was directed in PAUL's clear hand, but the letter itself was traced in trembling characters by BERTHA. The contents startled me. She wrote, as she said, upon her death-bed, knowing that soon she should be in her grave far away from home and kindred. She entrusted her little FLORENCE, now three years old, to my care, begging me to be a mother to her, and make her like myself; not allow her to lead the frivolous and useless existence she herself had led. Touchingly she prayed me to forgive her, and to forgive PAUL for all they had caused me to suffer. And with a message of love to our father, she bade us both a long farewell. There was a postscript from PAUL, from which I knew that many weeks ere the sad letter was received the hand that penned those lines was cold in death. My father seemed much affected by the mournful tidings; indeed, he appeared to grow old very rapidly, and could not bear to have me out of his sight. My whole life was devoted to his comfort. But ere winter again commenced his icy reign, our family circle was increased by the arrival of the husband and child of our lost BERTHA. PAUL was sad, but very kind; there was an expression of earnest thoughtfulness on his face, which I had never before seen it wear. FLORENCE was a perfect sunbeam; in person, a miniature of her mother, with the same matchless beauty, but with a deeper toned nature, and more affectionate and winning ways. PAUL's first intention was to leave her with us, and go to his old home in Boston. But father persuaded him to open a studio in New York, and remain with us; he said his house was large, and seemed so lonely with only two or three inmates. FLORENCE was already a pet with her grandfather; and indeed she seemed the bright link uniting all our hearts. Little remains to be told, for with me the age of romance has passed, and I cannot now, as formerly, dilate upon the occurrences of each day and hour. In after-life we only count the years, while youth hoards the moments. For a year had PAUL and his little FLORENCE been with us; and very dear were they both to my heart. The love which I had first felt seven years before, seemed to arise phoenix-like from the ashes of the past, and it was now a purer, holier affection. I think PAUL read this in my eyes, for I often met his earnest gaze fixed on me. And then again, he told me of his love. Of his early repentance for his folly, making his destiny with a mere child, instead of the mature mind whose aid he so much needed. Of the unavailing regrets in which he indulged, and then of the struggle, in which he had finally been victorious, and devoted his life to making BERTHA more like the ideal he had long cherished of a true wife. In a measure, he succeeded; but BERTHA lacked that depth of feeling and earnestness of purpose which could enable her to sympathize in his aspirations and aid his endeavors. Their life was embittered by the recollection of their early error, nor could they forget the great wrong they had done me. But death severed the tie which united them, and then again PAUL and I were thrown into each other's society. And now, did I love him, could I love him? Again our father gave us his blessing—and on my thirtieth birthday I became the wife of my first, my last, my only love, PAUL VERNON. We visited Glenwood, taking our little FLORENCE with us; and the delight of our good uncle and aunt was unbounded. We went together to all the well-remembered haunts, and lived over again the joyful experiences of that first summer of our acquaintance. And contrasting them with now, we felt that our discipline, although severe, had been wisely ordered. We were better prepared for the stern conflict of life. We are again in our city home; and now I close this long record of eight years of my life. My pathway has led through sunshine and shadow; but now, whatever be in store for me, I go forth, leaning upon a strong arm; and however thorny may be our mortal pilgrimage, yet "See we not up earth's dark glade, The gate of Heaven, yonder close?" We are a happy family—father, little FLORENCE, PAUL and I. Nor are our Dead forgotten. Beside mama's monument in Glenwood, there is one erected to the memory of our beautiful BERTHA, though un consecrated by the presence of her dust; for "o'er her myrtle showers its leaves, by soft winds fanned." Carefully trained plants shed a wealth of bloom and perfume around the spot; but they are less sweet and enduring than the flowers of love and forgiveness, with which our memories have entwined the names of the Departed. Rochester, N. Y., 1861. It is a good rule always to back your friends and face your enemies.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

AGRICULTURAL ENIGMA. I AM composed of 40 letters. My 23, 37, 39, 10, 2, 15 is a well known kind of hay. My 8, 14, 17, 37 is very fond of manure. My 8, 5, 16, 33, 1, 23, 34, 34, 12, 25 is one great cause of poor farming. My 38, 11, 4, 35 is what most fast young men sow in their youth. My 29, 31, 22, 14, 7 is what every farmer ought to have plenty of. My 8, 31, 39, 24, 9, 34, 21, especially in the Western States, are the farmers' dearest enemies. My 15, 22, 34, 19, 37 is what every farmer ought to read regularly. My 31, 38, 23, 24, 28, 39, 16, 40 is the center of one of the best farming districts in the West. My 35, 14, 23, 24, 37, 16 is still retained as the emblem of the harvest field, although long since gone out of use. My 23, 37, 28, 31, 24, 35 is what 50 many farmers' boys want to be. My 13, 39, 28, 30, 39, 16, 25 constitutes an important article of food. My 23, 39, 28, 13, 33, 6, 17, 33, 11, 13 is what a great many farmers never saw. My 27, 19, 33, 10, 2, 6, 20 is generally a very busy time. My 35, 14, 15, 40, 11 is what every farmer ought to protect. My whole every farmer ought to remember. Rockford, Ill., 1861. Answer in two weeks. E. W. HICKS.

ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



Answer in two weeks.

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

A FORTNER going to market to buy turkeys, met with four flocks. In the second were six more than three times the square root of double the number in the first; the third contained three times as many as the first and second; the fourth contained six more than the square of one-third the number in the third, and the whole number was 1,938. How many were there in each flock? H. L. Marshall, Calhoun Co., Mich., 1861. Answer in two weeks.

"BITE BIGGER, BILLY."

A GREAT friend of the children, Mrs. GILDESLAVE, of Buffalo, contributes the following beautiful and touching incident to the Boys' and Girls' Department of the American Agriculturist: "Walking down the street, we saw two very ragged boys with bare toes, red and shining, and tattered clothes, upon which the soil of long wear lay thick and dingy. They were few and far between—only jackets and trousers, and these solitary garments were very unneighborly, and objected to a union, however strongly the autumn wind hinted at the comfort of such an arrangement. One of the boys was jubilant over a half-withered bunch of flowers some person had cast away. 'I say, Billy, warn't somebody real good to drop these here posies just where I could find 'em, and they're so poopy and nice? Look sharp, Billy, and may be you'll find something bincy—Oh, jolly, Billy, if here ain't most half a peach, and 'tain't mucharty, neither. Cuz you hain't got no peach, you may bite first. Bite bigger, Billy, may be we'll find another 'fore long.' "That boy was not cold, nor poor, and never will be; his heart will keep him warm, and if men and women forsake him, the very angels will feed him, and fold their wings about him. 'Bite bigger, Billy; may be we'll find another 'fore long.' What a hopeful little soul! If he finds his usefulness illy repaid, he will not turn misanthrope, for God made him to be a man, one to bear his own burden uncomplainingly, and help his fellows besides. Want cannot crush his spirit, nor fifth stain it, for within him and about him the spirit of the Christ-child dwelleth always."

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 580.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Hugh Swinton Legare. Answer to Illustrated Rebus:—The RURAL in circulation reaches nearly 100,000. Answer to Poetical Enigma:—The letter Y. Answer to Algebraical Enigma:— $\frac{1}{2} (5 \pm \sqrt{5})$, and $\pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{5}$.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

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AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

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[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

VOL. XII. NO. 11.]

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1861.

[WHOLE NO. 583.]

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

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FOR TERMS AND OTHER PARTICULARS, see last page.
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AGRICULTURAL.

INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

Culture of the Willow.
EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In looking over your issue of February 9th, I find an article from a correspondent, on Osier Willows and their uses. Now, Messrs. Editors, I am anxious to learn more about the cultivation of the Osier Willow. I have thirty or forty acres of low land which is covered with water eight months in the year. It is a deep meak, with clay subsoil, and Ash, Elm, Soft Maple, and common Willow, grow luxuriantly upon it. Will such land as I have described answer for Osier Willow? Where can cuttings be found? When is the best time to cut them—and also the best time to set them—spring or fall? Also, the manner of setting them? I could plant best in the fall, as my land is dryer then than in the spring.—W. G., Irondequoit, N. Y.

This Willow delights in a moist, mucky soil, but experience has proved that it cannot be grown successfully in stagnant water. It requires depth of soil, richness and moisture,—a well drained swamp, therefore, is just the thing, and even if overflowed in the winter and spring, and occasionally in summer during heavy storms, it may be used advantageously. Heavy, retentive upland soils, when deeply worked, are suitable for the Willow. The deep prairies of the West seem prepared by nature for the especial growth of the Willow. Some varieties will bear more water than others, as the *Long-leaved triangular Willow* will flourish on a soil so soft that plowing is impracticable, and requiring no other care than keeping down the weeds, but on the same soil the *Purple Willow* would scarcely grow.

The ground for the Willow should be well plowed and dragged, and if the soil is not naturally rich, a good dressing of manure should be plowed under. There appears to be a good deal of difference of opinion as to the distance at which to plant cuttings. We rather think, however, that about two and a half feet each way will be found right. The cuttings should be from seven to twelve inches in length, according to the stiffness of the soil. If the soil is heavy, seven inches in length will be short enough. After planting, the ground must be kept cultivated, until the Willow gets such a start as to shade the soil and prevent the growth of weeds.

Planting may be done either in the Spring or Autumn. Some of the nurserymen, we believe, keep grown Willows for sale, but we have not seen any advertised lately. If there is a demand, nurserymen will soon supply cuttings.

Management of a Willow Hedge.
EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I wish to inquire how to manage my willows. I have about two hundred rods of the Osier, or basket willow, set for a hedge. They are now three years old. Two years ago I cut them back to about three feet, and thinned them out. Since then they have grown unmolested. They are planted in two rows, fifteen inches apart, and the same distance in the rows, so as to break joints. If they ought to be braided, I wish to know how and when.—S. D. O., Eagle, Wyoming Co., N. Y., 1861.
The willow is well worthy of attention as a plant for live hedges. Though destitute of thorns, such is its strength and rapidity of growth, that it will make a strong hedge in a comparatively short time. The ground should be well prepared, and it would be well to plow a strip not less than six feet wide, drag, and manure if the soil is poor. Then set the willow cuttings either in a single or double row; if in a single row, six or eight inches apart; if in a double row, fifteen inches apart each way, and so as to "break joints." The cuttings from this hedge will be worth something, certainly enough to pay for the use of the land it occupies, and for keeping it in order. In England, says the *English Flora*, the willow is "extensively used for fences for the exclusion of hares and rabbits, as well as cattle, the bark and leaves being so intensely bitter that they will touch neither, while the shoots being long, tough and flexible, may be formed into any shape; and a fence of this kind is reckoned little, if at all, inferior to that made of wire, which, when made close enough to exclude

small animals, and strong enough to form a barrier against large ones, is very expensive."
The ease with which the willow is propagated, and its rapid growth, makes it particularly valuable for shelter from the sweeping winds. CHARLES DOWNING says, "a screen of twenty-five feet in height may be grown from willow cuttings in five years, and at a slightly retarded rate of annual increase until a height of sixty feet is gained; thus almost immediately affording that shelter which is so indispensable that there is no safety without it."
The *Purple Willow* is said to be the best variety that can be grown, either for a hedge for protection, or a screen from the winds. It is also one of the best, and in fact the best that can be grown in this country for basket making. We know some of our readers have had experience in growing the willow for hedging, and we invite them to give their mode of treatment for the benefit of our correspondent, and all others interested.

Cottonizing Flax.
In a late issue of the RURAL, you speak of flax being cottonized,—please tell us what is meant by that term. Who has a jenny for spinning flax? In fact, tell us all about it.—A CONSTANT READER, *Amherst, N. Y.*, 1861.

WHEN flax is rotted and cleaned, the fibre appears in long threads, which, in the ordinary process of spinning, are twisted around each other. These long threads make up common flax, or hemp, and are shown under the microscope to consist of oblong cells, which are joined together in forming the ordinary fibre in such a manner that they "break joints," by what is called the "intercellular substance." This is soluble in various liquid alkaline preparations. When flax is thus treated by alkaline solutions, it is separated into smaller threads, or into the ultimate oblong cells which, joined together in their growth, as above named, constitute the flax of commerce.

The alkaline substance used, may be varied to suit the circumstances, such as ley from wood ashes, lime water, caustic potash, or soda. The caustic solutions are most energetic, and however strong, do not dissolve the ultimate fibre, or cell of the plant. When the long fibre is thus separated into its original and distinct cells, it appears in the form of the fibre of the cotton plant. The irregularities of thickness in the fibrous cell act in such a manner as to give a spiral or screw-like shape, which causes them to cling to each other and form a strong thread when spun. When flax has thus been treated with alkaline liquids, and reduced to its ultimate oblong cells by the solution of the intercellular substance, it may be carded and spun by machinery like cotton, and is said to be "cottonized."

We suppose that the Jennies for spinning this cottonized flax are subject to all the general conditions of the spinning Jennies for cotton, which are used only with profit in large numbers, with machinery impelled by steam or water power. There is a manufactory of cottonized flax at Fall River, Mass., and others, we believe, elsewhere. The process of separating flax into its ultimate cells has been known, according to the Patent Office Report for 1869, since 1747. A similar process was patented in England in 1801, and in this country in 1828. It is said to have been known in China for centuries.

Feeding Beans to Ewes—Scours in Sheep.
Some of my neighbors say that feeding beans to ewes during the winter months will cause the lambs to be weakly; others say not. Please tell me through the columns of the RURAL.

I have a flock of yearlings which I keep separate from the old stock, about 40 in number, which I feed one-half bushel per day of mixed beans and oats, about equal quantities, with what hay they will eat, and I find some of them scouring badly, and nearly all of them running down. They have a warm shed. Tell me through the RURAL what the trouble is.—YOUNG FARMER, *Alabama*, N. Y., 1861.

THE subject of feeding grain to breeding ewes has been discussed at considerable length in our columns by breeders, and the disputants have brought forward fact and theory in support of their respective views. Were the arguments summed up, it would show a pretty equal division of the forces. With the large majority, however, corn seems to have found special favor, and oats are deemed the most baneful. Our own opinion, as has been heretofore expressed, is that grain can be used without evil results following as a necessity, but it must be given sparingly and with judgment. Until two or three weeks before lambing, breeding ewes need only be kept in good, plump, ordinary condition. In backward seasons, or where the grass has not obtained a fair start at the period of lambing, careful flock-masters feed their ewes chopped roots, or roots mixed with oats or meal, and the results, as exhibited by the flocks of this class of men, would seem to indicate that such course was excellent economy. If ewes were in poor condition when the feeding of grain commenced, and nothing but dry hay was given in connection with the grain, we would not be surprised at a great mortality among the lambs,—if the ewes escaped the evils arising from constipation and inflammation, it might be deemed remarkable. If, however, the grain was given ground, fed out in moderation, mixed with chopped roots, or in a warm bran mash, we cannot well conceive of aught save a beneficial termination.

Probably we cannot do better than quote the *American Shepherd* on this point:—"The ewes during pregnancy should be disturbed as little as possible, and every attention paid to the quantity and quality of their food. Ewes, however, should not be kept

fat at this state; indeed, this state is injurious, as it predisposes them sometimes to abortion; but what is usually termed 'good store condition' should be maintained through the whole period of gestation. It cannot be expected, from any domestic animal a healthy offspring, in our rigorous climate, if the dam has been permitted to suffer the hardships of cold and starvation; therefore it will be wise if the sheep husbandman will always hold up to view the apothegm, 'so the dam, so the offspring.' There must be good condition to sustain the mother in the trying hour of lamb-birth; and like good condition is equally necessary to sustain the lamb subsequently, and impart to it sound constitution, size and thrift."

Sheep are very liable to an attack of diarrhoea, or scours, during their first winter. In addition to this peculiarity of time, the disease may be brought out by giving grain in too large quantities when beginning to feed. It should be dealt out very moderately at first, and the quantity gradually increased. A very prominent cause, and one not generally understood, may be found in unripe, or not properly ripened, hay. The author of the *American Shepherd* says, that this is, probably, the chief inducing cause. The disease can be easily arrested by mixing a small quantity of pulverized alum in wheat bran, and feeding for a day or two. If this fails, and a tendency to dysentery be exhibited, give a purgative of castor oil (a tablespoonful,) with dry food, and but little drink. YOUTART gives as a remedy,—prepared chalk, one ounce; powdered catechu, one-half ounce; powdered ginger, two drachms; mix with half a pint of peppermint water. The dose is from one to two tablespoonfuls morning and night.

EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE.

ALTHOUGH there is some necessary difference between the Agriculture of Europe and America, resulting from varied circumstances, such as soil, climate, markets, &c.; every year this difference is growing less. Once our farms were new, and the soil rich and cheap—every year an addition of a few acres was added to the cultivated land by the winter's chopping and clearing. Then the experiments of English agriculturists with guano, or special manures, or even composts, and the talk of the importance of preserving the fertility of the land, seemed little less than nonsense to many. Now, with the exception of the more Western States, our farms are all cleared, and the land under cultivation. Farms sell at a high price, while the soil has been robbed of its virgin fertility, and manure has become a matter of almost as much importance here as in Europe. In some sections of the country immense sums are expended by farmers for guano and artificial manures, that a few years ago would not have found purchasers at any price. The communication between our own and the European Continent is now so perfect, that London and Liverpool, for commercial purposes, seem like American ports, and are far more accessible than many of our own country. Europe, too, especially Great Britain, within the past twenty years, has learned to look to us for many of the products of the soil, for the support of her teeming millions engaged in manufactures. Thus, the agriculture of England and America is every year becoming assimilated. Nor, is all the change with us; for while the English may see little in our usually rude system of farming worthy of adoption, we have done much, by our implements and machinery, for English agriculture.

So closely allied are our agricultural interests, that the Agricultural Journals of England are highly interesting, and the practice and improvements of English farmers of the utmost importance to those of America. Our own Journals and improvements seem not to be less appreciated by the Agricultural Editors of Great Britain, for we seldom take up a foreign paper of this character, without observing articles from the American Agricultural Press, or American implements recommended to the English farmer. In a late number of the *Irish Farmers' Gazette* we find a description of the following, of which we had not before heard:

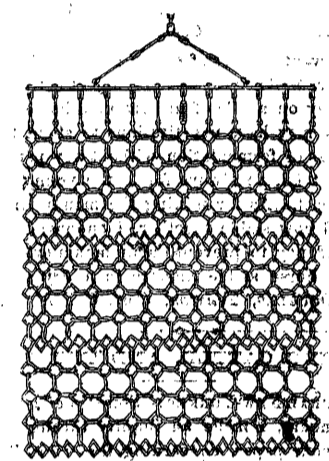
Patent American Horse Break.
This is recommended as superior to any other horse break ever invented, and is said to have received especial commendation from Prince ALBERT, and many of the most prominent men and largest horse owners in the country. By its use the timid and nervous horse is broken without injury or alarm; and the vicious one, being subdued and rendered tractable, again becomes valuable to its owner, which is unattainable by any break in use.



PATENT AMERICAN HORSE-BREAK.
The engraving shows the construction, which is very simple, and it seems to us as well calculated to accomplish the work designed, as the horse can do no injury to himself or the driver,—can neither rear

up, or kick, or lay down, and yet is under no more restraint when in motion, than in the ordinary harness. Who is the inventor, or why called *American*, we cannot say.

A Chain Harrow.
FOR several years we have seen notices of a *Chain Harrow* being exhibited at some of the English Agricultural Shows. It is represented as a very effective implement for breaking clods, mellowing the surface, and covering small seeds, such as clover and grass seed, which it is said to do as neatly as can be done by the gardener with a hand-rake. It also collects the weeds on the surface, leaving them in rolls.



CHAIN HARROW.

Our engraving shows the appearance of this harrow, which is made of links of round iron, and in two parts, so that it can be used with one horse or two. They are seven feet six inches in width. We commend this harrow to the notice of implement manufacturers here, for it seems to meet with the greatest favor where used. One writer says:—"The Chain Harrow is really perfect, whether used to break down the stiffest clods, or cover grass seed; it performs the latter operation in a style only to be equalled by a skillful gardener. I find that in clean land it saves me the labor of nine girls; that is to say, that where formerly I employed ten girls to pick off scutch, one girl now suffices to fork the rolls of scutch into a cart. It is light of draught, requires no teeth sharpening, can be moved from place to place without being put in a cart."

Deficiencies in Dairying.
As a series of articles upon "The Dairy" are just being published in the RURAL, the following, which we condense from the *London Agricultural Gazette*, possesses a peculiar interest for those engaged in that branch of farm economy. It shows conclusively that there is great room for improvement, even among the best English dairymen, both in the quantity and quality of the butter and cheese obtained from the milk of the cow.

If you analyze an ordinary sample of cow's milk, says the writer, you may probably obtain nearly 4 per cent. of butter, quite 4 per cent. of casein, 4 or 5 per cent. of sugar, and 88 per cent. or thereabouts of water. If your cow yields 6,000 pounds of milk per annum, then you obtain from her 240 pounds butter and 240 pounds of casein. But now, analyze and weigh the actual produce of your dairy. Let us suppose you are a Gloucestershire dairy farmer, and that you make 400 pounds of cheese and 50 pounds of butter from your cow per annum. This may be considered an average return. That cheese, according to Prof. JOHNSTON, contains 38 per cent. of casein and 22 per cent. of butter, or in all 152 pounds casein and 88 pounds of butter, besides other ingredients, water, salt, &c. That butter, again, according to Prof. WAX, contains 80 per cent. of pure fat of butter and 3 per cent. of casein, or in all 40 pounds of butter and 14 pound of casein, besides other ingredients, water, salt, &c. Now add the ingredients thus ascertained together, and you find that you have had from your cow during the twelve months, as the produce of your dairy, 153 1/2 pounds of casein and 128 pounds of butter, instead of 240 pounds of butter and 240 pounds of casein, which, according to analysis, your milk contained.

What has become of the remainder? It is a question of the very greatest importance to all dairy farmers. So great a loss is enough to startle them, and most people will be inclined to doubt it. It must be admitted, in reply to these, that the analyses here quoted are not as they would need to be if all question is to be silenced—analyses month by month of the milk. But they are the average of a number of examinations of ordinary samples by good chemists. It must also be admitted that there is other besides dairy produce obtained from the milk of the cow. Pigs are fattened on the whey, but no farmer will admit that there is enough bacon thus made to correspond to anything like the loss thus indicated of the butter and the cheese of milk. Such a loss is certainly not made up by the bacon fattened on the whey; and if the missing ingredients do escape in the whey, then the pigs fall nearly as egregiously as the dairymen in saving all the valuable ingredients passing by them in the liquid which they deal with. The averages here spoken of are not quoted at random. They correspond very closely to the figures given as his experience by Mr. HARRISON, of Frocester Court, Gloucestershire, who has the credit of

having first called attention to the loss which, according to analysis, thus takes place in the dairy. In a little *Handbook of Dairy Husbandry*, published last year, his figures are communicated by him thus: In 1857, 55 cows were milked; they yielded 31,700 gallons, or 321,000 pounds of milk, besides rearing 48 calves. From this quantity of milk 25,424 pounds of cheese and 3,460 pounds of butter were made. Now the milk contained, by analysis, according to Mr. HARRISON, 12,480 pounds of casein and 11,856 pounds of butter, whereas the cheese and butter contained by analysis only 9,765 pounds of casein and 8,366 pounds of butter, leaving 2,715 pounds of casein and 3,190 pounds of butter unaccounted for.

Cultivation of Barley.

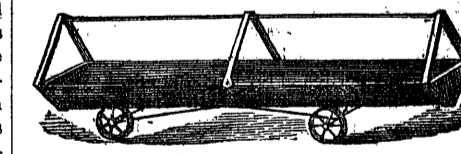
In a recent issue of the *Royal Agricultural Journal*, we find an article upon Barley Culture, giving the experience of many years in regard to soils, manner of preparation, seeding, &c., with which it may be well for our farmers to contrast their methods. The writer says that the soils in which barley flourishes most luxuriantly are free-working loams, and it is not uncommon for such land to be distinguished as barley-land. This preference arises from the natural habit of growth in the barley, which requires a considerable freedom of action for the development of that bunch of fibres of which its root consists. In the preparation of land for its growth this has to be remembered; for, if the character of the soil is not naturally of the description required, we are compelled to adopt measures for remedying it as much as possible. The firmness which is so necessary for whose is objectionable here, and the more completely it is destroyed, the better. Upon the tightest clods of barley soils there is great danger of the manure being washed through the soil; on such lands, therefore, the use of the plow is avoided in the spring, as the inversion of the soil would favor the loss of manure, and the aid of a cultivator suffices to loosen the soil for the seed-bed. Other soils are brought into a sufficiently loose and free condition for sowing by means of a single plowing, but by far the larger breadth of our soils requires further preparation. No other kind of grain suffers so much in its quality as barley, from being sown in an unfavorable seed-bed.

The best qualities of barley, as well as the largest crops, are produced from soils very free and open in their character, and these indicate the condition to which we should endeavor to bring any soil upon which this crop is to be sown. To promote the same freedom in the soil, the seed should always be sown when the land is dry; for as we have seen in the preparation of wheat, that a wet seed time was conducive to that increased firmness of the soil which was then our object, so now, when we wish to avoid this effect upon the land, we should in every way avoid the cause.

The use of the drill is very generally preferred for sowing barley to every other mode. The depth for sowing the seed is not subject to the same variations as in the case of wheat; one inch may be considered sufficient in all soils to secure its healthy germination.

Iron Sheep Trough on Wheels.

We have given several plans of hay-racks for sheep, and now we present our readers with a sheep trough, made of wrought iron, on wheels, so that it can be easily moved, for feeding roots, grain, &c., to sheep, such as is used in England.



IRON SHEEP TROUGH ON WHEELS.

The engraving gives a very good idea of the construction of this trough. It is usually made about nine feet long, with a bar along the top, to prevent the sheep getting over or into it. It is highly recommended by farmers, as it prevents waste of feed, and is said to save its cost in a single season. It is at least worthy the notice of American farmers and implement makers.

THE DAIRY.—NO. IV.

THE COW AND HER KEEPER.

As nothing I can say will so well describe Mr. HORSFALL'S method as his own words, portions of his essay are here reproduced. He says, "My food for milch cows, after having undergone various modifications, has for two seasons consisted of rape cake five pounds, and bran two pounds, for each cow, mixed with a sufficient quantity of bean straw, oat straw, and shells of oats, in equal proportions, to supply them three times a day with as much as they will eat. The whole of the materials are moistened and blended together, and after being well steamed, are given to the animals in a warm state. The attendant is allowed one pound to one and a half pounds per cow, according to circumstances, of bean meal, which he is charged to give to each cow in proportion to her yield of milk, those in full milk getting two pounds each per day, others but little. It is dry and mixed with the steamed food on its being dealt out separately. When this is eaten up, green food, consisting of cabbages, is given from October to December; Kohl rabi till February, and mangels till grass time. With a view to nicety of flavor, I limit

the supply of green food to thirty or thirty-five pounds per day each. After each feed, four pounds of meadow hay, or twelve pounds per day, is given to each cow, and they are allowed water twice per day, to the extent they will drink.

"During May my cows are turned out on a rich pasture, near the homestead. Towards evening they are again housed for the night, when they are supplied with a mess of the steamed mixture, and a little hay, morning and evening. During June, when the grasses are better grown, mown grass is given to them instead of hay, and they are allowed two feeds of steamed mixture. This treatment is continued till October, when they are again wholly housed."

For the purpose of testing the accuracy of his theory, he commenced weighing his milch cows in January, 1854. He continues, "It has been shown by what I have promised, that no accurate estimate can be formed of the effect of the food on the production of milk, without ascertaining its effect on the condition of the cows. I have continued this practice once a month, almost without omission, up to this date (1856). The weightings take place early in the morning and before the cows are supplied with food,—the weights are registered, and the length of time (fifteen months), during which I have observed this practice, enables me to speak with confidence of the results.

"The cows in full milk, yielding from twelve to fifteen quarts each per day, vary but little,—some losing, others gaining, slightly, the balance in the month's weighing of this class being rather a gain.

"It is common for a cow to continue a yield from six to eight months before she gives below twelve quarts per day, at which time she has usually, if not invariably, gained weight. The cows giving less than twelve quarts per day, and down to five quarts per day, are found, when free from ailment, to gain without exception. This gain, with an average yield of nearly eight quarts per day, is at the rate of seven to eight pounds per week each.

"My cows in calf are weighed only in the incipient stages, but they gain perceptibly in condition, and consequently in value. They are milked to within four or five weeks previous to calving."

The weights of three of his cows and a heifer are given, and the gain on each from July to April.

Table with 4 columns: No., 1854, 1855, 1856. Rows for cows 1, 2, 4 and a heifer, showing weights and gains.

"A cow, free from calf and intended for fattening, continues to give milk from ten months to a year after calving, and is then in a forward state of fatness, requiring but a few weeks to finish her for sale to the butchers. It will thus appear that my endeavors to provide food adapted to the maintenance and improvement of my milch cows have been attended with success.

"On examining the composition of the ordinary food which I have described,—straw, roots and hay,—it appears to contain the nutritive properties which are found adequate to the maintenance of the animal, whereas the yield of milk has to be provided for by a supply of extra food. The rape cake, bran, and bran meal which I give, will supply the albumen for the casein. It is somewhat deficient in oil for the butter, while it will supply in excess the phosphate of lime for a full yield of milk."

After giving a description of the beneficial results of such a system of feeding upon his pastures, which is very instructive and important, he closes this branch of the subject with the following important fact.

"On comparing the results from my milch cows fed in summer on rich pastures, and treated at the same time with the extra food I have described, with the results when on winter food and while wholly housed, taking into account both the yield of milk and the gain in weight, I find those from stall feeding fully equal to those from pasture."

On the subject of preparing food he says:—"I have cooked or steamed my food for several years. It will be observed that I blend bean straw, bran and malt combs as flavoring materials, with oat and other straw, and rape cake. The effect of steaming is to volatilize the essential oils, in which the flavor resides, and diffuse them through the mass. The odor arising from it resembles that observed from the process of malting. This imparts relish to the mass, and induces the cattle to eat it greedily; in addition to which I am disposed to think that it renders the food more easy of digestion and assimilation. I use this process with advantage for fattening, when I am deficient in roots. With the same mixed straw and oat shells, three to four pounds each of rape cake, and half a pound of linseed oil, but without roots, I have fattened more than thirty heifers and cows free from milk, from March up to the early part of May. Their gain has averaged fully fourteen pounds each per week,—a result I could not have looked for from the same materials if uncooked. This process seems to have the effect of rendering linseed oil less of a laxative, but cannot drive off any portion of the fattening oils, to volatilize which would require a very high temperature. My experience of the benefits of steaming is such that if I were deprived of it, I could not continue to feed with satisfaction.

"To one leading feature of my practice I attach the greatest importance,—the maintenance of the condition of my cows giving a large yield of milk. I am enabled by the addition of bran meal in proportion to the greater yield of milk to avert the loss of condition in those giving from sixteen to eighteen quarts per day, while on those giving a less yield, and in health, I invariably effect an improvement.

"When we take into consideration the disposition of the cow, to apply her food rather to her milk than to her maintenance and improvement, it seems fair to infer that the milk of a cow gaining flesh will not be deficient in either casein or butter. I have already alluded to the efficiency of meal in increasing the quantity of butter. I learn also, from observant dairymen who milk their own cows, and carry their butter to market, that their baskets are never so well filled as when their cows have fed on green clover, which, as dry material, is nearly as rich in albumen as beans. From this we may infer that albuminous matter is the most essential element in the food of the milch cow, and that any deficiency in the supply of this, will be attended with loss of condition, and a consequent diminution in the quality of her milk."

PILES IN SWINE.—In answer to an inquiry in the RURAL, for a cure for piles in pigs, I will send you a simple but sure remedy, having tried it myself, and having known others to do the same. In every instance it has proved effectual. Take rosin, pulverize fine, and sprinkle on the parts affected a few times, and, my word for it, you have the cure. If any one tries the above remedy, let me know the result through the RURAL.—T. W. H., Eden, N. Y.

BEDDING SWINE ON THE MANURE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—On page 54 current Volume, I notice an article headed "A good bed for Swine." Now it seems to me that Mr. SANFIELD has one idea without the rest. I know not the exact locality that Mr. S. resides in, and I think it matters but little about that, but in Illinois (where I reside when at home,) swine are not generally allowed to sleep on manure piles (or heaps,) of any kind, as it is deemed very injurious, there being too much steam and unnatural heat caused by fermentation. I have seen swine come out of manure heaps (where they were allowed to sleep,) as stiff as an old four-legged horse, and a chance if they ever got over it.

My mode is this: Provide good shelter, warm and clean, with plenty of good straw, give them a chance to run out all they choose, and a dry bed at night. I change their bed once in four weeks, for the same reason that our own beds are aired. This will bring my swine out in the spring all right. It may be proper to say that I am a farmer, on a moderate scale, 240 acres, 13 miles west of Chicago—and generally fat from 25 to 40 swine yearly, and that I write from actual experience.—ILLINOIAN, Gouverneur, N. Y., 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Seeing an article in your paper of Feb. 16th, from JNO. SANFIELD, recommending the "manure pile" as a "comfortable" sleeping place for swine, and fearing lest some inexperienced farmer might be induced to try the experiment, I enter my protest against any such swinish practice. If Mr. S. permits his hogs to occupy their "comfortable" quarters till spring, he will find them covered with a scurf and such an accumulation of filth upon them, that a NOAH'S deluge would not wash them clean. Nothing short of strong soap-suds and an hour's disagreeable labor, will cleanse them of the oleaginous excrement with which they are covered. No man should ever pursue such a dirty, filthy and unhealthy practice; if he does, his hogs will soon resemble the rooster represented in your "Rebus." Let Mr. SANFIELD put his hogs in a good, warm, dry pen, keep it well cleaned, and their bed renewed every few days, with plenty to eat, and he will have pigs that he will be proud to show to his neighbors.—H. H. T., Cochranton, Pa., 1861.

If you want a litter of sickly and crippled young pigs, you cannot accomplish that object better than to let them lay on a pile of unfermented horse manure. Old hogs may have constitutions to stand through the process of fermentation without any perceptible injury, but I have always found the young ones to suffer from it. As for mixing the manure from the horse and cow stable together, I endorse that, as it has a tendency to prevent the ammonia evaporating from the horse stable manure in a dry season.—ROBERT DOUGLAS, Truxton, Cort. Co., N. Y., 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—I see advertised in your valuable paper, by two different people, the Italian Bees. Being aware of numerous humbugs advertised in the papers, I appeal to you whether I would be safe in purchasing a hive, and whether they are superior to our native bees?—A. H., Bridgton, Cumberland Co., N. J., 1861.

The Italian bees are said, by the best apianians we have, to be less irritable in their disposition, and to be more industrious, accumulating more honey than our common bees. From the evidence we have seen, we judge this to be the fact.

Bural Spirit of the Press.

THE Boston Cultivator states that Mr. EPHRAIM MASTIN, of Sutton, N. H., raised the past season "herd-grass which grew five feet nine inches in height, with heads seven inches long. It was taken from a field where the twentieth successive crop grew without the application of any manure, except the semi-annual deposit of a small stream from Kearsarge mountain, which has been turned upon it in the spring and fall."

Oat Straw as Food for Sick Animals. I HAVE often noticed, says Dr. DADD, in the American Stock Journal, that sick horses will eat oat straw in preference to any other kind of fodder; as a matter of course, however, some will refuse to eat it. Oat straw contains a large proportion of nutrimental matter and some phosphates, and, when converted into a sort of bran by means of mill-stones, is a very nourishing diet. This sort of aliment is useful when combined with ground oats, for animals whose systems lack the requisite amount of phosphates. A milch cow, for example, the subject of a prostrating disease, is very much benefited by food of this kind.

Quantity of Food for Stock. FREQUENT observations have shown that an ox will consume two per cent. of his weight of hay per day to maintain his condition. If put to moderate labor, an increase of this quantity to three per cent. will enable him to perform his work, and still maintain his flesh. If he is to be fattened, he requires about four and a half per cent. of his weight daily in nutritious food. A cow to remain stationary, and give no milk, eats two per cent. of her weight daily; and if in milk, she will consume three per cent. It is evident therefore that two cows may be kept in milk on the same amount that it would take to keep three doing nothing. So says the Michigan Farmer.

"Sweetening" Cut Hay for Cows. A CORRESPONDENT of the Connecticut Homestead, in an account of a noted milk farm near Hartford, says the farmer, Mr. GATES, cuts most of his hay in winter, moistening it, and thoroughly mixing it with a thin swirl of rye, corn and cotton-seed meal, and water, allowing the mass to lie from one feeding time to another, to swell and sweeten before using. "I say sweeten, not turn sour,—he feeds before it comes to that." The writer thinks the process analogous to that undergone in a sour apple, which "if bruised on the side, the juice of that spot becomes decidedly sweet in a short time,—the saccharine ferment, conversion of starch into sugar, and all that," taking place.

Choice in Sitting Hens. G. W. H., in the Farmer and Gardener, says:—"Not every hen that rumples up her feathers and clucks, clucks, clucks, with affected matronly indignation and importance, is fit for the great duty of bringing forth a brood. A good sitting hen should be large. Size is important, because of the greater amount of warmth imparted to the eggs, as well as giving the hen the ability to cover the eggs thoroughly, and thus secure regular hatching. She should be well feathered. If the hen which shows a desire for incubation, has a meager coat of feathers, try and get her out of the notion. If she will sit in spite of you, give her but few eggs. Avoid cross-grained, 'fuss and feather hens.' They may do the hatching very well, but prove poor mothers."

Cobs and Cob Meal for Cattle and Swine. A CORRESPONDENT of the New England Farmer says that breeders express different opinions about the value of cobs as food for domestic animals; some regard them as no better than saw-dust, while others think they contain nutriment. I agree with the latter, in opinion, from practical observation. Soon after the last corn harvest, I had occasion to shell a quantity of corn before the cobs were fully dry. I sat by our oxen and cows, broke up the cobs, and fed them to the cattle, who devoured them with apparent good relish. I have often fed cattle with cobs before, and observed them to feed at a heap of threshed cobs for a definite time, but as cobs grow dry they become tough, and hard to masticate, and therefore cattle are not so fond of them. Cattle and swine, like human beings, have an instinctive preference for

those substances which afford nourishment to the body, which is evidence in my mind to prove that cobs are nutritious to cattle. Ruminating animals are furnished with digestive organs capable of extracting nutriment from substances which for swine would be entirely inert. Swine being destitute of the ruminating apparatus, derive no nutriment from cobs, ground or unground, after the corn is ripe. I have repeatedly given my hogs ears of corn partially ripe, and they were very careful to avoid as much of the cob as possible. I have occasionally fed my swine, of late, with cob meal, and the poor brutes resented the treatment like a dainty boarder, and would grunt for unadulterated meal. On the whole, I have made up my mind that cob meal is very good for cattle, but worthless for hogs. Cobs, by the pound, are probably of equal value to butts and stalks, and when ground with the corn, are a substitute for chopped fodder for cattle and horses.

Jefferson Co. Premium Cheese. At the Winter Meeting of the Jefferson Co. (N. Y.) Ag. Society, the first prize on Cheese was awarded to REUBEN LEFFINGWELL, of Henderson, and the second to A. D. STANLEY, of Adams. Accompanying their exhibit were statements of the manner of making, which we condense from the Northern New York Journal, as follows:

Mr. LEFFINGWELL keeps 35 cows; has 80 acres of pasture, June grass and white clover; 40 acres meadow, seeded to herdsgrass and clover; feeds meal and shorts in spring; average yield of cheese per cow is 450 lbs. Set night's milk into tin vat, and take off cream in morning. Return cream by dissolving in warm milk, then put rennet in with cream and turn the mixture into the milk in the vat. Warm milk with steam to temperature of 85 degrees for reception of rennet. Preserve rennets with salt. Separate whey from curd with a perforated tin strainer. Scald with steam two hours at the temperature of 100 degrees. Salt at the rate of 3 lbs. of salt to 100 lbs. of cheese from press. Color curd with annatto applied at the time of setting milk. Put curd to press warm, press about 20 hours, average weight of cheese 75 lbs. Bandage cheese about 2 hours after going to press, turn once in 24 hours. Feed whey mostly to cows. Average income last year per cow, forty-three dollars.

Mr. STANLEY has 35 cows, feeds on 75 acres; grass, timothy, red top, and clover, meadow equal to 50 acres, of the same kind as pastures. He says, I feed grain and roots, corn meal, and carrots cut in the spring, till the grass comes; average yield per cow, 400 lbs. I set my milk in tin vat at night, take off cream in the morning, return cream most of the season, put the cream in strainer and pour the morning's milk to it; warm milk by putting warm water into a wooden vat that the tin vat sets in, sometimes use thermometer, but generally common sense; the usual heat to receive rennet 82 degrees in cool weather, and less in warm; prepare rennets, wash them, fill them with salt, hang them up to dry, to fit them for use, soak them in pure water with a mixture of sage and salt; set my milk in tin vat; separate whey from curd with a perforated tin strainer; scald by putting water between wooden vat and tin; commence scalding when we are through cutting up; scald gradual till well cooked. Usual time three hours, use about 4 ounces salt to 12 lbs. of curd. Color cheese in spring with annatto when I put in rennet; put my curd to press when cold. I give it an amount of pressure sufficient to press it in 24 hours. The average weight of cheese up to this time, 70 lbs. I bandage my cheese when I turn them, in three or four hours after putting to press; apply ley to them when taken out of press; after which apply whey; butter while curing, turn them once in 24 hours. Dispose of my whey by feeding it to calves and hogs. My soil is clay loam, sandy loam, gravel, and black muck; do not keep a full dairy account. Average income per cow last year thirty-five dollars.

HAMBURG CHEESE.—It would be very gratifying to me if some of the RURAL'S readers would furnish, through the columns, the manner of making the "Hamburg Cheese" so justly celebrated throughout Western New York.—F. T. HASLETTER, Massena, Yates Co., Wis., 1861.

PROPORTIONS OF LIME AND SAND IN LAYING WATER PIPE.—Will some of your contributors or readers, who have experimented, inform me how much waterlime, or cement, it takes to the rod for laying pipe to convey water? I saw in the N. Y. Farmer a year or so ago, that pipe can be constructed of lime and sand, but I have no idea how much it will take to a rod.—H. Wood, Jr., Indiana Co., Pa., 1861.

VIOLATED TABES IN CALVES.—Men oftentimes, through a perverted taste, acquire a liking for strange things, but such is seldom the case with the brute creation. However, I have a calf which exhibits (would you call it the progress of civilization?) a peculiarity, and I am "in the pursuit of knowledge." This calf is in the habit of eating silvers from the fence, the butts of cornstalks, &c., but has no relish for hay, meal, or any good fodder. Will not some of the RURAL'S readers tell me how to correct these practices? J. M. EDGERTON, Watson, Allegan Co., Mich., 1861.

BLIND STAGGERS IN HORSES.—In the RURAL of March 2d, I saw a remedy for blind staggers.—Gum camphor, one ounce; whisky or brandy, one pint. Can this be given at any time, and must it be given when the staggers are coming on?—QUERIST, Lindenville, N. Y., 1861.

The remedy is published just as we found it, with its proper credit, &c. We suppose that the general rule, applicable to all remedial agencies, is in full force with respect to this, viz., when they are needed, the sooner administered the better.

Inquiries and Answers.

INFLUENCE OF THE RURAL.—Another Farmer's Club.—A correspondent writing from Gouverneur, St. Lawrence Co., speaks in high terms of the value and influence of the RURAL NEW-YORKER. After alluding to our recent article on Farmers' Clubs—its suggestions relative to organizing and conducting them—he adds:—"The farmers of our town have formed themselves into a similar association for the purpose of exchanging ideas and otherwise mutually benefiting members. The club meets every Wednesday evening. Several interesting and instructive discussions have already been held, and essays read on a number of practical subjects. It is intended to form a library. The officers of the club are as follows: President—JOHN THOMSON. Vice Pres't—Andrew Dodds 2d, Goodman Carpenter, Irwin S. Barnes. Secretary—Edwin A. Dodds. Treasurer—William Ellis. Librarian—George Parker.

CHANGE OF THE PATENT LAW.—By the recent amendment to the patent laws it is provided that "all patents hereafter granted shall remain in force for seventeen years from the date of issue, and all extension of such patents is hereby prohibited." We think this a most judicious act, as it will put a stop to a vast amount of corruption and intrigue at Washington. Wish it also prevented the extension of patents heretofore issued, especially those from which fortunes have been realized, like that of McCOORMICK'S Reaper. It is believed, however, that Mr. McCO.'S attempt to obtain a renewal will prove unsuccessful.

TOWANDA VALLEY AG. SOCIETY.—At the last annual meeting of this progressive Union Society, the following board of officers received a unanimous vote: President—J. G. SREPAR, Alexandria. Vice Presidents—Dr. S. L. Grosvenor, Wm. Powers, Alex. Heman; Board of Directors: Dr. E. C. Holt, Bennington; M. Wallis, Ebenezer Looze, Darien. Rec. Secretary—S. Folsom, Attica. Sec. Library—E. Bishop. Treasurer—F. R. Wright. Librarian—G. Dorrance.

WASHTENAW CO (Mich.) AG. SOCIETY.—The following are the officers of this Society for 1861: President—J. G. LELAND, Northfield. Vice Presidents—Calvin Wheeler, Salem; Wm. S. Maynard, Ann Arbor; L. S. Wood, Lodi; I. V. Wakeman, Dexter; N. Sheldon, Lodi. Rec. Secretary—A. Waidemann, Ann Arbor. Cor. Secretary—W. N. Strong, Ann Arbor. Treasurer—U. B. Wilson, Ann Arbor.

THE FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' CLUB, of Franklin, Del. Co., was recently organized and the following officers chosen: President—BERRIA L. BOWERS. Vice Presidents—M. S. Kellogg, W. M. Mills, Eli Hopkins, Hiram Whitney. Secretary—Henry E. Abell. Treasurer—Hiram Mann. Directors—S. F. Miller, Elijah Roe, Enos Munson, P. F. Northrup, J. Edgar Payne.

READ THE ADVERTISEMENTS. The new ones are timely and interesting, and somewhat numerous withal. Business men are evidently of opinion that the season is at hand for active operations, and that it is unnecessary to wait longer for politicians, or the Government, to arrange affairs.

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Rural Notes and Items.

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HORTICULTURAL.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

In our last we promised to name a few of the trees and shrubs most desirable for the lawn. It may be observed, in the first place, that the trees suitable for the lawn, depends upon its size. It is a great mistake to put large trees on a small lawn, so that two or three will shade the whole ground and prevent the growth of everything else. If you have but little room, therefore select but few trees and those of small growth. A portion, say one-fourth, should be evergreens, as they produce a fine effect both in summer and winter. The Norway Spruce makes a pretty large tree, and this should be understood at planting, or it may be placed so near the house or some important walk that its destruction will be necessary when it obtains anything like full size. The Arbor Vitae and the Red Cedar are small growing trees, and produce but little shade. For deciduous trees, the Mountain Ash and trees of a like character are desirable, and the Magnolias should have a place on every lawn. Magnolia tripetala, or Umbrella Tree, macrophylla, or Broad Leaved, conspicua, or Chandelier, purpurea, Soulangiana, and glauca, are of small growth and the hardiest. Every year we have them flowering in our grounds, and we are surprised that they are not more generally known and planted.



COMMON WHITE THORN.

The Flowering Thorns are a very interesting class of small trees, not as generally planted as they deserve to be. The common White Thorn is a very pretty shrub, and we give an engraving of a branch, but the Double White, and Double Red, and the Pink and Scarlet single varieties, make beautiful trees, and nothing is more beautiful when in flower. They can be obtained at most of our nurseries. The White Fringe is a very small tree, growing from twelve to eighteen feet in height, but flowering when quite small, and very desirable both on account of its large and fine foliage, and its singular fringe—like white flowers, having the appearance of cut paper. Where the Laburnum or Golden Chain is hardy, it should be planted, but in this latitude it is a little tender. We might add to this list, but our object is to name only a few of the best varieties. Of course those who have a large extent to plant will not neglect the Horse Chestnuts and other beautiful trees of large growth, both native and foreign.



DAPHNE MEZEREON.

In selecting shrubs, it is best to do so with reference to their season for flowering, so as to have as long a season as possible, and an uninterrupted succession of bloom. First among the early spring flowering shrubs, is the Daphne mezereum, the pink flowers of which will begin to appear about the first of April in this latitude. This is followed by the Japan Quince with its bright scarlet bloom, and Forsythia viridissima, one of the prettiest of the early flowering shrubs, the flowers appearing before the leaves, and



FORSYTHIA VIRIDISSIMA.

of a clear, deep yellow color. Our engraving shows a branch in bloom with the leaves just appearing on the point.

From our notes taken last season, we find that the Tartarian Honeysuckle was the next in flower, followed by some of the early Spiraeas, as Nicoterti,

and the Lilacs, of which there are now half-a-dozen good varieties. As the Lilacs were about losing their flowers, the members of the spicy Calycanthus family, the African Tamaris, the Deutzia gracilis, and several of the Spiraeas put on their holiday dress. Of the latter the lanceolata, though common and cheap, is one of the very best. It was figured and described in the RURAL of January 12, the present year. This will bring us to about the 20th of June, when that most magnificent Chinese shrub, the Weigela rosea, will flower, and prove the most attractive object on the lawn; and he who plants a Weigela will never regret the trouble or the investment. It follows that old favorite, the Snow Ball.

Here we have a succession of flowers from the first of April until July, or about three months, from shrubs alone, and the Indigo Shrub, the Smoke Shrub, and the Altheas, and others, will prolong this season quite into the autumn, while the Snow Berry, with its icy-looking balls, and the Strawberry Tree, with its clusters of bright berries, carries the beauty of the shrubs far into the winter. All that we have named are desirable, and perhaps we have mentioned enough for a small collection, but there are probably many other varieties as good as some of these. We have not space, however, for anything like a catalogue of shrubs suitable for the lawn. In our next we will name a few of the best Herbaceous and Annual Flowers, with such directions for cultivation as we judge will be profitable to our readers.

CULTURE OF THE PLUM.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—It must be acknowledged that in Western York the Peach is an uncertain crop. We had fruit last year, but the present spring our buds are killed, and we shall have no fruit, and this was the fate of our fruit for several years previous to the last. Now, we want a substitute for the peach—a more certain crop. Apples will do for a winter fruit, but they cannot take the place of our summer peaches. The pear is being cultivated by many fruit growers, and the summer varieties may do tolerably well to take the place of the peach, but I think the Plum is, in many respects, a better substitute for the peach, being much more like that fruit, while in some respects it has an advantage over that old and delicious favorite. For cooking and preserving there is nothing equal to the plum,—in fact it is the only fruit that is improved by cooking. By being cooked, the peach and pear lose their flavor, but who will say that the Damsun family is not much improved by cooking, and there is no fruit, if we except the cranberry, that is equal to it for tarts, pies, and sauce, while for bottling, this class of plums is unequalled.

The plum is now sought by shippers for the Eastern and the Canada markets, and last season I noticed three dollars per bushel was paid for good plums, while the best English Damsuns were eagerly purchased at four dollars per bushel for the Montreal market. I sold some at this price, and was informed by the purchaser that he had a contract for all he could furnish at \$6.50 in Montreal. Now, I do not say that this price may always be obtained, but I do think that good cooking plums will always sell at a remunerating price. They bear transportation well, if picked at a proper time, and there is little danger from bruising in shipment, while a few days' delay that would ruin a cargo of peaches, causes no injury to plums. This makes them safe for shippers.

The Curculio and the Black Knot proved so injurious to the plum that its culture for a time was almost abandoned, but now they are not serious. A proper use of the knife will prevent injury to the trees by the knot, while a little care will save abundance of fruit. This all will admit, I think, who have had experience during the past three or four years.

Monroe Co., N. Y., 1861. PRUNIER.

GRAFTING THE GRAPE-VINE.

My experience in grafting the vine for several years would furnish a chapter of failures. I think I grafted a few vines every season for about five years, and during the whole time succeeded in making but one grow and form a good vine; and this one only by disregarding the usual directions given by the professed experts. Instead of waiting for the formation of leaves and discontinuance of the excessive flow of sap, I grafted this one early, before the flow commenced. Since that time I have grafted thousands of vines, with nearly as good success as attends any other kind of grafting. I have practised saddle grafting, whip grafting, and several fancy methods, but have found the common cleft grafting, carefully performed, the most reliable and successful. For large, strong stocks, I hardly think tying necessary, though a covering of clay or grafting-wax is undoubtedly beneficial. For smaller stocks, I use only paper covered with grafting-wax on one side. I could not recommend copper wire in any case. I have also grafted on various stocks, with very little difference in result, using indiscriminately the wild frost-grape of the woods, the Catawaba, Isabella, Concord, and some others. I do not say grafting the vine cannot be successfully performed after the leaves have formed; but it is a fact that up to the present time, notwithstanding many trials, I have never succeeded in doing it.—Geo. W. CAMPBELL, in Horticulturist.

AN ORNAMENTAL FARM.

We have in this country but few fine rural residences,—such as would be called in Europe country seats,—all laid out in parks, lawns, and gardens, for beauty and pleasure, such as is very common in England, and which gives such a pleasant variety to its scenery. We do not regret that this is so, for where we find a few sufficiently wealthy thus to gratify their taste, we find many poor. Here wealth is divided among the people, few amassing a very large amount, and few fail to obtain sufficient to gratify all reasonable wants. But where persons have, by industry, or ability, or good luck, accumulated a large fortune, we are pleased to see them expend a portion in the cultivation of the beautiful trees and plants which the Creator has placed here for our enjoyment,—in showing how nature and art combined can make a copy, imperfect though it be, of the first and best of all gardens, where every tree that was pleasant to the sight and good for food. Such establishments serve as light-houses, to guide the masses in the work of improvement.

Last season we received an invitation to visit the country seat of Wm. P. LETCHWORTH, Esq., on the Genesee River near the village of Portageville, and in full view of Portage Falls, the High Bridge, and the romantic scenery which has given that section of the State a world-wide fame, and made it a favorite resort of the tourist. Mr. L.'s farm consists of about two hundred acres, already partially improved by the construction of walks and drives through the forest,



GLEN IRIS, FARM ORNEE, OF WM. P. LETCHWORTH, PORTAGEVILLE.

lawns, seats, and rustic adornments, while other improvements are contemplated and in progress. Not finding it convenient to accept the invitation, we have been furnished by WILLIAM WEBSTER, who had charge of the improvements last season, with a drawing of the grounds, and a few pages from a new work on Landscape Gardening, which he designs publishing, descriptive of this place.

GLEN IRIS, the country seat of Wm. P. LETCHWORTH, Esq., is situated on the Genesee River, near Portageville, and contains about two hundred acres, finely diversified with rock, wood and water. The scenery is picturesque and grand, and the natural advantages and capabilities of the place are well appreciated by the proprietor, and none of its natural beauties have been marred, but rather improved by art. In forming my designs, and in the execution of the work as far as completed, I have strictly adhered to the natural style, and my views in this respect have been in accordance with those of the proprietor. In ground operations no leveling has been attempted, except to overcome some steep ascent in the drives, or to remove some slight obstruction on the surface. The fences, gates, bridges, &c., are all executed in rustic style.

By reference to the plan it will be observed that there are three entrances to the estate, marked respectively 1, 6, 13. The principal entrance is at 1. The dwelling is located at 2, and the stables and offices at 3. Here is seen one of the difficulties I have already hinted at as likely to occur in places that have been previously occupied. In this case the dwelling was located in too close proximity to the entrance gate, thereby destroying the good effects which might have been obtained had the arrangement been otherwise. But, as the dwelling, stables and offices had undergone a thorough repairing, there was no alternative but to let them remain for the present. The small space encircled by rays forms a terrace of about ten or twelve acres in extent. On this is located the dwelling, stables and offices, gardener's cottage, and kitchen garden, at 4, and orchard. The most natural site for the dwelling would have been near the place where the gardener's cottage is located, and which is marked 5 on the plan. This arrangement would have presented a broad and ample lawn between the entrance and the dwelling from the front part of the house. As now represented, the drive is carried along near the edge of the terrace, past the gardener's cottage, to a point where it is intersected by another drive, from the lower entrance, which winds around the hill to the point of intersection. From this point, for a short distance, the drive is supported by a retaining wall and hand rail. From thence it sweeps around to the foot of a small lake, (marked 11,) across which is thrown a neat rustic bridge. A little beyond this, and to the left of the drive, is a small fish pond, (marked 8,) which is fed by a never failing spring of the purest water. From this point, the drive ascends the hillside to the higher grounds beyond, where it is intersected by numerous other roads. These are made to traverse the hillside in every direction—sometimes through ravines, around knolls, over streams, through woodland and glade, diverging frequently where some giant oak or pine would seem to bar its further progress, plunging at times into the deep and gloomy forest, and at others opening out into a beautiful stretch of verdant lawn.

It may be well to mention that a great portion of the estate through which these roads pass, is original forest, and having been but lightly thinned, the trees have attained, many of them, an enormous growth. There is one in particular, a noble pine, around which one of the drives is carried, and which is marked 10 on the map, that is well worthy of notice, rising as it does from the center of the road with a majestic and stately shaft to the height of nearly a hundred and fifty feet, and which for a long distance is clean and straight as an arrow. The tulip trees and magnolias are also conspicuous objects in these grounds. Indeed, it is seldom that I have found so large a number of species and varieties of our native forest trees in such a circumscribed space. For those desirous of extending their ride to a more remote part of the grounds, the drive is made to connect with the farm road, which is carried along the upper edge of the bluff, the elevation of which is three hundred feet above the bed of the river between the upper and middle falls, and from which an extended view of the surrounding country may be obtained. One side of this road is flanked by a stump fence, which is quite characteristic of this part of the country. The main drive, which is about a hundred feet below this, after following the course of the bank for some distance, approaches and passes close to a small but beautiful sheet of water called Crystal Lake, (marked 14 on the plan.) The elevation of this lake is two hundred feet above the bed of the river. The drive in passing the lake immediately emerges into a most beautiful stretch of verdant lawn, to the right of which is a beautiful pine grove (marked 9,) which contains a number of rustic seats, and from thence is carried for a short distance along a side-hill until it finally issues out into the public road through the upper entrance gate, (marked 13.)

Opposite the bridge which crosses the river at the middle falls, is the lower entrance gate, on one side of which is the porter's lodge, on the other, cottages for the laborers (marked 7) employed on the estate. The main approach to the dwelling from the railroad station is by the public road on the north, as seen on the plan, near to the short curve which winds around the point, (marked 12.) A little to the northeast of the main entrance are the middle falls stairs which

lead to bed of the river. By the side of the stairs descends one of the most charming cataraacts to be found, being the overflow of the small creek shown on the northeast corner of the map. This is a great point of attraction for the tourist. A small building for the accommodation of visitors is placed near the head of the stairs, where those who feel disposed can enter and rest themselves after the fatigue of ascending the river bank. Close to, and on the right of the main entrance, is a good sized building, (marked 15.) This, Wm. LETCHWORTH, with his accustomed liberality, has furnished with a large number of the leading periodicals and public journals of the day, and thrown open to the public free of charge as a reading room. Among the other improvements which my plan embraces, and which will be entered into as soon as practicable, is a rustic veranda for the reading room, and also one for the retiring room at the middle falls stairs.

That this place and its sublime scenery is not wholly unknown abroad, I can vouch for, as I have in my possession a large photograph of the immense bridge and the scenery surrounding it, which was executed in London, from a view taken by an artist who came purposely to this country, a short time since, to take, among other places, some of the best views in the vicinity of Portage.

Inquiries and Answers.

PEACHES FOR MARKET.

Will you please inform me and others the best ten varieties of peaches for market, commencing at the earliest, and so on? I wish to plant an orchard of about two thousand trees, and want to select, so that I can harvest at all seasons. Are free or cling stocks the best for budding?—S. H. COLBY, Allenville, Indiana, 1861.

The kind of stocks will make no difference. In preference to naming the varieties best suited to this locality, we give our Indiana friend extracts from the Reports of several of the Western States to the American Pomological Society, of the varieties best suited to their several localities, judging that this course will best convey the information needed. A committee was appointed at the last session of this Society to prepare, with the aid of local committees, lists of fruits adapted to different sections of the country, "due regard being had to soil, climate, and other circumstances, affecting the tree and fruit." The committee, we understand, have entered upon their work with energy, and we anticipate great good from their labors, and much light upon the difficult question—What varieties are best adapted to the different sections of the country?

THOMAS S. KENNEDY, Chairman of the Kentucky Fruit Committee, makes the following report on Peaches:—"The following list of twelve varieties, which are named in the order of ripening, and which embraces a period extending from July to October, is recommended for an orchard for family use, of one hundred trees, to be divided in equal proportions of each kind. For an orchard of one thousand trees for market purposes, the earliest kinds sell for the highest prices, and the late varieties are generally in great demand for preserving; hence a larger portion should be of the early and late kinds, when prices are high, instead of the kinds that mature during the glut of the season. "Early Tilton, free; Crawford's Early, free; New York Cling, (Syn., Pope's Cling); Van Zandt's Superb, free; Old Mixon, free; Catharine, cling; Crawford's Late, free; Columbia, free; Grand Admirable, cling; Freestone Heath, Large White Heath, cling; Smock's Late, free. "In addition to the foregoing, many other varieties of good quality could be added, and would be desirable in insuring, by the diversity of kinds, more certainly of a partial crop in unfavorable seasons. By some persons, the white fleshed kinds are believed to be harder than the yellow fleshed. "Hill's Superb Jersey, free; Druid Hill, free; Leopold, cling; Tippecanoe, cling; Early Red Raripie, free; George the Fourth, free; Royal George, free; Hobb's Seedling, cling; Malta. "M. B. BATEMAN, for Central and Eastern Ohio, recommends as follows: Best six varieties for family: Hale's Early, Old Mixon Free, Old Mixon Cling, Ward's Late Free, Crawford's Early, Ward's Late Free.

Best twelve varieties for family use and market: Hale's Early, 10 Old Mixon Free, 10 Coolidge's Favorite, 5 White Imperial, 5 Barnard's Seedling, 10 Early Crawford, 15 Large Early York, 5 Late Red Raripie, 5 Jacques Raripie, 10 Old Mixon Free, 10 Poole's Late Yellow, 10 Crawford's Late, 10 Crawford's Early, 12 Ward's Late Free, 8

For an orchard of one thousand trees, multiply the figures by ten; or add to the list such as Troth's Early, Yellow Raripie, Jacques Raripie, Susquehanna, Cook's Seedling, and Red Cheek Melocoton, then multiply. T. T. LYON, for Michigan, recommends the following: Best twelve varieties of peaches for an orchard of one hundred trees: Serrate Early York, 5 Early Slocum, 10 Coolidge's Favorite, 5 White Imperial, 5 Barnard's Seedling, 10 Early Crawford, 15 Large Early York, 5 Late Red Raripie, 5 Jacques Raripie, 10 Old Mixon Free, 10 Poole's Late Yellow, 10 Crawford's Late, 10

With the present ample railroad facilities for transportation, our Northern markets are supplied with peaches in advance of the season, so that the very early varieties become less profitable. Under this state of affairs, the following is believed to be a profitable selection for a market orchard of one thousand trees of this fruit: Barnard's Seedling, 300 Crawford's Early, 400 White Imperial, 100 Crawford's Late, 200

No report was presented from the State of Indiana. The remissness of some States is much to be regretted. SPREADING STRAW ON MEADOWS, &c.—A number of subscribers, as well as myself, wish to know through the means of your valuable paper, if the spreading of dry straw from the stack on meadows is of any, and if so, what benefit it is? also, would it be a benefit to spread it under apple trees which stand on meadow land? Any comments or suggestions on the matter will be gratefully received.—ALONZO DRYO, Canton, 1861. Straw, or anything spread on the grass under young trees that would have a tendency to destroy the grass, would be beneficial to the trees. This straw would do if thick enough to exclude light and partially the air. Of course this system would not be advantageous to a meadow. Whether a light covering of straw would help the grass or not, we must leave to those who have tried the experiment.

Domestic Economy.

COLORING RECIPE, CAKES, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Seeing an inquiry in a late number of your journal for a recipe to color yellow, I send mine, which I know to be good:

COLORING YELLOW.—To 5 lbs. of cloth, (cotton,) dissolve one and a half lbs. of sugar of lead in hot water, dissolve in a tub of cold water 12 ounces bicarbonate of potash. Dip in the lead water first, ring out and dip in the potash, ring out, and thus proceed until you have a good color to produce an orange. Dip the yellow into boiling hot lime water; take a lump of lime as large as your fist, in one pallful of water, let it settle, skim, dip in, the cloth, and rinse in cold water.

LOAF CAKE.—One pound of flour; 1 lb. of sugar; 1 of butter; 8 eggs, well beaten; whites and yolks separate; the ring of one lemon, chopped very fine; 1 lb. of raisins, stoned, and chopped a little; 1 teacup of sour milk; 1 teaspoonful saleratus.

ICING FOR TARTE.—Beat the yolk of an egg and some melted butter well together, wash the tarts with a feather, and sift sugar over as you put them into the oven.

RICH PLAIN CAKE.—Beat a pound of butter to a cream and add a pound of brown sugar, rub in for ten minutes longer, then add eight eggs, two at a time, beating them as they are put in until the whole is very smooth, then stir in a pound and a quarter of flour, a little at a time, till it is well mixed. Season with a little nutmeg, add a pound of currants, together with citron and orange peel cut into pieces. Bake two hours. ANNE. Eden, Erie Co., N. Y., 1861.

HOW TO MAKE TOILET SOAP.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In reply to L. M. C., St. Mary's, C. W., here are two recipes for making Toilet Soap, which are very good, at least, so I think:

TRANSPARENT SOAP.—One pound common bar soap; 1 pint alcohol; 15 drops citronella, or other perfume; half oz. spirits of hartshorn. Have your soap cut very fine, put all the material in a clear iron kettle, stir it slowly until all is dissolved. Let it just come to a boil, then take it up in any shape you please, in molds or bars.

WHITE BAR SOAP.—Eight quarts of water; 4 lbs. common bar soap; half pound sal soda; 2 ozs. alcohol; 2 ozs. saltpeter; 1 oz. borax. Put all into an iron kettle, stir till all is dissolved, then boil ten minutes.—J. E. WOLCOTT, Pittsford, N. Y., 1861.

HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THE HAIR.—As to men, we say, when the hair begins to fall out, the best plan is to have it cut short, give it a good brushing with a moderately stiff brush, while the hair is dry, then wash it well with warm soap suds, then rub into the scalp, about the roots of the hair, a little bay rum, brandy, or camphor water. Do these things twice a month—the brushing of the scalp may be profitably done twice a week. Damp the hair with water every time the toilet is made. Nothing ever made is better for the hair than pure soft water, if the scalp is kept clean in the way we have named. The use of oils, of pomatum, or grease of any kind, is ruinous to the hair of man or woman. We consider it a filthy practice, almost universal though it be, for it gathers dust and dirt, and soils wherever it touches. Nothing but pure soft water should ever be allowed on the heads of children. It is a different practice that robs our women of their most beautiful ornament long before their prime; the hair of our daughters should be kept within two inches, until their twelfth year.—Hall's Journal of Health.

APPLE PIE.—It is a conceded fact that the most superior apples make but an insipid pie in the spring. I would like to give the numerous lady readers of the RURAL the benefit of my improved recipe, "if you please." Make a nice, flaky crust, pare and cut the apples in rather thick slices, spread them on your plate an inch thick, or more, sprinkle a handful of sugar over them (I prefer white), then spread two or three tablespoonfuls of currant jelly over them, a little flour from a flour dredge, nutmeg, three tablespoonfuls of water, and a lump of butter the size of a small buttermilk, and you will have a superior pie. Grated white sugar on the top crust before putting in the oven is an improvement. To prevent the juice boiling out in the oven, wet the edges of your crust with the white of an egg; water will do, but egg is better.—J. E. WOLCOTT, Pittsford, N. Y., 1861.

JELLY CAKE.—Three eggs; 1 cup sugar; half cup butter; 1 1/2 cup flour; half teaspoon saleratus; bake in thin loaves. Spread the jelly on when the cake is warm, and roll immediately.

GINGER CAKE.—Two-thirds cup molasses; one-third cup butter; 7 table-spoonful water; one teaspoon ginger; half teaspoonful salt; half do. saleratus; 1 1/2 cup flour; bake quick.

GINGER COOKIES.—One cup molasses; half do. butter; half do. water; half teaspoonful saleratus; 1 do. ginger; flour sufficient to stiffen enough to roll out.—IDA, Sauquoit, N. Y., 1861.

A DELICATE DESSERT.—Lay half a dozen crackers in a tureen; pour enough boiling water over them to cover them. In a few minutes they will be swollen to three or four times their original size. Now grate loaf sugar and a little nutmeg over them, and dip on enough sweet cream to make a nice sauce; and you have a delicious and simple dessert that will rest lightly upon the stomach, and it is so easily prepared. Leave out the cream, and it is a valuable recipe for sick room cookery.

A CURE FOR RHEUMATISM.—Bathe the part affected in water in which potatoes with their skins have been boiled, as hot as can be borne, just before going to bed. By the next morning the pain will be much relieved, if not removed. One application of this simple remedy has cured the most obstinate rheumatic pains. This is vouched for by an English paper; it looks to us like an "old soldier," but if it be a remedy, God bless the afflicted.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

TRY IT.—With these words the stranger put a package of DE LAND & Co.'s Saleratus into KATE'S hand, and disappeared. Ever after this memorable day, poor bread, dingy pastry, and sulphurous biscuit, were unknown in this family, but the fame of KATE'S excellent pastry, bread, &c., spread over the whole school district, and led many nervous people to make the inquiry, "Whose Saleratus do you use?" to which she invariably replied, "D. B. DE LAND & Co.'s." It can be purchased from most grocers and storekeepers, and is for sale at wholesale by the manufacturers, at Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y., and by the grocers in the cities and villages throughout the country.

Ladies' Department.

THE EMPTY CRADLE.

BY EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER.

In the still and quiet chamber There's an empty cradle bed, With a print upon the pillow Of a baby's shining head.

Once the mother sat beside it When the day was growing dim, And her pleasant voice was singing Soft and low, a cradle-hymn.

Little head that used to nestle In the pillows white and soft; Little hands, whose restless fingers, Folded then in dreams so oft;

Ab, the empty, useless cradle! We will put it out of sight, Let our hearts should grieve too sorely For the little one to-night.

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

THE DRESS QUESTION.

"LINDA" DEFINING HER POSITION.

THE unknown reformer is growing more specific. He says "fashionable women," instead of "American women, which distinction is quite pacifying, since it enables us to define our own position.

As women generally possess a fondness for dress, and nearly all approach as near the latest styles as their means will allow, the term "fashionable" has an extensive application. One would think, to read the newspaper paragraphs, that the mandate had gone forth,— "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve," and that the response had come echoing back from the women of the land.

These whole magazines of accusations are hurled at you women of fashion, and have you no ammunition for self-defence? If you've anything to confront the enemy with, you'll need a gun that'll "shoot 'round a corner" to make the desired hit. But since conciliation and peace instead of war are more in accordance with our republican notions, we'd advise you to make some concessions; do something to atone for your offences; for, according to the article quoted, you bear about as much resemblance to a true woman in mental and physical stature as DOLLY DUTTON to Queen ELIZABETH, and a man might marry half a dozen such as are represented, without being guilty of polygamy.

Now, supposing fashion, in its strictest sense, be laid on the shelf, that your real worth is not eclipsed by your plumage. Doff your hoops, diminish your skirts from nine widths to four,—such amplitude is unnecessary,—make your own bonnet, wear that blanket shawl,—just the thing for winter,—toss those light, thin-soled shoes out of your sight, and wear such as your grandmothers wore, eschew dainties and chew surloin, tell them you're going to put down pride, and see if you are not regarded with as much astonishment as "JOAN OF ARC," who was "made (Maid) of Orleans" instead of orioline, and then to one you will be reckoned a candidate for the Lunatic Asylum in less than a week.

Perhaps our unknown reformer would preach "moderation" unto all "women," but does he not know that the word is obsolete? People don't settle down on medium ground now-a-days. They hurry, and crowd, and jostle along the great highway of life, each one anxious to outstrip his fellow in pursuit of riches, fashion, fame, and power, knowing there is always plenty of room in that far-off region of Eureka, that is only gained by real heroes who lean on their own staff, keeping right before the mental vision what Poor Richard says about Providence helping those who help themselves.

It is said "you write no books." Don't for the world let any one know you ever dreamed your destiny was "undeveloped in an ink-stand," or you'll be dubbed a "Blue Stocking." You are ridiculed for your superficial attainments, yet among the scores of institutions in this republican nation, how many are there where you can compete for as thorough a collegiate course as the opposite sex. Greek roots are not deemed proper food for your mental digestion. Your mind is expected to acquire the requisite strength and discipline for the vicissitudes of life on music and French, moonshine and flowers. The science of Homeopathy, (Homeopathy) however, and the diligent practice of the same, has especially been assigned women ever since PAUL advised a certain portion to be "keepers at home." But think you there was any "down town," in all its present significance, in those days. We are of the opinion charity would have scattered its instructions nearer home if the term had been familiar to the great Apostle of the Gentiles.

A different education in regard to this home matter may change the organized pursuits of the day somewhat, and home, not as an exception but as a rule, be the grand panacea for the ills of life, when idleness and outward adorning among the rich receive less homage. Woman may be something more than a cup-bearer and mother of her race, and by the assistance of the RURAL be able to circumnavigate her sphere of duties instead of a hemisphere. Useful instructions and cultivated judgment may form a redoubt around the treasures of the heart and mind, such as the flippery of fashion and the volleys of small talk cannot effect, and which will enable her to bring out the good points of form, feature, and complexion by the assistance of dress, without, at the same time, bringing out the weaker points of character. The beauty of an object or performance is dependent on the completion. Does not the same hold true of Education? The Almighty seemed to express this beauty of completion in his works when he made woman the finishing stroke of his great creation. There is much beauty in the fable that

represented ADAM as created at sunrise to go forth and labor amid the glories of the day, and EVE as created at sunset, amid the quiet and gentle glories of the night.

It is said the woman was created more for ornament. In that we agree. But the harder the steel the brighter the polish. Thus the more solid and useful the attainments, the more susceptible of refinement and love lines. May not the arts that are often made the study of a lifetime by the opposite sex be of equal value to her? Does not the witchery of music pervade her being? May she hope to solve the mystery of the canyass? Can she not compete for laurels with the artist, whose life is only another name for beauty? Whatever her tastes and pursuits may be, she courts the approbation of her teacher and leader, man. Some particular star is ever guiding her along the pathway of life, variable it may be, yet it remains in her'sky of destiny, sometimes threatening to withhold the light of her life, and again shading a sister that makes earth a paradise of enjoyment.

Hammondsport, N. Y., 1861. LINDA BENNETT.

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

NEW ENGLAND FARMER'S HOMES.

WE read of the thrift, the worth, and the intelligence of New England farmers, and we know them as a class that grapple with the stern, practical realities of life. Nature is not so lavish of her gifts that they are to be had for the asking; her brightest treasures are to be won only by untiring labor. This the farmer learns by experience. His life, as a general thing, is not calculated to soften down the ruggedness of his nature, (a nature that is partially forced upon him by this mode of life,) unless some refining influence be exerted in his home.

A farmer's home should be rendered as attractive as that of the merchant or professional man. His own interest and the well being of his family demand it. The neglect of this, is one great reason why so many farmers' boys and girls, too,—the very strength and flower of New England,—are yearly emigrating to the Far West, there to build up new States, and new homes, far more beautiful than those they have left.

It is generally conceded, I am aware, that the neat white house, overshadowed by stately trees, is the type of New England farm houses. In the vicinity of our populous villages this is so; but outside of this, where the necessities of society do not actually demand it, the case is usually different. It is not always the lack of means that gives such a bleak, desolate look to these isolated dwellings; for there are few men so poor that their means will not allow the transplanting of a few trees to shade their homes from the glare of the summer sun, or protect them from the fierce winds of winter. It is not the lack of time, either, that prevents farmers, wives cultivating flowers and shrubs enough to bring at least a portion of God's blessed sunlight of cheerfulness around the most dreary dwelling. It cannot be from motives of economy that the front gate is off its hinges, and each wandering cow or horse passes in and out as will. Yet, oftentimes, these unsightly buildings are owned by farmers who have a due regard for the comfort of their stock, and the management of their farm,—owned by men who would be indignant if it was but hinted that the comfort of their favorite horse or sheep engrossed more of their time and attention than the welfare of their family,—by men whose bills for tobacco and other extras do not surprise them in the least; but if new paper for a room, or white drapery for a window, is spoken of, then financial ruin stares them in the face. This class of people are neither few nor small. Almost every town in New England has its share, though, thanks to the influence of the Press and the force of example, that share is yearly becoming less.

But among that class of farmers who have fitted up neat and convenient dwellings, where comfort and taste have been consulted in furnishing the different apartments, how many of them really enjoy their homes, or reap the benefit of this outlay of time and money. Home is, most emphatically, woman's province; and is it wise for her to keep her parlor closed and darkened, except on great occasions? It is well for her to keep her books safely locked out of the her children's reach, lest they injure the costly bindings? Is it right for her to compel the family to take their meals beside the kitchen stove in summer, for fear of injury to the dining-room carpet? Is she true to the best interests of her children when she throws away the moss or flowers they have gathered with childish enthusiasm, because of the litter they make?

Home is the place where we should live, not merely stay; a place to use, not to shut up and label "hands off." Throw open your windows, then, when the soft winds of summer ask admittance. Let in the sunlight and the flowers. Make your home so bright and cheerful that your family will think it the brightest place in the "wide, wide world." Make it a place to be remembered in after years by your children, as the nursery of their trust principles and highest hopes,—a place that shall be enshrined in their memory as the truest type of what a home should be. Then, perchance, in the future it shall be sung of our homes, as England's gifted one sung of hers,—a song that has hallowed them forever.

"The cottage homes of England, By thousands on her plains, They are smiling o'er the silvery brooks And round the hamlet-fanes. Through glowing orchards forth they peep, Each from its nook of leaves, And fearless there the lowly sleep As a bird beneath her eaves."

And green forever be the groves, And bright the flowery sod, Where first the child's glad spirit loves Its country and its God." Rutland Co., Vt., 1861. Mrs. S. A. G.

EXPRESSION OF DRESS.—Women are more like flowers than we think. In their adornments they express their natures, as the flowers do in their petals and colors. Some women are like the modest daisies and violets; they never feel better than when dressed in a morning wrapper. Others are not themselves unless they can flame out in gorgeous dyes, like the tulip or blush rose. Who has not seen women just like lilies? We know several marigolds and poppies. There are women fit only for velvets, like the dahlias; others are graceful and airy, like azaleas. Now and then you see hollyhocks and sunflowers. When women are free to dress as they like, uncontrolled by others, and not limited by their circumstances, they do not fail to express their true characters, and dress becomes a form of expression very genuine and useful.

THE grave is indeed hallowed, when the grass of the church-yard can cover all memory save that of love.

Choice Miscellany.

RETROSPECTIVE.

BY JOHN WARD ALLEN.

I THOUGHT in life's bright spring That sorrow's cloud my way would darken never,— That friendship's flowers, instead of withering, Would live forever.

I gathered bright heart-flowers, Which, like the stars that gem the sky above us, Are sent to light these saddened hearts of ours, To light, to love us.

One was a priceless pearl; I called it love, 'twas near me morn and even, With azure eye, rose cheek, and sunny cloud, The gift of heaven.

The present knew no gloom; The future blighting care seemed not toumber; And joy-lights, dancing to my life's far tomb, I could not number.

Earth seemed a Paradise, And all were angels sent from heaven to grace it, So fair, so beautiful,—oh, why did vice At all deface it!

But life's glad spring went by, And summer came with all its golden glory; The birds of friendship sung, and heaven saw I, Around, before me.

My burdened lyre be hushed! For while I sing, sad thoughts are coming ever, Like fallen spirits that, by grief heart-crushed, Are joyous never! Hidden Vale, 1861.

EARTHLY GLORY PASSES AWAY.

As we glance over the history of the past, we see that upon all beauty and grandeur, power and glory, has been stamped passing away; that however great or splendid the achievements of art or ambition have been, the story of their evanescence is soon told,—the destroyer has marked them for his own.

Kingdoms and nations that have arisen and flourished in dazzling splendor, whose wide-spread power has held millions of men in awe and admiration, and whose potent arm has seemed resistless, are now sunk in eternal night. Cities of surpassing grandeur and magnificence have existed, whose power and might the nations of the earth have respected, and princes have dreaded. But the relics of their former greatness too sadly tell us, they were, but they are not. Tyre is no more. Thebes, of the hundred gates, now awful in ruins, is but another of the countless monuments of past greatness and glory. Athens' temples and towers no longer cast their beautiful shadows in the dim twilight, nor first glitter in the golden light of morning. The stately halls which were once vocal with the thunder of the Philippians, are silent in the grave of the past. Her numerous splendid architectural structures, that, for elegance of design, exquisite style and harmony of arrangement, were the admiration of the world, have been the prey of time. Her proud pillars, and almost breathing, speaking statues, seem to bewail her former glory, as affection sighs over the tomb of departed worth. Aye, Athens, the pride of Greece, the nursery of literature, the pattern of elegance and refinement, the model of perfect taste, has passed away. And Greece herself, "lovely Greece," where is she? With her refinements, her splendors, her liberties, social, civil, and political, she is slumbering in the grave.

When we contemplate those systems of government which have exerted an extensive and sometimes beneficial influence upon the world at large, and those nations whose advancement in science and the arts has been greatest, we are led to pause, and wonder, that they, too, should be susceptible of dissolution. Where are now the Persian, the Macedonian, and the Roman Empires? The Kingdom of Cyrus has passed away. The Empire of the world-conquering Prince has suffered a like adverse fate. And the Roman Empire,—that most splendid prize for which aspirants to power ever contended, has fallen, obedient to the mandate—"pass ye away." Possessed of a territory stretching from the Tigris to the Ocean, and from the Northern Sea to the deserts of Africa, and of a power commensurate to her almost exhaustless resources of wealth, this mighty Empire may truly be said to have been the Queen of the then-known world. But amidst all her luxuries, splendors, and glories, a moral canker was doing the work of destruction. Corruption had long been preying upon her vitals before its effects were apparent. But a sequence is inseparable from its adequate cause. The star of Roman glory culminated,—it declined,—and as it slowly faded and went down, that vast but fated Empire gradually deteriorated to a point of moral and political degradation at which Humanity may justly weep. Well and truly may it have been said that the "Mighty had fallen." But the fall of Rome was rather a suicide than the work of Barbarians.

And is a similar destiny awaiting our own beloved Republic? Is she to be another who shall have fallen by her own hand? Shall opulence and luxurious ease enervate her people? Shall selfish interests, or partisan feelings, and the corrupt examples of her statesmen, cause them to relax their exertions upon those questions which are of vital importance to her well-being? Shall avarice, and an over-weening Ambition,—usual, and characteristic sins of Republics,—united to extensive power, embolden her to impunity in Crime, which shall be visited upon her with fearful retribution? Shall these combined influences diminish the vigor of her frame, and finally complete her overthrow?

The elements of a moral grandeur were here inherent, and the germs of a rational freedom were here planted, whose appropriate development would have constituted the freest, the noblest nation the world has witnessed. Are these to be crushed out, to be buried in oblivion? Are the hopes which the lovers of Freedom throughout the world have cherished, to be frustrated forever? Instead of being the admiration of even the opponents of Republicanism throughout Christendom, are we to become their jeer? Are our national sins soon to meet retributive justice? Ah! we are wedded to guilt, and in the blindness of passion permitted to raise a suicidal hand. The first stride in our national decadence seems already taken. Said the immortal WEBSTER, "I desire not to behold what is behind the curtain of Disunion." But that curtain is now lifting, and beyond, the distant horizon reveals the dark waves of the Stygian waters. Ah! My Country! my loved, my glorious Country! Must thou be plunged beneath those inky billows? Must the sad words—"Sic transit gloria mundi," be said of thee? May Almighty God avert the threatened fate. Sumner, Iowa, 1861. HARRIET M. GRIFFITH.

WISDOM OF YOUNG AMERICA.

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

AMONG the many striking traits of character which are exhibited by that enterprising individual, Young America, none are more strongly marked than his contempt for, and disregard of, the opinions of his superiors. He clings with wonderful pertinacity to the doctrine that each generation is wiser than its predecessors, and so far does he carry out his ideas in practice, that his self-sufficiency, and confidence in his own abilities, have become celebrated in lands other than our own, and have well nigh passed into a proverb.

Whether he is really wiser than his forefathers, I will leave philosophers to determine, since they appear to be manifesting great interest in the subject, and indulging in speculations on the amount of wisdom future ages are likely to possess, if knowledge increases in such a fearful ratio. Old women, too, shake their heads dubiously, but being less versed in such abstruse calculations, are sorely puzzled to arrive at any definite conclusion, and although they generally lay claim to great dexterity in predicting that which is to happen, in this case they are forced to confess that they are wholly in the dark. For our own part, however, we are inclined to the belief, that they base their conjectures upon an erroneous foundation, and that Young America is not so remarkably wise after all. By this we do not mean any deficiency in capacity, or intellectual attainments, but lack of that undue amount of wisdom which he lays claim to.

He evidently does not go upon the principle that "worth makes the man," for he thinks that when he can raise a beard, and sport a beaver, he will be a man to all intents and purposes, and therefore he shaves and anoints desperately to acquire the one, and treasures up his loose change to invest in the other. Having secured these indispensable preliminaries, he takes his place, without the least hesitation, in the ranks of manhood, especially if he can boast the additional accomplishment of chewing and smoking. As soon as he arrives at an age in which the mind is most susceptible of improvement, he wisely concludes that it has become too old to attend school, and that it is more befitting a young gentleman, such as he is, to fall in love like GIL BLAS with some romantic maiden, or else drive fast horses, play cards, and indulge occasionally in a glass of something stronger than nature's beverage.

It seems to us that Young America could find a better way of displaying his wisdom than in the modes specified above. Let him pause and consider whether he would not earn a better title to the name by applying himself to some useful branch of industry, and storing up knowledge in his leisure moments, than by wasting his best days in idleness and folly. A day in the vigor and sprightliness of youth is worth several in the plodding slowness of age. The spring-time of life is the time for action, when the limbs are active, and the mind is quick to receive impressions. What is learned then is seldom forgotten, but becomes, as it were, a part of our very selves, which is not the case with those who defer the acquisition of knowledge till their thoughts are distracted with the cares of manhood. Those men who have been renowned in every age of wisdom have been almost universally examples of industry in youth. They realized the value of those golden moments which flit away never to return, and which, if neglected, or mispent, throw a shade of life long regret over the soul.

We are afraid that our young friend's opinions will undergo a change one of these days, but unfortunately it will be when it is too late to profit by it. Often have we heard men complain bitterly of what they termed their foolishness when young, and sigh over the mistaken fondness of parents, and indulgence of teachers, which caused them to struggle through life, hampered by the defects of their early education, disheartened by the future, and mournfully recalling the sadly neglected past. There is much truth in the trite maxim, "Young folks think old folks are fools, but old folks know young folks to be so," and we would seriously commend it to the attention of our fast young friends. It is rather humiliating, to be sure, but then we must remember that it is the consciousness of inferiority, and the desire of excellence, which lead to persevering exertions and final triumph, and that the indispensable preliminary of making our young friend apply himself to the pursuit of true wisdom, is a settled conviction of his want of that desirable possession. Therefore, if he is really wise, he will neglect no opportunity of improvement, remembering that he has but one life to live,—only one season of youth to improve or waste. A very few years will show who are the wise ones, and indeed it requires no miraculous power to be able to point them out now. Will they be the indolent, the ease-loving, and fast, or the industrious, energetic, and the studious. Kind reader, we leave to you the decision. Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 1861. COXUR.

SUCCESS MAKES ENEMIES.—They who are eminently successful in business, or who achieve greatness, or even notoriety in any pursuit, must expect to make enemies. So prone to selfishness, to petty jealousy and sordid envy, is poor human nature, that whoever becomes distinguished is sure to be a mark for the malicious spite of those who, not deserving success themselves, are galled by the merited triumph of the more worthy. Moreover, the opposition which originates in such despicable motives, is sure to be of the most unscrupulous character; hesitating at no iniquity, descending to the shabbiest littleness. Opposition, if it be honest and manly, is not in itself undesirable. The competitor in life's struggle who is of the true metal, deprecates not opposition of an honorable character, but rather rejoices in it. It is only injustice or meanness which he deprecates and despises; and it is this which the successful must meet, proportioned in bitterness, oft-times, to the measure of success which excites it.

NIGHT AND REST.—It is night, and here is home. Gathered under the quiet roof, elders and children lie alike at rest. In the midst of a great peace and calm the stars look out from the heavens. The silence is peopled with the past; sorrowful remorses for sins and shortcomings—memories of passionate joys and griefs rise out of their grave, both now alike calm and sad. The town and the fair landscape sleep under the starlight, wreathed in the autumn mists. Twinkling among the houses a light keeps watch here and there, in what may be a sick chamber or two. The clock tolls sweetly in the silent air. Here night and rest. An awful sense of thanks makes the heart swell, and the head bow, as I pass to my room through the sleeping house, and feel as though a hushed blessing were upon it.

THE law should be to the sword what the handle is to the hatchet; it should direct the stroke and temper the force.

Sabbath Musings.

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

L. I. F. H.

BY CARLIE MAYNE.

ON yonder mossy bank a violet blooms, Filling the morning air with rich perfume,— It opened with the morn, and died at noon.

A dewdrop glistens on a rose's breast, The gentle zephyrs lulling it to rest; But when the sun shines warm, its life is past.

A paper boat is launched upon a stream, Its snowy sails a moment brightly gleam, Then it has vanished, like a passing dream.

A glorious rainbow decks the summer sky, Sweet bow of promise sent to cheer the eye, 'Tis faded when the rain storm has passed by.

So man a few brief years may tread life's shore; But soon the soul shall burst its prison door, And we shall walk earth's sunny vales no more. Ashtabula, Ohio, 1861.

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

A WORLD OF CHANGE.

How true the saying, "This is a world of change," and the slow notes of the tolling bell daily verify it. To-day you hear the sweet warbling and the little pattering step of lovely cherubs. To-morrow you listen in vain—for the musical voices which came trilling on the balmy air are hushed by the Angel whose mission is to seal the lips, close the expressive eyes, still the restless limbs, gather the departed souls, and bear them to Him who made them. To-day you see the maiden with the flush of health mantling her cheek, the light, quick step, and the hopeful trusting heart of youth. To-morrow that cheek is blanched, that footfall meets not your ear, that heart quickens not its beating at your approach, for Death called her, and you lay the new sleeper down to rest. To-day you press the hand of manhood, you look in the beaming eye, you brush the hair from the broad brow, you twine the arms lovingly around the neck, you listen to accents of tenderness, and you weave for yourself a happy, golden future. To-morrow the hands are folded, the light from the beaming eye has gone out, the hair is smoothly combed back, the lips return not your fond pressure, the golden fabric you wove is rent. With an anguish of which you never dreamed, you see him lowered down, down, to his earth-bed, and you turn away only to know your heart lies buried also. To-day you harken to the old man's tremulous voice. Age has whitened his locks, deepened many lines on his cheek, but a smile lurks in his undimmed eye, quiet happiness sits on the throne of his heart. His mind reverts to youth, and he relates with animation some incident of that period in which he was a participator. Perhaps it is his first battle. His picture is so vividly drawn that you seem to hear the clashing of steel and the roar of artillery, the clatter of horses' feet and the intermingling of voices as each party gives its orders. To-morrow you vainly wait for the words to flow, for the hand to be laid softly on your head. Death's signet sits upon the lips of your grandfather, and with a sad heart you yield him to its embrace.

To-day you leave the home of childhood. The changes which have been are barely perceptible, because you have changed with them. To-morrow you return. Perhaps you may meet here and there a familiar form, but the many are strangers. You exclaim, can this be the home from which I so lately passed? What changes. Old friends gone, and new faces all about me. A glance in the mirror reveals to you the fact that you, too, have changed. The youthful, erect form you carried away is bending; the smooth, placid brow has many furrows it did not then wear; the glossy hair has threads of gray; a look of care wreathes itself around your temples. You have assumed the mother crown, and you wear its laurels with a quiet dignity. You are astonished, and a strange mixture of thoughts take possession of your mind, as you survey yourself in the mirror of time, and repeat, a world of change is this.

Change is one of Heaven's mandates, I know, but when I think it has invaded my home, and left there its impress,—when I think of the lines thickly and deeply engraved on my mother's forehead,—of the silver threads which cluster around and shade my father's brow, of my sister and brother, who long since stepped across the threshold of Time,—of another fondly cherished sister, now deformed for life,—of the scattered members of our circle,—the tears well up and fall like rain-drops from my eyes, and I am sad, unexpressably sad, and only the thought, "He doeth all things well," assuages or soothes my grief. There is a world where change never enters,—where there is no restless longings for the dear ones gone,—where the weary, aching heart is lulled to rest on the bosom of CHRIST. In that world may it be my happy lot, when Death touches my heartstring, to find a welcome reception. KATY. Genoa, N. Y., 1861.

KEEPING THE SABBATH.—God is revered by the services which multitudes pay him, and delight to pay him, on the Sabbath, as they take an offering and come into his courts. We look upon these Sabbath gatherings over all the land, as the evidence of a deep-seated, far-reaching piety, which clings to the arm of God as the nation's only fortress and refuge. They are the exponent of a devotional sentiment which the world cannot smother or repress. They are a hopeful sign of good, present and future, springing from the liberal hand of a Father who loves to pour benefactions down in answer to the adoration of beseeching souls. And so long as the Sabbath is observed in its integrity, we will not tremble for the safety of the ark either of our religious or civil liberties.

THE LOVE OF GOLD.—The treasure of some men is gold, and the love of it grows so strong as to become idolatrous. Such men never rise above the merest drudgery in the world. They eat and drink, but it is to enable them successfully to toil on. Morning, noon, and night, it is the same drudging slavery and submission to the cravings of a vicious appetite. There is not one noble sentiment or feeling can live in their heart, because the lust of gain fills it so completely as to leave no room for anything else. They can do nothing but grovel, like an earth-worm, eating dust, and casting out their slime, in order to form a pathway along which to crawl. It is pitiable and sad to think of, but it is a sight only too often seen in this sin stricken world of ours.

I HAVE known a good old man, who, when he heard of any one that had committed some notorious offence, was wont to say within himself, "He fell to-day, so I may to-morrow."—Bernard.

The Traveler.

LETTERS FROM CALIFORNIA.

New Series.—Number Four.

Mexican vaquero—Spanish mustangs, or wild horses—Riding a mustang at the fair—His attempts to unhorse his rider—He is turned loose and recaptured by his pursuers with the lasso—Process repeated and re-repeated—The wild horse subdued—Mexican and Californian national sports—Catching the rooster—"Riding for the half dollar"—Thrilling excitement and great amusement—Shock of an earthquake.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 1, 1890.

The California vaquero is, certainly, a useful specimen of the genus homo. In a country where fences are rare, and fencing timber scarce, where stables and barns are almost unknown, the swarthy vaquero does duty as fence and cattle pen. He prevents the herds of the rancheros (farmers) from straying, and protects them, mounted with spur and lasso on horse, against the predatory excursions of coyotes, wolves, and bifurcated cattle thieves. The vaquero is an ancient California institution, and like all the old features of the country, his glory is fast passing away. He is not now the gay and happy creature he was in "days lang syne," ere the soil knew the footsteps of the Yankee, or the country felt the beneficent sway of Anglo-Saxon rule.

During the early settlement of California, and for a long time previous, immense herds of wild horses roamed over the Tulare and San Joaquin plains. These mustangs (wild horses), were fera nature, had no owners, acknowledged allegiance to none. From these herds, the old Spaniards were accustomed to replenish their horse stock as it gave out, and a more spirited and hardy race of animals was never known. They were rode down and taken with the lasso by the vaqueros. Mustangs, after having been broken to harness, readily commanded from \$25 to \$40 per head. At present, the stock of wild, unowned horses, is nearly run out. No herds of mustangs exist, to test the prowess of the vaquero. There are no mines of horse flesh, into which he may plunge with the rala and lasso, and find the wherewithal to recuperate his fortunes and the means to minister to his passions for monte and cock-fighting. With the exception of the annual rodeos, at which the rancheros assemble to affix the brand of ownership to their live stock, there is now but little opportunity for the vaquero to exhibit his skill, and shine forth in all his glory. Another decade of years and they will disappear.

At one of the California district fairs, we recently witnessed (to us,) the exciting and novel exhibition of the vaquero mounting with boot and spur a mustang, never before treated to a saddle and rider. He was as wild as a mountain buck. His attempts to unhorse his rider were unceasing and labored. He would thrust down his head, bow up his back, and jump upward and forward, and come down with a vengeance that would almost make the earth tremble. After several unsuccessful attempts at leaping, and rearing, and jumping, he broke into a furious run, or race, of several hundred yards, pursued by five or six swarthy vaqueros, on feet but trailed mustangs. As soon as they came up to him he stopped short and repeated his first attempts at jumping high off from the ground several times, coming down with braided limbs, and thus jarring seriously his rider, and nearly snapping his neck from off his body. Falling in this attempt to free himself, he whirled, and with foaming mouth, distended nostrils, and glaring eyeballs, returned with furious speed over his track, followed by his pursuers, and after leaping fences and ditches brought up against the broadside of a building.

Here mustang halted, and apparently seemed to go into a cool calculation as to his chances of success,—meditating upon the ways and means how best he might accomplish the feat of unhorsing his bold rider. While the brain of the mustang was belabored with this problem, we thought we could discover similar mental conflict in the countenance of the daring vaquero. Soon they all broke from their moorings, and like a fleet before a furious gale, flew past us, and away they rode for half a mile, when the wild horse jumped, whirled, made a circuit, and soon came dashing past the gaping, excited throng, and brought up once more against a row of drinking saloons, and made a dead halt. He was much sobered, and doubtless felt chagrined to think that he was a victim, instead of a victor. He was now turned loose. With evident satisfaction, he reared his tail and dashed off at full speed. A new act was now to open—the mustang must be lassoed—so a half dozen vaqueros with lasso in hand, put after him in hot speed. They soon came up to him and threw a lasso over his head. With the ether end wound firmly around the horn of the saddle, the rider whirled and rode back from whence he came. Soon the slack of the lasso was used up, a smothering process ensued, the mustang was thrown furiously upon his side, where he lay huddled, and, withal, sorely disappointed. Now he was permitted to escape again,—then pursued and lassoed—then let loose and then re-captured, when he was led up before the crowd, all dripping with sweat, and so completely exhausted and subdued, that a child could have led him anywhere. To us it was rare and novel sport, and was keenly relished by the assembled thousands.

Mexicans and Californians have but few national sports, and those not of the most refined and intellectual character. Horse-racing, card-playing, cock-fighting, practicing with the lasso, and bull-fighting, constitute about the sum total of their amusements. Most of their out-door amusements are engaged in, on saint, or especial feast-days, when the population assemble at some point, and there indulge their particular tastes to their hearts' content. One of their amusements is denominated catching the rooster. The bird is buried partially in the sand, his head and neck only being uncovered. The game is, to a horseman, while under full speed, to pluck the fowl from his unpleasant roost. It is not every one that can accomplish this feat, and frequently an unlucky or unskillful caballero is unhorsed in the attempt.

During the Fair above alluded to, we were agreeably diverted by a Spanish amusement termed "riding for the half-dollar." A half-dollar was placed in the race-way, elevated some two inches above the surface. The feat consisted in seizing it with the hand while riding at full speed. Some five or six Spaniards entered the arena with spirited horses. Only one rode at a time. The first rider started, spurring his horse into a furious gallop, and when opposite the tempting silver, he swayed and swooped over his flexible body, seized the prize, and readjusting himself again in his saddle, held up the shining silver amid the shouts of the populace. Another coin was furnished by the spectators, and a second contestant started full speed for the tempting bait. When opposite the coin, he made his plunge, missed, and came near being unhorsed. A thrill of horror seized every

beholder. He finally recovered his seat and returned to repeat the attempt, but with no better success than at first. A third started his horse into a keen race, and at the proper moment, dove for the luring piece. He was carried several yards with his body at right angles with the under side of his horse, and only by the most desperate exertions did he regain his seat in his saddle, and that, too, unattended with the half-dollar. A sense of relief came over the minds of all as he righted up from his perilous position. Practice doubtless has much to do with success, for while one competitor bore off the coin five out of six attempts, nearly all the other riders failed four out of every five trials. Although it was attended with danger to those immediately engaged in it, yet it afforded much merriment to several thousand spectators.

Recently, in Humboldt county, the shock of an earthquake was sensibly experienced. Several houses were moved some feet off their foundations, dinner plates were sent ajar, chimneys toppled to their fall, dogs were disturbed in their kennels, children ran wildly to their mamas, wives embraced their husbands affectionately, and a distinguished son of Esculapius had several glass jars filled with precious elixirs, thrown down, broken and contents entirely lost. Nothing more serious occurred on this memorable occasion. Shocks of earthquakes are not uncommon in California, as this city can testify.

S. B. R.

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON city is about four and a half miles in length, and about two and a half in breadth, stretching along the banks of the Potomac, from the eastern branch to Rock Creek, in a direction from southeast to northwest. Its area is 3016 acres, its circumference fourteen miles. The streets running north and south are named numerically, as 1st street, 2d street, &c.; those running east and west, alphabetically, as A street, B street, &c. This monotony is agreeably relieved by magnificent avenues from 130 to 160 feet wide, cutting them diagonally. The avenues are named after the several states of the Union, and radiate from the Capitol, as a center, forming at intervals throughout the city triangular lots, tastefully enclosed, and adorned with trees and shrubbery.

The depot at which strangers arrive from the north and west is immediately north of the Capitol, situated at the corner of New Jersey Avenue and C street, from which the approach to the principal thoroughfare, Pennsylvania Avenue, lies southwest. Along this avenue are the principal hotels. After securing a hotel, or boarding house, the stranger directs his attention first of all to the Capitol. The principal approach to this edifice from Pennsylvania Avenue at the head of which it stands, is through a well spread lawn of very ample dimensions, encircled with flower beds, and tastefully ornamented with clumps and avenues of stately trees, in the midst of which sparkling fountains are constantly sending forth their gushing melody, and coolness to the air. Following the course of one or the other of these shady avenues, he will gain, by a flight of steps, the approach to the Capitol, by its west entrance. Having reached the ample terrace surrounding the building, he will stop for a moment to admire the scene presented to his view, and take in for the first time a partial outline of the city, which from this point is pronounced by those who have a lively conception for the beautiful, and among others by Baron Von Humboldt, to present one of the finest panoramic views in the world.

Immediately beneath his feet he will overlook the lawn through which he has just passed, containing thirty acres, and enclosed by an iron railing more than a mile in length, with the naval monument in a basin of water, within a few yards of him, while in the distance, spread out like a map, will lie the city, with its avenues, its walks, and its various public edifices extending to the picturesque heights of Georgetown on the one side, and the beautiful Potomac river—here upwards of a mile in width—on the other. Beyond the Potomac he will see the Virginia shore, from a high slope of which, Arlington, the seat of G. W. P. Custis, is visible, and less distinctly, the antiquated and venerable town of Alexandria, Va., about eight miles distant.

From this point he will perceive that the Capitol furnishes a nucleus from which the avenues radiate in all directions. Pennsylvania Avenue, the principal one, being terminated by the grounds surrounding the President's mansion, which furnishes another nucleus for the radiation of some of the avenues. Nothing can exceed the beauty of this scene at sunset, when the western sky is lighted up with the gorgeous tints of the rainbow, and the whole avenue is bathed in its golden light. The Capitol consists of the original building as designed by Hallet, Headfield, Hoban, and Statoche, covering one and a half acres of ground; and the new wings designed by the Government architect, T. U. Walter, and covering two and three quarters acres of ground, making the extent of the entire building four and a quarter acres. The original building is 352 feet long in front; the wings 121 feet deep; the east projection, containing the portico and steps, 65; the west projection, containing the library, 86; the north and south wings, containing the Senate Chamber and Hall of Representatives, are 70 feet high to the top of balustrade; the Senate Chamber is 74 feet long and 42 feet high; the Hall of Representatives, 90 feet long and 60 feet high, both surmounted by domes. The Rotunda is 96 feet in diameter, and was surmounted by a grand dome 145 feet above the level of the ground, which has been removed to make place for another still more magnificent, which was designed by Mr. Walter, and will be over 300 feet high from the level of the ground.

The new wings are to the north and south of the original structure, and are intended for a Senate Chamber and Hall of Representatives; each wing is 238 by 140 feet. The erection of these additions has rendered necessary the enlargement of the grounds north and south, and at no distant day the Capitol park and gardens will contain about sixty acres. The building fronts toward the east, so that the principal part of the city, and all the public buildings, are behind the Capitol. The stranger ascending Capitol Hill from Pennsylvania Avenue, enters the building by the western door, and ascends a flight of steps leading to the Rotunda, which is a magnificent apartment, having cost \$2,000,000, occupying the center of the main building, and lighted from above. There are four entrances to this apartment, one leading to the Senate Chamber, one to the Hall of Representatives, one to the eastern portico, and one to the passage by which the stranger has just entered it. The panels over these doors are enriched by sculpture, in bas-relief—that over the one leading to the Senate containing a sketch of a treaty of Penn with the Indians; that over the one leading to the House, of a rencontre between Daniel Boone and the Indians; that over the one leading to the eastern, the landing



LEOPARD AND ANTELOPE.

The Antelope depicted in our spirited engraving was, when living, in the collection of the Earl of Derby, England, and, in its wild state, a native of Africa. The leopard came from the London Zoological Gardens, having died from the effects of the severe winter. It was an adult female, full grown, though small. Both are now preserved in the Crystal Palace collection. The illustration represents the following not uncommon circumstance:—An Antelope having gone to the water to allay his thirst, has been surprised by a Leopard. The Antelope, in its fright, whilst darting from the water up the bank, turns his head sharply round, in agony, and, accidentally, buries one horn entirely, and the other partially, in the body of the Leopard. The latter, in his turn, not only becomes alarmed, as he unmistakably looks, but in all probability has received a deadly thrust, and the carnivorous beast falls, instead of the harmless ruminating animal, the prey upon which he intended to feast. GORDON CUMMINS, in his travels, relates a similar circumstance of a lion which was killed by the horns of the Oryx, a large wild Antelope of Southern Africa.

There are several species of Antelope. All, except two or three, inhabit the torrid zone, and that portion of the temperate zone bordering on the tropics. They are generally of a most elegant form. Their disposition is very restless, timid, and watchful. They are of great vivacity, remarkably swift and agile, and their movements are so light and so elastic as to delight every beholder.

A pleasing description of them is given in Addison's "Damascus and Palmyra." He says:—"We suddenly came in sight of a large herd of Antelopes. The Arabs seized their lances, we drew our pistols, and distributing ourselves in an immense circle, we walked our horses towards them slowly. They heeded us not till we approached near, when they began to hold up their beautiful heads, adorned with slightly curved tapering horns, and trotted up together; then, seeing us spurring our horses from behind the little hillocks all around them, they dashed through us with the rapidity of wind. Lances were thrown, pistols discharged, but all in vain; they quickly distanced the fleetest horse, which was a grey Arab mare, and then stopped, and turned round and looked at us, and then took to their heels again, bounding over the ground in such a way that they appeared to fly rather than to run."

The fleetness of the Antelope was proverbial in the earliest times, and the roe is still "swift on the mountains." The light Gazelle, with its beaming eye and graceful figure, has ever been a favorite with the poets of the East.

without any pause along narrow and confined seas or up funnel-shaped inlets, have occasionally proved disastrous to a fearful extent. Thus it is recorded that upward of one hundred thousand persons perished in the year 1832, and again in 1842, in this way, numerous complete villages and towns being washed away by a wave advancing from the North Sea over the low lands of Holland. Between Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the ordinary spring tide often rises to a height of one hundred feet, sweeping away the cattle feeding on the shore.—Dickens' "All the Year Round."

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF STATES.

The following interesting table was prepared by C. T. Pooler, of Utica, and published in the Herald of that city. It will be seen that New York commenced as the fifth State in 1790, rose to the third position in 1800, to the second in 1810, and from 1820, when she displaced Virginia, has been the "Empire State." Pennsylvania has held the most even position in the jostling rivalry to gain the head of the column. Several Western States have rapidly ascended. The entire table is interesting:

Table with columns for Year (1790-1860) and Percent Increase (Per cent. in population). Rows list various states including Va., Pa., N.C., N.Y., Md., N.H., N.J., Ga., Vt., Ky., Me., R.I., Del., Tenn., Miss., Ala., Mo., Ill., Mich., Ark., Fla., Wis., Del., Pa., and Or.

CEMENT FOR AQUARIA.

MANY persons have attempted to make an aquarium, but have failed on account of the extreme difficulty in making the tank resist the action of water for any length of time. Below is a recipe for a cement that can be relied upon; it is perfectly free from anything that could injure the animals or

plants; it sticks to glass, metal, wood, stone, etc., and hardens under water. I have tried, I think, a hundred different experiments with cements, and there is nothing like it. It is the same as that used in constructing the tanks at the Zoological Gardens, London, and is almost unknown in this country: One part, by measure, say a gill of litharge; one gill of plaster of Paris; one gill of dry white sand; one-third of a gill of finely powdered rosin. Sift and keep corked tight till required for use, when it is to be made into a putty by mixing in boiled oil (linseed), with a little patent dryer added. Never use it after it has been mixed (that is, with the oil) over fifteen hours.

This cement can be used for marine as well as fresh-water aquaria, as it resists the action of salt-water. The tank can be used immediately, but it is best to give it three or four hours to dry.—Architect's Journal.

The Young Bivalist.

DRINKING WINE.

This is, decidedly, the wine-drinking age. One cannot call on a bride, or spend an evening with a friend, without having their temperance principles tried to the utmost. Indeed, the person who says so then, can most assuredly say it anywhere. For it is politeness at the present day to decide yourself what your guests shall partake of, and if you see they really do not wish it, you must urge it upon them until, from politeness, they accept, and then congratulate yourself upon your attainments in good manners. We have currant, raspberry, blackberry, and cherry wine, besides grape. The first varieties are within the reach of nearly every family, and now, in nearly all the pleasant homes in village and country, you will find one or more kinds of wine, and mothers and sisters are offering it to those who are dearer to them than life, never thinking that it may be the first step to a life that would pale their cheeks to mention.

The question to be decided in every thoughtful mind is, will this course of action (as some argue,) do away with intemperance, by satisfying the appetite with "harmless, home-made wine;" or will it only increase, and in many cases create, an appetite which will never be satisfied, but will continually cry for more, until its victim lies in a drunkard's grave? It becomes us to think of this subject, for we all have friends and relatives who are influenced by us, however we may wish to evade it. Are we willing to offer them the wine cup, and to accept it ourselves when, perhaps, we are leading them to certain ruin? Are we prepared to do this when we think of it seriously, and do not allow ourselves to be led away and blinded by fashion? Those who sow the wind will assuredly reap the whirlwind, and methinks it will be a fearful harvest when mothers, wives and sisters see the ruin, for time and eternity, which wine-drinking has accomplished, and realize their agency in this matter.

Some are waking up to a realization of this evil, others are thoughtlessly following the prevailing fashion. Methinks in the weary life-struggle upon which we have all entered, there is a nobler calling, a holier office, than to be tempters of those who are weary and nearly fainting by the way. There are many discouragements and trials which loving hands cannot turn aside from our life-path, bringing days which are dark and dreary to all. Shall we, then, present another temptation, adding to it our voice, to make it all powerful? When the light of eternity shall dawn upon us, and we stand face to face with "Our Father," how joyful will be the reflection that our words and example have been a life-giving influence to others, and have encouraged, and perhaps lead them into paths of pleasantness and peace.

Bath, N. Y., 1861. JENNIE S.

A GOOD AND A POOR COW.

Few old farmers ever realize the difference in profit between keeping good and poor stock. The following from GOODALE'S Principles of Breeding, we commend to the careful attention of every one who has the least idea of becoming a farmer, or of keeping even a cow. It should make an impression never to be forgotten:—"Let us reckon a little. Suppose a man wishes to buy a cow. Two are offered him, both four years old, and which might probably be serviceable for ten years to come. With the same food and attendance the first will yield for ten months in the year an average of five quarts per day—and the other for the same term will yield seven quarts, and of equal quality. What is the comparative value of each? The difference in yield is six hundred quarts per annum. For the purpose of this calculation we will suppose it worth three cents per quart—amounting to eighteen dollars. Is not the second cow, while she holds out to give it, as good as the first, and three hundred dollars at interest besides? If the first just pays for her food and attendance, the second, yielding two-fifths more, pays forty per cent. profit annually; and yet how many farmers having two such cows for sale would make more than ten, or twenty, or at most thirty dollars difference in the price? The profit from one is eighteen dollars, a year—in ten years one hundred and eighty dollars, besides the annual accumulations of interest—the profit of the other is—nothing. If the seller has need to keep one, would he not be wiser to give away the first, than to part with the second for a hundred dollars?"

THE FARMER AND THE CITIZEN.

When a citizen, fresh from Dock square, or Milk street, comes out and buys land in the country, his first thought is to a fine outlook from his windows; his library must command a western view; a sunset every day, bathing the shoulder of Blue Hills, Wachusette, and the peaks of Monadnoc and Unadunoc. What, thirty acres, and all this magnificence for fifteen hundred dollars! It would be cheap at fifty thousand. He proceeds at once, his eyes dim with tears of joy, to fix the spot for his corner-stone. But a man who is to level the ground, thinks it will take many hundred loads of gravel to fill the hollow to the road. The stone-maker who should build the well thinks he shall have to dig forty feet; the baker doubts he shall never live to drive up to the door; the practical neighbor cavils at the position of the barn; and the citizen comes to know that his predecessor, the farmer, built the house in the right spot for the sun and wind, the spring, and water-drainage, and the convenience to pasture, the garden, the field, and the road. So Dock square yields the point, and things have their own way.—Emerson.

Doubt is oftentimes Faith trying her little wings in the great air, and fluttering back to her earth-nest.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

BIG WAVES.

When the great ocean is disturbed, it forms surface waves, which are sometimes of great magnitude. In a gale, such waves have been more than once measured, and it is found that their extreme height from the top to the deepest depression of large storm waves, has been nearly fifty feet, their length being from four to six hundred yards, and their rate of motion through the water about half a mile a minute. Such waves, breaking over an obstacle of any kind, or mingling strangely with the clouded atmosphere raging above, are the wildest, grandest, and most terrible phenomena of nature. When they approach land, they break up into much smaller bodies of water, but these are often lifted by shoals and obstructed by rocks till they are thrown up in masses of many tons to a height of more than a hundred feet. The tidal wave is another phenomenon of water-motion of a somewhat different kind, producing an alternate rise and fall of the water over all parts of the ocean every twelve hours.

In addition to the true waves there are also many definite streams or currents of water conveying large portions of the sea from one latitude to another, modifying the temperature of the adjacent land, and producing a mixture of the waters at the surface or at some depth which cannot but be extremely conducive to the general benefit of all living beings. Storm tides, or those waves which occasionally rush

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Strawberries, Raspberries, &c.—J. Knox. New and timely Books—Mason Brothers. Missouri Farms—Geo. S. Harris. Extract of Tobacco—L. & Co. Printing Ink—Lawson & Co. Toledo Nurseries—Fahnestock & Baker. Evergreen Trees—Fahnestock & Baker. Ornamental Trees and Shrubs—Fahnestock & Baker. Downer's Prolific Seedling Strawberry—J. W. Briggs & Son. New Grapes, New Strawberries—O. T. Hobbs. Grape Vines—Fahnestock & Baker. Cranberry Plants—Wm. H. Starr. Copper Lightning Conductors—N. Brittan. Reliable Agents Wanted. Native Apples—W. Sibley. Farm for Sale—Wm. Smith. Orleans Co. Market Fair—D. N. Hatch, Pres't. The Voyage to Europe—D. Appleton & Co. Valley Seminary—John P. Griffin, Principal. Shade Trees for Sale—Burr Bunker. What every Farmer needs—Saxton & Barker. Raspberries, &c.—John S. Gould. Honolulu Squash—John S. Gould. SPECIAL NOTICES. Brown's Troches for Public Speakers and Singers.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH 16, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

The commissions of the new Cabinet officers have been signed. Mr. Seward was the first to enter upon the duties of his office at the State Department. Secretary Dix held over until the 9th inst., at the request of his successor, Gov. Chase. When Mr. Dix entered upon his duties, the Treasury was literally bankrupt. There were requisitions on the table from the Departments, which there were no means of paying, exceeding \$1,900,000; fishing bounties imposed, amounting to nearly \$450,000, and Treasury notes overdue, amounting to about \$350,000—in all \$2,700,000. These have all been paid. The accounts were stated in expectation of Mr. Chase's entrance on his duties, and they show balances in the hands of the Treasurer and disbursing officers, applicable to the current expenses of the government, exceeding \$6,000,000. These, with the current receipts from customs, amounting to about \$80,000 a day in coin, it is believed will enable the incoming administration to sustain itself without calling for further loans for a considerable length of time.

Messrs. Forsyth and Crawford, South Carolina Commissioners, have as yet made no official communication to the Administration, owing to the sickness of Secretary Seward, and an informal intimation that a little more time would be agreeable. The Commissioners have been actively occupied since their arrival in consultation and unofficial intercourse, having reference to the object of their commission. The subject of the collection of the revenues and the reinforcing of Fort Sumter, has not yet engaged the attention of the Cabinet. Great efforts are being made to effect a peaceful solution of the question of the forts and the revenues.

Ex-Secretary Floyd has published a statement vindicatory of the acceptances in favor of Russel, Majors & Co., and of their legality. Instead of being \$6,000,000 of them outstanding, he shows there were only \$600,000, and declares the contractors have secured these by the assignment of property ample for their protection, and that if the Government will permit the earnings of the Trains for 1861 to be appropriated to the acceptances, they will be liquidated in that way, without recourse to the assignments. It would seem, also, that the Government owes the contractors upwards of \$500,000, which is equivalent to the cash value of the Indian trust bonds, of the abstraction of which Mr. Floyd repudiates all previous knowledge. He denounces the conduct and proceedings of the Select Committee with great severity, and says their sole object was political persecution and defamation.

At the Diplomatic meeting on the 6th inst., Mr. Lincoln made the following reply to an address made by M. Fignaniere, in behalf of the Diplomatic Corps: Gentlemen of the Diplomatic Body.—Please accept my sincere thanks for your kind congratulations. It affords me pleasure to confirm the confidence you generally express in the friendly disposition of the United States, through me, towards the Sovereigns and Governments respectively represented. With equal satisfaction, I accept the assurance you are pleased to give that the same disposition is reciprocated by your Sovereigns, your governments, and yourselves. Allow me to express the hope that these friendly relations may remain undisturbed, and also my fervent wishes for the health and happiness of yourselves personally.

The correspondence which reached the War Department on the 7th inst., shows that Gen. Twiggs received the order of Secretary Holt, relieving him from the command, three days before he surrendered. All the statements, therefore, representing that he was unable to ascertain the views of the Department, are entirely false. His treachery was deliberate and infamous.

The drafts drawn by Secretary Dix, on the Assistant Treasurer at New Orleans, to pay for work done on the Custom House, and also the drafts by Ex-Postmaster General King on the same office in connection with postal affairs, amounting to between two and three hundred thousand dollars, have been returned unpaid.

Dispatches from flag officer Stribling were received at the Navy Department on the 8th inst. He says that in consequence of the disturbed state of China, he has not, until January 1st, considered it prudent to send any vessel to the southward. The John Adams had sailed for Manila, Siam and Singapore. The commerce of the United States with Siam, he says, is of considerable importance, and an occasional visit of a man-of-war to that country is advisable. At all the countries around the China Sea and Japan, the frequent presence of men-of-war is beneficial to our commerce, as well as to our countrymen residing there. He expected to go north with the Hartford and Saginaw.

Texas dates to the 26th ult., have been received. Texas forces under Col. Ford, accompanied by Commissioner Nichols, found at Brazos twenty soldiers under Lieut. Thompson, about twenty heavy guns, and plenty of artillery stores, ammunition, &c. Capt. Hill had privately withdrawn his light battery, and with his party was en route for Brazos, to destroy the gun carriages and movables there. On demanding of Capt. Nichols and his men traitors, and sent to Fort Ringgold for two hundred men. Capt. Hill's men say that he is determined to defend Fort Brown to the last, and would not obey any order from General Twiggs to surrender. The troops at Fort Brown were in excellent health and spirits. Texas troops were being sent from Galveston to re-inforce Col. Ford, who was at Brownsville.

Important intelligence was received on the 9th inst., at the War Department, from Charleston. A messenger who left Fort Sumter on the afternoon of Tuesday last, reports that salt provisions remain for only 15

days, and that only a limited amount of vegetables is left in the fortress. Supplies of all kinds are running very low. Major Anderson, however, was still able to procure fresh meats and butter from the Charleston market.

U. S. Senate—Extra Session.

The Vice-President laid before the Senate a letter from Mr. Chase, resigning his seat as Senator from Ohio, and asking him to have the goodness to make it known to the Senate and the Governor of Ohio. On motion of Mr. Lane, (Dem., Oregon,) a copy was ordered to be furnished to the Governor of Ohio.

The point of difference between the two Houses on the bill re-organizing the Patent Office, was with reference to the extension of Patents. The House had amended it, providing that no patent should be issued when the Commissioner was satisfied that both inventor and assignee had netted \$100,000. The Senate amended this by confining that amount of profit to the inventor alone. The Committee of Conference consisted of Douglas, Cameron, and Fitch, of the Senate, and Cox, Frank, and Barr, of the House, who adopted, in place of what is above stated, the following:—All patents heretofore granted, shall remain in force 17 years from the date of issue, and all extension of such patents is hereby prohibited. The bill was thus passed. It stops all the corruption and intrigue as to present patents in Congress, and all patents granted after this passage cannot be renewed at the Patent Office.

On motion of Mr. Hale, a Committee of two was appointed to wait on the President and inform him that the Senate was ready to receive any communication he might be pleased to make. Messrs. Hale and Douglas were appointed such Committee, and immediately proceeded to perform their duty.

On the Senate again coming to order, Mr. Hale reported that the Committee had performed their duty, and that the President had informed them that he would forthwith communicate a message to them in writing. Mr. Nicolay, the Private Secretary of the President, appeared with the message, when, on motion of Mr. Hale, the Senate went into Executive Session. The following gentlemen were confirmed as members of Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet:—Hon. Wm. H. Seward, Secretary of State; Hon. Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of Treasury; Hon. Simon Cameron, Secretary of War; Hon. Gideon Wells, Secretary of the Navy; Hon. Montgomery Blair, Post-Master General; Hon. Caleb B. Smith, Secretary of the Interior; Hon. Edward Bates, Attorney General. The votes were unanimous for all except Messrs. Bates and Blair, four or five votes being cast against each of these.

Mr. Bright presented a list of the Standing Committees which had been agreed upon by both parties. On his motion the list was unanimously adopted. The following are the Committees:

- Foreign Relations—Sumner, Collamer, Doolittle, Harris, Douglas, Polk, Breckinridge. Finance—Fessenden, Simmons, Wade, Howe, Hunter, Pearce, Bright. Commerce—Chandler, King, Morrill, Wilson, Cleggman, Salisbury, Johnson. Military—Wilson, King, Baker, Lane, Rice, Latham, Breckinridge. Naval Affairs—Hale, Grimes, Foot, Cowan, Thompson, Nicholson, Kennedy. Judiciary—Trumbull, Foster, Ten Eyck, Cowan, Bayard, Powell, Cleggman. Post Office—Collamer, Dixon, Wade, Trumbull, Rice, Bright, Latham. Public Lands—Harlan, Bingham, Clark, Wilkinson, Johnson, Mitchell, Briggs. District of Columbia—Grimes, Anthony, Morrill, Wade, Kennedy, Cleggman, Powell. Patents—Simmons, Sumner, Doolittle, Sebastian, Thompson. Public Buildings—Foster, Dixon, Chandler, Bright, Kennedy. Territories—Wade, Wilkinson, Cowan, Hale, Douglas, Sebastian, Bragg. To Audit Expenses—Dixon, Clark, Johnson. Printing—Anthony, Harlan, Nicholson. Engrossed Bills—Lane, Morrill, Mitchell. Enrolled Bills—Bingham, Baker, Salisbury. Library—Pearce, Collamer, Fessenden.

On motion of Mr. Anthony, it was resolved, that a Committee of three be appointed to consider and report what additional arrangements and regulations are necessary to preserve order in the galleries of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Hale, 2,000 copies of the act amending the Patent Office Laws, were ordered to be printed; it being, he said, a very important law, and frequent applications being made for copies of it.

The Secession Movement.

MISSOURI.—St. Louis, March 5.—The convention met at 1 o'clock, and was opened with prayer. Resolutions were read, moving that the protest of St. Louis against coercion by the Federal government be reduced to writing, and a copy sent to the President of the United States.

Many resolutions were received and referred, including one providing for a committee to confer with Border States as to the best manner for keeping the Western States in the Confederacy. Another declaring secession a dangerous political heresy, and that the Southern States had no excuse for seceding, and asking the Northern States to repeal the present liberty laws. Another that Missouri will furnish neither men nor money for the purpose of coercion, and that a national convention be called, making the Crittenden proposition its basis of action. Another requiring the Federal Government to deliver the Custom Houses and other public offices in the seceding States to the people.

A resolution was unanimously adopted, thanking Crittenden and Douglas for their efforts to preserve peace.

Among the resolutions was one by Gov. Stuart, that no overt act has been committed by the Federal Government to justify either nullification, secession or revolution. Also, one by Judge Orr, that we have the best Government in the world and intend to keep it.

Resolutions were adopted providing that a committee be appointed to wait on the Commissioner from Georgia, and inform him that Missouri disintegrated from the position taken by that State, and very kindly but emphatically declining to share the honors of secession with her.

VIRGINIA.—In the Convention, Mr. Goggin read a series of resolutions against coercive measures for the collection of the revenue, and that Virginia will repel such attempts; requesting the co-operation of the Border Slave States in effecting a plan for uniting, with the hope of restoring harmony to the Union, and of re-forming the United States upon the basis of the Constitution modified to protect the rights of persons and property in the Territories for all time; that in the event of a separation of Virginia from the Union, the Government property in Virginia ought to be resumed by her, as well for the defence of her citizens and property, in particular locations, as for purposes of general defence; that while Virginia remains in the Union she will assume no hostile

attitude toward the Government, but be prepared to repel any assaults made upon her. The debate exhibited the effect of the Inaugural to some extent. The Union men, including Messrs. Cox and Goggin, urged that some action was necessary, as all Virginia's previous efforts had failed. They wait the opinion of the Border Slave States before determining, but contemplate no union with the North on unequal terms.

The majority report from the Committee on federal relations, recommends that the Border States hold a conference to determine further action and oppose coercion.

The minority report by Wise, requests Northern States to give an answer by October to certain demands, and in the meantime every step be taken to preserve the peace of the Government; retaining only sufficient force in forts to protect them; neither Government nor seceded States to commence hostilities.

Another minority report is for a secession ordinance.

Still another report is that the Government must immediately adopt measures to afford the people of the slaveholding States full constitutional rights, &c., and recommends that Commissioners be sent to Montgomery to confer with the Confederate States.

The Southern Confederacy.

In the Congress of the Southern Confederacy, Mr. Clayton reported a bill providing that in the event of a conflict, or the refusal of the United States to recognize the independence of the Confederacy, no Court in the Confederate States shall have cognizance of civil cases of citizens of the United States. All pending cases shall be dismissed.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the President to instruct the Commissioner to the European powers, to enter into a treaty for the extension of national copyright privileges.

Braxton Bragg was confirmed Brigadier General. Wm. G. Hardee was confirmed Colonel of the first regiment of infantry.

On motion of Mr. Curry, the Judiciary Committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the importing of slaves into that Confederacy from the United States, except owned by persons emigrating for settlement and residence.

The flag for the Confederate States was unanimously determined upon. The design originated with the committee having the matter in charge, and was not taken from any of the models presented. Mr. Mallory has been confirmed as Secretary of the Navy.

A private telegram from Montgomery says that the revenue laws have been adjusted by the regulation of the Treasury Department, so as to avoid any prejudice to the steamboat interest.

ARKANSAS.—Advices received from Arkansas state that the Convention of that State met on the 4th inst., and elected Union officers by 51 majority.

NORTH CAROLINA.—This State has voted against holding a Convention, by over 1,000 majority. The members elect, in case the Convention is called, are two to one for the Union.

Political Intelligence.

THE Republicans of Rhode Island met in Convention at Providence, on the 7th inst., and unanimously nominated for Governor, James C. Smith, formerly Mayor of Providence; Lieut. Governor, Simon H. Green, of Warwick; Attorney General, Sullivan Ballou, of Cranston; Secretary of State, John R. Bartlett, of Providence; Treasurer, Samuel A. Parker, of Newport; Congress, East District, Christopher Robinson; West District, Wm. D. Bratton. The Convention was full and the proceedings perfectly unanimous.

In the Massachusetts Senate, on the 8th inst., the Personal Liberty bill, as reported by the Committee some three weeks since, was passed to be engrossed by a decided vote. This modifies and explains the present laws, and makes writs of habeas corpus returnable only to the Supreme Court, and providing that the evidence, &c., shall be governed by the Common Law.

The Democracy of Michigan met in Detroit on the 7th inst., and nominated Chas. J. Walker, of Wayne Co., for Justice of the Supreme Court.

THE Constitutional Union and Democratic Convention of Rhode Island, have nominated Wm. Sprague for Governor, David G. Arnold for Lieut. Governor, and the rest of the present State officers.

Legislation of New York.

SENATE.—The bill to amend the act to facilitate the construction of Lake Ontario and Hudson River Railroad, was reported complete, and on motion of Mr. Spinola, was made the special order in committee of the whole on Tuesday.

BILLS PASSED.—To authorize commissioners loaning money of the United States, in certain contingencies, to release the same in certain cases; to extend the charter of the Peekskill and New Paltz Ferry Company.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Comstock moved that the bill incorporating the New York Eclectic Society be reported complete. Agreed to.

BILLS PASSED.—To amend the act of incorporation of companies for the navigation of Lakes and Rivers, by including in its operation the waters of Long Island Sound harbors; to authorize the transfer of insane convicts from Utica to Auburn; to amend the act authorizing the formation of corporations for manufacturing, mining, and mechanical purposes; to provide for reports from Supervisors of towns.

From the Pacific Side.

THE Pony Express arrived at Fort Kearney on the 9th inst., with California dates to the 23d ult. The steamer St. Louis sailed for Panama on the 21st with 150 passengers and \$994,000 in specie.

The ceremonies at the Union celebration on the 22d absorbed all the business of the day. It was universally observed by abstaining from business, as our Fourth of July celebration. In San Francisco it was estimated that more than 30,000 people attended the Union meeting at the square. It is generally conceded that this impromptu Union demonstration was the largest mass meeting ever held in San Francisco.

Resolutions were unanimously adopted declaring the unalterable attachment of California to the Union; that there exists no power under the Constitution for a State to secede; that California will cheerfully acquiesce in any honorable plan for the adjustment of existing difficulties, so as to secure the rights of all the States; that if one or more should effect a final separation from the Union, California should and will nevertheless cling to the Union. California entirely repudiates the project of a Pacific Republic as visionary, mischievous and impracticable; that the true attitude of the people of California at this time of trouble, is that of fraternal

kindness towards the people of other States, and her honor and interest alike demand of her to do all in her power to bring about harmony and reunion among the people of the whole country.

The ship Moonlight sailed from San Francisco on the 19th ult. for Hong Kong. Among the cargo was \$150,000 in treasure, and the remains of 400 deceased Chinamen.

Fort Point, at the entrance of San Francisco harbor, was occupied on the 22d for the first time by the Federal troops.

The Supreme Court in the case of Fremont against Floerzi, decided that the holder of the United States patent and lands under the Mexican grant possesses all the precious metals contained in the lands.

Accounts from all parts of the State are received concerning planting operations, and the breadth of land sown with wheat is much greater than last year.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—A resolution was introduced into the House of Commons for assessing and levying income tax. Carried by a majority against the Government.

The Australasian sailed for New York on the 15th. Nothing has been heard about her.

The Daily News says that the Great Eastern will leave, the first week in March, for Norfolk, where she has been guaranteed a cargo, chiefly of cotton, for England, the freight of which will amount to about \$75,000.

The Parliament proceedings were unimportant. The army estimates issued show a net decrease of £185,000, notwithstanding the number of land forces, 146,000, is slightly in excess of last year. The total sum required is £15,600,000.

A violent gale swept over the country on Wednesday, the 20th, and continued till Thursday. The Crystal Palace was severely damaged. Part of the north wing is in ruins.

FRANCE.—Reinforcements for the French army at Rome were continually leaving Marseilles.

Eugene Scribe, the celebrated dramatist, is dead. Several persons in Paris connected with the transactions in the mines had been arrested.

Prince Napoleon's journey to Italy has been deferred, the Emperor having enjoined him to remain in Paris for the present, on the ground, as it is alleged, that the anti-clerical views of the Prince would give a rude impulse to the question of the Pope's temporal sovereignty.

The French occupation of Syria is to be prolonged two or three months beyond the time originally fixed.

ITALY.—The Italian Parliament was opened by Emanuel in person on the 18th.

The number of troops made prisoners at Gaeta was 11,000. Seven or eight hundred cannon, and 60,000 muskets were found there. Three Generals accompanied Francis to Rome.

Gen. Ciadini was ordered to summon the Commander of the fortress at Messina to surrender.

Victor Emanuel received at Milan the Prussian Envoy Extraordinary.

The conspiracy in favor of Murat was discovered at Naples.

The Papal Zouaves had invaded Sardinian territories. The volunteers repulsed them.

The Pontifical soldiers had fortified themselves at Nanzano.

The Journal of Rome denies any arrangement between the Holy See and Piedmont.

Gen. Ciadini and Admirable Persano had left Gaeta, with troops for Messina. The fortress had been summoned to surrender under pain of an immediate attack; but Gen. Fergola is reported to have declared his intention to resist till the last extremity.

The Sardinian General is reported to have proceeded towards the Neapolitan fortress of Civetella on the Trante, and would commence an immediate attack unless surrendered.

The Official Opinions denounces the rumored existence of negotiations between Sardinia and Rome.

The order of the day of Gen. Guyon censures the demonstration made by the national committee, and rejects the address of congratulation which the latter extended to the French; and also recommends the soldiers of his command to avoid in future all popular assemblies.

The suppressions of the conventions has given rise to several popular disturbances. The rioters attacked several convents, but were dispersed by the National Guard.

AUSTRIA.—It is reported, via. Hamburg, that orders had been sent to Trieste, to arm at once all sailing vessels of the Austrian Navy. They are to be stationed at Zara, Cattero, Tiume, Rogusa, &c. Twelve gun-boats are to be sent to the Gulf of Guerrero, to watch the coast of Turkey.

The Royal rescript convoked the Diet, at Buda, for April 2d, to make arrangements for the coronation of the Emperor as King of Hungary, and to inaugurate Diploma, and to elect a Palatine of Hungary.

The Emperor of Austria has signed the new Constitution, which among other things, grants legislative powers to the Diet.

A telegram from Vienna announces that the state of affairs in Hungary is becoming very serious. Several districts, among them Roab, Songny, Petwarden and Warden will be declared in a state of seige.

SPAIN.—Had agreed with Morocco that the payment of the indemnity—200,000,000 reals—shall be completed immediately. The customs and duties at Tangiers and Magadore, are to be hypothecated to Spain for indemnity.

RUSSIA.—A proclamation for the emancipation of serfs would be issued in Russia on the 3d.

Direct transaction between the Banks of St. Petersburg and France, changing 30,000,000f. in gold for the same amount in silver had occurred.

CHINA.—Fresh disturbances have commenced against Christians in Cochin China.

INDIA.—Famine was very severe in the north-west provinces of India.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadstuffs.—Richardson, Spence & Co. report flour very dull, and offered at a decline of 6d without sales. Wheat dull; all qualities considerably declined, and prices irregular. Red Chicago 11d@13d; Red Southern 12d@13d; White dull. 13d@15d; Common quiet, and declined 6d. Mixed 8d@9d. Wakefield, Nash & Co. say wheat has declined 1s@2d.

DR. GEORGE SEYMOUR, of Litchfield, Ct., died on the 29th ult., from the effects of the National Hotel disease at Washington, contracted four years since.

DENMARK is arming to the teeth, and the legislative bodies and the people are determined to sustain the King against any attempt that may be made against the integrity of his dominions by the Prussians.

ROCKING-CHAIRS are an American invention, and a correspondent of the Historical Magazine asks when they were introduced into use. Twenty-five years ago they were sent to Europe as presents, and in France were then regarded as great novelties.

The News Condenser.

- The Chicago harbor is free from ice.
- Recruiting has become brisker in New York.
- Penny bathing houses are proposed in Philadelphia.
- Russia has now a splendid fleet in the Mediterranean.
- The small pox is said to be prevalent in Gallatin, Tenn.
- The Hudson river is now open from New York to Albany.
- England is the tin plate manufacturer for the whole world.
- Trade between South Carolina and Boston has been resumed.
- Diphtheria is prevailing to an alarming extent in Dinwiddie Co., Va.
- The total free population of all the seceded States foots up to 2,287,754.
- Over 8,600 volumes were given to Harvard College library last year.
- They are opening up oil wells in Canada, in the low lands near Fort Sarria.
- Sounding-boards over church pulpits are again coming into vogue in New York.
- A large order for Webster's Dictionaries has been received from Shanghai, in China.
- There were 87 divorces decreed in San Francisco, in 1860, of 165 petitioned for.
- Silver is looking up out of its dark abodes, and promises again to get ahead of gold.
- Hon. Joseph Ridgway, a former Congressman from Ohio, died at Columbus recently.
- Several destructive fires have occurred in the wooded lands on Long Island lately.
- There is a house in Paris which sells annually half a million pairs of wooden shoes.
- Whole families had to sleep in the streets in Washington the night before the inauguration.
- The resignation of Mr. Preston, as Minister to Spain, has been filed in the State Department.
- There are no less than six different bands of American Ethiopian minstrels now in England.
- There are 22 savings banks in Rhode Island, holding \$6,163,760, belonging to 35,405 depositors.
- Two hundred and forty-two steamers, of 103,662 tons, were built in the United Kingdom in 1860.
- A diner at a London restaurant recently died in a spasm, from eating mustard in excess upon his food.
- A panorama is exhibited in Liverpool, showing the progress of the Prince of Wales in this country.
- Col. Hamilton, of Texas, it is stated, will refuse to resign his seat in Congress, even if his State secedes.
- The first canal boat of this season arrived at Chicago, on the 6th inst., laden with 4,000 bushels of corn.
- Samuel H. Black was arrested on Friday week, in New York, on a charge of counterfeiting copper cents.
- The New York Syrian Relief Committee have closed their formal labors. They have received \$29,923.82.
- The Philadelphia American expresses the opinion that Pennsylvania is fifty millions richer for the new tariff.
- A new kind of steam engine, called "Pendulons," working with great economy, has been invented in England.
- A steam train of barges, connected by joints, has been built at Glasgow, to navigate the winding rivers of India.
- A dead child was almost entirely devoured by rats, in a hotel in the Five Points, in New York, a few days since.
- The cotton mills of Bombay now comprise 311,842 spindles and 4,025 looms—a large increase upon former years.
- The number of persons killed and wounded in Texas by the Indians, during the past three months, is estimated at 470.
- A nursery has been established in Boston, where the poor women can leave their children when they go out to work.
- On the 1st of January there were over 8,000 Americans in Paris, many of whom are said to be permanent residents there.
- Joseph Pierson, residing in Bucks Co., Pa., is said to have realized \$500,000 in six months, from coal oil in that State.
- In the Hermitage district, in Tennessee, the disunion ticket had four votes, and the Union ticket had seventy-one votes.
- The Duke of Newcastle has sent to Mayor Wentworth, of Chicago, as a present, two of his full-blooded Southdown sheep.
- Greek coins have been found in England, within a short period—supposed to have been brought there by the Romans.
- Major Bowman, of the Corps of Engineers, has been appointed Superintendent of the West Point Military Academy.
- Application has been made by a firm in New York for a patent for paper neckties, printed in imitation of silk and gingham.
- A woman recently obtained a divorce in Defiance Co., Ohio, and married a second husband in the afternoon of the same day.
- It is stated, on reliable authority, that an order has been received in New York, from England, for 32,000 barrels of refined oil.
- The California Legislature have expunged the resolutions of censure formerly passed against the late Senator Broderick.
- Two comets are now looked for by astronomers—the De Vico comet, which appeared in 1855, and the celebrated comet of Charles V.
- On Friday week fifty-two swans were placed in the Central Park pond, New York, which was filled up to the usual summer level.
- The Dunkirk Journal says that there will be eleven first-class steamers running out of that port during the coming season.
- The Algiers journals record the death of a sheik named Ben Moloka, aged 110, and of an Arab named Aissa Mohammed, aged 113.
- Joseph Foote, a Revolutionary soldier, aged 100 years and 6 months, died at Coventry, Chenango Co., N. Y., on the 21st ultimo.
- The French Emperor has caused Longwood and the tomb of Napoleon, at St. Helena, to be restored to their former condition.
- A San Francisco paper reports the arrival at that city of a Japanese merchant, who came to purchase goods to be sold in his own country.
- Georgia papers say that the damage done to the State Railroad by the late freshet will require an expenditure of \$100,000 for repairs.
- The supply of copper in the mining regions, in England, steadily decreases—the deficiency in a few years amounting to nearly 2,000 tons.
- At a town meeting in South Scituate, Mass., the inhabitants voted not to pay their taxes until next year, in consequence of the hard times.
- A fearful storm occurred on the coast of England and Ireland, the 8th and 9th ult., destroying many lives and a great amount of shipping.
- The Auditor of Louisiana says that within 30 years there have been 91 defalcations by State tax collectors, the amount swindled exceeding \$350,000.
- There has been an exhibition at Watertown, N. Y., a perfectly white deer, which was taken in the great woods in the Northern part of the State.
- The Albany papers estimate the damage occasioned by the freshet at that city, at \$100,000. The Troy papers set down their loss at about \$10,000.
- John Johnson, an old citizen of Ohio, and a companion of the celebrated Daniel Boone, was found dead in bed, in Washington City, Monday week.
- The officers and crew of the British war steamer Triton have recently been paid £28,000, as prize money, earned in the capture of slaves on the African coast.

The Publisher to the Public.

Back Numbers of this Volume will be sent to New Subscribers, until otherwise announced; but all wishing them should subscribe soon.

Any person so disposed can act as local agent for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and those who volunteer in the good cause will receive gratuity, and their kindness be appreciated.

Voluntary Agents for the Rural.—Any and every Subscriber or reader is requested to act in behalf of the RURAL, by forming clubs or otherwise.

Single Additions to Clubs.—A Western Agent, in remitting for one addition to his club says:—"If sending single subscriptions don't suit, let me know."

Agents—Friends, Subscribers, and all other persons who wish to do good, and have no objection to receiving GOOD PAY therefor, are invited to give the following Premium List a careful examination, and decide whether the inducements are not sufficient to secure prompt and energetic action.

Grand Specific Prizes. In order to give every Club Agent or Active Friend of the Rural a Benefit, we have concluded to offer the following Liberal Specific Premiums to every person who forms a Club for the New Volume!

Webster's Unabridged Pictorial Dictionary (cash price \$6.00) and an extra copy of the Rural to every person remitting \$3.00 for forty yearly subscribers to the Rural New Yorker, (set forth in the terms of the subscription, or persons who have not taken a paper regularly for 1890), previous to the 1st of April, 1891.

Lossing's Illustrated History of the United States (imperial size, 300 illustrations, price, \$3.00) and an extra copy of the Rural free, to every person remitting \$3.00, as above, for thirty copies, at least twenty of which must be for new subscribers.

Macaulay's History of England, (Harpur's Edition, in 4 volumes, 12mo, bound in leather—cash price, \$3.00) and an extra paper free, to every person remitting \$3.00, as above, for twenty copies, at least twenty of which must be for new subscribers.

Macaulay's England, (same edition as above, in cloth binding—price, \$2.00) and an extra paper free, to every person remitting \$2.00, as above, for twenty copies, at least twenty of which must be for new subscribers.

Webster's Counting House and Family Dictionary (Mason and Brothers' Edition, bound in leather, cash price, \$1.50) post-paid, and a free copy of the Rural to every person remitting \$1.50 for twelve copies, at least eight being for new subscribers.

Webster's C. H. & Family Dictionary, post-paid, and a free copy of the Rural, to every person remitting \$1.50 for ten new subscribers, or

Everybody's Lawyer (bound in law style, price, \$1.25) post-paid, for any \$1.25 or \$1.00 worth mentioned herein, post-paid, and a free copy of the Rural to every person remitting \$1.25 for ten subscribers, whether old or new.

Webster's C. H. & F. Dictionary, post-paid, and a free copy of the Rural, to every person remitting \$1.50 for six new subscribers.

Dr. Hays' Horse and his Diseases (Illustrated, bound in leather, price, \$1.25) post-paid, and a free copy of the Rural, to every person remitting \$1.25 for six subscribers, whether old or new.

Lossing's Pictorial United States (12mo., with 200 illustrations, price \$1.00) post-paid, to every person remitting \$1.00 for five subscribers, being new or old subscribers, two being new.

Cole's Fruit Book (price 50 cents) post-paid—(if preferred, THE SKILLFUL HOUSEWIFE, (same price), or a copy of LOSSING'S PICTORIAL UNITED STATES, one being new.

Persons entitled to any of the above books, and preferring other works of equal value, mentioned herein, can be accommodated on stating their wishes. For instance, one entitled to "Everybody's Lawyer," can have "The Horse and his Diseases" or "Lossing's Pictorial," and vice versa.

Persons who have not taken a paper regularly for 1890, and who are entitled to any of the above books, and preferring other works of equal value, mentioned herein, can be accommodated on stating their wishes.

Persons who took the RURAL last quarter, on trial, and subscribe for this year, may be counted as new subscribers in competing for Premiums.

STILL BETTER! Extra Gifts for Clubs before April!

Having resolved to "keep the ball moving" until April—in order to attain a LARGELY INCREASED CIRCULATION—we have concluded to give such liberal rewards for efforts as will pay any and every one for time and trouble devoted to the formation of clubs. We therefore make the following offers IN ADDITION TO THE PREMIUMS ABOVE ENUMERATED:

To every person procuring and remitting for Forty Yearly Subscribers, (half of the number being new subscribers) to the RURAL NEW-YORKER, between the 9th of February and 1st of April, we will give, (in addition to the Dictionary and Free Copy above offered) LOSSING'S ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES—a large and beautiful Octavo Volume of 672 pages, splendidly illustrated, and printed in the best style on extra paper—cash price, \$3.00. The same work to every person remitting \$3.00, as above, for twenty copies, at least ten of which must be for new subscribers.

To every person remitting as above, for Twenty New Subscribers, we will give as an extra premium, a copy of WEBSTER'S C. H. & FAMILY DICTIONARY, post-paid—the most complete and valuable work of its price published—or any \$1.25 book, post-paid, above mentioned.

To every person remitting for Fifteen Subscribers, as above, at least ten being new, or for Twelve of which eight are new, or for Ten new subscribers, (see No. 5, 6, 7 and 8) we will give, or send post-paid, a copy of WEBSTER'S LAWYER, or any other \$1.25 book, above named.

To every person remitting for Ten Subscribers, whether old or new, or for Six new subscribers, as above, we will give, or send post-paid, a copy of LOSSING'S PICTORIAL UNITED STATES—12mo., 200 engravings, price, \$1.

There, Friends and Strangers, is just what we offer and propose to perform! You can afford to make a little EXTRA effort, we reckon, to secure such LIBERAL and VALUABLE prizes. In fact, we shouldn't be surprised if you should trust some of your neighbors and acquaintances a few weeks, (such as you know will pay,) and advance the money, in order to make a "sure thing." You can decide.

TERMS OF THE RURAL—IN ADVANCE. Two Dollars a Year. Three Copies, one year, \$5; Six Copies, one year, \$10; Twelve Copies, one year, \$20; Twenty Copies, one year, \$35; Thirty Copies, one year, \$50; Forty Copies, one year, \$65; Fifty Copies, one year, \$80; Sixty Copies, one year, \$95; Seventy Copies, one year, \$110; Eighty Copies, one year, \$125; Ninety Copies, one year, \$140; One Hundred Copies, one year, \$155; One Hundred and Fifty Copies, one year, \$200; Two Hundred Copies, one year, \$250; Three Hundred Copies, one year, \$350; Four Hundred Copies, one year, \$450; Five Hundred Copies, one year, \$550; Six Hundred Copies, one year, \$650; Seven Hundred Copies, one year, \$750; Eight Hundred Copies, one year, \$850; Nine Hundred Copies, one year, \$950; One Thousand Copies, one year, \$1,000.

Please write all addresses plainly and carefully, in order that they may be accurately entered upon our books and correctly PRINTED by our Mailing Machine. All subscriptions should be well enclosed, and carefully addressed and mailed to D. D. T. MOORE, Rochester, N. Y.

Special Notices.

No TRAVELING AGENTS are employed by us as we wish to have the field sold to local agents and those who form clubs. And beside, we wish it distinctly understood that all persons traveling through the country, professing to hold certificates from us, ARE IMPOSTORS.

Brown's Bronchial Troches.—These cough and voice lozenges, which we advertised a few weeks ago, are superior for relieving hoarseness to anything that we are acquainted with. We have tried them during the past winter, and make this statement gratuitously for the benefit of our brethren in the ministry.—Central Christian Herald, Cincinnati.

HOARSENESS, &c. SINGLES ADDITIONS TO CLUBS.—A Western Agent, in remitting for one addition to his club says:—"If sending single subscriptions don't suit, let me know."

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Flour and Grain. Flour, winter wheat, \$5.25 @ 5.75; spring wheat, \$4.00 @ 4.50; rye, \$2.00 @ 2.50; corn, \$1.00 @ 1.50; oats, \$0.75 @ 1.00; hay, \$1.00 @ 1.50; straw, \$0.50 @ 0.75.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Eggs, dozen, \$1.00 @ 1.10; butter, \$1.00 @ 1.10; lard, \$1.00 @ 1.10; tallow, \$0.75 @ 0.85; mutton, \$1.00 @ 1.10; beef, \$1.00 @ 1.10; pork, \$1.00 @ 1.10.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Fruit and Vegetables. Apples, bushel, \$0.75 @ 1.00; peaches, \$1.00 @ 1.50; plums, \$0.75 @ 1.00; cherries, \$1.00 @ 1.50; strawberries, \$1.00 @ 1.50; raspberries, \$1.00 @ 1.50; blueberries, \$1.00 @ 1.50.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Meats. Pork, mess, \$12.00 @ 13.00; pork, clear, \$10.00 @ 11.00; beef, \$10.00 @ 11.00; mutton, \$10.00 @ 11.00; lamb, \$10.00 @ 11.00.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Dairy. Butter, \$1.00 @ 1.10; cheese, \$1.00 @ 1.10; milk, \$0.75 @ 0.85; cream, \$1.00 @ 1.10; eggs, \$1.00 @ 1.10.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Miscellaneous. Soap, \$0.75 @ 0.85; candles, \$0.75 @ 0.85; kerosene, \$0.75 @ 0.85; oil, \$0.75 @ 0.85; sugar, \$0.75 @ 0.85; coffee, \$0.75 @ 0.85; tea, \$0.75 @ 0.85.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Flour—Market dull, heavy and a little lower for common grades, with only a very limited demand for export and home consumption. Sales at \$3.00 @ 3.10 for super State; \$2.75 @ 2.85 for extra do; \$2.60 @ 2.70 for super Western; \$2.45 @ 2.55 for common Western; \$2.30 @ 2.40 for inferior to good shipping brands extra round hush Ohio; \$2.00 @ 2.10 for trade brands do—closing dull and heavy, with sales of extra State numerals at \$2.00 @ 2.10.

GRAIN.—Wheat less active and a trifle lower; there is not so much inquiry for France, sales Chicago \$1.16 @ 1.17 in 100 lbs. and 100 lbs. for export; North-western club at \$1.19 @ 1.20; Milwaukee club at \$1.21 @ 1.22 delivered; winter red Western at \$1.20 delivered; Canada club at \$1.21; white Western at \$1.40 @ 1.41. Corn dull and easy; for firm, sales at \$0.75 @ 0.80; without important change; sales State at \$0.75 @ 0.80, as to quality—Corn, old is dull and in fair request; \$1.00 @ 1.05 for better grades; sales at \$0.75 for prime old mixed Western; \$0.75 @ 0.80 for new do. at R.R. depot and delivered; \$0.80 @ 0.85 for new South; yellow, \$0.80 @ 0.85 for new white Southern. Oats steady and unchanged for prime; sales at \$1.15 @ 1.20 for extra; \$1.00 @ 1.05 for corn fed dressed; live do. closed at \$1.00 @ 1.05. Lard moderate moderate at earlier sales; price \$20 @ 21. Butter is cheap and sales at \$10 @ 11 for Ohio and \$14 @ 15 for State. Cheese steady at \$10 @ 11 for inferior to prime.

ALBANY, March 11.—Flour and Meal.—The better description remain steady, but the low grades have depreciated. We quote: Common to good State, \$4.00 @ 4.10; Fancy and extra State, \$4.10 @ 4.25; Common good Western, \$3.75 @ 3.85; Extra Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, &c., \$3.75 @ 3.85; Extra Ohio, \$3.75 @ 3.85; Common Canada, \$3.75 @ 3.85; Extra Canadian, \$3.75 @ 3.85; Fancy Genesee, \$3.75 @ 3.85; Common Western, \$3.75 @ 3.85; Extra Kentucky, \$3.75 @ 3.85. Grain.—No sales of wheat reported. Corn steady and in moderate demand; sales at \$0.75 @ 0.80, at the Brighton Depot. In Rye and Oats there is nothing doing. Barley in fair request and market firm; sales round State, at the Depot, \$1.00 @ 1.10. Seed.—Clover quiet. Timothy is buoyant and the demand good; sales at \$3.12 @ 3.25.

RUFFALO, March 11.—Flour.—The market for flour is quiet at \$4.30 for extra State; \$4.75 @ 5.00 for extra Wisconsin and \$5.00 @ 5.25 for extra Ohio; for extra Ohio, Indiana, &c., \$5.00 @ 5.25 for double extra. Grain.—Wheat in moderate demand, with sales of Canada at \$1.00, and white at \$1.20. Corn dull at 45c. Oats nominal at 24c. Barley nominal at 40c. Stock.—Dressed hogs quiet at 5 1/2 @ 6c.—Com. Adv.

TORONTO, March 9.—Flour.—Flour is quiet but firm, and we have heard of few sales during the week. A round lot of superfine extra was reported as having sold early in the week at \$5.75 per cask, and choice brands of the same grade might bring the same. Extra may be nominally quoted at \$4.50 @ 4.60. Superfine is generally held firm at \$4.75, and few sales have been effected below that price, though the market is generally more freely made. There is no inquiry for lower grades. Bag flour for bakers' use is slow sale at \$4.75 @ 4.80. We quote: Superfine, \$4.75 @ 4.80; Extra, \$4.75 @ 4.80; Fancy, \$4.75 @ 4.80; Choice, \$4.75 @ 4.80; No. 2, \$4.75 @ 4.80.

GRAIN.—The deliveries of fall wheat since our last have not exceeded 5,200 bushels. \$1.18 was the ruling figure for the present sale. Common to medium grades in Montreal are in active demand. The quantity of spring wheat delivered from Toronto would not amount to over 4,700 bushels, and was sold at \$7 @ 8c. Choice lots of Golden Rod flour, \$7 @ 8c. In the market was offered, demand active. Barley in small supply; 50 @ 55c were the extreme figures paid. Oats in moderate supply, but the market is quiet. We quote \$1 @ 1.10 as the ruling price. Corn, some 3,000 bushels of this grain changed hands for distilling purposes at 60c on the track. Stock.—Wheat steady and in active wholesale demand, at prices ranging from \$2.00 @ 2.10 bushel. Clover seed is equally active, at \$4.75 @ bushel.—Globe.

THE CATTLE MARKETS. NEW YORK, March 6.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows: BEEF CATTLE. First quality, \$9.00 @ 9.50; Common quality, \$8.00 @ 8.50; Inferior quality, \$7.00 @ 7.50.

COWS AND CALVES. First quality, \$5.00 @ 5.50; Ordinary quality, \$4.00 @ 4.50; Common quality, \$3.00 @ 3.50; Inferior quality, \$2.00 @ 2.50.

VEAL CALVES. First quality, \$6.00 @ 6.50; Ordinary quality, \$5.00 @ 5.50; Common quality, \$4.00 @ 4.50; Inferior quality, \$3.00 @ 3.50.

SHEEP AND LAMBS. Prime quality, \$5.00 @ 5.50; Ordinary quality, \$4.00 @ 4.50; Common quality, \$3.00 @ 3.50; Inferior quality, \$2.00 @ 2.50.

SWINE. First quality, \$5.00 @ 5.50; Ordinary quality, \$4.00 @ 4.50; Common quality, \$3.00 @ 3.50; Inferior quality, \$2.00 @ 2.50.

ALBANY, March 11.—Breves.—The market is more active this week. Choice "Red" is in best shape, nearly 100 short of last week, while the demand is somewhat better. Prices are perhaps a shade better, and the sales are quick, while there is no improvement in the average quality. The Propellers will commence running to-day, and the harbor will constitute formidable rivals of the Hudson River and Harlem Railroads for the live stock carrying trade. Receipts.—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car: This week. Last week. Cattle, 2,220 2,304 1,139; Sheep, 1,220 1,220 1,220; Hogs, 1,220 1,220 1,220.

PRICES.—Sales are quick at the following quotations, most of the droves having changed hands. This week. Last week. Premium, \$2.00 @ 2.25; First quality, \$2.00 @ 2.25; Second quality, \$2.00 @ 2.25; Third quality, \$2.00 @ 2.25.

Sheep.—The city demand is extremely light, the heaviest demand in muton saying they cannot afford to try the prices asked. There is some inquiry, however, for New York and Brighton and in view of the light receipts, the market is buoyant at a shade advance in prices. We notice sales 200 coarse woolled at \$3.00 @ 3.10; average 100 lbs. 180 prime do. at \$3 1/2 @ 3 3/4; average 100 lbs. 190 at \$3 1/2, average 100 lbs. DRESSED HOGS.—Very little doing. Occasional sales are made at \$22 @ 26, outside for strictly choice.

BRIGHTON, March 7.—At market—900 Beef Cattle, 75 Stores, 2,000 Sheep, 1,000 Hogs, and 1,000 Swine. BEEF CATTLE.—Sales, \$7.25 @ 8.00; 1st quality, \$6.00 @ 7.00; 2d do, \$5.00 @ 6.00; 3d do, \$4.00 @ 5.00; 4th do, \$3.00 @ 4.00; 5th do, \$2.00 @ 3.00; 6th do, \$1.00 @ 2.00; 7th do, \$0.50 @ 1.00; 8th do, \$0.25 @ 0.50; 9th do, \$0.10 @ 0.25; 10th do, \$0.05 @ 0.10.

MILCH COWS.—\$4.50 @ 4.75; common, \$19 @ 20. CALVES.—\$3.00 @ 3.50. SHEEP.—Yearlings, \$9 @ 10; two-year olds, \$11 @ 12; three years old, \$11 @ 12.

HIDES.—4 1/2 @ 5 1/2 lb. (none but slaughtered at market). TALLOW.—\$6 @ 7c. SWINE.—Store, wholesale, 6 1/2 @ 7c; retail, 6 @ 7c. Fat Hogs, undressed, still fed, do.

CAMBRIDGE, March 6.—At market 544 cattle, about 450 heaves and 104 stores, consisting of working oxen, cows, and one, two and three years old. Prices, extra, \$4.75 @ 5.00; first quality, \$4.00 @ 4.50; second quality, \$3.50 @ 4.00; third quality, \$3.00 @ 3.50; ordinary quality, \$2.75.

NEW YORK, March 7.—We can notice no important change in the market since the date of our report. The inquiry from all quarters is still very limited, though prices, as a general thing, are without quotable change. Domestic fleeces have so far to a fair extent, the transactions embrace about 45,000 lbs., mainly medium, at 40 @ 45c. Pooled wools have been quiet, and the sales are unimportant. A few small lots of California have been selling most favorably at 100 @ 110c. Foreign wools continue quiet; the only sale we hear of is 3,500 bales Merino, reported on private terms, but said to be at an improving price.

AMERICAN SAXONY FLEECES, &c. American Saxony Fleeces, \$1.10 @ 1.20; American half-blood Merino, \$1.00 @ 1.10; American full-blood Merino, \$1.00 @ 1.10; American native and one-fourth Merino, \$1.00 @ 1.10; Extra Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 1 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 2 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 3 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 4 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 5 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 6 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 7 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 8 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 9 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10; No. 10 Pooled, \$1.00 @ 1.10.

NEW YORK, March 7.—The market has been firmer for Fleeces and Pooled Wool with sales of 150,000 lbs. at various prices, according to quality, and sales of 1,000 bales Mediterranean, Cape of Good Hope and South America. Saxony and Merino, fine, 42 @ 45; Western mixed, 20 @ 25; Full blood, 42 @ 47; Styria, washed, 10 @ 12; Goodish, 10 @ 12; Syrian, 10 @ 12; Pooled, extra, 42 @ 45; Cape, 42 @ 45; Do. No. 1, 22 @ 25; Buenos Ayres, 22 @ 25; Do. No. 2, 12 @ 15; Peruvian, washed, 22 @ 25.

BOSTON, March 7.—The market has been firmer for Fleeces and Pooled Wool with sales of 150,000 lbs. at various prices, according to quality, and sales of 1,000 bales Mediterranean, Cape of Good Hope and South America. Saxony and Merino, fine, 42 @ 45; Western mixed, 20 @ 25; Full blood, 42 @ 47; Styria, washed, 10 @ 12; Goodish, 10 @ 12; Syrian, 10 @ 12; Pooled, extra, 42 @ 45; Cape, 42 @ 45; Do. No. 1, 22 @ 25; Buenos Ayres, 22 @ 25; Do. No. 2, 12 @ 15; Peruvian, washed, 22 @ 25.

At the residence of the bride's father, "Lake Side," Warren, Conn., Feb. 14, by Rev. Mr. LOVELL, BENJAMIN CARTER and AMELIA T., eldest daughter of Wm. Hopkins, Esq. In Genoa, N. Y., on Friday morning, Feb. 22, by the Rev. FREDERICK D. LEWIS, at the residence of the bride's father, Wm. C. Carter, Esq., the marriage of Miss SARAH S. PRINCE, eldest daughter of Dr. Lewis, to Miss SARAH S. PRINCE, eldest daughter of Dr. Lewis, was solemnized.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

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AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

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

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 personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently instructive and entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the 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 in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

SPRING THOUGHTS.

The winter is about passing away. Its white robe is torn and soiled; but here and there, in some shady ravine or upon the northern hill side, may be seen a stray fold retaining its original purity. The winter wheat and rye are now exposed, and we can judge of the present prospect for a crop. The melting snow floods the low lands, and we discover where a ditch or a drain would have been of great advantage, if made in the autumn—and even now will be of service. Now we need no level, no engineer to point out the low portions of our fields, those that need surface drainage, for the rising sun converts every hollow into a bright mirror or a pool of fire that dazzles and blinds the eyes. We hardly knew before why certain portions of our lands remunerated us so poorly—why they refused to return even ten-fold for our labor—but the cause is revealed in colors of living light. During every thaw in the winter, and all the spring, the water lies here and the soil becomes sored and unable to furnish the roots of plants sweet, healthy food. Even in the summer, during hard showers, these low places are, for a season, flooded, while, if the soil is heavy, it becomes pesty when wet; and when dry, as hard as unburnt brick, almost impervious to the air and the moisture of dews and gentle rains.

The American spring is thought to be peculiarly unpleasant, with little to interest and please, while travelers from all lands praise our beautiful autumns. But even in the spring-time, the observing farmer can find plenty of food for thought—many valuable lessons to be treasured up. The effects of drainage are seen to great advantage during the wet, muddy weather of the present season. Every drain can be traced the whole length of the field by the color of the soil, resulting from its dryness. The soil over the drain, and for a few feet each side, will be perfectly dry, so as to make walking easy and pleasant, while in the center of the space between the drains, if a couple of rods apart, the pedestrian will sink in the soft mud up to the ankles. From this may we not learn the advantage of draining, and also another important fact, that we usually put our drains too far apart to secure thorough drainage? If the drains in the field which we now have in our mind had been placed one rod apart instead of two, it would have been, when we visited it a few days since, dry enough for plowing and planting, as the soil over them and for several feet each side, was mellow and friable, while ten or fifteen feet distant it was wet, and from appearance will not be fit to work for several weeks. The idea that a small drain tile with a bore a couple of inches in diameter, and sunk two or three feet in the ground, can carry water from the surface and eight or ten feet on each side, and make the soil dry and mellow, seems rather ridiculous to those unacquainted with the practical operation of draining, but an examination of its effects at this season of the year, will convince the most skeptical.

In our attempts to ripen wheat so early as to cheat the midge, it is well, of course, to seek varieties that mature early, but in thorough drainage we have the best prospect of success. Not only is soil thoroughly drained in condition to be worked earlier than that which is undrained, but it is several degrees warmer, particularly in the early part of the season, when warmth is needed, as any one can ascertain by experiment. The effect of this in the early growth and maturity of crops will be realized by all.

One great and general good we think will result from draining when it shall become universal, or, at least, common—and yet it is seldom taken into the account of those who drain, or those who advocate the practice. It is known that the malaria arising from stagnant water causes most of the diseases to which the dwellers in the country are subjected. When our lands are generally provided with the necessary means for carrying off the water quickly

into the creeks, and rivers, and the ocean, who can calculate the immense advantage that will accrue to the farmers and their families, in the removal of the cause of, so much disease and death. This, at least, is worthy of a thought.

The season of active labor is at hand. The sure harbinger of spring, the robin, has made its appearance, and sings gayly among our trees. Before the work of cultivation commences, a good deal may need to be done. The ice-king has a strong arm, and in the exercise of his power sometimes does considerable mischief, which the farmer should repair just as soon as he resigns his scepter. The fence and gate posts will be found lifted up and thrown out of the perpendicular, particularly if standing in low places, and they should be righted before the ground settles, or the work will be more troublesome. Some of the rails may have fallen from the fences, and these should be replaced, or in time of pasture these low places will tempt your cattle to bad habits, besides permitting them to do mischief. The door-yard does not look very well, for as we always expect, it in the spring it is littered with chips, &c., and although this does not appear particularly bad now, it will in the bright fine weather, when all is pleasant and beautiful around. Bake up the refuse and place it on the manure heap. The tools, implements, &c., of course were repaired during the winter, but it is well to look them over now so that nothing be omitted that will cause trouble and annoyance in the busy season. We almost feel as though we owed an apology for mentioning these things, as they may seem to some like a refection upon the habits of our readers. But, we are all forgetful, and a few hints in this direction will, at least, do no harm. No good general would commence a campaign without having thoroughly surveyed the ground, and marked out his line of operations. The farmer should show equal wisdom, for he has a host of enemies and adverse circumstances to contend against, and on the wisdom of his plans in a great measure must depend his success. Seeds, and, in fact, everything needed for the spring campaign, should be on hand, so that there may be no disappointment or delay when needed.

Of the prospects of the coming season we may have something to say hereafter. Whatever advices may come upon us as a nation through the folly of men, we have the satisfaction of knowing that the earth will continue to yield her increase regardless of their wanton caprice, and the world will need food and clothes, which it is the business of the farmer to supply.

DISEASES OF CATTLE.—MURRAIN.

It would seem that this dreadful disease was visiting some portions of the West, for we have recently received from Michigan and Wisconsin several inquiries as to its symptoms and manner of treatment. Although some of our most experienced veterinarians contend that the herds of American farmers enjoy special immunity from this scourge, it is evident that the malady, though deprived of many of the horrors attendant upon it in Europe, occasionally exhibits itself in our stock. Nor is the fatality which marks its course in the Old World materially lessened in our country, for we annually lose large numbers of cattle.

Murrain is classed among the diseases of the respiratory system. It makes its first lodgment here, and for longer or shorter period,—as the disease is pacific or violent,—this portion of the animal economy is alone affected. It is a complete puzzle to the novice, as it assumes a greater variety of forms, both in its earlier and later stages, but it can generally be distinguished by some of the following symptoms:

A cough, constantly recurring and painful. This oftentimes precedes the disease a week or longer, and is frequently unattended by other signs that would indicate anything more than a simple but severe cold. After a few days, heaving of the flanks will be added to the cough; the pulse quick, hard, and small, with irregularities; the mouth hot; the root of the horns cold; the excretions hard and black, sometimes liquid, with the same dark color, and in the latter case very fetid. Extreme soreness, or tenderness, is now observable along the spine, while the center of all pain would seem to be directly over the loins. The cough constantly increases and becomes convulsive; and matter, brown or bloody, issues from the mouth and nostrils; the eyes swell and are watery; the animal grinds his teeth; a frequent spasmodic contraction of the nostrils is noticeable; the patient rarely lies down, and should it seek a recumbent posture, will rise again immediately. Shortly after the appearance of the foregoing symptoms, the eyes are lusterless; the pulse is still small, but has become feeble; respiration is accelerated; the flanks are drawn up; pain has ceased at the loins; insensibility creeps over the system; the feces are covered with mucus, and more fetid; the animal moans, continuing, almost uninterruptedly, the grinding motion of the jaws; a convulsive movement is given to the head; blood begins to pass off with the excretions; the breath becomes offensive, and a staggering, shuffling motion is all the exertion of which the poor brute is capable. The time is now at hand in which tumors and boils make their appearance (they sometimes come earlier, however,) upon various portions of the body. If these are to come forward, the desire should be to have them perfect as soon as is possible. If the animal still possesses sufficient strength for them to undergo the process of

suppuration, there is a chance for recovery; whereas, should they become stationary, or go back and disappear, death is the inevitable result. The medicinal treatment of murrain has been unsatisfactory, from the fact that the patient has not been taken in charge at an early period as the nature of the malady demands. It runs its course with such a rapidity, that when the stock-owner has, at length, become alarmed at the condition of his animals,—before any of the remedial agencies administered can materially affect the system, death closes the scene. In the caution spiced in the cough would always strike upon quick ears; and a system of watchfulness and care to be instituted, and a thorough dose of physic administered when the cough is noticed as increasing in frequency and violence, the probabilities are that the disease would be arrested, or, at least, its violence abated. You are recommended bleeding in the early stages. Physic should be cautiously, yet not timidly, resorted to. Small doses of purgative medicine, with more of the aromatics than we generally add, will be serviceable, not hastening or increasing the debility which generally is attendant; but if the bowels be sufficiently open, as diarrhoea should threaten, and yet symptoms of fever should be apparent, no purgative must be given, but sedatives should be mingled with some vegetable tonics. The peculiar fetid diarrhoea must be met with astringents, mingled also with vegetable tonics. In combating the putrid and sloughing gangrenous stages, the chloride of lime will be the best external application; while a little of it administered with the other medicines inwardly may possibly lessen the tendency to general decomposition. The external application of it should not be confined to the ulcerated parts alone, but it should be plentifully sprinkled over and about the beast; and the infected animal should be immediately removed from the sound ones. For a drink, take sweet spirit of nitre, half an ounce; laudanum, half an ounce; chloride of lime, in powder, two ounces; prepared chalk, an ounce. Rub well together, and give with a pint of warm gruel. This may be repeated every six hours, until the purging is considerably abated; but should not be continued until it has quite stopped. The purging abated, we must give something to recall the appetite and recruit the strength. For this purpose a tonic drink is recommended, compounded as follows:—Colombo root, two drachms; Canela bark, two drachms; ginger, one drachm; sweet spirit of nitre, half an ounce. Rub together, and give in a pint of thick gruel.

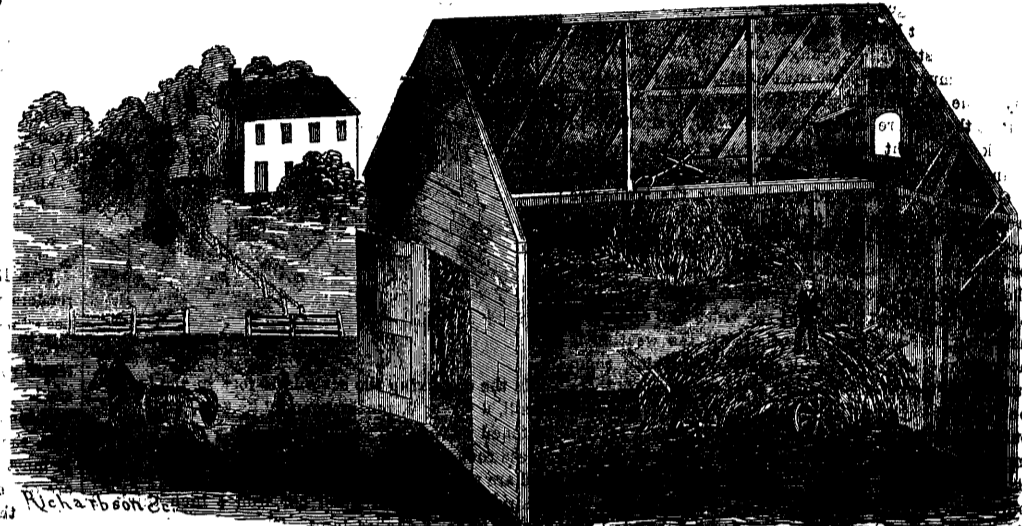
In addition to the foregoing mode of treatment, we also have the Homeopathic, and this has met with considerable success. Dr. DAD says the indications to be observed are, first, to preserve the system from putrescence, which can be done by the use of the following drink:—Powdered capsicum, one teaspoonful; powdered charcoal, two ounces; lime water, four ounces; sulphur, one teaspoonful. Add to the capsicum, charcoal, and sulphur, a small quantity of gruel; lastly, add the lime water. A second and similar dose may be given six hours after the first, provided, however, the symptoms are not so alarming. The next indication is, to break down the morbid action of the nervous and vascular systems; for which the following may be given freely:—Thoroughwort tea, two quarts; powdered asafoetida, two drachms. Aid the action of these remedies by the use of one of the following injections:—Powdered lobelia, two ounces; oil peppermint, twenty drops; warm water, two quarts. Another,—infusion of camomile, two quarts; common salt, four ounces.

In all cases of malignant fever, efforts should be made to supply the system with caloric, (by the aid of stimulants,) promote the secretions, and rid the system of morbid materials.

LAYING STONE WALL.

As the time is approaching when many farmers in this section will engage, more or less extensively, in this business, a few hints on the subject would not be unseasonable. If fences of any kind are only to be tolerated as necessary evils, then a poor fence must be a great evil; and of all poor fences, a poor stone wall is, in my estimation, the poorest. As long, however, as farmers raise both grain and stock, a good wall is a good thing. It is an ornament as well as a protection to the farm, and where there are stone on the fields that must be got off in order to clear the land, it is about as cheap as any other good fence. When laid as it should be, it is a permanent fence, and if it ever does tumble down, the materials are there on the spot to put it up again. Haying been engaged in the business for the last five years, and having seen hundreds of dollars fairly thrown away for want of a little practical knowledge on the subject, I will try to give a few hints that may be useful to the inexperienced.

The first consideration should be to get a good foundation. If the foundation gives way, you need not expect the wall to stand. There are some soils where you may lay the foundation on the surface, and it will stand; but wherever it will settle much, this will not answer. Where the soil is much affected by the frost, it becomes very soft in the spring, and the foundation settles downward and outward, thus bringing down the whole superstructure.



BEARDSLEY'S HAY ELEVATOR, OR HORSE POWER FORK.

The most valuable labor and time saving implements to the farmer, are those adapted to operations which must be performed in a brief period and at a busy season. Such are reed planters, reapers and mowers, horse rakes, hay elevators, &c., which substitute mechanical and animal powers for human muscles at times, when the demand for the latter is often far greater than the supply. Indeed, but for the use of such machines, the immense crops of last year, especially those of the west, could not have been secured without immense loss, and in many instances it would have been impossible to harvest even half the product of large farms in proper season. Hence it is that every new invention which lessens or facilitates the labors of seed-time and harvest is regarded as important and welcomed as a boon by the great mass of cultivators.

We have often, described and commended machines for the prominent operations of the seasons alluded to, and now, have the pleasure of introducing to the notice of RURAL readers a new and apparently very valuable apparatus for elevating hay. This elevator, or horse-power pitchfork, was perfected last season, we believe, and is the invention of Mr. LEVI A. BEARDSLEY, of South Edmeston, Otsego Co., N. Y. The small illustration shows the fork, and the large one the manner of arranging the pulleys for its operation. The inventor claims that his two-horse fork can lift hay at the rate of one-sixth to one-fourth of a load to the fork-fall, which must be a great saving of time and human muscle—it being a vast deal easier to drive a team or guide a fork-full, as above represented, than to go through the back-

aching process of hand-pitching. Three pulleys are used in operating the fork, one of which is fastened to a rafter, or to the purlin plate over the mow—being so made that it can be unhooked by a pole, and hooked to another rafter or to another part of the purlin plate.

The patentee thus describes the manner of using this fork:—"Place the fork on the load, length-wise with it, and by stepping upon the rods that brace the tines, they will readily enter the hay. Set the hook and fasten the lifting chain to it by its ring. The horses can then elevate the fork-full, and when it is in the right place to be dropped, the man on the load pulls the catch cord, which he keeps in his hand, when the fork will drop a little, and by means of the side ropes, the tines are drawn wide open, and the hay is discharged. The spring on the upper end keeps the fork open, so that it is ready to enter the hay on the load when lowered by the backing of the team."

The fork figured above has four tines, as will be seen, and is worked by two horses. Mr. B. also makes a two-tined fork, for one horse. The latter, full rigged, costs \$12; the other \$16.

A pattern may be made by any one who can handle a saw and hammer. Take two strips of board of the required length, set them at a proper angle, and nail two or three short pieces across, as in figure 1. This will answer, though it is better to have a frame of light scantling. For a wall four and a half feet high, two feet and a half wide at the bottom, and one foot at the top, is a good proportion. It may be varied, of course, according to the size and quality of the stone. For large, round boulders, it may be made wider,—if the stone are small and square, it may be narrower at the bottom.

A wall of such stone as we have in this section, requires from two to three rows of boards, cut and laid crosswise, to bind it. Split timber, or stave culls, will answer, and are cheaper. Set up your pattern, and stretch a line on each side three or four rods long, and as high as the first row of boards, or lower, if convenient, and you are ready to go to work. You must exercise your own judgment as to the best way to lay every particular stone, and a quick eye and some practice is necessary, in order to be able to place every stone just where it should be, without taking it up more than once. Only some general directions can be given, as, perhaps, no two stones are exactly alike in form.

Lay the foundation with the largest stones you have, carefully filling up all the spaces between them with smaller stones. Make it up level as high as the first course of boards, and be especially careful not to get the center higher than the outside. After you have put on the boards, lay on each side a course of the largest stone you have left, and proceed in the same manner. Finish with a flat stone as wide as the top of the wall, or if you can get them wide enough, let them project over two or three inches on each side, as in figure 2. If you have no flat stone, you may finish with a round one, as seen in figure 3, by laying a course of boards immediately below.

Murray, N. Y., 1861. JAMES A. McMASTERS.

SOAPING CORN, DOCKING LAMBS, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—The following excellent letter from Judge MARSHALL, of Steuben county, though not intended for publication, has so many excellent suggestions that I venture to send it to you for the RURAL.—

On the first evening's discussion at the State Fair, I was requested to make some remarks relative to growing corn. If I recollect right, Mr. ROBINSON was the only reporter on the first evening. As I have been informed, the published accounts in the several

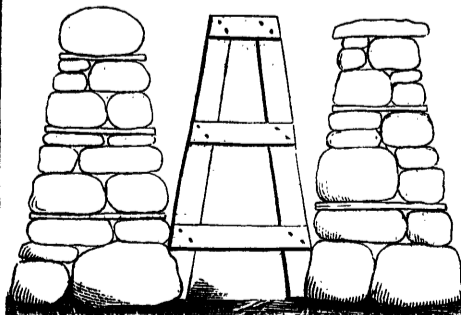


FIG. 3. FIG. 1. FIG. 2.

Having decided on a plan, the next thing to be considered is drawing the stone. The best way is to draw your largest stone, first, enough for the foundation, right on the line where you wish the wall,—in the trench, if you have one,—and the remainder at a convenient distance on both sides. A little attention at this stage of the business will save a great deal of labor. Where the stone have been thrown indiscriminately in the corners of a crooked rail fence, and a thrifty crop of briars and thistles has grown up among them, as I have seen sometimes, it is very disagreeable work to "clear the track." Nearly all the stone have to be handled over before you are ready to commence building.

agricultural papers were copied from Mr. R.'s notes. When I got my Country Gentleman, and the remarks I should have made, I was surprised, and somewhat chagrined to see what work Mr. R. had made. He states that I plant my corn 4 feet each way. I plant 3 1/2 feet each way. He says I smear my corn with soft soap, and let it dry till I plant. I put my seed corn in a large kettle, — as I can stir much better in a kettle than a tub, — heating the soap in another kettle, and when hot, pour on the seed, stirring with a paddle at the same time, and getting as much soap on the corn as I can make adhere. After this, I add plaster so as to make the kernels separate. Make it nearly dry. My object is to get as much soap and plaster on the corn as possible. I only prepare as much as we can plant in half a day, letting it stand in the shade while planting. If exposed to the sun, and drying winds, it becomes dry, and the soap and plaster will scale off.

Mr. R. said I took hen manure and unleached ashes. I stated that I took a load of hen manure to the barn, put it on the floor, threshed it fine with a flail, added about the same quantity of leached ashes, and kept it dry till wanted. Put a small handful in each hill before planting the corn. A handful of hen manure and unleached ashes would be likely to kill the corn.

Mr. ROBINSON states that I keep my sheep on straw, and a little grain. I stated that during the previous year, from necessity, I had to keep my sheep mostly on straw and grain, as hay crops were so very light in this section. Most farmers had to feed straw, as hay was not to be had under \$15, and they were obliged to go some ways after it. I always select my best hay for my sheep, and feed, occasionally, some straw, for change, as sheep like a variety.

I very much desired to say something in relation to my mode and time of castrating and docking lambs, but as there were many present more competent to speak, I thought it was best for me to be a listener than a speaker. However I will give you my mode:

Get up your ewes and lambs, when the lambs are from 3 to 12 days old, in the latter part of the afternoon, in a dry yard or shed. Drive them into a close pen, where you can select the lambs without raising them much. As you pick off the lambs, put them into a snug pen. I put boards at the sides and ends of a hay rack, and put them into that. If the weather is hot, let the lambs cool off before disturbing them further. If convenient, have a person to pass them out to another who holds the lamb in a position to suit the operator, who should, with proper instruments (I use a shoe knife,) first mark the ear, if that is practiced, and then take off the tail with a quick blow. Let out the ewes as soon as you have taken off the lambs. Let the lamb go, he will quickly find his mother, and both ewe and lamb will soon lie down. Usually, the mutilated member will then stop bleeding. Keep them in the yard over night. In about six or ten days, bring up the ewes and lambs, as before. Drive them into the pen, pick off the lambs, part the ram lambs, and those that may want tailing, into the pen, and let out the ewes into the yard. Hand out the lambs to an assistant, — who should be seated on a low stool or bench, — take the lamb by the hind legs, one in each hand, put the lamb on his back, with his rump on the holder's knees, his head against the man's breast, — as this is a convenient position for the operator. Keep in the yard over night. In the morning the lambs will move off as smart and lively as if nothing had occurred.

Docking and castrating should not be performed at the same time, as the operations together are too severe for the lambs. I think docking the more severe operation of the two. These operations are generally performed in the morning, and the sheep then turned to pasture. The ewes are hungry and ramble about in search of food, and the poor lamb, thus mutilated, has to drag along after its dam.

In docking lambs, I prefer holding them in the same manner as in altering. Cut the tail so as not to leave the dock over an inch or inch and a fourth long. Sheep look best with short dock and keep cleaner. If any sheep grower will try this plan, and is possessed of any human feeling, he will not again perform the operation in the morning.

CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS FOR SEED-CORN. COPPERAS AND CHLORIDE OF LIME.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Last year I planted forty acres of corn. Just as I was getting ready to plant, I read in the Prairie Farmer an account of the experiments of Dr. CHAMBERLAIN, of Princeton, substantially as published in the RURAL, on page 78. Having the memory of the early frost of the year previous "before my eyes," I resolved to make trial of the soaking as recommended, and for this purpose procured the necessary chemicals (2 lbs. of each), to soak seed for 40 acres.

Expecting to go to planting the next day, I put a "bucketful" in soak, and it remained for a day and half, or a couple of days, when I found that the corn had absorbed most of the water, and that the lime, and copperas, and corn, had got up an internal (inside the shell) heat, sufficient to push forward germination very rapidly, and that sprouts had put forth from one-fourth of an inch to two inches in length. These were root sprouts, and some of the "stalk sprouts" had begun to show themselves green. But this was not the case with all the corn — at the bottom of the pail water yet stood, and here no change had taken place that I could discover, more than the soaking of corn in copperas water would naturally produce in color; and above a certain point, the "torrid zone" produced by the heat spoken of, seemed only to produce drouth, as the corn was dry and almost unchanged, although when put in soak all was under water.

I took the "bucket of corn" to the field in this state and began planting. I soon found that my intention of using a planting machine was frustrated if I planted sprouted corn, so I compromised by planting dry corn with the machine and letting the boy plant the soaked corn. That which the boy planted came up very quickly, — four days, I think, — and that I planted with the machine was a day behind on this piece. The next week I went into the work with two boys dropping and three to cover, using soaked corn, — the second day I took the machine again and dry corn, and the boys disliking to drop the soaked corn would fill occasionally with dry corn, and finally finished off with dry corn. This gave corn planted in three different ways, — soaked, with the hoe — dry, with the hoe — and dry, with the machine. In the result there was very little if any perceptible difference between soaked corn with the hoe, and dry corn with the machine, — that planted dry with the hoe was several days behind the other two methods.

Corn planted with machines universally came better and more readily last year than that planted with the hoe, whether it was a machine with roller or a staff dropper, such as I used, with the orifice pressed by the foot. The reason I assigned was, that in planting with the hoe the seed was dropped upon the dry sur-

face soil and covered with the same, while by the machines it was planted full two inches in the soil, and low enough to find moisture.

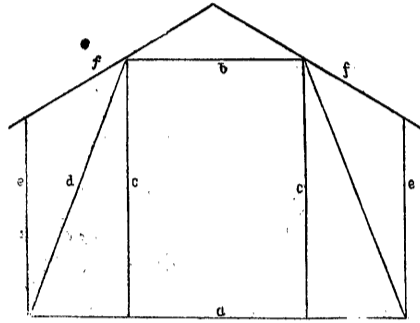
My conclusions at the time last spring were, that in planting a large field the bother and hindrance of planting sprouted corn was greater than the gain, as it bothered the boys in dropping, and was not so plain covering, yet I think if the spring is not favorable to planting in April, I shall try it again this year.

To any one planting a small patch late, it is a good means of forwarding growth, and to any one wishing a miniature hot-bed, we recommend a mixture of chloride of lime and copperas, wet or thoroughly dampened by water, scattered among the seeds, the whole kept damp enough to steam, but not wet enough to hinder or drown steaming, — the result will be sprouts in a few hours.

Perhaps I should add that we planted our corn last year in April, — that the soil was in a very favorable condition, the weather fine, and that seed planted under any circumstances germinated and pushed forward very rapidly. I give you my experience, and think, on the whole, that soaking, as referred to, may pay where the planters do not go on the run. Amboy, Ill., March, 1861. W. H. GARDNER.

IMPROVED BARN FRAME.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—From some ideas obtained from the "RURAL'S First Premium Barn," and also a correspondence with its builder, I have proceeded to put up a frame, the plan of which I would like to submit to your readers for their investigation.



In the engraving the scale is 15 feet to the inch, — a, sill, 6 by 8; b, purlin beam, 6 by 6; c, main stay, fastened at the top and bottom by 3/4 rods of iron. These rods pass into the ends of the stay 13 inches, and are run into a nut 1 inch in thickness, the nut again resting on a cap of bar iron 1/2 inch thick, 2 inches wide, 6 inches long. The burrs and caps, or washers, are introduced into the stays by a mortice through them, just large enough to receive them. At the lower end, the rods pass through the sill and are secured with caps and burrs. At the top, they pass through purlin beam and plate, and fasten as at bottom. These rods are upset where the screw is out, so as to give the full strength of rod at that point. d, main brace, 6 by 6, the lower end resting on the end of sill, against foot of post, and the top fitted to lower side of purlin beam, against main stay, without tenon or other fastening at either end; e, posts, 6 by 6; f, rafter, 2 by 4. I give the size of timbers to show that they are less than one-half the size commonly used. The whole house is of pine.

Some of the advantages of this plan of structure are, first, the whole structure, and all its contents, rest on the masonry, leaving the entire space beneath clear for the arrangement of stalls, cellar, store-room, horse-power, &c., uninterrupted by walls or shores of any kind. Second, you have no big beams to pitch over. Third, light timber may be used throughout with perfect safety, as my experience proves. Fourth, the whole structure is bound together, so that no wind will affect it which is not strong enough to tear it in pieces, or upset it bodily. Mine is anchored to the wall by spiking the stanchion studs at the top and bottom. Scaffolding beams are formed by letting 2 by 8 scantling into each side of the post, brace, and stay, one inch and spiking to each. The joists are not let into the sills, but laid on the top of them. Waupun, Wis., 1861. M. L. COE.

KEEPING FARM ACCOUNTS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—The keeping of an account of the daily transactions and events of life is not only interesting to look over in after years, but in many cases profitable to every person, and more especially to the cultivator of the soil. For the past eight years I have kept a "Farm Journal," somewhat after the following method:

Table with columns for date, description, and amount. Includes entries for snow, sales of calves, sugar, stock, and various farm expenses.

The advantages, besides the employment of a few moments in a pastime, are these. The setting in of winter in 1857 earlier than for the previous fifteen years, is often a matter of dispute. I turn to my Journal and find the record. So also of the commencement of the past winter, a time long to be remembered by many. And I wish to know when the note given for clover-sower becomes due, so as to make arrangements to meet it, — which I also find. Again, W. C. in a few days brings back a five dollar note on a broken bank. I find by my journal that I received said bill of J. M., and I also learn that said bank failed before I received the bill, of course I return it to said J. M.

At the close of the year I can calculate how much of each crop I have raised, how much sold from the farm, how much paid for help, threshing, &c., how much store bill, &c. By having the last item before me, I have saved nearly one-half. Time was when as I bought goods and let the merchant make his own figures, at the end of the year I beheld with astonishment the amount he had scored against me. I now get no more than I can pay for, well aware that I get no more than is actually needed.

To the young man about to commence the "battle of life," I would say, "Go thou and do likewise." Better go without a shirt, or keep the "guide wife" mending the old one, than run in debt at the store. Farmington, Mich., 1861. T. P. H.

FILTERS vs. WELLS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Your correspondent, G. WRIGHT, of Ill., tells RURAL readers, in the issue of the 9th, how to have a cheap well of pure water. All right! Now, I propose to remind them of a way to have cheap, pure water, without the well. I live in a section where digging wells is very precarious business. You may find water before you get discouraged, and you may give up in disgust, but the chances are two to one against. For fifteen years all the water used in my family, for culinary purposes, was brought from a well of my neighbor across the highway. The well was over sixty feet in depth, the distance carried ten rods, and up quite a steep hill. Who will dispute this being up-hill business? In addition to all this, there was the annoyance your correspondent speaks of, such as cats, rats, bugs, and snakes, finding access by tumbling from the top, which rendered the water unfit for use a portion of almost every summer.

Four years ago next April, at the suggestion of a friend, I bought of a Rochester manufacturer, a rain and river water filter, No. 5, for twelve dollars, and set it in the cellar by the side of the stairs. We usually put three or four pails of rain water from the cistern in at a time, then draw from the bottom, by a faucet, as we need, pure, soft water, that has neither taste nor color. With this arrangement ice seems more necessary than that of the well. But what farmer, after trying it, would deprive himself of the luxury of ice, to make hard better with, or keep fresh meat, or, above all, to carry to the field, instead of drinking the warm, sickening stuff, which he must necessarily do if without it? I would not go back to the use of hard well water if I could have it as handy as could be desired, and free of expense. I would advise all those, — especially such as are situated similar to myself in regard to this matter, — to try the filter. D. DRYER, Victor, N. Y., 1861.

GAPES IN CHICKENS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Perhaps some of your readers would be glad to know of a remedy by the use of which they may be able to raise a few chickens without the experiment being rendered almost profitless through disease. It is not a little surprising to see turpentine, tobacco, and a host of other nostrums, recommended as cures for this difficulty, when, in fact, they can never reach the cause, or effect a cure. It must be known that the stomach and wind-pipe are quite different in their office, and that the cause is in the wind-pipe. On dissecting one of these chicks, you will find in the wind-pipe, near the lungs, a small, reddish worm, about an inch long, and the circumference of a knitting-needle. I have often found a half dozen of these worms in one chick, and they grow until it is choked to death. My mode of treatment is first, provide yourself with a quill from the hen's wing, strip it of the feathers to within an inch of the tip, wet it and draw down to a point, place the chick between your knees, with the thumb and finger of the left hand open the mouth, stretch up the neck so that you can see the opening of the wind-pipe, then pass the quill down, give it a turn or two, and draw out. In this way you will draw out and loosen the worms so that the chick will cough them up. This should be the work of a moment, and in the hands of a skillful operator success will certainly follow. It may be necessary to repeat in a week or two. R. E. M., Amber, March, 1861.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Murray in Calves. H. B. PATRICK, speaking of this disease in the Prairie Farmer, says:—"I know of no remedy for this disease; but I bleed freely (as you say) as a preventive: I have never known stock in low flesh to have an attack of murrain; but those highly fed do have it, — caused probably by a superabundance of blood, and hence inflammation. I used, for many years, to feed salt-petre mixed with salt; but it did not save them. About the time, in spring, that they could get a full feed of grass, and were gaining rapidly, they would commence dying. One year I had some fifty head. As soon as they commenced growing, and could get full feed of grass, they began to die, — one or two per day, — until I lost several. I finally yarded those left alive, eorred their necks and took from each two quarts or more of blood, — bled them until they staggered and then let them go. I lost no more. Since that time, as soon my calves commence gaining in the spring, I bleed them, and lose none."

Wheat Culture — An Experiment.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Eastern Farmer thus details a test of various fertilizers upon a crop of wheat:—"Last spring I experimented a little in sowing wheat. I measured off two acres of land — then divided into three equal parts, numbering them A B C. On 'A,' I applied bone-meal at the rate of 600 lbs. to the acre. On 'B,' I applied Phosphate, made at the rate of two casks lime and two bushels rock salt to one cord muck. On 'C,' I put 225 lbs. of rock salt. I sowed the whole with wheat, the 5th day of May, and harvested the 23d day of August. During the first part of the season, that on the bone-meal grew the best, though the difference was slight between that on the bone-meal and that on the phosphate. As the drouth of mid-summer increased in severity — that upon the phosphate gained upon both the bone-meal and the rock salt, but later in the season the wheat upon the rock salt became the stoutest and ripened the best. At the time of harvesting, a long and severe rain storm came on, which injured my wheat so much that I could not tell by actual measurement how great a difference in yield there might have been. But the difference was decidedly in favor of the rock salt. The wheat was the Black Sea. The land was a gravelly loam, broken up the fall of 1858, planted with potatoes the season of 1859."

Why Don't they use the Roller?

A WRITER in the Farmer and Gardener presses upon agriculturists the merits of this implement in the following manner:—"Why don't our farmers use the roller more frequently? Is it because they are not willing to incur the expenses of the purchase? Is it because they are not disposed to bestow the extra amount of labor involved in rolling their fields, or is it because they do not understand its uses and benefits? Do they not know that a roller is almost indispensable on light soils, because it presses the earth closer around small seeds, — that it is equally useful on heavy soils, because it crushes the clods, and brings the pulverized earth in direct contact with the seed, — that it is good on grass fields, because it presses small stones, bones, etc., — which would otherwise injure the knives of the mower, — into the earth, and out of the way, and that it also levels ant and mole hills; that it is useful upon wheat fields in

the spring, pressing the plants which have been thrown out by the frost, into the earth again; that it exercises a most happy influence upon oats, if used after the plants have attained a height of three or four inches; in a word, Mr. Editor, that it is good almost everywhere, and ranks very properly with the most important implements on the farm?

It is astonishing, that while we are making progress in almost every other direction, we have done so little toward the general introduction of the roller. My own experience with it has been so entirely satisfactory, that I cannot forbear urging its importance upon every farmer who has thus far not tried it.

Premium Butter in Jefferson County.

At the Winter Meeting of the Jefferson County, (N. Y.) Ag. Society, seven "Dairy Premiums" were awarded, and we condense from the statements of the competitors. The first premium was received by CHARLES S. SIMMONS, of Watertown. He says:—

My dairy consists of 32 cows; they feed upon about 65 acres of land; pastures seeded with timothy and clover. It requires about 35 acres of meadow to winter my cows; my meadows are seeded with timothy and clover. Generally feed grain with a few roots; commence feeding about the first of March. Average yield about 190 pounds per cow. Strain my milk in tin pans, about 8 quarts in each; if the weather is warm, about 6 quarts in a pan. Set milk in cellar on racks; it stands from 36 to 60 hours, the weather governing. Cream stands in tin pails on cellar bottom about 12 hours before churning, do not stir cream; use thermometer churn; wash butter in cold water; use butter workers; wash and salt with a ladle; then pack; use rock salt—Ashton brand—one ounce to a pound. Pack in hundred weight packages; scald packages; cool them with water, rub with salt, pack solid and cover with solar salt. Early made butter stands on cellar bottom in same room with the rest; examine butter once in six or eight weeks to see that there is plenty of brine and the covering is tight. Average yield in 1859 was about 175 pounds per cow; this season made about 125 pounds per cow. Sour milk fed to hogs. Farm is composed of muck and loam with lime gravel subsoil. Mr. S. dates his report, Aug 1, 1860.

The winner of the second premium, DANIEL TODD, of East Rodman, gives his mode thus:—Set milk in ten quart pans about two-thirds full; set in the cellar; set about 48 hours before skimming. Skim the milk, stir the cream well, put in a cooler and set in a spring we have in the cellar, over night; use dash-churn and dog power; wash with a ladle until the water is perfectly clear; use Ashton salt; work once and pack; weigh butter and salt before mixing, three quarters of an ounce to the pound; pack in 60 weight tubs. We soak in brine before using; keep butter in cellar through the season; milk 13 cows; average yield in 1859, about 140 pounds; this year, about 80 pounds to the cow; feed the sour milk to the hogs. Farm, slate soil. Mr. T. also calculates from 1st August.

Inquiries and Answers.

SHEEP PULLING THEIR WOOL.—Please tell me the cause of my sheep pulling their wool. At shearing they were troubled with ticks, and we dipped every sheep and lamb in a strong decoction of tobacco.—J. D. O., Eagle, Wyo. Co., N. Y.

If our correspondent will give his sheep an occasional dose of sulphur in their food, we are confident they will engage in a more profitable employment.

CONTRACTION OF THE HOOF.—Will the RURAL furnish a remedy for this disease?—H. G., Hudson, N. Y., 1861.

A RUN at grass is the best thing. When the horse is stabled, repeated poultices of soft soap and rye meal, applied cold, have worked wonders. When the hoof softens, dress, night and morning, with turpentine, linseed oil, and powdered charcoal, equal parts.

RAIN WATER FOR COWS.—It is my design to construct a cistern, and supply my milk stock therewith with water; but hearing that soft water has a tendency to dry them up, would like an expression as to the truth or fallacy of the statement from dairymen. It does not look reasonable, yet old milkmen say such is the fact. Please explain.—T. H., West Brighton, N. Y., 1861.

We cannot conceive of any reason why the use of soft water should operate in the manner described. As the experience of dairymen is called for, however, the subject is left for their discussion.

SWELLED LEGS IN HORSES.—We have a young horse that had the grease last winter, and one of her legs now swells badly. Knowing that you are always ready to impart information, I would like to know if you, or any of the readers of the RURAL, can tell me what will reduce the swelling?—A CONSTANT READER, Niagara Co., N. Y., 1861.

Horses in the spring and fall are subject to swelled legs. The powers of the constitution are principally employed in providing a new coat for the animal, and the extremities have not their share of vital influence. Mingled cordials and diuretics are indicated here — the diuretic to lessen the quantity of the circulating fluid, and the cordial to invigorate the frame.

Swelled legs are often teasing in horses that are in tolerable or good health; but when the work is somewhat irregular, the cure consists in giving more equal exercise, walking the horse out daily when the usual work is not required, and using plenty of friction in the form of hand-rubbing. Bandages have a greater and more durable effect, for nothing tends more to support the capillary vessels, and rouse the action of the absorbents, than moderate pressure. Haybands will form a good bandage for the agricultural horse, and their effect will probably be increased by previously dipping them in water.

CEMENT FLOORS FOR CATTLE.—In reply to A. K. DANIELS' inquiry about cement floors for cattle, in a late issue of the RURAL NEW-YORKER, I would say we have had experience which will exactly coincide with his inquiry. It was paved and grouted well, and left several months to dry before it was used. It was too hard for the cattle to lie upon with ease, but still they wore it through, where they stood, next to the stanchions. When first made, the stables were cleaned every day, but seeing how it worked, we have since put plenty of straw upon the floor in the fall, letting sheep or calves run in loose, not cleaning out until spring. By giving plenty of litter, we thus make a nice pile of valuable manure. We think there is nothing better than plank for stable floors. We do not like underground stables for stock; think they are generally too warm and damp for them to do well, — better for keeping roots and manure. A word of caution — Do not use cement floors for a hog-house.—G. B. JOHNSON, Palermo, Onwego Co., N. Y., 1861.

KYANIZING.—In a late number of the RURAL "C. W." wished "to learn more definitely the process of preserving posts, called Kyanizing." This process derives its name from Mr. KYAN, an Englishman, who first discovered the process of preserving timber by corrosive sublimate. This was found too expensive, and a French chemist suggested the use of blue vitriol, which experiments have proved to be equally effective. The proper proportion is 1 pound of blue vitriol to 5 gallons of water. Shingles should soak two days; fence posts, six inches square, ten days. It makes no difference whether timber is dry or green, large or small, except large timber requires a longer time to become impregnated. It is much used to preserve cordage. Iron vessels will not do to hold the liquid, — it corrodes and destroys them. It is not necessary to wholly immerse timber in the tank. Inserting one end will answer. Kyanizing has long been practiced in Europe. The French, it is said, kyanize all the wood used in constructing their ships of war. Mr. FAIRFIELD, of Hudson, sent a specimen of a kyanized stake to the American Institute of New York, which had been sharpened and set in the ground nine years, and the report says it was perfectly sound.—A. E. H., Erie Co., N. Y., 1861.

Rural Notes and Items.

DISCREDITABLE ABSTRACTION.—We have heretofore commended the Southern Homestead — a handsomely printed "Weekly Newspaper for the Farm and Fireside," published at Nashville, Tenn. The paper has generally been well conducted, and exhibited the possession of enterprise, taste and tact on the part of its managers. In its issue of Feb. 16th, however, we observe an application of these qualities which we do not specially admire — a display of taste and tact any thing but creditable, and which we are surprised to see in a reputable journal. It is no less than the substantial reproduction, as original, of an editorial given in the RURAL NEW-YORKER of Jan. 12th, entitled "Mechanical Condition of the Soil." The same heading is retained, and the article given prominently on the first page, with only two or three slight changes. For instance, where we said "through the columns of this paper," our friends say "through the columns of the RURAL," and where we wrote and printed "A Western intelligent farmer" &c., — showing excellent judgment and tact, for most Western New York farmers of our acquaintance are very intelligent! With these verbal changes, and the omission of a few lines at the close, our respected contemporaries furnish an excellent article — though some worthy people, on learning how it was done, might be so uncharitable as to pronounce it otherwise than honorable. It is consoling to learn, however, (as we do from a flaming double-column prospectus in the number alluded to,) that the S. H. is "Ahead of Competition," and that its list of contributors embraces "The Best Writers of the Southern States!"

— We observe that several other distant journals continue to make similar use of the contents of the RURAL, though every number is copyrighted. Even so able and popular a paper as the Baltimore Weekly Sun — which can afford to be just and honorable to its contemporaries — recently abstracted and changed an important article by one of our contributors, giving it as an original. Some of the self-superlative, literary weeklies are guilty of like weakness. We beg to call the attention of all these "abstractionists" to the notice relative to copyright on our first page, with the assurance that we do not intend to pay for protection, and still be left out in the cold, even in the genial climate of the Border States.

MEETING OF CATTLE BREEDERS.—The third annual meeting of the (New England) "Association of Breeders of Thoroughbred Neat Stock" was held at Springfield, Mass., on the 6th inst. About fifty breeders of thorough-bred cattle were present, the Short-horn men being most numerous, and the meeting was also attended by many farmers interested in the proceedings. The main business consisted in the report of the Committee on Pedigrees, its discussion, and action upon its recommendations. It advised the publication of a list [in a herd book] of such animals as the committee approved — and a committee was appointed to attend to the publication of the pedigrees of all approved animals, if desired by the owners. Members of the Association are to be charged 50 cents for the publication of each pedigree. The report of the Committee on Short-horns elicited considerable discussion, especially relative to the progeny of certain bulls — 2d Duke of Lancaster, (5951.), Topper, (2768.), and Pan, (2724.) — a point which was finally referred to the New Committee. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$121.18. Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: President — PAUL LATROFF, South Hadley Falls, Mass. Vice Presidents — Daniel Buck, Poquonnock, Conn.; Randolph Linsley, Meriden, Conn.; John Brooks, Jr., Princeton, Mass.; James S. Allen, East Windsor, Conn.; Wm. Birnie, Springfield, Mass. Secy and Treas. — Henry A. Dyer, Brooklyn, Conn. The Committee on Pedigrees: On Short-horns. — S. W. Buffum, Winchester, N. H.; S. W. Bartlett, East Windsor, Conn.; Phineas Steadman, Chippewa, Mass. Devons — H. M. Sessions, South Wilbraham, Mass.; B. H. Andrews, Waterbury, Conn.; E. H. Hyde, Stafford, Conn. Ayrshires and Herefords — H. H. Peters, South-boro, Mass.; Thomas G. Hatch; Mike Sweetster, Amherst, Mass. Alderneys — John T. Norton, Farmington, Conn.; Thos. Motley, Boston, Mass.; Daniel Buck, Poquonnock, Conn.

EXPERIMENTS — TIMELY SUGGESTIONS.—Though the importance of carefully conducted experiments has often been urged upon our readers, the subject is specially in order at the present season, and we commend the following suggestions by Mr. W. H. COOK, of Dane Co., Wis., as worthy of particular attention:—"I would suggest to the many readers of your valuable paper who are farmers, that as the Spring's work will shortly commence, it is desirable for all such as conveniently can do so to try some carefully conducted experiment with such manures as may be most convenient to apply to the various crops grown on the farm — all experiments to be by actual measurement of ground and weight of produce as compared with a like piece of same size without manure. Those who have the time, means and inclination, could try them on two or three different kinds of grain or manure, as their ideas might lead them to think would be for the best interest of all concerned. And next winter let all report the results of experiments through the RURAL, with full description of kind and quality of soil, amount of land sown, kind and quantity of manure used, as also of the sort of grain or roots experimented on, with the amount of produce from each piece sown. If your many readers will go into the subject, taking care to be as accurate as possible, (for without accuracy such experiments are of little practical account,) I think they will find it to be of great service to themselves and to the community at large, and by that means we can get at more practical results in one year than each individual unassisted could in twenty."

SUCCESSFUL DAIRYING.—HON. ZADOCK PRATT, of Greene Co., the millionaire tanner, and of late years more than amateur farmer, now over 70 years of age, reports the following successful result of last year's operations on his farm of 203 acres:—"Kept 50 cows. The aggregate quantity of milk was 26,276 gallons, or 525 1/2 gallons per each cow, being an average of about 2 1/2 gallons per day for each. The butter amounted to 9,143 pounds, or about 183 pounds for each cow, being an average of about 12 oz. per day for each; the average quantity of milk to each pound of butter was about 11 1/2 quarts. The whole amount of pork was 6,516 pounds, or about 130 1/2 pounds for each pig. The receipts were, for butter \$2,148.89, for pork \$459.12, for calves \$80 — total \$2,688. Expenses for working the farm, including \$700 interest on investment, \$1,126.75. Net profits above interest, \$1,569.28. Col. PRATT has kept similar statistics for several years, showing an increase in the net profits each successive year."

CALIFORNIA STATE AG. SOCIETY.—The last number of the Journal of this society contains the proceedings of its Annual Meeting, held Jan. 30. The Society is apparently in a progressive condition. We give the list of officers for 1861: President—JEROME C. DAVIS, Yolo. Vice Presidents—Abel Stearnes, Pablo De La Guerra, Frank F. Fargo, M. D. Burck E. S. Holden, A. P. Smith, A. Harasethy, J. T. Ryan, J. D. Haynes, Charles Justis, J. B. Crandall, J. A. Banks, S. A. Merritt, A. Delano, J. R. Walsh, A. Hayward, J. W. Thompson. Cor. Secretary—O. C. Wheeler, Sacramento. Recording Secretary—N. A. H. Ball, Sacramento. Treasurer—A. K. Grim, Sacramento. Directors—Thomas Hansbrow, W. W. Light, Peter Donahue. Ex-Officio—C. I. Huntington, T. G. Phelps.

EATON CO. (MICH.) AG. SOCIETY.—At the last annual meeting of this Society the following persons were elected officers for the year 1861, viz: President—CRUIS CUMMINGS. Secretary—E. T. Church. Treasurer—E. S. Lacey. Directors—P. S. Spaulding, Wm. M. Tompkins, Alford Atwood, A. T. Cunningham, B. W. Griswold, A. D. Shaw.

FISCHULTER.—It is said that the artificial propagation of fish has proved a complete success in Europe. The Tay breeding boxes, established in 1857, turn out 600,000 young salmon every year. The Irish breeding places have also succeeded admirably. The artificial lake at Huingue, near Basle, covering seventy acres, is doing much to repeople the exhausted rivers of France with fish.

CANADA YET!—Heavy Turnip.—Mr. J. A. SMITH, of Paris, C. W., sends us this item:—"Having seen in the RURAL some boasting about roots, I am tempted to tell you of a turnip raised near Galt, C. W., by Mr. W. TURNBULL, which weighed, when topped and cleaned, 35 1/2 lbs. This is no fiction, though it is but just to say the turnip grew among carrots."

HORTICULTURAL.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Our readers, during the past few weeks, have been furnished with instructions for preparing and planting the ornamental grounds with trees and shrubs, as well as how to make that most beautiful of all objects in a garden, a fine velvety lawn.

Flowering plants are divided into three classes, Bulbous-Rooted, Herbaceous Perennial and Biennial, and Annual. In a strict classification, subdivisions would be necessary, but this is sufficient at present for practical purposes.

The Peony and Dahlia, though tuberous-rooted, are generally classed with bulbous-rooted plants, and no flower garden can be considered complete without a good collection of both.

BALDWIN vs. RED CANADA APPLE.

WHILE the fruit growers of Western New York are proposing the almost exclusive planting of the Baldwin as a market fruit, in Eastern Michigan, a region of similar climate, soil, population, and horticultural wants, and where the varieties of Western New York are at least equally successful, we are assigning it quite a subordinate position, having adopted another favorite, which, in our estimation, quite eclipses this sturdy New Englander, and bears off the palm of profitability.

The manner of its advent into this portion of Wolverinedom was on this wise:—About thirty or thirty-five years ago, a company of traveling grafters, in passing through this region from Ohio, set a quantity of scions in what has since become one of the most extensive market orchards of this section, leaving with the owner a written guaranty that they were Rhode Island Greenings.

It must not be inferred from these remarks that the Baldwin is unsuccessful here. On the contrary it is, probably, quite as successful here as in Western New York. Under these circumstances it becomes interesting to observe the manner in which these varieties have risen to the positions they occupy.

The vigorous, robust habit of the Baldwin, renders it a favorite with nurserymen, while its early and prolific bearing commend it to the impatient orchardist, who is naturally anxious to secure early returns from his investment.

On the other hand, the Red Canada is one of the most slender growers we have; and, for that reason, will not become a favorite with nurserymen. It is not quite so early a bearer as the Baldwin, neither is it unusually tardy; but, when once fully in bearing, it is quite as prolific as that variety, and, in the opinion of many, even more so, as it not only produces a full crop the bearing year, but usually produces more or less while the Baldwin is gathering strength for its biennial effort.

by the heaviest crops. The fruit is even more beautiful and attractive than the Baldwin, unusually perfect in form and even-sized; and, although not a culinary fruit, its flavor and aroma adapt it admirably to the dessert, and though less rich than some others, it proves to be adapted to more tastes than almost any other standard variety known here.

This variety has won its popularity here mostly upon top-grafted trees; and it would, perhaps, have never reached its present position but for the fact that the well nigh universal re-grafting of the orchards of this region gave it a wide distribution, under circumstances calculated to obviate the difficulties arising from its slender growth.

Some years since, the writer, unaware of its identity with this, obtained trees of Red Canada from the East, and by observing the similarity of habit, was led to suspect that they were the same.

The unprofitable character of this variety as nursery stock, coupled with the extensive demand for it, has led some nurserymen here to double work it in the nursery rows, upon the root-grafts of Tolman Sweet, Northern Spy, Romanite, (of the West), and other hardy and vigorous varieties.

GROWING CRANBERRIES.

EDS. RURAL:—In your valuable and interesting paper of the 9th inst., I notice an inquiry, by a subscriber, in regard to the planting and culture of cranberries, the time of setting out, &c. It is to be regretted that so few in the Northern and Middle States have made cranberry culture an object of their attention.

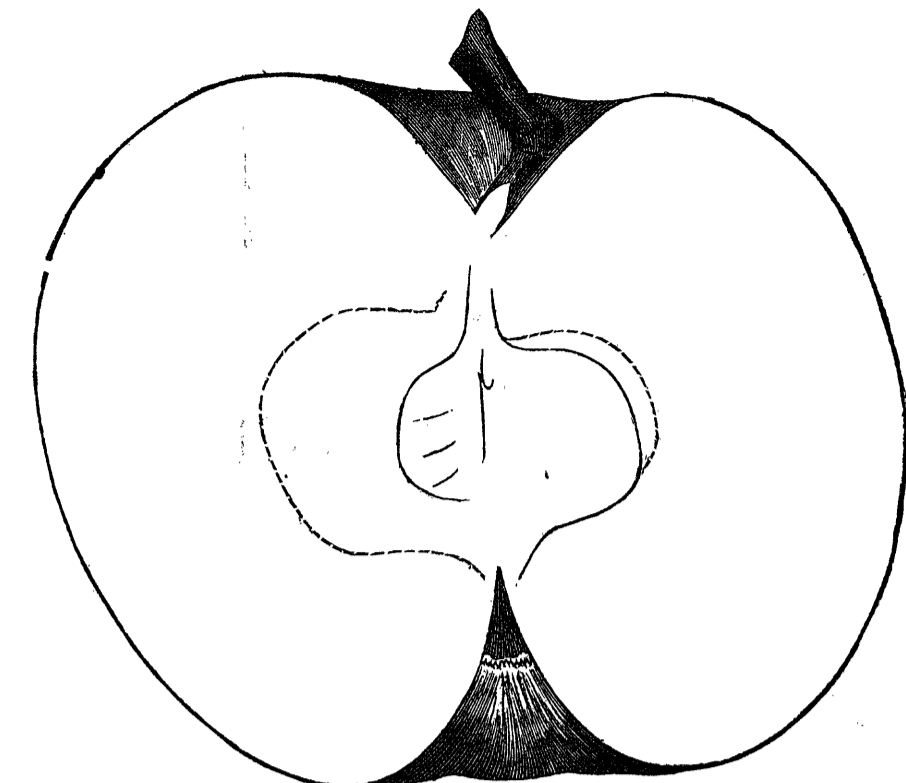
In answer to your correspondent, who wishes to turn his half acre "to profitable account," I know of nothing that promises so well as "set it with cranberries." As he remarks, "it can be easily flooded," the presumption is it can be also drained. If so, as soon as this is done, and the coarse grass, &c., sufficiently dry, it should be burned over, and plowed about six inches deep, and the plants set in rows two feet and a half apart, and about twelve or fifteen inches in the row.

Should it be impracticable to drain the swamp and plow it, the entire surface, with all the grass, roots, &c., may be removed to the depth of about four inches, and vines planted, the same as after plowing. Or, if sand is convenient, the entire surface (after clearing off the grass, &c., as much as possible), may be covered with the sand to the depth of three inches, and the vines planted as before directed.

In regard to shading the plot, I do not see any particular objection to planting firs around the margin. The cranberry requires the sun to ripen well, but the shading would be so partial, that no serious detriment would accrue to the crop in consequence.

CRANBERRY CULTURE IN MICHIGAN.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Having experimented on a small scale with cranberries, perhaps my success will interest some of your numerous readers. In the spring of 1857, I set out a few hills of the vines on a recently drained swale, on which the timber had been cut down about twenty years, but it had never been plowed.



BUCKINGHAM APPLE.

It has been found that some of our best Northern and Eastern apples lose their valuable characteristics when grown at the West. In some cases the trees appear unsuited to the climate, while in others the fruit is much inferior to the same varieties grown at the East, or to other varieties of the same season.

One great benefit of this feeling against old and well-known varieties, has been the introduction to general notice of many very fine apples of Western and Southern origin, and among them is the Buckingham, an apple of very large size, as will be seen by the engraving, which we take from the Transactions of the American Pomological Society.

described, which may be had at from twenty-five cents up to fifty dollars per acre, and our State homestead law gives forty acres of swamp lands to any one who will settle on them.

THE ONTARIO GRAPE.

EDS. RURAL:—Seeing in your issue of February 23, an inquiry for additional information respecting the Ontario Grape, and having myself, for several years, been seeking for information upon the same subject,—on one occasion traveling nearly 100 miles to see the original, or at least the vine from whose branches were taken the one now called Ontario, by some persons of Port Dalhousie and Buffalo,—I will, with your permission, proceed to state what I on that occasion saw and tasted.

By all means, give us the information. Nothing can be lost, and something may be gained, by a history of this grape, about which so much has been said, and so little is known.—Ed.

Horticultural Notes.

A NEW SILK WORM.

THE London Morning Chronicle contains the following notice of a new silk worm, which feeds on the Alantus, which may be highly interesting to our countrymen, and perhaps revive afresh the interest which existed some years ago.

In March, 1859, M. Guerin-Meneville addressed a note to the Emperor on the introduction into France of a new kind of silk worm, living in the open air, on a very hardy plant, the alantus, or Japan varnish tree, and producing two crops a year of a strong silky fiber, employed for centuries past in China to make clothes for the great mass of the population.

THE PERFECTED TOMATO.—I wish to make an inquiry in regard to the "Perfected Tomato." Last spring I procured some seed of J. M. Thorburn. I planted them carefully, and had good success in raising plants, and there can be no doubt that the plants were from the seed so obtained; but, strange to say, they produced two distinct kinds of tomato, both different from any that I had ever raised before.

Inquiries and Answers.

THE PERFECTED TOMATO.—I wish to make an inquiry in regard to the "Perfected Tomato." Last spring I procured some seed of J. M. Thorburn. I planted them carefully, and had good success in raising plants, and there can be no doubt that the plants were from the seed so obtained; but, strange to say, they produced two distinct kinds of tomato, both different from any that I had ever raised before.

Domestic Economy.

CAKES AND GINGERBREAD.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Thinking that good recipes will be favorably received by you, I will contribute a few for the benefit of your lady readers, which I know to be excellent.

SCOTCH CAKE.—Stir to a cream a pound of sugar and three-quarters of a pound of butter; put in the juice and grated rind of a lemon, and a wine glass of brandy. Separate the whites and yolks of nine eggs, beat them to a froth, and stir them into the cake, then add a pound of sifted flour, and just before it is put in the cake pans, a pound of seeded raisins.

ALMOND CAKE.—Beat the yolks of twelve eggs to a froth, with a pound of powdered white sugar. Beat the whites of 9 eggs to a stiff froth, and stir into the yolks and sugar. When the whole has been stirred together for ten minutes, add, gradually, 1 pound of sifted flour; 1/2 pound of almonds, blanched and pounded fine; stir in 3 tablespoonfuls of thick cream.

MEASURE CAKE.—Stir to a cream one teacup of butter; 2 of sugar; then stir in 4 eggs beaten to a froth, a grated nutmeg, and a pint of flour. Stir it until just before it is baked. It is good baked in either cups or pans.

SPONGE GINGERBREAD.—Melt a piece of butter the size of a hen's egg; mix with a pint of nice molasses, a tablespoonful of ginger and a quart of flour. Dissolve a heaping tablespoonful of saleratus in half a pint of milk, strain, and mix it with the rest of the ingredients; add sufficient flour to enable you to roll it out easily; roll half an inch thick, and bake it on flat tins in a quick oven.

HARD MOLASSES GINGERBREAD.—To a pint of molasses, put half a teacup of melted butter; a tablespoonful of ginger; a quart of flour. Dissolve a teaspoonful of saleratus in half a pint of water. Stir it in, together with flour sufficient to enable you to roll it out. Bake it in a moderately warm oven.

BLEACHING COTTON—BISCUIT, &c.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—The following recipes I have proved to be good, and therefore send them to you.

BLEACHING COTTON.—For every five pounds of cotton goods, take 12 ounces chloride of lime, dissolve in a small quantity of boiling water, and when cold, strain off in a sufficient quantity of warm water to immerse the goods. First, boil the goods fifteen minutes in strong soda, or weak lye, wring out, rinse in clear water, put the goods in the chloride water from ten to thirty minutes, with frequent airing, then rinse well.

SODA BISCUIT.—One and one-half pints of sweet milk; 1 pint sour milk; 2 teaspoonfuls soda; 3 cream of tartar; small piece of butter; mix as for other biscuit.

COOKIES.—One teacup sugar; 1 lb. of sweet milk; 1/2 do. butter; 2 teaspoonfuls cream tartar; 1 of soda; 1 egg. Flavor with nutmeg or caraway. Roll very thin and bake quick.

GINGERBREAD.—Two teacups molasses; 1 sour milk; 2 eggs; 2 teaspoonfuls soda; 2 tablespoonfuls ginger; 1 teacup shortening; 1 teacup of alum, dissolved in water. Mix not very stiff; roll out like bakers' gingerbread,—bake from ten to fifteen minutes.

JELLY CAKE.—Four eggs; 1 cup sugar; 1/2 teaspoonful soda; 1 teacup cream tartar; 1 tea cup flour. This quantity will be enough for two square tins. When baked, spread with jelly, and roll.

How to MAKE KISSES.—I will send the RURAL my recipe for making kisses. I like this one better than any other. Beat the whites of six eggs to a stiff froth; to this add 1 pound powdered loaf sugar, sifted, stirring constantly. Add 1 teacupful at a time, until all the sugar is thus used, to the whites.

COOKING APPLES.—Mrs. F. D. Gage, in the Ohio Farmer, thus writes:—One of the most notable housewives and best cooks in the State, has a new way of cooking apples, at least, it was new to me, and will, no doubt, be new to many others. She pares the apples, and quarters them, placing them in a tin plate with the core side up; if dried apples, a little water is added; they are then set in the oven, which is always hot at meal time, and roasted; when done, they are slid on a common plate, and sprinkled with sugar, to be eaten warm, with bread and butter and cakes.

To DRESS RICE.—A lady recommends the following:—Soak the rice in cold salt and water for seven hours; have ready a stew-pan with boiling water, throw in the rice and let it boil briskly for ten minutes, drain it in a colander, cover it up hot by the fire for a few minutes, and then serve. The grains will be found double the usual size, and quite distinct from each other.

A VERY GOOD SUBSTITUTE FOR COFFEE.—Take one large orange carrot, slice and brown very slowly on a griddle, steep, and drink without sugar; or take half this amount of browned carrot, and half your usual quantity of Java, or Rio Coffee, steep, and use sugar.—H. M. G., Sumner, Iowa, 1861.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

D. B. DE LAND & CO'S SALERATUS.—Thank your stars, if you are superstitious enough,—but be glad, and express your thankfulness that you can procure from your grocer a perfectly pure and reliable article of Saleratus. Be convinced, by a trial, of the truth of our remarks when we say that it is just the quality that has so long been desired by housekeepers.

DE LAND & CO'S CHEMICAL SALERATUS is manufactured at the Fairport Chemical Works, Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y., where it is for sale at wholesale. The grocers and dealers generally have it for sale.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] I AM A HIRED GIRL.

I AM a hired girl! There was a time, oh, would it were forgot, And all the days spent in that hill-side cot— The rose tree climbing 'side the old brown door, The honey-suckle, ever drooping lower, To lift the snow-drop as it clambered up, Tasting the sweets from Nature's dewy cup; Glistening in the pure and healthful ray Of the bright sun through the live-long day.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] CAPRICIOUSNESS OF TASTE.

"NOTHING is more capricious than taste," remarks LINDA. Perhaps this is so, but I would like to know what taste has to do with dress? Who dresses according to the dictates of taste? Not Esquire B.'s wife and sister, who wear dark blue bonnets, bearing a profusion of red roses, when they had previously concluded that delicate white ones would add to the beauty of their fair complexions. No, they would not get them, because the village seamstress happened to have a similar idea about her own little head, and innocently bought and wore her winter hat before they did. Not Mrs. D., who is so tall "she knows she don't look well in stripes," nor little Miss DUMPLING, who is so short that the length of her skirt is scarcely sufficient for the width of a half-dozen stripes running roundwise, but must, nevertheless, wear such, because "they are all the go this year." Not Miss JULIA, whose rosy face bears testimony that her taste would not have led her astray, when she exhibited her new brown merino to a companion, saying—"they had a piece of beautiful green there, and I wanted it the worst way, but thought I must get this, because brown is all the fashion this season." Not that young school-girl, who trails her long dress through the mud or snow for a half mile or more, twice a day, just because SARAH SMITH wears one, when a dress six or eight inches shorter would be much more becoming and convenient? Not those who make children's clothes so short they fail to reach the limbs above the stockings, and the chill winds of spring and autumn, yes, and summer, too, render as red as the feet of certain birds fabled for laying the golden egg, causing them not only to look as if they had grown out of their clothes a year ago or more, but to suffer the biting stings of cold, and lay the foundation for weary hours of pain, and sickness, and premature death.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WHAT WAIT WE FOR?

WHAT wait we for? The day has come, The rising sun and opening flower, And song of birds and wild bees hum, All greet with joy the morning hour. The fields are to the harvest white, The grain its nodding plumes bends low, As if the reaper to invite, And yet we still delay to go.

Sabbath Musings.

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

UNDER our winters lie beautiful flowers, Golden and crimson through all the drear hours, Soft petals folded, secure from the blast, Waiting in patience till winter is passed, Rising in beauty with spring's early dawn, Glory and gladness to lend to the lawn.

THE LIGHT OF A CHEERFUL FACE.

THERE is no greater every day virtue than cheerfulness. This quality in man among men is like sunshine to the day, or gentle, renewing moisture to the parched herbs. The light of a cheerful face diffuses itself, and communicates the happy spirit that inspires it. The sourest temper most sweeten in the atmosphere of continuous good humor. As well might fog, and cloud, and vapor, hope to cling to the sun illuminated landscape, as the blues and moroseness to combat jovial speech and exhilarating laughter. Be cheerful always. There is no path but will be easier traveled, no load but will be lighter, no shadow on heart or brain but will lift sooner in the presence of a determined cheerfulness. It may sometimes seem difficult for the happy heart to keep the countenance of peace and content; but the difficulty will vanish, when we truly consider that with gloom and passionate despair do nothing but multiply thorns and thicken sorrows. It comes to us a providentially as good, and is as good if we rightly apply its lessons; who will not then cheerfully accept the ill and blunt its apparent sting? Cheerfulness ought to be the fruit of philosophy and Christianity. What is gained by peevishness and fretfulness, by perverse sadness and dullness? If we are ill, let us be cheered by the trust that we shall soon be in health; if misfortune befall us, let us be cheered by hopeful visions of better fortune; if death rob us of dear ones, let us be cheered by the thought that they are only gone before to the blissful bowers where we shall all meet to part no more forever. Cultivate cheerfulness if only for personal profit. It will be your counselor in solitude, your passport and commendation in society. You will be more sought after, more trusted and esteemed for your steady cheerfulness.

DING-DING-DING.

I WAS spending a few days in an excellent hotel at the South. The guests were numerous, and so were the servants. When about to retire, I noticed that the barkeeper rang the bell repeatedly before any servant appeared to accompany me to my room. Directly under my room, in the court of the house, was the bell which summoned the waiters to the office. Hour after hour the bell was jingling, the repetition after the first call having more and more of a soothing, impressive tone. The truth I found to be, to my cost, that the servants, naturally lazy, had become accustomed to wait for the third or fourth call before stirring, so that they did not consider themselves really called until the last ring; whereas the simple and invariable regulation to answer the first ring would have secured proper obedience, and all the subsequent ding-dings were not only needless, but mischievous. It would not be strange if they should be entirely disregarded at last.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] ODDS AND ENDS.

DEFINITION, (founded on fact.) An American female help—an individual who, when her mistress's friends come visiting, puts apple sauce on the table for tea; when her own friends come, puts on preserves.

MR. AND MRS.—a fond illustration of St. PIERRE's theory of love being founded, not on resemblances, but on differences; that is, if you choose so to interpret it in their case, it is not "deep calling unto deep," but deep calling unto shallow, and shallow answering back.

GARDENING FOR WOMEN. THERE is nothing better for wives and daughters, physically, than to have the care of a garden—a flower pot, if nothing more. What is pleasanter than to spend a portion of every passing day in working among plants and watching the growth of shrubs, and trees, and plants, and to observe the opening of flowers, from week to week, as the season advances? Then, how much it adds to the enjoyment to know that your own hands have planted and tilled them, and have pruned and trained them. This is a pleasure that requires neither great riches nor profound knowledge. The humble cottage of the laboring poor, not less than their grounds, may be adorned with pet plants, which in due time will become redolent of rich perfume, not less than radiant with beauty; thus ministering to the love of the beautiful in nature.

THE wife and daughter that loves home, and would seek ever to make it the best place for husband and brother, is willing to forego some gossiping morning calls, for the sake of having leisure for the cultivation of plants, and shrubs, and flowers. The good housewife is early among her plants and flowers, as is the husband at his place of business. They are both utilitarians, the one it may be in the abstract, and the other in the concrete, each as essential to the enjoyment of the other, as are the real and ideal in human life. The lowest utilitarianism would labor only for the meat that perishes. Those of higher and nobler views, would labor with no less assiduity for the substantial things of life, but would in addition seek also those things which elevate and refine the mind and exalt the soul.

THE advantages which woman personally derives from stirring the soil and smutting the morning air, are freshness and beauty of cheek, and brightness of eye, cheerfulness of temper, vigor of mind, and purity of heart. Consequently she is more cheerful and lovely as a daughter, more dignified and womanly as a sister, and more attractive and confiding as a wife.

Hence the fruits and products of garden culture, as they relate to woman, when viewed objectively, are but small, relatively, as compared with the benefits secured in regard to herself, as the center of social refinement and enjoyment, amid such a world as ours. A husband who revolves round such a center, cannot but be a good neighbor, a useful citizen, a kind father, a loving and confiding companion. Do not, then, mothers and sisters, the latter wives in prospect, neglect the garden.—Selected.

MUCH as we may need energetic remedies against contagious diseases, we need them against contagious vices more; and quarantine laws in favor of moral health are the most necessary of all sanitary regulations.—Horace Mann.

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

IN reply to the article of "Cousin S.," in a late RURAL, under the above caption, I have a few words to say, as her misivie contains so much bitterness toward those "invererate foes of decency." I have been a housekeeper for many years, and my husband was a subscriber to a magazine, and one or two papers. My neighbors usually took one or two papers or magazines, and when I had read mine, I was very glad to change with them, if they desired, if not, I borrowed theirs, in order to secure a greater amount of reading than we were able to buy, counting it a privilege to borrow, or to lend. Now, when my husband "sleeps his last sleep," and two children are looking only to me for support, and while I cannot buy, I am glad to borrow. And as long as the RURAL, and some other papers which I have read for such a length of time they seem like dear friends, are taken by those that are willing to lend, I intend to borrow. Inasmuch as withholding does not enrich (after they have been read,) nor lending impoverish, I hope the able will exercise the "Christian graces" thoroughly; meanwhile I am thankful for "fine upon line," &c., waiting with "Cousin S." for the good time coming, when I shall own (I own a bible now) lots of newspapers. Mrs. L. E. W. Hudson, Mich., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] AUNT BETSY ON WOMAN'S RIGHTS.

WE had been talking of "Woman's Rights," one winter evening, in Aunt Betsy's room, talking girl-fashion; but when the less decidedly or enthusiastically, from the fact that it was a subject we knew little but fancied much about.

At last ALICE said, looking around to where she sat—her spees pushed up, and her eyes fixed rather quizzically on us—"what do you think about 'Woman's Rights,' Aunt Betsy?"

"Well, girls," she said, after a moment's pause, "I can tell you just what I think, and I've a sort of an idea that it won't do you any hurt either, seeing that I've seen more of the world than you have."

"Why, Aunt," broke in ALICE, "you've never been out of Seddersville in your life, and we've been to the Falls, and the Springs, and ever so many other places."

"That may all be child; but talking about 'Woman's Rights,—her rights are in her world, ain't they?—and her home is her world, isn't it? I think, may be, my dear, that I know full as much about the falls and springs of that sort of world as any body,—falls and springs of feelings and love, and temper, too."

It was quite a sentimental speech for the old lady, and she sat thinking of it for a moment, till we began to fidget in our chairs.

"I suppose you all think," she began, at last, "that when you're once launched on the 'Sea of Matrimony,' as some of them big writers tell about, you'll 'become possessed of your own inalienable and individual rights,' and so on, but, girls, there's a heap of knowledge, that isn't to be found in your boardin'-schools and academies, got to be drilled into your innocent heads yet."

"When you get married, and leave your mother, and sisters, and aunts, to go tagging after a man, that you never see in his own home,—those shirt-bosoms and sock-heels you never even thought of,—you're just jumpin' off a precipice with your eyes blinded, and the land you pitch your tent in, after you've jumped, will have to have a blessed lot of sunshine in it to keep your mind off the little briars and sticks that catch hold of your dresses and tear your ankles."

"I'll be all butter and honey at first, to be sure, till just then, your weddin'-tour will be over, and the next thing will be to get to house-keeping. You, who never scratched your finger without crying, will tug up and down stairs, and scrub, and wash, and sweep, to get things in order, and maybe you'll think about them that it's one of your 'inalienable rights' to have a little help; but pretty soon in he'll come,—out of the air and sunshine, wide-awake as can be,—and laugh at you about the hooks burst off the back of your dress, looking round at things approvingly, and finally throwing himself into the rocking-chair, with the remark that he 'thinks he'll have a clean shirt!'"

"Where is it, my dear?" says he, and you'll take your hands out of your dish-water, as meekly as though you hadn't an individual right in the world,—go a trudin' off up stairs, or somewhere, after it, shut the drawers rusefully on a dozen that need patching, and hunt half an hour for a needle to sew on a button with."

"That's the beginning of your rights, and though you may get what folks call 'one of the best men that ever was,' and you 'love him like pizen,' as some one says, there'll be a dozen times every day that he'll tread one of your rights under his heel, and another under his toe; and you'll look the other way,—like enough grease the boots he does it with."

"Just you take my advice, girls, and don't say any more about your rights, for you'll be pretty likely to 'haul in your colors,' when the time comes, and woman's fate with it."

"I'm sure I don't know whether we're born so or not, but sensible women, that have got to be as old as I am, are pretty apt to think it's better to put up with a few less rights for the sake of a little more peace."

Charlotte Center, N. Y., 1861.

THE companion of an evening and the companion for life requires very different qualifications.

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

IN reply to the article of "Cousin S.," in a late RURAL, under the above caption, I have a few words to say, as her misivie contains so much bitterness toward those "invererate foes of decency." I have been a housekeeper for many years, and my husband was a subscriber to a magazine, and one or two papers. My neighbors usually took one or two papers or magazines, and when I had read mine, I was very glad to change with them, if they desired, if not, I borrowed theirs, in order to secure a greater amount of reading than we were able to buy, counting it a privilege to borrow, or to lend. Now, when my husband "sleeps his last sleep," and two children are looking only to me for support, and while I cannot buy, I am glad to borrow. And as long as the RURAL, and some other papers which I have read for such a length of time they seem like dear friends, are taken by those that are willing to lend, I intend to borrow. Inasmuch as withholding does not enrich (after they have been read,) nor lending impoverish, I hope the able will exercise the "Christian graces" thoroughly; meanwhile I am thankful for "fine upon line," &c., waiting with "Cousin S." for the good time coming, when I shall own (I own a bible now) lots of newspapers. Mrs. L. E. W. Hudson, Mich., 1861.

GARDENING FOR WOMEN. THERE is nothing better for wives and daughters, physically, than to have the care of a garden—a flower pot, if nothing more. What is pleasanter than to spend a portion of every passing day in working among plants and watching the growth of shrubs, and trees, and plants, and to observe the opening of flowers, from week to week, as the season advances? Then, how much it adds to the enjoyment to know that your own hands have planted and tilled them, and have pruned and trained them. This is a pleasure that requires neither great riches nor profound knowledge. The humble cottage of the laboring poor, not less than their grounds, may be adorned with pet plants, which in due time will become redolent of rich perfume, not less than radiant with beauty; thus ministering to the love of the beautiful in nature.

THE wife and daughter that loves home, and would seek ever to make it the best place for husband and brother, is willing to forego some gossiping morning calls, for the sake of having leisure for the cultivation of plants, and shrubs, and flowers. The good housewife is early among her plants and flowers, as is the husband at his place of business. They are both utilitarians, the one it may be in the abstract, and the other in the concrete, each as essential to the enjoyment of the other, as are the real and ideal in human life. The lowest utilitarianism would labor only for the meat that perishes. Those of higher and nobler views, would labor with no less assiduity for the substantial things of life, but would in addition seek also those things which elevate and refine the mind and exalt the soul.

THE advantages which woman personally derives from stirring the soil and smutting the morning air, are freshness and beauty of cheek, and brightness of eye, cheerfulness of temper, vigor of mind, and purity of heart. Consequently she is more cheerful and lovely as a daughter, more dignified and womanly as a sister, and more attractive and confiding as a wife.

Hence the fruits and products of garden culture, as they relate to woman, when viewed objectively, are but small, relatively, as compared with the benefits secured in regard to herself, as the center of social refinement and enjoyment, amid such a world as ours. A husband who revolves round such a center, cannot but be a good neighbor, a useful citizen, a kind father, a loving and confiding companion. Do not, then, mothers and sisters, the latter wives in prospect, neglect the garden.—Selected.

MUCH as we may need energetic remedies against contagious diseases, we need them against contagious vices more; and quarantine laws in favor of moral health are the most necessary of all sanitary regulations.—Horace Mann.

Parents are apt to ring too often. One command or request is enough, if it is understood. Every repetition weakens authority, and encourages disobedience. Let it be a fixed principle of domestic discipline, that instant obedience is to follow each command, and the trouble of government is at an end; while the opposite principle has in it the elements of procrastination and rebellion, which will reach beyond the family and beyond time.

Teachers make the same mistake. Perhaps the school is noisy. Ding-ding-ding the bell. The noise continues. Ding-ding-ding. The timid give heed, but the clamor ceases not. Ding-ding-ding-ding-ding. The school is brought to a stand at last; but the probability is that every subsequent uproar will demand an additional ding. The training, to be authoritative and effectual, should be such that the first touch of the bell should arrest every ear, and the refusal to heed that should be dealt with as rebellion.—Heber.

THE FOUNDATION OF CHARACTER.

THE groundwork of all manly character is veracity. That virtue lies at the foundation of everything solid. How common it is to hear parents say, "I have faith in my child so long as he speaks the truth. He may have many faults, but I know he will not deceive me. I build on that confidence." They are right. It is a lawful and just ground to build upon. And that is a beautiful confidence. Whatever errors temptation may betray a child into, so long as brave, open truth remains, there is something to depend on—there is another ground—there is substance at the center. Men of the world feel so about one another. They can be tolerant and forbearing so long as their erring brother is true. It is the fundamental virtue. Ordinary commerce can hardly proceed a step without a good measure of it. If we cannot believe what others say to us, we cannot act upon it, and to an immense extent that is saying that we cannot act at all. Truth is a common interest. When we defend it, we defend the basis of all social order. When we vindicate it, we vindicate our own foothold. When we plead for it, it is like pleading for the air of health we breathe. When you undertake to benefit a lying man, it is like putting your foot into the mire.—F. D. Huntington.

SILENT INFLUENCE.—It is the babbling spring which flows gently, the little rivulet which runs along day and night, by the farm house, that is useful, rather than the swollen flood, of the roaring cataract. Niagara excites our wonder, and we stand amazed at the power and greatness of God there, as he "pours it from his hollow hand." But one Niagara is enough for the continent, or the world, while the same world requires thousands and tens of thousands of silver fountains, and gentle flowing rivulets, that water every farm, and meadow, and every garden, that shall flow night and day, with their gentle quiet beauty. So with the acts of our lives. It is not by great deeds like those of the martyrs, that good is done; it is by daily and quiet virtues of life.—The Christian temper, the meek forbearance, the spirit of forgiveness, in the husband, in the wife, the father, the mother, the brother, the sister, the friend, the neighbor, that good is to be done.

CATO observed, he would much rather that posterity should inquire why no statues were erected to him, than why they were.

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

EARTH hath its sorrows, and deep, unnumbered woes, — all share in the common lot, — eyes that were brightest dim, with blinding tears; hearts that were lightest, with intense anguish break; the day of rosy dawn, gives place to deeper gloom. Almost daily are we called to witness some proof of the mutability of earthly hopes; and thus, from the frailty of things heavenly, "which pass not away."

Not long since I heard a mother dwelling with delight on the speedy return of a loved son. The crest and manly form, the fair brow, the dark flashing eyes, all held a sacred place in that mother's heart. Cherish them well, O mother, for thou mayest never see them more. With eager haste her thoughts flew over the few months that might intervene before the fondly hoped to bless the dear one again to her heart. It was well that her vision deserted not the dark, fearful-looking cloud which rose every moment nearer; she saw nothing but the rosy hued in her sky. The shadow had not yet fallen. Just then, when feeling most secure, shot forth the dreadful bolt, eating and burning to its very center the mother's heart. Heart-rending was her anguish, as in piteous accents she cried, "my son, oh! My son, would I had died for thee, my son."

We longed to breathe words of comfort and holy cheer into the sorrowing mother's ear, and point her away above the mound under which rested the loved one, even up to the throne of Our Father, who "inflicts us not willingly." But in such an hour of trial how powerless is human sympathy,—colder than ice on the aching heart full friendly words. The most, and perhaps the best we can say, is,

"Remember thy Bible in affliction's dark hours When the loved ones are passing away, Its sweet words shall fall like dew on the flowers When faint 'neath a long summer's day. Then turn to thy Bible, 'till dry thy sad tears, And the shadows pass swiftly away, As the stars grow brighter till the morning appears, Then fade in the calm light of day."

Yes, here and disconsolate one, thy Bible shall be to thee an unfailing source of consolation,—it will lead thee beyond the valley and the river; to the eternal city, where the reunion of loved ones is unmingled with grief, for then "there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former are passed away." Oxford, N. Y., 1861. F. M. TURNER.

THE ARAB'S PROOF.—Some years ago a Frenchman, who, like many of his countrymen, had won a high rank among men of science, yet who denied the God who is the author of all science, was crossing the great Sahara in company with an Arab guide. He noticed with a sneer, that at certain times his guide, whatever obstacles might arise, put them all aside, and kneeling on the burning sands, called on his God. Day after day passed, and still the Arab never failed, till at last one evening the philosopher, when he rose from his knees, asked him, with a contemptuous smile, "How do you know there is a God?" The guide fixed his burning eye on the sufferer for a moment in wonder, and then said, solemnly, "How do I know there is a God? How did I know that a man and not a camel passed my hut last night in the darkness? Was it not by the print of his foot in the sand? Even so," and he pointed to the sun, whose last rays were flashing over the lonely desert, "that footprint is not that of man."

HEIGHTS OF REDEMPTION.—Oh, who shall measure the heights of the Savior's all sufficiency? First tell how high is sin, and then remember that as Noah's flood prevailed over the top of the earth's mountains, so the flood of Christ's redemption prevails over the tops of the mountains of our sins. In heaven's courts there are to-day men that once were murderers, and thieves, and drunkards, and blasphemers, and persecutors; but they have been washed, they have been sanctified. Ask them whence the brightness of their robes hath come, and where their purity hath been achieved, and they, with united breath, tell you that they have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.—Spurgeon.

REVERENCE FOR THE BIBLE.—I suppose that the reverence of many persons for the Bible is owing to the confidence which they have in persons they believe to be Christians. I suppose that there are hundreds of men that are exceedingly skeptical in regard to the Bible, who have a certain hidden reverence for it. Why? God sent them an angel, and let her walk with them two years; and then took her home; and they hold her memory with such sacredness, that they say, "It there ever was a Christian, my wife was one; and she believed in that book, and there must be something in it which makes it superior to other books."—Henry Ward Beecher.

PRAYER is ever profitable; at night it is our covering; in the morning it is our armor. Prayer should be the key of the day, and the lock of the night. Prayer sanctifies all our actions. He is listed in God's service and probation; who makes it his first work to be enrolled by prayer under the standard of the Almighty. He carries an assistant angel with him for his help, who begs his benediction from above; and without it he is lame and unarmed.—Betham.

The Reviewer.

ULAH, AND OTHER POEMS. By AMANDA T. JONES. [12mo.—pp. 309.] Buffalo: H. H. Otis—1861. It is said that "rushing into print is a disease." If our recent experience is to be depended upon, we might add that it is infectious, and contributors to the RURAL are specially liable to attack. Nor is this predisposition a matter of wonder. If it is their good fortune to please and gratify the literary tastes of the people through the columns of the weekly press, why should not the convenient form the book-maker imparts be given to their productions? In the special case before us, however, there are additional reasons for appearing, and these the preface thus details:—"In this age of feminine supremacy, it appears to be the unavoidable duty of every young lady to either sate or refine taste in the lecture-room, glide through the skeleton-hung halls of pharmacy, or set her cap—her thinking cap, of course—over the luxuriance of her shingled tresses, and treat the world—the world, ladies and gentlemen,—to a book." Having thus decided, ULAH results. Those of our subscribers who have formed a literary acquaintance with Miss JONES, will appreciate the opportunity afforded for the pronouncement of her verses in the tasty garb with which they are decked. There are many in our parish of readers, however, who have not enjoyed this privilege—those whom we have had the pleasure of visiting for only the few brief weeks which have elapsed since the New Year—and to such we recommend its perusal. The pure, unaffected, and simple in poetry, has been sought after in the volume before us, and attained. We cannot refrain from quoting the dedication:—"To my Father, who, for more than six years, has joyfully heard the harp of the blessed; and my Mother, who, tarrying yet, kindly listens to the faint preluding strains of my own little harp, these humble songs are lovingly inscribed." For sale by DARROW & BRO.

CASSELL'S POPULAR NATURAL HISTORY. Profusely Illustrated with Splendid Engravings and Tinted Plates. Published in Paris, on the First and Fifteenth of each Month. London and New York: Cassell, Pater & Galpin. American Office 27 Park Row, New York. CASSELL'S serial publications are exceedingly popular in England, and when well known, will be equally so in this country, being works of real merit, and not mere picture books got up for show and sale. We have received no serial the present year with which we have been more interested, or better pleased, than in Cassell's Natural History. Each part contains 32 large quarto pages, well printed on good paper, and profusely illustrated with engravings of the most description. These engravings illustrate the appearance, parts, and habits of the different animals described, and are of great assistance to the student of natural history. The letter-press descriptions are clear and interesting, and the general arrangement of the work is all that could be desired. Each part 15 cents, to be obtained of the publishers.

CASSELL'S ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF ENGLAND. The Text by J. T. SMITH, to the Signs of the Times, and from what printed by WILLIAM HOWITT. London and New York. We have received several numbers of the above beautiful and valuable publication, and have been very greatly interested in its perusal. The authors have evidently brought all their mental forces to the task, and while the subject-matter is presented in a pleasing and attractive form, the truth of history is not hidden from the eye of the reader. The wood engravings—of which from forty to eighty are given in each part—have been prepared in the best style of the art. Each number contains sixty pages of letter-press, and these are sold at 15 cents. Address CASSELL, PATER & GALPIN, 37 Park Row, New York.

NORTH BRITISH REVIEW. Reprinted by Leonard Scott & Co., New York. The February number of this excellent Review is before us, and the contents are fully up to the standard. Eleven articles are presented, as follows:—India Convoluted; Shelley and his recent Biographers; Large Farms and the Peasantry of the Scottish Lowlands; Lord Dundonald; Modern Necromancy; Engineering and Engineers; The Political Press—French, British, and German; Home Ballads and Poems; Hesse's Hampton Lecture; Dr. Carleton's Autobiography; Lord Palmerston and our Foreign Policy. With the present issue begins Volume XXIX of the American edition. D. M. DEWEY is the Rochester agent.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED NETHERLANDS: From the Death of William the Silent to the Synod of Dort. With a Full View of the English-Dutch Struggle against Spain, and of the Origin and Destruction of the Spanish Armada. By JOHN LOTROP MOTTLEY, LL. D., D. C. L., Corresponding Member of the Institute of France, author of "The Rise of the Dutch Republic," Volume I. (8vo.—pp. 532.) New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—STEELE & AVERY. MARCHES OF CASTLE, or, The Voyage of Oathay. By J. FENIMORE COOPER. Illustrated from Drawings by F. O. C. DARLEY. [12mo.—pp. 590.] New York: W. A. Townsend & Co. Rochester—L. HALL & BRO., Subscription Agents. THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF LAND DRAINAGE. Embracing a Brief History of Underdraining; a Detailed Explanation of the Operation and Advantages; a Description of Various Kinds of Drains, with Practical Directions for their Construction; the Manufacture of Drain-Tile, etc. Illustrated by nearly One Hundred Engravings. By JOHN H. KILPATRICK, author of the "Wheat Plant," Corresponding Secretary of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture, etc. [12mo.—pp. 464.] Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co. [From the Publishers.] THE ROMANCE OF THE REVOLUTION: Being a History of the Personal Adventures, Romantic Incidents, and Exploits incidental to The War of Independence. Illustrated. [12mo.—pp. 444.] Philadelphia: G. G. Evans. [From the Publisher.] THE OLD LOG SCHOOL HOUSE. Furnished with Incidents of School Life, Notes of Travel, Poetry, Hints to Teachers and Pupils, and Miscellaneous Sketches. Illustrated. By ALEX. CLARK, Editor of "Clark's School Visitor." [12mo.—pp. 288.] Philadelphia: Leary, Getz & Co. [From the Publishers.] THE CHILDREN'S BIBLE PICTURE-BOOK. Illustrated with Eighty Engravings. [pp. 321.] New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—STEELE & AVERY. PAMPINA, and other Poems. By THOS. BAILY ALDRICH. [72.] New York: Rudd & Carleton. Rochester—ADAMS & DARNEY. FIANTATION, and What Came of It. A Comedy in Five Acts. By FRANK B. GOODRICH. [pp. 92.] New York: Rudd & Carleton. Rochester—ADAMS & DARNEY. ONE OF THEM. By CHARLES LEVER, author of "Charles O'Malley," etc. [8vo.—pp. 187.] New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—STEELE & AVERY.

Spice from New Books.

The Man of Force. THERE is always room for a man of force, and he makes room for many. Society is a troop of thinkers, and the best heads among them take the best places. A feeble man can see the farms that are fenced and filled, the houses that are built. The strong man sees the possible houses and farms. His eye makes estates, as fast as the sun breeds clouds.—"Conduct of Life," by RALPH WALDO EMERSON. Recuperative Force in Children. WE watch in children with pathetic interest the degree in which they possess recuperative force. When they are hurt by us, or by each other, or go to the bottom of the class, or miss the annual prizes, or are beaten in the game,—if they lose heart, and remember the mischance in their chamber at home, they have a serious check. But if they have the buoyancy and resistance that pre-occupies them with new interest in the new moment,—the wounds cicatrize, and the fibre is the tougher for the hurt.—Ibid. Chemistry in the Work of Education. FEW more numerous are the bearings of Chemistry on those activities by which men obtain the means of living. The bleacher, the dyer, the calico-printer, are severally occupied in processes that are well or ill done according as they do or do not

conform to chemical laws. The economical reduction from their ores of copper, tin, zinc, lead, silver, iron, are in a great measure questions of chemistry. Sugar-refining, gas-making, soap-boiling, gunpowder manufacture, are operations all partly chemical; as are also those by which are produced glass and porcelain. Whether the distiller's wort stops at the alcoholic fermentation or passes into the acetous, is a chemical question on which hangs his profit or loss; and the brewer, if his business is sufficiently large, finds it pay to keep a chemist on his premises. Glance through a work on technology, and it becomes at once apparent that there is now scarcely any process in the arts or manufactures over some part of which chemistry does not preside. And then, lastly, we come to the fact that in these times, agriculture, to be profitably carried on, must have like guidance. The analysis of manures and soils; their adaptations to each other; the use of gypsum or other substance for fixing ammonia; the utilization of coprolites; the production of artificial manures,—all these are boons of chemistry which it behooves the farmer to acquaint himself with. Be it in the lucifer match, or in disinfected sewage, or in plumbago, or in bread made without fermentation, or perfume extracted from refuse, we may perceive that chemistry affects all our industries; and that, by consequence, knowledge of it concerns every one who is directly or indirectly connected with our industries.—"Education, Intellectual, Moral and Physical," by HERBERT SPENCER.

Youthful Years of Lord Bacon.

No one lapse is known to have blurred the beauty of his youth. No rush of mad young blood ever drives him into bravado. To men of less temper and generosity than his own—to Deceaux and Montjoy, to Percy and Vere, to Sackville and Bruce—he leaves the glory of Calais sands and Marybone Park. If he be weak on the score of dress and pomp; if he dote like a young girl on flowers, on seats, on gay colors, on the trappings of a horse, the ins and outs of a garden, the furniture of a room; if he neither drinks nor games, nor runs wild and loose in love, Armed with the most winning ways, the most glowing lip at court, he hurls no husband's peace, he drags no woman's name into the mire. He seeks no victories like those of Essex; he burns no shame like Raleigh into the cheek of one he loves. No lady Rich, as in Sydney's immortal line, has cause

"To blush when he is named."

When the passions fan out in most men, poetry flowers out in him. Old when a child, he seems to grow younger as he grows in years. Yet with all his wisdom he is not too wise to be a dreamer of dreams; for while busy with his books in Paris, he gives ear to a ghostly intimation of his father's death. All his pores lie open to external nature. Birds and flowers delight his eye; his pulse beats quick at the sight of a fine horse, a ship in full sail, a soft sweep of country; everything holy, innocent and gay, acts on his spirits like wine on a strong man's blood. Joyous, hopeful, and swift to do good, slow to think evil, he leaves on every one who meets him a sense of friendliness, of peace and power. The serenity of his spirit keeps his intellect bright, his affections warm; and just as he had left the halls of Trinity with his mind unwarped, so he now, when duty calls him from France, quite the galleries of the Louvre and St. Cloud with his morals pure.—"Personal History of Lord Bacon," by WM. HERFORTH DIXON.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

FACTS IN THE HISTORY OF GLASS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Herewith I send you a short sketch of the history of Glass, believing that it will be interesting to many of your readers. Two thousand years ago or upward, a company of merchants who had on board their ships a cargo of nitre, were driven by the winds on the shores of Galilee, close to a small stream that runs from the foot of Mount Carmel. Being here weather-bound until the storm abated, they made preparations for cooking their food on the beach; and not finding stones to rest their vessels upon, they used some lumps of nitre for that purpose, placing their kettles on the top, and lighting a strong fire underneath. As the heat increased, the nitre slowly melted away, and flowing down the beach, mixed with the sand, forming, when cooled, a beautiful, transparent substance, which excited the astonishment of the beholders. A great many years afterwards, towards the close of the fifteenth century, an artificer, whose name is not known, accidentally spilled some of the material he was melting. Being in a fluid state, it ran over the ground until it found its way under one of the large flag-stones with which the place was paved, and he was obliged to take up the stone to recover his glass. By this time it had grown cold, and to his surprise he found from the flatness of the surface beneath the stone, it had taken the form of a slab,—a form which could not be produced by any process of blowing then in use. Such was the accident that led to the discovery of the art of casting Plate-Glass. WM. A. KELLOGG. East Scott, Cort. Co., N. Y., 1861.

VENERED HOUSES.

VENERED houses, as they are called, are becoming quite common in some parts of New York and New England. We do not think they can be recommended for their cheapness, though they seem to possess many other good qualities. The following is the manner in which the venering is done:—The house is built as all balloon frames—lined with one inch boards on the outside—the foundation wall must extend far enough beyond the sills for the brick to rest on, the brick all-laid up in good mortar so as to present a face 2 by 8 inches; and when the wall is laid up five bricks high, drive a five-inch spike into each studding; let the head of the spike be held close to the brick, that it may, in driving, scrape itself into the brick, thereby holding it firm and tight. Spike every tier of five bricks, until finished. Studding here are generally 15 inches apart; it will, therefore, take one spike for every five bricks high and fifteen inches long; 7/4 bricks lay up one square foot. Old frame buildings with weather-boarding on, can be venered the same way, and if not plumb, you can fill the space between the boards and brick with mortar, to keep out rats and mice. In an old frame house, you will have to make the foundation walls wider than the bricks may have a resting place. The advantages claimed over brick houses are, that they are much safer in a storm, and always dry, and no dampness whatever; and over a frame house, they are much warmer, and do not need painting every few years, which is quite a saving; and lastly, will last at least one generation longer.



GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI.

WE present our readers with a portrait of the man whose name, during the past year, has been almost constantly upon the lips of the civilized world,—GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI; and if any living person is worthy of this attention, we are not aware upon whom it could be more properly bestowed. A patriot from youth, his life has been devoted to the elevation of those upon whose heads the hand of tyranny has been heavily laid, and his achievements in behalf of the oppressed are household words.

GARIBALDI was born at Nice, in Italy, on the 4th of July, 1806, and is, consequently, about fifty-four years old. His father was a mariner, and our hero was early indoctrinated into the mysteries of his craft, and taught to disregard its dangers. Acquiring the rudiments of an education with avidity, he became a sailor. The principles of mathematics and the natural sciences were among his favorite studies. His love of learning never deserted him, and during his early years one of his chief delights was historical reading. In thus commencing with the past, he discovered what had been the glory and power of his native country, he saw what she was in her debasement and degradation, and his bold heart throbbed with aspirations for her redemption.

GARIBALDI followed his profession with vigilance, making voyages to various portions of Italy, the Levant and the Black Sea. It was during one of these voyages, says the *Phrenological Journal*, that he first went to Rome, and there, amid the monuments of her former splendor and greatness, and the many evidences of her existing poverty and distress, he conceived the hope of her restoration. When told that a society of young Italians was already in being, who had devoted their lives to the glorious work, the discovery filled him with unspeakable joy. He, of course, eagerly enrolled himself among their number, and when the uprising of 1834 took place, he became a prominent actor in the eventful scenes. But the movement proved disastrous in its results, and GARIBALDI among others was condemned to death. Making his escape in disguise from Genoa, he navigated the Mediterranean for some time alone, and finally succeeded in reaching the coast of France, whence he took passage in a friendly vessel to Brazil. Finding the patriots of La Plata in arms, he engaged in their service as a naval officer, and soon mingled in their public affairs.

In 1848, Italy became a scene of turmoil, and GARIBALDI immediately set sail for his native shores. He arrived at Rome in time to anticipate MAZZINI, AVEZZANI, and others, in their earlier efforts to organize the Republic. His known ability pointing him out as one of the men best fitted to conduct the military defense of the nation in case of attack, he was appointed a General of a body known as the Legion, which was composed of the bravest and most accomplished among those designated as "Young Italy." We cannot enter into detail concerning the stirring incidents of the campaign against France, Austria, and Naples,—it is enough to say that they were worthy of the noble spirits who battled, and of the cause in which they had periled everything. But they struggled in vain against the triple combination.

Rome was taken, the sorrowful city was compelled to surrender, but GARIBALDI and his noble-spirited young soldiers refused to lay down their arms. They resolved to force their way to a safe place of refuge. Their leader's speech on that occasion would have done no dishonor to BRUTUS or the GRACCHI. "Soldiers!" he said, "in recompense of the love you may show your country, I offer you hunger, thirst, cold, war, and

FREAKS OF THE FUNGI.

The fungus is a kindly friend—a fearful foe. We like him as a mushroom. We dread him as the dry rot. He may be preying on your roses, or eating through the corks of your claret. He may get into your cornfield. A fungus has eaten up the vine in Madeira, the potato in Ireland. A fungus may creep through your castle and leave it dust. Fungi are most common upon holes of old trees, logs of wood, naked walls, pestilential wastes, old damp carpets, and other such things as men cast out from their own homes. They dwell also in damp wine cellars, much to the satisfaction of the wine merchant, when they hang about the walls in black, powdery tufts, and much to his dissatisfaction when a particular species, whose exact character is unknown, first attacks the corks of his wine bottles, destroying their texture, and at length impregnates the wine with such an unpleasant taste and odor as to render it unsaleable; more still to his dissatisfaction when another equally obnoxious species, after preying upon the corks, sends down branched threads into the precious liquid, and at length reduces it to a mere *caput mortuum*.—*Athenaeum*.

FROST MUSIC.

I was once belated in Canada on a fine winter day, and was riding over the hard snow on the margin of a wide lake, when the most faint and mournful wail that could break a solemn silence seemed to pass through me like a dream. I stopped my horse and listened. For some time I could not satisfy myself whether the music was in the air or in my own brain. I thought of the pine forest which was not far off;

death,—who accepts the terms, let him follow me." They followed to a man. Day after day were they harassed by the enemy, and it was at length found expedient to disband, each to seek a shelter for himself. Our hero was now hunted as a wild beast, and while thus pursued, his wife, who had clung to him amid all his perils, died of exhaustion and fatigue. After her demise, GARIBALDI made his way to Genoa, and thence to the United States.

Upon his arrival in this country he modestly declined all demonstrations, took up his residence upon Staten Island, and earned his support by labor. He had with him a friend named MUCCI, to whom one day he said, "We are all idle; you are a man of business; you know a good deal about chemistry and machine work; why can't you suggest some employment which will make our lives and those of our friends here more comfortable and independent?" "I can," replied MUCCI. "Let us make candles. I know a process by which tallow can be transformed into a hard, transparent, and sperm-like substance, from which candles can be made more economical than any yet in use." "Good!" said GARIBALDI. "Everybody wants light, and who knows but that one day we'll make your candles light the universe. Let's get to work at once." To work they accordingly went. An opera singer named SALVI furnished means, and a copartnership was formed under the name and style of SALVI, MUCCI, and GARIBALDI,—the first representing cash, the second, ingenuity, and the third, labor. The candles, when manufactured, were sold to AVEZZANI,—then a New York commission merchant, now a General with GARIBALDI,—and the work went on. In course of time a manufactory was erected, which has since degenerated into a drinking saloon, and in the very bar-room where amid the enthusiastic *vivas* of a German and Italian crowd is now drunk his success, the great Italian was in the habit of sweating over his vats.

But his restless spirit would not permit this quiet. Once more he is upon the ocean. He visits California, China, and Europe, and finally returns to Italy. His late transactions are so familiar to the American public that we need not recount them. As an illustration of the eminent character and love borne him by the King and people of Italy, we make the following extract from the correspondence of one of our American journals:

"The political men who surround the King evince the necessity of feeling their own way, and to guess what might give pleasure to GARIBALDI. 'What would he have?' said one of them to one. 'GARIBALDI's character, on account of his immense virtues, of his heroic self-denial, is a very difficult one to deal with. One does not know how to lay hold of him. What could we offer him? The rank of Marshal? He will not accept it, out of regard for CIALDINI. The great cordon of the Annunziata? He would answer he wears no orders. The title of Prince of Calatami? He would say his name is GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI, and he is quite right if he objects to change his name. A pension to GARIBALDI? It would only offend him. An estate? He would say Caprera is all he wants."

The *Phrenological Journal*, speaking of his physical conformation, says:—"A nobler-looking man was never made. He is about the medium height, and finely proportioned. His face is sad in its expression, but full of intelligence, truth, and kindness. There is an integrity marked in every feature which must win confidence at once; yet he is not stern nor somber, but animated, almost playful and enthusiastic.

but the tone was not harp-like, and there was not a breath of wind. Then it swelled and approached; and then it seemed to be miles away in a moment; and again it moaned, as if under my very feet. It was, in fact, almost under my feet. It was the voice of the winds imprisoned under the pall of ice suddenly cast over them by the pre-emptory power of the frost. Nobody there had made air holes, for the place was a wilderness; and there was no escape for the winds, which must moan on till the spring warmth should release them. They were fastened down in silence; but they would come out with an explosion, when, in some still night, after a warm spring day, the ice would blow up, and make a crash and a racket from shore to shore. So I was told at my host's that evening, where I arrived with something of the sensation of a haunted man. It had been some time before the true idea struck me, and meanwhile the rising and falling moan made my very heart thrill again.—*Once a Week*.

THE HIGHEST BUILDINGS IN THE WORLD.—The following list of lofty buildings is taken from the French scientific almanac (*Annuaire par le Bureau des Longitudes*), for 1860. The measurement is above the earth in each case, (not above the sea): Highest Egyptian Pyramid.....470 Tower of the Strasburg Cathedral.....456.90 Tower of St. Etienne (Vienna).....452.75 Ball of St. Peter's (Rome) over the dome.....428.50 Tower of Michaels (Hamburg).....423.50 "The Arrow," of Antwerp Church.....393.70 St. Paul's at London.....380.90 The Milan Cathedral Tower.....367.66 Pantheon at Paris.....252.18 To the above may be added the chimney of Messrs. Tennant's chemical works in Glasgow, which is 450 feet in height.

The Young Ruralist.

LETTER TO FARMER BOYS—NO. V.

DEAR BROTHERS:—In looking over a paper to-day, my eye chanced to notice the following paragraph, as being particularly appropriate for farmer as well as all other boys:

"Young man, don't be a loafer—don't call yourself a loafer—don't keep loafers' company—don't be hanging about loafing places. Better work hard all day for nothing than be lounging in stores, bar-rooms, or around street corners, with your hands in your pockets."

No, "don't keep loafers' company," for if you do, you'll be a loafer yourself,—you cannot associate with rowdies without becoming in some measure contaminated. 'Twas no later than early last evening, while passing by a store and glancing in, that I saw no less than a dozen or fifteen men and boys sitting on the counters, boxes, &c., and I wondered if not at that very time four-tenths of the man portion of the world were similarly employed. I don't believe a merchant wants a gang of loafers obstructing his store, or an editor idlers in his office. It has always been a mystery to me why men cannot learn to "mind their own business." If a man has no business in a store or office, he should stay out, and by so doing, avoid much mischief, and save much unnecessary trouble.

Now, farmer boys, this reform depends mostly upon you. We are all apt to imitate our superiors, and you, holding the proudest position in the world, can exert more influence than any others. I think brothers, you can set an example that your fathers would do well to imitate, and that is, show an energy and promptness, in the ordinary business affairs of life.

I have frequently known farmers to visit a neighboring village or town for the purpose of transacting business that could be accomplished in half an hour, and yet spend nearly a whole day. The farmer, above all other men, needs to economize his time. There is so much to be done on a farm,—the fences need repairing, (door-yard fences,) the girls want the shrubbery trimmed, the climbing roses need racking, and a thousand other things that the farmer should do, and would, if he only knew how to spend the time. You have the time to spend, farmers, and you too, farmers' boys, if you will only improve your time to the best advantage. Instead of lounging about stores, or street corners, or stopping every other man to harangue about politics, you should be beautifying your homes; benefiting yourselves, or cultivating your intellects.

Among the many things that God has given for our happiness, are the flowers. Some farmers (not all, by any means,) think it quite beneath their dignity to cultivate flowers. But, sirs, I would like to have you understand that God did not think it beneath his dignity to make flowers, and it is not beneath yours to cultivate them. Farmers' daughters generally have a desire to have their homes ornamented with Nature's jewels, but are prevented sometimes, because the dooryard has no enclosure with which to prevent its being a genuine rendezvous for the horses, cattle and pigs. If you wish to render your country a valuable service, brothers, you can do it in no better way than in building a tasty yard fence, and transplanting some of the nicest evergreens in your father's forest (those that are transplantable,) into the dooryard. Your sisters will tend to the smaller shrubbery. It would be a profitable expenditure of your time and money, (if money is needed,) for your farms will sell for three or five dollars more per acre. I care not how heathenish or uncultivated a man may be, he will give more for a farm that has a nice dooryard on it, than where the yard looks as though wild beasts were the sole proprietors. And, boys, teach your chickens and turkeys to keep out of the yard when young, and when they are old, &c., for hens have a much keener love for flowers than I wish they had. Whenever I see a man sticking up his nose at flowers, and disdain to cultivate, or assist in tending them, and will brutishly trample over a bed of them, I wonder if anybody loves him, or would shrink from trampling over him, if he held his head no higher than the flowers!

Spring is here again, so please do not forget the flowers. I suppose you are anticipating rare times in making maple sugar. I am certainly in the expectation of eating some, for vacation is at hand, and once again I expect to enjoy a chat around the farmer's hearthstone, and with the permission of farmer boys, a dab in the boiling sirup. Will you grant it? MINNIE MONTWOOD. Alfred University, Alleghany Co., N. Y., March, 1861.

MARCH.

THE charms of the flowery month of May and of the leafy June have been often described, as well as the fading glories of October, and the enjoyments of the bleak winter; but March, whom almost every one calls a blustering old fellow, has charms for me. Aside from the remembrance of the joys of sugar weather, which this month usually inaugurates in that distant and favored land, called "Down East," I like it. What is more agreeable than a bright March morning, after a long cold winter. The snow has disappeared or retreated to the corners of the fences; the boys appear to take a parting slide on the few patches of ice which remains; the fowls come forth in crowds, for the first time in some months, and you hear their cheerful cackling from the wood-pile and hay-stack, calling up visions of fresh eggs in abundance; the farmer begins to talk about seed wheat, and discuss, with unusual animation, the comparative value of the different crops. Joyous activity reigns in every department of the farm. Other months of the year have each their own delights, but March seems to be truly the season of hopeful anticipation. B. C. D. Geneva, Wis., 1861.

AGRICULTURE IN SCHOOLS.—The "Union School" of Huntington, L. I., has adopted a plan that may be imitated to advantage by other schools. It is a juvenile agricultural society, which holds annual exhibitions, and awards prizes, as in other similar exhibitions by children of a larger growth. The premiums are confined to articles produced by the pupils, male and female, but articles for exhibition are contributed by parents and friends, to make the fair more attractive. The prizes competed for, are composed of books, agricultural papers, tools, and small sums in cash, for the boys; and thimbles, scissors, needles, workbaskets, teaspoons, etc., for the girls. For the best loaf of Graham bread, a kneading bowl and rolling pin are offered. There is no doubt that such an addendum to a school may prove highly beneficial to the pupils, in a hygienic, moral, and industrial point of view.—*Exchange*.

CONFESSION of a fault makes half amends.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Home for the Industrious—J. W. Foster, Land Commissioner. A Card—Robbins & Appleton. Seed Dressing—E. G. Evans. Schenectady Agricultural Works—G. Westinghouse & Co. Fruit and Ornamental Trees—T. C. Maxwell & Bro. Secretary—Harley & Co. Agents Wanted—Dagobert & Hammond. Grape Vines—Wm. Perry & Son. Agents Wanted—Hooker, Farley & Co. Cranberry Vines—Noble Hill. Nurseryman Wanted—Jas. Chappell. Berkelley & Co. Farm for Sale—Alex. H. Grant. Native Evergreens—D. L. Simmons & Co. Southern Improved Cap—Raspberry—G. F. Wilcox. Strawberry Plants—G. D. Southworth. The Names of Sweet Potatoes—C. B. Murray. Grape Vines—W. C. Loomis. One Price and Low Price—Gilmann. Pear Seeds—D. F. Holman. Dairy Woman Wanted—T. C. Peters. Friends' Patent Agricultural Cauldron and Steamer.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT. ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH 23, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

THE telegraph this (Monday) morning says that the Cabinet came to no decision Saturday on the proposed evacuation of Fort Sumter, in opposition to which some very strong arguments are made. Recent letters from Major Anderson resent with indignation insinuations against his disposition to hold the fort to the last extremity.

A member of the Virginia Convention called on the President on the 16th inst., who assured him that no vessels would be sent South with hostile intentions, and there would be nothing done in regard to the affairs of the South for sixty days, and it was his purpose to restore peace and prevent the shedding of blood.

It is said on good authority that Messrs. Crawford and Forsyth—the Commissioners from the Southern Congress—entertain the strongest hopes of preserving the peaceful relations between the two Governments. There is no doubt but their diplomacy is judicious.

It is estimated that there is between five and ten thousand applicants for appointments connected with the Post Office Department.

The number of letters daily received is unprecedentedly large, sometimes amounting to six or seven hundred. Nineteen clerks are engaged in attending to them.

The applications for employment in the other departments of the public service are correspondingly numerous.

A special dispatch to the N. Y. Post says startling rumors are circulated in Washington, to the effect that a collision has occurred at Pensacola. It is reported that the United States forces under command of Lieut. Slemmer have been attacked by the Florida rebels, and that a serious conflict ensued. Other reports, of a vague character, state that the outbreak did not occur in the neighborhood of Fort Pickens, but in the immediate vicinity of Pensacola. No intelligence of a definite character, however, has been received, but there is intense excitement and great anxiety to learn further particulars.

It is understood that the Senate will adjourn next week.

Orders have been received from the Navy Department for the sailing of several ships of war, but their destination is not announced.

The correspondent of the N. Y. Herald states positively and authoritatively that no foreign born citizens will be appointed heads of diplomatic posts in Europe, during the Republican administration. The Secretary of State is immovable. His determination is fixed, and will not be shaken by any influences that may be brought to bear on him. Remonstrance after remonstrance, both verbal and written, have been lodged with him, but all to no purpose. He has made up his mind, and is prepared to take the consequences.

Upon the data of Major Anderson's last statement to the War Department, his stock of bread is reduced to fourteen days, and rice to about twenty-three. With the other supplies on hand he might maintain himself a month.

In the U. S. Supreme Court on the 15th inst., Judge Wayne announced the decision in the case of Mrs. Gaines. The decision was that she was the only legitimate child of Daniel Clark, and his universal legatee, under his last will, and as such entitled to all the property, real and personal, of which said Clark died possessed. The decision further states that she is entitled to recover possession of certain property purchased by defendant Hemming, with the rents and profits, and measures will be at once taken to enforce this decree.

Chief Justice Taney delivered the decision in the matter of Kentucky against Governor Dennison of Ohio.

The court says the demanding State has a right to have every such fugitive delivered up, and that the State of Ohio has no right to enter into a question whether the act of which the fugitive stands accused is criminal or not in Ohio, provided it is a crime in Kentucky, and it is the duty of the Governor of Ohio to deliver, upon any proper process; that the act charged is crime in Kentucky; that the act of Congress in 1793 determines what evidence is to be submitted to the State of Ohio, and that the Governor is ministerial merely, like a sheriff or marshal, and appeals to his good faith in the discharge of the Constitutional duty, for the reason that Congress cannot impose any federal duty upon officers of a State, and when such officers are called upon by act of Congress to perform such duty, it conceives good sense and good faith on their part; and on these grounds a mandamus was refused.

The Post Office Department has been notified by the contractor that the cheap one cent stamped envelopes, combining the new improvement of the dissolving lines, are now ready for distribution. These envelopes are chiefly intended for circulars and have been issued in response to memorials from publishers and merchants of New York and other cities. They will, during the present week, be distributed among the most important post offices, for sale by them at one dollar and ten cents per thousand exclusive of the stamp, which is a deduction of 40 cents per thousand upon the rates of the present 1 cent stamped envelope, combining this improvement. Official dispatches from the East India squadron say that one of the vessels had been dispatched to Ningpo, for the purpose of finding out, if possible, the pirates who recently captured two American vessels. The Pacific Mail brought no information relative to the missing sloop Levant.

U. S. Senate—Extra Session.

THE Senate took up Mr. Foster's resolution for the expulsion of Wigfall, when, on motion of Mr. Simmons it, together with Mr. Chingman's substitute, was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Trumbull, from the Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred Mason's resolution about Carleton and Sanborn, referred back the resolution with the recommendation that it be postponed till the third Monday in December, which was agreed to. The committee deem it premature to order payment at this time.

Mr. Fessenden offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to strike from the roll of the Senate the names of Senators from the seceded States who have declared that they are no longer members of the Senate.

Mr. Clark offered a substitute which Mr. Fessenden accepted, viz.:

Whereas, The seats occupied by Brown, Davis, Mallory, Clay, Toombs, and Benjamin, as members of the Senate, have become vacant, therefore,

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to omit their names respectively from the roll.

Mr. Mason ineffectually proposed to amend the resolution by making it read "the gentlemen named have ceased to become members." Mr. Clark's substitute was adopted.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—Mr. Ramsey moved a reconsideration of the vote upon the Judiciary Committee Report against incorporating an Association for the safe keeping of valuable packages, by means of burglar proof safes. Agreed to, and the bill was recommitted.

The resolutions to appoint a Grinding Committee, were called up and adopted.

BILLS PASSED.—A bill to incorporate the Bellevue Hospital and Medical College; to fix the corporate name of Hobart College; to extend the time for the construction of Lake Ontario and Hudson River Railroad; to re-lease the interest of the people of New York in certain lands in the town of Prattsburgh; to incorporate the Veteran Scott Life Guards; to designate as public holidays, the 1st of January, 4th of July, 25th of December, 22d of February, general election days, and fast days,—providing that promissory notes, &c., falling due on such days, be due on the preceding day, was amended, so that the notes falling due on all legal holidays shall be payable the day after; to create the office of Commissioner of Lunacy.

ASSEMBLY.—Under general orders, the House took up, in the Committee of the Whole, the bill amending the exemption law, by limiting the exemption of Clergymen to those in actual charge of a church or congregation, or who shall have been so in charge for fifteen years. A long debate was had on the bill in Committee of the Whole, and the enacting clause was stricken out.

Mr. Merrit moved to disagree with the action of the Committee of the Whole, and ordered the bill to a third reading. Carried—57 to 38.

The Attorney General gave it as his opinion that the vote required to pass the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad bill is a majority vote only, and that the bill is not a two-thirds bill.

The Annual Report of the American Institute was presented.

The Speaker presented the statement of the New York State Commissioner, in relation to the cost of opening streets in the city for a series of years.

The Senate bill to aid the construction of Lake Ontario and Hudson River Railroad was passed. Adj.

The Southern Confederacy.

THE following is the Cabinet of the Southern Confederacy, as at present constituted: Secretary of State—Robert Toombs, of Ga.; Secretary of the Treasury—C. L. Memminger, of S. C.; Secretary of War—Leroy P. Walker, of Ala.; Secretary of the Navy—Stephen R. Mallory, of Fla.; Postmaster General—John H. Reagan, of Texas; Attorney General—Judah P. Benjamin, of La.

Advices from Montgomery say that President Davis has received most ominous communications from Washington, respecting the intentions of the Administration to blockade Southern ports, and attempt to collect the revenue. The Montgomery Cabinet, it is said, thereon resolved, as soon as a vessel was stopped outside of a Southern port, to put 50,000 troops in motion for Washington, believing that the people of the border States would rally to assist them.

An Ordinance has been adopted altering the free banking act, which substitutes the stocks of the Confederate States for those of the United States stocks, and allows the issue of two for one; no foreign citizens or corporations are allowed to hold the stocks.

The President and Vice President are to hold office for six years. The principal officers of departments and the Diplomatic service are removed at the pleasure of the President. Other civil officers are removed when their services are unnecessary, or for other good causes and reasons. Removals must be reported to the Senate when practicable. No captious removals are tolerated. Other States are to be admitted to the Confederacy by a vote of two-thirds of both Houses. The Confederacy may acquire territory, and slavery shall be acknowledged and protected by Congress and the territorial government. When five States shall ratify the permanent constitution, it shall be established for such States; until ratified, the provisional constitution still continues in force, not extending beyond one year.

Mr. Davis' veto of the African Slave Trade Act objects to the section authorizing the sale of Africans to the highest bidder, as in opposition to the clause in the Constitution forbidding such trade. A vote to pass it over the veto was—15 yeas to 2 nays.

The tariff published, goes into operation the first of May. Compared with the act of the States, most of 30 per cent duties have been reduced to 25. The greater portion of 24 and 19 per cent duties have been reduced to 15 per cent. There is a large ten per cent. schedule and a small free list.

The Government of the seceded States has appointed W. L. Yancey, Dudley Mann, and T. Butler King, special commissioners to England and France to obtain a recognition of the independence of the Confederate States, and to make such commercial arrangements as their joint interests may require.

The Secession Movement.

GEORGIA.—The Georgia State Convention has transferred the forts, arsenals, arms, and munitions of war to the Government of the Southern Confederacy. An ordinance has also been passed, appropriating \$500,000 for the support of the Government, and authorizing the Governor to issue 7 per cent. bonds to that amount.

TEXAS.—The Galveston Civilian of the 11th inst., says that the surrender of Fort Brown was agreed upon quietly between the Texas Commissioners and

Captain Hill, on the 6th inst. The News says that Fort Brown will be given up as soon as transportation can be found for the Federal troops, the latter to take to their post of destination two light batteries of artillery. The steamer Daniel Webster was still off Brazos waiting to take the Federal troops. Other vessels will probably be dispatched to take the remainder. The Texan troops at Brazos are represented to be fortifying the island so as to make it impregnable.

MARYLAND.—The State Conference assembled again. The Chairman said that it was understood Gov. Hicks was still unwilling to call a Convention, and it was evident that the sentiments of members were somewhat modified. It is thought a Committee will be appointed to confer with the Virginia Convention.

LOUISIANA.—The Louisiana Convention voted down an ordinance submitting the Constitution of the Confederate States to the people—yeas 26, nays 74.

The Legislature has passed a resolution approving the conduct of Gen. Twiggs in surrendering the Federal property in Texas to the authorities of that State.

VIRGINIA.—Mr. Goggins' proposed amendment to report of the Committee on Federal Relations, provides for the withdrawal of the State from the Union, and without determining her future association, recommends a conference of the Border States at Lexington, Ky., in May next, to propose a plan for constructing a government to be formed by said States and the Confederate States of America, but which is not to be binding till ratified by the Convention, which is to adjourn over to await the result. It declares that the Union can only be restored by an amendment to the Constitution, emanating from the non-slaveholding States, for the security of Southern rights, and urges a pacific policy throughout.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Charleston Courier of Thursday announces the commissioning of the Lady Davis as the first war vessel of the Southern Confederacy. She is armed with 24 pounders, and is under the command of Lieut. T. B. Huger, seconded by Lieuts. Dozier and Grimbald, all late of the Federal Government. The Courier also states that the batteries bearing on the ship channel are of the heaviest kind, and that they are now in a high state of perfection, and ready for any force that might be sent against them. It believes the reinforcement of Fort Sumpter an impossibility. It estimates that there are 3,000 highly disciplined troops in the various fortifications.

Personal and Political.

HON. DAVID WILMOT was elected United States Senator from Pennsylvania, on the 16th inst., in place of Simon Cameron. He received 25 Senatorial, and 69 Representative votes. Hon. W. Welch received 5 Senatorial, and 29 Representative votes. Scattering, 2.

GEN. BEAUREGARDE, now in command of the rebel forces at Charleston, has much fame as a tactician. It is said that when Gen. Scott's council differed in opinion as to the plan for attacking Mexico, after others had spoken, Gen. Scott called on Lieut. Beauregard, whose conduct at Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo and Contreras, had strongly attracted his attention. That young officer observed that, inasmuch as he differed in toto with his brother engineers, he felt great diffidence in expressing his views; but he finally agreed with the plan of Gen. Scott, it was acted upon, and the city was taken.

THE Ohio Legislature had twenty-one votes for United States Senator, on the 16 inst., without a choice. The last one was Horton, 1; Sherman, 24; Dennison, 28; Schenck, 22; Harlan, 3. Adjourned to the 20th inst.

MR. ROSEWELL STOCKING died in York, Livingston County, on the 13th inst., aged 73 years. Mr. Stocking emigrated from Massachusetts to the Genesee Valley about 1814. For nearly 50 years he has been a resident of York, and an occupant of the same farm on which he died.

MR. FAULKNER, Minister to France, has applied for a discharge, and awaits with patience the arrival of his successor.

ELECTION returns from 122 towns in New Hampshire foot up: For Berry, (Rep.) 32,376; for Stark, (Dem.) 28,189. The majority for Berry thus far is about 4,000.

COL. J. B. BRANT, a veteran of the war of 1812, died at St. Louis on the 15th inst., in his 71st year. He was in the hard fought battles of Fort George, Lundy's Lane, and Fort Erie. Between 1815 and 1838 he passed through all the stages of military promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, and resigned in 1839. He was twice married—the last time to Miss Sarah Benton, niece of Thomas H. Benton.

THE bill to repeal the Personal Liberty Act has passed the Senate of Maine, by a vote of 17 to 10.

News Paragraphs.

THE evaporation from the surface of the American Lakes, is estimated at 11,800,000,000 cubic feet per annum, which accounts for the enormous difference between the large volumes of water which enter the lakes, and the comparatively small quantity which leaves them at Niagara Falls.

THE Corlis Steam Engine Company of Providence have just completed an engine of 130 horse power for Messrs. Pirie & Son, Aberdeen, Scotland. The fact is very gratifying to our national friends, as the most celebrated manufactories of steam engines in Europe are located in Scotland.

A new writing apparatus for the blind has been invented by the Rev. Mr. Wardlaw, of Scotland, originally for his own use. The hand and pen are kept at work on the same line, but the paper moves upward at the proper distance, as each line is completed, by a slight touch from the left hand.

THE influx of specie is so great that the United States Mint in Philadelphia is now worked to its utmost capacity. The coinage for February will probably exceed \$9,000,000. From July, last year, \$400,000 have been received from Pike's Peak. Messrs. Clark, Gruber & Co., have a small mint in operation in Denver City, where \$5 and \$10 pieces are coined of various degrees of fineness.

GOLD and silver are found in the same quartz together in Utah territory. At one place a ton of ore, valued at \$30,000, was found in a "packet" of the lead. At Carson river preparations are made to establish quartz mills in the summer. Coal has also been discovered which promises to be very valuable, since wood is scarce at \$10 a cord.

THE recent publication of unclaimed dividends and deposits, in the banking houses of Newark, N. J., has been the means of informing many parties of moneys lying to their credit, which they had entirely forgotten. In one case the amount had been lying in one institution for over thirty-two years, the first intimation of it being conveyed to the owner by the published notice.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The House of Commons debated the Syrian question. The conduct of the French troops is generally condemned. Lord John Russell admitted that the occupation had been useful, but thought it desirable to terminate it as soon as possible. Lord Stratford de Radcliffe moved for the correspondence relative to Syria. The Government objected, pending the sittings of the Paris Conference. Lord John Russell said that nothing had as yet been determined relative to a prolonged occupation.

The slave trade was debated in the House of Commons upon resolutions offered, declaring that the efforts heretofore made are ineffectual to stop it, and providing for the introduction of free labor in the West Indies, as the most effectual way of suppressing it.

Russell and Palmerston strongly deprecated the policy of the United States, in prohibiting the right of search, and permitting the prostitution of its flag. Mr. Braxton feared that the Southern Confederation would revive the slave trade. He hoped the Government would never recognize them without express stipulations.

An injunction had been granted against persons engaged in London lithographing notes of the Kingdom of Hungary, purporting to be issued by Kossuth, bearing arms of the Kingdom. It is said the issue contemplated was 150,000,000 florins, and 3,000 persons had been engaged in the manufacture, and the notes were on the eve of delivery. The Austrian Minister called at the British Foreign office to interfere, but Lord John Russell declined. Application was then made to one of the city courts.

The Great Eastern will probably be ready next month for another voyage to America.

The Duke of Sutherland is dead.

THE Australasian is safe. Capt. Hickey reported that she broke both flanges of screw, Feb. 20, lat. 30 deg., long. 24 deg., but continued on her voyage westward, till the 26th; under canvass, when a heavy gale was experienced from the westward, and she put before it, reaching Queenstown on the 3d. During one day she made 280 miles under canvass.

FRANCE.—The French Senate was warmly debating an address in response to the Emperor's speech. Prince Napoleon justified the policy of Piedmont, and uttered some sympathetic words relative to Venice, but would deplore an untimely attack. He opposed the union of the temporal and spiritual power of the Pope, but said the independence of the Pope must be insured.

A pastoral letter by the Bishop of Poitiers, comparing the Emperor to Pontius Pilate, created a great sensation. The Government was debating what measures to take.

M. Thouvenel officially assured the American Minister at Paris, that no delegates from any seceding States had been received by the Emperor or himself. The Committees to the Senate adopted the project of address with responses to the Emperor's speech, indorsing the Emperor's policy and lauding his protection of the Pope.

The Paris letter in the Daily News mentioned a rumor in accredited quarters, that Prince Metternich just communicated to M. Thouvenel an important note from the Court of Vienna, asserting therein that the Austrian Government declares that it will never recognize Victor Emanuel King of Italy, but if France withdraws her troops from Rome, she will immediately replace them by an Austrian army, and if the Revolutionists make the least movement in Venetia or Hungary, she will cross the Minicio.

ITALY.—The siege of Messina, by Admiral Pesano, was soon expected to commence. Sardinians occupied the heights commanding the Citadel. It was said the resistance of the Governor of the Citadel arose from orders from Francis II, and representatives from foreign powers. Messina protested against the damage that might ensue.

The Italian Senate, by a vote of 129 to 2, adopted the project of a law conferring the title of King of Italy on Victor Emanuel and his successors.

The assertion is repeated that the Piedmontese brigade is now to enter Rome, and that the Romans were secretly preparing to receive Victor Emanuel.

The Papal Government were preparing a statement to the effect that all the responsibility of late events lies with Napoleon.

The French were about to occupy a portion of Trisnone.

An accident happened on the Casotta Railroad, by which nine persons were killed, and 41 wounded. Cardinal Brunelli was dead.

The inhabitants of Vitorbo had petitioned the Italian Parliament for annexation to the Kingdom of Italy.

AUSTRIA.—The Emperor of Austria has signed the new Constitution. The Diet, which is composed of the Upper and Lower House, has the right of legislation. The Hungarian Constitution remains intact.

Gen. Klapka, in a conference of democrats at Turin, spoke against any revolutionary attempts in Hungary, representing that country unprepared.

PRUSSIA.—Prussia has not yet assented to the French project in reference to Syria.

RUSSIA.—Fearful inundations at Galatz are reported. Hundreds of persons drowned, and immense quantities of grain lost.

The Governor of St. Petersburg announced that no Government measures relative to peasants will be published till the 2d of March.

TURKEY.—A serious insurrection had broken out in Sutornia. An insurgent party numbering 5,000, supported by the Montenegris, pillaged and set fire to the city of Behar, after killing over 50 Mahommedans, including several women.

INDIA AND CHINA.—India and China mails were received. Private letters report that the rebels had taken Woosung, and commenced a general massacre. The French had interposed on the score of humanity.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.—Breadstuffs dull, with a declining tendency. Richardson, Spence & Co., and Wakefield, Nash & Co., report flour dull. Prices are easier, but quotations unchanged. Wheat quiet and irregular, with a partial decline of 1d@2d per cwt. Corn dull; mixed 3s 9d@37a.

PROVISIONS quiet. Beef quiet. Pork dull, and bacon heavy. Lard dull, and slightly declined—54s@56s.

AN Act to prevent married persons from deserting from each other, was lately passed by the Hungarian Legislature. Strange that a people just emerged from barbarism, enacts means to perpetuate a tie the sundering of which Christian Legislatures are endeavoring to facilitate.

The missionary station at South Borneo has been abandoned. In May last seven missionaries were murdered, every station, with its schools and churches, was plundered and burned, the native Christians persecuted and dispersed, and the society lost £3,000. The mission, established in 1836, consisted in 1859 of ten stations, under eleven missionaries, 435 members of the church, 1,295 pupils, and 700 manumitted slaves.

The News Condenser.

- Japanese Tommy is dead.
—The population of Ohio, official, is 2,383,789.
—Barnum's monster brook trout, a four pounder, is dead.
—Hay is selling in Brunswick, Me., at twenty dollars per ton.
—An earthquake shock was felt in New Jersey a few days since.
—The population of San Francisco is between 57,000 and 58,000.
—Michigan alone consumes annually about 220,000 barrels of salt.
—The population of Illinois, as officially declared, is 1,771,788.
—Five million pounds of lead were made at Dubuque, the past year.
—Camphor is said to be an antidote to that terrible poison, strychnine.
—Five printers occupy the pews of five churches in Portsmouth, Va.
—The official census returns show the population California to be 875,000.
—The Siamese Twins, Chang and Eng, are giving exhibitions in California.
—The United States take annually about \$40,000,000 worth of silk from Europe.
—The correspondent of the London Times has been ordered to quit Rome.
—The value of dry goods imported into New York, the past year, is \$101,944,900.
—There are said to be 30,000 veterans of the war of 1812 in New York State alone.
—In the United States there are nearly six times as many journals as in Great Britain.
—Since 1857, 900 naval cadets have joined the British navy from the Royal Naval College.
—Coal, to the amount of 50,000,000 bushels, is annually taken from the mines in Ohio.
—Prince Albert's progress through South Africa cost the Colonial Government \$50,000.
—In the city of Canton, China, there are, on an average, about 5,000 suicides every year.
—Steamboat navigation of the Hudson, between Albany and New York, has been resumed.
—The United States forts built in Southern waters have cost the country nearly \$19,000,000.
—The amount of Northern manufactures sold to the South in 1859, is estimated at \$240,000,000.
—Rosa Bonheur has been adding to her fame by executing beautiful statues of animals in bronze.
—A couple living in Stormont, Canada, have 28 children, all residing with them in the same house.
—Of the 1,168 persons who died of old age in Massachusetts, 1859, 460 were males and 608 females.
—Among the articles sent to Paris from China, are said to be 75 splendid pieces of fur for the Empress.
—The rates of postage just adopted by the Confederate States are more than double those of the U. S.
—An embezzlement to the amount of \$67,000 has been discovered in the Commercial Bank of London.
—The total population of New Jersey is 672,024. Of these 644,080 are whites, 24,936 free colored, and 8 slaves.
—Gaeta has one memorable circumstance connected with its history. It was there that Cicero was assassinated.
—Col. Fremont's journey to Europe is for the purpose of seeking foreign investments in his Mariposa gold fields.
—Three hard-working miners took out of a quartz vein on Feather river, Cal., \$20,000 worth of ore in three days.
—A pictorial pocket bible, finely illustrated, has been published in London, at a cost of eighty-seven and one-half cents.
—The Iowa State Board of Agriculture have reduced the salary of the Secretary from eight to seven hundred dollars.
—At a recent snow-shoe race in Montreal, mostly Indians engaged in it, four miles were run in a little short of half an hour.
—One hundred and four Musquakie Indians have renounced their savage habits, and settled at Tama county, Iowa, on farms.
—It is said that the vendors of lottery policies in New York, draw, from the poor of that city, over \$200,000 per annum.
—The Educational Journal of Forsyth, Ga., reckons the total number of slaves connected with Christian churches, at 465,000.
—Owing to the recent drought in India, it is estimated that four millions of persons are deprived of the means of subsistence.
—The income of the South Carolina Railroad, for the year 1859, shows a falling off of \$97,000, as compared with that for 1858.
—The Tremont House in Chicago, about 400 feet square, is being raised from its foundation by 5,000 screws, worked by 500 men.
—It is said that the Empire Spring, Saratoga, has been sold to D. A. Knowlton, of Westfield, Chautauque Co., for \$100,000.
—A raving lunatic in an asylum in California was restored to reason by seeing his father, from whom she had long been separated.
—Ripe strawberries were on sale at New Orleans on the 1st inst. At Raleigh, N. C., on the 6th, the peach trees were in full bloom.
—On Wednesday week one of the richest veins of oil that has yet been discovered, was struck in Walnut Bend, Venango Co., Pa.
—The Delavan House in Albany has presented a bill of one thousand dollars for entertaining the President and suite a single night.
—The American residents of Japan observed November 29 as Thanksgiving day, in accordance with a proclamation by Minister Harris.
—The Homestead law, which has passed the Mich. Legislature, donates to the actual settler 30 acres, instead of 40, as under the old law.
—Vinal Nelson, a carpenter, fell a distance of but five feet, while at work on the Melodeon building, Boston, and was instantly killed.
—A manufacturer at Hadley, Mass., has contracted to furnish 30,000 wooden soles for thick boots and shoes. They are made of buttonwood.
—President Lincoln's inaugural, some three thousand words, was telegraphed to New Orleans entire, in the short space of three hours.
—The total value of the annual products of American industry, is estimated at \$4,000,000,000, of which \$200,000,000 is the value of cotton.
—The wife of President Davis, emulating the custom of the White House, is giving receptions at the "Executive Mansion," in Montgomery.
—The recent rains have caused the young grass in the New York Central Park to shoot forth, making the sward look green and pleasant.
—Anderson, the fugitive slave, was in Montreal on Tuesday. He remains in that city till the opening of navigation, when he proceeds to England.
—The first Connecticut shad of the season was caught on Monday week, at Stratford, the earliest ever caught in that vicinity for twenty years.
—The Dubuque Farmers' Club, at their last meeting, decided almost unanimously that Hungarian grass is an injurious crop to raise as fodder.
—Upward of one million papers of vegetable and flower seeds have been put up at the Agricultural Division of the Patent Office within the past sixty days.
—C. Granger, who died in Hornellville, last week, was captain of the boat that conveyed Gov. Clinton and suite over the Erie canal at the time of its opening.
—In the summer of 1859, the Volunteer Riflemen of England numbered but 1,500 men. Now a force of 140,000 men, perfectly equipped, are fit to take the field.

Back Numbers of this Volume will be sent to New Subscribers, until otherwise announced; but all wishing them should subscribe soon.

Special Notices. BRONCHIAL AFFECTIONS. A clergyman writing from Morristown, Ohio, speaking of the beneficial effects resulting from the use of 'Brown's Bronchial Troches,' says: 'Last Spring I feared my lungs were becoming dangerously involved, and until I used your Troches could not preach a sermon of ordinary length, without hoarseness; but now (with the assistance of 'Troches') I have in the past five weeks preached some forty sermons.'

Markets, Commerce, &c. RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE. Rochester, March 19, 1861. FLOUR is without alteration in rates, and the trade is almost wholly confined to the retail demand.

Table of market prices for various goods including Flour, Wheat, Corn, and other agricultural products.

THE PROVISION MARKETS. NEW YORK, March 18.—FLOUR—Market quiet, with a moderate demand. Butter—Market quiet, with a moderate demand.

THE CATTLE MARKETS. NEW YORK, March 18.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows: BEEF CATTLE—First quality, \$5.00; Second quality, \$4.50.

THE CATTLE MARKETS. NEW YORK, March 18.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows: SHEEP—First quality, \$3.00; Second quality, \$2.50.

THE CATTLE MARKETS. NEW YORK, March 18.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows: PORK—First quality, \$10.00; Second quality, \$9.00.

ALBANY, March 18.—There is a very large supply of Bees on the market this week, the Central Railroad having brought down no less than 232 car loads, and nearly 100 being driven in from the adjacent country.

THE WOOL MARKETS. NEW YORK, March 18.—The market during the past week has been very dull, and at the close we see no signs of returning animation.

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100 VARIETIES OF GRAPE VINES.—For sale cheap. Catalogues mailed free. Address W. C. LOOMIS, Lowell, Otaida Co., N. Y.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, VINES, BULBS, &c. APPLE TREES—Standard and Dwarf, best kinds. PEACH TREES—do do, good assortment.

PRINGLE'S PATENT AGRICULTURAL CALDRON AND STEAMER. This is a new and valuable improvement for cooking and boiling.

ONE PRICE AND LOW PRICE, at GILMAN'S Shoe Store, 8 State Street, Rochester, N. Y.

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EXTRACT OF TOBACCO, FOR DIPPING SHEEP AND LAMBS, AND FOR DESTROYING ALL KINDS OF VERMIN ON OTHER ANIMALS.

FISHER & CO., Sole Agents, 28 Central Wharf, Boston, Mass. MISSOURI FARMS!

15,000 LINNUS PIE PLANT. FREEMAN & BROTHERS, Market Gardeners, 100 Broadway, New York.

IMPORTANT TO EVERY MAN WHO KEEPS A CATTLE.—FOR HORSES it is indispensable in promoting and sustaining all the animal functions in health and vigor.

MAPLEWOOD YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE, PITTSFIELD, MASS., opens its 4th Semi-Annual Session, April 4th.

APPLE TREES FOR SALE.—60,000 Apple Trees of the most popular varieties. The trees are four years old, straight, thrifty and in good condition for removal.

TOLEDO NURSERY.—We offer for sale this Spring our usual Nursery Stock, comprising APPLE TREES, 5 to 7 feet, at \$35 per 1,000.

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A STOR HOUSE, NEW YORK. This Hotel is in excellent condition. Recently many improvements have been made.

WHEELER & WILSON MANUFACTURING CO'S IMPROVED FAMILY SEWING MACHINES. WITH NEW Glass Cloth Presser and Hemmers, AT REDUCED PRICES.

COUNTRY AGENT'S WANTED.—\$3 A DAY. Mrs. Hanks wants Agents at home to travel for her 'Pictorial' 'FAMILY NEWSPAPER' in this City.

ITALIAN BEES.—Orders will now be received for these bees to be delivered in the Spring. A circular will be sent to all applicants enclosing a stamp.

FAMILY NEWSPAPER.—Mrs. Hanks' Mammoth Pictorial is its Sixth Volume and has 300,000 readers. Full of Engravings and Fashion Plates.

AMERICAN GUANO, FROM JARVIS & BAKER'S ISLANDS, IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD CO., HAVE FOR SALE 1,200,000 ACRES OF RICH FARMING LANDS, in Tracts of Forty acres and upward, on Long Credit and at Low Prices.

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GARDEN STATE OF THE WEST.



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MECHANICS, FARMERS AND WORKING MEN. The State is rapidly filling up with population; 868,025 persons having been added since 1850, making the present population 1,728,663, a ratio of 102 per cent. in ten years.

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THE OTHER WORLD.

BY MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

It lies around us like a cloud—
A world we do not see;
Yet the sweet closing of an eye
May bring us there to be.

dearly this self-possessed exterior, I believe I have
warm and lasting affections."
"Indeed you have! No one can know you as I do,
and not be sensible of that."

"You do not mean to say that if Mr. DUSSELDORF
were to offer you his hand, heart, and a fortune,
which I know is not inconsiderable, that you would
decline them?"

did not think he could ever be more to her than he
had been. She hoped to retain his friendship and
was truly sorry to give him pain.

A C A R D .
The undersigned, Practical Watchmakers and Dealers in
Watches, having bought and sold American Watches for a
number of years past, and having dealt in all kinds of foreign
watches for a much longer period of time, beg to state that
they have never dealt in watches which, as a class, or in individual
instances, have been less satisfactory to themselves or
customers, whether in respect of durability, beauty of finish,
mathematically correct proportions, accurate compensation
and adjustment, or of the time-keeping results, than those
manufactured by the Waltham Company.

The Story-Teller.

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

THE LITTLE WICKET.

BY CAROLINE A. HOWARD.

To every woman's heart there is a tiny door, whereby no
man may enter, save he who has the key.
They formed a beautiful picture, those two young
girls, framed in, as it were, by that luxurious and
fretful room. DIANA WEST reclined in a large arm-
chair, with her slippered feet stretched out to receive
the genial warmth of the glowing grate. Her long
hair was loosened from confinement, and fell on her
shoulders in a heavy, dark mass, contrasting well
with the rich colors of her dressing-gown. On the
floor beside her sat SYLVIA FAX, one round arm
thrown carelessly across her companion's knee, so as
to form a resting place for the curly head.

"That is a close question, but I will answer it
frankly. I have never seen a man that I did, or do
love, but I cannot say that I never could love any of
those whom I have known, if I permitted myself to
consider them with a view to that object. You may
think me selfish, indeed I am, more so than you ever
believed; but while my wants are so bountifully sup-
plied,—while I have so good a home, with so little
responsibility on my own part, I have no desire to for-
sake it for an uncertain, to me a doubtful good.

"I don't know about that," answered SYLVIA,
knowingly. "However, I wish that I could feel sure
that you may never relent towards the object of your
present cruelty, for in good faith, I do not quite
fancy my great reason for you."

Corner for the Young.
For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.
MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.
I AM composed of 26 letters.
My 4, 9, 11, 14, 16, 10 is the name of a city in Ohio.

HARD TIMES MADE EASY!
GOOD NEWS
FOR THE UNEMPLOYED!!
ONE THOUSAND CHANCES
TO MAKE MONEY.
One Million Dollars
WORTH OF WATCHES,
JEWELRY, & SILVER PLATED WARE.
Entirely New and Original Plan!
2,600 AGENTS WANTED.

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AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

[SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.]

VOL. XII. NO. 13.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1861.

{WHOLE NO. 585.

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

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

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AGRICULTURAL.

INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

Paint for Out-Buildings.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—Will you please inform me the best method to make white-wash for out-buildings, fences, &c., that will stand the weather?—A. C., *Minneapolis, Min.*, 1861.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—I avail myself of the superior advantage of your valuable paper for obtaining a recipe for making a wash or coating for the outside of buildings. Many years since I saw in a paper a recipe for making the kind of wash which was used on the outside of the President's house, familiarly known as the White House, at Washington, D. C., and which was represented to be more impervious and durable than paint. Now, if you or any of your numerous correspondents will produce that recipe, or any other equally good, you will greatly oblige a subscriber. As I have several outbuildings which I wish to serve with such a coating this spring, the answers to the following questions would be thankfully received: 1st. Should the composition be hot or cold? 2d. How can the white composition be changed to a straw color, to a yellow or flesh color? 3d. If more than one coat is necessary, how many? 4. What is the best season in the year for putting on the wash, &c.? Any information on this subject will oblige—ALEX. MCG., *Cherrywood, North Pelham, C. W.*, March, 1861.

WATER-LIME and linseed oil have been used as a paint for out-buildings, and after being on a year, it appeared as good as new. Whether it proved durable, we cannot say, but perhaps some of our readers can inform us. Gas tar makes a most durable paint for out-buildings, preserving the wood to which it is applied, for an indefinite time. Indeed, we think a coating every few years would make wood almost indestructible, except by fire. The tar is so black that it is almost impossible to affect its color by any pigment that we have tried. In Europe, however, it is made, by some process, of a chocolate color, and is used to a great extent for farm sheds, fences, &c. The recipe, which was published pretty generally, for a wash such as was said to be used on the President's house, we have not been able to find, but if our recollection serves us right, it was made of lime, ground rice, and skimmed milk. We give a number of good recipes for making the wash desired by our correspondents. They may be put on cold, and the color changed to suit the taste, by any cheap coloring materials to be found at the stores where painters' materials are sold. A second coat is generally necessary. If the weather is fine, without rain or dust, these washes may be put on at any time, but oil-paints should be used when the weather is cold, so that the oil will form a hard body on the surface, and not soak into the wood, as it will in a hot day, leaving the lead on the surface, to be washed off by the rains.

Two quarts skimmed milk; 2 oz. fresh slaked lime; 5 lbs. whiting. Put the lime into a stoneware vessel, pour upon it a sufficient quantity of milk to make a mixture resembling cream, the balance of the milk is then to be added; and lastly the whiting is then to be crumbled and spread on the surface of the fluid, in which it gradually sinks. At this period it must be well stirred in, or ground, as you would other paint, and it is fit for use. There may be added any coloring matter that suits the fancy. It is to be applied in the same manner as other paints, and in a few hours it will become perfectly dry. Another coat may then be added, and so on, until the work is completed. This paint is of great tenacity, and possesses a slight elasticity, which enables it to bear rubbing even with a coarse woolen cloth, without being in the least injured. It has little or no smell, even when wet, and when dry is perfectly inodorous. It is not subject to be blackened by sulphurous or animal vapors, and is not injurious to health. The quantity above mentioned, is sufficient for covering 57 yards with one coat.

Take a barrel and slake in it carefully, with boiling water, half a bushel of fresh lime. Then fill the barrel two-thirds full of water, and add one bushel of hydraulic lime or water cement. Dissolve in water

and add three pounds of sulphate of zinc, (white vitriol,) stirring the whole to incorporate it thoroughly. The wash should be of the consistency of thin paint, and may be laid on with a whitewash or other brush. The color is pale stone color, nearly white. If you wish it to be straw color, add yellow ochre, two pounds in powder; if drab, add four pounds raw umber.

Another good wash is made as follows:—Slake lime with hot water, in a tub, to keep in the steam. When dissolved, and in a half fluid state, pass it through a fine sieve. Take six quarts of this lime and one quart of clean rock salt for each gallon of water—the salt to be dissolved by boiling, and the impurities to be skimmed off. To five gallons of this mixture, (salt and lime,) add one pound of alum, half a pound of copperas, three-fourths of a pound of potash, (the last to be added gradually,) four quarts of fine sand, or hard wood ashes. Add coloring matter to suit the fancy.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* gives the following:—One bushel unslaked lime; half a gallon salt; three pounds alum, powdered; three pounds saleratus. Mix and put in a tight barrel with one head out. If the lime is quite fresh, cold water, if not, then use hot water. Keep stirring while slaking, adding water as required, so as not to become dry at any time. If it heats dry, it becomes lumpy, and must not be overworked with water so as to prevent the slaking going on. Stir up well from the bottom. When finished, it may be thick as mush. When to be applied by a brush, make the mixture the consistency of whitewash,—about the thickness of cream. Apply the first coat very thoroughly, filling every crack or interstice between the bricks or in the boards. For wooden fences a second coat of the same material is all that is required. Those who desire to have some other color than white, can add coloring matter to taste.

For Brick Houses.—For the second coat, add to the first-named materials, twelve pounds melted tallow, and mix as before. This coat is impervious to water,—is brighter, looking clean longer than paint, and preserves the cement between the bricks better than paint.

Vetches, or Tares.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—Can you inform me where I can find the seed of Vetches? You may not probably know it by that name, but it grows somewhat like the pea, and is generally used for green feed. It grows a heavy crop, and matures early. I saw it in Ireland, but have never seen the seed of it advertised in this country, or noticed it in market reports.—O. M. C., *Oak Grove, Dodge Co., Wis.*, 1861.

VETCHES or Tares have not been grown to any extent in this country. They are peculiarly valuable where the system of soiling is pursued, and as this has not been practiced here to any extent, little attention has been given to vetches. Now that this system of feeding is receiving favorable notice, and is advocated by some leading agriculturists, this plant will doubtless receive a fair trial here. Some years since the seed was imported by our seedsmen, but the lack of demand discouraged its importation, and we are not certain seed can be procured here, but any quantity can be obtained in Europe, cheap. The last number of the *Irish Farmer's Gazette* contains the following article on the culture of vetches, which at this time we think will prove both interesting and instructive to American farmers, for though our climate in all sections may not be as favorable to their growth as that of Great Britain, yet in many parts, and particularly on the rich lands of the West, we are confident they will be found exceedingly valuable.

Vetches, or tares, as they are sometimes designated, are more extensively cultivated for green forage purposes than for the sake of the seed. Grown in succession and cut green, they afford a large supply of most valuable food, relished by every description of domestic animals. They are also occasionally consumed on the ground by sheep folded upon the crop, and when this system is practiced, a considerably larger number of sheep can be kept on an acre than on a similar extent of the richest pasture, whilst the land is enriched by their droppings, particularly when an allowance of cake is given to the folded sheep. A crop of vetches consumed in this manner, and having cake as an auxiliary food, puts the land into good condition to produce a crop of wheat, besides contributing a large quota towards the supply of the meat market.

Vetches are divided into two classes—(1) the winter vetch, and (2) the summer vetch; these names being given from the habits of growth possessed by the two varieties, one being hardy and capable of standing the effects of winter, whilst the other cannot be sown until spring. It is considered, however, that the distinction arises solely from the mode of cultivation which has been practiced with each kind, so that if the winter vetches were sown in spring, the seed permitted to ripen, and again sown in the spring, the plant would gradually acquire the appearance and peculiarities of summer vetches. The winter vetch "is distinguished by being usually of smaller growth, and its pods being more smooth and cylindrical, containing more seeds, and in its general habit is like the wild variety" (Lawson). It is essential that those who intend to grow winter vetches, should assure themselves that the seed they procure is that of the true variety, and the best way is either to grow their own seed, or procure it from a respectable seedsmen, who will not, for his own sake, give the buyer anything but the seed of the true winter vetch.

The winter vetch is sometimes denominated a "stolen crop," because it intervenes between the regular crops in a rotation, and is grown out of the ordinary course. Thus, winter vetches grown on a grain stubble, are consumed in sufficient time to permit the land to be sown with turnips.

As the production of a large bulk of stems and leaves is the principal object when vetches are grown for forage purposes, it is obvious that the land ought to be in good heart and clean. If the land is rich, it may not be necessary to apply dung previous to sowing the seed, and we may depend only on the after use of guano, &c., for promoting the growth of the crop; but when the land is only in moderate condition, ten or twelve loads of farm-yard dung per statute acre must be spread, and plowed in before sowing.

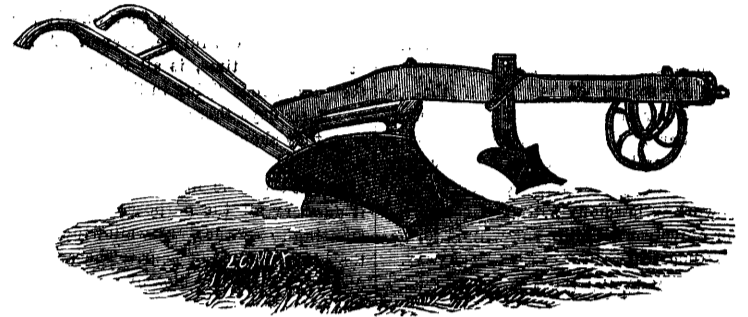
Vetches are sometimes sown on clover ley, but generally after a grain crop. If the land is foul, it must be scarified and cleaned, then damped and plowed, after which the seed is sown broadcast and harrowed in; the water-furrows between each ridge being cleaned out by the plow. The seed is also sown by the drill machine, the land being previously harrowed fine, a turn of the harrows after the drill completing the operation. From two bushels to two and a half bushels of seed are required to sow a statute acre, according to the condition of the land; rich land requiring less seed than that which is poor. It is usual and advisable to mix a bushel per acre of rye with winter vetches, as the rye stalks serve to keep the vetches from lying on the ground, which would rot them in wet weather; the rye also increases the bulk of forage, and the mixed feed is more palatable for cattle than the unmixed.

Summer vetches are sown in succession from the end of February to the end of June, the object being to have an uninterrupted successional supply of green food for soiling during summer, and until a late period in autumn. The land for spring sown vetches is plowed at the usual time in the end of the year, after scarifying, if necessary, and dung may either be plowed in at that time, or left until nearer the sowing season. When it can be done, unless the land is very light, we would wish that part of the vetch-break, at least, which we intended to sow early, dunged when plowed for the winter. When the store of farm-yard manure is not more than sufficient for other crops, we must depend upon guano, superphosphate, and the other manures already mentioned as being suitable for leguminous plants. These light manures may be partly applied at the time of sowing, and harrowed in, and partly left until the plants are above ground, when a wet day, or when rain is evidently near, should be selected for applying them. Thus, half the allowance may be applied with the seed, and half when the plants are up. The quantity of seed in the case of summer vetches required to sow an acre is similar to that mentioned in the case of the winter variety, although the seeds of the latter are smaller than those of the summer kind. Oats are also sown with summer vetches. After sowing and harrowing, the land should be rolled, so as to make the surface level for the scythe; but this cannot be done after sowing winter vetches, as rolling previous to winter would be injurious, particularly if the soil is inclined to be stiff. All surface stones which would impede the scythe must be removed. In arranging the sowing of summer vetches, the extent sown at one time should gradually increase as the season advances, with longer intervals of time between each sowing, otherwise the crop would either not be ready when wanted, or might get too far ahead before the previous sowing was fully consumed.

We may mention that if winter vetches are cut before showing flower, they will grow again, and produce a fair crop of seed; better, indeed, than if left uncut, as the plants are not so thick, and they poa better.

Stringhalt—Is it Curable?
I wish the advice of some of your numerous readers,—perhaps "Poor Farmer" can aid me. I have a fine, smart little mare, which is, I fear, affected with stringhalt. She was broken very carefully, last fall,—was not struck a blow, except a slight touch of the whip once or twice which a child would hardly have felt,—has never plunged nor kicked, and never drew a load in her life. She has never been driven over bad roads, nor had any chance to strain herself, unless in jumping in the lot. About three weeks ago my brother said something was the matter with my colt, and I immediately sent her to a horse dealer in the place, who pronounced it a case of stringhalt, and said that there was no cure. I don't know whether the case is a hard one, or not. The peculiarity almost disappears when she becomes warmed with traveling, but she is no better on warm days than on cold ones, so far as I see. Is it possible that she can not be cured? Gentlemen tell me that it will not hurt her at all for business, but it doesn't look reasonable to me. If there is a remedy, will some one make it known? and oblige—A. S. S. S. S. S., *Alexander, N. Y.*, 1861.

The disease known as stringhalt, is but an imperfect development of what is termed, when it exhibits itself in men, St. Vitus' dance. In the canine creation it is known as chorea, jerking the whole body, even to the face, sometimes shaking the creature so violently as to throw it from its balance, and it frequently terminates fatally. In the horse, however, it never reaches this extreme. As our correspondent states, it disappears after a little exercise. Save when about to start, it is seldom detected, then the hind limbs are suddenly raised. The movement is full of energy, rapid, and entirely involuntary. MAYHEW states that "Guilford," the racer, exhibited the disease in its worst form. It prevented the signal being obeyed until several of the eccentric move-



IMPROVED STRAIGHT DRAFT PLOW.

Among the patents issued under the new law, the Improved Straight Draft Plow of Messrs. RYLOFFSON & B. G. GAMBO, of this city, is one of the most valuable. Having witnessed a trial of this implement last season, we can speak with some confidence of its value, and take pleasure in presenting an illustration and brief description of it as recently improved. We considered the plow, as first invented and used, worthy of commendation, and think the change will enhance its value and popularity. The patentees thus speak of the Plow as now manufactured: "It is perfectly adapted to two or to three horses, the draft in either case being on a line with the land-

side. The beam is shown in the cut as adjusted for three horses, and by loosening the nuts on the top of the beam it may be moved parallel, laterally, toward the mold-board, for two horses, when the coupler or jointer, as the case may be, should be changed to the opposite side of the beam. The slots, through which the clamping bolts pass, being open from side to side, renders it unnecessary to remove them in order to make said changes. This plow is commended in the very highest terms by all who have used or even tried it."

For further particulars relative to this improvement see advertisement of the proprietors.

ments had been performed, and though he was esteemed good, even where speed was the requisite, so much ground was lost before motion was attained that winning was an impossibility. No drug can reach the parts affected, and veterinarians pronounce it incurable. Once exhibited, it never disappears except with life. High-spirited, nervous horses, are most subject to attack. Where the disease is the result of debility, the general health may be improved, and Dr. DADD recommends that the spine be daily rubbed with the following embrocation:—Linseed oil, one pint; spirits of hartshorn, two ounces; fine mustard, one-half ounce. Administer, as medicine, one ounce each of powdered golden seal, powdered gintran, cream tartar, charcoal, and one-half ounce of assafetida. Mix these, divide into eight parts, and give one, morning and evening, in the food.

Farm Culture of the Pea.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—I wish information through the columns of your valuable paper with regard to the culture of peas. I have a piece of land on which I wish to sow peas. It is covered with flint and limestone, and has been laying under pasture for the last three years. Will it increase or diminish the crop if it were manured, and how many bushels will it require to the acre. Any information on this subject will be gladly received.—A. B., *Caledonia, Liv. Co., N. Y.*, March, 1861.

A good sward, well turned over, and dragged, does well for the pea. A little well rotted manure would help the crop, but too much manure, especially if fresh, causes a rank growth of haulm, without increasing the quantity of peas; indeed, we have often found the crop diminished by this course. It is best to put the peas in as deep as possible without disturbing the sod. The pea is about the only thing that is not injured by very deep planting. Was it not for the pea-bug, the pea would be a profitable crop to precede wheat, as it may be sown early enough to be well out of the way of fall sowing. Frost does not injure the pea, therefore it may be sown as early as the ground can be worked, but to avoid the bug some delay to plant until the middle or latter part of May. The bug has then done its work before these late planted peas are sufficiently matured for its purposes. The objection to this course is that late planted peas suffer from the hot sun, often mildew, and seldom produce a good crop. Some, however, succeed with late planting. Peas are usually put in broadcast, though drilling is practiced to some extent, and we think it the best practice, as the cultivator can then be used. When sown broadcast, about three bushels are required for an acre, but less than this quantity is needed for drilling.

Mad Itch in Cattle.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—I wish to inquire if you, or any of your numerous readers, can give me a remedy for the mad itch that is now prevailing among our cattle and sheep? One of our neighbors lost a fine cow and several head of sheep lately, and it is feared that it will run through the whole vicinity. Please send the remedy, if any, and the cause, and oblige—A. A. WILLIAMS, *Bolton, Har. Co., Mo.*

We are inclined to the belief that the difficulty with your stock is the Mange, a disease generally produced either by poverty or contagion, and is owing to the presence of an insect (the *acarus*) which burrows under the skin, and breeds to a great extent. An intolerable itching is one of the leading symptoms, and thus the affected part becomes sore and denuded of hair, and the skin, after a time, becomes thickened, and drawn up in folds or whales. The treatment consists in rubbing in with plenty of friction, an ointment containing sulphur, such as the following:—Sulphur vivum 4 ounces; linseed-oil or train-oil 8 ounces; oil of turpentine or oil of tar 2 ounces. Mix.

Dr. DADD attributes the disease to the presence of parasites. Hence it can be communicated by contact or touch; and is, therefore, contagious. This latter fact suggests the propriety of removing the diseased animals from the healthy ones.

Dr. D.'s manner of treatment is as follows:—Let

the animal have a tablespoonful of sulphur in the feed, for three or four days in succession; in the meantime anoint the affected parts daily, with a portion of the following:—Cod liver oil, 4 ounces; sublimated sulphur, 2 ounces. Mix, and apply by means of a sponge. In the course of four or five days wash the surface of the body with warm water and soap, and then give the body a thorough sponging with the following:—Lime water, 1 quart; Sublimated sulphur, 2 ounces. This treatment generally cures the most inveterate cases.

Colds among Lambs—Sore-Mouth.

EDS. *RURAL NEW-YORKER*.—I would inquire through your valuable paper, if you, or some of your numerous subscribers, would tell me what ails my lambs, and what will cure them? They have been sick six weeks, were taken with sore lips, run at the nose and the eyes. When I first discovered the sore lips, I put tar on them, and now the lips are well and the flow of the nostrils is lessened.—A. SUBROBER, *Yates, Orleans Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

DURING winter, sheep that are exposed, or whose shelters are imperfectly constructed, are subject to *Coryza*, or cold, and experience much difficulty because of the excess of mucus, which clogs the nasal passages, rendering breathing a laborious operation. The eyes, through sympathy, also suffer. Sheep often die of suffocation when not relieved. Sometimes the inflammation extends to the bronchial organs, and pulmonary consumption results. When the flock are thus troubled, remove to warm shelters, and administer a dose of purgative medicine. Good quarters, and wholesome food, are the preventives, and are worth a dozen remedies.

For the sore lips we know of nothing better than what you have already employed. Hog's lard and sulphur will also prove efficient in their treatment.

HOW NATURE AIDS THE FARMER.

"There are two kinds of matter in the Universe—etherial or electrical matter, and gross, or, as it is frequently called by way of distinction, ponderable matter. The two, however, may have the same essence, and differ from each other only in the aggregation of the atoms of the latter; or, in other words, what we call gross matter, may be but a segregation or kind of crystallization of the etherial matter in definite masses."—*Agricultural Patent Office Report*, page 494, by Professor HENRY.

SOME of the operations of nature, in connection with Agriculture, are so subtle and secret, that the only way we can investigate them is to collate facts on which we can found hypotheses, and when an hypothesis is found to harmonize with all the facts, then we may venture, perhaps, to exalt it to the rank of a theory. From the front windows of my sitting room I look daily across the highway on a river upland lot of twenty acres. The natural drainage of adjacent territory has cut this field into ravines, perhaps fifty feet deep where they strike the river, and consequently the field has a very uneven surface. The soil is a sandy clay loam. Some years ago this field took its turn in a three year course of wheat and clover, but for a number of years it has been permanently used as a sheep pasture. During this last term no fertilizer has been applied by man. Last year this lot was summer fallowed and sown with wheat. It was obvious, on inverting the sod, that the soil had gained in richness during this period of rest, and now the luxuriant, matted, carpet-like covering of wheat assures that, barring the midge, the chief danger lies in too luxuriant growth. Where the sheep loved to congregate the soil is evidently too rich for wheat,—and yet these spots do not appear to be enriched by impoverishing other parts of the field. The question arises, whence came this increase of fertility in the soil? With the exception of the water drank from the ravines by the sheep, which came from springs having their sources elsewhere, the salt fed to the sheep, and supplies from the elements, no visible addition has been made to the soil. On the contrary, several hundred pounds of wool, and the increase of the flock, have been annually sold.

Again, a sandy soil is too poor for remunerative cultivation; apply a little manure, grow a succulent green crop, plow it under, then seed with clover, sow plaster, and pasture for a few years with sheep, and you have a soil adapted to a judicious course of remunerative cultivation.

Again, Judge BUEL wrote, many years ago, that London gardeners, although they used manure in great abundance, found it expedient to give their soil periodic seasons of rest in grass.

Do not these facts prove that the farmer, exert himself as he may, is dependent upon the recuperative aid of nature; or, in other words, that nature can do something for him which he has not yet learned to do for himself; nor will he learn how to do that something until the chemist can in his laboratory, out of the constituent elements, make a piece of silk, or elaborate a diamond, or fabricate a piece of gold.

Perhaps some light is thrown on the subject by the quotation at the head of this article. But let not the farmer who has impoverished his soil by excessive cropping, hope to obtain the recuperative aid of nature quickly or easily, if at all.

P. S. In my last article, the types made me feed a cow on beans. I wrote bran.

ON CHEESE MAKING.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In a late issue of your valuable paper I saw an article on making cheese. That being my business, I will give my mode, and if considered worthy of notice, you may insert the same for the benefit of new beginners in the art.

I use a tin vat, fitted inside of a wooden one, with one inch of space between. The object of this is to use cold water for cooling the night's milk, and also warm water to heat the milk to the desired temperature.

After the morning's milk is in the vat, I draw off the cold water and add warm water enough to heat the milk to 90°. I then add rennet enough to coagulate the milk in 30 or 40 minutes.

After the curd is cut, let it stand and settle. As soon as it is settled, so that the whey rises, commence dipping off the whey into a heater. As soon as it becomes warm, dip from the heater back into the vat, stirring the same gently with the hands, and so continue, dipping back and forth, increasing the heat gradually until the same is 110°.

CURE FOR PULLING HORSES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—Noticing an inquiry for instruction in the method of breaking pulling horses, I am led to give my experience in a very hard case. First, I provided myself with a leather head-stall, and chain halter-stall, such as the horse could not break.

I had used this horse five years, and suffered the annoyance such cases inevitably bring; but in probably five years more that I used him, I never knew him to pull enough to "break a tow string."

IRON WATER-PIPE—AN INQUIRY.

MESSRS. EDS.—Have any of the RURAL readers experience in the use of the iron pipe for conducting water? We have a well of beautiful soft water near the house, but so situated that to reach the kitchen, it must be pumped about thirty feet horizontally and twelve feet perpendicularly, or else we must go down a flight of stairs for it, as the house is built on a slope, and the kitchen is, to all intents and purposes, up stairs.

but as the water stood in the pipe a good deal, it required much labor in pumping off, to get that fit or wholesome; besides, it was continually leaking, and requiring repairs, so we discarded it, and we much regret that, in purchasing another, we did not make stronger efforts to learn what kind was preferable.

The Bee-keeper.

Bee-Culture at the West.

We have received from the author, or some friend at the West, a copy of an interesting paper read before the Dubuque (Iowa) Farmer's Club, by JOHN KING, Esq., on the Culture of Bees.

FEEDING BEES IN THE SPRING.—It is an easy matter to be a successful bee-keeper. A little attention at the proper time, is all the bee requires. When they commence flying in the spring, for the first ten or fifteen days there are few flowers, during which time they should be fed plentifully with unboltered rye flour—which I have been in the habit of doing for years, at the time indicated, with entire success—as it answers all the purposes of pollen.

ARTIFICIAL SWARMING.—With a Langstroth hive, bees can be increased very rapidly by artificial swarming, avoiding the risk of losing young swarms by the natural mode.

My plan is to take an empty hive and set it by the side of one about ready to swarm; lift three or four cards, one of which must be stocked with brood comb, or eggs; place them, with the bees attached, into the empty one. This should be performed about 10 o'clock A. M., on a pleasant day, when many of the bees are absent in quest of food.

DESTROYING THE MILLER.—With the help of a movable comb hive, the Apiarian can readily examine the interior of his hive, and learn many things by "ocular demonstration" which he had to guess at in the common box hives.

Still a better plan, or one more destructive to the miller, is to fill a number of basins with sweetened water, and place them near the hives at night, removing or covering them in the day time.

ITALIAN BEES.—We shall soon have the Italian bee disseminated among us in this State. They are doubtless harder than our natives. When in Cleveland last November, I called upon Mr. E. T. STURTEVANT and Dr. KIRTLAND, on different days—the weather was cold and disagreeable.

PROFITS OF BEE-CULTURE.—There is no kind of business that would pay so well in this State, with a small outlay, as bee-culture. The wonder is, that farmers do not go into it extensively.

MAKING BEESWAX.—The papers have occasionally given directions for making beeswax, but I have seen nothing near so satisfactory as our method, which we have practiced for nearly twenty years.

Some of my young swarms, that came out in June, made two hundred pounds of pure honey last season.

Making Beeswax.

THE papers have occasionally given directions for making beeswax, but I have seen nothing near so satisfactory as our method, which we have practiced for nearly twenty years. During this period, our stock of bees has ranged from fifteen to seventy swarms, and some seasons we have had a large quantity of wax.

by placing the knee against it. While one hand is rolling out the wax, the other puts in some more water and comb, and keeps up the fire, &c. By the time one batch is rolled out, and the bag emptied, another is hot; in this manner comb can be worked up at the rate of about a barrel an hour.

Some have advised putting the comb in a bag, and then sinking it in a kettle of water and boiling it, but we have failed to get out all the wax in this way.

Bees in Australia.

THE bees introduced into Australia have multiplied rapidly and largely. They labor there almost the year round. The honey produced in the spring remains liquid; the winter honey is thick and of a doughy consistence at first, but speedily crystallizes.

SALT, slightly moistened with water and applied to the wound, has in many instances relieved the pain caused by the sting of a bee, and prevented swelling. But, like remedies for the tooth-ache, it is not effectual in every case.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Old Corn for Pork Making.

J. M. CONNER, in the New Hampshire Journal of Agriculture, gives some valuable hints on fattening swine, from which we clip a single paragraph.—"The practice of late fattening, and feeding on soft corn, is a ruinous one. Every farmer should manage so as to keep a year's stock of corn on hand, so as to make all his pork from old corn.

Potatoes—Twice Plowing.

I USUALLY put potatoes where corn has grown the year before. In the winter or fall of 1859, I plowed my ground for potatoes deep, and in the latter part of April last, after giving it a good coat of barn-yard manure, I plowed again and planted deep.

Rough Notes on Milking Cows.

A WRITER in the American Stock Journal says, the first process in the operation of milking is to "fondle" with the cow—making her acquaintance—and thus giving her to understand that the man, or "maid with the milking-pail," approaches her with friendly intentions, in order to relieve her of the usual amount of lacteal secretion.

Before commencing to milk a cow, she should be fed, or have some kind of fodder offered her, in view of diverting her attention from the otherwise painful operation of milking; by this means the milk is not "held up," as the saying is, but is yielded freely.

Before commencing to milk a cow, the teats should be washed with water, warm or cold, according to the temperature of the atmosphere, the object of which is to remove filth which might otherwise fall into the milk-pail, to the disgust of persons who love pure milk, and hate uncleanness.

MILKERS of cows should understand that the udder and teats are highly organized, and consequently very sensitive, and these facts should be taken into consideration by amateur milkers, especially when their first essay is made on a young animal after her first impregnation; at this period the hard tugging and squeezing which many poor "dumb brutes" have to submit to, in consequence of the application of hard fists and calloused fingers, is a barbarity of the very worst kind, for it often converts a docile creature into a state of viciousness, from which condition she may not easily be weaned.

How I Broke Steers When a Boy.

WHEN a boy, says a correspondent of the Ohio Farmer, it was one of my greatest pleasures to yoke up and break in a pair of young steers. I recollect my first yoke, and how I trained them, just as distinctly as if I had performed the task but yesterday, and yet it is now thirty-six years since that happy time.

But to my steers. I recollect my first morn, when trying to catch the calves and get my yoke on,

how they were stronger than myself, and how angry I got; how my father looked quietly on and said nothing, until it was near my school hour (for I then went to school daily), and I had not even got the yoke on one of my miniature oxen; but then he checked me in my anger, and sent me to school, with a promise next day to show me how to get along gently.

Next I untied their tails, and gently released them from the yoke, by taking out both bow pins at the same time, being careful, however, not to let the bows drop, for that would frighten them. The next day I yoked them again, and without help,—tied and left them as before. The third day after yoking I let them out of their pen into a large yard. Here they ran like good fellows for a while, but as their tails were tied together, they could not get out of their yoke, and soon they were tired and laid down.

Inquiries and Answers.

FEED FOR DAIRY COWS.—Will some of the RURAL'S numerous dairy subscribers be kind enough to inform a beginner what kind of feed is the most profitable to purchase to feed to cows with hay, after calving, until grass comes, Canada mill feed at \$10 per ton; buckwheat bran at the same; corn at 50 cents for 56 pounds; peas at 50 cents for 50 pounds, oats at 22 cents for 32 pounds; or meal at \$32 per ton?—A. C. ADAMS, Erie Co., N. Y., 1861.

WIND-MILL FOR RAISING WATER.—Among the thousand useful things that you have published, and are still publishing, will you or some of your readers give us the best description of a pump propelled by wind, to raise water from a well, from sixteen to twenty feet in depth, to water a small stock of cattle?—A. A., North Chili, Monroe Co., N. Y., March, 1861.

We have described various mills for raising water, in past years, and have occasionally seen such in operation, sometimes successfully, at other times with indifferent results. A few years since we noticed they were in use on some of our Western railroads, for raising a supply of water for the engines. We hope some of our readers will give us their experience with wind-machines for raising water.

FOUL SEEDS IN ORCHARD GRASS.—Inclosed I send you some seeds which I found in orchard grass seed, that I purchased for clean seed. Will you please inform me what it is? Is it quack? If so, is there no means of punishing such enemies to their race as those who raise and sell it. I had sown about two acres with this orchard grass, mixed with the seed I send you, before I discovered this seed. If it is quack, what is the best course to avoid the coming evil?—W., Port Byron, March, 1861.

The seed sent us is not that of the common Quack Grass. It seems, however, to be of the same family. Had we a perfect plant, we could give its name, but it is very difficult to do so from the seed alone.

CURE FOR SCAB IN THE EYE-LIDS OF CATTLE.—Take flour of sulphur, and add as much turpentine as will thoroughly wet it, then add as much train oil as will make it as thin as the pure oil, then rub it into the affected part. Two or three applications will cure it. Take care when rubbing that you do not get the disease yourself. If you do, the same ointment will cure you. I know by experience. It is what I call ring-worm.—R. DOUGLASS, Truxton, N. Y., 1861.

STRETCHES IN SHEEP.—Your correspondent from West Kendall, on "Constipation in Sheep," cannot determine the nature of the disease in his sheep. His flock is troubled with what is called here the stretches. Now, as an "ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," if the gentleman had fed his sheep some kind of roots two or three times a week, I think they would have been all right. My sheep used to have the trouble he speaks of, but never since I fed them roots. Any kind will answer. The disease is caused by being fed dry feed, steadily, for a length of time. Sheep should, at all times, have access to pure water, near by. In cold weather they will not go after it. I used to give my sheep lard when they had the stretches. The disease is dry cholera, and they want quick physic. I presume castor oil would answer the purpose; but if sheep have plenty of roots, fresh water, and a good supply of suitable food, I think they will not be diseased in any way. I have never lost, except by dogs, to exceed two per cent.—WM. CONE, Troy, Mich., 1861.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE NEW ADVERTISEMENTS encrease upon our reading columns somewhat this week, yet they are generally timely and appropriate—such as will interest, and we trust benefit, many of our readers. All of a practical character should be carefully examined—from the admirably arranged announcement of B. K. BLISS, on last page, to the sentimental two-line cards of the one price and low price shoe-dealer, on seventh page.

THE WEATHER has been quite unfavorable during most of the month now closing—the severe cold, frequent storms, and high winds, rendering it necessary to give stock extra feed and attention. The sudden changes throughout this region have been anything but comfortable to human bipeds; but, as "misery loves company," it may console some to learn that the South has not escaped—it having been impossible for even the South Carolinians to succeed in cold weather. It is hoped that with the advent of April, we shall have brighter skies and a more balmy atmosphere.

THE WHEAT CROP AT THE WEST.—Though it is yet too early in the season to learn much in regard to the prospect of the wheat crop of this region, we have some favorable reports from the West and Southwest. For instance, the St. Louis Republican of recent date says:—"The farmers of Illinois have every reason to be satisfied with the appearance of the wheat crop at this time. We have reliable information from more than twenty counties of Southern Illinois, giving assurance that during the past ten years the wheat fields in March have never appeared so promising as now. The growth is admirably well set, covers the ground well, is healthy and strong, encouraging large expectations of full granaries at the close of the season. The amount sown last fall was unusually large, and 1861 bids fair to be distinguished in Illinois for the affluent wheat harvest, as was 1860 for the plethoric corn crop in Central and Northern Illinois."

N. Y. STATE FAIR.—Trial of Farm Implements and Machinery.—The Executive Committee of the State Ag. Society transacted some important business at its meeting in Syracuse on the 21st inst. It was decided to hold the next Annual Fair at Watertown, on the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th of September next—a compliance with the usual requirements of the Society as to grounds, buildings, necessary local expenses, &c., having been guaranteed by a committee of citizens. The fine Fair Grounds of the Jefferson Co. Society are to be occupied, and also an adjoining tract, so that there will be ample space and good conveniences for a large exhibition. The location is regarded as perhaps the best that could be designated of the Central Railroad, as Watertown is said to have a larger number of commodious and well kept hotels than any other town of its population in the State, and possesses other advantages. As the producers of Northern New York are generally progressives, we predict that, if the weather proves favorable, (and the time designated seems right for it,) the exhibition will be creditable in itself and well attended.

At the same meeting the Executive Committee made partial arrangements for a Trial and Exhibition of Farm Implements and Machinery, open to the competition of the world, which is to be made under the auspices of the Society the ensuing season—to commence in July or August, and continue two or three weeks. The design is to have a thorough and complete trial of the most important implements used in cultivating the soil, seeding, harvesting, and preparing crops for market—such as plows, cultivators and harrows; seeding machines, (drills and broadcast); reapers and binders; mowers, horse rakes and power forks; horse powers, threshers, separators and corn-shellers; also steam engines, ditching machines, &c. The location of the trial has not been decided, but either Syracuse, Auburn or Geneva will probably be designated. Such a trial as that contemplated must prove of great interest to both manufacturers and farmers, and, if conducted in the manner intended by the Committee, its results will be of vast benefit to the agricultural community.

THE SKANATELES FARMERS' CLUB is an institution of long standing, widely and favorably known. It has been commended in this and other journals, and its example in holding frequent meetings for discussions, lectures, &c., (weekly during Winter, and monthly through the Summer, we believe,) cited as worthy of imitation. But we never appreciated the position, usefulness and influence of the Club, or what it had done and was doing,—until last Saturday, when we had the pleasure of attending one of its regular meetings. Though we had heard of the progress of the Club, we hardly expected to meet a sufficient number of members and friends to fill a commodious hall, (which hall, by the way, is rented by the Club and contains more than the germ of a Library, Cabinet, &c.) Suffice it to say, now, that brief as our visit, we saw and heard enough to satisfy us that the efforts and influence of the Club must largely redound to the benefit of individuals and community. Of the model village of Skanateles, and surrounding country, we may have our say in future—not only remarking, here, that we saw much in both worthy of note and commendation.

DECREASE OF FINE WOOL SHEEP IN MICHIGAN.—The Michigan Farmer gives an article from Mr. GEO. A. PETERS, of Washtenaw, which states that there are at least five thousand less sheep in that county than were held by farmers last year. He thinks when the coming clip of the State is marketed, "it will be many, yes, very many thousand pounds less than last season." Mr. P. also affirms that there is less wool in proportion to the number of sheep—that "the average clip this season will be from one-half pound to one pound less per head than last season, for the simple reason it is not on the sheep's back"—and concludes that wool must be from 9 to 12 cents per lb.—more this year than last to make the coming clip average with the preceding one in amount of money. The editor of the Farmer adds that Washtenaw "has always stood first for a greater produce of wool than any other county in Michigan; but during the past year the fine wool flocks have been culled very freely for sheep to take to Texas, Iowa and Missouri." It is also said that this culling process was extended to other counties in the State.

MANAGEMENT OF HAY.—At a recent meeting of a Farmers' Club in Mass., where hay was the topic of discussion, it was decided unprofitable to mow less than a ton of hay to the acre, and injudicious to rake hay designed for horses with a horse rake, on account of the dust. Swamp or low land hay needs more drying than that grown on drier ground, but there is such a thing as drying hay too much. One man, who dried rowen clover seven days, found nothing would eat it, while that cured in half the time was well relished. Hay when housed green should be kept by itself, if it is expected to cure well. When green and dry hay are mixed together, the green undergoes fermentation, and the whole is induced to mold. None but cattle of perverted tastes prefer moldy to bright hay. Two quarts of rock salt sprinkled on a ton of hay is about the right quantity in packing.

POINTS OF A GOOD OX.—At a recent Legislative Agricultural Meeting in Boston, Mr. SHELDON, of Wilmington, gave his rule of judging a good ox, as follows:—"You should stand before him and be sure he has a fine hazel eye; large nostrils, long from the eye to the nostril, broad at the above the eyes, rather slim horns, toes straight out before him, straight in the knees, bosom full, back straight, and ribs round and wide as his hips. If you find these points, said the speaker, you need not ask of what breed he is, but if you want one, buy him. He said that he had found that a black-eyed ox was not to be depended on, as he will kick and be ugly, while a short headed ox will start quick from the whip, but he will soon forget it."

REPORTED CURE FOR GLANDERS.—In the columns of our exchanges during the past few weeks, we have frequently observed an item, purporting to emanate from the "Official Gazette," of Turin, which states that somebody in Sardinia has discovered a never failing cure for this dread disease. The remedy is composed of arsenic and strychnine, and it may be all correct, but our latest Veterinary journals do not make any mention of this remedial agent. We doubt not that, if administered in sufficient quantity, it will meet the requirements of the patent medicine sent out by a Western quack, and "if once used no other medicine will be taken." Curing the glanders by killing the horse is not just the thing wanted, however.

ABOUT MATCHING HORSES.—An experienced horseman, H. K. STOW, sensibly suggests that in matching horses it is far more important to select those of like qualities in gait, speed, and action, than to make looks the criterion. He says:—"A man explores the country for a hundred miles in circuit, in search of a horse to match one he already owns, and imagines he has got a good match when he has found one merely of like size and color. No such thing; he has only spoiled both. If dissimilar in the qualities which constitute a match, by uniting them together in service, he diminishes, instead of increasing, their value, since each will be forced into the service of the other."

A PATRIARCHAL HORSE.—Wilkes' Spirit says—"We have given several instances of horses which had attained a great age before they died, but we have just come upon an account of one to whom those we have mentioned heretofore were comparatively colts. The horse in question was a small black Gallaway, eleven hands high, and he was a resident of a small village near Haddington, in Scotland. He was foaled in 1720, and at the time of his death he was 69 years old. Moreover, he was hale as well as old. A few weeks before his death he trotted for several hours at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour, and fed well on his oats and hay to the last."

HEAVY AND HANDSOME STEERS.—Our attention has just been attracted by the passage through the street of a beautiful yoke of Devons, gaily decked with ribbons. On inquiry we learn that they are twin steers, 4 years old, weigh 4,480 lbs., and the property of Mr. MOSS SMITH, of Brighton, near this city, by whom they were bred and fattened. They are well matched, and decidedly extra in other respects.

A COLT BY CHARLESTON.—This celebrated American horse, which was taken to England by Mr. TEN BROOK for racing, and was afterward turned over to the breeders, has bred a horse colt from the mare Contraction, by Emilius. This mare is the dam of Underhand, a flyer for a little one. We will now be able to see of what stuff our racers are made.

Ladies' Department.

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

BY ASA ROGERS WATSON.

Yes, come ye little children, With your frolic, and your noise, — I love your lively prattle, Ye merry girls and boys!

I'll cast my books beside me, And mingle in your glee; And all life's noisy tumult Will then forgotten be.

Ye are my heart's bright sunshine, Which chases from my brow The shades of disappointment That gather 'round it now.

Man dives in sordid treasure, It holds him in its thrall; But ye, bright rays of heaven, Make him forget it all.

I hear your lisped accents, And catch the struggling words, — Each note is as harmonious As those of warbling birds.

Come, let me stroke your tresses! Come, climb upon my knee! There's room for half-a-dozen, — Come, fairies, come to me!

Then come ye happy children! — I wait your prattle here; — And, with your soft caresses, My gloomy feelings cheer!

I fain would kiss the roses That blossom on your cheeks; They are the sweet elixir A wearied spirit seeks.

All would be void of music Without your gladness noise; Come, come ye now, and cheer me, Ye laughing girls and boys!

Philomont, Va., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] WOMAN—INCENTIVES TO DUTY.

Is it a well-proved fact that woman is an inferior existence—that she never ascends to the highest pinnacle of intelligence, and takes the blessings which Heaven offers? Is her soul so dead that she never longs to drink from the deep fountain of intellectuality, at which her brother man satiates his thirst for immortal good?

With one earnest glance of life, all these interrogations arise, and a solution, either correct or incorrect, follows. In studying these living marvels, we find it to be an invariable fact, that the rays of intelligence which illuminate the human mind, are convergent in the mind of man, and divergent in the mind of woman. Man concentrates every ray of truth upon a specific object, until he can clearly see to perfectly accomplish that object. He perfects the thought that interests him most, and thereby makes proficiency in something. Woman's thoughts are seldom, if ever, brought to a focus; consequently there is not the requisite light in her mind to enable her to penetrate any intricate subject, and, therefore, she makes proficiency in nothing. The fault is not that Nature did not make an equal distribution of gifts, but that woman, by will and circumstance, has become almost incapable of excelling in anything useful. It is true that some, comparatively very few, have excelled in literature, science, and art, but these few have scrupulously obeyed the aspirations of the soul, and listened to the whisperings of genius as to the commands of a divinely commissioned teacher.

Another cause of the mental inferiority of woman is, that she allows herself to be attracted by every passing vanity, and instead of consulting the garden of the mind, she neglects it altogether, and spends the golden moments "in stooping the pinion back to earth, which beareth up to heaven."

It is the climax of folly for woman to complain of oppression, until she better improves the privileges that she now possesses. When the era shall arrive in which woman will walk just as far as permitted in the field of truth, then we shall see the gates opening to other, and more extended, avenues, that she may go on, and on, until she reaches the fountain of perfect justice. Worthiness will secure for her the longed-for equality! It is but seldom we find a woman who possesses genuine nobility of soul,—that sterling principle which causes her to be a purifying element in society,—and it is because she has so long stooped to the conformity of foolish and fashionable customs, that she is mentally deformed; and while she is being "delightfully entertained" in the gossiping circle, man is pursuing something useful, and increasing, therefore, the disparity of mind, and also position!

Impatience is another cause of woman ever being with the substrata of society. If, perchance, a glorious thought springs up in her mind, she cannot wait for its maturity, but, in her eagerness, she gives it to the world only half grown. She evidently cannot learn that a thought needs time, as well as nutriment, to complete its beauty and usefulness.

Man is not the opposer of the elevation of woman that is frequently supposed. How often have we heard good old orthodox people say that, "we can have all the religion we live for." Thus it is with woman, she can have all the rights for which she will live. Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] ARE HOOPS UNCHRISTIAN, INDECENT?

As the discussion of the Dress Question has become quite general in the columns of the RURAL, why may I not claim a small space to defend the moderate use of hoops, as an article of dress.

A short time since, a Western Conference adopted resolutions that, "the wearing of hoops by females is inconsistent with a truly Christian character,—is by some considered indecent, and that therefore, we, as a Quarterly Conference, disapprove of the wearing of hoops by our female members." Through willfulness, or neglect, some of the sisters of the communion failed to obey this edict, and at a recent meeting, held in Montgomery County, Ohio, were consequently cut off from the Church, for it is stated in a Western Journal, that the Bishop "forbade any one with hoops on to partake of the sacrament, affirming that they would not be welcome to the table of the Lord." I shall not discuss the propriety of religious societies making the wearing of hoops a bar to membership, for that is nobody's business but theirs. They have a perfect right to decide what shall be the qualifications of their members. They may resolve that "a man's boots shall weigh three pounds avoirdupois," and "his hat hold six quarts dry measure," or that a woman's "dress shall clear

the ground four inches," and "sleeves come within six inches of the ends of her fingers," if they choose, and I will not complain. In this matter, at least, I believe in the "principles of non-intervention." But when a body of individuals—it matters not whether secular or religious—proclaims that "wearing hoops is inconsistent with a truly Christian character," and "indecent," thousands claim the right to inquire why? That the use of hoops is abused, is not denied. Tell us a fashion of dress that ever existed that was not abused. There is nothing "indecent" in the use of moderate sized hoops, the resolutions of a religious conference to the contrary notwithstanding. In behalf of a million American women, I deny the truth of the assertion. Nineteenths of the whole civilized world will look upon it as an insult.

When hoops first came into fashion, they were looked upon by some with distrust; but they have advanced steadily, and are now worn almost universally in this country. Their advantages are so numerous, that when once worn they are never discarded. They enable a woman to make her dress assume a comely shape, without such killing loads, as were formerly worn. They are light, agreeable, and very pleasant to walk in, as there is no fear of stepping on the dress; and, what is more important, they do not injure the health, like thin shoes, low-necked dresses, or short sleeves.

But I am drawing out this article too long. In conclusion I will say, that if these modern reformers wish to begin a crusade against dress, it will be better for them to take some more tenable ground. Erie Co., N. Y., 1861. A. F. H.

We noticed the resolutions, and the edict spoken of by our correspondent, circulating quite freely in the papers of the West, and at the time classed the entire story as the emanation of some knight of the quill whose stock of news was limited, and who found the wherewithal to "fill up" by thus creating a sensation item. The paragraphs were furnished with a location, and we looked for a denial, but have not seen it as yet. The whole matter, however, is one which will right itself, for both Conference and Bishop have over-stepped the authority conferred upon them. Neither the Bishop nor a Quarterly Conference has a right to make a new rule of membership of the Church, as this would be. This can only be done by the General Conference, which meets once in four years, and held its last session at Buffalo, in 1860. Neither can we conceive that a minister has any right to refuse the sacrament to a member of the church. Complaint must first be made for violation of discipline, then follows a trial, before a committee appointed for the purpose, and this committee must either condemn or acquit. Either party then has a right to appeal from the decision to the Quarterly Conference. It is best to have Bishops and Ministers, as well as other people, keep the laws.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] THOSE "HARD TRUTHS."

SEE here, Mrs. Madam Farmer,—begging your pardon,—do you perceive what a *furor* you have stirred up among the laboring population? A regular "strike" is likely to result. Have you received any challenges, and do you understand the use of weapons?—any except the broom-stick, ladle, &c. &c. But probably you could deal justice with them. It seems to be supposed that you drive your girls about with the broom-handle, and cudgel them over the head with a pudding-stick, all the time "fretting and scolding," till, doubtless, you haven't a pound of flesh on your bones,—in short, a regular Old Blue Beard, perhaps, dragging them around by the hair, and shutting them up in some dark cellar, when they do happen to "burn the bread to cinders!" Merciless woman! No wonder you have trouble—it's evident enough the poor girls "have the hardest of it!"

One advises you to retire into a "knot hole;" another recommends "patience and sympathy." "If you were a good mistress, you would doubtless have good help." You, probably "went out to service" yourself once, and that's the reason why you are so "hard" on your poor girls.

You had better be more considerate, as lots of people have met with "reverses of fortune," and your own "petted daughters may share their mother's early fate." It would be ludicrous, and too bad, if you should not happen to have any daughters, on whom the consequences of your cruelty could descend.

Being somewhat ignorant of domestic et ceteras, I am at a loss to imagine what sort of work that "meanness of all" was, that you hired done, and then did not pay for it! That proves, "out and out," that you are a most unprincipled and unkind mistress, and do not deserve any help.

However, now Madam, will you take an old man's advice, and remember that *truths* are not always to be outspoken, especially "hard truths." I have read human nature a little, and standing, as I do, on neutral ground, I did not interpret your expressions as some have, and rather suspect that one reason why you have so much trouble, is because you are a poor hand to manage girls, being too indulgent and familiar, so that, finding you so easy, and kind, and forgiving, they become careless, and as the saying is, "run over you," as some will. But it is better to be too clever than on the other extreme; still, the "happy medium between the two extremes," would be the best policy, if you could arrive at that place. Not thinking of any bad place to send you, nor wishing your posterity any sad reverses, I will merely hope for better success for you in future.

COVEN HOVEN.

A STRONG MINDED WOMAN ON BABIES.—A majority of babies, says Mrs. Swishelm, are to their mothers what a doll is to a little girl—something to dress, a means of displaying odds and ends of finery, and exhibiting one's tastes. If infants were treated on the principle that a good farmer treats a lamb, goslings, chickens, pigs, &c., viz., well fed and kept warm, they would live and grow just as well-cared-for goslings live and grow, and we never knew one die. Dutch babies wear caps, and how could any lady of taste have her baby look like a Dutch baby? Just so; and Dutch babies generally live, laugh and grow fat, for they are "smothered in flannel" and feathers, and are kept all in a sweat. Dutch mothers do not keep their babies for model artist exhibitions. They cover them up, keep them warm and quiet, and raise a wonderful number of sturdy boys and girls. We treated our baby on the Dutch plan, and never lost a night's sleep with her.

A CHEERFUL heart paints the world as it finds it, like a sunny landscape; the morbid mind depicts it like a sterile wilderness pallid with thick vapors, and as dark as the "Shadow of Death." It is the mirror, in short, on which it is caught, and lends to the face of nature the aspect of its own turbulence or tranquillity.

Choice Miscellany.

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

BY MINNIE MINTWOOD.

"This world is not so bad a world As some would like to make it;" 'Tis bright and beautiful, I'm sure, If we'd but rightly take it. It's smiles and sympathies, I ween, Are things we all might covet, And if we only taste its good, Quite sure am I we'll love it.

'Tis true, dark clouds may oft arise, And render dim Hope's dawning; But then, 'tis said the darkest hour Is just before the morning. And should misfortune chance to wield Her grief-stained lance, and sever Some cherished tie, we still should cry "Nihil desperandum" ever.

'Tis true, that friends may prove untrue, And basely, too, deceive us, Prosperity on us may frown, And death, too, oft bereave us. Perchance the tasks assigned to us May always not be lightest; But of the passing things of earth We'll view the side that's brightest.

We will not let each petty grief, Or thoughts of coming sorrow, Disturb our peace and joy, till we Are overwhelmed in sorrow. Life's ocean's waves may sweep our bark, With Hope and Joy well freighted, And what we've hoped and prayed for long, Lost soon as 'tis created.

But we'll ever bravely bear All ills assigned to mortals, For better days will surely dawn, And when at Heaven's portals, We'll find that those who wear the crown Most glorious and brightest, Are they who here upon the earth Bore burdens not the lightest.

Alfred University, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] CALCULATION AND MIS-CALCULATION.

"WELL, then, my income for the year amounts to two hundred dollars,—not quite as much as I expected." So said Mr. NATHAN JONES, after casting up his accounts near the close of the year 184—

Mr. JONES was a farmer, in possession of a title for one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, on which he had lived and labored some eight or ten years; and, though this was an advance upon the previous year, as the season had been propitious, he had anticipated a greater return, and consequently felt a little dissatisfied. It should be premised that it was a very rough country, requiring good management, and a good deal of hard labor, to make much more than a living, and that Mr. JONES had done well.

"If my farm was as large again," said he, "the family expenses being about the same, I could make four hundred dollars per year clear profit. This would soon enable me to pay for it, and then money would come into my pocket quite freely. Besides, neighbor SMITH wants to sell, and if we can agree, I think it would not be best to lose the opportunity, as I would purchase it rather than have it occupied by a disagreeable neighbor. True, it contains more land than I need, (one hundred and eighty acres,—nearly as much again as I want,) and I shall have to run in debt for the whole, as my present means will not enable me to stock it properly. It will make a very large farm, but 'nothing ventured, nothing gained.' I shall have to hire a great deal more than I have done, but then I can better afford it, my income will be so much augmented."

So reasoned Mr. JONES. Perhaps pride suggested that he would be accounted richer the more property he had in his possession, and that he would be of more consequence in society if he was the owner of the "Smith farm." And, as to running in debt for it, he had done the same thing in buying the farm he then owned, to the extent of more than half its value, and had removed the incumbrance. Be this as it may, the next time he saw Mr. SMITH he casually introduced the subject of the farm,—ascertained the lowest cash price,—and a few days after bought it, paying a good price for the same.

Mr. JONES was thought to be a thriving man, which, indeed, was true, so that he had no difficulty in mortgaging this last farm,—after paying down three hundred dollars, which was all the cash he had on hand,—to procure the money for Mr. SMITH, and early in spring he took possession. Now he wanted more stock, but stock was very high; no matter, he must have it at any price, as he expected the greatest addition to his income would be derived from this source. His money was gone, but he could not wait and raise it himself, so he bought it, and ran in debt for the whole. He hired a man by the month, and other help as he required it, and went vigorously to work. At the end of the year he found he had gained very little in reality, the interest and hired help taking nearly all except what was used for necessary improvements, so that his debts remained undiminished. The two following years he succeeded better, and his courage rose in proportion. As he was now doing a large business, he must live accordingly, and make a better appearance in society; consequently the house was repaired and refurnished, an elegant tea-set provided, a more extensive wardrobe, etc. He must have wagons, sleighs, and new harness,—in fine, Mr. JONES would "cut a dash" in the world.

In the house his wife found it necessary to have help, the family being larger than formerly; besides she visited and received visitors oftener, so that to do her own work was impossible. All this took money, and Mr. JONES knew it, but how could it be helped. At the next town meeting he hoped he should be elected to an office from which he would derive some profit, consequently he must not be afraid of a little expenditure. Sure enough, as good luck would have it, (ill luck rather,) he obtained a nomination and was elected. Once installed in his office he was frequently absent, when, of course, he could not superintend his business, and the work was well or indifferently done, as his hands were faithful, or the contrary. He soon grew remiss about laboring himself, his official duties lessening his taste for work; but, as he had money to meet present necessities, he flattered himself that he was doing very well, the more so, as the next year he obtained a more lucrative office.

Four or five years passed with no apparent change, but the family expenses, meanwhile, were far from being curtailed; and, as he was thought to be prosperous, he was expected to open his heart (parstrings,) on all occasions when asked to aid any charitable undertaking. As the vulgar saying is, "he carried a high head," and people were not slow to

take advantage of the circumstance. But how was it in reality? Of late years he had not kept his accounts with the same accuracy as formerly; he knew what he received, but the disbursements were quite another matter,—sometimes he knew and sometimes not, but one thing he must have known, that he could no longer keep pace with the demands upon his purse. It was perfectly natural that he should endeavor to keep it to himself as long as possible, the world being ever ready to criticize and judge harshly, often when it is undeserved, but all would not do, the truth had to be known at last. It was very unexpected, however, to all but the knowing ones. But when it became generally known, the smile of derision rose upon many a lip as they said, "Ah! that explains the prosperity of Mr. JONES; he has been doing a heavy business, but it seems it was with other people's money." The fact was he had been so extravagant, and, perhaps, arrogant, that few could sympathize with him in his difficulty. The property was sold and the debts paid, when but little remained; and now, when past the prime of life he remained to the West, there to commence the world anew.

How much better for Mr. JONES had he contented himself in his first situation, when he was doing as well as he could reasonably expect; but no, he wished to get rich quickly, and be somebody more than plain Mr. JONES, and basing his calculations for the future upon his circumstances as they then were, he failed. And no wonder, as he then hired little, but afterwards he paid out a large amount to this account yearly. Moreover, the family expenses were greatly increased, to which add extravagances and other extraordinary expenses, and it will cease to be surprising. And herein is the great difficulty with too many of our farmers; they undertake too large a business for their capital,—hurry and drive to do a good deal, only half-doing what they attempt, and in the end find they have been at work on the wrong principle. Whatever we undertake should be well done, without being too particular, and then, if we are satisfied with small profits, there is no danger of falling as in the case before us.

The main facts in the above are but too true, in the minor details, only, perfect accuracy was not attempted. C. A. F. South Gilboa, Scho. Co., N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] TRAVEL—RAILROADS vs. STEAMBOATS.

How often have I been struck with the different sensations we experience in traveling by the cars or steamboats. If we are accustomed to live retired lives, we notice them all the more. Enter a crowded car, and almost before you can reach a seat, if you are so fortunate as to find a vacant one, the iron horse gives a fierce neigh and starts on his journey, making a din and clatter which wakes up your ideas thoroughly. Look around you, and every one else seems animated. You cannot remain uninterested amid the lively discussions going on. Politics, sheep raising, foreign news, and the markets, are successively disposed of. Every faculty of your mind seems roused to unusual activity. But after a time you reach the steamboat landing, and soon transfer yourself to the cabin. After the usual bustle, the boat gets under weigh, and goes gliding quietly down the lake. You look around; some of the passengers are quietly reading, some of the matter-of-fact ladies are talking over their family matters, as coolly as if they were seated in their parlors at home. Seat yourself by an open window, and look out on the blue waters and the distant shore, and if you have an element of reveries or poetry in your nature, it will then, if ever, assert its power. You may forget the weary round of care which has, perhaps for a long time, shut you out from communion with nature, and for a brief hour you may taste this pure pleasure again.

These two modes of traveling also suggest to my mind two different types of men. Take the downright business man, who is never so much at his ease as when he has a great many irons in the fire, and who enjoys himself in proportion to the number of his cares, and he always reminds me of a locomotive attached to an express train. Then, again, the quiet, conscientious man, whom no ill-fortune can deprive of a certain amount of enjoyment, because he finds his pleasures more in spiritual than in material things, and the tranquil course of his life reminds me of a journey on the bosom of the placid lake. Geneva, Wis., 1861. B. C. D.

HEART-POWER.—A man's force in the world, other things being equal, is just in the ratio of the force and strength of his heart. A full-hearted man is always a powerful man; if he be erroneous, then he is powerful for error; if the thing is in his heart, he is sure to make it notorious, even though it may be a downright falsehood. Let a man be ever so ignorant, still if his heart be full of love to a cause, he becomes a powerful man for that object, because he has heart-power, heart-force. A man may be deficient in many of the advantages of education, in many of those niceties which are so much looked upon in society; but once give him a good strong heart that beats hard, and there is no mistake about his power. Let him have a heart that is full up to the brim with an object, and that man will do the object, or else he will die gloriously defeated, and will glory in his defeat. Heart is power.—Spurgeon.

THE CULTURE OF SORROW.—Nearly all sorrow, while it lasts, depresses action, destroys hope, and crushes energy; but it renders sensitiveness more acute, the sympathies more genial, and the whole character less selfish and more considerate. It is said that in nature, but for the occasional seasons of drouth, the best lands would soon degenerate; but these seasons cause the lands to suck up from the currents beneath, with the moisture, all those mineral manures that restore and fertilize the soil above. It is thus with sickness and with sorrow; once surmounted, they fertilize the character and develop from the deep fountains of the human heart a joy and fruitfulness not otherwise attainable.

READING.—The amusement of reading is among the greatest consolations of life; it is the nurse of virtue; the upholder of adversity; the prop of independence; the supporter of just pride; the strengthener of elevated opinions; it is a shield against the tyranny of all petty passions; it is the repeller of the fool's scoff and the knave's reason.—Sir Egerton Bridges.

LOVE OF NATURE.—He who has a love for Nature can never be alone. In the shell he picks up on the shore, in the leaf fading at his feet, in the grain of sand, and in the morning dew, he sees enough to employ his mind for hours. Such a mind is never idle. He studies the works of his Maker, which he sees all around him, and finds a pleasure of which the devotee of sin and folly can form no conception.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] OVER THE SEA.

BY MARGARET ELLIOTT.

I LOOK for a ship that shall come o'er the sea, In the morning's flush and the sunset's gold; Its white sails are bringing a treasure to me, A wealth of beauty and love untold.

I look for the ship,—will it never come? Do I look in vain for the snowy sail? I question the waves, but the waves are dumb, And a fearful answer is borne on the gale.

With hair dishevelled and garments torn I sit and weep by the cruel sea; The cold waves glitter and leap in the sun, And mock my grief with their heartless glee.

But I hear mid their plashing a cry of despair, A low, wild cry, and a dying moan,— The surf is tangled with golden hair And a white hand gleams thro' the shimmering foam.

It is better to die than to live and grow cold, And faithless, and false as the shifting sand, For Love, Faith and Truth will never grow old If they bloom on the shores of the Better Land.

Far over the waves in the Land of Rest I know that my treasure is waiting for me, To usher me in to the home of the blest When the Angel of Death takes me over the sea. Gainesville, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.] SYMPATHY FOR THE SORROWING.

THERE are few things harder to bear, in our intercourse with our fellow men, than the repellent coldness it is often our lot to meet, when our bowed hearts are yearning for sympathy and kindness. Men may lightly estimate another's sorrows,—may talk boastfully of the strength and courage with which they could sustain the weight under which other shoulders bend; but only the heart to which the suffering is given, knows its extent and bitterness. It is not easy for a proud and self-reliant spirit to understand the skrinkings of the heart whose powers of endurance suffering has weakened, nor can such an one comprehend the agony they sometimes inflict upon a sore and bleeding heart, by the cold indifference that turns with a "don't care" from a suffering fellow creature.

Why should they, upon whose path the sunshine brightly beams, shut their hearts to the claims of sorrow? Why turn indifferently from those upon whom the storm and sleet have beaten, and withhold the word that would make the heart glad? Oh, how much more of hope and gladness might illumine this vale of tears, if men made self-gratification less an object of ambition, and sought more to emulate Him to whom no heart ever went for sympathy in vain. There are none so low that Jesus will not regard,—no grief so slight He will refuse to listen to its moan. Then, may we willfully pain one heart to whom He has given life?—make darker by word or act the already darkened way? May we add to the grief of those whom God has wounded?—taunt another with weakness because we are strong?

JOSEPH'S brethren,—when in their affliction they remembered former cruelties,—uttered a sentiment posterity would do well to consider. "We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us." Who shall say that the weakness we deride to-day shall not be ours to-morrow? That the storm cloud that has robbed another's life of its brightness will not yet enshroud us in gloom? "When He giveth quietness, who then can make trouble? and when He hideth His face, who then can behold Him? whether it be done against a nation, or against a man only?"

"If every pain and care we feel Could burn upon our brow, How many hearts would move to heal That strive to crush us now." Sherburne, N. Y., 1861. LINA LEW.

THE GOSPEL PRECIOUS.

OH, precious gospel! Will any merciless hand endeavor to tear away from our hearts this best, this last, and sweetest consolation? Would you darken the only avenue through which one ray of hope can enter? Would you tear from the aged and infirm the only prop on which their souls can repose in peace? Would you deprive the dying of their only source of consolation? Would you rob the world of its richest treasure? Would you let loose the flood-gates of every vice, and bring back upon the earth the horrors of superstition or the atrocities of atheism? Then endeavor to subvert the gospel; throw around you the fire-brands of infidelity; laugh at religion, and make a mock of futurity; but be assured, that for all these things God will bring you into judgment. I will persuade myself that a regard for the welfare of their country, if no higher motive, will induce men to respect the Christian religion. And every pious heart will say, rather let the light of the sun be extinguished than the precious light of the gospel.—Dr. Archibald Alexander.

GIFT AND GRACE OF FAITH.—The difference between the gift and the grace of faith seems to me this. According to the gift of faith I am able to do a thing, or believe that a thing will come to pass, the not believing of which would not be sin; according to the grace of faith I am able to do a thing, or believe a thing will come to pass, respecting which I have the word of God as the ground to rest upon, and, therefore, the not doing it, or the not believing it, would be sin.

For instance, the gift of faith would be needed that a sick person should be restored again, though there is no human probability, for there is no promise to that effect; the grace of faith is needed to believe that the Lord will give me the necessities of life, if I first seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness, for there is a promise to that effect.—Muller's Life of Trust.

GOD EVER GOOD.—Omnipotence may build a thousand worlds, and fill them with bounties; Omnipotence may powder mountains into dust, and burn the sea, and consume the sky, but Omnipotence can not do an unloving thing toward a believer. Oh! rest quite sure, Christian, a hard thing, an unloving thing from God toward one of his own people, is quite impossible. He is as kind to you when he casts you into prison as when he takes you into a palace; He is as good when He sends famine into your house as when He fills your barns with plenty. The only question is, Art thou His child? If so, He hath rebuked thee in affection, and there is love in His chastisements.—Spurgeon.

The Educator.

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

No candid, intelligent person, will pretend, or doubt, that impressions made in youth, while the mind is open, are not the most lasting. The scenes of childhood and early associations sink deeper into the mind than those in after-life. The period of youth is the most important of all periods; for it is one in which the character is forming,—one in which the foundation of future happiness is generally laid, and when the mind is willing to receive instruction from the watchful care and influence of parental love.

The Family Circle is the Primary School of our race. In this very place man begins to prepare his mind for coming years, when he shall leave home to encounter the more stern duties of active and untried life. Here he receives ideas and impressions on almost every subject—and he is, through the influence of parental example and instruction, slowly but surely forming his future character. How precious these lessons of instruction should be to the youthful mind. Who can estimate their worth? Who can tell what one good example or precept may accomplish? Great, indeed, then must be the responsibility and duty of parents and guardians who have the care and improvement of children; yet there are many, alas! too many, parents, who are not aware that there is any responsibility resting upon them, or any duty for them to discharge toward those in their care. Home is the primary school, and parents are the principle teachers and instructors of the human race. The beginning of education is not the period when a child first goes to school, but when reason and intelligence unveil the infant mind. Long before leaving home for instruction, the mind receives impressions and truths which time can never erase from the memory. This is an important fact, one which experience has long since proved to be true, and it must be alarming indeed to that parent who has set bad examples for his children, knowing that he will be held responsible for their influence on society.

We would say, then, to all who have the care of children, take great pains to store the mind of the young with useful and important knowledge. Think not that it costs too much time to train the faculties of your children for noble pursuits when they shall leave the parental roof to act their part in the great drama of life. Be sure and teach them that the foundation of future respectability and honor must be placed on the firm basis of truth and morality. Improve every suitable opportunity to convey some important lesson, and labor to discipline the expanding intellect with useful and lasting knowledge. Do not neglect to plant the seeds of virtue, love, and a deep reverence for everything sacred—and when they germinate, watch the tender plants to keep the enemy of good from checking their growth. Remember, that the examples you now set, the impressions you now make, and the instructions you now give, although they may lie dormant in the soul for a season, yet they will eventually spring up and bring forth fruit, either for good or for evil. We care not how much you educate your child's physical powers, or how much you discipline his intellect, if health permits, but we would have you educate his moral and religious powers, above all others. This is your duty, as rational, intelligent, and accountable creatures to the Author of your being, who has given you these buds of hope for your particular watchcare and molding influence, in forming the character, in elevating the affections, and in fitting the mind for genuine piety and usefulness in the varied events of life, and ever keep in view that the great thing for your child to learn, is how to be useful and do good, rather than to shine with external accomplishments, which are, at the best, but a very poor screen to hide the actions of the heart. Do this, and it will be worth to them more than any material thing you will ever be able to bestow, and your reward will be the assurance that to your children you have performed your duty.

Chillicothe, N. Y., 1861.

J. L. K.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]
EDUCATION AMONG RURALISTS.

In a late issue of the RURAL, I observed an article over the signature of "W.," who hails from Big Stream Point, in which the writer thinks "great improvements are needed among our rural population in the education of our children." This, indeed, is an important subject, and has strong claims upon the attention and careful consideration of many of our readers. I would here suggest, however, that all innovations, or changes, are not improvements. Your correspondent complains that children are detained at home, to work during the summer months, so soon as they can make themselves useful,—and during the winter months, when there is nothing to do at home, are sent to school." This course, he says, "is continued until the girls have attained fourteen or sixteen, and the boys sixteen or eighteen years of age, and then they are sent to a seminary, or a boarding school of some sort, a year or two, and are thus finished off." W. would, on the contrary, "give children six years to get bodily vigor, and lay the foundation for a healthy future,"—then give them every opportunity and apprenticeship until they are fourteen years of age, and then have them come out with a good English education, fit for any ordinary position in life.

Now, Mr. Editor, I am of the opinion that but very few children or youth would come out as W. would have them at the age of fourteen or sixteen, fitted for all ordinary positions of life. Their minds at that tender age are scarcely capable of comprehending those abstruse principles in mathematics, philology, and physics, so essential to a well-educated mind, and so indispensable in many departments of business. Nor are six years, as W. supposes, a sufficient time to acquire bodily vigor, or "lay a very broad foundation for a healthy future." I object to W.'s system of separating so distinctly and continuously his physical and mental discipline. To produce a harmonious whole, the mixed system must be followed. Symmetrical characters and perfect organizations are produced only by the continuous and equal culture of each faculty and organ the pupil may possess. And the education should commence at the earliest dawnings of intellectual manifestations, and continue until maturity.

Physical discipline, in my judgment, is by no means of less importance than that of mental training. If a child be not taught early to labor, in later life it will scarcely submit to it. The lack of useful employment is sure to beget indolence, which enfeebles the limbs, and paralyzes the energies of its subjects. To avoid labor they will remain in the abodes of poverty and want, rather than seek the

enjoyment of luxuriant abundance, provided the path hither leads through fields of toil. How important is it, therefore, that habits of industry be early impressed upon youth. The farmer who just begins to till his crops when they are already maturing, is about as timely in his efforts at cultivation, as is that parent or teacher who begins to inculcate habits of physical industry in his children at the age of sixteen or eighteen.

H. S. Starkey, N. Y., 1861.

EDUCATIONAL SUGGESTIONS.

STUDY the aptitudes of your child. Find out how his tastes lie, and direct them aright. The father of Claude Lorraine, as the old story, you may remember, goes, was in despair on account of the dullness of his boy. He apprenticed him to a baker, but he could not rise to the mysteries of making a pie. The baker complained that his apprentice marked the shop over with flour or charcoal pictures. The father sent him to a painter, and he became one of the masters of his art. Of another painter, Sir Benjamin West, the chronicle reports, that his father, a broad-brimmed, drab-coated, Pennsylvania quaker, resisted his propensities, as savoring too much of the world. But little "Ben," denied a brush, tortured the cat by pulling out the hairs of her tail, and manufactured thus an instrument to suit. The capacities and inclinations of no two children are the same. Study and wisely mould the aptitudes of each.

TRAIN to industry. A successful man once asked, "what is genius?" "Genius," he replied, "is simply patience." If you have ever glanced over Sir David Brewster's life of Sir Isaac Newton, you will have been much impressed with the testimonies of this most distinguished philosopher as to the virtues of industry. Said he, "If I have done the public any service, it is due to nothing but industry and patient thought." "I keep a subject continually before me, and wait till the first dawnings open by little and little into a full and clear light." An old lady who lived next door to him related to a visitor, with great merriment, the conduct of "a little old man that sat in the next yard all day long blowing soap bubbles." That "little old man" was Sir Isaac Newton, all day long studying the separation of the rays of light into the primary colors, as they were reflected from the shining surface of the fleeting globes. So many others, lesser stars than Newton, it is true, have borne witness. But time will not allow me to quote. Teach patient, sober, continuous industry, whether that of the brain, or of the hands, if you wish your son to rise to honor.

AIM at thoroughness in whatever a child undertakes. Superficiality is almost a national vice with us. A thorough student learns himself, and to "know thyself" was the first precept of the ancient sage. A thorough man is modest, and knows how little the wisest of the wise have attained. A thorough man is self-reliant, not after the fashion of pert "Young America," but because he knows what he knows; and he stands there as upon a rock, from whose foothold he is not easily tempted. There was something noble in a character like that of old Zachary Taylor, who at the head of his four thousand, though hedged round with swarms of guerrillas, and of the boasted soldiery of Mexico, with sixteen thousand right before him, sat down and calmly planned, not how safely to retreat, but how, with least loss of his noble men, to cut his way through to the capital of the enemy. Yet this man was too diffident to make a common political speech. A thorough man will be gentle toward those that differ from him; *savient in modo, fortiter in re*, as the old Romans said; be firm as to the end, but gentle as to the means.—"The Objects of Education," an Address by Rev. W. Spear.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

THE BEECH, AND ELECTRICITY.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Having taken a deep interest in the discussion of the question in regard to whether the Beech tree is a conductor of atmospheric electricity or not, I take the liberty of sending a few facts that have come under my own observation and that of my friends, and also presenting the theory which seems to be warranted by these facts. On my own place a green beech tree, standing about thirty feet from a large whitewood, was set on fire in a dry hollow about forty feet from the ground at the same time that the whitewood was struck and burned off at that point. No trace of the passage of the fluid was observed upon the beech.

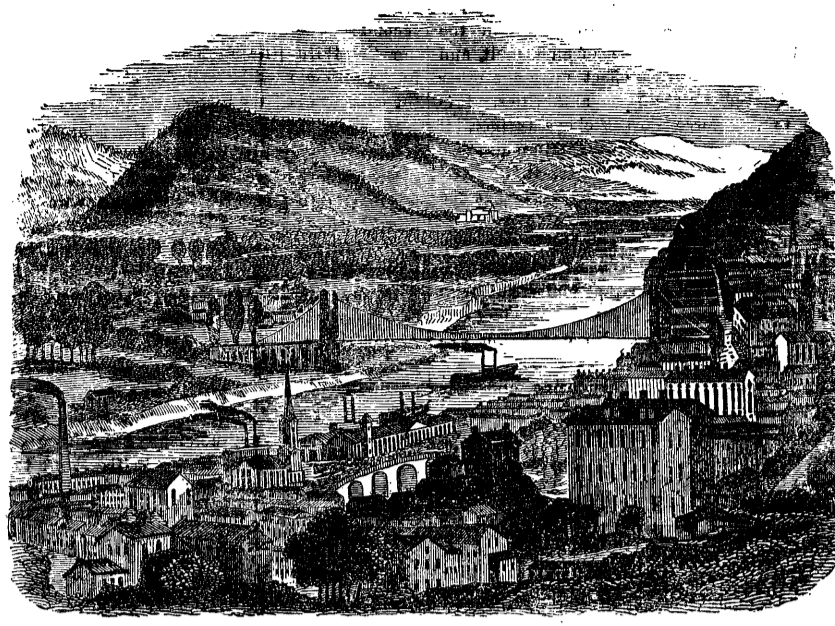
An oak (a friend tells me he saw,) that stood very near a beech tree was struck by lightning and badly shivered down to within about fifteen or twenty feet of the ground, when it passed to the beech, and from that point there was a small furrow torn through the bark to the earth. Two other instances have come to my knowledge, in this vicinity, where the beech tree has been more or less injured by lightning without standing near trees of other kinds that were struck.

The reason why the beech tree is so seldom injured by the passage of the electrical current, is because of its superior conducting power, and not its being a non-conductor. The green beech, especially the white variety, possesses a greater specific gravity than almost any other tree of our climate, and will sink in water, as woodmen have often observed. This, and the thinness of the dry portion, render the outside, when the surface is once moistened by the rain, as good a conductor as any portion of the inner wood, and in extremely rare instances only,—when the surface bark is thick and dry as in the red beech, thus rendering it a non-conductor,—is the tree injured by the stroke. In these two respects the beech differs from the oak, chestnut, whitewood, and other trees often struck, whose thick, dry, non-conducting bark, has to be torn away before anything like a conductor is reached and whose timber forms but a poor one at best.

Two horses, two or three years since, were killed on a neighboring farm under a smooth, thrifty, second-growth hickory tree (which had bark similar to the beech), and not a trace of the lightning's path could be observed on the tree. One fact for all to think of is, that electricity will leave a poor, or moderately good conductor, for a good one, whenever it is in reach, even where it has a longer road to follow, and we be to the animal body that forms a portion of that better conductor.

E. F. JAGGER. Windham, Ohio, 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—There is not the slightest wish on my part to prolong the discussion on the Beech as a non-conductor. Knowing that the "traditions of the elders" were calculated to mislead, and wishing to place the readers of the RURAL NEW-YORKER on their guard, I took the light that was under my bushel, and placed it in your candlestick. Others have seen it and commented upon it.



WHEELING, VIRGINIA.

WHEELING, a view of which we give above, is situated on the right bank of the Ohio river, and is the capital of Ohio county, Virginia. The city extends for nearly two miles along the river, has a population of about 22,000, and is first in importance among the places in the western portion of the Old Dominion. The city proper was laid out in 1793, and has had ten additions. Zanes' Island, lying in the Ohio, directly in front of the city, with which it is connected by a bridge, contains 350 acres, and is laid out in 925 lots. This portion is called Columbia City. The Wheeling Bridge Company, (capital \$200,000,) spanned the Ohio river with a beautiful Suspension Bridge, the wire cables passing over immense towers elevated ninety-four feet from the bed of the river, and stretching a distance of 1,016 feet. This bridge was destroyed by a hurricane in 1853, but, we believe, is now re-built.

The manufactures of Wheeling, according to the Census of 1850, were nails, glass, cotton yarns, cloths,

steam engines, machinery, carriages, paper, iron castings, cast steel springs, chains, silk, saddles, &c., amounting in value to \$2,560,000, and employing over 3,000 persons. The city enjoys the benefits of substantial water-works with a constant and ample supply of water.

Wheeling is situated in the center of an area of the most fertile soil, one hundred miles in diameter, the circle extending into Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. The products comprise all the smaller grains, corn, tobacco, and the grasses. This fertility extends to the summits of the highest hills. The heights around Wheeling range from 250 to 640 feet above the level of the river. In the higher of these hills are several veins of coal, but the only one worked is about 60 feet above the bed of the river, and is about seven feet in thickness. It is apparently inexhaustible, and costs from three to four cents per bushel, delivered; 2,000,000 bushels are annually shipped from this port to a southern market.

"It seems to me," says Mr. TABER, "the writer has not given the reason why the beech is so seldom struck by lightning, or persons, or animals that may have taken shelter under it." My object was to give brief facts bearing on the naked question, leaving explanations, and the laws of electricity, to the intelligence of your readers. It would be an easy task to enlarge upon his list of conductors and non-conductors. Suffice it to say, that all liquids (oils excepted,) and juicy substances, such as plants, &c., are conductors of electricity. Dry bodies of various kinds, such as leather, silks, glass, &c., are non-conductors. The public are better supplied with laws on electricity, than light upon its effects on the beech tree.

It is well known that the forked messenger sometimes "plays possum;" or, in other words, it is not always uniform in its effects, and this is what stimulates curiosity. More facts have come to my knowledge since the publication of my former article. They have split one of the planks of my own platform, and it would not be strange if Mr. TABER should find his standing-ground giving away beneath his feet. Eye-witnesses, on whom I can rely, have informed me of beech trees that have been literally shattered to pieces and scattered to the four winds. They were green from top to bottom. Five chickens were killed by lightning under a maple tree, and an apple tree was struck, killing a bird in an adjoining one. The ground was torn up at the roots of both of these trees, but no other effects were visible. Here is a lesson of admonition for every way-faring man. It shows that the thunder-bolt does not always make its mark, and that it is no less fatal on that account. A situation under any tree, during a thunder-storm, is attended with peril. My father once attempted to go under a walnut tree that stood in a meadow, but fearing danger, he changed his course, and before he reached his house the tree was struck. Some may assume that one kind of tree is safer than another, even when similarly situated, but, be it remembered, this has not been proven.

S. HUSTIS. Sherman, N. Y., 1861.

THE OCEAN.

THE ocean has, naturally, a pure bluish tint. All profound and clear seas are more or less of a deep blue; while, according to seamen, a green color indicates soundings. The bright blue of the Mediterranean, so often vaunted by poets, is found all over the deep pure ocean, not only in the tropical and temperate zones, but also in the regions of eternal frost. The North Sea is green, partly from the reflection of its sandy bottom mixing with the essentially blue tint of the water. In the Bay of Loango the sea has the color of blood, which results from the reflection of the red ground-soil. But the hue is much more frequently changed, over large spaces, by means of enormous masses of minute algae, and countless hosts of small sea-worms, floating or swimming on the surface. Near Callao, the Pacific has an olive-green color, owing to a greenish matter found at a depth of eight hundred feet. Near Cape Palmas, on the coast of Guinea, Captain Tuckey's ship seemed to sail through milk—a phenomenon which was owing to an immense number of little white animals swimming on the surface. The peculiar coloring of the Red Sea, whence its name, is derived from the presence of a microscopic alga, *sui generis*, less remarkable even for its beautiful red color than for its prodigious fecundity. In many more instances, from lake canoes, the deep blue is varied with stripes of white, yellow, green, brown, orange, or red. Small yellowish Medusae are the principal agents in changing the pure ultramarine of the Arctic Ocean into a muddy green. Of these, it is computed, a cubic inch must contain 64; a cubic foot, 110,592. It is here that the giant whale of the north finds his richest pasture-grounds.

When the sea is perfectly transparent, it allows the eye to distinguish objects at a very great depth. Near Mindoro, in the Indian Ocean, the spotted corals are plainly visible under twenty-five fathoms of water. The crystalline clearness of the Caribbean excited the admiration of Columbus, whose eye was ever open for the beauties of nature. There, on the sandy bottom, appear thousands of sea stars, molluscs, and fishes of a brilliancy of color unknown in our temperate seas; with groves of sea plants, corals, sponges, etc., which rival the most beautiful garden on earth when a gentle breeze passes through the waving boughs. The submarine landscapes on the coast of Sicily are described with equal enthusiasm. The circulation of the waters is maintained, partly by the winds, partly by the attraction of the sun and

moon, and partly by oceanic currents. What is wave-motion? The transference of motion without the transference of the matter. The most impetuous storm cannot suddenly raise high waves; they require time for their development. Thus their strength also loses itself only by degrees; and many hours after the tornado has ceased to rage, mighty billows continue to remind us of its extinguished fury. The turmoil of waters extends hundreds of miles beyond the space where its howling voice was heard; and often, during the most tranquil weather, the agitated sea preclaims the distant war of elements.

The waves in the open sea never attain the mountain height ascribed to them by exuberant fancy. But a light-house, (Bell Rock,) though one hundred and twelve feet high, is buried in foam and spray to the very top, during ground-swells. In violent gales, the sea is said to be disturbed to a depth of three hundred or even five hundred feet; while all is undisturbed and still in the deep caves of ocean.—*Wesleyan Methodist Magazine.*

The Young Ruralist.

CHILDREN AND CATTLE.

EDITORS RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I noticed in the RURAL of Feb. 9, 1861, a communication on the subject of treating horses better than children, wherein an English tenant prayed his lord that he, his wife and children, might be treated like his horses. The idea was not new to me, and it recalled to my mind an incident that occurred under my own observation. While I was Superintendent of Schools in this county, in 1844, I had called, during the summer, at a school in a district in the extreme south part of the county, and found the house a miserable old shanty, unfit for hogs in cold weather, standing upon the line of the highway, on a bleak side hill, exposed to cold westerly winds and storms. Not a convenience could it necessary for the comfort of children. I talked a little with the parents whom I saw, but their feelings were about on a par with the school house. I left them, meditating what I could do to arouse them to a sense of their duty. The winter came.

I happened into the district on one of the coldest, most snowy and stormy days in January I ever knew, and it happened to be exactly such a time as I desired. I had given notice that I should be there, and desired to see the parents at the school. About noon I came from the west down a long, steep hill, into a valley sheltered from the winds and storms, by the hill and a fine cluster of trees. Here, all was still and quiet; but half a mile east, upon the cold hill side, we could discern, through the snow, the old rickety school house, struggling against the storm. In this valley we found a cluster of good, well finished and painted farm buildings, house, sheds, wood house, barns, horse barn, hog pen, all tight and warm, warm straw bedding for horses and hogs, cattle all under cover chewing their cuds in perfect composure. Mr. H., the man of the house, was not at home. We were kindly invited by the lady to put our horse in the barn, and take dinner. The Town Superintendent was with me.

After dinner we wended our way up the stormy hill to the school house, leaving word with the lady for herself and husband to follow as soon as he returned, which they did about 2 P. M. On arriving at the school house, how changed was the scene from that below in that peaceful valley. The inhabitants had been in a quarrel, had moved the school house two or three times, till it became racked, so that every clapboard and floor board was loose, and the wind and snow were whistling through the cracks in every direction. The house had no underpinning except large boulders under the west corners and middle, giving the wind a fair chance to come up through the floor, causing the clothing of the children to flutter like the tattered rigging of an old vessel. And worse than all, the lower part of the chimney had fallen down, making a heap of brick and mortar, on which a pile of green wood was smoking out into the room, nearly blinding the teacher and children. Here we found a very good young lady, trying to teach 25 to 30 children in this wretched hole. I told her she need not trouble herself about teaching that afternoon, as that was impossible, but keep herself and children as comfortable as she could, and I would attend to the school. I then had the children collected in the center of the room as near the fire as possible for comfort, leaving the cold wall seats for the old people. And soon they began to come in. The seats were so

high that the feet of scholars could not reach the floor, and the backs to the wall. I had purposely reserved these seats for the parents, so that they might feel the benefit of the cold winds cutting their backs and whistling about their feet. They took seats as directed, and soon nearly all the parents and guardians were seated, Mr. H. and wife among them, he in the coldest seat.

I made an attempt to teach, nor did I hurry matters. It was terribly cold; soon all were suffering, children trembling, old folks restive. I began by coolly asking them what was the matter. They gave an answer in their looks. They seemed to understand what I was at. I then said, addressing Mr. H., "Have you, or any of you, parents, been here before this winter?" Mr. H. said, "No, only once to draw a load of wood, and then I only looked in at the door." I said, "We stopped at your house, put up our horse, and your lady gave us a good dinner."

He replied, "I am glad you did." "Mr. H.," I continued, "I noticed you have a fine, warm place, down in that valley, sheltered from these terrible cold winds."

"Yes, very good." "I noticed, too, you have a good, well-finished house, warm barns and stables for your cattle and horses, warm pens for your hogs, well filled with straw. You have, too, a fine stock of cattle, a good number of horses, colts, sheep, and hogs, all looking finely."

"Yes, all pretty much so." "Well, I suppose you have been some years here at hard labor, getting things thus comfortably fixed. I suppose, as you are getting old, you do not trouble yourself, especially during such severe weather, to take care of them, but stay in the house, and leave the care of your cattle, horses, sheep, and hogs, to your hired men."

Rising, a little excited, he said, "No, Sir, I don't do so much thing. I see to all my stock and things myself. I don't trust the care of them to hired men." I continued, "Then I suppose I am to conclude that you care more for your cattle and hogs than you do for your children; for you trust them here in this cold shell in the care of a hired person, and have not been here to see them during this winter; nor, as I understand, have any of the parents or guardians. And, is it not barbarous for these little bright ones to suffer, neglected here, as you now see and feel they have?"

He replied, "Well, now, look here, Mr. STEVENS, there is something about this I have not thought of before. I guess you have got it. I never looked at it in this light before; but you and this cold have convinced me, and I thank you. I feel ashamed, and something has got to be done. I do like my children better than my hogs, but I did not know that I had been treating them worse till now. It shan't be so any longer, if I can help it. I thank you again for coming here and showing us our folly. And now, neighbors, what do you say? Shall we let our children suffer in this way any longer, and be told, and told truly, that we treat them worse than we do our hogs? I can't stand it."

All at once arose fathers and mothers, shivering, and some shedding tears, concurred in what Mr. H. had said, and unanimously declared that they felt ashamed of themselves, but thankful that they had seen their folly, declaring that they would do better thereafter. At the close, all came and shook hands with me, many with tears in their eyes, and invited me to appoint a time when I would visit them again. I accepted the invitation, and gave the notice.

At the time appointed I went over with the Town Superintendent and two other gentlemen. We found all present, old and young, and many from other districts, and we talked the matter up and over. We had a good time—a time that will long be remembered in that neighborhood, for good. The best of feeling pervaded the bosoms of all. There was a unanimous will for a good school house. And "where there is a will there is a way." Before the next cold winter came "with its chilling breath," there was a school house in a warm sheltered spot in that district, better than a horse barn. There it stands now, and the people there believe it to be quite as much their duty to visit and oversee the persons they hire to teach and take care of their children, as it is to oversee those they hire to take care of their cattle and hogs.

Attica, N. Y., March, 1861. A. S. STEVENS.

MUSIC—THOUGHTS OF A CANADIAN.

I HAPPENED (as I often do now-a-days,) to take up the RURAL a few evenings ago, and the first lines which I read was an article upon music. Seeing such an euphonious title to what I supposed was a soul thrilling description of that glorious art,—I read, unfortunately, what must have been the sad mistake of some chronic old bachelor, who described most eloquently his own cracked voice, which probably had not been tuned to anything like sweetness for the last forty years. I say read unfortunately, for the bachelor or spinster, male or female, old or young, who wrote that combination of groans, guttles of any fanciful or poetical idea, will be answerable for the terrible burst of anger with which I greeted such dyspeptically erroneous opinions. I agree with the old fellow on one point, however. Can any common sense be skimmed from the blue milk notion, that any idealess fop whose organ of combativeness forms the most of his head, can, if he wishes, become a good musician? I answer no. There is no amount of pounding on piano keys, or screaming at the pitch of do, re, me, in the third octave above, that will produce real music. It is a waste of time and temper, where the "bump" is missing, as phrenologists say.

But there is a great deal of talent wasted in the world, which mourns its lost existence in the petty cares and burdens of every-day life. And with the lowly born often die the greatest germs of genius that ever flashed meteoric radiance upon the world. The path which the spirit of genius has traveled since the earth began, has ever been a winding one, more often leading through green forests where the woodman's heart sings its morning hymn to God, or where the Alpine shepherd sounds his horn, than in the crowded halls of fashion.

There is something in the atmosphere of cringing aristocracy which is stifling to an aspiring intellect; and those who seek for true lovers of melody, poetry, and nature, must look for them among nature's children, and not in the gay bubbles that dance and sport on the surface of the deep sea of human life, beneath which are the struggling levers which move the world.

YARROW.

THE first consideration with a knave is, how to help himself, and the second, how to do it with an appearance of helping you. Dionysius, the tyrant, stripped the statue of Jupiter Olympus of a robe of massy gold, and substituted a cloak of wool, saying, gold is too cold in winter, and too heavy in summer; it behooves us to take care of Jupiter!

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Choice and Reliable Flower Seeds.—B. K. Bliss. Fine Imported Flower Seeds.—Jas. Vick. Hard Times made Easy.—George G. Evans. How Beautiful for a Child's Grave.—A. Lewis Baldwin. Readable Dime Books.—Beadle & Company. Webster in the Senate.—Jones & Clark. A Soul-Stirring Romance of the American Revolution. Alfred Academy and University.—W. C. Kenyon. Imported French Standard Four Trees.—Sprenger & Co. Rufous & De Garmo's Improved Patent Straight Draft Plow. Pleasant Valley Wine Co.—J. F. Weber, Supt. Farm for Sale.—S. C. Holden. Great Austin Shaker Strawberry.—C. Miller & W. S. Carpenter. Sorghum Growers' Manual for 1861.—Wm. H. Clark. Farm for Sale.—Eustace A. Pratt. Trees and Stocks for Sale.—Harvey Curtis. Pleasant Valley Wine Co's Grapes.—J. F. Weber, Supt. New Hardy Grapes.—A. W. Potter & Co. Piano-Forte for Sale.—B. H. Cherry Seedlings.—E. White & Co. Nursery Stock for Sale.—Jayne & Platman. Six Weeks Potato.—Chas. C. Holton. Wanted.—H. Blackmar.

SPECIAL NOTICES. Brown's Troches for Public Speakers and Singers.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH 30, 1861.

TO ALL OUR READERS!

A New Quarter of the Rural will begin next week, and subscriptions and renewals are specially in order now—to commence with April, or January if preferred.

The very liberal SPECIFIC PREMIUMS and EXTRA GIFTS offered for Clubs formed before April, are EXTENDED TO MAY, so that Agent-Friends, Subscribers and others have another month to secure the Valuable Prizes. Read the list (headed "Good Pay for Doing Good") in Rural of 10th instant, and see if it will not pay to form a club. Thousands would readily subscribe for the paper if asked. Will not its friends have the kindness to see that such are invited?

See Publisher's Notices, &c., in late numbers.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

On the 19th inst., dispatches received from Maj. Anderson state that his fuel was exhausted, and lights nearly so. Since Gen. Beauregard took command of the South Carolina troops, a strict surveillance has been enforced, and no communication is allowed with the city. The only supplies received at the Fort are fresh provisions, and barely sufficient for the troops from one market-day to another. They may be cut off capriciously at any moment.

With regard to the evacuation of Fort Sumter, we have daily conflicting reports. The latest received is to the effect that orders were issued some days since for the evacuation, and that it was to be consummated on Saturday, the 23d inst. We may receive definite intelligence before going to press.

Much curiosity is manifested respecting the action of the Administration relative to affairs South, and various rumors prevail; but information derived from authentic sources warrants the belief that movements may be in progress involving nothing of a hostile character; on the contrary, in the direction of peace. It is generally agreed, however, that the military status in the Gulf forts now held by the Federal Government, will be preserved.

President Lincoln has nominated, and the Senate confirmed, Mr. Adams, Minister to England; Mr. Marsh, Minister to Sardinia; Mr. Webb, Minister to Constantinople; and Mr. Sanford, Minister to Belgium; Mr. Thayer, Consul General to Egypt; and Mr. Divine, Consul to Cork; Green Clay, Secretary of Legation to Spain.

Indictments against Gov. Floyd in Court here were dismissed as untenable. The first was for conspiracy to defraud the Government. The District Attorney stated in open Court, that there was no evidence to sustain a charge, and by leave of the Court entered a nolle prosequi. The second, for malfeasance in office in issuing acceptances. The Act of 1857, prohibits prosecution upon parties implicated who have testified before a Committee of Congress, touching the matter charged. This has been judicially decided to be, not the privilege of witnesses, but a mandate of law, and the case would have to come to an attempt to maintain, on the facts appearing in the course of the trial. On a statement being submitted in advance to the Court, by counsel on both sides, the indictment was ordered quashed, as it could not have been maintained.

The State Department is about transferring to the several States a notification of the passage by Congress of the following proposed amendments to the Constitution, which shall become valid when ratified by three-fourths of the Legislatures, namely: No amendments shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere within any State with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State.

Detroit, Chicago, and Portland have been constituted exchange offices for the French as well as the British mails, to be conveyed via Portland and Liverpool, or River DuLupe and Liverpool, to take effect April 1st. The Western Postmasters will accordingly send letters for France to the post offices of the cities first above mentioned, instead of New York.

The President submitted to the Senate, for its advice, the consent to the proposition of the British Government to refer the San Juan question to the arbitration of Sweden, Netherlands or Switzerland. The United States Government to select. The Committee on Foreign Relations has made a favorable report upon the subject, and recommends the choice of Switzerland.

Seward has written a letter to the Southern Commissioners reviewing the entire grounds of misunderstanding, with a view of restoring harmony, and closing with a recommendation for a National Convention.

The Government has received information of a plot for revolutionizing California and Oregon, implicating Gen. Johnson and other officers.

The Treasury is preparing instructions to collectors for the execution of the new tariff.

The Times' Washington dispatch says: Indications from Texas are that there will be an armed collision between the friends of Houston and the secessionists, and many advocate the keeping of the Federal troops in that State to co-operate with and protect Unionists.

The President has determined to call an extra session of Congress.

A collision at Fort Pickens is apprehended as very likely to occur. If the 400 soldiers on board the Brooklyn are landed safely, according to the order recently sent from the Navy and War Department, Lieutenant Slemmer's garrison will be in a condition to resist any attack of the Revolutionists, even if

conducted by Gen. Bragg, whose military skill is not doubted. There are three sloop-of-war and the Wyandotte to support it in case of an assault, and their attacks would tell with effect upon the other forts now possessed by the State authorities. It is practicable to re-enforce Fort Pickens further, if necessary, without serious difficulty, and no purpose has been entertained of abandoning it.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning brings the following Washington items: The President has issued orders to Major Anderson to put his command in readiness to evacuate Fort Sumter. The plan is said to be that Major Anderson salute his flag and embark in the war steamer dispatched there for the purpose. No opposition will be made by the Charlestonians.

The Cabinet was said to be considering, on Saturday, the dispatches received from Lieut. Slemmer, who states that unless supplied with provisions soon, he will have to abandon Fort Pickens. Gen. Bragg in command of the Confederate forces near Pickens, notifies Lieutenant Slemmer that supplies cannot be landed at the Fort unless by permit from Jefferson Davis. The Brooklyn, St. Louis, Sabine, and Wyandotte, are all at Fort Pickens.

Detective Keese, of Washington, has seized and retained, by order of the Court, bogus and counterfeit notes on 27 banks, amounting to \$260,000. Also plates, dies, etc. The larger packages contain the following: \$30,000 on the Bank of Augusta, Maine; \$60,000, unsigned, on the State Bank of Ohio. The dies were of ten cents, one dollar, and quarter eagles.

The Secretary of the Treasury has advertised for proposals till the 2d of April, for \$8,000,000 of the Stock of the United States, to be issued under the act of February. This sum will be sufficient for the wants of the present fiscal year.

The Administration will reply to the Southern Commissioners in a few days, stating that they have no power to treat with them, and can be regarded only as agents of a dissatisfied people, but will refer them to the next Congress.

The evidence in the Armstrong court martial indicates that there was sufficient force to defend the navy yard at the time of its surrender.

Office seekers seem to be on the increase, who through the Departments, much to the interruption of business. Removals in civil service appear to be numerous. Four to five hundred applications by letter are received daily.

U. S. Senate—Extra Session.

A LETTER was received from the Vice-President, in which he stated that it was his intention to be absent during the remainder of the session of the Senate, and in order to afford an opportunity for the Senate to elect a Vice-President pro tem., he desired this fact to be made known.

On motion of Mr. Hale, Mr. Foot was chosen President pro tem. Mr. Foot being conducted to the chair, said he received this unanimous expression of their confidence and good will with a full recognition of the personal compliment which it implied, and he trusted, with a full appreciation of the direct and contingent responsibilities imposed. Not altogether unaccustomed to the duties of a presiding officer, he had learned something of the delicacies and difficulties which beset the efforts of a faithful discharge of the duties involved. Experience indeed showed the necessity of relying very largely on the aid of the kind co-operation, indulgence, and forbearance of the Senate. A co-operation and forbearance he was pleased to say, he had never seen wanting in this body. He thanked the Senate for this flattering testimonial, and pledged himself, to his utmost endeavors, to discharge the duties of the position with fidelity, vigilance, and impartiality.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, a Committee was ordered to be appointed to communicate the fact of the selection of President pro tem. to the Vice-President. Mr. Bright and Mr. Wilson were appointed such Committee. Mr. Wade presented the credentials of Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, elected Senator to supply the place of Mr. Chase, who resigned. He was qualified and took his seat.

Mr. Hale moved to take up his resolution for the election of officers. Agreed to—28 against 13. Mr. Bright moved its postponement till the first Monday in December, saying that, owing to the small attendance of members on the Democratic side, there could be no fair expression of opinion. This motion was negatived. The Senate, however, went into Executive Session, and adjourned without an election.

The Secession Movement. LOUISIANA.—The ordinance submitting the permanent Constitution of the Confederate States to the people for ratification or rejection, was defeated in the Convention. The Convention, after a lively debate, ratified the Constitution by a vote of 100 to 7.

ARKANSAS.—The Secession Ordinance has been defeated in the Arkansas State Convention, by the following vote:—Ayes 35, nays 39. Great excitement prevailed at Little Rock, Ark., following the rejection of the secession ordinance. A compromise has been made that the people should vote on the first Monday in August next, for co-operation or secession. Delegates are to be sent to the Border State Convention, and report on the re-assembling of the Convention on the third Monday in August.

TEXAS.—Advices received from Fort Brown, state that the Ringgold Barracks at Brazos Santiago, have virtually been surrendered to the Texas authorities.

Resolutions passed the Texas Convention unanimously tendering thanks to Gen. Twiggs. Galveston advices of the 19th are received. Gov. Houston and the Secretary of State refused to appear on the 16th before the Convention at Austin, when summoned, after notice, to take the oath. The other State officers took the oath. Lieut. Gov. Clark was to assume the Governor's powers on the 16th. The Convention had passed an ordinance continuing in the State Government the officers who took the oath.

VIRGINIA.—The Committee on Federal Relations referred the proposed amendment to the U. S. Constitution. It is Franklin's substitute, changed by using the expression "involuntary servitude," instead of persons sold to slavery; rights of owners are not to be impaired by Congressional or Territorial law, or pre-existing laws of Mexico, in the territory heretofore acquired. Involuntary servitude, except for crimes, is prohibited north of 36° 30', but shall not be prohibited by Congress or any Territorial Legislature south thereof. The third section is partly altered for the somewhat better security of property in transit. The fifth section prohibits the importation of slaves from places beyond the limits of the United States. The sixth makes verbal changes in relation to remuneration for fugitives by Congress, and excuses the clause relative to securing privileges and immunities. The seventh forbids the elective franchise and right to hold office to persons of the African race. The eighth, none

of these amendments, nor the third paragraph of second section of the first article of the Constitution, nor the third paragraph of second section of the fourth article, shall be amended or abolished without the consent of all the States.

MISSOURI.—The State Convention adopted the third resolution by ayes 88, nays 42. Mr. Number offered a substitute to the fourth resolution, slightly altering. The resolution was adopted, ayes 77, nays 9.

The fifth resolution, relating to coercion, was then taken up. Mr. Mc Donnell then offered a substitute, that it is necessary, for the preservation of peace, that the President withdraw the military force from the seceded States, and abstain from all collection of the revenues.

Mr. Hall offered an amendment to the effect that the Committee are not sufficiently acquainted with the position of the Federal troops in the South to make such request, but earnestly entreat the Federal Government to abstain from any act calculated to bring about a collision.

Mr. Shackelford offered a substitute to the amendment, that it is the opinion of this Convention that if the cherished desire is to preserve the country from civil war, and to restore fraternal feelings, it would be greatly promoted by the withdrawal of the Federal troops from such forts within the seceded States where there is danger of hostile collision, and we recommend that the policy be adopted. The resolution as amended passed by a vote of 89 to 6.

The sixth resolution, providing for the adjournment of the Convention to December, was adopted, and the Convention adjourned.

Political Intelligence.

THE United States Senate is now in session, having been assembled for the purpose of acting upon such nominations as may be made by the President. The body is thus constituted, politically:

Table with columns: R.—Republican, O.—Opposition, Number of Senators, Term Expires.

Table with columns: Term Expires, Name, Party.

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After several days' balloting for U. S. Senator, by the Missouri Legislature, Mr. Green's name was withdrawn, and Waldo H. Johnson nominated instead, who was elected on the 2d ballot. The vote was as follows:—Whole vote, 145; necessary to a choice, 73; Johnson, 80; Doniphan, 36; English, 29.

JOHN SHERMAN was nominated by the Legislature of Ohio on the 21st inst., for Senator, on the 79th ballot, which stood, Sherman, 43; Denniston, 23; Schenck, 10. A resolution requesting Congress to call a National Convention, passed both Houses of the Legislature.

Legislature of New York. SENATE.—We have only space to give a list of the bills passed during the week, which are as follows: Relative to protests and legal holidays.

To incorporate Bellevue Hospital Medical College of New York, after the adoption of the amendment, providing that nothing in the act shall be construed so as to prevent Homeopathic students from entering the College.

Supplementary to the act for the foreclosure and sale of the New York and Erie Railroad. Relative to the dividends of Fire Insurance Companies.

To amend the Charter of the Jewish Society for the Education of Poor Children. To increase the compensation of State Prison Physicians.

To facilitate the trial of civil actions. Relative to the Erie, Oswego, and Seneca canals. The vote on the bill to amend an act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors was reconsidered, and the bill passed.

Mr. Manniere's bill, defining larceny from the person and petit larceny, provides that any person convicted of stealing from a person, although of less than \$50 value, shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and punished accordingly.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Kernan, from the Special Committee to investigate charges of bribery against Jay Gibbons, made report declaring him guilty of the charges of bribery, and submitting the following resolution:

Resolved, That Jay Gibbons, member from the 1st district of the county of Albany, has been guilty of official misconduct, rendering him unworthy of a seat in this House, and that he be and is hereby expelled.

A long debate sprang up on the motion to adopt the resolution at once. The evidence and report were ordered printed, and the resolution was laid on the table for the present.

Gov. Morgan, through his Private Secretary, Mr. Doty, transmitted the joint-resolution of Congress, proposing to the several State Legislatures an article amendatory of the Constitution, providing no amendments shall be made which will authorize or give to Congress power to abolish or interfere within any State with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service; such amendment to be valid when ratified by three-fourths of the Legislatures of all the States.

Bills Passed.—To appropriate \$7,000 a year for five

years to the Peoples' College; to incorporate the University of Brooklyn; relative to Inland and Navigation Insurance Companies, and limiting tenure of officers in Militia; to legalize the action of the New York Common Council in relation to the appointment of messenger in bureau on unsafe buildings; the annual supply bill; to incorporate the Veteran Scott Life Guard of New York; to authorize the construction of Street Railroads in Syracuse; to preserve game in Suffolk and Queens counties. Some twenty private bills were also passed. Adj.

News Paragraphs.

THE New Orleans Delta says that a party of gentlemen have bought half a million acres of land in Southern Florida, about one hundred miles south of Tampa Bay, at two cents an acre, where they intend to raise tropical fruit.

NEAR Ontonagon, on Lake Superior, all the snow that has fallen this winter would amount in depth to 14 1/2 feet. During one night the mercury in the thermometer indicated 41 degrees below zero, or within one degree of congelation.

THE steamer South Carolina arrived from Charleston at Boston on Saturday week, with the largest cargo of cotton and rice ever sent from that port. The Charlestonians were highly pleased at the resumption of business relations with Boston.

SOME 300 tons of old bells, consigned to the Meneelys, bell founders, have arrived in West Troy. They came from Mexico, and bear a very antique appearance. One purports to have been cast ninety-seven years since, and the others range in date from fifty to seventy-five years. They are to be re-cast.

DURING the past month, the oldest person of the Onondaga tribe of Indians, a woman named Hannah, died at the supposed age of over one hundred and twenty years! From the family traditions, it is believed that she was born as early as 1741, and perhaps at a still earlier date.

It is said that at the late session of the Illinois Legislature, the members, among other extravagances, voted themselves a gold pen each, valued at \$15. Some of the members, who had no special use for gold pens, effected a "dicker" with the jeweler furnishing them, for tablespoons, castors, and the like articles of household value.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—In the House of Lords on the 7th, Lord Wodehouse said it was true that Russia had sent a dispatch to the French Government, approving of the French occupation in Syria, and intimating that Russia would if necessary support the sending of an increased force.

In the House of Commons on the 7th an interesting debate took place on Italian affairs. Edwin James, Sir Robert Peel, Gladstone, and Lord John Russell, defended the policy of England, the King of Sardinia and Garibaldi, while several Irish members took the opposite side, and Mr. Roebuck made a pro-Austrian speech.

The London Times, in reviewing Jefferson Davis' Inaugural Speech, says it never has read a public document so difficult to analyze and interpret.

In the Commons on the 4th, Lord Hennessy charged Lord Russell deliberately with concealing important dispatches relating to trade in Tuscany and Naples, and reproached him with a breach of international law. Lyard said the course of the Government was in accordance with the sentiments of the mass of the English people. Sir Bowyer said the policy of the foreign office would lead to war.

The Times says the new tariff of the U. S. establishes protective duties on a most extravagant scale, and the result will be the almost absolute prohibition of imports from Europe, and be more detrimental to the interests of America than Europe.

FRANCE.—The Senate have finally adopted an address in response to the Emperor's Speech, by 1,200 to 3 votes.

A meeting of Hungarian and Polish notabilities is said to have been held at the Palace Royal. Independent members of the corps legislative had proposed various liberal amendments to the Address, calling, among other things, for the report of the law of public safety, the freedom of the press, &c.

The debate would commence on the 11th. It was reported that Prince Napoleon was about to proceed to Toulon to negotiate for the withdrawal of the French troops.

ITALY.—The bombardment of Civitello Tronto commenced on the 20th. Gen. Fregola notified Ciardini that the works commenced against the citadel were a violation of the regulation between him and Garibaldi, and that he would bombard the city. Ciardini responded that for every inhabitant killed, he would order an officer of the garrison shot, and that he considered Fregola a rebel.

The official journal notifies the blockade of the citadel of Messina. Hostilities have commenced. All foreign vessels have left Messina, with the exception of those of the Americans and English.

SPAIN.—The Spanish Ministry have pronounced in favor of the temporal power of the Pope, and repudiated the idea of transferring the Papacy to Jerusalem.

RUSSIA.—The Bank of Poland refuses to make a specie payment on Russia bonds. Military forces have taken possession of the amount required. All is now quiet at Warsaw. It is stated that the number of persons killed by the troops there in the late disturbance was 53.

Warsaw presented a gloomy appearance, everybody wearing mourning. The citizens' committee on safety had issued a proclamation requesting the maintenance of order. Over 100,000 attended the funeral of those killed at the late disturbances. Troops were kept within the barracks, and everything was orderly. A petition was being signed for the re-establishment of the Polish Constitution.

It is said the emancipation of serfs will be formally proclaimed during Lent. The Czar will soon give the project for a Constitution for Russia.

TURKEY.—The Porte had sent an answer to the last Russian note, in which he denies all right in foreign interference in the internal affairs of Turkey. The Turkish fleet, with troops and six months provisions on hand, was about to cruise off the coast of Dalmatia. Serious disturbances prevail in the ministry. An altercation had taken place between the Grand Vizier and Caliph Pacha, on financial matters. The latter disapproved the recent policy of the Grand Vizier, and demanded new taxes on articles of luxury. The carrying out of the new loan has been postponed.

HOLLAND.—The King has prorogued the Chambers, consequent on the resignation of the ministry.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Broadstuffs.—Messrs. Wakefield, Nash & Co., Richardson, Spence & Co., and Highland, Albany & Co., report flour quiet, but steady, at 28@31 1/2. American wheat firm, at full prices for fine, and with a partial advance of 2@3d for spring red. Red wheat was quoted at 11 1/2@12 1/4; white 12@13 1/4@14 1/2. Corn firm.

The News Condenser.

— There are regular cab stands in Pekin. — Infanticide is on the increase in London. — In English vessels there are 300,000 seamen. — Furious storms have been raging in the Black Sea. — The small pox is somewhat prevalent at Indianapolis. — "Awful" Gardner, the reformed prize fighter, is insane. — The banks of Philadelphia have resumed specie payments.

— Steam tugs are now used on the Grand Trunk Canal in England. — Six daily prayer meetings are now maintained in New York city. — The Empress of France contemplates a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. — There are 1,500 carriage makers out of employment in New Haven. — The Cunard Company have offered the Arabia and Niagara for sale. — Digging for oil has been commenced in the Thirteenth Ward of Buffalo. — Mr. Lincoln has already received 700 applications for office in Minnesota. — The Sons of Malta of New Orleans have expelled Gen. Twiggs from their order. — The leading railway lines in France pay from ten to twenty per cent. dividends. — The journeymen coopers of Chicago are on a strike for the severalth time this season. — The name of the postoffice at Rhinebeck Station, N. Y., has been changed to Rhine Cliff. — It is estimated that there are more than two millions of men engaged in a sea-faring life. — The Southern students, seven or eight in number, have "seceded" from Dartmouth College. — The Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle reports a severe frost in Augusta and vicinity on the 6th inst. — A new twenty-horse power steam vessel is building for Dr. Livingstone, the African traveler. — The spoils secured by the Sardinians at Gaeta, was 11,000 troops, 800 cannon, and 60,000 muskets. — The population of Virginia is as follows: Whites, 1,049,663; free colored, 57,579; slaves, 490,887. — A pegging machine is in use in New England, with which a woman's shoe is pegged in ten seconds. — As a proof of how full Washington is, 2,300 persons dined at Willard's Hotel on Monday week. — Mr. Johnson, the new Senator from Missouri, was one of the Commissioners to the Peace Congress. — Gen. Twiggs declined a brigadier-generalship in the Confederate army, on account of feeble health. — The younger children of Mrs. Lincoln are quite sick, and apprehension is felt that they may not recover. — The late dreadful storms in England were announced three days in advance by the London Meteorologist. — The banks of South Carolina report February, \$14,962,466 capital, \$7,649,479 circulation, and \$1,388,331 specie. — The water of Loch Katrine, now supplied to Glasgow for drinking purposes, is said to be the finest in the world. — A huge cannon ball is now being made at the Ames company's establishment, at Chicopee, which will weigh 440 pounds. — A bearer of dispatches has left the State department with important communications for our Minister to Mexico, Mr. Weller. — A Kentuckian named R. D. Cook has discovered that brandy, soda, and tea, are an infallible remedy for the hog cholera. — A scientific expedition into Lybia has been projected by the Duke of Gotha, to be under the direction of Theodore Henglen. — It is stated that the land offices at the West are receiving numerous letters from the South, inquiring about desirable locations. — In 1857, two cases of diphtheria were reported in New York, and in 1860, four hundred and seventy-seven in the same city. — A Berlin letter states that Russia has expressed a wish to conclude a treaty of commerce with Prussia and the Zollverein. — Mr. Perry Barnes has caught, in the Chautauqua lake, a pickerel weighing 25 pounds, 45 inches in length, and 21 inches round. — The music in the Rev. Dr. E. H. Chapin's church, New York, is furnished by a choir of 75 children, chosen from the Sabbath School. — Connecticut river is now free of ice as far up as the head of "aloop navigation," and Hartford is once more a commercial city. — Governor Pickens, of South Carolina, has proclaimed martial law over that portion of James Island known as "Fort Johnson." — A man in Bridgeport has sold Barnum a Tom Thumb dog that weighs but three ounces! It is an English terrier, and sold for \$100. — Two Virginians think they have invented a cannon which can be fired a whole day without stopping, at the rate of 30 shots per minute. — Augustus Craven proposes to use the waters of the Volturno to irrigate the thousands of acres of hitherto profligate land near Naples. — There are nine persons living within a distance of two miles, near Winsted, whose united ages are six hundred and eighty-eight years. — There are still 802 gentlemen of Southern origin on Government pay, and doing army duty, while only 127, all told, have resigned. — Collins, a Mississippi wood chopper, has, within a few years, realized over one hundred thousand dollars by selling wood to steamboats. — Of 440 prisoners for life, sentenced during the last 16 years, in New York, only 92 remain; 243 having been pardoned, and 104 died. — A horse has been invented in France, with which a runaway horse's nostrils are suddenly closed, an effectual method, it is said, to stop the animal. — The project of making a new State of the upper peninsula of Michigan, with some of the adjoining counties of Wisconsin, has been revived. — There are 6,598 boats belonging to the Erie canal, of which 1,446 are of greater tonnage than the vessel in which Columbus discovered America. — The best chapters of Dr. Holland's "Gold Foll" have been recently issued by a religious society of Britain as an English "Tract for the Times." — The Macon (Ga.) Telegraph, which has used Georgia and South Carolina paper for the past three years, is now printed on paper imported from Belgium. — The Prince of Wales' revenue from the Duchy of Cornwall will, for the last year, be about \$225,000, an increase from the previous one of over \$20,000. — The Emperor of Austria has given to the Vienna protestants a place to worship in, Concordat or no Concordat. The building has been for years a magazine. — The Vice President of the U. S., the late Postmaster General, the present Secretary of the Interior, and the present Secretary of War, were all printers. — Sir Roderick Murchison, at a late meeting of the Ethnological Society, said there were living in Poland, animals which have been supposed to be extinct. — Returns of assessors from all but six counties of Texas, show an aggregate value of property of \$291,827,584—an increase the past year of over 30 per cent. — Messina, Italy, with 100,000 inhabitants, has no newspaper, no school, but, accustomed to the habits of tyrants for generations, is amused by plenty of theaters. — The estimated amount of flour, wheat, and corn in store, in Chicago, is as follows: 62,867 bbls. flour; 1,639,371 bus. wheat; 1,589,998 bus. corn; 673,000 bus. oats.

Special Notices.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

Whoever is troubled with Coughs, Hoarseness, or Sore Throat, will find these "Troches" a most admirable remedy.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE.

Our weather has been moderating for the past two days, and we are at present enjoying the first spring-like rain of the season.

WHEAT—We are unable to note anything new in flour either as regards price or transactions.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES. Flour, winter wheat, \$5.25 @ 5.75. Flour, spring do., 5.00 @ 5.50.

MEATS. Pork, mess, \$18.00 @ 19.00. Pork, clear, 18.00 @ 19.00. Pork, cut, 16.00 @ 17.00.

THE PROVISION MARKETS. NEW YORK, March 28.—Flour—Market a shade better. Sales at 10:30 a.m., \$5.25 @ 5.75 for extra do.

ALBANY, March 28.—Flour and Meal—There is a moderate business doing in flour for the supply of the home trade, at unchanged prices.

BUFFALO, March 28.—Flour—The market for flour is quiet and steady. Sales since 10 a.m. at \$5.25 @ 5.75.

THE CATTLE MARKETS. NEW YORK, March 28.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

BEEF CATTLE. First quality, \$9.00 @ 10.00. Ordinary quality, 8.25 @ 9.25. Common quality, 7.50 @ 8.50.

WORKING OXEN. BRIGHTON, March 21.—At market—1700 Best Cattle, 100 Steers, 250 Sheep and Lambs, 500 Hogs.

ALBANY, March 28.—We have supposed that the open supply last week would have checked prices, but the receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 28.—The market is still dull and heavy. The few sales that are making are for immediate consumption, nothing being taken on speculation.

American Saxony Fleece, \$1.10. American full-blood Merino, 1.00. American half-blood and three-quarter Merino, 80c.

BOSTON, March 28.—The transactions in fleeces and pulled wool have been so extensive, comprising 250,000 lbs. of sales of fleeces, and 1,000,000 lbs. of pulled wool.

Died. In Farmington, Ontario, Co., March 15th, Mrs. MARGARET, wife of Joseph, daughter of Thos. Mackie, of Clyde.

Advertisements. ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 2 1/2 cents per line per week.

ONE PRICE AND LOW PRICE, at GILMAN'S Shoe Store, 8 State Street, Rochester, N. Y.

SIX WEEKS POTATO—Is the very earliest, largest, and best variety, and may be had of CHAS. C. HOLT, Rochester, or GEO. C. BULL.

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ALFRED ACADEMY AND ALFRED UNIVERSITY—Under the management of Alfred Centre, Allegany Co., N. Y., on the line of the N. Y. & E.

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THE NEW YORK MERCURY, FOR APRIL 6TH (Now Ready Everywhere.)

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WEBSTER IN THE SENATE. The godlike Webster, on an occasion when the whole nation, agitated as waiting to hear him, standing in the midst of his competitors, with Fillmore in the chair, with Clay, Calhoun, Benton, Bell, Seward, Cass, Douglas, and a whole galaxy of the chosen statesmen of the day, earnestly listening to every word that fell from his lips, this was indeed a sublime scene, and one which the artist has here daguerrotypically captured with a perfection almost unattainable.

FOR SALE CHEAP.—A valuable Farm of 180 acres, adjoining the village of Batavia, 1 1/2 miles from the Court House, on the road leading to Caryville, known as the Soule Farm.

RULOFSON & DEGARMO'S Improved Patent Straight Draft Plow. This plow is adapted to two or three horses, by means of a simple lateral adjustment of the beam, retaining the line of draft in either case parallel with the landside.

"INCOMPARABLE IN EXCELLENCE." Beadle's Dime Books. HAND-BOOKS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS. BEADLE'S DIME COOK BOOK. BEADLE'S DIME RECIPE BOOK.

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THE DIME FRONTIER AND BORDER STORIES. EACH VOLUME 128 PAGES COMPLETE. No. 1.—GARRIBALDI; the Washington of Italy.

HOW BEAUTIFUL FOR A CHILD'S GRAVE! Daguerrotypy Pictures attached to Head Stones and Monuments. These pictures are of the highest quality, and are taken from any air or dampness for a long number of years.

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WANTED.—200,000 lbs. Dried Apples. Those having a good article at 2 1/2 cents per pound, address H. BLACKMAR, Newark, N. Y.

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Pamphlets, Circulars and Maps. Giving full and reliable information on the Climate and its healthfulness, Soil, Water, Timber, Coal, Rock, Productions, Markets, &c., can be had gratuitously on application by letter or otherwise to GEO. S. HARRIS, Eastern Land Agent, 40 STATE ST., BOSTON, MASS., or to JOSEPH HUNT, Land Commissioner OF THE H. & S. J. R. HANNIBAL, MO.

NEW AND TIMELY BOOKS. PARTON'S LIFE OF ANDREW JACKSON. 3 Vols. \$5. "The best life yet written of any of our public men."

ABBOTT'S ITALY. From the Earliest Period to the Present Day. Uniform with "Austria and Russia," by the same author, each, 1 vol., \$1.50.

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OSCEOLA, Stark Co., Ill., Feb. 19th, 1861. G. WESTINGHOUSE & Co. should have known what you were now, giving an account of the success of your machine with us. We threshed last summer an acre of about 10,000 bushels wheat on the 16th and 20th bushels according to the greatest number of bushels we threshed in one day was 200 of wheat, commencing about 9 A. M. but as a general thing, our day's work averaged 400 bushels of wheat, and we threshed 600 bushels of Oats in one day, and where Oats were good averaged about 600 bushels of Oats in one day.

ORLEANS COUNTY MARKET FAIR.—The Orleans County Agricultural Society will hold a Market Fair for Exhibition, sale or exchange of Stock, Seeds, Agricultural and Manufactured Articles, &c., at the Fair Grounds at Albion, Saturday, April 6th, 1861. Grounds free for Exhibitors and visitors. J. N. HATCH, Pres't. C. A. HARRINGTON, Sec'y.

EXTRACT OF TOBACCO, FOR DIPPING SHEEP AND LAMBS, AND FOR DESTROYING ALL KINDS OF VERMIN ON OTHER ANIMALS. The Manufacturers of this new and valuable preparation, beg leave to call the attention of Farmers and others to its effectual remedy for destroying Ticks, Lice, and all other insects injurious to animals and vegetation, and preventing the alarming attacks of Fly and other vermin on any kind of stock.

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DRINKER'S PATENT AGRICULTURAL CALDRON AND STEAMER. This is a new and valuable improvement for COOKING FEED FOR STOCK, where a Caldron is used. Full particulars given in Illustrated Catalogue. MANUFACTURED AND SOLD BY BENNETT & CO., 159 Buffalo St., ROCHESTER, N. Y.

THOROUGH BRED STOCK. The Subscribers, BRODIE, CAMPBELL & Co., are now engaged in breeding and importing Farm stock of the first quality. Mr. BRODIE was formerly of the firm of HURSFORD & BRODIE (which firm is now dissolved). His skill and large experience in the business are well known to Breeders. Part of the stock can be seen at S. CAMPBELL'S place three miles west of Utica, or one and a half miles from the Whitesboro Depot, N. Y. Central Railroad.

MAPLEWOOD YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE, PITTSFIELD, MASS., opens its 40th Semi-Annual Session, in a new and improved building, in a location and facilities it is unsurpassed. For further information address 881-3 REV. C. W. SPEAR, Pittsfield.

FAIRM FOR SALE.—Containing 40 acres, lying midway between Pittsford and Fairport, in Monroe Co. It is well watered, has a frame dwelling near the house, with other outbuildings, and an orchard in bearing, beside 200 Apple Trees recently set out. A small payment required down. The balance to remain for a term of years. Possession on when wanted. For particulars address 583-4 Feb. 14, 1861. CARLTON H. ROGERS, Palmyra, N. Y.

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Town Clocks. (Of the most approved character, of my own manufacture, and of the best quality.) In any use, at greatly reduced prices. For full particulars address 557-506 if JAMES G. DUDLEY, 85 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

FARM FOR SALE.—One of the best and best situated farms in Monroe Co. lying 6 miles west of the city, in the town of Gates, on the Buffalo road, will be sold at a great bargain if application is made soon. A small farm of 60 to 80 acres, near the City, or any other lot, will be sold at a low price, will be taken in part payment. For particulars apply on the premises, or at No. 8 Hill street, at the office of JOHN M. FRENCH, Co., of No. 10 HUNTINGTON, Rochester, N. Y., August 21, 1860. 654-4

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