



# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

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## TO OUR READERS.

In committing to public attention an enterprise like that on which we now embark, it is proper to lay distinctly before our patrons and readers the motives which have induced us to undertake it, the ends we seek to attain, and the policy which will guide us in their pursuit. We do not regard the commencement of the ILLINOIS FARMER as a doubtful experiment, to be continued or not, according to the precarious and uncertain promptings of personal inclination or caprice, and to be regulated by a policy easily disturbed by accident. On the contrary, we regard it as an undertaking strongly demanded by the voice of public sentiment, and one to which we are as much pressed by public necessity, as by any inclinations of our own. The fact that the capital and agricultural centre of a State, whose interests and pursuits are so pre-eminently agricultural, has remained, to this day, without a periodical devoted to the advancement of that absorbing interest, is almost without a parallel in the history of the press. We feel that in the position we now assume, we only step into a wide field, which has been left, by accident, untenanted, and which by the well recognized law of supply and demand, would soon be occupied by others, if not by ourself.

More rapidly than at any former period in the history of this State, the energies of our population are being concentrated in the work of developing its immense agricultural resources. The flourishing condition of the State Agricultural Society, which may be regarded as a faithful touch-stone of the popular feeling, is a pertinent demonstration of this fact. The enthusiastic gatherings at its State and County Fairs; its noble specimens of native and improved

stock; the world-wide celebrity of its agricultural mechanism; the immense exportation of food, being constantly poured over its borders; and the rapid rise in the price of arable lands, are proofs of the most striking nature, that this great public interest, will, in the future, much more than in the past, overshadow all others. The steady tread of a thronging immigrant host is heard all along our thoroughfares. The cheering results of our late census, shows how rapidly our wide prairies are becoming alive with an industrious and permanent population. This increase and concentration of population must beget a spirit of active and intelligent inquiry in regard to the great pursuit which must engage its attention. The railroad and mail facilities, which have received an impetus fully commensurate with the increase of population, are encouraging a more rapid diffusion of information through the press. Thus, we only yield to an outward pressure, in establishing at Springfield the ILLINOIS FARMER.

It will be a paper especially devoted to raising the standard of agriculture and horticulture in the west. As all successful agriculture is based upon sound theory, it will steadily furnish its readers with the latest discoveries in geologic chemistry, in a form especially applicable to the soil we cultivate. The character of the assistance which has been proffered us in its management, will render it, at the same time, eminently practical. Every successful agriculturist in Illinois, and its neighboring States, must have observed how frequently his own experience, upon familiar points, is contravened by the published results of the same process in the leading eastern periodicals. This discrepancy has been suffered to continue, because the old-established agricultu.

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ral literature has been the standard in the treatment of a soil lying under a meridian of longitude many degrees removed. All honor, we say, to those ancient land-marks to which American agriculture owes so much; but the signs of the times convince us, that the somewhat desultory chapters of Western agricultural experience should be gathered in a code for Western guidance. The constant aim of the FARMER will be, to become the useful representative of the class we have named, as existing under the circumstances which we have briefly sketched.

We shall bring to the aid of our own enterprise, a corps of co-laborers, whose contributions cannot fail to make the FARMER all that can rationally be expected, and whose promise is a pledge of faithful fulfillment. While it will be confined strictly to the discussion of subjects appertaining to agriculture and its kindred arts,—leaving unnoticed no branch of information bearing upon the interest of the farmer and artisan,—it will be interspersed with whatever may refine and elevate the rural family circle. It will, in a word, be our steady aim, to issue a paper which the farmer will accept as a reliable compendium of the best agricultural information of the day; which the moralist will indorse in its efforts to inculcate a taste for pursuits which make for peace and contentment; and which all will welcome who delight in the purer amenities of social life.

### The Wyandot Corn.

The following article is going the rounds of the newspapers:

AGRICULTURAL DIVISION OF THE PATENT OFFICE.—**THE WYANDOT CORN.**—This truly singular production was first introduced to the notice of the public in 1853 by Mr. J. B. Thomas, of Waverly, Illinois, who received nine grains from the Wyandot Indians through a California emigrant, which he planted in a sandy soil, and the product was fifty-eight full grown ears. In 1854 there were raised from twenty-five grains, planted on the 20th of May, one hundred and twenty-two ears, and from one-fourth of an acre thirty-two bushels and three pecks of shelled corn. It only received the common cultivation given to other kinds of corn.

This corn is represented to possess the following peculiarities. We copy as follows from the circular of Mr. Thomas:

"First, it requires but one grain to be planted in each hill; more than one is useless. Second, each grain yields from three to eight full grown stalks,

equal in length and strength, being from nine to twelve feet high, and proceed directly from the grain. Third, each stalk bears from two to four ears, of a large and beautiful pearl white corn, the meal of which is equal in appearance to flour manufactured from wheat. Each hill will yield from eight to twenty ears. From an equal quantity of seed planted, it will produce double the quantity of ears that can be raised from any other kind of corn grown. The quantity of fodder which it bears is immense, and for stock-feeding it is superior to all other varieties. The kernel is shaped similar to the yellow-flint, the grain soft, twelve-rowed, and small cob. Ear from twelve to fifteen inches long.

"If planted five feet apart each way, (and which is near enough,) it will require about 2,500 grains, or one quart of the seed, per acre. Allowing each grain to produce but six ears, (and my yield for the present year 1855, will average ten ears to the hill,) and the produce of 2,500 hills is 15,000 ears; and allowing 120 ears to the bushel of corn, and the result will be 125 bushels per acre. By actual measurement it has been conclusively proven that three of the average sized ears of the Wyandot corn will make one quart, or ninety-six ears to the bushel—say one hundred ears—and the result is changed from 125 to 150 bushels per acre, the latter being nearest correct."

Mr. Thomas had specimens of this Wyandot corn at the Fair at Chicago, and received a premium therefor. Mr. Thomas, in his circular, states what he knows of this corn. The question arises, however, is this corn worthy of taking the place of the varieties we now depend on for crops?—There are many good farmers who have serious doubts upon this point. Mr. T. has not been alone the cultivator of this corn. Mr. Thomas, of Fulton county, said to the writer, that "it was the worst corn he ever planted." Mr. Wm. F. M. Army, raised some the last season, and the following is what he says of it in a communication to the Bloomington "Flag."

In your paper of last week, I find a notice of some corn which was exhibited at our State Fair, of which you say that you was informed, "that one acre of Illinois land would produce 200 bushels of it per annum." The corn you allude to is the "Wyandot Prolific," and will probably produce the amount you specify, in a climate and soil adapted to it, but as far north as McLean county it will not pay to plant it. I write from experience, for I planted some of it last season and gave it extra culture; it produced from nine to thirteen stalks to the grain, but the ears did not mature, a sample of the best of which I send you, by which you will perceive that north of this place it will not come to maturity.

I also send you two ears of a variety of corn, which I call the "Tennessee Flour Corn." I procured the seed some years ago, when on a tour in Tennessee, and cultivated it for several years in Western Virginia, previous to emigrating to this State, and since I have resided here I have raised some of it every year, and have furnished it north and south, and I am fully satisfied that it will come to maturity in any portion of our State, and will produce, with ordinary cultivation about one hundred bushels to the acre.

I call attention to this matter, because I feared that some of our northern farmers would be led astray and incur loss, by planting corn, upon the recommenda-

tion of others, that would not suit their climate.—New seed should always be tested in small quantities, say a half acre, before a crop is planted.

W. F. M. ARNY.

We have also a communication on the subject, from JAMES WALKER, Coroner of this county. He says :

"I see a good deal in the papers about "Wyandot Corn." I was very familiar with that corn forty and more years ago, having seen it raised, and raised it myself, for green corn in my early days in North Carolina and Tennessee. It was then pretty good for roasting ears—none of the best. If it is now good corn for the field, and our farmers are likely to make anything by substituting it for the corn now in cultivation, I must say, that it has been greatly improved since I was acquainted with it.

JAMES WALKER,  
Coroner of Sangamon County, Ill.

We have but a few words to add. The Wyandot Indian corn is of no value when ground into meal. It is destitute of oil, and the meal soon becomes sour. So we are informed in the Patent Office Report of 1853. We have given some attention to this subject, because we do not believe the Wyandot corn has received sufficient trial to justify our farmers in discarding the present corn and using that for a field crop.

#### Peach Orchards.

When settlements were first made in the Sangamon country, peach stones of the best varieties were brought here, and planted, and the result was the production of seedling trees which produced most excellent fruit. They retained their high value, as a general thing, until the year after the great snow (1830-31), which, with one or two subsequent unfavorable seasons, was fatal, generally, to peach trees. Our country friends then mainly relied on "suckers," which sprang from the stumps of the killed trees, for their new orchards. These trees, from injured stocks, and which were more or less injured by subsequent severe winters and wet and cold springs, produced poor and degenerated fruit. Trees which were grown from the stones of this fruit also produced poor peaches, until at last but few peaches were found in the country that would compare in beauty and excellence with the same fruit grown here previous to the year 1831.

Many loads of this degenerated and miserable fruit, still produced here, were brought to market last fall. It scarcely commanded

any price—in fact it was really good for no purpose but to feed out to hogs,—while those who had taken pains to replenish their orchards with budded trees, brought from nurseries, sold their fruit at almost fabulous prices.

The time is past in Illinois, when men can rely on good and saleable fruit from seedling apple or peach orchards. There were good reasons, years ago, for planting out seedling fruit trees. There were then few nurseries where the best varieties could be obtained; and, indeed, if there had been, such was the condition of our markets for the produce raised in the country, that many farmers, now rich, could scarcely then procure, with all their labor, articles of the first necessity for their families. A few farmers succeeded in planting out orchards of valuable trees. These farmers, or their descendants, are reaping a rich reward for the investment.

We can congratulate ourselves and the country, that at this time, shrewd men, are making arrangements, especially in our own county, to plant out orchards of the best varieties of fruit; and there is a fair prospect that within the next three years there will be bearing in this county, several valuable peach orchards. We have heard that one will be planted at Chatham; there is one in Germany Prairie, (near this city) already planted; and arrangements are being made to plant out two large orchards on the light lands three miles north of this city—the soil of which is peculiarly fitted for gardens, orchards and vineyards—much of which is now lying vacant and can be purchased at reasonable prices.

We would advise our agricultural friends to supply themselves the coming spring with the best varieties of peach trees—a few at least;—and if the seedlings are still permitted to cumber the ground, let the hogs have the fruit.

Beside the use of the peach as a dessert fruit, and for preserving—it is one of the best fruits, if not the best, for drying; and good varieties for this purpose are incomparably better than the common peach.

### Farm of Hon. J. N. Brown,

FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

HON. JAMES N. BROWN, resides upon his farm fifteen miles south-west of Springfield, in Island Grove, Sangamon County. It is easily reached by the Great Western Railroad—being about a mile and a half from the depot at New Berlin. The house is good—not aristocratic—and the yards and gardens in fine taste. The farm contains two thousand two hundred and fifty acres of ground. Of this about two hundred and fifty acres are in timbered land. Some four hundred and twenty acres are cultivated in corn, which, the past season, produced an average from sixty to sixty-five bushels an acre. About one hundred and twenty acres were in wheat and oats. Wheat is cultivated for the purpose of furnishing the farm with bread; occasionally there is a surplus.

Grasses for stock are all of the cultivated varieties—blue-grass, timothy and clover. From one hundred and fifty to two hundred acres of grass are cut annually, which is fed to stock, when they are prevented by snow or sleet, from obtaining feed in winter pastures, where blue-grass and timothy are grown for this purpose. Mr. Brown finds that young stock thus wintered, thrive and do better than when fed on grain. He believes that our farmers, both large and small, if they were to cultivate more grass and less grain, would save much labor, (which is *money*), increase the profits, and greatly enhance the productiveness of their farms.

Mr. Brown devotes his attention principally to stock. He has a flock of two hundred and fifty sheep for the purpose of keeping his pastures clear of weeds. His breeding cattle are Durhams. He has about fifty cows, most of them thorough bred short horns. At this time, there are on his farm five hundred steers—three hundred of them will go to market in February, and the remainder will be wintered on grass and hay. He is stall feeding four hundred bees this winter. He fills up his farm with cat-

tle for the next year as he sells off in the winter. He feeds and sells from two hundred to three hundred hogs annually, which he raises upon the litter and offal of cattle. He also keeps about forty head of horses and mules, breeding for farm purposes—occasionally selling one.

Mr. Brown thus rates the capacity of his farm: five hundred cattle; seventy-five or one hundred head of breeding cattle; three hundred hogs; two to three hundred sheep; forty to fifty horses and mules.

Mr. Brown manages all his affairs with system, and we believe with profit. In his farming, he is eminently progressive. He is not only successful so far as his own interests are concerned, but with other stock breeders, has been of signal advantage to the farmers of the whole country. His aim is to keep the best breeding stock, and to accomplish this, he spares no labor or expense. Mr. B. is never more pleased than in welcoming his friends to the hospitalities of his home.

We gather many of these facts from a communication by Mr. BROWN to Ex-Governor REYNOLDS.

### The good work Progressing.

We have a communication from Dr. S. S. CONDON, of Jonesborough, Union county, announcing that on Saturday, the 22d of December, there was a meeting of the Farmers at Jonesborough, at which was framed an Agricultural Society for Union county. The following officers were elected for the current year, viz:

George Hunsucker, President; William Green, Jacob Hileman, Moses A. Goodman, Vice Presidents; Samuel Hunsucker, Treasurer; S. S. Condon, Recording Secretary; H. Watson Webb, Corresponding Secretary.

On motion of S. S. Condon, a committee of three, viz: S. S. Condon, Charles Croul and Walter M. Willard, was appointed by the Chair to wait upon the citizens of the county at large, and solicit them to become members of the Society.

We learn that the Society already

numbers more than one hundred and fifty members, who have complied with the requisitions of the constitution, with a fair prospect of 200 or 300 more.

At the meeting on the 22d, there were able addresses by Hon. John Dougherty and H. W. Webb. There was the best feeling among the farmers and mechanics in behalf of the objects of the Society.

We rejoice to record this movement in Southern Illinois. It shows how much can be effected by a few able and devoted men, who apply themselves to the work. We respond the sentiment of our enthusiastic correspondent—"God speed the plow, loom and anvil."

#### U. S. Agricultural Society.

The late exhibition of this Society at Boston, was most successful. The money received for entries and visitors amounted to between \$30,000 and \$40,000, enough to pay the premiums and all other expenses.—The banquet on the occasion was most interesting. The speeches from different individuals were excellent,—all having relation to agriculture. Hon. H. C. JOHNS, President of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, and W. F. M. ARNY, Esq., of McLean county, represented the agricultural society of this State on the occasion. Mr. ARNY delivered a short address, setting forth the benefits which would be derived from educating men for their professions—especially the advantages that would result to agriculturists by the establishment of institutions for the education of young men, who design to be farmers.

#### Hedging.

We had designed to give in this number an article upon Hedging; but a few remarks must answer for the present. We are thoroughly impressed with the conviction that the Osage Orange will make, with proper cultivation, a perfect Hedge. But this cannot be done without *perfect* cultivation. No farmer should put out the plants with an idea that they will take care of themselves and without proper cultivation grow into a hedge. If he has that opinion, and

thus practices, he will find his Osage Orange a nuisance, which he will be glad to get rid of.

It happens that the Osage Orange requires the most care when some of the leading crops of the farmer need all his attention to cut and secure them. When either are to be neglected, he will neglect his hedge. Hence it is, as we believe, a matter of policy and profit on the part of the farmer, to employ persons to make his hedge who understand the business, who will attend to it, and who will agree not to receive their pay until the hedge is grown, and is made what a hedge should be—a perfect protection to fields. There are many persons now engaged in this business, who take contracts to grow perfect hedges, at what are believed to be fair prices. Most farmers would save money by making contracts with these men. They would then be certain of good hedges.

#### Under-Draining.

A new and novel instrument for under draining has been in use in some parts of Macon and Piatt counties, in this State, for the last two years. We learn that it is now about to be introduced into more general use. A tolerably good idea can be had of this instrument by supposing that it is a wedge of iron; this is attached to a sharp coulter, some three or four feet long; this again is fastened to a frame, so as to work above the surface of the ground. In lands inclining to be wet—in "swales" or ravines where, at times, water runs—this instrument is plunged into the ground the desired depth, and with two yoke of cattle attached to a windlass, it can be forced readily through the earth at the rate of one-half a mile a day. The cut made by the coulter will close immediately, but the opening made below by what is termed the 'mole plow,' and which is made by compressing the earth being below the action of the frost, will not close soon. Several of these drains, made two years ago, before the instrument was perfected, are still in perfect order.

Hon. H. C. Johns, of Piatt county, two years ago constructed such under-drains in "swales" on his farm in that county, which not only made the surface dry, but furnished through that dry season a supply of water for his large stock of cattle.

Whatever may be thought of this instrument for under-draining, and its practical use, by those who have no experience in its use, it is certain, that there is but one opinion among those who have used it, and that is entirely in its favor.

#### Farmers' Clubs.

We respectfully suggest to our agricultural friends, whether associations of farmers in the different precincts for gathering at least two evenings in a month, in some convenient place, during winter, for the purpose of discussing subjects connected with farming, would not be attended with great advantages. Here would be collected the young as well as the more experienced farmers, and their different processes by which they have made good crops, or failed in obtaining such, could be stated, examined, and much valuable information be elicited. Here could be learned the experience of others in regard to the raising of stock; the difference in value of the different kinds of stock,—horses, cattle, sheep and hogs; and the most successful modes of making the rearing of them profitable. Here could also be discussed the value of fruit, the best varieties of fruit, and the best manner of growing fruit trees. The interest of such gatherings would be increased by introducing the subject of agricultural machinery, and ascertaining from each other the advantages resulting from the use of the different kinds. In such localities there may be found men who have given some attention to agricultural chemistry, and who can impart information to all, and especially to the young, giving them new subjects for thought, leading their minds into the great field of agricultural science,—which will be likely to render them successful as farmers, make them proud of their calling, and thus give to labor a pleasure which can never be

enjoyed by those who do not possess such advantages.

The discussions by the members of the Farmer's Club in New York, published in the papers of the city, are usually interesting and useful. We cannot pretend that here we have the science and knowledge to compete in the value of discussions with that institution; but we do say that much good may be done by the formation of such institutions as we have proposed.

#### Growing Forest Trees.

The Legislature of Massachusetts has made it a condition on which the county agricultural societies may receive its bounty, that "they shall offer annually such premiums and encouragement for the raising and preserving of oaks and other forest trees, as to them shall seem proper and best adapted to perpetuate in this state an adequate supply of ship timber." We are informed that although premiums are offered in accordance with this requirement, they are rarely claimed. It is true, however, that an effort has been made in some portions of the state to grow new forests; and in Barnstable some success has been achieved in the covering, with a thrifty growth of white pitch pine, a large district of worn out sandy land. This success has stimulated the inhabitants of other sandy districts to further enterprises of the same character.

In the prairie portion of our own state, forests can be grown to great advantage. There is no difficulty in making the seeds of forest trees germinate and the trees grow in luxuriance in our prairies. Wherever the experiment has been tried, it has been successful. The value of a protection of trees on the most exposed sides of a farm, and about dwelling houses, can well be appreciated; and while groves and skirts of timber can be made thus to add to our comfort and beautify our prairies, they will in a few years furnish supplies of fuel and timber, when these articles will be much more valuable than they are now.

We are aware that the planting of seeds

of forest trees, on a scale sufficiently large to form groves and skirts of timber, will to many be a novelty, and they may hesitate to engage in it; yet others, who believe in *progress*, may have their attention drawn to the subject, and with little labor, may make trials which will result in success, and give them claims on the gratitude of all who may come after them. We believe that a few successful efforts to grow groves of our native timber upon our prairies, would be followed by others until the great prairies of our state would lose their distinctive character, as "vast tracts of land destitute of trees."

But how shall we grow groves and forests of our native trees? Simply by imitating nature in planting the seed. We know when the seed of each particular class of trees matures. Let it be gathered and planted. Protect from fires and injuries by stock, and nature will do the rest.

#### "Get a Home."

These three words are full of meaning. No man can fill his proper place in society, or secure to himself the greatest blessings of life, without "a home." It is there where virtue is nursed; where morals are protected; where nearly all the good left us of the fall, can be best enjoyed. The man who is without a home; who is tossed up and down on the excitements and follies of society, without the sympathies of friends in his welfare, interested in the thousand little incidents and circumstances which make up the history of human life,—must be a stranger to the sweetest comforts and purest enjoyments which are placed within our reach.

Especially in this country, where man has almost a world "where to choose a place of rest," with health, industry, economy and perseverance, this object can be obtained. Let young men start right, and the end in view will cheer and encourage them in all their toil. The first step is the important one: The millionaire tells us that the accumulation of the first hundred dollars cost him more labor than the gathering of tens

of thousands thereafter. In the west, among our farming population, few young men of character and industry, need be long without a home. There are some, who, from peculiar circumstances, have been compelled to rent land, and they are good farmers; but the mass of those who rent farms, are unthrifty, careless and negligent. You can usually detect evidences of a rented farm in the slatternly appearance of every thing about it. The occupant has no interest in its permanent improvement; cares not for the weeds in the fence corners; the unthrifty appearance of the yards, the orchard, the buildings, the fences; his object being to get the most from the farm he can with the least possible labor.

It is not necessary that a young man should have a large farm, expensive buildings, and choice stock, to secure to him the comforts and enjoyments of home. Let his grounds be contracted and his residence small; but let the whole be neatly managed, and his industry be well directed, and he will go on prospering until he will obtain all the blessings really required.

We may add to these remarks that *home* embraces the idea of family. Men are better—women are better; both fill their places best when united with judgment and pure affection. God has amply testified his approbation of such unions. We rejoice to see the sexes thus connected, even before the poetic or fanciful period of life has passed away.

We have gone beyond our design in the commencement of this article; but the thoughts in it seemed naturally to follow each other. We desire and aim to make this publication useful to all classes of our readers.

#### Take care of your Stock.

The wet weather last summer caused grasses to grow with great luxuriance; but this growth lessened their nutritious qualities, and the result was, that as a general thing, cattle were not in as good a plight for winter as usual. We have this from many farmers. It is therefore, necessary, at this

season, to take unusual care of stock. See that they are well fed, and as well protected from the inclemency of the season, as possible. It is a vast advantage to stock to go to the prairies in the spring in good order.

#### Raspberries.

A few years ago there was cultivated here a variety of the Raspberry, called the Antwerp, (not however the *true* Antwerp,) which produced fair crops. Latterly, it has not been so productive. Whether this may be charged to the seasons or to other causes, we are not able to say. Our opinion is, that all the fine raspberries are tender in this latitude, and that they cannot be depended upon to produce good crops, unless they are protected from the extreme severity of winter. This can be done, but it is troublesome. The canes should be laid down and covered with straw, or some material answering the same purpose. If this be done, the plants are likely to produce satisfactory crops. We have seen the Bromley Hill, the Franconia, the Fastolf, the True Antwerp, the common Antwerp, fail here from the severity of winter.

It is not unlikely, in order to secure a full supply of this valuable fruit, that we must have recourse to the native varieties. We doubt not that in examining the fruits of the wild plants, we shall find some superior kinds. At all times we prefer the flavor of the "black cap" native variety, to any foreign raspberry or their hybrids.—We do not suppose this taste to be general. Hereafter there may be hardy hybrids, producing fruit equal to any of the foreign kinds, which will be a great desideratum. Dr. Brinkle, of Philadelphia, has originated some new varieties, but we do not learn that any of them have been cultivated in the western country.

In the neighborhood of Albany, the common black raspberry is grown to a considerable extent. Judge Osborn, of Watervliet, informs the editor of the *Country Gentleman*, that the last season he sold \$176 worth from 2,000 stools. The stools were in rows six feet apart, and two feet in the

rows. He cultivated them as he did his corn. When the canes were 12 inches high, he cut off a portion of the tops to make them branch out. The fruit by this progress, is made of a better quality, and is easier to gather. Judge Osborn states, that with this mode of cultivation, an acre will yield 6,000 pounds of fruit.

No farmer need be without "a raspberry patch." The plants can be gathered about his farm, be planted and cultivate as suggested, and he will be certain to be well paid for his labor.

#### Health.

Health is of vast importance to farmers. In new countries we have a class of diseases which are particularly vexatious and troublesome. These, in a good measure, can be avoided by prudence and care. At this time, when large farms are being opened in every direction, we are more exposed to sickness than under a different state of circumstances. The rotting of the prairie sward generates malaria, and the evils of this state of things are increased by a wet season. In the day, it is supposed that the heat causes this malaria to rise and diffuse itself in the atmosphere;—at night, dampness condenses it, and it again falls to the earth. Hence the exposure to the night air is attended with danger;—but how difficult it is to avoid it in our beautiful summer evenings?

The erection of suitable farm houses can be made useful in securing health. Usually farm houses are placed near the ground—with loose floors—are of one-story—and when closed their sleeping apartments are filled with an atmosphere rising from below and around, in which it is a wonder if health can be retained. Much of the sickness of the country comes from this cause. The loss of time and doctor's bills, in such cases, would pay for better buildings, planned and finished with a view to health and comfort.

Farm houses should be erected on dry ground, away from ravines, should be elevated sufficiently to have a draft of air pass under them in summer, and should be

well ventilated. Where it can be done, they should be of two stories, with the sleeping apartments in the upper story.— If these arrangements were properly carried out, much sickness would be avoided.

### Illinois.

The census of Illinois for 1855, is completed. The population of this State on the 1st of July last, was 1,292,917. The population of the State in 1850, according to the U. S. Census, was 851,470. This gives an increase of population in our State, in five years, of 441,447. Accustomed as we are to the great changes now progressing in the valley of the Mississippi, this result is wonderful, scarcely to be appreciated. Within five years the population of Illinois has increased more than the whole population of Connecticut!—more than the whole population of Delaware, Rhode Island, Florida, District of Columbia, and New Mexico (61,740) added together! and within 74,100 of the whole population of the city of New York, which numbered, in 1850, 515,547 souls.

It is thus that Illinois is marching on to greatness! Can it be a wonder, that intelligent citizens, looking to the future, should regard with an interest scarcely to be expressed, the importance to our State of improvements in agriculture, in education, and in the arts that promote the highest and best aims of man?

### Illinois Nurseries.

In the matter of furnishing our farmers and others with fruit trees, it would be well to rely on our western nurseries. Trees grown in Illinois suit our climate and soil better than if grown anywhere else. There may be more extensive nurseries at the east than are found here, but they are not managed better than nurseries in our own State. We have already such of high character, conducted by men, who regard their reputation as nurserymen beyond price. Why, then, should farmers and others listen to men who claim, rightly or not, as the case may be, to be agents of eastern nurseries, who travel over our railroads, and bring

stocks of trees over them for sale? These trees may be true, and they may not be true to their name, and the farce of warranting may be given, but what of that, after five years' time, when they may be found to be worthless, or other fruit than that desired?

We know that persons in this county have been deceived in the purchase of trees, as also by men who come about in Spring to graft upon old orchards. One gentleman informed us that the past Fall he was applied to by the professed agent of an eastern nursery, and he engaged of him a number of apple trees. They were received, but were not half as good trees as those furnished from the nursery of Dr. KENNICOTT & SON, at less prices.

We wish we had a list of nurseries in our State, which are extensive enough to supply large demands. We can give but few:—Dr. Kennicott & Son, West Northfield, in Cook county; M. L. Dunlap, Leyden, in the same county; L. Ellsworth & Co., Naperville, Du Page county; Dr. Pennington, Whiteside county; A. R. Whitney, Franklin Grove, Lee county; E. Harkness, Peoria county; Wm. Stewart & Sons, Adams county; C. & R. Overman, Fulton county; Curtis & Son, Edgar county; Verry Aldrich, Putnam county; Robert Douglas, Lake county; Small Brothers, Kankakee county; O. B. Galusha, Kendall county; Arthur Bryant, Bureau county; J. T. Little, Lee county; Samuel Edwards, Bureau county; E. Ordway, Stephenson county.—Undoubtedly there are others of which we have little knowledge. New nurseries are progressing in almost every county. Some are already able to supply large demands. The nursery of M. Doyle & Co., of this county, can fill large orders; as also the nursery of James Orr, near this city, a well known nurseryman, late of Louisville.

We have been induced to notice this matter, because we believe that the interests of purchasers is better guarded in the purchase of fruit trees, if made at our own nurseries, than in the purchase of trees from foreign nurseries; that nurserymen in our State have a reputation at stake; that

trees raised in our nurseries are more suited to our soil and climate than those grown in a different soil and climate; and, we might as well say it, we want our nurserymen patronized in their efforts to furnish us with the varieties of apple and other fruits that succeed best with us.

#### Breadstuffs.

The prices are still high. Will they continue to be so? This is an important question for farmers. Much will depend on the war in Europe. Will that continue? We venture to say that all parties in that war would be very glad to make peace, provided each could secure for itself all it desires.—Russia has met with some disasters, and it is an axiom with the Russian government never to make peace under defeat. France has had about enough of the war; but England is indisposed to make peace until Russia is humbled. Can that be done?

The prospect seems to be against peace. But should peace take place, it will require two years' time, and more, to produce the usual grain crops in Europe, so as to reduce prices to the old standard. On the whole, we think farmers would do well to raise all the wheat possible. The crop in the ground is said to look tolerably well now. White spring wheat is nearly as valuable as winter wheat. Would not the raising of it pay?

#### Purchasing Stock.

The belief is becoming general among our farmers that there is a decided advantage in raising improved stock. Hence there is a disposition in almost every quarter among farmers to enhance the value of their stock by the purchase of improved breeds. And here we would speak a word of caution. While we have the best stock in our State—raised by men we know and have known for years; who can be relied upon for pedigrees of their stock; while we have this stock here for sale, our farmers inexperienced in such matters, had better purchase of them, than of drovers who drive stock from other States, to ours, for sale. We have in Illinois as good cattle as can be found in the United States. If experienced

breeders wish to change or improve their stock it is well and safe for them to do it; but it is something of a risk for the inexperienced to make selections from droves of stock where the owner has no greater object than to secure their sale.

#### County Fair Grounds.

A considerable number of County Agricultural Societies of our State have purchased lands for Fair Grounds. These grounds are selected near the county towns, and are in progress of improvement—and the result will be, that in a few years they will become a feature in our country, that all will regard with pride. We believe Sangamon farmers were the first in the State to secure grounds for their fairs. This has been followed by others;—Morgan, Adams, McLean, Tazewell, Marion, and we do not know how many more. Now is as good a time as our farmers in the different counties will ever have to strike for this object.—Lands are now cheaper than they will be again, and suitable sites for the purposes required, should at once be selected. It tells well for the farmers of the county, that they have grounds of their own where they can hold their fairs; where they can meet, with stock, bring specimens of their produce, farming implements; where their wives and daughters can present their butter, cheese, needlework, home-made cloth, &c., &c., for admiration, exhibition and premiums. The grounds of the Sangamon Association, are already beautiful and the improvements will be made better as means increase, until the farmers of the county will be enabled to point to them with pride as the "Sangamon County Fair Grounds."

#### The Peach Crop.

We seriously fear that the intense severity of the present winter has destroyed the anticipated peach crop. This is said to be the fact at Alton; and we have heard the same statement from farmers in our vicinity. In examining a few peach trees in our garden last week, we found much of the wood killed, and no flowering buds alive. Small peach trees are killed nearly to the ground.

The cold has also killed many other plants. Most of the wood of roses is killed; the roots may be safe.

The weather the last month was unprecedentedly cold in this section, and this cold weather was long continued. Here the mercury sunk to 25 deg.; at Quincy to 29 deg.; and on the Lake shore to 30 deg. We are apprehensive, that if Southern Illinois cannot furnish us with peaches the coming season, we shall have to dispense for one season with that delicious fruit.

### Railroads.

There is not a more self-evident truth, than that the farmers of Illinois, are indebted to the facilities furnished by railroads for reaching markets, for the great prosperity they now enjoy. Strike the railroads of Illinois from existence, compel us again to drag our produce to market over muddy and mirey roads, and we should find ourselves again subjected to low prices for produce, and our farms, instead of being worth from twenty-five dollars to fifty dollars per acre, would fall to less than half of their present value.

When work on the railroad between Springfield and Alton was first commenced, lands on the route were worth, in favored places, ten dollars per acre, and from that down to less than three dollars per acre. Now farms are sold on the route between Springfield and Alton, which were wild prairie lands two years ago, and worth then less than five dollars an acre, at forty dollars per acre. Sales of farms have been made near Virden, within a few past weeks, at that sum.

But words are useless in showing the increased value given to land and its productions by the construction of railroads in their vicinity. Even if the whole capital spent in constructing them is sunk, they will give the additional value of the cost of their construction to lands within reach of their influence.

These truths should be considered when projects for new railroads are started, and the farming population are called upon for

subscriptions to such new roads. When a man is subscribing for five hundred dollars worth of stock in a railroad, he should not consider what that stock will be worth in market, but what value it will be to himself in the increased worth of his farm and its productions. If it will add \$2,000 to the value of his farm, and increase the worth of his corn ten cents and wheat fifteen cents—would it not be a capital investment for him? Could he lay out his money better? Supposing that his stock would yield no dividend for ten years,—still it would be a capital investment. Ultimately, as the country improves, business increases, and population becomes dense, the stock will be valuable.

We have thus spoken of this matter, in regard to farmers subscribing for stock in railroads, by which they will be benefitted, in the most unfavorable light. We desire our farming friends to understand the whole matter in all its bearings. While the stock in railroads may not pay directly in dividends, it will pay in advancing the value of your corn, your wheat, your oats, your hogs, and I may say, your cattle, (for when the prices of food for stock is high, beef and pork rate at high prices,) and you are soon repaid the money you have invested in railroad stock. Very likely in a single season this may be accomplished.

We then say to our farmers that a regard for your own welfare should induce you to subscribe for the stock of railroads passing near your farms, or which will influence the value of your property, according to your ability. In doing this, you will not only act the part of good citizens so far as the general interests of the community are concerned, but you will advance greatly and sensibly your personal welfare. The facts are so apparent in the present case, that we think no further argument need be presented.

These remarks, although their application may be general, are made with special reference to the project of constructing a railroad from this city to Petersburg, continuing thence to Havana and the Mississippi

river, and also, ultimately, continuing it from Springfield to the Central railroad, connecting with that road at the point where it is crossed by the Alton and Terre Haute road. Five years ago who thought there was the least chance of constructing the last mentioned road—now on the eve of completion? Its prospect of success was less than that of the Petersburg and Springfield road and its continuations.

#### The China Sugar Cane.

We have a new plant under this name. "It belongs to the broom corn species, bears much analogy to the maize, and is similarly cultivated." The seeds were sent to France four years ago by the French consul at Shanghai. They were planted by distinguished gardeners, and the canes experimented upon, with the following results:

"One stem, weighing 6,944 grains, gave on the first trial, made Oct. 13th, 231½ grains of limpid juice, with no other flavor than that of sugar and water. The juice obtained from the whole stem yielded 16.8 per cent. of its weight in sugar.

"Another trial gave results varying from 14.5 to 13.8 per cent. of sugar. In a poor soil there were 17 stems per square yard, of sufficient size for the extraction of juice. At this rate an acre of ground would produce stems sufficient to make 27,180 pounds of juice; and estimating the sugar at ten per cent. of the juice, the produce per acre would be 2,718 pounds of sugar."

These figures show that the plant promises well. It is believed that it will succeed in our climate. But several years trial will doubtless be necessary to ascertain whether this plant will produce sugar sufficient in the northern portion of the United States to pay for its cultivation. There is a disposition to give it an effective trial. The patent office is supplied with a large stock of seed for distribution.

We have some of it, sent us for this purpose by Hon. T. L. HARRIS, who has our thanks.

**CURRENTS.**—We can tell but little about the size, excellence or bearing qualities of currants, as these shrubs are usually treated. Like a good many other things in this world, success depends upon starting right. To begin, cuttings should be taken from the last year's growth; the bottom should be cut smoothly off just below a bud; the buds

should be neatly taken off the plant from below for six or eight inches, and the cuttings should then be planted out in a nursery ground, or where they are to stand. Cuttings thus planted will not throw out suckers; they will become miniature trees; and if in good ground, and well cultivated, they will bear profusely and excellent fruit, and the plants will be an ornament, instead of a nuisance to the eye of the man or lady of true taste.

#### Sangamon Fair—For the Fall of 1855.

The getting up of a county fair here, so soon after the state fair, was an enterprise of difficulty, and some fears were entertained of failure. But among our farmers there is an abiding confidence in the *principle of progress*, as applied to their profession, and a willingness to unite in all proper measures to advance this *progress*. The Society have beautiful fair grounds, and the fixtures are convenient for exhibitions. The fair has now passed by for some months, and we can only speak of it from recollection. The stock, of various descriptions, was fine. If there was any thing lacking in this respect, we think it was in the exhibition of swine. We have but little of the Suffolk blood in the county, tho' we have excellent breeds. There was a large variety of agricultural implements present, which seemed greatly to interest our farmers. There were many vegetables, but they were not as numerous as they should have been. [Here we will venture an observation: Large vegetables are seldom the best for the table,—especially can this rule be applied to cabbages, beets, parsnips, carrots, and perhaps some others. The monster beets brought to our fairs are only fit for cattle.] There were but few specimens from the dairy. The premiums in this department were high; but they did not call out such an exhibition as was desired. There was a fine show in the Ladies' Department. Indeed it would well compete with that department at the state fair in '54. Such an exhibition was not anticipated, and the premiums were insufficient to meet the demands of merit. We hope

this error will be corrected the present year. In a word, the fair was eminently successful and gratifying to all concerned.

The receipts during the fair were sufficient to meet the expenses and leave a small surplus in the treasury of the Society.

### Immigration.

An observing citizen of Illinois who was in New York a few weeks ago, and who became impressed with the fact, that real estate was decreasing in value in parts of the city and in towns around,—asked why this was so? Trade appeared to be good—commercial business was tolerably prosperous—and many classes of mechanics had full employment. The answer was in substance—“We need not attempt to conceal the fact—the cause of the fall of property is the emigration of our people to the west. The facilities for reaching the various points in the west are so great, and the advantages which a new country offers to men of real enterprise, are taking our people thither, rather faster than we are willing to spare them. They, however, when there, will create a market for us—they will want our wares and goods—and we shall want the food they will be able to furnish us. And if they are our personal friends, they can go only about two or three days distance from us, and we reconcile ourselves to their absence by knowing that this is the natural tendency of things. Some of our mechanics, and a good many laborers, not half as many of the last as should go, are taking their departure for the west, and these emigrations will result in the general benefit of the country.—While we want bread, why should millions of the finest land the sun ever shone upon, remain in its native wildness, the home of the wolf and the deer and other wild animals?”

The remarks of this New Yorker are true and have a peculiar force at this time. There is a greater disposition among the people of the east to emigrate west, than was ever before known. We are told, that go where you will, in the New England

States, New York, or even in the Middle States, and you will find a great desire among the people to try their fortunes in the west. Especially is this the case in New England. There the farming population, with good farms—that is, with good farms for that section—can do little more than support themselves with the greatest industry; and as families increase, and estates are divided, the difficulty of making farming profitable is constantly on the increase. In some towns, half the people would leave, if they could dispose of their property and retain means to give them a start in the west. Indeed, the next season will show the fact, that large settlements and towns will be made by persons who were neighbors in the east. Such will be made the coming year on the whole line of the Central Railroad and the other Railroads of the State. We are entirely sincere in stating, that to farmers in the east, who desire to locate in the west, where they can enjoy good society, the benefit of schools and churches, who are possessed of means to make a beginning as farmers, with good health and a spirit of perseverance, *now* is the time to make a strike for Illinois!—Lands can be now had at reasonable prices, which they can improve into good farms in two or three years. Our railroad improvements, our good climate, our fertile soil, our good markets, all invite farmers to come and cast their lots with us.

### Adams County—Second Annual Fair.

We have received a neat pamphlet, embracing the “Report of the second annual fair of the Adams county Agricultural Society, and list of premiums awarded: also, the address delivered by Rev. L. Billings.”

We learn from the Report that the Society have secured beautiful grounds for their exhibitions, every way adapted to their purpose, and have fenced and well fitted them up in other respects. The grounds are said to be extensive enough to accommodate the State Fair, and the wish is expressed that it shall be held there in a year or two. We judge from the list of

premiums awarded that there was a good exhibition at the Fair, of stock fruit, vegetables, grain, flowers, products of the dairy, agricultural implements, vehicles, boots, shoes, blacksmith's work, domestic manufactures, specimens in the fine arts, needle-work, etc. There are men interested in the Adams County Agricultural Society, who will make it successful. The principal duties connected with agricultural Societies, as a general thing, have to be performed by a few public spirited individuals. In due time, it is hoped, that farmers will realize the advantages which can be derived from well regulated Agricultural Societies and become active in their behalf.

The Fair, last fall, continued for three days. The admission fees were sufficient with the money in the treasury, to pay the premiums and all the expenses incurred, leaving a balance to be applied to the improvement of the Fair grounds.

On the last day of the Fair, Rev. Mr. Billings delivered an address on "Thought and Labor." The address is one of the best; and the Society have done well in publishing it.

#### Vegetables.

To persons who grow vegetables for sale, it is important that they raise the best.— We saw in November last, potatoes sold in our market, by the wagon load, for 56 cents per bushel,—when inferior potatoes were sold at the same time at 35 cents. The difference grew out of the difference in the seed used. Central and Southern Illinois will not produce the best potatoes, unless the seed of the best varieties, is provided. We deem it all important that the seed be occasionally changed.

The same facts exist in regard to the beet, turnip, carrot, parsnip and cabbage crops, where the same are designed for the table. There is an essential difference in the varieties of these vegetables. Many vegetables degenerate here if the same stock is long used for seed. Every man of observation has noticed how the blood beet and the early turnip beet, become large,

stringy and coarse, if the same stock is used for seed from year to year. The same truth, though not to the same extent, takes place with the cabbage, carrot and parsnip. Great pains have been taken in Europe to multiply the varieties of turnip, and there is now found there, many new varieties possessing superior qualities for the table and stock.

In the article of cabbages there is also great improvement. There are large, heavy, coarse cabbages, fit only for cattle; and there are fine delicate cabbages for the table, rich, tender, sweet, almost equal in excellence to the cauliflower. Professional gardeners understand, or ought to understand, the qualities of the different varieties. Our best cabbage seeds can only be had at those establishments where great attention is paid to the raising of pure varieties of the seed. In English catalogues there are some twenty kinds named, which, for different qualities and purposes, are deemed of great value.

The subject of this article is worthy of the special attention of farmers and gardeners the coming year. Nor should their views be limited to the seeds we have named. The principle of changing seed is worthy of general application.

#### Grape Culture.

When it is considered with what little trouble and expense a farmer can provide for himself an abundant supply of the grape, and the acknowledged healthfulness of this fruit; it is strange, indeed, that so little attention is paid to its cultivation. Books upon the culture of the grape are numerous, and they abound with so many directions that to a novice they involve the subject in mystery. A man who knows how to raise corn, with a little exercise of practical sense, can raise grapes enough for his own use.

A piece of loamy ground, with a dry bottom, should be selected. It should be tolerably rich, and be dug as deep and be as well pulverized as it ought to be for a garden. Get sound cuttings of last

year's wood, say fifteen inches long, having three buds. Plant them in the ground in regular rows, fifteen feet apart, and ten feet between the rows. Lay the cuttings in the ground in an inclining position, so that the lower part will be eight inches deep in the ground, and the upper bud just above the ground. The cuttings should be of well matured wood and not injured by the excessive cold of the present winter. Put two cuttings together, so that you will be likely to have one growing plant. If both live, the second spring take one of them up, and you can plant it in another place. Drive a stake into the ground beside each plant, and the the second spring cut back the plant so as to leave but one bud on the new wood. The third spring, or in the previous winter, make yourself acquainted with the process of further culture by applying to some neighbor who understands it,—practice accordingly, and you will thereafter have a supply of grapes, and probably be thankful for the hints given in these paragraphs.

#### Illinois Teacher's Institute.

This Institute met in this city on the 26th December. We are told that there were seventy-five delegates present. Addresses were delivered by N. W. Edwards, Esq., Prof. Turner, Prof. Bateman, President Sturtevant, President Akers, Mr. Powell, and some others. The plan of establishing a Normal School by the State, for educating teachers, seemed to meet the views of the Institute.

#### Illinois State Agricultural Society.

The Executive Committee of this Society met in this city on the 9th instant. Their proceedings will be found on a subsequent page. The committee appropriated \$6000, for premiums for the next Fair; and made some arrangements in reference to that Fair,—which is to be held for four days, to commence on the 30th of September next; but did not decide upon a location for the Fair. That subject will remain open until the adjourned meeting of the committee, to be held on the 2d day of April next.

#### Indiana State Agricultural Society.

The Board of Agriculture of the State of Indiana, were in session in Indianapolis on the 11th inst. The Board appropriated \$6,000 for premiums for the next State Fair. They resolved "to invite the competition of the world." [Hurra! for Indiana!] A resolution was adopted for the establishment of an Agricultural College, and that the Institution should be opened by a course of lectures, from competent instructors, on the sciences in their application to farming, to commence on the first of September next. No place was fixed upon for the next Fair. The Board adjourned to meet again on the 4th of March next.

#### "A Word in Season."

The business of small farmers in the country is regular, systematic, occupying all the time of the farmer, his wife, their sons and daughters, and workmen and work-women, if they have them. It will be manifest, therefore, that any interruption that changes the general routine of their business, seriously effects and disconcerts them. This fact is also true in regard to small families anywhere.

Now we are far from desiring to discourage social visiting, where it can be done without a serious inconvenience to all parties. In the country, families are generally pleased to receive visitors occasionally, where their reception and accommodation, does not disarrange the usual routine of family affairs. To suppose that long visits can be made, and received without trouble and care, and some anxiety, is all wrong. Families usually "put themselves out much" for the accommodation of visitors; and especially is this the case in winter, with our generally unsuitable dwellings, for the accommodation of visitors.

What we wish to say in this connection is, when you go into the country to visit, or, when you go from one part of the country to visit in another, make as little trouble as you can. Wait on yourselves in every way possible. When you see any thing to

be done, and you can do it, "take hold."— Help feed stock; help cut the wood; help make fires;—help all you can, so as to give your friends time to enjoy the visit. Especially should this be the case with the females: "take hold," lighten the work of your entertainers in all the ways which your good sense will teach you, can be done, and depend upon it, your visit will be pleasant all round. Will not this be so? Ask yourselves, good readers.

#### Premium Crops in Ohio.

The crop season of 1854, was a very unfavorable one in Ohio,—the weather was dry, and the crops were generally short.— There were some cases, however, where good cultivation overcame all the difficulties of the season. We notice in Transactions of the Agricultural Society of Ohio, for 1854, recently published, that premiums were given in the following cases :

**OATS.**—*Franklin County.*—Henry Ridenow raised on a field of six acres, an average of 60 bushels an acre. Cost of culture \$54 75. Value of the crop on the field, \$122 85. Profit on the field, \$68 10.

**SWEET POTATOES.**—*Franklin County.*—Joseph Mock raised 76 and 3-4ths bushels on a quarter of an acre of ground. Soil black sandy loam, ploughed deep, furrowed three feet apart, each way; made in hills; planted one sprout in each hill, from the 10th May to the 1st June.

**CORN FODDER.**—*same County.*—G. S. Innis had in cultivation a field. His statement embraces one acre. The expense of cultivating, including seed, saving the crop, &c. was \$11 60. There were 12,250 lbs. of fodder, at \$10 per ton, \$61 25. Profit per acre and one-sixteenth for the use of land, \$49 65. The ground was in good order and had a crop of vegetables raised on it the year before.

**CORN.**—*Licking County.*—Five acres, raised by C. H. Coe. Produced 130 bushels of shelled corn to an acre. The corn was of the "Kentucky Club" variety; land, bottom, that had been kept in pasture ;

plowed ten inches deep; planted two and a half feet one way, and three the other; from two to five stalks in a hill; a small pinch of gypsum was put on each hill as it was coming up; hoed twice and plowed four times. Mr. Coe, on another field, raised at the rate of 147 bushels of shelled corn to the acre, with the same cultivation.

**ONIONS.**—*Cuyahoga County.*—John Kelly raised 116 1-2 bushels on one-fourth of an acre of ground. Cost of production \$23 50. Onions at 75 cents per bushel, \$87 18. Net profit, \$63 58.

**SWEET POTATOES.**—*Cuyahoga County.*—John Kelly raised on one-fourth of an acre of ground, 90 bushels of sweet potatoes, worth \$2 a bushel, \$180, at a cost of \$25 50.— Profit \$154 50, on a quarter of an acre of ground.

In all cases, the tillage was thorough, the ground well prepared by deep ploughing, pulverized, and crops kept clean.

#### Cattle Premiums.

At a late meeting of the Ohio Board of Agriculture, a committee of that body reported for the action of the Board the following resolution:

Resolved, That the State Board of Agriculture, be requested to take into consideration the propriety of so regulating their premium list as to offer rewards for cattle according to their uses. Say for dairy, working and beef purposes, and not for different breeds, as heretofore.

There was much opposition in the Board to the adoption of this resolution, and it was finally laid on the table. It is said that in central and southern Ohio, in the corn or beef growing districts, Short Horn Durhams are considered only worth raising. In northern Ohio, where grass is only relied on, and cattle are principally devoted to dairy purposes, the Devons are the favorites. A writer in the Ohio Farmer states that at the last Fair of that state, animals of the Ayreshire stock took twenty-five dollars more in premiums than they actually cost! The Ohio Board continue to offer equal premiums on the different imported breeds of cattle.

### Adulteration of Food.

A year or so ago the British Parliament appointed a committee to investigate the reported adulterations of food, which were sold in the British metropolis. Their investigations resulted in the detection of the most astounding frauds in almost every thing that constitutes the food of man.—Flour was adulterated; coffee and teas were adulterated; ground spices, ginger and such condiments as pepper, mustard, and other articles of similar character, were mixed, with worthless ingredients, to a great extent. Wherever this adulteration could be done, without direct discovery, it was practiced. By these means, sellers could apparently, dispose of their articles at cheap rates, and persons were deceived into their purchase, and in adulterated mustard, ginger and spices, paid the highest rates for oatmeal! In teas, extravagant prices were paid for the leaves of the sloe and the hawthorn; in ground coffee, for chickory root and peas; in bread and flour, for bone dust, and sometimes gypsum!

Adulterations are not practiced to the same extent in this country; but, where ground spices, and black and Cayenne pepper, and coffee and ginger, are sold ground at very low prices—lower than the crude articles of which they are made can be purchased,—then the consumer may be pretty certain that he is purchasing an adulterated article. And we might say the same thing of a long list of unenumerated articles.—From all which facts, we would infer, that purchasers, at all times, will find it true economy, as well as a security to health, to purchase for consumption pure articles when designed to be taken as food, or as condiments with food.

### Agricultural Implements.

There will be a host of these articles before the public the present season for purchase and use by our farmers.—Scientific mechanics have done a vast deal, within a few years, to lighten the labors and make profitable the business of the farmer, by the introduction of Agricultural Implements.

Few farmers with immense fields of wheat will resort to the sickle, (now an old foggy instrument,) to cut their crops. Mechanical science has achieved wonders in the agricultural line for the benefit of the farmer.

Most of the reapers and mowers perform their work well. No doubt some have advantages over others. It is to settle this among other questions that we have recommended the formation of farmers' clubs.—Farmers themselves are the best judges of the value of agricultural implements.

The use of agricultural machinery for the cultivation of farms in the West, as well as in the practice of household economy, is, comparatively, just commenced. What has been effected in the past is some augury of what will be done in the future. We opine that many of our readers will live to see vast improvements made in the agricultural machines of the present day, scarcely now to be conceived of. Every year brings forth some additional and valuable improvement.

Advertisements in reference to several reapers and mowers will be found on our advertising sheet.

### Weights and Measures.

*Act of the last Illinois Legislature.*—Be it enacted, &c., That whenever any of the following articles shall be contracted for, or sold, or delivered, and no special contract or agreement shall be made to the contrary, the weight per bushel shall be as follows, to-wit :

Bushel.	lbs.	Bushel.	lbs.
Wheat.....	60	Blue Grass Seed.....	14
Shelled Corn.....	56	Buckwheat.....	52
Corn in the ear.....	70	Dried Peaches.....	53
Rye.....	56	Dried Apples.....	24
Oats.....	32	Onions.....	57
Barley.....	47	Salt.....	50
Irish Potatoes.....	60	Stone Coal.....	80
Sweet Potatoes.....	55	Malt.....	38
White Beans.....	60	Bran.....	20
Castor Beans.....	46	Turnips.....	55
Clover Seed.....	60	Plastering Hair.....	8
Timothy Seed.....	45	Unslacked Lime.....	80
Flax Seed.....	55	Corn Meal.....	48
Hemp Seed.....	44	Fine Salt.....	55

 We have been delayed in getting out this number by difficulties not anticipated. We expect to get out the next number by the middle of February.

### Garden Roses.

From an examination, we are satisfied that the wood of most of the garden roses above ground, is killed or greatly injured by the severe and long continued cold of the present winter. We find that this is the case with all the running roses, the Hardy Perpetuals, and the various classes (with the exception of the Scotch) called June roses.— So soon as the spring opens the dead and injured wood should be cut out, and if the roots are sound a strong growth of wood will soon appear. But there will be few roses in June. The Hardy Perpetuals may blossom late in summer and fall.

It would be well to start new rose plants. This can be done by using offsets or suckers from those roses which have a tendency to throw up shoots from their roots. There are many beautiful hybrid June roses that will not do this.

Our lady friends will be well repaid the coming summer by planting out in their gardens varieties of the Bengal, Tea, Noisette and Bourbon roses. A good many of the varieties of these roses will live out doors through the winter with a little protection. It is useless to endeavor to save the wood when they are to be left out. It can be cut down, earth thrown over the roots, crowned with turf; and this covering removed in Spring, strong shoots will be thrown up from the roots, and the plants will furnish blossoms in a few weeks and continue to do so until the season of heavy frosts in autumn. We have had varieties of these roses remaining in open ground in our garden for the last eight years;—and they richly repay for all the care given them.

### Lectures on Agriculture.

J. A. WIGHT, Esq., late editor of the *Prairie Farmer*, is about to deliver a course of Lectures on Agriculture, in Chicago.— We hail this as a new feature of the times. Mr. Wight is capable of doing much good; and if farmers in the different counties could procure his services as a lecturer, they would, in our opinion, greatly benefit themselves, and especially the youth, who design to follow the agricultural profession. We wish Mr. Wight success in his enterprise; for he know we deserves it.

**MENDING BROKEN CHINA.**—The following old receipt for mending China is said to answer admirably: "Take a very thick solution of gum-arabic in water, and stir it into plaster of Paris until the mixture becomes a viscous paste. Apply it with a brush to the fractured edges, and stick them together. In three days the article cannot again be broken in the same place. The whiteness of the cement renders it doubly valuable."

### Blood Stock—What it is.

Many farmers have most curious notions in regard to the meaning of the phrase "Blood Stock." Many have an idea that it must be imported stock and held at a high price, because it has been brought across the ocean.

But in England there is a wide distinction between what is called blood stock and the common stock of that country.— Certain breeders of stock have been extremely nice in regard to breeding. They have selected from the common herds of cattle the very best they could find, and have kept them apart from the common run of cattle, casting off all the inferior individuals that often show themselves in the best herds.

By pursuing this course for years in succession a race is produced superior to the common run of cattle; and at length this race becomes so perfect that you can place much reliance on the progeny. Different courses have been pursued by stock breeders in England; but gradually the aim has been to produce large animals, and such as will fatten early, regardless of their merits as milkers.

The Shorthorn Durhams meet the views of those who pride themselves in the growth of the largest animals, and such as will fatten at three or four years of age. These cattle are said to fatten at less expense, also, than the promiscuous herds of our country; but as reliable milkers the full blood Durhams have failed to give satisfaction to purchasers.

But a prejudice exists against what is called "blood stock," that is, imported stock, and the question is often asked, why is not our native stock as good as any that can be imported? We have cows of no particular breed that will excel the general run of imported cows, and why should we not rely on them in preference to what is termed "blood stock?"

Now we have no idea that the farmers of Britain are the only people capable of producing "blood stock." They have taken the lead in this business, and to them we look for information in regard to results; but we are bound, hand and foot to the opinions of foreign breeders.

Let us examine this subject fairly. Is it best to breed promiscuously, and pick out of the mass production the best looking individuals; or is it better to rear a race from the most noted milkers, and keep that race apart from the mean animals which are often reared as farm stock?

A drover who goes into the interior to buy cows will prefer such as are bred by an old farmer who has long been in practice of raising his own calves, and breeding from the best of his cows. A farmer who has pursued this course for twenty years or more, has now, in fact, "blood stock" of his own production, and can calculate with considerable confidence on the qualities of the calves or young cattle that he has produced.

By pursuing this mode we can rear as good blood stock as any foreigner who ever lived. Time, patience, and strict attention are needed to come to the result which foreign breeders have. We can have as good cattle as any that have been produced in England, if we will have patience and continue long in the right course.

It often happens that an individual cow, of no particular breed, will yield more milk and butter than the average of blood stock. What of it? Will her progeny do the like? If we cannot rely on her progeny we cannot account her of any great advantage to the public, though her owner may have made profits out of her.

Drovers go annually into the interior to buy cows to supply a demand of people who live on the seaboard, or near large towns where young cattle cannot be raised without great cost. A shrewd drover picks up thirty or forty of the best cows he can find in Vermont or in Canada. Well, he sells to those who cannot afford to rear calves, the purchasers are benefitted by this course of trade, but the State is not advanced by this course of traffic. The best lot of cows is transferred from Vermont to Rhode Island; but not the least advance is made in the improvement of stock. Rhode Island still continues to make veal of all her calves, and Vermont continues to rear all, good and bad.

And yet we hear croakers declaiming against blood stock, or select stock, because a bastard individual is sometimes found to prove superior to the average of blood stock or legitimate stock.

Imported stock, and all blood stock should be judged by his real merits. If Americans will pay the same attention to breeding which foreigners have done, they can, without doubt, rear as good animals as any of foreign production. Will they not make the trial?—*Mass. Plowman.*

**YOUR TREES.**—Farmers who apprehend danger to trees in grass, from being girdled by mice, should at once tread the snow firmly around the roots, near the body of the tree, and follow up the practice when necessary during the winter.

### Why is a Thorough Bred better than a Common Bred?

We have received a few queries from one who subscribes himself a "Beginner," and who wishes to know why a thorough bred animal, such as a thorough bred Durham, a thorough bred Hereford, or Jersey, or Devon, is any better than common cattle. If says he, I have a common bred, say native cow, if you please, equally as large and equally as fat as a thorough bred Durham cow, why is she not as good, and why should she not command as much money in the market as the thorough bred Durham, or Devon? If you wish to obtain merely the beef, hide and tallow, to be sold in the shambles, perhaps the common bred cow may be worth as much as the other. Or if you want milk or work, you may perhaps find some of the common bred valuable as the thorough bred but here lies the difference; if you wish to breed from them, you are not sure of getting the like from the common bred, while you may be very certain of getting the like from the thorough bred. The thorough bred of any breed, have had their peculiar characteristics fixed by a long and careful and thorough course of breeding, it may be for centuries, so that they are pretty sure to produce a progeny possessing the characteristics of their parents. Not so with the common bred. If you have one of them, for instance, that is very good for milk, there is no certainty that her progeny will be good for milk. If you have one possessing a desirable color or form, you are not sure that its progeny will possess either; while with a thorough bred you are. Take a Hereford for instance, with his solid, compact, mahogany colored body, and white face, and you may predict with much certainty, that all their calves will possess the same distinctive characteristics; so of Durhams, so of Devons, so of Jerseys.

Hence, a thorough bred is more valuable than the common, not for its amount of beef or bones, or hide or tallow, but for the inherent capacity they have for producing their like to a great degree of certainty.

But cannot our common breeds be bro't to this capacity? Yes, if you have a genius for conducting the business of breeding according to some model, or characteristic, and could live a hundred years, or could transmit your genius to some one that would continue the experiment to that period of time, you could; but since we have so many good breeds that are thorough bred, and handy to our hands, it would be wiser to adopt them, than to commence experimen-

ting for a new breed. There will be scope enough to exercise your talents in breeding in keeping up the excellencies and characteristics of the breeds we have. They being artificial, innovations upon nature, would certainly deteriorate and go back again in time, if great care was not taken to keep them up.—*Maine Farmer.*

#### Dairy Stock.

*Editor Illinois Farmer:*—Some reflection has induced me to come to the conclusion that our State Agricultural Society should do more than they have done to encourage the raising of dairy stock in this State. That Society has done much to exhibit the advantages of the best breeds of beef cattle; but little attention, comparatively, has been paid to another and very important interest.

The dairy business is sadly neglected by the farmers of Illinois. We have immense fields of natural grass meadows, with an abundance of other food for milch cows; and high prices are paid for cheese and butter;—and yet we are supplied with poor cheese from the northern part of Ohio, and generally butter of country production, cannot be had here but at high prices.

Little attention having been given to the dairy, our milch stock is not of the best kind. No attempt has been made to raise a distinct stock for milking purposes;—and though, occasionally, a Durham cow may be good for milk, there can be no reliance upon them for this purpose. When we purchase Durham stock, we know what that stock is intended for—beef. It is a hazardous business to purchase milch cows. Some may be tolerably good and others of little account.

Would it not be well to encourage the raising of Ayrshire stock for dairy purposes; and to give adequate premiums to induce farmers to go into the making of cheese and butter. I suppose that one object of the State Agricultural Society is to encourage all agricultural enterprises which shall be likely to develop the natural wealth of our State, and to give profitable employment to its people.

A.

#### A Farmer's Ice House.

M. D. EVEREST, in the *Ohio Farmer*, thus describes a cheap way of getting up and filling an ice House :

"Having a barn unoccupied, I measured off a room 12 feet square in the north west corner.—To let the water drain immediately off that comes from the ice, I put rails down on the ground, there being no floor, and covered them two feet thick with saw dust, so that the ice would settle alike, and not make vacuums in my pile of ice. And as air must not be admitted at the bottom,—for in such case the ice will melt, I put the scantling forming the inside walls, on which were nailed inch boards, 12 inches from the inside of the barn boards, filling the space with saw dust. Height of wall six feet. The roof of the ice house should not be very near the ice, and hence I left all open up to the roof of the barn, and took the ice out at the top. Having an ice house completed, which two men will make in two days, I proceeded to procure ice. Myself and man cut the ice in one day, and slid it on shore, where we let it remain till the water was all frozen that was dripping from it. I drew it to my barn and

piled it upon the floor. It being cold weather, I did not pack it until a fortnight had passed, during which time it became very transparent. I put a course over the bottom and filled the cracks with ice, and then laid another course and so on, until the room was filled. When filled, I covered the top course one foot deep with saw dust, stamped it down, and when the ice was wanted, removed just enough saw dust to take out as much ice as needed. During summer when the ice melted on the sides, I filled up with saw dust and stamped it down closely. We took ice out every day and sometimes four or five times, and have quite a quantity on hand yet (Jan. '56.) My pile was 610 solid feet."

#### Transactions of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, Vol. I, 1853-'54.

OFFICE OF THE ILL. STATE AG' L Soc'y, }  
WEST NORTHFIELD, ILL., Dec. 1. 1855. }

This work is now ready for delivery. It is an octavo volume of 624 pages, bound in gilt and embossed muslin. In addition to the usual proceedings of State and County Societies, there are reports of surpassing value, and many original essays, by the first writers of our country, of special and superior excellence; and also contributions to the Natural History of Illinois, in the shape of popular descriptive papers, and Scientific Catalogues of the animals of the extreme south and north end of the State.

*The book is not for sale.* We are indebted to the liberality of the Legislature for its publication; and the members reserved for their individual distribution one thousand copies of it. In addition to the three thousand ordered, one thousand have been printed under a "standing rule," and bound "in boards," like other legislative reports, and which, as near as we are informed, go into the County Clerk's offices, and are sometimes used for lighting fires, rather than enlightening the people of the State. It is to be hoped, however, that those who read this notice will rescue these from such a fate. They are worth some pains in the attempt.

On application to S. Francis, the Recording Secretary and Librarian of the State Society, at Springfield, each County Society will receive a *pro rata* share of copies; and individuals who do not procure them of members of the Legislature or the County Clerks, had better apply to the officers of the State Society, in their several districts. Each and every member of the Executive Committee is charged with the distribution of a certain number of copies. Contributors to the volume will receive complimentary copies through the undersigned.

JOHN A. KENNICOTT,

Cor. Sec. Ill. State Agric'l Soc'y.

☞ Will the country Press please notice.

#### Potatoes---New mode of Culture.

Mr. G. G. Shipman, of Hadley township last week brought us a lot of Pinkeye potatoes which he recommended as being of a superior quality, their excellence being the result not of the kind of potatoes but the manner in which they were raised. We sent them to our obliging host of the Mansion House, who had them duly served up, boiled, the next morning for breakfast. We found upon trying them, that they were superior to any potatoe we had tasted this season; most of them had burst open, were very dry, mealy and very fine grained; they were entirely free from all the

harshness found in most potatoes, and would almost melt like butter in the mouth.

Mr. Shipman informed us that he planted them in the usual manner, then covered them to the depth of about six inches with straw; after this no further cultivation was required—the straw kept down the weeds, and the potatoes was not disturbed until they were dug. Not only has this method produced him a very superior potatoe, but it has this year brought him an extraordinary yield—4 bushels to the square rod, or at the rate of 640 bushels to the acre!

He has tried this mode of culture for three years past, and has in every instance found it to bring results superior to the common method. This year he has planted at three different times, with the following results:

Early in April he planted meshanocks in both ways, and pinkeyes under the straw; all were in the same kind of ground. The mesnanocks cultivated yielded 2 bushels and one peck to the square rod; those covered with straw 3 bushels and one peck, and the pinkeyes covered, 4 bushels.

Pinkeyes, planted on the 24th of May, covered with straw yielded 2½ bushels and 4 quarts to the square rod. They were the smallest potatoes.

Pinkeyes planted about the last of June, covered, brought 2 bushels and one quart to the square rod. These, although the smallest yield, were the largest potatoes, and of the best quality.

We think that Mr. Shipman has demonstrated that this method of covering with straw deserves attention and experiment from our farmers. If as Mr. S. thinks it will produce not only better but more potatoes than the common method, its advantage is apparent to every one. We hope a number of our farmers may try it next season and give the public the result of their experience.

—Pike co. Free Press

**REMEDY FOR FOUNDER IN HORSES.**—I send you a receipt for the founder in horses, which I have never seen in print. I have used and recommended it for fifteen years, and so far as my experience goes, it is a sure and speedy remedy:—Take a table-spoonful of pulverized alum, pull the horse's tongue out of his mouth as far as possible, and throw the alum down his throat; let go of his tongue, and hold up his head until he swallow.--- In six hours time, no matter how bad the founder, he will be fit for moderate service. I have seen this remedy tested so often, with perfect success, that I would not make five dollars difference in a horse foundered (if done recently) and one that was not.—[Country Gent.]

**DIRECTIONS FOR SLEEPING.**—The Phrenological Journal says, that in sleeping that posture should be chosen which is promotive of deep and full inspirations, because nature renders the latter deeper when we are asleep than awake, except in action. Hence a high head, by cramping both the windpipe and the blood vessels, is bad. The head should rest on a line with the body.

**THE GAPES IN CHICKENS.**—A correspondent says:—"Tell those of your readers who are interested in raising chickens, that a small pinch of gunpowder, given to a chicken with the gapes, will effect a sure and complete cure in from one to three hours time, and leave poor chick healthy and hearty. I speak from what I know having tried the remedy with perfect satisfaction.

## State Agricultural Society---Meeting of the Executive Committee.

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 9, 1856.

Present—H. C. Johns, C. W. Webster, J. Gage, Wm. Ross, J. Williams, S. Francis, Fr. Arenz.

J. Williams, Treasurer, made a verbal report of the Treasury.

Adjourned till 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

January 10, 1856.

Present—same as yesterday and Wm. Strawn.

The subject of premiums for the next State Fair, was taken up.

Mr. Arnez moved that \$6,000 be appropriated for premiums for the present year—carried.

Mr. Arnez moved that the arrangements and preparation of the premium list be confided to the President, with directions to call to his assistance such person or persons as he may think proper—carried.

Mr. Arenz moved that premiums be offered for the performances of the best band of music and best glee club which shall be present at the next State Fair—carried.

On motion of S. Francis,

RESOLVED, That this Society award premiums for the best hedges in this State;—no hedge to be entered for premium of a less length than forty rods.

On motion, the President appointed Messrs. Francis, Gage and Ross a committee to mature a plan for the examination of hedges to be entered for premiums.

The rules and regulations of the last Fair were adopted.

The committee proceeded to arrange the departments for exhibition for the next Fair.

1st Department, Cattle—W. Strawn, Superintendent.

2nd Department—Horses; C. W. Webster, Superintendent.

3rd Department—Sheep, Swine and Poultry; J. M. Blackburn, Superintendent.

4th Department—Agricultural Implements; J. N. Brown, Superintendent.

5th Department—Farm and garden products, food, condiments, &c.; P. L. Ward, Superintendent.

6th Department—Fruits and Flowers; L. Ellsworth, Superintendent.

7th Department—Mechanical department—machinery, metallic work, cabinet ware, &c., &c.; J. Gage, Superintendent.

8th Department—Musical Instruments, Paintings, &c.; F. Arenz, Superintendent.

9th Department—Textile Fabrics; W. Ross, Superintendent.

10th Department—Natural History, Geology and Botany; E. R. Roe, Superintendent.

11th Department—Miscellaneous department; Wm. F. M. Army, Superintendent.

Plowing Match; Uriah Mills, Superintendent.

Adjourned till 2 o'clock, p. m.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Present—as before.

Mr. Francis, from the committee to mature a plan

for examining hedges and giving premiums for the same, made the following Report :

**RESOLVED**, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the subject of hedging for this Prairie State, whose duty it shall be to examine the hedges in the different parts of the State, and award premiums, as follows :

1. For the largest amount of well set and cultivated hedge on one farm, a silver medal.
2. For the best hedge of 1,000 rods and upwards, a silver medal.
3. For the best hedge of forty rods and upwards, a silver medal.

Each person receiving a premium shall be required to furnish a statement of the manner of preparing the ground, setting the plants, and cultivating the hedge, and all persons applying for the premiums shall be required to furnish a similar statement.

Said committee shall examine and report on the practicability, value and general utility of hedging, for enclosures of land from the southern to the northern extremities of the State.

On the various kinds of plants, and their durability.

The said committee shall pay special attention to the use of the hedge for enclosing railroads, taking into consideration its capacity for keeping snow off the track; and any other information they may think important on the subject.

The President of the Society be requested to give immediate notice through the State, inviting the entry of hedges for premiums, and persons desiring to make entries shall communicate the same to the corresponding Secretary by letter previous to the 1st day of May next. The President shall fix upon the day when the committee shall commence the examination of the hedges entered for premiums; and they shall make a report at the session of the executive committee at their meeting, to be held during the next Fair.

The Report was accepted and the resolutions adopted.

The following resolutions were then presented and adopted :

**RESOLVED**, That each superintendent, on the receipt of the list of awarding committees shall notify the members of such committees as belong to his department of their appointment, and ascertain from them whether they will serve or not; and if they will not serve, he shall be responsible that the committees are filled then the said superintendent shall fill their places, and in his department.

**RESOLVED**, That on the Fair grounds the awarding committees shall be requested to report themselves to the superintendent of the department to which they belong.

**RESOLVED**, That the President be requested to have the premium list ready for publication at the next adjourned meeting of the Board.

**RESOLVED**, That the Fair Grounds, wherever located, shall embrace not less than twenty acres, all to be inclosed with a close board fence, not less than seven feet high—the boards running horizontally; fifty close stalls, 8 feet by 12; two hundred open stalls 8 feet by 12; all stalls to be covered; one hundred tight pens for sheep and swine, 8 by 10 feet, 4 feet high,—boards horizontal; 50 of these last pens to be covered by loose boards; and sufficient accommodations for poultry. The fence making one and of all the above fixtures. One show shed, 40 by 100 feet, arranged for the exhibition of fruits; two show sheds for the exhibition of manufactured articles, of arts, skill and

models; one shed for the exhibition of musical instruments, painting, and other specimens of fine arts; these sheds to be arranged in the general manner of those on the Fair grounds in Springfield, Illinois; a ring well inclosed with posts and two plank, 400 feet in diameter; a floral hall; a business office 25 by 60 feet, with a partition across the centre, with two outside doors, one middle door, a sufficient number of windows glazed; desks on each side of the building its entire length, with a sufficient number of seats; a police office, and a ticket office, 12 by 16 feet each, with necessary fixtures; 4 privies; the grounds to have sufficient water for all purposes and at convenient points on the grounds.

**RESOLVED**, That the President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer be a committee to contract for premiums necessary for the use of the Society at the next Fair, having special reference to the plate and diplomas now on hand; Provided, that no more shall be paid for than shall be actually paid out in premiums at the Fair, the balance to be returned to the person of whom purchased.

**RESOLVED**, That the Society will hold its annual Fair, commencing on Tuesday the 30th day of September next, and to continue four days.

**RESOLVED**, That when the Board adjourns, it shall adjourn to meet in Springfield, on Wednesday, the 2d day of April next.

**RESOLVED**, That the President be authorised to receive applications from citizens of such places as desire the location of the State Fair; and that the subject of the location remain for the action of the committee at the next adjourned meeting.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

FRIDAY, Jan. 11, 1855.

Present—H. C. Johns, W. Strawn, C. W. Webster, W. Ross, J. A. Kennicott, J. Williams, S. Francis.

Mr. Ross moved to take up the unfinished business in relation to the premiums of last year; which was done and the premium list was examined, and premiums on field products decided upon.

**RESOLVED**, That the wine presented by Mr. Carpenter, of Kelly's Island, be entered upon our list, and that a discretionary premium of a silver medal be awarded to him for the same.

The yeas and nays on this resolution were—

Ayes—Messrs, Johns, Webster, Ross, Francis, Kennicott—5.

Nays—Messrs. Gage and Strawn.

On motion,

**RESOLVED**, That this Board acknowledges its obligations for six cases of seeds from the Agricultural Ware Rooms and Seed Store of Elliott & Co., Cleveland Ohio—embracing three hundred and sixty varieties of Farm, Garden and other seeds; and as a testimonial of our confidence in the excellence of these seeds, as manifested from their appearance and the care with which they have been put up, this Society awards to Messrs. Elliott & Co., their Diploma and Silver Medal.

The Board adjourned.

**PROPAGATION OF FISH.**—Among the novel projects of the day, is the stocking of our rivers, ponds and small lakes, with valuable varieties of fish. The spawn is taken from fish, where they are plenty, and transported to great distances, and successfully "hatched" in other waters. Success has followed this undertaking in several localities, we believe in Ohio. The operation is one of some difficulty but can be effectually and successfully accomplished by persons who make themselves familiar with the process.

### Be kind to thy Wife.

Be gentle with thy Wife;  
Husband, be gentle with thy Wife,  
Affectionate and kind;  
And bless her with a blissful life,  
A happy frame of mind.

You know not all that depth of love,  
So constant and so true;  
Or how her loving heart doth move  
In sympathy for you.

When health and fortune on you smile,  
And joy your heart doth thrill,  
Her presence every care beguiles,  
And makes it sweeter still.

And when dark clouds shall hover near,  
And terror seize the heart,  
She will your drooping spirits cheer,  
And bid it all depart.

In sickness, too, she's ever there,  
To soothe the aching brow,  
And all your grief and pain to share—  
She loves you even now.

Throughout the changing scenes of life,  
That love will never die,  
She's ever true, a darling Wife,  
A seraph from on high.

Oh try, then, Husband, to repay  
The debt of love you owe,  
And strive to render sweet each day,  
For one that loves you so.

### ITEMS.

**TEA SPRING WHEAT.**—Mr. Miller, at Battenville, New York, writes in the highest terms to the "Country Gentleman," in regard to the qualities of the Tea Spring Wheat. He says that "it can't be beat by any spring wheat that he ever ground, for quality or quantity." He does not like the Black Sea Wheat.

**FRENCH CHESTNUT.**—This tree is now bearing and producing well on the south side of Long Island, on the Hudson, and in Berk's county, Penn. The climate and soil seem to suit the tree, and a little attention on the part of the public in getting these trees, will, in a few years, secure us a supply of this valuable nut.

**THE VINE IN GEORGIA.**—There are several experimental vineyards, in Wilke's county. In Dr. Anderson's the slips were planted in the spring of 1853, and the last season they produced grapes of the most admirable quality. Each vine bore an average of 45 clusters of the largest size, and of fine flavor. The Augusta Constitutionalist predicts that in "ten years more the wines of Georgia will meet those of France in our Atlantic ports, and soon thereafter they will make good the competition by going to European markets."

**NEW AMERICAN GRAPES.**—The following statement is made in regard to certain new American Grapes, in the Country Gentleman. "The Charter Oak, though large, is nearly a worthless variety. The Diana ripens two weeks before the Isabella—it has a sweet, very agreeable and delicate flavor, and is nearly free from the pulp which distinguishes most American varieties. The Concord is very large, exceedingly spongy, produces large bunches, is quite hardy, and said to be productive. Its quality is good, but is said to be inferior to the Isabella." These grape plants can be had at many of the nurseries.

## THE MARKETS.

### Prices of Food.

Prices of food have been sustained in the more commercial portions of the world for several years past, by various causes. It may be that the influx of the precious metal from California and Australia, in lessening the value of gold, may to a certain degree enhance prices. This, however, is disputed in highly respectable quarters, and in any event cannot exercise but a very moderate control over them. The war in Europe is acknowledged to be the more prominent cause of the increased action of the Food market, and we think the momentum thus given, has reached its culminating point, and will relapse into a more healthy state. An exaggerated condition of the markets, or of anything else, is never a wholesome one. Extremes follow each other,—the oscillation, putting our judgment to the mercy of chance. Again; Europe is not to resign all pretension to feed herself, simply because she may have a war on her hands, or because this country shows evidence of ability to supply her wants. "Necessitas non habet legem," (necessity knows no law) is an adage of all languages and all time, and compels attention to the immediate necessities of existence, and those more nearly at hand are the ones chiefly to be relied upon. If there be truth in this, that Providence over a large extent of territory will generally meet deficiencies in the one place by a superabundance in another,—if this be taken in connection with the facilities of communication hourly and miraculously opening over the civilized world, and the telegraphic intelligence so suppressive of speculation,—then we ought to expect a more rational and equitable disposition of prices.—If agriculture then has less to hope from Europe; if her wars, exercise less influence there than we suspect if peace comes, of which the rumors increase, there is still no cause of despondency to the farmer that prices are not remunerative. When bread is high, labor is cheap, and a corresponding inexpensiveness prevails in the other wants of life, that the farmer feels more largely perhaps than any other member of the community. The activity, energy, and enterprise of this country, will seek more exciting channels than agriculture, and we have faith that, peradventure all wars, this interest will maintain its ascendancy with us as a remunerative, rewarding, healthy, honorable vocation.

A correspondent in New York writes, under date of January 19, "Pork will do a little better soon. Our money market is getting a little easier, which will enable holders to hold on. The tightness of money put the market down in the first place. The foreign demand will continue all through the season, and as soon as part can be realized the balance will do better. Pork is selling at \$17a\$17 12 to-day for mess, which is \$1 30 above the lowest market price. Lard is worth 11½a11½ cents. Clear pork is worth \$19 per barrel now."

**THE PRODUCE MARKET.**

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 26, 1856.

**WHEAT**—Is worth in this market, for good red, \$1 05 to \$1 10; for good white, from \$1 10 to \$1 20 per bushel.

**CORN**—Brings readily from 20 to 25c per bushel.

**PORK**—Is a little better; \$4 50 per 100 lbs.

**BEEF**—is worth \$5 per 100 lbs.

St. Louis, Jan. 25.

**WHEAT**—Of medium quality, \$1 40 per bushel.—Superior wheat, an advance.

**CORN**—In bags, 50c.

**OATS**—In mixed gunnies, 40c per bushel.

**HOGS**—Heavy hogs, \$5a\$5 25 per 100 lbs. Not many coming in.

Chicago, Jan. 24.

**WHEAT**—Spring \$1 28a\$1 30; winter red, \$1 55a\$1 60; white, \$1 65a\$1 80 per bushel.

**CORN**—The sales are made to distillers, at 41a42c for 60c per bushel.

New York, Jan. 24.

**FLOUR**—\$8 25a\$8 75 for Western.

**WHEAT**—Tennessee red, \$1 85a\$1 95 per bu.

**CORN**—Dull at 90a92c for mixed western; 82a90c for southern.

**PORK**—Is heavy; sales at \$16 37a\$16 50 for mess; \$14 50 for prime. Lard, 11a11½c.

**Philadelphia Cattle Market—Jan. 16.**

Small advance on last weeks prices. Beef cattle, \$9 50 \$11. Sheep, \$4 80. Hogs, \$8 25 to 9 75 per 100 lbs. Cows and calves, \$25 to 60.

**New York Cattle Market—Jan. 16.**

Beef cattle, extra quality, per 100 lbs \$11 50 to 12; good quality, \$10 50 to 11; common, \$10; inferior \$8. Cows and calves, extra, \$60 to 70; good, \$45 to 55; common, \$25 to 35. Veal, 5 1-2 to 6 1-2; extra, 7 to 7½. Sheep and lambs, \$3 to 6; extra, \$8 50. Swine, \$6 25 to 7.

**Baltimore Cattle Market—Jan. 16.**

Seven hundred head of Cattle were offered to-day, and all sold at prices ranging from \$9 to 9 75 net, quality inferior. Hogs, supply small, sales at \$6 75 to 7.

**Chicago Live Stock Market—Jan. 22.**

Cattle dull; sales of ordinary at \$3@4 50; extra at \$4 75@5. Cows at \$22@40. Hogs, receipts large and considerably doing by packers; sales at \$4 75@5 net. Sheep \$2 50 @3@3 75.

**New Orleans Cattle Market—Jan. 12.**

Sales of fine to choice beef cattle at 12@12½c; rough at 7 @10c. Hogs 6@7½c. Sheep \$3 50@5 50. Milch cows, \$40 @95. Veal \$8@13.

**CANADA THISTLES.**—A writer in the Ohio Farmer says that fruit trees brought from New York are packed in straw and that the straw is full of Canada thistles. If such be the fact, portions of our State will in a very short time be covered with these thistles,—an evil and a misfortune that can be estimated only by those who have witnessed the injuries inflicted upon farmers by this pest.

**YOUR GRAPE VINES.**—Commence the winter trimming of your grape vines, if the weather be fair and pleasant; and prepare your cuttings of grapes.—[See the Vine Dresser's Manual.]

**CANNED PEACHES.**—A Cincinnati paper estimates that 600,000 cans of fruits and vegetables have been put up in Cincinnati the present fall. They will hold 50,000 bushels, of which 40,000 were peaches. The cost of these canned fruits is about \$140,000 and it required 250 acres of peach orchards to supply the fruit. This business will increase. The best peaches for preserving are large freestones.

The Ohio State Fair for 1856, will be held at Cleveland, Sept. 23d to 26th, inclusive.

**TERMS OF THE FARMER.**

single subscribers (one year) .....\$1 00

To Clubs of five and over (one year)..... 75

In both cases to be paid on the receipt of the first number.

All letters of business and communications to be directed to the editor.

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# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

VOLUME 1.]

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., FEBRUARY, 1856.

[NUMBER 2.

## ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

### Farmers' Store!

THE undersigned are maturing arrangements to establish in Springfield a Farmers' Store for the purpose of supplying farmers with

*Agricultural Implements;*  
*Seeds for the Farm and Garden;*  
*Trees for the Orchard;*  
*Varieties of Fruit bearing and Flowering Shrubs;*  
*Groceries;*  
*Queens, Glass and Stoneware;*  
*Baskets, of Willow & Splintwork;*  
*Ropes and Cords;*  
*Bags and Bagging, and*  
*Bustahs for baling wool;*  
and many other articles used in the family and on the farm, too numerous to particularize: all of which will be sold for cash at reasonable prices.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,

Jan 21 Journal Buildings.

### Egg Plant Seed.

THREE varieties to be had of  
FRANCIS & BARRELL.

### Wethersfield Garden Seeds.

DESIRING to furnish our farmers, and others who cultivate gardens, with fresh and reliable Garden Seeds, we have made an arrangement with the well known Seed establishment of Comstock, FERRE & Co., of Wethersfield, Conn., for supplies of their Garden Seeds. Messrs. S. & A. Francis had small supplies of seeds from this establishment for sale two and three years ago, and never, in a single instance, did they learn of their failure, or in their not being true to name. This is an important matter to those who purchase Garden Seeds, for very often, those from unreliable sources, fail to germinate, and the gardener loses his crop, a great loss as well as a great vexation. These seeds are put up in papers and contain much more than papers of seed usually sold.

We have taken unusual pains thus to supply reliable seeds and we ask those desiring to purchase to give us a call.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Jan 20 Journal Buildings.

### Bags, Bagging and Burlaps for baling wool.

WE have these articles on hand, and respectfully ask farmers, wool growers, and others to examine them. They will be sold low.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Jan 21 Journal Buildings.

### Mammoth Sweet Corn.

WE have for sale this corn for seed. As its name imports, it is a very large variety, excellent for table and for drying. We call the attention of those who raise corn for these purposes to this variety.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Jan 21 Journal Buildings.

### Agency for the Sale of all kinds OF Agricultural Implements.

THE subscribers, at Springfield, Illinois, tender their services to the manufacturers of all kinds of Agricultural Implements for their sale in this region.



Such Implements are in great demand in this region of country;—and the demand will be largely increased.

Communications will be promptly attended to.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings, Springfield, Ills.  
January 21, 1856.

### Apple Trees

OF

50 Varieties, large and Fine Thrifty Trees.

PEACH TREES of some fifteen varieties.  
APRICOT and NECTARINE Trees of several varieties.

PLUM Trees, some choice varieties.

Ornamental Trees—embracing among others, English and Scotch Elm, European Silver Leaved Maple, French or Swamp Chestnut, &c; and choice shrubs in variety. For sale by

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Jan 21, 1856 Journal Buildings.

### LARGE SIZED APPLE TREES.

THE subscribers will furnish to those who send orders soon, in the coming spring, large sized apple trees, mostly of an age to bear and of good varieties. To persons who are opening new farms, it is an object to obtain a few such trees. The trees are healthy and will be packed in the best order.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Jan 21, 1856 Journal Buildings.

### Comstock's Premium Cabbage Seed.

WE invite attention to this article. This premium cabbage is of good size, excellent quality, and with any chance, ninety-five of every hundred plants will be sure to bring a good head.

We have a variety of other fresh garden seeds for sale. FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Jan 21 Journal Buildings.

### Onion Seed!

GENUINE Red Onion Seed, from Wethersfield; G fresh and good—for sale by the quantity.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Jan 21, 1856 Journal Buildings.

TEAS—Fresh and fine; at wholesale and retail.  
FRANCIS & BARRELL.

Jan. 26. 1856.

# Hold on Mr. Farmer!

Just the very Article you Want!!



**IT IS IMPORTANT** to examine the Health of your Horses and Cattle at this season of the year so as to have them in good trim for the Spring and Summer work. No Medicine ever used stands so pre-eminently high as the

**Great Pennsylvania REMEDY,**  
*The Improved German Horse and Cattle CONDITION POWDER.*

This powder is composed of Roots and Herbs principally, and has been found by **LONG EXPERIENCE** to be highly useful in the cure of the various diseases to which horses and cattle are subject.

### THIS VALUABLE MEDICINE

Was introduced into this country about fifteen years ago, and prepared from an original recipe obtained from an **OLD LANCASTER COUNTY FARMER**, and has been used by hundreds of farmers and horse men in Sangamon and adjacent counties with

### UNIVERSAL SUCCESS

The Pennsylvania farmers use no other medicine, and their Horses and Cattle have a world wide reputation.—They consider it a sure and certain cure for

### DISTEMPER, HIDEBOUND,

*Drowsiness, Loss of Appetite, Inward Strains, Yellow Water, Inflammation of the Eyes, Fatigue from Hard Exercise, &c., &c.*

It carries off all gross humors,—prevents Horses from becoming Stiff or Foundered, and purifies and cools the blood. In fact, it is just what every Farmer ought to have at this season of the year.

Read the following and be convinced—

#### SPRINGFIELD.

Messrs. Corneau & Diller—Gentlemen—As the season has already arrived for the use of your valuable Horse Powder, it affords me great pleasure as a consumer of this superior medicine, to add my signature to the great number who have already expressed their gratitude for the production of so valuable a medicine, both as a cure and preventive for the numerous complaints horses are subject to on the opening of spring. Sufficient to say, I have for several years past, in the breaking up of winter, used it, and have invariably felt much more than paid for the expense and trouble attendant upon buying and administering it, and would, feeling well satisfied of its good qualities, recommend it to all stock raisers as being the best remedy for all diseases it professes to cure and prevent. I have the pleasure to be, gentlemen,  
Yours very truly,  
JOHN COOK.

#### SPRINGFIELD.

Messrs. Corneau & Diller—Gentlemen—It is with much pleasure that I give my testimony in favor of your valuable Horse Powder called the "German Horse Powder," in hope that others may derive the same advantage from its use that I have done for so many years.

I know of no preparation that is equal to it in producing a healthy action of the skin, a disease of which I have no doubt is more common than any other with which I am acquainted and which in my opinion is the cause of many of the diseases to which the horse—the noblest animal of creation—is subject, such as button faicy, big-head, ophthalmia and stiff complaint.

In conclusion I would state while engaged in transporting the mails of the United States, I have saved the lives of many valuable horses by a liberal application of the powder above referred to.

Yours,

ROBERT ALLEN.

Messrs. Corneau & Diller—Gentlemen—I see you have commenced advertising your valuable German Horse condition powder—a course you should have taken long since. for I consider it a very necessary article to every farmer who raises horses or cattle. I have used it for many years, and have no hesitation in saying it is one of the best preventives as well as cures for all diseases to which horses and cattle are subject, I have ever tried.

Yours,

JAMES STEWART

Fancy Creek, Sangamon Co., Ills.

Brush Creek, Sangamon Co., Ill

The following gentlemen also attest their efficacy:—Robt. Allen, Abner Stewart, Fancy Creek, S. A. Jones, Rochester, John Kavanaugh, Street Commis'r, N. S. Bates, Stage Ag't, I. B. Diller, R. F. Ruth and John Cook, Springfield, Ill.

We are also proprietors of Wallace & Diller's **CELEBRATED WESTERN TONIC**, for the cure of Fever and Ague. For sale by the Wholesale and retail.

CORNEAU & DILLER,  
East side public square

Jan 22, 1856

## UHLER'S PLOWS.

THE DOUBLE CURVED UPRIGHT STEEL MOULD BOARD PLOW.



THE proprietor of this superior plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the state of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects superior to any other plows we have ever used.

We cheerfully recommend them to the public.  
WM. P. LAWSON, WM. POFFINBARGER,  
J. J. SHORT, DAVID NEWSOM,  
JOHN W. BECK, URIAH MANN,  
JOHN KAVANAUGH, PHILEMON STOUT.  
Sangamon county, Jan. 17, 1855.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, shed off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limit of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by John Uhler, Springfield, Illinois, at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.  
feb 16—wly

## Family Groceries!

J. N. WILSON

HAS opened an establishment in the north store of Journal Buildings, where he has for sale a full supply of **FAMILY GROCERIES**. He invites the farmers of Sangamon county to call on him. Almost every article of produce is wanted at his store, for which good pay will be made.

Springfield, Jan 21

## THE EYE, EAR AND LUNGS.

DR. HARPER continues to treat successfully all disease of the **EYE, EAR and LUNGS**. Also, all Chronic Diseases of the human system. The Lungs are treated by Medicated Inhalation, the only successful and rational method. The success which has attended my peculiar treatment the past many years is almost incredible to those unacquainted with its peculiar curative effects, having restored patients who were considered hopeless, and restored to sight cases that have been blind from one to twenty years.



Office west side of the square, Springfield. :  
Jan 1, 1856.

PURE Ground Spices, Ginger, Pepper, Mustard  
Just received and for sale by

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

Jan. 26. 1856.

BAGS and Bagging for sale by  
FRANCIS & BARRELL.

We hope our friends, on the receipt of this number of the FARMER, will make a little effort to obtain subscribers. We need them to give the work its greatest efficiency. We shall be under obligations to those who will comply with this invitation.

### Premium Self-Raking Reaper!

PALMER & WILLIAMS' PATENT.

THIS machine has now been through three harvests, and comes off victorious. The first premium was awarded to this machine at the great trial held at Bloomington, Illinois, in July, 1855, (for full particulars examine the report of the State Agricultural Society, on pages 142 143, 116.) A Silver medal was awarded to this reaper at the State Fair held at Elmira, New York, in October 1855. Also—the first premium at the Wisconsin State Fair, in Oct. 1855. The above statement showing to the intelligent farmer of Central Illinois, that this Machine stands the test in every State where introduced. The demand for this Reaper is such that but few can be had so far south and to secure a machine they must be ordered at an early date. Price \$160—\$50 on delivery; balance on 1st Dec. 1856—freight added. For particulars, address

J. H. CURRIER, Agt,  
Springfield Ill.

I. B. WHITMER and H. B. GRUBB & Co., are authorized agents, for receiving orders, can be found at their respective places of business.

J. H. C.

#### Testimony from the State of Illinois.

VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.

We purchased and used Palmer & Williams' reaper in the present harvest—have already cut fifty acres of wheat, some of it very heavy—it works admirably; cutting and taking up the grain perfectly clean and laying it off to bind; doing better work than we ever had done on our farms before. We consider the raking done better than can be done by hand.

J. C. VIRDEN,  
J. H. HENDERSON.

#### One Dollar per acre saved over other Reapers.

VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.

I bought one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers, for last harvest, and cut about 150 acres of grain with it. It was raked off better than can be done by hand. My grain was harvested cleaner than I ever had it done before. I think it saved me one dollar per acre over any other harvesting I ever had done with reapers. My repairs did not amount to 50 cents. I can cut twenty acres per day. I believe it to be the best reaper in use.

JOHN L. MORRELL.

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 1. 1856.

I used one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers in the harvest of '55—cut badly lodged grain well, and laid the bundles fair for binding. I think it the best machine I have ever used or seen used.

JOHN W. PRIEST.

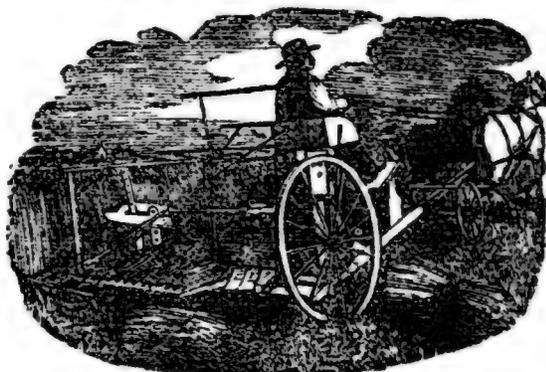
CHATHAM, Ill., July 1854.

I have purchased and am now using the celebrated Palmer & Williams reaper. I have already cut 100 acres of grain with it. I consider it a perfect self-raker, doing its work better than can be done by hand or ordinary reaping machines.

Jan. 1856.

S. M. PARSONS.

## Atkin's Automaton: OR, Self-Raking Reaper and Mower. BEST MACHINE IN USE.



1 the first used, in 1852.

40 used successfully in 1853.

300 in twenty different States in 1854.

1200 in all parts of the Union in 1855.

3000 building for the harvest of 1856.

THERE are six good reasons for this unparalleled increase and great popularity: 1st. It is strong and reliable, and easily managed. 2nd. It saves the hard labor of raking. 3d. It saves at least another hand in binding. 4th. It saves shattering by the careful handling in raking; besides the straw being laid straight, it is well secured in the sheaf, and does not drop in the handling, and the heads are not exposed in the stack, so that the grain saving even exceeds the labor saving. 5th. It is a good Mower, being one of the best convertible machines in use. 6th. It has a knife that does not choke.

Its other excellencies, too numerous to mention here, are fairly given in the circulars. Its intrinsic worth is also attested by the award [mostly in three years] of

#### OVER EIGHTY FIRST PREMIUMS!

PRICE—Reaper and Mower, \$200,—\$75 first September, and \$50 first December. Price of Self-Raking Reaper only \$175. Considerable saving in freight to those at a distance who order prior to 1st March; also liberal discount for advance payment.

To secure a machine, order immediately.—Though so little known the past season, and none ready for delivery till 1st May, yet not two-thirds of the customers could be supplied. The reputation of the Machine is now widely established, so that three thousand will not as nearly supply the demand as twelve hundred did last year, and we shall also be selling four months earlier.

Order early, if you would not be disappointed.

Orders for, or information concerning the above Machines addressed to

J. S. WRIGHT & CO.,

Prairie Farmer Warehouse, Chicago,  
Or T. W. S. KIDD, Springfield, Atlanta, or,  
Lincoln, will be attended to promptly.

Jan 1, 1856

#### QUEENSWARE.

ESPECIALLY designed for country trade; for sale by

Jan 26

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

**Books for the Young.**



**R. H. BEACH,**  
WEST OF THE STATE HOUSE

Three doors from Freeman's Corner.

Has on hand, for sale, a large variety of valuable Books, which can properly be put into the hands of the young of both sexes. They embrace history, biography, travels, geography, and other subjects; the knowledge of which will make the young wiser and better. He would say that these books are got up expressly with the design to furnish interesting and valuable reading matter for the young,—which can be made useful to them in that interesting period of life, and also when they advance into mature age,—a fact which cannot be said of a thousand trashy fictitious trifles which are now thrown upon the public, and which are not only read without profit to the young but greatly to their injury.

The books referred to are suitable for Sunday school Libraries, and the subscriber intends to keep a good supply always on hand for that purpose. He respectfully invites parents and others to examine his stock of "Books for the Young."

R. H. BEACH.

Jan. 21st 1856.



**IRON FOUNDRY!**

**William Booth,**

One block west of Great Western R. R. Depot,

**H**AS his Foundry in readiness to execute all orders for Castings in Iron and Brass. He will furnish new Engines, all castings required for buildings, and all wanted by farmers. In a word, he is ready to do all work in his line, promptly and faithfully. He solicits public patronage, and will aim to deserve it.

Wanted to purchase Old Iron, Brass, Copper and Pewter, for which the highest price will be paid.

Recollect that this Foundry is one block west of the depot of the Great Western Railroad. Springfield, Jan 1, 1856.

**Auction Store.**

**MAXCY & PHEASANT,**

Journal Buildings, sixth st.—Springfield Illinois.

**T**HE undersigned have removed their auction business to the commodious room, being the Central Store of the Journal Buildings; where they will at all times receive goods to be sold at auction. Auctions take place every day when required, but invariably on Saturdays; when persons desirous of purchasing furniture, and other useful articles can purchase them at low prices.

Public sales of Lots, houses and farms are made; as also private sales when desired.

Stock sales are made at auction, both at their rooms and in the country. Having had much experience, they believe they can give satisfaction to all those disposed to employ them in this line.

**MAXCY & PHEASANT,**

Journal Buildings, Springfield Ill.

Jan. 21. 1856.

**M. M. VANDEUSEN,**

West side of the Square, Springfield, Illinois,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

**DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS, Perfumery,**  
**Paints, Oils, VARNISHES, DYE STUFFS, Fancy Articles,**  
**BRUSHES, GLASSWARE, LETTER PAPER, STATIONERY,**



And all kinds of GENUINE and Popular

**Patent Medicines,**

A complete assortment of the best quality, and at the lowest prices.

Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs, and Dr. Baker's Pain Panacea.

**NOTICE TO FARMERS!**

**H. B. Grubb & Bro.**

MANUFACTURERS OF ALL KINDS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

AND GENERAL JOB SHOP,

SPRINGFIELD,.....ILLINOIS.

**W**OULD respectfully ask leave to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjoining counties that they are now manufacturing a superior article of

**REVOLVING HAY RAKES,**

Harrow, of various patterns—several kinds of improved Straw Cutters, &c., &c.

We are the authorized agents for Palmer & Williams' self-raking reaper, Danforth's reaper and mower, and can also furnish McCormick's reaper and mower.

Farmers wishing reapers or mowers will do well to give us a call. We will deliver every machine bought of us in good working order, as well as every other article in our line.

Having recently increased our facilities by the addition of a steam engine, we are prepared to attend promptly to all orders in our line at reasonable rates.

Shop one door south of E. P. Feniman & Co's Foundry.

**Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, &c.**

**W. D. WARD**

**W**ISHES to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjacent counties, that he keeps on hand, for sale, different priced **CLOCKS**, manufactured by Seth Thomas, Hartford, Conn. These clocks are supposed to be superior to most others in market, being well made, of lasting material, and not liable to get out of order—an object of great importance to persons who live at a distance from shops where clocks can be repaired.

He has also for sale a variety of **WATCHES**, silver and gold, warranted to be good. He has silver watches at low prices, the running work of which is equal to the best class of gold watches.

He attends to clock and watch repairing, and does the business promptly and well.

**W. D. WARD.**

North side of the square in the front of Messrs Watson's confectionery.

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printers.

VOLUME 1.]      SPRINGFIELD, ILL., FEBRUARY, 1856.

[NUMBER 2.

## General Views.

It is a peculiar and important feature in our social and political institutions, that agriculture establishes no distinct class in the community. It is not made, as in oriental countries, an hereditary employment, which fathers and sons must follow from generation to generation; nor is the approach to it, as in still more favored countries, met by royal restrictions, which cannot be easily passed. With us it establishes no caste; it is protected by no bounties; it is hampered by no restrictions. The poor may live by it, and the rich may play at it. The industrious man may draw from it both wealth and pleasure, and the idler may even, for a time, fancy himself useful in the world while the implement of toil is held in his enfeebled fingers. It is a neutral ground, where the politician may forget his differences, the divine his polemics, and the lawyer his precedents. Yet, while it invites all to its domain, it demands a certain kind of talent to become fortunate in its pursuit. The successful merchant may carry into its processes the same rules, which, in their application to commerce, have given him wealth, and be disappointed in infinitesimal dividends; while his unsuccessful mercantile brother may find in it an unexpected avenue to competence.

There is no human employment which has not agriculture tacked to one end or the other. It bears the same relation to other pursuits that the main spring of a watch does to the glittering work above it;—homely in itself, but the cause of motion in all the rest. While, like whist, in the estimation of the good Mrs. Battle, "agriculture demands the whole heart;" and yet all sorts of triflers do expatiate and experiment upon its wide domain. This is not by any means unfortunate. If all mankind,

of whatever calling or profession, were obliged, like the emperor of China, to pay annual homage to agriculture, by holding the plow on a certain specified day, the science would be better understood than it is at present.

But we are led by these reflections a little from our purpose in this article, which is, to express our conviction that, in order to become perfectly acceptable to its readers, an agricultural journal should not confine itself strictly to the speciality it is designed to advocate. It should be the exponent of rural life in all its manifold relations. It should aid in the "cultivation of both the soil and the mind." As agriculture is an employment that diffuses its interests among all others; so it gathers from other pursuits important aids for itself. Its literature can be no more isolated and kept distinct from all others, than can farming itself be made a distinct employment, accessible only to the few.

The truly good agricultural journal embraces within its range whatever advances the high interests of the classes among whom it circulates. The lyceum, the school, and the domestic circle, all have claims upon it. Those great interests of social life, which, from time to time, demand the ear of the public, have no forum so good and so proper as the columns of an agricultural newspaper. There those claims can be heard and weighed, free from the discords of political and sectarian strife. We intend the FARMER to stand as the expositor of the general, no less than the special interests, of the class it is designed to serve. We open a rostrum which we invite any to enter who have a new ray of light to throw upon the interests of the Farmer and Mechanic.

### Come to Illinois.

We have before said that there was never a time in the history of Illinois more favorable for emigrants from the east to settle within her borders, than the present. When we thus speak, we mean the emigration of persons to our state, who belong to the laboring classes, farmers, mechanics, laborers. We have enough of speculators, whose simple object is to monopolize the best lands, and make fortunes out of the advance in their value.

There is a class of good emigrants, who pass through our state and locate in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota, on the mistaken supposition, that, possessing little means, they can make most of it by entering lands in those states or territory. So far as one point is aimed at,—to obtain lands for \$1 25 cts. an acre, or even less by procuring land warrants—such emigrants are unquestionably right in their judgment; for, in Illinois, there are but few lands remaining to be entered at Congress price. And there is yet another class, who will make profitable investments by putting their money into land warrants, and locating them in either of the states or territory named.—Lands thus located, if well selected, will rapidly augment in value.

But our purpose in this article is to state a fact well known and recognized here, that farmers from the eastern states, with some means, can do better in Illinois in opening farms on lands purchased from second hands, than they can by going to the outside settlements of our borders, whether the accumulation of property, or the enjoyment of all the advantages of well regulated society, be the object. Farmers by purchasing wild lands and improving them here, can double their value in two or three years, besides paying all the cost of improvements and supporting their families. There is no part of the United States, in our opinion, that presents such opportunities for the enterprise of emigrating farmers as the lands lying on the lines of our rail roads. True, these lands will cost more than Congress lands; and they are in a

position to yield, in cultivation, three times the profit, usually, of the last named lands, on the border territory.

It is difficult to make eastern farmers understand the great value of Illinois lands,—their surprising fertility, the ease with which a farm is opened, and the facility of sending crops to market. With these advantages, our farmers in the production of the various products of the farm, rival successfully farmers on the best farms in the east. With one quarter of the capital, they can make the most money, and they live in a community and a state which are "going a-head," most rapidly, in all things which unite to make a people prosperous. Farmers who have been delving in the east on small farms, scarcely "making the two ends of the year meet," with the same capital and labor here, can rapidly accumulate money.

An incident came to our knowledge a few days ago, that will serve to illustrate what can be done by a judicious course of farming here. Some three years since an eastern man, who had come into possession of three eighty-acre tracts, lying side by side, in a neighboring county, and not desiring to hold them, sold the lands to a citizen of that county, at eight dollars an acre, on several years time, without interest. The purchaser immediately fenced the land with pine plank and cedar posts, broke it up, procured a fine variety of white wheat, with which the land was sowed, and in September thereafter, on settling up the whole business, the following was the result:—the crop of wheat sold for enough to pay for the land, the fencing, all the expense of seed and raising, cutting, threshing and marketing the wheat, and left in the hands of the proprietor \$1,800 in cash, and the farm, then worth in his estimation, six thousand dollars.

Every thing concurred favorably to produce this result. We do not suppose that the same ends could be attained by every new farmer; but we do believe that there is no business at the present time more profitable than judicious farming.



### Value of Fruit.

We find in a New York paper, a letter from Toledo, Ohio, from which we make the following extract :

"Much has been said of the sickness uniformly pervading the West, and these unfavorable reports have doubtless deterred thousands from settling upon and cultivating its rich fields. The inhabitants of every new country are liable to bilious disorders, and these prevail to a greater extent in countries possessing a soil remarkably rich and susceptible of a high state of cultivation than in those which are older and less productive. The past season has been a very wet one; and these complaints have spread over a larger extent of territory than usual, but are not confined to the West. Indeed, these diseases rarely prove fatal, and the percentage of deaths to the entire population of this State is much below that of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, or almost any of the Southern States. Writers upon that subject say that a prolific source of bilious attacks is the scarcity of fruit in new countries. This is undoubtedly true, and it is a gratifying fact that the attention of farmers in this vicinity, and throughout the entire West, is being very generally turned to horticultural pursuits.— A company of men in this city are setting out an orchard of over three hundred acres of the choicest varieties of fruit. The investment must prove an exceedingly remunerative one."

It is undoubtedly true, that the breaking up of large tracts of new ground, excites bilious fevers to prevail; and these fevers were more general last fall than usual, probably on account of the wet weather of the season; but we think it is an undeniable fact, that the per cent. of mortality, even with the unusual prevalence of bilious fevers in some districts, was less than in any of the eastern states. We judge, by the past, and from returns in the late century.

Many of our medical men, and, indeed, we believe all, unite in the opinion, that the use of good fruit, will lessen the amount of sickness in the west. The reasons they give for this opinion, have great force. We regard them as conclusive; and we are not surprised, that intelligent citizens of Toledo, regarding this matter in its proper light, are turning much attention to horticultural pursuits.

The same gratifying fact is seen in Illinois. Formerly men opened farms and for years lived upon them, without making any efforts to secure apple orchards. They were satisfied with growing peach orchards, which produced fruit bountifully in three and four years. There is a manifest change

now in this respect, in the views of farmers. Every man who opens a farm, plants out an orchard, the second year, if possible; and those who purchase improved farms, engage at once in enlarging the old or in making new apple orchards.

The apple is the great and reliable fruit of our state. It grows here in entire perfection. Eastern pomologists, who have visited our fairs, admit that western apples are far superior to eastern apples, of the same varieties, in size and beauty, though they claim that their's have a better flavor. It is possible that this claim may be just, but, with some knowledge of eastern fruit, we are not satisfied of its justice.

There is now every opportunity of obtaining grafted apple-trees from the most reliable nurseries. No man should purchase trees of itinerant pedlars. You may get them, perhaps, cheaper, and with less trouble than from nurseries, but when they arrive at a bearing age, they may produce worthless fruit. The evil then is past remedy, at least, for years. Especial attention, therefore, should be observed in purchasing apple-trees, to prevent such disappointment, vexation and loss.

### The Weather.

Still continues cold, and the cold is almost without abatement. We are becoming so accustomed to a low state of the mercury, that we attend to our usual business without regarding it. We have never known so long a time of continued cold weather.— The "oldest inhabitant" has no recollection of the like. Near Cincinnati, where a meteorological journal has been kept for a great number of years, the mercury has never sunk in the time but 14 degrees below zero until the present winter, when it went down to 21 degrees.

The season, however, has been good, and remains so, for getting about and doing outdoor work, making rails, getting wood for next season, going to market, and doing up all the jobs which can be done, so that when spring opens every man will be ready to attend to spring work.

## Alabama Agriculture.

Some months since Hon. C. C. Clay, jr., delivered before a Horticultural Society in Alabama State, an address, from which we take the following extract, as showing the results of the present system of growing cotton in that State:

"We need not go, for proof, to Georgia or South Carolina, which, for some years, were almost the only cultivators of cotton, and as late as 1820, grew more than half the entire crop of the Union, but now produce only about one-fifth of it. I can show you, with sorrow, in the older portions of Alabama, and in my native county of Madison, the sad memorials of the artless and exhausting culture of cotton. Our small planters, after taking the cream off their lands, unable to restore them by rest, manures, or otherwise, are going further West and South, in search of other virgin lands, which they may and will despoil and impoverish in like manner. Our wealthier planters, with greater means and no more skill, are buying out their poorer neighbors, extending their plantations, and adding to their slave force. The wealthy few, who are able to live on smaller profits and to give their blasted fields some rest, are thus pushing off the many, who are merely independent. Of the twenty millions of dollars annually realized from the sales of the cotton crop of Alabama, nearly all not expended in supporting the producers is re-invested in land and negroes. Thus the white population has decreased and the slave increased almost *pari passu* in several counties of our State.

"In 1825, Madison county cast about 3,000 votes; now she cannot cast exceeding 2,300. In traversing that county one will discover numerous farm houses, once the abode of industrious and intelligent freemen, now occupied by slaves, or tenantless, deserted, and dilapidated; he will observe fields, once fertile, now unfenced, abandoned, and covered with those evil harbingers, fox-tail and broomsedge; he will see the moss growing on the mouldering walls of once thrifty villages, and will find "one only master grasps the domain" that once furnished homes for a dozen white families. Indeed, a country, in its infancy, where, fifty years ago, scarce a forest tree had been felled by the axe of the pioneer; is already exhibiting the painful signs of senility and decay, apparent in Virginia and the Carolinas; the freshness of its agricultural glory is gone, the vigor of its youth is extinct, and the spirit of desolation seems brooding over it. The prospect is calculated to fill the patriot's heart with painful emotions, and to impress upon the sensitive mind the truth of the poet's reflection:

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,  
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

If the planters of Alabama would prevent the shameful decadence of agriculture so palpable in Virginia and the Carolinas, they must banish the wild illusion which holds them spell-bound to the changeless, artless, exhausting culture of the cotton plans. They must abandon a system which is at war with nature and condemned by experience, and adopt such improvements in their mode of tillage, and such restoratives of their worn-out lands, as science may suggest and skill may devise. They must learn the physical fact that all nature loves a change, and diversify their field labor by the introduction of other plants."

All this is no doubt true. Moderately fertile soils can soon be despoiled by growing for years one kind of grain or vegetable upon them. In our own State, on our heavy and black soil, many years must pass before it will cease to yield good crops of corn. It will not be so on lighter soils.— The fertility of such soils will soon be destroyed if no return is made to them.— But the best interests of any country are advanced by varied industry. To be permanently prosperous our own State should furnish consumers as well as producers.— The leading interest of our State is agricultural, but that interest would be greatly benefitted if there were consumers on our own soil; if all the articles of mechanism required in our State, were manufactured among us. It is thus only can we build up a permanently prosperous community. The St. Louis Evening News has some pertinent remarks upon this subject. It says, that "even the railroads which cross an exclusively agricultural State, do little more than bear away its wealth, without bringing back in return anything that adds to its permanent prosperity. New York has encouraged agriculture and commerce, and neglected manufactures; and in so doing, has begun to decrease the population of her inland towns, and build up huge commercial depots through which flow the currents which drain her of her substance. Pennsylvania has reared factories and forges and furnaces among her iron and coal beds, and is rapidly augmenting her permanent population, by filling them with well paid laborers, who consume what the farmer produces, thus leaving to him the profit which, in case of shipment of the produce, would go into the pockets of speculators. Illinois is making a great show in the way of "progress," just at this time; but it is by simply raising enormous crops of grain, the trade in, and profits on, which go to build up large cities without her borders. Illinois is pursuing the same course as New York, and before long, unless a more varied industry is introduced, will find that her citizens will be leaving their farms in the interior, to

settle on cheaper farms in the West.— Where agriculture is the all-engrossing pursuit, it thrives as long as lands are rich and cheap; but when lands become poor from excessive culture, there is nothing to restrain the tide of emigration, and keep the people at home. The establishment of manufactures varies the industry, diversifies labor, and invites population, instead of encouraging depopulation, by offering a reward for labor, multiplying cheap comforts, and diminishing the cost of getting produce to market."

In connection with this subject, we would express our high gratification that a company has been formed to engage in the manufacture of iron, in Southern Illinois. Iron ore and coal abound there, and we ardently hope the enterprise will be successful, and that it will be but the beginning of enterprises of a similar character in the Iron region. manufactories in Southern Illinois, will give a stimulus to agriculture there, and other branches of industry, which will tell in a few years on the prosperity of that region. As much as possible, we want the produce of the country consumed in the country by its laborers and manufacturers.

#### Fraud in Fruit Trees.

In our last number, we referred to the danger of being deceived in purchasing fruit trees of itinerating pedlars. It is at these pedlars prices to be ordered of Rochester nurseries. Mr. Perry, editor of the *Horticulturist*, and of the firm of Eiwanger & Perry, expressed extensively in the nursery business of Rochester, but thus referred to this matter in the publication named:—"The trade in trees has grown to be so extensive, that a large number of persons are attracted to it who are mere dealers, buyers and sellers; but on the other hand many are notoriously dishonest, and are perpetrating gross frauds upon the community. By deceitful means they procure the catalogues of respectable concerns, and represent themselves as agents authorized to solicit orders. They obtain them and then fill them with whatever trash they

can buy cheapest. People every where should be on their guard."

A writer in the *Rural New Yorker*, in some remarks on the same subject, says:—"With regard to these agents I give it as a mere matter of opinion that the Rochester nurseries have no agents abroad for whose transactions they hold themselves responsible. There is but one safe way of purchasing trees, and that is to deal with those who have reputation at stake; and when this can be done, it matters not whether a man buys at the nursery or at his fire-side; he will be safe in either case."

#### The Cultivation of the Grasses.

Gov. WALKER, of Indiana, as an agriculturist, is eminently practical. He maintains that the farmers of the United States neglect, too generally, the cultivation of the grasses for their own benefit and that of the country. In our own locality it is the received opinion that the cultivation of grasses for stock is more profitable than the cultivation of corn for that purpose.— Some of our best farmers rely mainly on grass and hay for their stock, and are satisfied with the results. The cultivation of grasses is not only profitable, but it is a liberal machinery, the mowers and the reapers, the reaper what was once a work of a day, now comparatively a light business.

We can here give some of the results of Gov. WRIGHT, at the last New York state fair, on this subject, as worthy of the consideration of our readers. It is stated that 20 crop approaches to one, and produced a yield, and none yielded so large a profit. The hay crop of the United States in 1850 was over 12,000,000 tons: that for 1857 he estimated at 15,000,000, which was worth \$150,000,000, while the whole cotton crop was valued at \$122,000,000. Of this crop more than one half was produced by New York, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. The grass crop used for pasturing, is at least as valuable: so that this single item is worth annually over three hundred millions of dollars.

Gov. Wright contended that we would always find superior stock in those districts where the cultivation of grass was most carefully followed. This was clearly proved by the examples of Great Britain and Holland, as well as Jamaica, where the cultivation of a single kind of grass has increased beyond computation the value of the trade and commerce of the island.— Blue grass had done for Kentucky what turnips had done for Flanders, and portions of England and Scotland—not only arrested the old process, but restored the soil, and brought large profits to graziers. Along the banks of the Merrimac, grass that fifty years ago was considered a great evil, has for the last twenty years been regarded as equal, if not superior, to any other variety for hay. Similar favorable changes had been made in the south, and in every portion of the country where the attention of agriculturalists had been directed to the subject. Some persons were active in the introduction of foreign grasses; but our indifference to grasses had drawn little attention. We had, however, introduced, in 1817, an improved variety of grasses, of which the great mass of our farmers are as yet nearly ignorant. The claims that were put upon the sownness of drought, and of any frost, or of any thing that threatened particular crops, shows the importance of studying carefully the qualities of particular crops to special soils, and of modifying our mode of culture to each emergency.— Man has a great many foes to contend with in the destructive agencies of nature, and it is only by study and care that his land can be made most productive.

We have seen it stated recently in North Carolina papers that a most valuable native grass has been discovered and propagated there by Mr. B. V. Iverson. It grows well in common soils; dry weather does not seriously affect it; it produces wonderful crops; cattle will leave timothy and blue grass for it; and it will continue green a good part of the winter. We indulge the hope that it will stand the changes of our climate. Mr. Iverson writes us, that

the demands for the seed have been beyond his ability to supply; but promises that in July, when the new crop will be ripe, to furnish seed for trial on our prairies. The grass is properly named the "Iverson Grass," and if it answer the hopes of the discoverer, it will carry his name down to future ages.

#### Pears.

The disease, blight, which affected our pear trees, a few years since, has discouraged many of our people from further attempts at their cultivation. This should not be. The pear is a most delicious and healthy fruit. Diseases which affect particular kinds often pass away and do not return for years. We see that in different parts of Ohio, where pear trees were formerly affected by blight, they are now cultivated with success, and their cultivation is rapidly extending. Pears are more plentiful in the market, and every variety is of great excellence. Last fall there was a fruit convention at Burlington, on the Mississippi, which was attended by many distinguished fruit growers of the east. The pears there exhibited, which were in great numbers, were pronounced to be the finest specimens ever seen in the country. They were larger, finer, better, than the same varieties produced in the west. When being examined, they were deemed to be nourishing, in fine health, promising, for years, to furnish ample supplies of fruit.

We are not aware of any accident having occurred in Ohio, or in the country generally, on either side of the Mississippi, since Burlington, giving to the localities some superior advantages for raising the fruit. In different parts of Illinois, at this time, excellent pears are raised though not in great numbers. Latterly, enough success has been attained in their cultivation to encourage us, in again growing this valuable fruit.

The variety of pears is greater than of apples. These varieties have mostly originated in the Netherlands, and many of the

trees are extremely tender. We should commence with the most hardy and approved varieties. Many of these will be found to have originated in the United States, and are more likely to stand the vicissitudes of our climate and the different characters of our soil, than those of foreign origin.

Formerly, pear trees were a great number of years in coming into bearing; and many varieties have the same characteristic now. But there are others that produce fruit at a less age than apple trees. The Bartlet, which is an excellent autumn pear, we have seen loaded with fruit the second year from the bud. A man is not now required to wait fifteen years for fruit from pear trees.

The pear tree requires about the same cultivation as the apple tree. The ground should be a mellow loam, rather dry, and trenched deep. Almost every farm furnishes suitable grounds for the pear. We hope to see this fruit more extensively cultivated.

#### Geological Surveys.

We are glad to learn that there will soon be published a report from the State Geologist, of the Surveys of the State, as far as he has progressed. This is loudly called for and the demands of the public in this respect, we hope will be speedily satisfied. The surveys in Southern Illinois have resulted in valuable discoveries of minerals of various kinds, and individuals have and are likely to obtain knowledge of these discoveries, and to secure their benefits, when these should be extended to all our people. Reports are rife that purchases of lands have been made by speculators, where minerals are supposed to exist, the occupants of which did not know their value. Shrewd men, who have such objects in view, have a thousand ways of ascertaining such discoveries, and securing the benefits which should be open to all our people—for all our people pay for the surveys. We regret that we cannot state when this report will be published; but we hope it will be done speedily.

#### Country Residences.

The time has now arrived when our farmers, if they do not intend to be behind the times, must pay attention to the ornamenting and making pleasant the grounds about their residences. The time has gone by when the back parts of houses can be in the most exposed portions towards the road; the stable in front of the dwelling, and all kinds of broken wagons, plows, logs, weeds, chips, ash heaps, and everything conceivable, lying about a dwelling, without drawing observation and causing remark. Such things are not common now, but were some years ago. Steadily has improvement gone forward, and numerous farms now have comfortable houses, fine yards, neat out-houses, well cared for gardens, and are beautiful and desirable homes. We like to see these improvements. It shows that the people have become attached to the soil, love their homes, are good citizens, thrifty farmers, and that their families have taste and intelligence. No man can pass a situation in the country, without judging from the appearance of things about, something of the occupants. Is it not so?

We have said that great improvement is manifest in the country. This is strikingly true. The women of the country, we apprehend, are the cause of most of it. Confined pretty much at home, why should they not desire to have it pleasant, neat, comfortable? Nature has planted in the female breast a taste for the beautiful. There never was a female child that did not love flowers. There never was a female of true taste that did not love them. She will always feel a pleasure and pride in having the improvements around her dwelling in good order—grounds well arranged in yards, with beautiful and useful shrubbery scattered about upon them. Oftentimes she makes great efforts to have all these matters in order—taking unusual pains to secure and plant out ornamental trees and flower and fruit bearing shrubs, in which labor she is not, in every instance, assisted by those who really have as much interest in the improvements as herself. But we shall refer to this subject again.

**Essay on Hedging with Osage Orange.**

BY HENRY SHAW, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLS.

*Germination of the Seed.*—The seed should if possible, be of the previous season's growth; older seed being much less certain to grow. About the first of March wet the seed by putting them in sacks and letting them remain about forty-eight hours, after which they are to be spread, not more than six inches in depth, in some cool place secure from mice, and kept moist by spreading over them wet sacks or moss in sufficient quantity to confine the moisture, but not so much as to cause danger of heating or fermentation. Keep them in this state until they commence sprouting, when they should be sown immediately. Seed received too late for the above process may be sprouted by wetting frequently in warm water, pouring the same off immediately. In a few days if the weather is warm they will commence sprouting. The water used may be near the boiling point, but will answer just as well at a temperature of 100 degrees.

*Narrow cultivation of plants.*—The ground on which the seeds are to be sown should be new and clean prairie, broken early the previous summer, and well plowed and harrowed on the approach of cold weather; the winter freezing will then leave it in a mellow condition for the reception of the seeds. Previous to planting a good roller should be passed over the ground to break clods and smooth the surface, which will make it much easier to deposit the seed at an uniform depth. The seed may be sown on a large scale (if the ground has been reduced to a mellow condition) to the best advantage, all things considered, by the use of Parson's wheat drill—raising every alternate tooth, so that the rows will average about eighteen inches apart. Before planting, the seeds must be dried sufficiently to prevent all clogging. The driver then proceeds in the same manner as when sowing wheat, except that more pains are taken to have the rows straight than in common wheat culture. In this manner three men, or one man and two boys will plant ten

bushel of seed per day. Where the land is too rough or in any way unfit for the use of the drill, sow by hand in the following manner: Stretch a line, and mark by the lines, two drills one foot apart and two inches deep, with a broad toothed rake made for the purpose; repeating the operation at the distance of every four feet. Cover say two inches in depth. At the distance of one rod, each way, all over the seed beds, sow one or two castor beans, to keep away moles. Cultivate with a plow and harrow, or cultivator, in the wide spaces, and hoe in the narrow spaces. Keep the ground entirely free from weeds. In the fall the plants will be from one foot to twenty inches high, when they may be dug.

*Digging the plants.*—The tops are mowed within six inches of the ground with a common scythe. The portion taken off is removed with a revolving hay rake. A coulter, similar to the old fashioned bull-tongued plow, is then run on both sides of every row to break or loosen the side roots. A subsoil plow (invented for the purpose by C. R. Overman, and manufactured at Canton, Illinois) is then run under each row, cutting the main root, when it only remains to pull out all inferior plants and throw them away, and to pull the good plants (counting them in each) and bury them in dirt in a good cellar, or they may be buried in the manner of potatoes on a dry spot of ground. If not dug in the fall they generally stand till spring without much injury. Still, the fall is preferable, because it is a season of greater leisure, and because it affords an opportunity to prepare the plants for setting, during the winter.

*Cultivation of the hedge row.*—The ground must be in good condition; that is, dry enough and mellow enough to raise a good crop of corn. If it is new ground (which is best) prepare in the same manner as for planting seeds. Have your line surveyed before preparing it; find exactly where you want the hedge to stand, put a tall stake at each end, and perhaps several between, if it is a long line; plow first out from the row on both sides, then finish by *back-furrowing*

so as to leave the the row a trifle higher than the surrounding surface, to throw off standing water. Harrow and roll the ground well, and set stakes in a straight line with those at the ends, every five rods. Stretch a line (made of cotton cord) six inches to one side of these stakes for a guide in setting the plants. Prepare the plant for setting by thinning off all side roots and cutting back the main root to about eight inches in length. The implement used in setting is a dibble, made by sharpening the upper half of an old shovel handle, and covering it with tin or iron to prevent dirt from adhering. Insert this ten inches in deep, and on withdrawing it you have a space to receive the root; put the plant down two inches deeper than it grew; press the dirt well around it with another side of the dibble, and the operation is finished. Repeat the operation at the distance of from four to six inches, until your row is completed. The rows should be six feet apart. Keep the soil free from weeds and grass around the row for two or three years.

**Opposite to the above**—When the plants begin to grow in the row, the plant has a root which is the main root, and grows in the ground. It is very important that the first of June they should be clipped with a sharp knife, and the clippings should be scattered around the plants. This clipping will be sufficient to keep the hedge a proper height. It is also very important that the plants should be kept from growing too tall, and leaving the spaces near the ground too large. It is by far the best plan to thicken the hedge by clipping, if

commenced in season; and even in some cases where not commenced so early as it should have been, it may be best to cut all down and commence anew.

The above directions are given for the most common prairie soil—a black, light loam with clayey or gravelly subsoil, and but little sand. In a stiff clay soil, such as is usual in our barrens, more care must be taken to guard against water standing around the roots, and more pains in working the ground at all times, to be certain that it is not so wet as to leave it in a cloddy condition. In sandy soil the plants should be set as early as possible in the spring; and the hedge row should not be raised in the least above the surrounding level.

**Warring against the Gopher**—In all that portion of Illinois east of the Mississippi, the roots of the hedge are liable to be eaten by gophers. These may be destroyed by cutting them in seed crops, or by means of a wire snare, or by placing a trap near the hole, and baiting it with a fresh potato. It is also possible to place a trap near the hole, and bait it with a fresh potato. It is also possible to place a trap near the hole, and bait it with a fresh potato.

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**Japan's Sweet Potato**—A new vegetable came from Japan. It is very like the general appearance of that of our sweet potato, and the plant is prepared in very much in the same way. The tuber, however, in good, deep and pulverized soil, attain a length of 18 inches to three feet, and push down perpendicularly. It usually is two inches in diameter at the lower end, tapering to half an inch at the upper. Each plant produces one and two tubers. It is said to be very productive, and has the taste and appearance when cooked, of the common potato. Tubers for seed, are now offered for sale by some of the eastern nurserymen at very high prices.—\$10 for a dozen, or six for \$8. We shall be glad to hear more of this new vegetable.

### Millet.

The stalks and leaves of this plant resemble those of Indian corn, though the leaves are much smaller. It grows to the height of three or four feet. A sandy soil suits it best, though it grows finely in the ordinary prairie soil. It bears drought well. It is said to produce as large a quantity of grain as Indian corn, when cultivated in drills three feet apart and six inches in the rows; but owing to the difficulty of saving the crop on account of birds, it is generally thought best to sow it broadcast and cut it in the milk for fodder.

It is constantly sown in Pennsylvania in May, with one peck of seed to the acre; and it has produced as high as 20 bushels of seed to the acre and four and a half of fodder. Cases are stated of sowing a bushel of seed to the acre on the 5th of May and harvesting the crop as early as 5th of July, and which yield four tons of fodder to the acre. A crop of fodder can be raised if sown as late as July.

There is quite a disposition among our farmers to give millet a trial the coming season. Those who have raised it are satisfied that it pays well. It gives a large quantity of valuable fodder, better for cattle it is said, than for horses.

### Ornamental Grass Plats.

We like to see beautiful grass plats in the front and about dwellings. There is nothing more ornamental in such places than well-set and well-trimmed grass lawns. There is a good deal of judgment to be used in such cases. In a small yard, tall growing shrubbery is out of place. Roses can always be kept of the proper size by the free use of the knife in cutting them back in spring, and most roses are all the better for this treatment. A crowded lawn, even with choice plants, will be any thing but beautiful.

In small front yards dwarf plants are most appropriate. Persian lilachs, dwarfed syringas, Japan quinces, and some of the small spireas, do well; but the perpetual roses are a great deal better. A few of these, blossoming through the whole sum-

mer, will always give satisfaction. A couple of thick growing evergreens, add much by contrast, and in winter or summer, are always beautiful. If you choose, a running rose or twining honey-suckle on the building, is in good taste. But the main idea is not to crowd a small yard, with numerous plants, so that they are deprived of the benefit of light and sun, and have no chance for proper development. Such a grass plat reminds one very much of an over-dressed beauty,—instead of exciting admiration produces its counterpart. If you desire to cultivate a large amount of shrubbery, you must have ample grounds on which to plant it. A few well selected and well cared for shrubs, add great beauty to the space in front of a dwelling.

### "The Great Tree."

The California Farmer contains a description of this great tree. It grows in a narrow basin of the Sierra Nevada, containing not more than 200 acres, and is found in no other place on the globe. The grounds are very damp and retain pools of water. There are more than two hundred of these trees, which, apparently, have reached the greatest size of their species. One has fallen, which shows a length of 450 feet. 350 feet from the roots it measured 10 feet in diameter. At the root it was 94 feet in circumference. Counting the rings, the tree must have been 3,000 years old; its youth passing back into the remote ages of antiquity. This tree, says the Country Gentleman, if standing in the Niagara chasm, would rise 200 feet above the top of the Suspension bridge; its top would reach 160 feet above the spire of Trinity church in New York, and 230 feet higher than Bunker Hill monument at Boston. If cut into fuel, it would make 3,000 cords of wood, or as much as sixty acres of good wood land would yield. If sawed, it would make about 3,000,000 feet of plank, or enough to furnish three inch plank for thirty miles of plank road. The tree would weigh 5,000 tons. It is only by furnishing these figures that the mind can embrace the

immensity of this tree, which our country insists, and with right, shall be called the "*Washingtonia Gigantea*." As Washington is elevated above all men, so does this tree stand elevated above all its fellows.

#### Plowing by Steam.

We doubt whether this can be done any where with success and profit; but if it can, it will be on the Western Prairies. Mr. Obed Hussey, of Baltimore, has however, made a very fair beginning. He appeared at the Maryland State Fair, last fall, with an invention called the "Locomotive Steam Plowing Machine." It was attached to three large plows by log chains, each plow being handled by one man.—The movement was about equal to a fast walking horse. Of its performance, the committee who had it in charge, in their report, say—

"The ground was thoroughly broken to a depth varying from seven to fourteen inches, and an average width of fourteen inches to each plow. The engine proceeded across the entire length of the area inside the horse track, being a distance of about two hundred yards, encountering a hard road and several large stones, but without any diminution in the speed. The power required to perform the same amount of labor was estimated by the plowmen at that of sixteen horses. It was followed by a dense crowd of spectators, who were attracted from all parts of the grounds to witness so novel and interesting an exhibition. Three cheers which made the welkin ring proclaimed the triumph of this noble effort of genius. The crowd were then requested to retire sufficiently to allow the committee to view the operation, when the engine was turned short round and plowed back to the place of beginning; a right hand plow was then substituted for the left hand one, and the engine traversed the ground a third time, passing close along the edge of the ground previously plowed. It is proper to remark that the engine was exhibited by the inventor merely to show the power of draught and the facility of backing and turning in any direction. The ground had been much trampled during the exhibition, and at one end there was a considerable ascent. The plows were all so far apart that each one had to break a separate furrow."

**FRUIT IN OREGON.**—There are but few bearing orchards in Oregon. There are several nurseries there, which have for sale a good variety of apple, peach and pear trees. Apple trees, three years old, are sold there, at nurseries, at 75 cents each. The apple trees seem to be at home in Oregon. At the last dates green apples, from the few orchards in bearing, were worth from \$8 to \$10 per bushel, and ready sale at that.

#### Winter Management of Lambs.

The necessity for making ample provision of pasture for lambs from their weaning until the approach of winter has already been urged. This, however, is not properly attended to by many, and when winter is at hand, their condition is by no means what it should be. It may be set down as a rule never to be transgressed with impunity, that all animals when growing should be bountifully fed, as well as receive all other proper attentions conducive to his welfare; otherwise, it will be in vain to expect, when at maturity, they will exhibit the perfection of their species. The general qualities of any domestic animal, however perfect nature may have done her work, can always be further improved by art, or otherwise, or by judicious feeding, and strict attentions in every other regard. It is very much from this cause, that celebrated breeders have gained their renown for improvements effected in breeds of cattle, as well as sheep. If we would have perfect animals, we cannot commence too early to lay the foundation of their excellence.

It is a custom with quite a large majority of sheep farmers to delay graining their lambs until the approach of spring, when they are sometimes far gone in poverty. Is this wise? Would it have been thus if they had been grain-fed at the beginning and through the early part of winter? Is it not better to begin as soon as this, in order to furnish them with the necessary stamina to withstand the severity of northern winters, which is always greatest in the months of January and February? Put them early in a condition to pass through those terrible months, and subsequently all will be well. Truly the course of flock-masters, in this regard, is like giving the patient his medicine when he is on the confines of death! Therefore, viewing the matter in this light, the writer has no hesitation in saying that a single peck of grain fed in December is worth the bushel fed in March.

As we remarked at the conclusion of summer management, the grass at the beginning of November loses much of its nutrition from repeated freezing; therefore at this period the lambs should be assembled, and classed relative to size and condition, divided into flocks of about 100 each, and feeding them grain should forthwith commence. As it is sometimes impracticable to call them into the sheep-folds without considerable trouble, the feeding troughs

should be removed to the field in which they are confined; then the flock-master may begin feeding them about four quarts of oats daily, which he should be careful to distribute the entire length of the troughs. They will be very shy for a day or two, but the example of approaching them by the tame sheep which were placed among them at weaning time, will be the means of soon overcoming it. After the lapse of a week, the quantity of grain may be gradually increased to half a bushel, which should be the minimum quantity for the residue of the season. When the major portion have partaken of the oats the troughs may be removed back to the sheep-yards, and the time fixed for feeding should be about sundown, after which they can retire to the shelters, should the weather require it.— At this time, a little hay should also be given early in the morning, which may be pursued until circumstances demand a change wholly to fodder.

About the middle of December, or before, let the feed be somewhat changed, by mixing with the oats a portion of pea-meal or wheat shorts; at all events, let it be meal of some kind which they may fancy, for to induce them to eat potatoes it will be necessary to cut them into delicate pieces and sprinkle the meal well over them. If sheep are wholly unaccustomed to potatoes their aversion to them will not be overcome without the adoption of this course. Beets and rutabaga may be substituted for the potatoes; but the reader has been informed that they are better adapted to the purpose of the sheep-fattener. If it is our wish to grow wool and not fat mutton, it will be wise in us to use those means which will afford the largest returns. Half a bushel of potatoes given at intervals of twice a week will be the right quantity, which it will be well to continue to sprinkle with meal, as well as with a small quantity of salt. On other days the pea-meal and oats may be fed.

The hay given them should be of fine stalk and of the choicest quality; but in its place may be substituted once or twice a week, for a single foddering, oat or barley straw. If the lambs are thus provided through the winter, and have the benefit of warm shelters, their size at shearing time will equal the majority of two-year olds, whose treatment has been only ordinary.

**REMARKS.**—The foregoing from Morrel is timely and should be attended to by every farmer. We, however, will venture to add

our own experience on the same subject.— If you wish to keep your lambs in good health and condition, get some of the large round oil cakes, the larger the cakes the better, though they are generally of about twenty-five to forty pounds weight each. Take a slab or plank and put short legs into it say a foot long. Bore an inch hole through the cake and plank and put in a good strong pin, and place it under the sheds where the lambs run. About ten such cakes to a flock will do very well. If the lambs do not begin to lick them within a day or two, put a little salt on, it will not be long before you will find them at the cake, and they will work at it until it is all consumed. They can not get off enough to injure them, but they will get enough to make a manifest improvement in their condition. The cakes must be renewed, of course when used up.—*Wool Grower.*

#### Working Cattle.

The patience, meekness, and uncomplaining toil of the working ox ought, although it does not always, to endear him to his master, and ensure for him kind usage and protection. The writer has a very vivid recollection of the successive yokes of oxen, which, during the years of his childhood (up the valley of the Genessee,) were owned and worked by his father. The country at that time was comparatively new and much of it of course covered with a dense growth of wood and timber. These cattle had about as distinct and marked features and character, as different men; but all of them were similar in one thing, and that was in doing to the best of their ability the labor required of them. Amid logs and stumps, on side hills and swamps, over rough roads and through bridgeless streams, we have seen them plod, where horses could not, or would not go.— Some of their drivers were kind, others were harsh and cruel. One, in particular is remembered, who was eternally wielding the whip, and seemed never to be happy unless belaboring his team. He was a good teamster in some respects, and took good care of his cattle, but this defect in his management spoiled all.

Working oxen, although far more patient and enduring under ill treatment than the horse, yet are themselves susceptible to the influences of kindness, and respond quite as readily to the encouraging efforts of the driver, as to the lash.— One yoke of beautiful red cattle is now recollected, which scarcely knew what it was to be beaten, and were so well trained as to be driven side by side around a field, hawed and goed, and backed, without so much as a tow string to bind them together. These cattle were subsequently sold at auction, in order to settle an estate, and their admirable training run them up full twenty-five dollars above the market price.

Oxen are much better in many respects for working than horses; some of which advantages may be summed up as follows: They cost much less in the first instance, and are therefore more within the reach of moderate means. They are less liable to disease; and if an accident occurs which disables them from labor, they may be con-

verted into food. If a horse should happen to break a leg, a bullet might as well be put through his head at once, for he is worthless ever after; but if the same accident happens to an ox, he can be converted immediately into beef, provided he is sufficiently in flesh; or if this is not the case the wound can generally be so far cured as to enable the animal afterwards to fatten.

The ox will eat less food and of a coarser kind than the horse, and needs less attention in order to thrive. He will work in localities impossible for the horse, and go forward patiently with labors which would chafe the other into utter intractability.

No man who has ever witnessed the two kinds of animals at work around a saw mill yard, for instance, can fail to have been struck with this difference in their character. Hitch a span of horses to a log which is too heavy for them to start at once, and in nine cases out of ten after one or two efforts, they will either break their harness, splinter a whittle tree, or balk, and refuse to draw at all. Now try it with a yoke of well broken oxen, and they will lay out their utmost strength with the same gentleness and good will for the twentieth time, as they did at first.

There are a great variety of duties to be performed upon the farm, where horses are of superior advantage; and there are others in which working oxen are altogether preferable. Where the business is sufficient for the employment of both, it is advantageous to combine them; but where a farmer can own but a single team, especially in a new country, oxen are usually much the best.

A small farmer frequently makes up a very effective team with a yoke of oxen and a single horse. For many purposes the oxen alone are sufficient, but in breaking up and other heavy work, the aid of the horse is all important. Besides, the service of the single horse is invaluable on the road, for plowing out corn, &c., and he is sure in these services to pay his way.

In this fast age, working oxen are too much ignored by our farmers; and their value as laborious and willing servants is too much overlooked.—*Wool Grower and Stock Reg.*

### Progress in Pear Culture.

We have just (Oct. 19,) taken a trip to the fruit stalls, stores and confectioners of Broadway to make note of their contents. There is abundant evidence of a bountiful fruit harvest, and that the labors of our horticultural societies, of amateur fruit growers, and of the press, are having a very happy influence upon our gardens and orchards. We have never seen so much fruit in the market or so great a variety. Grapes are very abundant, and Dr. Underhill is in the ascendent from Chambers-st., to Astor-place. They are very fine, and retail for eighteen cents a pound. They have usually sold, we believe, in former years, for a shilling a pound. The demand for them doubtless increases as they become known in the market, and he finds no difficulty in marketing his whole crop at any reasonable price. Any one who knows good fruit, would prefer to send for Underhill's grapes at eighteen cents, rather than a chance article at a shilling. This is a very encouraging feature in fruit growing. The more you enlarge the cultivation of a first rate quality of fruit, the more remunerative does it become.

Late varieties of plums are still in market and apples are very abundant and beautiful. We noticed with pleasure the enterprise of the salesmen in putting up a variety of fruits in a small basket,

just the thing for a present or for the desert, at so much per basket. The peaches are nearly gone, but the few on sale are very fine.

The most striking feature of the fruit stores, is the large increase in the varieties of pears offered for sale. Formerly the only varieties noticeable were the Virgalieu and Seckel, beside the common cooking pears, which were nameless. For a few seasons back one could get, at Thompson's and at Taylor's, the Duchess d'Angouleme, and the Beurre Diel, in their season, for a trifle less than their weight in silver. Boston was the only market where pears of the finer varieties could be purchased by their names. We noticed this morning at a number of places, besides the varieties mentioned, the Flemish Beauty, the Napoleon, the Louise Bonne d' Jersey, the Onondaga; and other varieties, and at prices that did not taste of the silver. These are cheering indications that our labors and those of kindred journals are not without their influence upon the country. They are making fruit far more abundant and at prices within the reach of all. We hope to see their influence extended until the luxury of good fruit is found upon every man's table within our borders.

[*Rural New Yorker.*]

### How to feed Horses.

The adult horse does not require so much of the flesh-making principle as the young and growing animal, but he seems to require a greater variety. The adult merely requires enough to replace the waste—the wear and tear of his system. If he obtains more than this, the surplus is either excreted from the body, or else stored up within the same in the form of fat; and everybody knows that a fat horse, or a fat man, are not best adapted for a race, nor hard labor; but of all others (except those in a state of debility,) they are most subject to acute disease. With the young and growing animal the case is different. Here we require bone, muscle and nerve. Oats, corn and pollard furnish the same. The colt obtains from its mother's milk all the elements of its own organization in a concentrated form—all that seems necessary for developing bodily proportions and hereditary traits—therefore, when weaned, the colt must be furnished with the same equivalents in the form of fodder: ground oats, wheat bran and meal.

It is the young and growing animal that requires our greatest attention. If our readers desire to raise colts that shall remunerate them for the trouble and expense incurred, they must feed the same, during their minority with a liberal hand. Any neglect at this period can never be made up in after life; the subject will always remain lank and lean—living monuments of their master's folly, or ignorance as the case may be. In addition to the food required for the colt's growth, we must also furnish enough to supply the waste incurred by expenditure of muscular power. We all know that the young are very active and playful. Every muscular movement involves an expenditure of vital force, and thus exhausts the system; therefore in view of developing their full proportions, and promoting the integrity of the living mechanism they must have nutritious food and plenty of it. They are not, however, to have a large quantity at a time, but little and often; their stomach is small, not larger than that of a man. Should it be overdistended with coarse and in nutritious food, the organs of respiration and circulation become embarrassed, and the blood loaded with carbon. They require food often, because the digestive or.

gans are very active, and soon dispose of an ordinary meal; then comes the sensation of hunger, which every one knows is hard to bear.—*American Veterinary Journal.*

### The Cultivation and Preservation of Forests.

BY B. F. CUTTER, ESQ.

The first thing to be taken into consideration in the cultivation of forests is the means by which they are propagated, whether from seed or transplanting young trees. I propose first to notice the propagation from the seed.

The seeds of all the oaks, hickories, butternut, black walnut, beech, chestnut, hornbeam, and nettle tree, are ripe, and may be gathered at the time of the first hard frosts of October, and all require the same treatment, viz: they may be planted directly after ripening, or may be kept in some moist place until spring, and then planted. It injures all of the above kinds to dry them.

The scarlet and silver maples, canoe and river birches, and elms, ripen their seeds early in June, and should be planted immediately without drying. In good land they will grow from 3 inches to 3 feet the first year. They may be also dried and kept.

The sugar maple, white pine, hemlock, spruce, arborvitæ, white cedar, larch, black and yellow birches, ripen their seeds in August and September, and may either be sown directly or dried and kept till spring before planting.

The pitch pine and white birch ripen from November to March, and of course should be planted in the spring.

When seeds are not liable to be destroyed by birds, mice or squirrels, it is best to plant them in the fall, as that is the time designed by nature; and a most shady place is much the best, especially if they are to be transplanted. The arborvitæ, white cedar, larch, spruce and hemlock will seldom vegetate unless they are sown in wet and shady places.

All seed trees need but a thin covering of earth, if the ground is moist; but if the ground is dry, there should be allowance made and the seed covered a little deeper as the ground is dryer. One of the best rules that can be given is to follow nature, as near as possible, in the time and manner of planting and also in the selection of lands. All the lighter kinds of seeds, that are scattered by the wind, need but very slight covering, and generally succeed without anything more than the rains will do.

It is a very good plan—and is the practice in the old countries—to sow several kinds together, as the oak and pine, or the pine and white birch, as they protect each other, and one may come up if the other fails.

The red cedar, mountain ash, and the thorn ripen their seeds late in the autumn, and require two years to vegetate—they should be gathered and kept in some shady place under ground one year previous to planting.

All the oaks, nut-bearing trees, maples, bass, &c., require warm, moist soil, while the evergreens, white birch, &c., will generally succeed on the lightest soil. The white pine probably adapts itself to all kinds of land better than any other tree, growing equally well from the quagmire of our swamps to the top of the highest hills.

If the trees are to be transplanted from the forest, care should be taken to select good, strong, growing young trees from places where they have not been too much shaded—should be taken up carefully and set out as soon afterwards as possible. They may be set at first from 3 to 6 feet apart, and

the trees may be of any size from 1 to 12 feet high or more, according to the taste; and care should be taken not to have them set much deeper in the ground than they formerly grew in the woods.

A growth of wood could probably be obtained in this way, sooner than by sowing the seed; but the first cost would be much the most. If seedling trees from the seed bed were to be transplanted, I should recommend to transplant them when much smaller; say from 1 to 3 feet high.

The protection of our forests might all be summed up in a very few words, viz: keep out the cattle, fire, and the speculators, and let the birds live, especially the woodpeckers.

Every man knows what would be the consequence if the fire should run through his wood lot; but it is not every man that is aware of the damage his cattle do to his lot by being allowed to run in it; and any one would hardly be able to make him believe that a herd of cows would destroy more wood in a few days or weeks than they were all worth, and yet it is frequently the case.

In regard to birds, it is well known that all kinds that live in the woods, subsist, at times, almost wholly on insects, and it is also very well known by naturalists and others, that insects are injurious to trees, hence it should be the duty of every man to do all in his power to save the birds from harm. I have never known but one kind of bird that ever injures a tree, that one is the sapsucker, a species of woodpecker, which sometimes eats the tender bark; and he, probably, does ten times more good than mischief.

It is thought by very many of our farmers that the forest does best if let alone and not pruned, and as the work has generally been done, this is the best way; but from twenty years experience in the business, I have come to a different conclusion. I know of no good reason that can be given why a wood lot may not be as much benefited by pruning as an orchard. Every good cultivator or fruit grower knows that it injures his orchard very much to let an inexperienced man prune it with an axe, as people generally have done their wood lots, and the same rule applies as well to one as to the other.

In order to have a growth of trees start in good shape, it is necessary to have them very much thicker at first than they can grow when they become larger, and most farmers argue that they will die out and thin themselves best if let alone, and refer you to the old growth, and talk of the clear lumber they make where the limbs have rotted off; but they do not consider that our climate is very different from what it was when the whole face of the land was covered with wood, and that those old trees that made the clear lumber had been two hundred years in growing from one to two feet in diameter; nor that the dry winds now sweep through and between our scattered wood-lots, and have a tendency to preserve the dead limbs from decay, so that they remain on the tree in a dry state, and make what the carpenters call pin knots, so that the only way by which we can clear lumber is to prune the limbs off when the trees are small. It is well known to every observing man that the lumber of our second growth grows much faster, and comes to maturity in much less time than it took for the original growth, and that there is a vast difference in the value of lumber, some of it being more valuable and some of it less—the ash and white pine, for instance—the former being more valuable and the latter less.

In regard to the length of time that a lot of wood should be left to grow, people differ very much;

but where wood is for the fire, and dollars and cents are the only objects in view, from 25 to 30 years is long enough. But if this process were followed out, the question would be asked, where is our lumber for building and mechanical purposes to come from? and the answer, will and must be, let your wood lots stand longer, and prune and continue to thin out, and you will soon have lumber enough.

In conclusion, it may not be out of place here, to give a few instances of the growth of some trees on my own land, to show at what age of the tree we may expect good size lumber. I have two white pines, one of which was trimmed about 50 years ago to the height of 25 feet, and a man who was present, at the time said that it was just the right size to hew for a six inch square stick. The other was pruned 5 years later and was just about same size; they stand in thick woods and are 100 feet high, and girth, 4 feet from the ground, 8 feet 3 inches each, and are estimated by good judges to contain more than 1200 feet each of merchantable lumber. Another lot of six trees, where the old growth has, more of it been cut out, measured 7 feet 7 inches at four feet from the ground, are not so tall as the others, but grow much faster, as I can remember the time that I could carry off on my back, the whole of a tree, and my age is 52. Another lot which came from seeds of the first mentioned tree, and cannot be more than 40 years old are now 60 feet or more in height, and long enough to make timber 40 feet long and from 6 to 10 inches square. From the above it will be seen that the trees gain in quantity much faster after they are 40 years of age than they do before.

The study of nature, as seen in the growing forest, is a very profitable and pleasing one to me, and it seems strange that there are not more who pursue and enjoy it.—*Granite Farmer.*

### Raising Fruit Profitable.

Much has been written upon the profitableness of fruit culture, yet we think this matter is generally too much neglected and its importance too little appreciated. One reason of this is, that relatively quite too much attention has been bestowed upon raising fancy fruits. Almost every one who has written upon the subject has devoted himself to describing a new variety, or to the best means of raising a small quantity of a great number of fruits. Take apples for example. We have in our agricultural and horticultural journals chapter upon chapter describing the hundreds of varieties, while little is said upon the importance of producing an abundant supply of some of the leading and long established kinds, such as the Greening, Spitzenburg, Baldwin, Newtown Pippin, Seek-no-further, &c. If public attention has been rightly directed in this matter, why even is it at this present time as well as in all past seasons, there is and has always been a scarcity of these fruits in the market, even when they bring prices four times more than would amply pay for their production?

No one can sit down and carefully estimate the cost of raising apples, compared with the amount yielded by other products from the same ground and labor, without being convinced that no branch of industry is so highly remunerating as this, and yet few enter into it as a business.

If we take fruit at its lowest market price, the ground occupied by one apple tree can in no way be made to yield for the same outlay more than a fourth of the value that can be gathered from the tree, even if the fruit be used for feeding only.

In addition to the causes of this state of things above mentioned, two others may be given. First, it has been feared that everybody else was going

into the business; and second, the time required to raise a bearing orchard has led most persons to seek for a more immediately remunerating business.

To the first, it may be said that when we take into account the value of fruit for feeding stock there can be no limit to the quantities that may be profitably raised for home consumption; and to the second, that the cost of rearing an orchard is very trifling, before it begins to yield returns. The ground occupied by growing trees is not lost, nor materially injured for other purposes; on the contrary, as we know by profitable experience, trees will flourish quite as well on ground that annually produces good crops. We raised a thrifty orchard of six acres, containing three hundred trees, and yet every year gathered from the same ground large crops of corn and potatoes alternately. The trees thrived all the better from the constant cultivation of the ground around them. A few loads per acre of good manure was annually applied, and the corn and potatoes gave a good profit, over and above the entire expense of cultivation, in addition to the cost of plants, grafting, and the annual care required by the trees. At the end of eight years, our orchard was producing an annual crop of more than a thousand bushels of choice apples, requiring only to be gathered and taken to market, and yielding a *clear profit* of more than fifty dollars per acre. In this orchard we cultivated but six varieties—the Harvest apple, August Sweet, Fall pippin, Spitzenburg, Greening, and Seek-no-further. Each in its season, found a ready market, at remunerating prices. The produce of that orchard of six acres, now eighteen years old, is to-day worth more than eighty dollars an acre, annually for feeding purposes only. The soil was not unusually favorable; indeed, it was so rocky that it could with difficulty be tilled except with the hand hoe.

The process pursued was very simple. The natural trees raised from seeds by ourselves, were planted out and allowed to grow a year or two, and then grafted upon the stock or larger limbs; many of them were grafted by inoculation, and a few days spent each year in pruning, has been the chief care required by the trees. Each spring they were formerly well whitewashed and the leaning trees tied up to a stake. To guard them from being barked by the traces, four white oak stakes, split out like rails, were driven around the trees. When first set out all the trees were leaned a little to the southwest, so as to brace them against the winds prevailing from that direction. There are few or no soils that will not produce apple trees with a little care in manuring. A cart load of stable manure applied once in ten years to a plot of ground ten feet square—no matter how poor—will fit it to support a good tree.

An apple tree that costs less than two dollars to plant and rear it, will for many years yield, without after expense, an average produce of ten bushels a year, worth for feeding alone, two dollars a year, and fifty to eighty such trees may stand upon a single acre.

While on this subject, we will mention a young orchard that we visited last spring. Several hundred trees planted upon a soil so barren that it would barely yield grass, but the trees were quite as large and thrifty as any we have seen of the same age. We learned that the only manure used was about a quart of urine each, annually, though when first planted, a large deep hole was dug for each tree, and filled up with surface soil, mingled with a small quantity of chip manure.—*American Agriculturist.*

### Domestic Economy.

**CHEAP AND EXCELLENT CANDLES.**—The following recipe I have tried twice, and find it all that it is cracked up to be. I have no doubt that it would have been worth more than \$200 to me if I had known it years ago. Most farmers have a surplus of stale fat and dirty grease which can be made into candles at a trifling expense.

I kept both tallow and lard candles through the last summer, the lard best, and burning quite as well, and giving as good light as tallow ones. Directions for making good candles from lard:—For 12 pounds of lard, take 1 pound of saltpetre, and 1 pound of alum; mix them and pulverize them; dissolve the saltpetre and alum in a gill of boiling water; pour the compound into the lard before it is quite all melted; stir the whole until it boils, skim off what rises; let it simmer until the water is all boiled out, or till it ceases to throw off steam; pour off the lard as soon as it is done, and clean the boiler while it is hot. If the candles are to be run, you may commence immediately; if to be dipped, let the lard cool first to a cake, and then treat it as you would tallow.—*Cor. N. E. Farmer.*

**RECIPE FOR CURING MEAT.**—Those who will carefully adopt our method of curing pork and beef, will be enabled to enjoy as fine hams, tongues, "dried beef" and rounds, as the Emperor of all the Russias can command, always providing that the meat cured is of the best quality. It is this:—

To one gallon of water,  
Take 1 1-2 lbs. of salt,  
1-2 lb. of sugar,  
1-2 oz. of saltpetre,  
1/2 oz. of pearlsh.

In this ratio the pickle to be increased to any quantity desired. Let these be boiled together, until all the dirt from the sugar, [which will not be a little,] rises to the top and is skimmed off.—Then throw it into a tub to cool, and when cold, pour it over your beef or pork, to remain the usual time, say four or five weeks. The meat must be well covered with pickle, and should not be put down for at least two days after killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre.

Several of our friends have omitted the boiling of the pickle, and found it to answer equally as well. It will not however, answer quite so well. By boiling the pickle, it is purified.

**CARE OF HENS IN WINTER.**—Farmers, as a general rule, neglect their hens in winter. They are left to pick up what they can find about the barn yard; if they get sufficient food, well; if not, no matter. This is cruel and decidedly unprofitable. If it will not pay to keep them in good condition, it will not pay to keep them at all.—They should have a warm, clean place to roost in, and the farmer should see that they never suffer from the want of food. A little light grain or buckwheat, with a few boiled potatoes, turnips, mangel wurtzel, or other succulent food, will generally be paid for by the eggs laid during winter, and in spring fourfold. Hens starved during winter will not furnish many eggs the coming spring.

**TO CURE A FELON.**—Take a lump of rock salt the size of a hickory nut, pulverize, add equal quantities of brown sugar and bar soap, spirits of turpentine enough to make a salve, apply enough to cover the swelling, and after an hour or so, make a second application.—*Ohio Farmer.*

### The Art of Cattle Breeding.

Every reflecting mind will clearly perceive, and at once admit, that within the last few years science has rapidly advanced the art of feeding cattle. Let us view the British homestead a short period back. See the innumerable inconveniences to which the farmer was then subject; while on the other hand, he has at the present day every facility afforded him.

The importance of properly maintaining our horses and cattle is well understood; to effect which their food must be properly prepared, and this will doubtless become general, as all the resources of science are directed to economise its use.

It is universally admitted that when the grass is cut, the corn crushed, cake broken, the turnips, chaff, &c., also cut and steamed, not only an immense saving in first cost is thereby effected, but the animal is incredibly improved both in health and appearance; and these are considerations well worthy the attention of the practical farmer. In short, it is to those several processes of cutting, bruising, steaming, &c., that he must look for the crowning of his labors with success.—*American Agriculturist.*

**HOW TO KEEP SMOKED HAMS.**—Hams can be secured and sweetly preserved through summer by packing them in cobs; first, a layer of cobs in the bottom the cask; then hams and cobs, until you finish the whole. Be particular that they do not come in contact with each other. Unbroken cobs I would prefer, but broken ones selected will answer. It would be necessary to take them out once in summer, and give them a dry rubbing.—Your cask should stand upon a bench, in a dry, cool cellar. Having packed in this way, the cobs absorb the heat and air sufficient to keep them fresh and fine. It has been my practice for more than ten years to treat my hams in this way, and I never lost one. You take them out perfectly clean, not plastered, not ashed, not greased; neither is there any chaff to be swept off. Cask to be covered.—*Mich. Farmer.*

**PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE**—The Trustees of the State Agricultural Society have selected Gen. Jas. Irvin's farm, in Centre county for the State Agricultural College—it having been given as a donation for that purpose, with a bonus of \$10,000, by the citizens of the county. Several liberal offers were made in addition to the above, showing a spirit of liberality worthy of imitation in every State of our Union.

**TOOTHACHE REMEDY.**—The Dublin Hospital Gazette states that diseased teeth have been rendered insensible to pain by a cement composed of Canada Balsam and slacked lime, which is to be inserted in the hollow of the tooth, like a pill.—It is stated that such pills afford immediate relief in all toothaches but chronic cases of inflammation. This remedy is simple, safe, and can easily be tried by any person.

**TO MARK SHEEP WITHOUT INJURY TO THE WOOL.**—To thirty spoonful of linseed oil add two ounces of litharge and one ounce of lampblack; unite them together by boiling, and mark the sheep therewith.

**APPLE PUDDING.**—Sweet apple, prepare and chop fine one part, milk, two parts, a little salt and spice or ginger; put in an iron vessel; while boiling stir in fine Indian meal, then bake from one to three hours.

**THE APPLE ORCHARD.**—An experienced writer has said, "Better throw your money away, than plant trees in a careless manner." This saying has been verified so often that further comment would be useless. The first thing to be taken into consideration is the soil, and although the apple adapts itself to almost any kind, yet it has a preference—"it seldom thrives on dry sands, or soils constantly saturated with moisture—its favorite soil is loam, of limestone nature. A deep, strong gravelly, marley, or clayey loam, on a strong sandy loam, or a gravelly subsoil, produces the greatest crops and highest flavored fruit—such a soil is moist rather than dry. Too damp soils may often be rendered fit for the apple by thorough draining, and too dry ones by deep subsoiling, or trenching." The apple flourishes and is less productive on soils which are so stony and rock covered, as to unfit them for any other crop. After having chosen the site for the orchard, have the holes dug 40 feet apart—they should be 18 inches in depth and 2 feet in width—the bottom should be filled with good surface soil, and if there is not enough left to complete planting, some thoroughly rotten manure may be incorporated together with some lime to finish.

Prune off all the ends of the roots, so as to leave them fresh, and free from bruises; place the tree in the hole, put in the earth, pressing it gently with the foot from the centre to the circumference, until nearly full—put on a bucket of water, and soon as it has penetrated the earth, level it.—*Iowa Farmer.*

**Situation for an Orchard.**—The greatest drawback to successful fruit-growing in this section of the West is the late spring frosts, which kill the fruit in embryo. To obviate this the most elevated situation should be chosen for an orchard, and, when practicable, upon the northern slope of the hill, where trees are less subject to the influence of the sun in winter and early spring.

**Distance for Setting the Trees.**—If the soil is thin 33 feet for apple trees and 20 feet for peach trees are proper distances for planting them. If the soil be stiff clay, the earth should be raised two or three inches above the common level around each tree, in order to throw the water off from the roots of the tree. In the spring this earth should be removed to a level, and its place supplied with a mulching of old litter, straw, or leaves from the woods.

**TO PRESERVE CATTLE FROM DISEASE IN WINTER.**—When cattle are kept out in winter, it is recommended as a useful practice to rub some tar at the root of the horn, which prevents the wet from getting between the root and the skin, and, it is said contributes to preserve the health of the animal, and to keep it free from various diseases to which it may otherwise be liable.

**A GOOD COW.**—Nathanjel Baker tells the *Granite Farmer* that he has a "native" cow which in seven and a half months gave 2559 quarts of milk—that each seven quarts of milk makes seventeen ounces of butter, equal to 338 pounds, worth 25 cents per pound—equal to \$87.

**CASHMERE SHAWL GOATS.**—Dr. D. C. Ambler New York, has left at the rooms samples of Wool of full blood and half blood Cashmere goats, of great fineness and beauty; also engravings of full blood male and female goats. There can be no doubt that the introduction of these goats will prove very profitable and of great utility.

### Regularity in Feeding Cattle.

Stephens, in his "Book of the Farm," gives the following illustration of the necessity of regularity and method of agricultural duties:

In thus minutely detailing the duties of the cattle man, my object has been to show you rather how the turnips and fodder should be distributed relatively than absolutely; but whatever hour and minute the cattle-man finds from his experience, he can devote to each portion of his work, you shall see that he performs the same operation at the same time every day. By paying strict attention to time, the cattle will be ready for and expect their wonted meals at the appointed times and will not complain until they arrive. Complaints from his stock should be distressing to every farmer's ears, for he may be assured they will not complain until they feel hunger, and if allowed to hunger they will not only lose condition, but render themselves by discontent, less capable of acquiring it when the food happens to be fully given. Wherever you hear lowings from cattle, you may safely conclude that matters are conducted there in an irregular manner. The cattle-man's rule is a simple one, and easily remembered—*Give food and fodder to cattle at fixed times, and dispense them in a fixed routine.* I had a striking instance of the bad effects of irregular attention to cattle. An old staid laborer was appointed to take charge of cattle, and was quite able and willing to undertake the task. He got his own way at first, as I had observed many laboring men display great ingenuity in arranging their work. Lowings were soon heard from the stock in all quarters, both in and out of doors, which intimated the want of regularity in the cattle-man; while the poor creature himself was constantly in a state of bustle and in easiness. To put end to this disorderly state of things, I apportioned his entire day's work by his own watch; and on implicitly following the plan he not only satisfied the wants of every animal committed to his charge, but had abundant leisure to lend a hand to anything that required his temporary assistance. His old heart overflowed with gratitude when he found the way of making all his creatures happy, and his kindness to them was so undeviating, they would have done whatever he liked.

### Successful Culture of the Japanese Potatoe Plant in New York.

A few months ago we called attention to the fact that Mr. D. Boll, the well-known florist, corner of 50th street and Broadway, had planted some of the roots of the *Dioscorea Japonica* or *Dioscorea batatas*, a substitute for the potato, in his garden. He first planted them in May, we believe, in pots in his hot-house. They grew rapidly, and as soon as warm weather set in, he transferred them to his garden in the open air. Here they flourished and spread during the summer, and gave indication that the florist should reap a harvest.

Mr. Boll had between twenty and thirty roots in the ground. During the first week in October he concluded his *Dioscoreas* were quite large enough, and so he dug them up. To his great delight, he found that some of them were two feet long, and all had grown finely. In fact he was satisfied that he had been amply repaid for his trouble and expense in importing the roots from France last spring.

Some of the roots were exhibited by Mr. Boll at the recent fair of the American Institute, at the Crystal Palace. They grow long, similar in shape to the sweet potatoe, but much greater in size. One of the roots measuring over two feet in length,

was boiled by the florist's wife. She says it possessed the flavor of the common potato, and is an exceedingly nice vegetable for the table.

Mr. Boll has now a few roots in his garden, where he intends to keep them during the winter, to see how they will stand our weather. He is sanguine of succeeding in winter as well as in the summer in raising these roots. They are the first and only *Dioscoreas* that have yet been raised in the United States. The demand for the roots has been so great, that Mr. Boll sent to France for a large quantity to supply his friends. The vessel having them on board is daily expected to arrive at this port.

The *Dioscorea*, it is thought, may advantageously replace the common potatoe. It grows fast, can be cultivated in any climate, and, it is said, will do well in any soil, though sandy loam & sandy soil is preferable.—*Am. Agriculturist.*

**THE PRODUCT OF A LAKE SUPERIOR FARM.**—Messrs. Carson & Close have just completed the harvesting of the crops raised on their farm the present season, and through their kindness we have been favored with the year's product. They have dug 5000 bushels potatoes, and 1000 bushels turnips, and have cut 100 tons of oats. The market price of these articles at the present time is—potatoes \$1 per bushel, turnips 75 cents per bushel, oats \$30 per ton. At these rates the crop figures up the nice little sum of \$8,750. This we consider doing very well, when we take into consideration the fact, that only ten months since this 110 acres of land was a dense forest.

The yield, we are informed, would have been much larger, but for the lack of rain during the spring, which considerably reduced the anticipated crops of our farmers.

The above is only a sample of what may be realized the first year from farming in this country. On older farms the crops have been much larger, and we are in hopes of soon being enabled to present to our readers some facts in our agricultural products which will prove this region one of the most lucrative farming countries in the world.—*Ontonagon Miner.*

**EXTRAORDINARY YIELD OF CORN.**—Major W. S. Mellinger, near Monongahela City, Washington county, Penn., informs us that about the 1st of May, he sowed 1 3-4 bushels broad cast, on one acre of ground, intending to cut it up for fodder. Finding during the summer that it was growing about as rapidly as his corn planted and worked in the usual manner; he concluded to leave it to mature. When the time arrived for harvesting, he found it to yield 150 bushels of ears of good corn and five tons of fodder. He says that he had, besides, about 30 bushels of nubbins, not counted in the above. If such results could always be anticipated from sowing broadcast, we see no reason why corn intended for feeding purposes should not be planted in this way or in drills, which would be more scientific. It would not do, however, to rely on this method of planting for seed, as we think there is no doubt but it would degenerate. We suppose however, that no reliance could be placed on this mode, except when a wet season like last summer would prevail, or where the land can be properly irrigated.—*Western Agriculturist.*

**A HORTICULTURAL NOVELTY.**—The agricultural branch of the Patent Office has taken measures to procure seeds of the Bunyabunya, a tree of the fir tribe, growing in Australia, where it flourishes in a region of not much greater area than thirty miles square.—*Washington Star.*

## EDITOR'S TABLE.

### Cultivation of Barley.

The use of machinery in cutting this crop and threshing it out, presents inducements for its cultivation in our State. It has been raised here, occasionally, and has often yielded a heavy crop. The crop would be more certain by good cultivation.

It is very desirable that the previous crop from the ground should have left it clean of weeds. Barley cannot be cultivated to advantage upon stiff, heavy and wet grounds, or such as are of cold and tenacious quality. It delights in a dry, light, mellow soil, so that it can grow rapidly, and its roots extend, to obtain the proper supply of nutriment to bring the grain in the three months that the crop occupies the ground to perfect maturity.

As in the case of most crops, so in this, the ground should be well pulverized and in good order to receive the seed. If the spring be dry, a roller, after sowing, will be of great benefit. The usual time of sowing is in April, depending a good deal upon the season. From six to eight pecks of seed are usually sown on an acre, according to the richness of the soil and forwardness of the season; the poorest ground and the latest sowing requiring the most seed. If grass seeds are sown on ground occupied by barley, it should not be done until after the barley has come up, and it then should be covered with a light harrow and roller. At least, this is the practice in some of the Atlantic States.

Barley is known to be ripe by the disappearance of the reddish cast on the ear, or what English farmers term *red roan*, by the ears beginning to droop, and bend themselves round against the stems; and by the stalks becoming brittle and of a yellowish color. This is the particular period for cutting, as if suffered to stand longer, the heads break off, and the grain wastes with the slightest touch. Sixty bushels an acre is not an extraordinary yield. The article is now quoted at St. Louis at \$1 35 and \$1 40 per bushel. This grain will pay well for cultivation.

### The Garden.

Spring will come. We have His word for it, who never fails in His promises. It is not too soon to begin to think of the garden. To support the farmer's family,—to secure the most healthy and delicious food, there is no part of his farm which pays such rich returns. If, then, you have not set off in a suitable place, having proper soil for the purpose, a piece of land for the garden, it is time you should be thinking about it. We all desire early products of the garden, hence it should be located in a warm spot, protected if possible, from the north-west, north, and north-east winds. The soil should be light, warm and rich. With these provisions, you will be likely, if you put in your seeds at the proper time, to secure vegetables a fortnight or more, sooner than your more negligent neighbors.

We do not suppose that many of our farmers will have their hot beds; though these could be made so as to cost but little, and would hasten the early maturity of many valuable vegetables. There will be little use in planting garden seeds before the last of March unless the weather and condition of the garden grounds should be favorable. In such case make a bed the south side of a building or tight fence, or in some protected place, for sowing cress, cabbages, lettuce, radishes, tomatoes and spring turnips. These may be easily protected, by spreading clean straw over the bed at night, to remain on during frost, and taken off in the morning in mild weather. You may set out top onions and small onions for "early rareries." You can plant a row of early potatoes in a warm border. English beans (broad windsor and mazagan) will only produce by very early planting. You can plant your peas as soon as the weather is suitable and the ground dry.

It is well to understand the character of seeds. The following are hardy: asparagus, English beans, beet, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, celery, parsley, parsnip, peas, radish, salsify, spinach, sage, turnip. These are the safest kinds to sow early. Among tender seeds are—kidney beans, cucumber,

egg plant, Indian corn, melon, ockra, peppers, squashes, tomato, and herbs in general. It is not perfectly safe to sow these before May; and, indeed, there is usually, in Central Illinois, frosts about the tenth of May, which cut down early beans. A small patch however, can be protected.

We shall continue this subject in our next number.

### Farmer's Boys.—Take the Farmer!

In the little experience we have had in publishing this paper, we have observed one gratifying fact,—*farmers' boys* are quite desirous of taking it. We like to see this inquiring spirit among them. They have taken hold of a profession for life, and they desire to understand it in all its details. Though agriculture has existed as a profession since the appearance of Adam in the garden of Eden,—and though we are told that "there is nothing new under the sun," yet we doubt if Adam knew any thing about a good plow, a seed drill, a mower or a reaper. Neither are we of opinion that these instruments were ever perfected, as they now are, in the numerous centuries which have intervened between Adam's expulsion and the inventions now offered to our farmers. The truth is that mechanical genius as applied to instruments of agriculture, is effecting wonders for the farmer—saving labor, making many of the duties of the farmer light, and the business of the farm profitable—The experience of farmers in raising crops, particular modes of cultivation, accidental discoveries in various processes of agriculture, condensed and recorded as they are in agricultural journals, cannot but be useful to those who are willing to profit by instruction. Farmers' boys are right in subscribing for agricultural papers. The spirit of inquiry manifested by them will result in elevating their views of their profession, will make them feel that they are not drudges for the benefit of others, but that they are engaged in the most noble employment of man. Boys, you are right—go ahead—subscribe for the Farmer. A single chicken, well cared for, during the coming season, will pay all the "Illinois Farmer" will cost you.

### News of the Month.

**✎** We are compelled to apologize for the late appearance of this number of our paper and for the work itself. Our access to the markets for a good article of paper and ink, has been prevented by the severe cold weather of the winter. We hope all will come right in a few days.

Our last news from Nicaragua, left the party of Col. Walker in power, and there appeared no immediate prospect of his being driven from his position.

Mr. Dallas, of Pennsylvania, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Buchanan, as minister to England.

Late letters from Washington territory state that all surveys have been suspended on account of Indian hostilities. The war is said to be general. It is thought that at least 6,000 Indians are in the field.—Most of the settlers have gone into villages or block houses.

The Indians have become troublesome in the south part of Florida. Some murders have been committed by them. Troops were sent in pursuit but could not find the Indians. There is not supposed to be over 100 Indians engaged in these outrages.—They are Seminoles.

The South Carolina Southron, says that the injuries of the ice to the pine timber of that State can only be estimated by millions.

The Linden trees on Boston common have been split to their centre from top to bottom, by the frost. It is said, however, that this happened to them once before, and that no injury resulted from it, as they closed up and grew thrifty afterwards.

It is understood that trains are now running on the Alton and Terre Haute road, between these points.

We believe that an examination of young apple trees will show that much of the wood of the last year's growth, has been killed by the excessive cold of winter. If this should prove to be the case, the trees will not be essentially injured if cut back, in the spring, to the sound wood.

Should this have the effect of making low headed trees for our prairies, it will be no loss to our farmers.

Large numbers of dressed hogs, in a frozen state, are still sent off by railroad from this city, for an eastern market.

The premiums on domestic animals, to be awarded at the next Ohio State Fair, are much changed from last year. Best bull over three years, of Short Horn, Hereford, Devon and Ayreshire stocks, \$50. Best ten yoke of working oxen from one county, \$100. Best pen five fat steers, \$50.— Best pen five fat steers fed on grass, \$30. Best steer three years old, stock cattle, \$20. Best stallion, thorough bred, \$50.— Best stallion for draught horse, \$30. Best match horses, \$20. Best gelding, for light harness, \$10. Best five colts, 3 years, sired by one horse, \$100. Best jack, 3 years old, \$40. Best pair of mules, \$20. Fine woolled sheep, best buck over two years, \$40. Long woolled sheep, best buck over 2 years, \$20. Best pen of five fat sheep, over three years, \$20. Best boars of different breeds, \$20. Best pair of China fowls, \$5; do game fowls, \$5; do dorkings, \$3. The fair as we have already stated, is to be held at Cleveland, September 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th, 1856.

In Knox county, Indiana, there is a pear tree, which was planted in 1802. It is now seventy feet in height, girths ten feet six inches at the smallest place below the limbs, and its top spreads over an area of 4,200 square feet, or nearly one-tenth of an acre. In 1834, it bore 180 bushels, of pears, and in 1840, 140 bushels.

The birds suffered much in the recent cold weather. Many of the quails and prairie grouse have been killed. A Cleveland paper says that recently more than 150 robins appeared in Professor Kirtland's yard, five miles from that city. They came to be fed, and were promptly provided for.

Mr. Banks was finally elected Sepaker of the House under the plurality resolution.

We hear of heavy snows in New York and other Eastern States, which have

greatly checked business on the railroads.

A late arrival from San Francisco brings news that the fort at Walla-Walla, high up the Columbia, was in possession of the Indians; and that a force from Vancouver, sent to re-take it, had not been heard from, and much anxiety was felt for its safety.

We are threatened with a batch of banks in Nebraska,—probably of the order of wild-cats.

An attempt was made to burn the chapel of the Illinois college at Jacksonville, on Sunday the third inst. Several of the seats were burnt, but the fire was quickly extinguished. President Sturtevant states in a publication that it was the work of an incendiary.

The railroad connecting Quincy with roads passing to Chicago, has been completed; and the citizens of Quincy are now turning their attention to the subject of completing the northern cross railroad to Meredosia, so as to connect with this city. We hope they will be able to accomplish this scheme.

#### Aspects of Foreign Affairs.

We have no confidence that peace will be made immediately in Europe. The Czar has accepted the proposition of the Western powers as the basis of negotiations!—That is all. There is no evidence that the belligerents anticipate peace. There is talk that the Allies may leave the Crimea and make war upon Russia, where they can bring into action their troops to better advantage than in the Crimea. They do not suppose that any great advantages can be obtained by a further contest in and about Sebastopol.

We do not regard, therefore, the present aspect of affairs in Europe as likely to lessen the demands for provisions from the United States. Years must pass after war closes before the soldier can well become the husbandman and gather the fruits of his labors. We may look, under any circumstances, for good prices for provisions, especially for breadstuffs. These seem to be the convictions of our farmers, and the

coming spring they will put all their lands in cultivation so far as they have ability. They even propose, many of them, to introduce the cultivation of spring wheat to a large amount. Under common circumstances that crop pays well, and with an ordinary yield here, will give a profit of some fifteen dollars an acre.

We repeat that there is no cause to believe that prices of wheat will rule low the coming year, or that there will be less than the usual demand for beef and pork the coming fall. We say to our agricultural friends in the coming spring, take hold of the season's work with good heart, and you will find a sure reward—in good crops and good prices.

#### He is a Reliable man!

Farmers, as well as others, seldom call for work to be done by mechanics until they need it. It is promised to be completed by a certain time. The parties engaging the work arrange their business so as to have, and use it, at the time stated. Usually, the farmer, or other person provide workmen for the occasion, and to be disappointed seriously injures all concerned; it is a vexation, a wrong and loss to those who employ the mechanic; and it as seriously injures the reputation and business of the mechanic himself. If a mechanic is unable to complete a job at the time required, he had better say so at once; he then would preserve his reputation, and secure the confidence of those who employ him. On the other hand, if he promises and does not perform, he destroys confidence in himself and does wrong to his neighbor.

These remarks are upon a subject of common interest. They are so just that no one will complain of them; and we only think it necessary to call attention to the matter, to cause improvement wherever it is needed. When one becomes "a reliable man," his welfare in a manner, is secured; he has a capital won by truth and industry, on which he can operate with success.

~~we~~ We solicit communications on subjects within the scope of this work.

By reference to advertisement, it will be seen that a meeting of the Sangamon County Agricultural Society is to be held the first day of March, to consider the propriety of holding a county fair in Sangamon for the year 1856.

The exhibition of 1855 was good, but the people do not feel entirely satisfied with it. There is a general feeling that Sangamon county can do better. We do think she can improve much on her last exhibition. The burthen and responsibility of the last exhibition was not so generally shared as it should have been and it is hoped that every citizen will feel it to be his interest and pleasure to take a hand in the matter. It surely is his right and will be esteemed as a favor by the officers to have all engage in the matter. We know that we have exhibited good stock and very good assortment of products, &c., but every one knows that something else could have been added from his neighborhood to make the fair more entertaining. We have not had that interchange of views and sentiments that the matter calls for, and we want men of experience to come forward and make known their belief, founded on experience of the most profitable management of various kinds of stock, and the proper method of rearing stock, and such matters as they may think of benefit to the public respecting farming. Our county fair should be looked forward to as an annual jubilee, when the hearts of all shall rejoice to be able to exhibit the best type of their efforts, and at the same time to shew forth the manner in which their labor has been blessed.

As we all have an interest in the matter, let us as citizens meet and take part in the meeting. Sangamon county is large and productive; the development of her resources is a matter of common interest, and it should be our pride and pleasure to contribute our portion towards her exhibition. Suggestions on the subject of premiums will be gladly received, and the aid of the active and industrious duly appreciated.

Remember the subject of agriculture is not the sole one this society is intended to

promote. Mechanics and every branch of industry are embraced—and it has been much regretted that the mechanics of our county have not manifested more interest. We trust they will awaken to their interest and be with us on the first of March, and will not forsake us at the time of our fair. Agriculture and mechanics go hand in hand, and let not one attempt to rise without the other. They are help to each other, and every mechanic must know this.

—We should fail in our duty did we not express to our friends our obligations to them for the kind manner in which they have welcomed the "Illinois Farmer." Our subscription list, though not as large as we desire, is increasing constantly, and we feel a confidence that if the friends of agriculture in our State, will give it a helping hand, it can be rendered a valuable publication to them. What we wish now is, to interest our friends in procuring a further subscription to the Farmer. A little effort can do much for the work—can greatly increase the subscription—and we assure the public that all the patronage received will be expended upon the work. We think the Illinois Farmer is not in the way of any publication in the State. The price is little, and every farmer can, if he chooses, possess it. We hope that it will richly repay the investment of \$1. If it does not, we shall be greatly disappointed. Give us another list, good friends.

**CURE FOR FROSTED FEET.**—My son severely frosted his feet a month ago. I made a composition, consisting of one half honey and one half spirits turpentine. I saturated cotton with the composition, and applied the cotton to the frozen part at night, (which embraced his toes and which had turned black.) Late in the morning the cotton was taken off, the discolored parts had resumed their natural color, and from that time to this he has made no complaint. I think the remedy is a valuable one, and if it proves a cure for frosted feet in other cases, as it has in my own family, I shall be more than paid for sending to the Farmer this simple recipe. M. P.

☞ Last fall, N. Ellington, a most respectable citizen of Coles county, Ill., was murdered by his son-in-law, Monroe, under the most aggravating circumstances. He was tried and convicted of the murder, and sentenced to be hung last Friday. Powerful representations in favor of a reprieve were presented to the Governor, and the Governor sent a respite of the sentence until some time in May next. A large mass of people assembled in Charleston, on the day fixed for the execution, broke into the jail, took out the prisoner, placed him in a cart, he was drawn to a tree, a rope was put round his neck and fastened to a projecting limb, the cart driven off, and he was left suspended for some thirty minutes; his body was then taken down and delivered to the sheriff, altogether a most shameful affair.—Mr. Ellington was one of the old citizens of the State, extensively known, and beloved by all who knew him.

☞ "A merciful man is merciful to his beast." This is a capital text at this time. We commend it to all who have the care of stock.

#### "Let Every Farmer Speak His Thoughts!"

We give below a communication from a "Small Farmer." He refers to an impression which seems to be held by his friend, that premiums are given by our agricultural societies to MEN, and not for the merits of animals. We say to this friend—attend the meetings of our County Agricultural Society—secure men as judges, in whom you have all confidence—bring your best animals to the fair, and abide the result. It is seldom that men are satisfied with decisions against their stock. Perhaps sometimes wrong decisions are made. Human judgement is imperfect.—But the true spirit was manifested by the late President of the State Agricultural Society at the late fair. He said, "If I am beat, I will not stay beat." That is a noble feeling, and its exercise is what we want to bring out by our fairs—and thus we will secure the highest improvement of stock.

We commend what our correspondent says in regard to getting a "good stand for corn," to the attention of our readers.

#### THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—RAISING CORN.

A few words from a "Small Farmer" may be of use. He can study while holding the plow, the best manner for raising produce, as well as the large farmer, whose business is only to superintend. There is some prejudice in my neighborhood against the Agricultural Society, although I got ten names for it without trouble. Some of them say, "if I have the best stock, some advantage if rightly understood. He can think

it makes no difference: it is the man that takes the premium." I have attended every fair that has been held in Springfield; and I know that I have seen some as good stock left at the homes of our farmers, and as good specimens of produce as I saw at the fair. I ask my neighbor "Why do you not take the colt to the fair?" He answers, "I am not the man to go to the fair. It is lost time. It is the leading men who get the premiums." I know this is a wrong feeling, but it is true that it exists. We must do what we can to change these wrong impressions.

I will offer some suggestions for raising corn. I have followed the plan here presented for twenty-five years in Illinois. I have found that in raising corn, the main point is "to get a good stand;" and to secure this I have tried different ways, and have found that the plan of covering with a small shovel plow is the best. Then let one hand follow and "split the middles," and if your ground is flat, it will save the corn; if it is rolling, it is sure to save it from the waste.

The first time I ever tried this plan, the following things occurred. I told my boy "we must split the middles." "What for?" he asked: "to throw off the water? It's not going to rain." The weather was fine and the ground dusty. I told him to listen.—"Don't you hear the sound of the voices of boys a mile off? It denotes a big rain." He went to work—split the middles deep—and sure enough the big rain came. It fell in torrents. My boy got up in the morning and went to the field, and saw the furrows full of water and passing off. On his return, said he, "we haven't lost our work on that field." I told him if it had never rained that furrow would have been of great use in fooling the moles. In two weeks from that time, when our neighbors who had planted their corn and lost it, went to planting again, WE WENT TO PLOWING our corn; and my boy enjoyed himself much in teasing them, by asking why "they didn't split their middles, as we did." He had forgotten when he looked at the pleasant sky, and said—"O, father, it will not rain!"

When we commenced working our corn, it had rained too much to use the harrow, and we went to work with our Uhler plows, and ran the bar to the corn, and run the plow deep and close to the corn, and threw the dirt into the furrow, which had been full of water, and that left no chance for the ground to bake.

My plan is to plow deep the three first plowings; then the last one not so deep. Leave the ground as level as possible.

I may hereafter give my experience in raising wheat.  
"A SMALL FARMER."

☞ The season will soon arrive for the use of the horse medicines advertised by MESSRS. CORNEAU & DILLER, in this paper. These will be found of essential service to that valuable animal, in the summer season. They have been used for years by the farmers in our vicinity, and the best evidence of their worth is, that the use of them is constantly increasing.

☞ It will be seen by an advertisement on our advertising sheet, that Mr. John C. Crowder, residing two miles from this city, on the Jacksonville road, offers to sell a portion of his valuable stock. Mr. Crowder for many years has been engaged in raising blooded stock, and purchasers of him will be likely to be well satisfied.

**Premiums for Hedging by the Illinois State Agricultural Society.**

Entries of Hedges may be made under the following regulations, until the first day of May next, by sending their applications to Dr. John A. Kennicott, Corresponding Secretary of the Society, at Chicago.

1. For the largest amount of well set and cultivated hedge on one farm, a silver medal.

2. For the best hedge of 1,000 rods and upwards, a silver medal.

3. For the best hedge of forty rods and upwards, a silver medal.

Each person receiving a premium shall be required to furnish a statement of the manner of preparing the ground, setting the plants, and cultivating the hedge, and all persons applying for the premiums shall be required to furnish a similar statement.

Said committee shall examine and report on the practicability, value and general utility of hedging, for enclosures of land from the southern to the northern extremities of the State.

On the various kinds of plants and their durability.

The said committee shall pay special attention to the use of the hedge for enclosing railroads, taking into consideration its capacity for keeping snow off the track; and any other information they may think important on the subject.

H. C. JOHNS, President.

**THE MARKETS.**

SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 23, 1856.

The last European news has tended to stop speculation in provisions and breadstuffs. If peace should be the result of the present negotiations between the belligerent powers of Europe, it will not lessen the number of consumers for the present, yet it will be likely to have a temporary influence in depressing prices. We have few figures to change in our quotations.

FLOUR—Extra, \$8a\$9, retail.

WHEAT—Sales of fair to prime, \$1 10a\$1 20.— A very superior article of white wheat is worth \$1 25. Some farmers, dissatisfied with the present prices, are storing their wheat in the city.

CORN—In the ear, 20a25c.; in sacks, 30a35.

POTATOES—70a80c per bushel.

HIDES—Dry flint, 10a11c.

MARKETING—Chickens, \$1 75 a dozen; turkeys, 7a6c per lb.; butter, 15a20c,—a superior article 25c; eggs, 20a25c per dozen.

GROCERIES—N. O. Sugar new crop, 9½c; old, 10 a11c; coffee, Rio, little to be had, 14c; old Java, 15 to 20c; salt, per bbl., \$2 75; New York, per bbl., \$3a \$3 25; molasses, New Orleans, 50c; Belcher's, 60c; Golden Syrup, —; Rice, 9a10c.

**St. Louis Market—Feb. 16.**

New Orleans dispatches of the 15th quote Flour \$7 50; extra do \$9; Bran 75c; Corn 65c; Wheat \$1 60; Oats 48c; Mess Pork \$16; Ribbed Sides 9½c; Shoulders 9c.

Flour is dull at \$7 25. Wheat \$1 20@\$1 40. 100 bags mixed and yellow Corn in new gunnies at 45c. Oats 40c, sacks included. 150 sks Rye at 85c, sks returned. Hemp seed sold at 90c. Whisky 27c per gallon.

Mess Pork is held at \$14. A lot of 700 tierces prime leaf Lard offered yesterday at 8½c, to arrive, was taken to-day. Offers of 5½c for bulk sides delivered on Illinois river, are refused. No Bacon except at retail on the market.

**Chicago Market—Feb. 15.**

We quote prices as follows—

Flour—Country brands of best quality range from \$7 to \$7 50 at wholesale. Buckwheat Flour \$3 59 per 100 lbs.—Rye Flour \$6 per bbl.

Wheat—Spring to store \$1 25; do to mill \$1 28 to \$1 30; red winter \$1 35 to \$1 45; white \$1 50 to \$1 60.

Oats—20c to livery stables; 29c to store.

Mess Pork—Held at \$14 50 to \$15 per bbl. No demand.

**New York, Feb. 20**

CATTLE MARKET—Receipts of beeves, 2,740; sheep, 6,726; Swine, 6,000. Beeves rather scarce and prices improved a half cent, ranging from 8½ to 12c.; mutton slightly declined; demand good; swine firm, and sales at 7½a7¾.

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## ILLINOIS STOCK AND Grain Farms for Sale.

IN consequence of impaired health, the partnership betwixt myself and brother, in Farming and Stock raising, will be closed by mutual consent at an early day. We have made partition of a portion of our real estate, and now offer the remainder for sale. We will sell about

### 1600 Acres.

(including Timber, &c., thereto, appertaining,) of the north part of the farm upon which I reside, of the tract offered for sale, about 1486 acres are in the highest state of cultivation, and has upon it a Boarding House, Barn, Feeding Lots, &c., besides three

### FARM HOUSES.

eligibly situated, (in reference to use or sub-division,) upon different parts of the farm. There are rows and groves of trees, scattered over the lands, which are highly ornamental, and afford shade for stock in summer, and protection in winter. The tract is well watered by a brook and its tributaries. The main stream traverses it two miles, from west to east, and about 1,000 acres of it are set with tame grasses. About five miles of (Osage Orange) Hedge Fence are growing upon the premises.

The tract, composed of high, rolling prairie, is compact in form, and susceptible of advantageous division into four or more, or less, farms, adapted either to grain or grass, and each with water and timber conveniently situated. The foregoing are situated at

*Island Grove, Sangamon County, Ills.,*

and midway betwixt Jacksonville and Springfield, and within a convenient distance of Island Grove Depot; on the great Western Railroad.

To a gentleman wishing the finest stock farm in the west, or to a number of gentlemen, wishing smaller farms adjoining each other, these lands present a rare chance.

Possession can be delivered of most of the lands, at such time as may be convenient to purchasers, and of the whole at an early day. Payments made easy. As to the farm, reference is made to Dr. KENNICOTT, Secretary Illinois State Agricultural Society, and to occasional notices thereof, in former numbers of the Prairie Farmer. We also offer for sale

### 360 Acres

of unimproved Prairie; about 14 miles east of Jacksonville and about 2 miles south of Great Western Railroad.

The undersigned will still continue his residence as heretofore, and will devote special attention to the improvement and breeding of

### DURHAM CATTLE,

He invites all who may wish to buy Fine Stock to call and examine the superior herd belonging to himself and brother.

Persons wishing further knowledge touching the lands aforesaid, will call at my residence, or upon WILLIAM BROWN, esq., Jacksonville.

feb25

JAMES N. BROWN.

## The Vermont Windmill.

"Blow, winds, and crack your cheeks: rage, blow."—*King Lear.*

Wind is at once powerful, inexpensive, and blows everywhere. Just the thing for Farmers and Mechanics—just the thing for a thousand uses; to grind grain, paints, apples; to turn lathes, grindstones, scour, polish, cut, saw; in the high lofts of buildings, over city and country, on mountains, in villages and on prairies: To work on marble, cut slate, straw, thresh grain, and pump water for railroad stations, for stock, for household use, fountains, ponds, etc.: To drain land and to do the work of a thousand muscles everywhere. The VERMONT WINDMILL will do all this and more. It will adjust its own sails to the wind, is strong, cheap, and durable, beautiful in theory, certain in action. Manufactured by the inventor's Manufacturing company.

AGENTS WANTED for the sale of the new motive power. Town, County, and State Rights for sale. Address,

FOWLER & WELLS,

308, Broadway, New York.

We will receive orders for the above Wind-mill.

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## Fresh and Genuine Garden Seeds.

WE have now received and opened for sale, a stock of fresh garden seeds, and warranted true to their names. Among them are—Giant Asparagus, Windsor (English) Beans, seven varieties of Dwarf Beans, early Dutch Case Knife, Horticultural Cranberry, large Lima Pole Bean, six varieties of the Beet, fifteen kinds of Cabbage, Carrots, variety, five varieties of Celery, Cress, varieties, eight varieties of the Cucumber, six varieties of Corn for roasting, some very early and others very late, seven varieties of Lettuce, seven varieties of the Cantelope Melon, eight varieties of the Water Melon, large green and short white Okra, five varieties Onion, common and double Parsley, seven varieties Peas, large squash, bull nose and sweet mountain Pepper, early Tobolsk and Wyatt's Victoria, eight varieties Radish, summer, fall and winter Squashes, variety, choice varieties Tomato, varieties of early and fall Turnip. Sweet Herbs, &c., Caraway, Coriander, Rosemary, Sage, Sweet Basil, Sweet Mataram, Sweet Thyme, Sweet Mignonette, Summer Savory, &c.

These seeds are for sale wholesale and retail.

February,

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## PREMIUMS.

G. W. CHATTERTON, manufacturer of Silver Ware, will furnish State and County Societies with premiums at eastern prices, and at short notice. Silver pure as coin.

Keeps constantly on hand a large stock of Watches, Jewelry, and silver ware. Springfield, Illinois, West side of the Square.

## Blooded Stock for Sale



THE subscriber, wishing to reduce his stock on his farm, two miles west of Springfield on the Jacksonville road, will sell low for cash or approved credit, 25 head of Durham and Devonshire cattle. Also, cows, heifers, Berkshire hogs, Irish Bull, Grazier pigs, very fine. Also, some very fine colts. Great bargains may be had by applying soon. feb20 JOHN C. CROWDER.

## TO AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL Societies.

WE would particularly invite the attention of those Societies, who are about to make up their Premium Lists for 1856, to our large collection of Agricultural Books, which are peculiarly adapted for Premiums.

The awarding of Agricultural Books in the place of small money premiums has been extensively adopted, and has given the highest satisfaction.

### Advantages of this Plan.

It promotes the dissemination of much needed information among farmers.

It combines the advantages of a diploma with a premium of intrinsic value.

It substitutes a permanent and expressive token of honor for the pittance which is frequently humiliating to the recipient.

It avoids the fostering of a mercenary spirit among competitors, and better comports with the dignity of an honorable emulation between friends and neighbors.

C. M. SAXTON,  
Agricultural Book Publishers,  
140 Fulton street, New York.

We have received a supply of these books, which will be subject to the examination of all and especially of the officers of agricultural and horticultural societies.

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## C. M. SAXTON & CO.'S Agricultural Book Rooms, 140 FULTON STREET, NEW YORK.

C. M. SAXTON & Co. have removed to their new and commodious rooms, No. 140 Fulton street, where in addition to their large stock of Agricultural Books, may be found

**FARMERS' READING ROOMS,**  
supplied with all the Agricultural and Horticultural Periodicals of England, France and Germany; the free use of which they tender all their friends.

## ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL SCHOOL for Young Gentlemen.

THE undersigned will continue to instruct, in any of the departments usually taught in academies. He has numerous facilities for illustrating the various branches of study, and brings to the work the results of a long and careful experience. For more than twenty years he has made it a prominent object, to discover or devise the best means of developing the youthful mind. To this end, he adapts his instructions with the greatest care. To insure success, and also preserve the best moral influence, he devotes his personal labors to a limited number. The right help at the right time is of priceless value to the industrious and inquisitive pupil. For the benefit of such the subscriber offers his aid on the lowest practicable terms.

Tuition in Common School studies \$8, and in any other studies \$10 per quarter of ten weeks, and no extra charge.

As only a limited number can be received, applications for admission are requested early.

A new quarter commences Feb. 11, 1856, at his Seminary Building on South 5th Street, Springfield.  
JOHN F. BROOKS.

## Farmers' Seed Store.

Canada Club Spring Wheat.

WE are at present supplied with Canada Club Spring Wheat for spring sowing. This is a white wheat, and yields remarkably well. Our seed is from De Witt county, and originally came from Canada. A great amount was raised in that county last season, averaging 30 bushels to an acre. The wheat that was sown in the latter part of March yielded best; but that sown as late as the middle of April made a fair yield. The wheat we have for sale was grown on new prairie broken up the year before, and harrowed in in the spring without plowing.

Wheat is undoubtedly the most profitable grain crop that our farmers can raise.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Feb. 12. Journal Buildings, Springfield.

## Produce Wanted At the Farmers' Store,

WE want to purchase Butter, Cheese, White Beans, Turkeys, Chickens, eggs, Dried apples, Dried Peaches, all Family Marketing, for which we will pay groceries at cash prices or cash.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Springfield, Feb. 12, 1856.

## Notice to Farmers.

FROM the frequent calls we have had for grass seeds, spring wheat, and seed potatoes, for sowing and planting, we are apprehensive that there will be an unusual demand for these articles and to prevent disappointment in any way, we suggest to those who will be in want of them, to leave orders for the amount they will need at the Farmer's Store. We shall then be able to form a pretty accurate idea of the amount of seed wanted.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings, Springfield, Illinois.  
Feb. 13, 1856.

## Orange Water Melon.

THIS is a new variety of melon. The rind can be peeled off, and the inside divided into sections, like the orange. In light, warm soils, it bears well, and produces a fine fruit. We have but little of this seed. "First come, first served."

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings, Springfield, Ill.  
Feb. 10, 1856.

## Comstock's Extra Early Dwarf Pea.

THIS pea is very early, grows about ten inches high, requiring no support from sticks or bushes. For city gardens it is just the thing.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings, Springfield, Ill.  
Feb. 10, 1856.

## WYANDOT PROLIFIC CORN.

This corn is for sale at the store of

## W. W. Watson & Son,

SOUTH SIDE OF THE SQUARE,  
and at Francis & Barrell's Farmers' Store, Journal Buildings, Springfield, Illinois.

Much has been said of this corn in the publications of the day. Farmers are invited to try it.  
Feb. 12, 1856.

**CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION!**

**R. H. BEACH,**

West of the State House—three doors from Freeman's Corner.

**K**EEPS always on hand a large supply of men's and children's Clothing, suitable for all classes—and especially for the hard service of the farm. He respectfully invites the farmers of Sangamon county, who want Clothing, to examine his stock. He will sell at as low prices as possible and live. His motto is, "Live and let live." Come on farmers, and see my stock. **R. H. BEACH.**  
Jan 21, 1856

**MEAT MARKET,**

A few Doors South of the American House, Springfield, Ill.

**Fuller & Blacklow**

**K**eeP constantly on hand, at their market house, for sale,

Fresh Meats of the Best Quality, and will make every exertion to render their shop worthy the patronage of our citizens. They respectfully invite their townsmen to give them a call.

They are always in market to purchase the best beef cattle, veal, hogs and sheep for slaughter; and invite the farmers of the country who have stock for sale, to call upon them.  
Feb. 10, 1856.

**J. A. MASON,**

Manufacturer and Dealer in Cabinet Furniture,

**H**AS on hand a large stock of Chairs of all kinds; Bedsteads, Bureaus, Cases, Presses, Tables, Mattresses, Looking Glasses, Clocks from the Factory, Willow Ware, &c., &c.

It is my intention to sell as good articles and on as reasonable terms as any other shop in the city.

Repairing done at all times.

Opposite the Journal office; also in the Journal Buildings.  
Springfield, Feb. 14, 1856.

**SANGAMON COUNTY**

**Agricultural Society.**

**T**HE regular annual meeting of the Sangamon Agricultural and Mechanical Association will take place on Saturday, the first day of March, at the office of the Secretary. The election of officers will take place.

Also at the same time and place, the members and friends of the Sangamon County Agricultural Society will meet to consider the propriety of holding a county fair—electing officers, and preparing a premium list for the year 1856.

T. G. TAYLOR, Sec'y.

**HORSE REVOLVING HAY RAKERS,**

Straw Cutters—many varieties, Field Rollers, Grain Cradles, &c.

**M**ANUFACTURED by H. B. GRUBB & Co., Springfield—all for sale at manufacturers prices, at the Farmer's Store.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Feb. 20, 1856. Journal Buildings.

**The Moline Plows.**

**F**RANCIS & BARRELL are appointed agents for the sale of these Plows, which are manufactured by



**JOHN DERRE, Moline, Rock Island county, Illinois.** It is not deemed necessary to say anything in praise of these plows. In the neighborhood where they are manufactured few others are used. Farmers who will purchase plows the coming season, are invited to examine them. They will be found at the Farmer's Store, Journal Buildings, near the northeast corner of the public square. They embrace No. 1 German Steel Clippers, iron land side; No. 2 German Steel Clippers, iron land side; No. 1, with Rolling Coulter; No. 3, German Steel Plow; No. 4 English Cast Steel Plow; No. 6 American Steel Plow, iron land side; No. 9, German steel deep Tiller; twelve inch mold board breaker (extra).—These comprise a series of plows which have given great satisfaction to those farmers who have used them. **FRANCIS & BARRELL,**  
Feb 10 1856 Journal Buildings.

**Plows! Plows!! Plows!!!**

AT THE

**Farmer's Store,**  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

In great variety, of most improved patterns, Premium kinds, made of the best materials, just received and for sale, by

**FRANCIS & BARRELL,**  
Journal Buildings.

We invite all farmers to examine these plows.  
Feb 20, 1856.

**A WORD TO FARMERS.**

**Y**OUR cry has been heretofore, "Why cannot we get carriages and wagons as durable and cheap here as elsewhere." The question can be satisfactorily answered, by calling at the

Carriage and Wagon Manufactory of  
**Withey & Brothers,**

ONE BLOCK EAST OF THE COURT HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,

Where can be found constantly on hand, every variety of Carriages, such as Rockaways, Buggies, Sulkeys, and Wagons, of the best workmanship, and at the shortest notice. As we employ none but those who have a thorough knowledge of their business, we can warrant all work leaving our establishment.

N. B.—Particular attention paid to repairing in all its various branches.

Orders respectfully solicited, and attended to, at our shop one block east of the Court House.  
Feb. 20th, 1856.

**Wanted to Purchase,**

At the Farmer's Store, Potatoes, Butter, Eggs, Chickens, Turkeys, White Beans, Lard, Dried Apples and Peaches.

FRANCIS & BARRELL.  
Feb. 20. Journal Buildings.

**WANTED TO PURCHASE**

GRASS and Clover Seed, Flaxseed choice Potatoes for seed, and Beans for seed.  
Feb 20 **FRANCIS & BARRELL.**

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printers.

VOLUME 1.

SPRINGFIELD, MARCH, 1856.

NUMBER 3.

## Farm Houses.

In the series of works published by Saxton & Co., New York, there are two specially devoted to Village Residences and Farm Houses. There is no part of the United States where these works can be rendered more useful than in Illinois. Many of our farmers are now in a situation to put up farm houses, and these can be made convenient, appropriate, and even ornamental, without any increase of expense over the old plans. It seems to us to be a great piece of folly, as well as bad taste, in the erection of country houses, to follow the plans and general appearance of city dwellings. A farm house, though it may not be expensive, if built in good taste, with its proper surroundings, will always command admiration,—marking the character of its occupants,—adding greatly to the interest of the farm and the beauty of the country.

We confess that we regard this subject as of very considerable importance. The erection of farm buildings and village residences in a comparatively new and modern style, is a striking feature in the progress of the times.

We are not about to suggest plans for farmers' buildings. That subject has been ably handled by persons competent to the purpose. We have now lying before us the work of LEWIS F. ALLEN on "Rural Architecture." Every farmer who contemplates the erection of a farm house, would be well paid for its examination. It is an unpretending volume, compared with heavy works on architecture, but is a most valuable one for the objects designed.

"Why should a farmer, because he is a farmer," says Mr. ALLEN, "only occupy an uncouth, outlandish house, any more than a professional man, a merchant, or a mechanic? Is it because he himself is so uncouth and outlandish in his thoughts and

manners, that he deserves no better? Is it because his occupation is degrading, his intellect ignorant, his position in life low, and his associations debasing? Surely not. Yet, in many of the plans and designs got up for his accommodation, in the books and publications of the day, all due convenience, to say nothing of the respectability and the elegance of domestic life, is as entirely disregarded as if such qualities had no connection with the farmer or his occupation. We hold, that although many of the practical operations of the farm may be rough, laborious, and untidy, yet they are not, and need not be inconsistent with the knowledge and practice of neatness, order, and even elegance and refinement within doors; and, that the due accommodation of the various things appertaining to farm stock, farm labor, and farm life, should have a tendency to elevate the social position, the associations, thoughts, and entire condition of the farmer. As the man himself—no matter what his occupation—be lodged and fed, so influenced, in a degree, will be his practice in the daily duties of his life. A squalid, miserable tenement, with which they who inhabit it are content, can lead to no elevation of character, no improvement in condition, either social or moral, of its occupants. But the family comfortably and tidily, although humbly provided in their habitation and domestic arrangements, have usually a corresponding character in their personal relations. A log cabin, even,—and I speak of this primitive American structure with profound affection and regard, as the shelter from which we have achieved the most of our prodigious and rapid agricultural conquests,—may be so constructed as to speak an air of neatness, intelligence, and even refinement in those who inhabit it."

"The character of the farm should be carried out so as to *express* itself in everything which it contains. All should bear a consistent relation with each other. The farmer himself is a plain man. His family are plain people, although none the less worthy, useful, or exalted, on that account. His structures, of every kind, should be plain, also, yet substantial, where sub-

stance is required. All these detract nothing from his respectability or his influence in the neighborhood, the town, the county, or the State. A farmer has quite as much business in the field, or about his ordinary occupations, with ragged garments, out at elbows, and a crownless hat, as he has to occupy a leaky, wind-broken, and dilapidated house. Neither is he any nearer the mark, with a ruffled shirt, a fancy dress, or gloved hands, when following his plough behind a pair of fancy horses, than in living in a finical, pretending house, such as we see stuck up in conspicuous places in many parts of the country. All these are out of place in each extreme, and the one is as absurd, so far as true propriety is concerned, as the other. A fitness of things, or a correspondence of one thing with another, should always be preserved upon the farm, as elsewhere; and there is not a single reason why propriety and good keeping should not as well distinguish it. Nor is there any good cause why the farmer himself should not be a man of taste, in the arrangement and architecture of every building on his place, as well as other men. It is only necessary that he devote a little time to study, in order to give his mind a right direction in all that appertains to this department. Or, if he prefer to employ the ingenuity of others to do his planning,—which, by the way, is, in most cases, the more natural and better course,—he should possess sufficient judgment to see that such plans be correct, and will answer his purposes."

Mr. ALLEN then gives in a volume of 378 pages,—price \$1 25,—suggestions upon the style of building, position of houses, home embellishments, material for frame buildings, color of houses, construction of cellars, ventilation, interior accommodations, a large number of designs, &c. The possession of this work, at small cost, by farmers who contemplate the erection of farm dwellings, will be likely to improve their taste, secure them many comforts, beautify their homes, and probably save them much expense. We have specimen copies of this work for examination.

NEWSPAPERS.—Dr. Johnson, when in the fullness of years and knowledge, said: "I never take up a newspaper without finding something I would have deemed it a loss not to have seen; never without deriving from it instruction and amusement."

### Progress in Illinois.

We find the following article in the Vincennes Gazette, of the 20th February, ult:

"It has been very lately mentioned in our columns, that a mammoth company of foreign capitalists had been formed for the manufacture of salt at the Saline works, in southern Illinois; and also, that very extensive arrangements are about being completed in the northern part of that state, for the mining of coal and other minerals. It is likewise a well-known fact, that about eighteen months ago, an association of capitalists, with means to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, was formed in Louisville, for the purpose of mining coal in the southwestern part of that state. A number of companies have also been organized with a view to mining coal along the line of the Central Railroad. We have not the precise amount of capital now employed, or that will be employed in a very short time, in this branch of business; but we are safe in saying that it is very large, and that four-fifths of it must come from men that reside in other states. Very likely some considerable portion of the stock in these mining enterprises is owned by citizens of Indiana. We know two instances, wherein wealthy and valuable citizens of our own state, have sold out extensive real estates, and carried the proceeds—thousands of dollars—into Illinois, to be invested in coal and other mineral lands.

"Why is this? Indiana is supposed to have coal lands and stone quarries, equal in richness and convenience to market, to those of any other state in the Union. She is second to no western or central state in her railroad facilities. Her river and lake navigation afford ample facilities for commercial intercourse. Her population is industrious, thriving and increasing. Her agricultural resources are inexhaustible.—Her churches and schools are equal to those of any of her sisters. Therefore, the absence or inferiority of any of these elements in our state, can not be made to answer the question. But the reason why so large an amount of capital, so large a number of that desirable class of citizens, as capitalists and manufacturers, have gone over and around our state, may be found in a certain short-sighted, narrow policy, which has been manifested in our legislative history."

The statements thus made by the Vincennes Gazette are undoubtedly true.—

Companies are organizing, and have organized, for the purpose of making money by bringing out the hidden treasures of our state. Such are the prospective advantages that capitalists, almost everywhere, and in Indiana as in other states, are embarking in these enterprises. This has been caused, most unquestionably, by our geological surveys, made by public and private enterprise. We are constantly advised of new discoveries of coal in our state, in immense amounts. The coal lands in eligible situations, are taken up by capitalists; and money is not spared to purchase them.— We have been apprised of several cases of this kind lately in Vermillion county, where agents of companies, under pretence of buying farms, have purchased extensive coal fields.

We hail the prospective development of our mineral wealth—coal, salt, iron, marbles, lead—as securing the rapid growth and permanent prosperity of our state.— Our farmers can raise, and when they are paid for it, will raise an amount of provisions almost beyond estimate. What we want are reliable markets. We cannot always depend upon Europe as a market for our surplus provisions. We want markets at home. The bringing out of our mineral resources will cause to be located among us manufactories of various descriptions, which will employ large numbers of people, building up our towns, increasing our population, adding vastly to our wealth. These advantages will act on the country, causing all our prairie lands to be taken up and improved by enterprising, intelligent, go-ahead farmers. What has been done in this respect within the last two years, is scarcely the beginning of what we shall see in coming years. We would not depreciate the advantages of Indiana; they are many: but we realize those of our own state.— Capitalists who have looked over the *whole* country, understand them; and hence the measures which have been taken by them in the east, west, north and south of our state, by a combination of capital, energy and business talent, to increase their wealth

by the development of the mineral resources of our state.

We are glad to see our neighboring state of Indiana bestirring herself in the great work of progress. Illinois, the central state of the Mississippi valley, we are certain is now in a way to lead all the others about her. She will be the leading star in the constellation of the west. Nature, art, her institutions, the energy of her people, her enlightened state policy, will insure this; but we feel no jealousy. The great race of progress is open to all the western states. Illinois had a late start, but she possesses advantages which will enable her to win.

#### The Yellow Locust for our Prairies.

We have, until within the two last years, been a sanguine believer that the yellow locust would be made a most profitable timber for growing on our prairies. The destruction of some groves distant a few miles from our city, within the last year, by the borers, and the destruction by these insects of solitary trees, in different parts of the country, has led us to doubt success in their culture. Another year will probably furnish us with facts for a more clear and decided opinion upon the matter. If the borers are to destroy our locusts, the sooner we are satisfied of the fact, the better will it be for our farmers, who will in that case turn their attention to the cultivation of some other forest trees, likely to answer the purposes desired.

The belief was formerly general that the locust would make a most valuable and lasting timber. We know that its growth is most rapid. But there are conflicting testimonies in the West, in relation to the value of the locust here as timber. At the meeting of citizens in Springfield, during the State fair of 1854, among the subjects discussed was "the durability of timber." The yellow or black locust being under consideration, Mr. Shaw of Tazewell, Mr. Ellsworth of DuPage, Mr. Shepherd of Putnam, Mr. Brown of Sangamon, and Mr. Army of McLean, expressed themselves convinced by facts which had come under their observation, of the great durability

and value of the locust for timber. On the other hand, Mr. Arenz states that he had planted a grove of locusts twenty-two years ago; ten years since he cut and split a part of the trees and used them for fence posts. The previous spring he had removed the fence and found part of the posts rotten.—Some of them had been cut in winter, the rest late in summer; but he could not say which had rotted most. Mr. Hilton, of Sangamon, said he had on his farm a lot of locust posts set out two years before, which were then badly rotted, and would not last more than five or six years. They were well seasoned when set, and he had been careful to strip the bark from them. There was other testimony of this character.

The value of the locust for timber in the West, may therefore, not be entirely settled. It is most excellent timber in the East.—There the tree is of much slower growth. Timber grown on poor land, with a slow growth, is said to be best. Locust timber raised on the sands of Long Island, is almost indestructible. Much may depend on the particular season of cutting the timber. On that point we have not satisfactory information. We know that in some cases, the locust makes lasting timber here; and in others, that it is of but little value.—Is this so? Here is a point that needs investigation, and upon a satisfactory solution may rest the value of the locust for timber. Perhaps, if cut at a particular season, it will answer all our hopes; while, if cut at another, it will be comparatively worthless.

These last remarks are based on the supposition that the ravages of the borer will cease. If these are to be continued and extended, we have a sure resource in other trees, for prairie cultivation.

#### Books for Premiums.

While we insist that knowledge is essential in advancing the highest interests of agriculture, we are as certain that the free circulation of the valuable works on the various branches of the science among our farmers, cannot but be eminently useful. The series of works published by SEXTON &

Co., New York, embrace a vast amount of knowledge which we would be glad to see in the hands of our farmers. They make an agricultural library which, in the hands of those who will read them, will be a great magazine from which valuable stores of knowledge can be drawn. There are works too, in this series, most interesting and useful to the ladies.

#### Improved Farming.

Why is it that some farmers get a third more in crops from a piece of land than other farmers do with an equal quantity of land of the same quality? This question is easily answered—it is done by better farming—better working the ground—better seeding the ground—better system of rotation—of doing the right thing in the right time.

Farmers often make discoveries of the best manner of securing the largest crops, almost by accident. The knowledge thus obtained, given in agricultural publications, and improved by others, results in great benefits to individuals and vast advantage to the community.

Some farmers in this state uniformly get larger crops of wheat than some of their neighbors. They plough their ground deep, they drain it, they are more particular in sowing and cultivating, and they are richly paid for their trouble. If the land is designed for wheat, the seed is put in well, the land is drained so that water will not stand upon it; if necessary, it is rolled, and made smooth, so that the reaping machine will go through it without obstruction.—The rolling will often prevent, by making the earth compact, wheat from freezing out. This was the experience of a distinguished farmer in this county, now deceased, and who informed the writer that he had never lost a wheat crop here but once, and then he did not roll the ground.

The season will soon be upon us for commencing spring work. Let us all bear in mind, (the editor, the farmer, the mechanic, the laborer,) the old adage: "what is worth doing at all, is worth doing WELL."

### Seeding Meadow and Pasture Lands.

The farmers of the country are becoming satisfied that the cultivation of grasses for stock is more profitable, and quite as sure, as growing corn for the same purpose. The coming spring an unusual amount of land will be put into grass, and this should be done well. Complaint is often made of the seed when the fault is alone in those who sow it. The *Valley Farmer* has an article on the subject, which we consider entirely practical.

Timothy is mainly relied on by our farmers for hay. The amount raised upon the acre depends much upon the manner of preparing the land. If wet, it should be drained—should be plowed deep, thoroughly done, and its surface finely harrowed. If sown in the spring with grain, it should be done as early in March as possible, so that the young plants shall become sufficiently rooted, before the dry hot weather comes on. Never sow less than one peck of seed to the acre; for, unless the field is well set with timothy, weeds will come in and occupy the ground much to the injury of the grass. In England and the eastern states, it is usual to sow from half a bushel to one bushel of timothy seed to the acre.

*Blue grass* has succeeded very well in our state, and must become a great feature in our system of farming. It can be made to produce good pastures, both in timber and prairie land. In the timber the ground must be perfectly cleared of leaves before the seed is sown, and it may be sown from November to April. When sown upon cleared land, a mixture of timothy and clover seed, in the proportion of three or four pounds of each, to ten or twelve pounds of cleaned blue grass, is preferred in Kentucky. The advantage of this plan is said to be, it secures at once a well covered pasture, that will bear considerable grazing the first year; the blue grass will soon expel the clover and timothy, and take full possession of the ground. Open grounds are usually sown in March, upon wheat, rye or oats.

Our farmers are now making arrange-

ments for sowing grass seeds. A knowledge of the modes by which their culture is made successful in other states, as well as our own, may be useful to those who have not experience on the subject

### Poultry.

Hitherto little attention has been paid by the generality of our farmers to the raising of poultry. A stock of poultry is procured, let loose on the farm, and they are then required to take care of themselves. They lay in the grass, in stacks, under the barn, almost any place, hatch their chickens, and the little broods, if the vermin do not take them, have a hard time in reaching to a *broiling* condition. Now, a little pains in providing poultry houses, where fowls can roost securely, have their nests, and where their young broods can be taken care of, would pay well. Chickens can be raised, pound for pound, as cheap as beef, and always find a good market. Eggs are also always in demand; and both chickens and eggs are seldom a drug on the farm. Chickens have been so nearly a *spontaneous* production in Illinois, at least in this section of it, that, as a general thing, little attention has been paid to the breeds.— Now it is just as important, if you would secure good layers, large and vigorous fowls, that you should occasionally cross the stock, by those not nearly related, as it is in the case of animals. By thus crossing them you will improve their size, increase more rapidly their numbers, and of course, make the business of raising poultry one of more profit. We know of an instance in this county, where the same stock had continued on a farm for some twenty years.— The fowls had become small, sickly, laid few eggs, and raised few chickens. The truth we wish to impress upon our farmers is, that the raising of poultry can be made to them, by little expense, a source of much profit. If the production of fowls and eggs, was quadrupled, they would find a quick market.

— A State Agricultural Society has been chartered in Kentucky, with an appropriation of \$5,000.

### The Peach Trees.

The peach trees in Ohio, as here, have been greatly injured by the excessive cold of the present winter. Many of our friends suppose that all their young, and many of their old, trees are killed. We hope that this will not prove to be the case. In a former year, the winter injured peach trees—some farmers supposed their trees were killed had cut them down—others left them standing, and it finally proved that the trees were not as much injured as they appeared to be. Many recovered and made good trees afterwards.

We find an article to the point on this subject in the "Ohio Farmer." It is by Mr. BATEMAN, a distinguished horticulturist of Ohio. He says in this article:

"To the owners of injured peach trees, I wish to say *do not be too hasty in concluding that your trees are killed.* It is very probable that on cutting beneath the bark, you will find that the wood looks very dark colored, almost like mahogany, and you think the injury must be fatal; but examine the bark itself, and if that seems alive, or does not show dark color on being scraped with the knife, you may conclude the tree will live. After waiting a few weeks longer—say by the first or middle of March—the extent of the injury will be more clearly indicated by the external color of the bark, then will be a good time to decide on the best mode of pruning injured peach trees.

Few persons in this country, devote any attention to the pruning of peach trees; hence we find most of those that have borne several crops of fruit, are prematurely old, ill shaped, and often broken down; the limbs suffered to become too long, and the weight of fruit and leaves, being too far from the trunk, as the natural tendency of the sap is to flow to the extremities of the large branches, which should be counteracted by judicious annual pruning. But this having been neglected, and the fruit buds being killed, so that no less of a crop can be feared from reducing the branches, the present is a favorable time for removing the tops of bearing peach trees, even though the wood may not be injured by the winter. And where it is evident that many of the branches are killed, it is quite important that the tops should be shortened pretty severely, so as to force out a new growth as near as may be to the trunk, as

this is the surest way to restore health, as well as improve the shape of the tree; and at the same time, improve the size and quality of the fruit, for succeeding years—*as good fruit is only produced on young and thrifty wood.*

The amount or proportion of the limbs, it is advisable to cut off, must be left to the discretion of the operator, as it depends on the shape, size and condition of the tree. A good sized bearing tree in fair health, with the branches too few and long, should have its branches reduced full one half their length, which will commonly remove more than one half of the entire top. Quite old trees will hardly bear so much reduction, as they cannot so readily produce new wood. Younger trees will bear still greater severity, if from ill shape, or injury by the winter, it seems necessary to decapitate them.

In cutting off large limbs, it is desirable that one or more small branches should remain just below the cut, as new shoots come out more readily from young wood than old; it is also important that some small branches, say to the amount of one quarter of the original top, be left upon old trees, to furnish leaves for the early growth and recovery of the tree in spring; but these remaining twigs, or small branches should be on the lower parts of the limbs, from which the tops were cut away, then the new top to be produced, will assume a regular and compact form.

Young peach trees, transplanted the past fall, or taken from the nursery the coming spring, will probably be found to have a large portion of their tops killed by the winter; but where such trees are of but one year's growth from the bud, as is generally the case, this injury is very small, provided the roots are very healthy, and a foot or so of the stem or trunk remains alive; for all experienced peach growers are aware that cutting off the entire tops of such trees, when planting, is the best method of securing a good thrifty growth the first season; and in stems of one year's growth, it is not very material whether the cut is one foot, or four feet from the ground, as one or more strong shoots will immediately start from below the cut, and form a better tree at the end of the year, than if the old top had been allowed to remain.—Of course, when the stem is uninjured, the cut should be made three or four feet from the ground, or where it is desired the head should be formed; but if done lower, it is only necessary to see that only one shoot is allowed to remain the first summer, and

pinch off its top when at the proper height for the head."

### The Wool Trade.

It is understood that an effort will be made at the present session of Congress to repeal the duties on foreign wool. It is contended by those who are in favor of this change, that it will benefit the wool grower. We cannot well see how the introduction of foreign wool can do this; but it is a subject we do not profess to well understand. Messrs. Goodale & Co. of Cleveland, heavy dealers in wool, have recently issued a circular, giving their views on this subject, which we lay before our readers.

Office of Cleveland Wool Depot, }  
February 4, 1856. }

DEAR SIR—There has been during the last two weeks more activity in domestic fleeces than for some months past, which has caused increased firmness on the part of holders.

Many speculators do not offer their stocks, but thinking the supply on the market small, as compared with former years, are waiting a further advance. To any of our friends still holding their Wool, we would say we regard the present a favorable time for disposing of the same.

We propose to occupy a little space in this Circular, in answering a few of the many questions that have been addressed to us since Secretary Guthrie's Report, in which he recommends a modification of the Tariff, repealing the duty on Wool and Dye Stuffs, and should any find their inquiries not fully answered, they will attribute it to a want of space and inability to give reliable information.

1st. We have the best authority for presuming that such a modification will be made during the present session of Congress.

2d. There are arguments in its favor on one hand, and objections on the other, either of which would not come within our province to discuss, as it is our business to promote the interests of our patrons; and to do this most effectually, we should not seek to depress our interest, or encourage the other, at the expense of either, for the two great branches of industry, wool growing and manufacturing, are inseparably blended together. And we regret that there was not, as proposed last summer, a Convention held by the two interested parties, which, by giving opportunity for an

exchange of ideas might have caused all to view this question of, free trade and wool, in the same light.

3d. As to what extent the proposed repeal would affect American wools, we are not fully prepared to express an opinion. We think it must have the effect to materially depress the price of extreme coarse wools.

4th. Wools of a peculiar and healthy growth, taken from our Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, (or to use terms often employed but very imperfect in their application, 1-4, 1-2, and 3-4 blood,) embrace the grades that are now being used largely for DeLaines.

This branch of manufacturing is of recent origin, and a repeal of duty on dye stuffs, will aid those engaged in it to compete successfully with foreign manufacturers. This, together with the fact that we grow wools better adapted to their use than foreign wools, we think, be evidence to all that may cultivate the growth of this character of wools, without fear of being affected by foreign competition.

5th. Those asking the question, 'What bloods will produce the most desirable and profitable style of wool?' can be answered by breeders. Any cross might be made that would produce a soft, healthy fleece with the quality described, the length of the staple for DeLaines should be 2 1-4 to 3 1-2 inches, of a plump, not a spindling growth.

6th. All the wool grown in the United States, of a grade above our No. 1, would at this time, be required by the fancy Cassimere manufacturers, who have acquired a skill with regard to durability, style and finish, that is hardly surpassed by any foreign manufacturers; and so long as our manufactrners can procure domestic fleeces, although at higher prices, they will not abandon their use.

Those wools best adapted to Cassimeres have the same properties essential for De Laines, but of finer quality; hence, in view of the proposed change in the Tariff, we cannot see that wool growers need change their flocks, or diminish the quantity of wools, but should seek to adapt the growth to the wants of the manufacturer.

7th. Free trade, in wools, will at least, in one respect, have a favorable bearing on our domestic wool market, viz:—To create more uniformity in prices. This will prevent the fluctuations now incident to wool growing. Another advantage that domestic wool growers would enjoy over foreign,

is in reference to exchange and freight, amounting to not less than 14 per cent. in our favor. Yours very truly,  
GOODALE & Co.

#### The Hollyhock.

Within a few years past, German Florists have been engaged in improving the Hollyhock, so that it is now, with them, a flower of great beauty, nearly equaling the Dahlia. It is a hardy plant, and its culture is attended with little trouble. The "Gardener's Chronicle" says that the seed are to be sown broadcast in a sheltered border in March or April. As soon as the young seedlings will bear handling they should be transplanted into a rich soil in rows two feet apart, and the plants should stand one foot asunder in the rows, in order that they may not be spoiled by being too crowded. The following season they will bloom, when a selection should be made and all the best varieties marked; such as are finely shaped and brightly colored should be cut down and planted where they are to remain and bloom; the others may be thrown away. The varieties are readily increased and perpetuated by division; good strong plants with plenty of shoots may be taken when they have done blooming, and divided either with a spade or sharp knife, taking care that each part has a good supply of roots, and then they may be planted where they are to remain and bloom. When the blooming season is over and the seed gathered, where seed is required, the old flower stems should be cut down. Dig the ground among the plants, and give them a good quantity of rotten manure. To some this attention may appear tedious, but it will be amply repaid; for, as a back row plant, extending along a flower border, or intermixed with Dahlias, the Hollyhock stands unrivalled.

We have seeds of the German varieties, which we are distributing to our lady-friends, who do us the honor to call at the Seed store.

 Gen. Wool has returned to California from Oregon. He says that the accounts about the Indian war are much exaggerated.

#### The Ox Team.

Our Western people usually prefer horses for farm work. We apprehend that something would be gained by using oxen for various purposes of the farm. The ox, trained well, is patient, kind, gentle, and will accomplish much labor. By obtaining the right kind of stock, they are sprightly, active, and will travel quite as fast as a man wishes to walk. The short horns make good working oxen; and it has been found that the Devons, being lighter, in the long journeys over the mountains, were a very superior stock for work. In regard to the best stock for this purpose however, there is a difference of opinion. What we mean to suggest, is that for many kinds of farm work, it would be economy to use oxen.--- They live on coarser food than horses, cost less, require little care, are easier managed, and when past work, they can be made into capital beef. Just think of these suggestions, those of you who have not been in the habit of working oxen.

**WIND MILLS.**—A Peoria paper states that a wind mill, to propel three run of stone, is to be erected in that city the coming season. We had never much faith in wind mills, until we witnessed the performance of one on the fair grounds at Chicago, last fall. It was used to pump water, and was regulated by machinery. It worked well with a light wind. On one of the nights of the fair, there was a heavy wind, nearly a hurricane. It blew down one of the great tents, and the others were saved with much difficulty. We anticipated trouble for the wind-mill; but in the morning, we found it at work, as usual, entirely uninjured. We made up our mind then, that a wind mill, on the same principle, on a much larger scale, would succeed; and are not at all surprised to hear of the project of erecting a wind mill for flouring purposes, at Peoria. It is scarcely ever the case that winds are not passing over our prairies sufficient to propel wind-mills; and it will be a vast economy when it is employed for propelling mills for various

purposes. We may be mistaken, but we believe that it will be found entirely practicable to use the winds of our prairies for a motive power. The state of Illinois has a great stake in the experiment at Peoria. If a wind mill, on an enlarged scale, can stand and be made to operate in the heavy winds that sweep over the elevation at Peoria, they will be found to succeed any where in Illinois.

#### War with Great Britain.

War with Great Britain is talked of. It is needless to say that war between two such countries is fratricidal, unless waged for deeper rights than are at present invaded. But we may speculate on the consequences, economic or otherwise, that may ensue to the respective nations. The United States to the American idea, is too strong to be whipped by all Europe combined; but the more reflecting among us perceive that there are blows to receive as well as blows to give. Manufactures would be nourished into being, and this would be the strong indelible mark that war would leave behind it. Pennsylvania, in her iron interests, would not thereafter have to complain that she had not been sufficiently protected. Our foreign commerce being destroyed, or laid up in port, we would live more within ourselves, and domestic trade would assume more importance;—we should be a more united people. The Canadas, having been loyal to the British crown, through two successive wars could not be depended upon for us in the third;—they would probably cleave to their ancient sympathies, and the frontiers would again be the chief scene of carnage. On our seaboard we should suffer severely.

We may think beforehand that we should be very brave, but a war steamer of the enemy would cause us much trouble, and commit much depredation before we, volunteers, militia or other force, had become sufficiently organized for effectual resistance. Republics in the nature of things are not the best prepared for emergencies. California, like all incompact territory, would be a trouble to us; an annoying fleet of the

enemy would be on that coast, harrassing our settlements. Europe, with the exception of a few genuine republicans who have nobleness and discernment enough to understand our faults, would look on the war with callous indifference, and deem it but a fair fight. We have not left an impression of our modesty or forbearance on the sense of mankind. The South American States, with Mexico—we cannot say much of Central America just now—never republican or understanding its spirit, would assist the enemy rather than ourselves; and Brazil, with her monarchic institutions, would insult us by her hatred. Each State, again, at the termination of the conflict, would have its batch of heroes to take care of.

A brighter side would, however, dawn.—We are a rising nation, and progress is with us. We are mainly, in the right, in all that constitutes man's higher and better hopes, and we would trust that Providence—if we may invoke her in this connexion—might bring us—through its tribulations at least—to the close of the war, wiser and better than when we entered it. Farming in this connexion would suffer no more than other interests, if as much; manufactures would claim the most attention and consideration. As to our enemy, we think the consequences of war would be more baneful; her limited territory, that is to say Great Britain proper, depends on foreign countries for many of her necessities. Privateers would prey upon her commerce, and there would be little to choose between her own and ours. Her want of cotton for a number of years, would embarrass her, or until other fields for its growth had been fostered. Her debt would be augmented by a strictly offensive war, waged at a great distance, in the face of a stormy, windward ocean. She would, in the long run, lose more than her competitor; a crash in her government might ensue, a general bankruptcy take place—but Great Britain has been many times on the verge of ruin; many times about to be killed,—but still survives.

Of the matter at issue between the two

nations we may say a word. As to the enlistment dispute we do not think it worth the breath expended upon it. The Central American Question is one of more importance. English intervention in those States is annoying to us, simply because our intercourse with them is far greater than her own. We are a neighboring people, are united in the same aims and interests—all of a purely American or local type—are brought in immediate contact with each other by force of circumstances, that cannot be controlled, and to have these connexions and sympathies thwarted for no other than mischievous purposes, is sufficient cause for hard feeling; but not as we think for war. We consider the Musquito Protectorate a sheer fiction, the king as mystic a personage as Briareus or Juno and the British Balize, the product of buccaneering and piracy. As to fillibustering let us compare notes. British India has been mercilessly plundered from Clive and Hastings down to this day, as witness Burmah and Scinde, and she is making these provinces subservient to the growth of opium and forcing it in defiance of all conscience, and at the point of the bayonet upon the Chinese. Has American fillibustering, we could ask, been stained with such crimes? and our own has been near at hand, in intimacy with our own people, and not at a distance, as with Great Britain.

**HOUGHTON'S SEEDLING GOOSEBERRY.**—The public hear much of this gooseberry. It is about the only gooseberry that will succeed every where. It is an American variety, and was originated by Mr. Abel Houghton, of Lynn, Mass. It is supposed to be a cross between a native and English sort. It never mildews. The plant is of vigorous growth, and a great bearer. The fruit is of a pale red color, rather below medium size; of good, rich flavor. The berries grow in clusters, and may be gathered by handfuls. The bushes can be thinned and trained to a trellis with advantage. They pay well for good cultivation and deep mulching about them. They are probably the best gooseberry for this section of country.

### The Flower Garden.

The ladies will not neglect the flower garden. Besides the gratification of taste, there is pleasure and health to be found in it. Many a man would do much to secure the health of the female part of his family, especially in towns, by some small attention to this matter. Out-door exercise, in some degree, is all important to the health of females. Why is it that American women are less robust and less healthy than English women? Why is there so much complaint of delicate health among them, so that health is scarcely a rule, but an exception?

It is to some extent for the want of proper out-door exercise. Confined in houses, heated by stoves, rooms so tight as to be wholly unventilated except when a door is occasionally opened, is it a wonder that females grow up like tender hot house plants?—Not exactly like hot house plants, for these can scarcely exist in a vitiated atmosphere. Give them pure air or they will die! Is the human subject, with their fine organizations, less sensitive to the influences of a pure atmosphere for breathing than the plant?

But we have another purpose at this time than the discussion of these questions. We have known delicate females become healthy by moderate out-door exercise, especially in gardens. Attention to this subject, soon creates a taste for and makes a pleasure of the employment. What can be more interesting than to see a female superintending the rearing, pruning and dressing of shrubbery—to see her, trowel in hand, planting seeds, transplanting plants, or working among and cultivating them? Ladies, with very little experience, do this thing better than men. They seem to have an intuitive taste for the beautiful, much superior to men.

The season of garden preparation will soon be upon us. Preparing the ground, that is the business of the man; and should be done by some one who understands the work. There is no use in undertaking to make a flower garden or a vegetable garden

in a shady place, or where there is not a free circulation of air. Plants and vegetables require sun, air and room for development. The number of plants that will grow well in the shade is very few—though there are some that thrive when they are shaded a part of the day.

There is a long list of seeds of annual flowering plants to be found. As a general thing perennial flowering plants are most desirable. When once planted, they continue to flourish from year to year with very little care. Most of these plants can be had of nurserymen.

Of the Annual flowering plants, we have thought the following among the most beautiful: Varieties of the China or German Aster; varieties of Chrysanthemum; Dwarf Coxcomb; Everlasting, varieties; Forget-me-not; Gilia, varieties; Hearts' ease or Pansies, English varieties; Larkspur, dwarf and tall violet; Mignonette; Candytuft, varieties; Peas, sweet, varieties; Phlox Drummondii; Pink,—Spanish, India, Chinese, white; Poppy, varieties; Didiscus; Sensitive plant; German Gilli-flowers; Violet, sweet; Escholtzia, or California poppy. Many others will be found worthy of cultivation.

Of the Biennials and Perennials, the following are very desirable: Alyssum, yellow and white; Canterbury Bells; Carnations; Columbine; Fox Glove; Hollyhock, German varieties; Snap Dragon; Sweet Williams, &c.

These seeds are usually found at the Seed stores. Their culture is not difficult. The small seeds should be lightly covered, the earth slightly pressed upon them, and when the plants come up, if they should be shaded a few days, it would be of advantage to them. In all cases the plants should be thinned so as to give them room to grow.

#### Premiums for Hedges.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the State Agricultural Society in January last, premiums were authorized for the two best hedges in this State. The committee of examination are to be appointed

at the adjourned meeting of the Board in April. The subject is an important one.—The extensive prairies of our State cannot be fenced unless by hedging. We believe that a plant, possessing all the qualities necessary, has been discovered, and which, by proper treatment, will make an impassable hedge—the Osage Orange plant. We wish that opinion to be impressed on the public mind; and also a knowledge of the means by which the Osage Orange can be made to answer all the purposes desired.

In our opinion there is not a more unquestionable truth, than that an impassable hedge can be made of the Osage Orange.

#### The Colt.

A few days since there was brought in front of the "Farmer's Store," a beautiful colt, to be sold at auction, by Maxcy & Pheasant, who do a large business in the way of selling stock. It was a beautiful colt, a fine bay, with an eye like a gazelle's, lofty carriage, and apparently as gentle as a lamb. He was about two years old; but had the appearance of having been worked. He seemed to be sad. Was it fancy?—It was, we suppose; but we thought of the hard service that he was immediately to be put to; that before he had the strength of the mature animal, he would be compelled to do the work of one; that he would be broken down in spirit and in strength, and instead of being the proud, spirited, yet gentle horse, he would become a mere drudge, to be whipped and kicked about like a slave. To us it appeared like the putting of a man's work upon a boy of thirteen, which was sure to break his spirits, to injure his physical constitution, and to bring on premature decline.

We like to see the animal "bear the yoke in his youth"—that is, handled, made gentle, and gradually inured to the duties which he will thereafter have to perform. In this way he will become kind, useful, and a reciprocal feeling of regard, we may say, affection, will grow up between the man and the animal, which will last for years.

We thus offer a plea in behalf of the

colt,—a regard for which is likely to benefit all parties concerned. [Maxcy sold the animal, which went into good hands.]

### A Word.

Morality is not in a true sense religion, as understood, by most people; yet religion cannot exist without morality. "Faith without works is dead." Men or women cannot possess religion without exhibiting a feeling of kindness, of bearing and forbearing, of aiming to make those happy around them; as the opposite of querulousness, crossness, disregard for the feelings of others, rough language, rough manners, which are sure to cause strife, hatred, quarrels and the like. A rough word is likely to be followed by a rough word in return; and a kind word turns away wrath, produces kindness in return.

A wrathful, querulous, fault-finding man, or woman, can have no credit for piety. Can *piety* exist in the heart always under excitement, always aiming to bend others to its wishes, always aiming to control, always desirous of saying the hardest things, always seeking to have the last word? Can any one be deceived in regard to the professions of such persons? Every human being is entitled to his or her rights; the public man, the private citizen, the wife, the husband, the child, the employer and employed. Every one should know his or her place. This is reason and it is the doctrine of revelation. A bad father or mother is likely to make bad children. A bad master or mistress will make a bad servant.

The truth we wish to inculcate is, that true religion is kind, charitable, overlooks the faults of others, seeks to make others happy; the heart sends up the inspiration—

Teach me to feel another's woe;  
To hide the fault I see;  
That mercy I to others show,  
That mercy show to me."

If we desire to gain credit with others for goodness, we must exhibit it to those around us in a light that cannot be mistaken. "A good tree bringeth forth good fruit—-an evil tree bringeth forth evil fruit." We may flatter ourselves that these rules

are false; but others will will not think so, or believe so, and they are the words of Him whose word never errs. Let us therefore attend to small things that make for the comfort of all, and "not omit the weightier matters of the law—justice, mercy and truth."

### The Cow.

The good, gentle cow—the faithful cow—the useful cow, which lives and moves and has her being just to gratify our taste and gives healthful sustenance to the family.—There is no other animal or thing that can take her place. Mark the wry faces as the coffee is handed about the table where there is no cream; where the place for the plate of butter is vacant; and when it is known there is no milk for the children, none for the pudding, none for the custard. Ah, how essential to the comfort of the civilized man is the cow? See! she comes with her udder full of milk, contented.—She seems to understand her importance in domestic economy; and she cheerfully performs her part.

No wonder the family have an affection for the good cow. And if they should give her all the attention she needs; if she is fed well and lodged well, if she has food suited to her taste, she will repay all the care given her. Now is the time, not only to see to the cow, but to stock in general. "A merciful man is merciful to his beast."

**THE VIRGILIA LUTEA—AN ORNAMENTAL TREE.**—This is a beautiful tree, a native of Kentucky, grows sixty feet in height, has the general appearance of the locust, but the body is smooth, the leaves more round, and the flowers yellow. It is sometimes called Yellow Wood, and at others, American Laburnum. In Europe it is considered and cultivated as a beautiful tree.—In this country it is seldom seen except in its native forests. In the season of flowering it is most beautiful; its long pendulous racemes of yellow flowers mark it as one of the handsomest of our native trees.

Washington's Birthday was quite generally celebrated in the Eastern cities.

## Plows.

We sometimes, though rarely, meet with a farmer who thinks, that in farming, there is "nothing new under the sun." The belief of such men must be strong, indeed, if it is not shaken by the great improvements made in plows within the last few years. At any rate, we do not see in such any disposition to go back to the use of the plows of 1831 and '32. For many years after the first settlement of this section of Illinois, our farmers had no plow which would scour in working. Eastern plows were of no account in our soil. The great "bar-shear" plow, some two yards long, was the best instrument of the kind to be had. The "Cary Plow" was invented, and a good many made and sold in this place. They were an improved plow; the "mould board" was so arranged as to spring, and thus clear itself. Mr. Jewett improved on this plow so as to make the best plow then known in the country. Other plows are now in market, among them the Uhler, the Diamond, the Moline, the Peoria and various others. No farmer need now work with a poor plow, if he has the means to buy a good one. The improvement in plows since 1836, has been most marked. Mechanical skill, brought to the aid of the farmer, has achieved wonders for him.

**THE NEW UNDERDRAINING MACHINE.**—The Decatur Chronicle copies our notice of the new "Under-draining Machine," in the first number of this publication, and says:

"We desire to add our testimony as to the efficiency of the under-draining machine above alluded to, which is the invention of Mr. Marquis, of Piatt county, and has, we believe, been patented by him, in connection with Judge Emerson, of Macon. We have seen its operation, and are confident that it will not only prove an effective instrument of drainage, but will, as stated, produce a good supply of stock water, in summer, from lands where the surface is dry."

**LARGE CALF.**—Young Vance, of Edgar county, recently sold to Wm. B. Vance a calf which, at seven days old, weighed 120 pounds, and at one month old, weighed 167 pounds. Beat it who can.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

Where will the State Fair be held?

We have received a business letter from a distinguished citizen of southern Illinois, which contains the following paragraphs in relation to the State Fair. We can see no objection to their publication. We would be glad to see the whole of southern Illinois aroused on this subject.

"I do not know what offer may be made to your society by our friends in Vandalia for the next State Fair. But whatever it may be, or whether anything at all, the permanent interests of the society, and the progress of agricultural improvement in Illinois, require that the Fair should be held at that place.

Southern Illinois is generally known by the name of "Egypt," and it has been so termed because supposed to be inhabited by a race of people, upon whose benighted vision the light of science has rarely shone. I have a right to say this, belonging as I do to this region, where I have been domesticated for nearly forty years. We need light, and being all farmers, the influence of a grand agricultural show would excite an interest, and a salutary spirit of emulation which would be immediately and powerfully felt throughout every county. This immediate effect of awakening the spirit of improvement throughout so fine an agricultural region would seem to demand, as it would certainly justify, the measure. It would demand and justify it, because the Fair held at this point, would directly administer to the greatest agricultural need. Yet considered simply as a means of extending the influence, increasing the moral power and adding to the pecuniary resources of the society, this location should be chosen. The state of Illinois in its legislative capacity should contribute largely by pecuniary grants to the funds of this institution. Other and adjoining states have taken this into consideration. The state of Missouri has recently appropriated five thousand dollars to the support of agricultural institutions. With the strength of population that Illinois enjoys, her intelligence and agricultural need, an annual appropriation of \$25,000 to the encouragement of agriculture should be expected, and with judicious efforts may be secured. But with thirty or forty neglected counties in southern Illinois, hanging upon every legislative effort in behalf of agricultural improvement like a dark cloud, but little may be hoped for. Could

it indeed, be reasonably expected, constituted as human nature is, that men will contribute to the maintenance of an institution, ostensibly formed for the common benefit, that dispenses its favors to the locality best able to pay?

May I, my dear sir, ask of you the favor to offer these brief considerations to the notice of the committee of the State Agricultural Society, at their April meeting. I have confidence in their judgment, no less than in their motives, and shall cheerfully acquiesce in their decision. I only ask the privilege of briefly urging the views of an old farmer upon their attention, feeling assured they will receive them kindly, and give them all the consideration which they merit."

For the Illinois Farmer.

### Morgan Horses.

The improvement of our breeds of horses is an object which deserves attention. Of the whole number of horses reared in our country, the proportion of good ones is very small. The origin of our most valuable horses is not only a subject of interest to the curious, but it is also one of great importance, and a course which has produced improvement may be safely relied on for the continuance of similar results.

The stock of Morgan horses is so generally known and admired throughout New England, that it is hardly necessary to repeat their merits. For a seller of horses it is only necessary to establish the fact that his horses are of Morgan blood, and he meets with a ready sale at good prices, and the purchasers are more than satisfied.—They excel in great endurance, carrying weight a long distance;—and as roadsters they excel all horses in this or any other country;—are full of noble and generous spirit, with such docility that the most timid can drive them; but if put to their mettle, are a full hand for any driver. It cannot be denied that there has never been a stock of horses in New England which has proved as useful as that of the original Morgan horse, raised in 1793 in Springfield, Mass., and in 1795 taken by JUSTIN MORGAN to Randolph, Vt.

He was sired by the True Briton, a beautiful bay, raised by General DeLancey, of Long Island, and sired by his imported horse Traveller, a direct descendant of the Godolphin Arabian.

The dam of the Justin Morgan horse was sired by Diamond. Diamond, raised in E. Hartford, Ct., was sired by the Wild-Air, known as the Church Horse. The Church

horse was sired by the Wild-Air, imported from England by General DeLancey, and afterwards returned to England. He was a grandson of the Godolphin Arabian.

The dam of the Church horse was an imported Wild-Air mare, owned by Samuel Burt, of Springfield, Mass.

The above is the genuine pedigree of the original Morgan horse.—See Albany Cultivator for 1842, '45, '46 and '47; and N. E. Farmer, 1849.

An account of some of the descendants of this horse may be given in another paper.

R.

### From Southern Illinois.

JONESBORO, UNION Co., }  
March 1, 1856. }

The weather is still cold and disagreeable, and this morning was ushered in by quite a snow storm. Our farmers have done but little as yet, towards the next crop. But we have three horticultural gardens close to Jonesboro'; where the plants in the hot beds are in a handsome state of forwardness, and Union county will again supply the Chicago market with the earliest vegetables the coming season, as she did the last.

I think we shall have a considerable crop of peaches, in spite of the late cold weather, and a plenty of apples.

This place would be a capital location for a Fruit Nursery, inasmuch as there is nothing of the kind nearer than St. Louis, and the climate and soil are both adapted to the development of all kinds of fruit, and a great amount of young trees would be required by our farmers, who are beginning to turn their attention to the improvement of their orchards.

### Wyandot Corn.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER:—I send you some ears of the Wyandot corn, raised last year by myself. I planted two kernels of the corn with some tomato seed in a box in the house, about the 15th March last. I set the plants out in my garden, in May, and protected them from frosts. One kernel produced THIRTEEN stalks and THIRTEEN ears; the other eleven stalks and eleven ears. I planted some of the same kind of corn in the open ground about the middle of April, but that failed to mature a single ear.

This is my experience with the Wyandot corn.

A SANGAMON FARMER.

### Iowa State Agricultural Society.

The officers of this society for the ensuing year are: President, Thos. W. Clagett; Vice President, Legrand Byington; Recording Secretary, J. H. Wallace; Corresponding Secretary, Wm. Duane Wilson; Treasurer, T. Gordon. The next State Fair, by a vote of the Board, is to be held at Muscatine, commencing on the second Wednesday of October, 1856.

### The Garden.

We give a list of the best vegetables for the Garden, and the mode of their cultivation. There are many varieties in these classes, the seed of which can be had at the seed stores.

**ASPARAGUS.**—Soak the seed 24 hours in warm water, and sow very early in spring, thinly, in rows 1 foot apart, and keep clean by frequent weeding and hoeing. At 1 or 2 years old, transplant to permanent beds. The ground should be trenched or dug over 2 feet deep, burying plenty of manure, and mixing it thoroughly with the soil. Lay out beds  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide, and draw 3 drills, 6 inches deep and 14 inches apart, lengthwise of each bed; place the roots in them, 1 foot apart, in their natural position, and cover 4 inches deep. A rich sandy loam is most suitable. Every autumn, after clearing off the stalks, spread on a covering of manure, to be forked in, with a good dressing of fine salt, very early in the spring.

**ENGLISH BEANS.**—Plant as early in the spring as the ground can be worked, 2 inches apart, in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  foot drills. When they are in full bloom, and the lower pods set, pinch off the tops. This will insure the filling of the pods and hasten maturity. A strong, heavy soil, with a considerable proportion of clay is preferable.

**KIDNEY DWARF OR SNAP BEANS.**—These are so extremely sensitive of frost and cold that it is useless to plant them before the middle of spring, when the ground has become warm and light.—Hoe often to stir the ground, but only when dry, because earth scattered on the leaves when wet with dew or rain, will rust them and greatly injure the crop. Plant 2 to 3 inches apart in 2 1-2 feet deep. They do best in light, rich soil.

**POLE OR RUNNING BEANS.**—All described under this head require poles 8 or 10 feet long. They are planted at the same time with the dwarf beans, and, like them, require a warm, mellow soil. Stick the poles 3 feet apart each way, raise a hill, a plant around them 6 or 7 beans; cover 1 inch deep with light, mellow earth.

**BEETS.**—For early Beets, sow as soon as the ground will admit, in drills 14 inches apart and thin to 6 inches. For winter, sow about the middle of spring, in drills 15 to 18 inches apart, and thin to 8 inches. All the varieties succeed best on a deep, rich, sandy loam, and require to be thinned when small and kept clean from weeds. Soak the seed for the fall and winter crop 24 hours in warm water; drain it off and keep covered till it begins to sprout; then roll it in plaster, and sow immediately in fresh prepared ground. The weeding will be half saved.

**CABBAGE.**—The early sorts are sown very early in the spring in hot-beds, or later in the open ground. The Late, autumn and winter varieties may be sown in seed beds from the middle to latter end of spring, (from the first to the middle of May, in New England,) and transplanted when about 6 inches high, to 28 inches apart, each way. Shade and water the late sowings in dry weather, to get them up. It is important that the plants should stand thinly in the seed-bed, or they will run up weak and slender, and be likely to make long stumps. If they come up too thick, prick them out into beds 4 to 6 inches apart, which will cause them to grow low and stocky. Treated in this manner, the plants will form lateral roots, and they can be removed with the earth attached, in a

moist day, without checking their growth. When the weather is hot and dry, the roots of the plants should be dipped in a puddle of loam and water, and transplanted just at evening, giving each plant a gill of water at the root. Cabbages should be hoed every week, and the ground stirred deeper as they advance in growth, drawing up a little earth to the plants each time, until they begin to head, when they should be fairly dug between and hilled up.

**CARROT.**—The Carrot succeeds best on a light, sandy loam, made rich by manuring the previous year. In fresh manured land, the roots often grow pronged and illshaped. If it is to be sown late in the spring, soak the seed a day or two in warm water, and mix it with plaster or ashes. It will then come up, in fresh prepared ground, before the weeds, and the first weeding may be done with but little labor.

**CELERY.**—For the principal crop, sow early in the spring, very shallow, in a seed bed, which should be beaten lightly with the back of a spade to settle the earth about the seeds. When the plants are 3 inches high, thin or prick them out to 4 inches apart, and when about 6 inches high, transplant them 6 inches apart into trenches for blanching. Dig the trenches 4 feet apart, a foot wide, and 10 inches deep. Fill in 5 or 6 inches of well rotted manure, and mix it thoroughly half a spade deep with the earth at the bottom. The tops and roots of the plants should be shortened, and the suckers, pinched off before they are set. Earth up to blanch 2 or 3 times during their growth, holding the leaves close with the hand while the earth is drawn up, taking care that none of it falls into the center of the plants. A slight sprinkling of salt applied to the surface of the soil just before earthing up, is decidedly beneficial to this crop. Celery, like Asparagus, is wonderfully improved by superior culture.

**CRESS, OR PEPPERGRASS.**—A well known small Salad. Sow thickly in shallow drills as early in the spring as the weather will admit, and every fortnight for a succession as long as wanted.

**CUCUMBER.**—Cucumbers for early use may be planted in the open ground as soon as the weather becomes settled and warm, in hills 4 feet apart, manured with a shovel full of warm manure or well rotted compost in each hill. Tread the manure and cover it with an inch or two of earth, and scatter 8 or 10 seeds to a hill; cover half an inch deep with fine earth and spat it down with a hoe. Hoe frequently to keep them growing, and when out of danger from insects, thin the plants to 4 in a hill. From the middle of June to the first of July is the right time in this latitude to plant for pickling.

**EGG PLANT.**—The Egg Plant is a very tender vegetable, requiring a hot bed to bring it to perfection in the Northern States. Sow in hot beds very early in the spring, and transplant to 2 1-2 feet apart each way, in very rich, warm ground. Draw earth to plants as they advance. For the want of a hot-bed the seeds may be sown in window pots early in the spring, or later, on a warm, light bed made in a sheltered part of the garden.

**INDIAN CORN.**—This excellent vegetable, when planted at proper intervals, may be had for the table from early summer until hard frost. Plant in hills 3 to 3 1-2 feet apart each way for most kinds, and leave 4 plants to a hill.

**LETTUCE.**—For the first cutting, sow as early in the spring as the ground can be worked, on a sheltered bed, made light and dry; and at intervals throughout the season, for a succession. Thin or

transplant to 1 foot apart for heading. The hardy kinds may be sown in the fall, and protected through the winter by a light covering of straw, or of cedar branches when they can be obtained, which are less liable to smother the plants. The covering should be removed gradually in the spring. The best soil for Lettuce is a very rich, sandy loam. It is useless to undertake to grow good heads on poor ground, or thickly together.

**MELON.**—Plant late in the spring, in hills 5 or 6 feet apart each way, well manured with old rotten compost; scatter a dozen seeds to a hill, and after they are out of danger from bugs, thin to 3 or 4 plants. When they have 4 or 5 rough leaves, pinch off the end of the main shoot, which will cause the lateral branches to put forth sooner.—It will strengthen the growth of the vines, and the fruit will come earlier to maturity. A light, dry, sandy soil, and dry atmosphere, are most suitable.

**WATER-MELON.**—Plant in hills 8 feet apart, in a sandy soil, well manured in the hills, as early as can be done with safety from frost, so that the fruit may come to maturity in the warm season, when they are the most agreeable.

**MUSTARD.**—For salad it is sown thickly and used like common Cress. The culture for seed appertains more to the farm than to the garden. Sow early in the spring, in 2 feet drills, and thin to 6 inches.

**NASTURTIUM.**—Sow early in the spring, in drills 1 inch deep, the Tall variety by the side of a fence, trellis-work or some other support to climb upon; and the Dwarf to form borders for the alleys. They will thrive in good ground in almost any situation, but are most productive in a light soil.

**OKRA.**—Plant late in the spring, after the ground has become warm, in hills 21-2 feet apart, and thin to 3 plants in a hill. Hoe often and earth up a little to support the stems. The pods should be gathered while quite young and tender.

**ONION.**—Onion seed is sown in Wethersfield from the first of April to the middle of May, the earlier the better, provided the ground is dry enough to work light and fine. After preparing the land by manuring heavily, and harrowing and raking fine, draw drills 14 inches apart, with a marking rake, and sow at the rate of 8 pounds per acre, if wanted for bunching. For large bushel Onions, 6 pounds will be sufficient. The sowing is mostly done with machines, which can be graduated to sow any desired quantity to the acre. If convenient, it is better to go over the ground with a light roller, immediately after the sowing. It is customary to weed them three times. At the first the earth is drawn a little to the plants, and at the third or last weeding it should be brushed clean away with the fingers, to give them an opportunity to bottom entirely above ground. Onions are no exception to the theory of rotation of crops. They succeed equally well any number of years on the same ground, if kept highly enriched.

**PARSLEY.**—Soak the seed a few hours in warm water, and sow very early in the spring, in 1 foot drills. Parsley seed is slow to germinate, particularly if sown late in the season, when it often fails entirely in dry weather.

**PARSNIPS.**—Parsnips require the deepest and richest soil. Sow early in the spring, in 15 inch drills, and thin to 8 inches apart.

**PEAS.**—The planting for the early crop should be made in the spring, as soon as the ground can be worked, in a warm, dry situation, and covered about 3 inches. At the south, where they will

endure the winter, the planting for the first crop is made in October and November. The ground should have been manured the year previous, or the Peas will be apt to grow too much to straw. Use thoroughly decomposed manure, if any, immediately before planting. They are usually planted in double rows, from 3 to 4 feet apart, and those requiring it bushed when about 6 inches high. The large and better sorts do better at a greater distance apart, leaving a broad space for planting low growing vegetables between the rows. They should be kept clean, and earthed up twice in their growth.

**PEPPER.**—Sow early, in a hot bed, or in the open ground, in a seed bed, about the middle of spring, in light, warm ground. Transplant when 3 inches high, 1 foot apart in 18 inch drills, and earth up a little at 1 or 2 hoeings. Guano, hen dung, or any other bird manure, applied upon the surface, and hoed in, when the plants are about 6 inches high, will be found to increase the product wonderfully.

**RADISH.**—For the first crop, sow as early in the spring as the ground can be worked, and every two weeks throughout the season, for a succession. A warm, sandy loam, made rich and light by some good strong manure, will be most likely to afford them brittle and free from worms. Sow in 12 inch drills and thin to 2 or 3 inches apart. It should be borne in mind that radishes must have plenty of room and be grown quick, or they will invariably be tough and wormy. In the heat of summer, they ought to be watered very freely.

**RHUBARB.**—Sow early in the spring in a seed bed. In the fall, transplant to 3 feet asunder each way, in hills enriched with half a bushel of well rotted manure. The stalks should not be plucked till the third year, and the plant never allowed to exhaust itself by running to seed.

**SPINACH.**—For the early spring crop, sow about the middle of autumn, thinly, in 14 inch drills; and at the approach of winter, cover with a light layer of straw or cedar branches. For the succeeding spring and summer crop, sow as early in the spring as the ground can be put in good condition. To grow Spinach in perfection, the ground must be made very rich with strong manure.

**SALSIFY, OR VEGETABLE OYSTER.**—Salsify closely assimilates to the taste and flavor of the Oyster when properly cooked; and by many persons is esteemed as a very delicious vegetable.—The roots may be taken up late in the fall, and preserved in moist sand, or allowed to stand out all the winter. Sow in the spring in 14 inch drills, and thin to 6 inches. Cultivation the same as for Carrots and Parsnips.

**SQUASH.**—Being all very tender and sensitive of cold, they cannot with safety be planted in the open ground before the middle of spring. The hills should be manured and prepared the same as for Cucumbers, and all sorts thinned to 2 or 3 plants in a hill. Plant the late running kinds 8 feet apart.

**TOMATO.**—Sow very early in the spring, in window pots, for the want of a hot bed, and in the open ground as soon as it can be worked, in a warm border on the south side of a light fence, and thin the plants to 3 or 4 inches, to keep them low and stocky. When severe frosts are no longer to be feared, transplant to 2 by 3 feet apart. Hoe often, and earth up a little till the plants are a foot high; they may then be supplied with supports, or allowed to spread upon the ground.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

**FRENCH SHEEP DOGS.**—An English traveler speaks of the dogs which are used in Normandy, in the management of sheep, as being uncommonly valuable. He thus describes one:

"The animal was some cross of the breed commonly known in England as lurchers; and the quick sparkle of the eye, and the ready and eager intelligence of his face as he watched his master, and flew round the flock at the slightest gesture, or merely mumbled word of direction, were really beautiful to see. The shepherd told me he was a most valuable dog; he would not sell him 200 francs.

**EARTH ALMOND.**—We learn that numerous reports have been received on the successful growth and prolific yield of the chufa in various parts of the United States. One gentleman in Maryland estimates that an acre of this plant, both grass and tubers, would support a hundred hogs during the season; also, that the tops are greedily devoured by horses, sheep and cows. Another gentleman reports that he raised six quarts of tubers from a gill of seed. A third reports from Ohio that they grew luxuriantly, but were scratched out of the ground and devoured by the hens.—[Agricultural Division of the Patent Office.

**IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.**—Jean Blanc, of New Orleans Price Currant, represented to be an agriculturist of considerable scientific attainments, has secured letters patent from the United States for the discovery of a process of converting thirty different varieties of plants, which grow wild in enormous quantities in various sections of the Union, into flax, of great strength and beautiful texture. Specimens are now in New York, and among them are said to be the flax made from the stalks made from the cotton plant, large quantities of which are burned on the southern plantations to get them out of the way; the century tree, or wild Manilla, which grows in abundance in Florida; the wild hollyhock, with a fibre of ten or fifteen inches long; the gold nankeen, of a natural nankeen color; the vegetable silk, and the vegetable wool.

**A VALUABLE SUGGESTION.**—Mr. Prince the well known nurseryman of Flushing, L. I., recommends the culture of Liquorice, as one of the most important plants that can be added to American agriculture. A deep sandy loam, or other light soil is adapted to it, and the plant is propagated by cuttings from the root. It yields an immense crop, is quite valuable, and now largely imported.

**PROFITS OF BROOM CORN.**—A Virginia paper states that Mr. H. S. Owen, who recently purchased Winchester's Island, containing 80 acres, for \$6,000, has realized half that sum for his crop of broom corn this season. Mr. O. had 60 acres under cultivation, from which he has realized 40,000 pounds, of broom straw, and sold it at prices ranging from \$7.50 to \$10 per hundred, averaging full \$8. In addition to this, he gathered about 3,000 bushels of seed, worth twenty-five cents per bushel, or \$750 for the lot—or \$1,000 for the produce of only 60 acres; which, deducting for cost of cultivation, leaves \$3,000 net.

The Commissions for the Rock Island and Alton Railroad will meet at Beardstown on the 15th of March next, for the purpose of opening books for subscriptions to the capital stock of the road.

**INSTRUCTION IN AGRICULTURE.**—It appears by a recent catalogue of Amherst College, that the winter term of that institution will commence on the 9th of January, and is to continue fourteen weeks. Of the large and increasing number of students, several, we are glad to see, are devoting themselves to the study of agriculture, under the direction of Professor Nash; and there can be no doubt that young men having an eye to the farm, as their field of future action; can acquire, by a trifling expense of time and money, knowledge, which will be of essential service to them through life.

Besides instruction in practical agriculture, in connection with a liberal course of reading, and a free use of the geological and other cabinets, there is to be, we understand, during the coming term, a very full and complete course of chemical lectures by Professor Clark. In chemistry as taught by experimental lectures, with apparatus ample for illustrating and making plain its difficult points, we have long thought is the key to many of the farmer's most earnest inquiries; and we should think that this course of lectures alone would be worth more to a young farmer, or one wishing to become a farmer, than the expense of the whole term.—N. E. Farmer.

**TRAINING OF TREES.**—The editor of the Horticultural Review says:

Trees with low heads do bear sooner and better and will bear longer, than whip stalks and bean poles. In our prairies low headed trees are the only ones that can hold up their heads and hold on their fruit. They are naturally shaped fruit bearers, and they are miserably unpopular with that class of purchasers who know more about trees than the men who raise them. This is a most important subject and fruit growers will never repent but once, if they prune their trees up high. Like most tyros, we began so, too, and it has inflicted one perpetual sorrow upon us. The low tree is healthier, not subject to affections of bark or insects, not injured by winds, the fruit is easier gathered; in fact every reason is in favor of a low growth. We now try to form a head not higher than three feet from the ground, for apples, letting the branches grow out.

**WATERING CATTLE.**—Among the many causes of stock not thriving as much as might be desirable during the winter, is their too scanty supply of water. A few have running water in their cattle yards, and their stock drink as nature requires it; but most farmers water their stock either by the pump or driving them to a running brook twice, or often but once a day. Watering is done by rule from fall to spring, regardless of weather or food. I have observed stock so dry as to refuse to eat dry food, but after being watered they eat voraciously. Now it is a well settled fact that no animal will thrive well while suffering for want of food, water or shelter. Let those who want to turn out their stock in the spring in good condition, attend to these things, and let them see that the poorer and weaker of the stock get as much as they want.

**AN ELEPHANT SWIMMING THIRTY MILES.**—The Charleston Evening News understands that the elephant that was lost overboard from a vessel bound to that port made its way safely into Mt. Pleasant harbor. The vessel was thirty miles out at sea, and a heavy gale was blowing when the elephant went overboard. Its feat of riding out the storm is, we suppose, the most remarkable instance of animal strength and endurance on record.

**FANCY DISHES OF HORSE FLESH.**—A Manchester Englishman named Renaud, a Director in the Imperial Veterinary School—in plain Saxon, a horse doctor—invited a Professor the *chef de clinique*, that is, the nurse of the horse hospital, the editor of the *Bulletin de Therapeutique*, probably a pastry cook's paper, and sundry other guests, to dine from horse flesh. As all good judges of beef would do, a twenty-three year old horse was chosen, and each guest was furnished with a dish of horse meat, and also one of good plain beef. Also, a dish of soup made of each kind was handed round. As it was a fashionable dinner, the soup probably came first, although we do not know the stable etiquette of such repasts. The account says:

The victory was unanimously given to the horse flesh, which was declared to be precisely of the same taste, but richer, stronger, more gelatinous, and more capable of concentration.

The conclusion of the repast is thus described:

The banquet closed with a fine, fat, thick fillet of horse, larded and dressed as they dress here roe venison, namely, plunged for a few days into a preparation of salt, spices, herbs, onions, Madeira and a dash of vinegar, and then roasted; a most "delicate device," be it noticed, and one which no real gourmand ever forgets when he has once tried it. The fillet of horse was triumphantly welcomed, and voted super-excellent. Tender, juicy, fat, high flavored, more delicate than the stag, more melting than the roe, more 'gamy' than beef. It was unanimously pronounced to be a great discovery; an immense addition to the pleasures of the table; a sort of mixture between venison, hare, and butcher's meat. Every guest present, it seems, begged that the cook might have orders to cut off a good slice, and that each person might carry it home into his own family, and make the female inmates of his house judges in their turn of its excellence.

**SIZE OF SWINE**—A writer in the Ohio Farmer makes some sensible remarks about swine. He argues, and we think correctly, that many western farmers regard great size as of too much importance. He quotes the opinion of an experienced pork merchant as follows:

John Mahard, an old and extensive pork packer, in Cincinnati, in speaking of large, vs. medium sized hogs, prefers the medium. He says it is fully as much to his interest, and that of every one else engaged in curing pork for market, as to the interest of the farmer, that the very best breed of hogs should be scattered over the country. He says he can make no use, in that market, of hogs weighing from four to seven hundred pounds, even though they may be well fattened. A hog of proper form and quality of meat, that matures at ten or twelve months old, so as to fatten properly, and that weighs from two to three hundred pounds, is the sort for which they will give the highest price, because it yields them the greatest profit, and most assuredly it will pay the farmer the best. A spring pig, killed in the fall, weighing two hundred pounds net, will certainly pay better than if the same pig had been kept over winter and killed the second fall at five hundred pounds net.

**THE GRAVE OF MADISON.**—A bill has been reported in the Senate of Virginia, providing for the erection of a plain tomb of granite or marble over the grave of James Madison. It is a somewhat singular and mortifying fact that up to this time no stone has marked the place where rest the remains of this illustrious man.

**BLOODY MURRAIN IN CATTLE.**—The Prairie Farmer publishes the following as a cure for this disease: Take of white oak bark, newly pecked from the tree, as much as you can easily encompass with the thumbs and fingers of both hands. Boil this in one gallon of water for a short time; then pour off the water and dissolve in it a lump of alum of the size of a hulled walnut, and a lump of copperas of the same size. With this mixture, drench the sick animal, and the cure will soon be effected. Mr. C. Hogg is the author of this prescription.

**LAMPERS IN HORSES.**—The bars occasionally swell and rise to a level with the teeth. This is caused by inflammation. "In a majority of cases, Youast says, 'the swelling usually will soon subside without medical treatment, or a few washes and gentle alterative will relieve the animal. A few slight incisions will cause the swelling to subside. The brutal custom of burning with a red hot iron, is most objectionable.'"

In the Minnesota copper mine, near Lake Superior, is an immense mass of native copper; in fact, its extent has not been determined. From 20 to 25 men are constantly engaged in cutting it up into pieces of 5,000 pounds weight. Occasionally in cutting, they pass through pure copper a foot and a half thick.

The root of the wild plant called Solomon's heal, mashed up and put on to bruises, will take the discoloration out and relieve the pain. An old English writer says, that "this plant should be cultivated by all those families where fist work is done."

Means have been provided to extend the Oquawka and Peoria road from the latter city east to the Chicago and Mississippi road.

To show how mechanical skill and labor add to the value of raw material, the British Quarterly Review gives this instructive calculation: A bar of iron valued at \$5, worked into horse shoes, is worth \$10.50; needles, \$355; penknife blades, \$3,285; shirt buttons, \$29, 80; balance springs of watches, \$250,000. Thirty-one pounds of iron have been made into wire upward of one hundred and eleven miles in length, and so fine was the fabric that a part of it was converted, in lieu of horse hair, into a barrister's wig.

The Frederick (Md.) Examiner states that many persons in that city felt what they supposed to be the shock of an earthquake, about 4 o'clock on the morning of the 26th ult. It appears to have been experienced in a line from southwest to northeast, or parallel with the Blue Ridge.

**VENISON vs. BEEF**—It is something unusual (says the N. Y. Times,) to find in our market good Venison cheaper than ordinary Beef; but such has been the case for several days past. We saw excellent Venison steaks and saddle cuts retailing yesterday at the Washington markets, for 12½ a 14c per lb., with poorer Beef at 14a17c.

The Terre Haute Courier gives the total hog business of that place, for the past season at 54,562 head; cattle, 4,041; sheep, 2,515.

Counterfeit five's on the Commercial Bank of Burlington, are in circulation. The bill is bungingly made, though calculated to deceive those unaccustomed to handle money.

## VALUABLE RECIPES.

**HOW TO MAKE GOOD CREAM CUSTARD.**—Take one cup of sweet cream, one egg, beaten well, one table spoonful of sugar, two table spoonful of flour, and nutmeg to the taste.

**MOLASSES CAKE**—Take one cup of molasses, one cup of cream, two eggs, and a tea spoonful of saleratus; mix in flour till it is thick, and then bake in a quick oven.

**RECIPE FOR BAKING CAKES.**—Take two cups of sugar, three cups of flour, one cup of cream, and butter the size of a hickory nut; take four eggs, beat the white to a froth, add a tea spoonful of soda; bake in small pans in a quick oven.

**MOUNTAIN CAKE.**—Stir to a cream one cup of butter, and two of white sugar; add the white of six eggs, beaten to a stiff froth, one and a third cups of milk, three and a third cups of sifted flour, half a tea spoonful of soda, a tea spoonful of cream-tartar, flavor with lemon, bake in a moderate oven; it looks well cut in slices.

**VALLEY CAKE.**—Mix one cup of butter with two of brown sugar, add the yolks of six eggs well beaten, a cup and a third of milk, three and a third cups of flour, one tea spoonful of soda, two of cream-tarter, half a nutmeg, a small tea spoonful of ground cinnamon, a tea cupful of seeded raisins; bake in deep, round tins.

**TREATMENT OF CROUP.**—When a child is attacked with croup, or rattles, apply to the throat a plaster of lard and snuff—any kind of grease will do as well, and if you have no snuff, fine tobacco may be used in its place; care must be taken in placing it above the pit of the stomach, or it will produce too great nausea, give a few drops of sweet oil every half, or quarter of an hour, and in most cases, the patient is entirely well in a few hours.

**SORE LIPS.**—Camphor is an excellent thing to keep the chaps away from ladies' lips.

**FOR A CUT WITH A KNIFE.**—Bind the wound while the blood is flowing, with brown sugar, thoroughly wet in spirits of camphor; do not remove it till the third or fourth day. Ohio Farmer.

**MUCH HONEY FROM A LITTLE.**—Those who wish to increase the quantity of their honey, and also improve its flavor, can do so by following these directions:

“Dissolve two pounds of the purest white sugar in as much hot water as will be just necessary to reduce it to a syrup; take one pound of the nicest white clover honey, any other light colored honey of good flavor will answer, and after warming it, add it to the sugar syrup, and stir the contents. When cool, this compound will be pronounced by the best judges of honey, to be one of the most luscious articles which they ever tasted, and will be, by almost every one, preferred to the unmixed honey. Refined loaf sugar is an inodorous sweet, and one pound of honey will communicate its odor to two of sugar.”

**CHAPPED HANDS.**—A salve made of beeswax, and sweet oil, is as good as anything; a piece of wax of the size of a hickory nut, melted with an ounce of oil; apply after a thorough cleansing in soap suds, just before going to bed.

**INFLAMED EYES.**—A strong decoction of green tea, sweetened with loaf sugar, and made smooth with thick sweet cream, is often an effectual cure for common inflammation of the eyes; in severe cases, bind the tea leaves on for a poultice; it is soothing-cooling, and at least harmless.

**TO MAKE OYSTER BROTH OF CODFISH.**—Pick into bits a piece of codfish, the thick part is preferable; to a tea cupful of the fish, put two quarts of boiling water; season with butter, pepper and salt, and eat it hot with crackers; it is almost equal to oysters, and much cheaper food, and is a harmless and palatable diet for invalids.—O. Farmer.

**CHEAP SOAP.**—A correspondent of the Southern Banner gives the following receipt for soap making, and adds that it would be worth one thousand dollars in the hands of a selfish person, and the world would have to untie the purse string to get it, but here it is gratis:

Take six pounds of Potash.....	75
Four pounds of Lard.....	65
Four pounds of Rosin.....	15

All amounting to.....\$1 40

Beat up the rosin, mix all together well and set aside for five days, then put the whole into a ten gallon cask of warm water and stir twice a day for ten days; at the expiration of which time, or sooner, you will have 100 pounds of good soap for \$1 50.

The writer does not say hard soap; so don't be disappointed if it should be soft.

**TO KEEP LARD SWEET.**—Instead of putting it into large vessels, put it into stone crocks or jars, of from one to four gallons each; when cooling, or thickening, put in your salt, which will mix through the lard instead of settling on the bottom of the crock. The next day take clean bits of cotton cloth, rather larger than the top of the vessel, and after putting it smoothly down, and pressing the edges snugly around so as to exclude all air, pack in a close layer of salt, then lay over another piece of cotton cloth and turn over it a plate or a cover which will fit tightly, then tie over two thicknesses of paper, and set in a cool, dry place. In this way I have kept lard perfectly sweet eighteen months.—Michigan Farmer.

**FROZEN FEET.**—Somebody gives the following as a sure remedy for frosted feet. Probably the same recipe would be as efficacious applied to the hands or any other part of the body.

At this time of the year many persons are troubled with frosted feet, and have no means of relieving themselves, though they would give almost anything for relief. I beg leave, through your journal, to make known a most efficient remedy.

Many persons have tried it to their satisfaction, and I heard one person express the wish that every one knew it. It is this.

Heat a brick very hot, and hold the foot over it as closely as it can be held without burning. Cut an onion in two, and dipping it repeatedly in salt, rub it all over the foot. The juice of the onion will be dried into the foot, and effect a cure in a very short time. If this be done for a few times, it is almost certain to cure your feet entirely.

**TURNIP.**—For the spring crop, sow the Early White Dutch, or the Strap-leaved sorts, as early as the seed can be got into the ground in 14 inch drills, and thin to 5 or 6 inches. Keep them perfectly clear from weeds, and when the bottoms begin to enlarge, brush away the earth from about the roots to the depth of half an inch or more, and give them a light dressing of wood ashes. It is important to get them started very early, so that they may have time to grow to sufficient size before very hot weather, when they will soon become tough and strong. On fresh new land, a fine spring crop may occasionally be obtained by the ordinary mode of culture.

## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

**COUNTY FAIRS.**—We venture to say in advance, that the County Fairs of Illinois, the coming fall, will be far superior in interest to those which have preceded them.—We shall be disappointed if they do not reach more than *seventy* in number. Already measures are being taken by many societies for the fall fairs, with the object of encouraging production the ensuing season; of giving notice to farmers and mechanics, and the ladies in time, of the articles for which premiums will be given, so as to produce a competition which shall bring out the skill of farmers in cultivation, mechanics, and artists, in their various professions, and the ladies in their especial departments, which adds a decided feature to exhibitions. This is right. We cannot begin too early. The Sangamon County Agricultural Society is already moving. That society is in the field with premiums to the amount of *fifteen hundred dollars*,—a pretty fair sum, which may be increased. The time of the fair is not fixed upon. It will take place at some period, which will enable our farmers to attend the State Fair, and also the Morgan County Fair, and if possible, others in our neighborhood. We shall have a finer display of stock than heretofore; a far greater display of vegetables; of the products of the dairy; of the skill of mechanics; and the wondrous productions of taste and skill, wrought by the fairy fingers of the ladies; and, if the Exhibition is early enough in the season, Floral Hall will present a more beautiful array of flowers and shrubbery than it has ever yet done.

We want all farmers to bring some of their productions to the Fairs, and so of mechanics, artists, and ladies, who can thus contribute to render these occasions such as shall do honor to all concerned. We may not all get premiums. What of that? We shall contribute to a display that will do credit to ourselves, to our Counties and to our State, and will show strangers, who are ranging over our state, with views of curiosity or desires to settle among us, the

productions of our soil and the skill and taste of our men and women.

Our readers will be sure to hear from us again on this subject.

**FINE STOCK—GOOD PRICES.**—We learn that a few days since, Wm. M. Warren, Esq., of Island Grove, sold to Stephen Dunlap, of Morgan county, a yearling Durham Bull, for \$100. At the same time, he sold to Col. James Dunlap, of the same county, a bull calf, of the same stock, five months old, for \$200. These sales, and to such persons as the Messrs. Dunlap, show the value of this stock. They are as good judges of stock as can be found in the west.

We give these facts to show the advantage to farmers of buying fine Durham stock in our state. Here as fine stock can be had as can be found in the country, and it can be purchased of reliable and responsible men, considerations of much importance.

Mr. Warren has a fine stock of Hogs, bred from imported stock, which was received at his farm last fall. They are of the stock known as the Liverpool Whites, a stock highly prized in England.

**CANADA CLUB SPRING WHEAT.**—We have been frequently called on for a description of this wheat. We avail ourselves of one given in a communication from Gustavus De Nevue, Esq., of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. He says that the "Canada Club," is generally regarded among the farmers in his vicinity as the most profitable spring wheat, considering the ease of raising it, and that it brings in the market the highest market price. It was brought to the United States from Canada, where it was formerly extensively cultivated; but not so much now on account of the extensive ravages of the weevil. It was introduced into Canada from France, where it is, at this day, the kind most raised. This wheat was known in France as the "small white March wheat," as March is the month in which the wheat is usually sown.

The "Canada Club" is a bald wheat, grows remarkably even and straight. The straw is uncommonly stiff, and its height

rather below medium, for which reasons it is less liable to be laid low by the winds and storms than any kind of spring wheat with which the writer was acquainted; a quality of great value to farmers. The flour made from it is not very fine, but good, and its quality heavy. The wheat commonly weighs more than sixty pounds to the bushel. A farmer had raised in Fond du Lac county 37 bushels to the acre. The Canada club wheat has nothing of the flinty appearance; it is as soft as fall wheat; indeed, it is difficult to detect the difference between the Canada club and a fine variety of fall wheat.

The usual quantity of seed sown to the acre is one and a half bushels, few farmers sowing less, and some going as high as two bushels.

**STOCK SALES.**—Mr. J. C. Crowder, two miles west of this city, had a sale of stock some days since. Among the sales we noticed that of a fine mare at \$299; one Gazzam mare, \$201; one two year old black Morgan colt, \$200; one 1 year old, \$125; one do. \$140; one yearling do. \$70; one Devon cow and calf, \$103; one Durham cow, \$90. Several common cows and calves sold at prices between \$30 and \$40.

Mr. Crowder has still a fine stock of Durham cows, very fine colts and heifers, and Berkshire and Irish Grazier hogs, for sale.

**HEDGE GROWERS WANTED.**—We have frequent calls from farmers, who desire to make contracts for the growing of hedges upon their farms. They hear that there are persons engaged in this business, but cannot learn where they are to be found. We know of several persons who raise the plants for sale, but have not understood that they grow hedges on contract. The season is now at hand for setting out hedge plants, and we give this notice for the benefit of all parties concerned.

**WILL CHESH TURN TO WHEAT?**—The correspondents of the Michigan Farmer are engaged in the discussion of this old question. When the discussion is concluded, to the satisfaction of all parties, we will give the results. When will that be?

**FARMS AND STOCK FOR SALE.**—The advertisement of J. N. Brown, Esq., of Island Grove, in our advertising sheet, will arrest the attention of the reader. The lands of Island Grove are among the best in the state, and the country about has good railroad facilities. The population is composed, mainly, of wealthy and intelligent farmers, who form an excellent society; having churches of several denominations and schools of a high order. We know of no part of the State which offers more advantages to the farmer than the country in and about Island Grove. The post office address of Mr. J. N. Brown, is "Berlin, Sangamon county, Illinois."

—A connoisseur in such matters, just from the east, says, "the ladies there are now wearing their bonnets on their heads, and though the fashion of the bonnet is still small, the wearing them on the head is a great improvement in appearance and comfort." How does he know about the "comfort" of the thing?

—Colds, coughs, consumptions, are diseases brought on by exposure. The season of mud, wet side walks, chilly damp winds, is now upon us, and ladies, young and old, should have their thick soled shoes or boots, and should cover themselves up well when they go out. Ladies, like every body else, like the credit of possessing good sense. But what good sense is there in going out on wet sidewalks and into the mud with shoes having soles of the thickness of brown paper, and every step in which sends a chill to the vitals? and also with a chest so lightly covered that every palpitation of the heart can be witnessed?

We hear that many places will be in the field as candidates for the location of the next State Fair. Among them Vandalia, Centralia, Salem, Jonesboro', Jacksonville, Alton, and probably others. It is an important matter, and will undoubtedly be well considered by the Executive Committee at their adjourned meeting in April.

News.—Our latest European news leads to the belief that a peace may be patched up between the Allies and Russia. It is conjectured, and not without strong reasons, that Louis Napoleon is intriguing for peace, having secured for France most of the glory of the Crimean war, and that England will be compelled, from circumstances, to unite with France in making peace. The peace projects are intended to settle all the affairs of Europe, and to fix upon the people, with the iron power of despotism, the principle of "the Divine right of kings."

English papers are still publishing brag-gadocia threats of war upon the United States. War is always an evil; but in this case it will be a greater evil to England than to the United States. If England is very anxious to fight us, she is only to come on. We shan't run any how. She has already got the worst of it in two wars, and would be likely to come out of the third second best.

In India, British fillibustering continues. Any pretense is seized upon to rob the native authorities of their provinces. The province of Scinde, containing some millions of people, is the latest robbery.

On our own continent, there have been no very remarkable occurrences the few weeks past. The Indian wars continue in Oregon, and our troops are generally successful. In Mexico revolutions and counter revolutions are constantly occurring.—Nothing better can be expected there.—The people have no proper idea of self-government. All is anarchy. When that country assumes its just position in the world, it will be under anglo-saxon control.

In Central America, we find that Walker's government is regarded with jealousy by all the States except Nicaragua; and they have leagued against him, with the object of driving him out of the country.—This it will probably be hard to do. He is constantly receiving accessions to his forces from California and the United States. Two hundred men left New Orleans to join him a few days since, and

others are to follow. Indeed, it appears that no further opposition is made to emigrations to Nicaragua from this country.—The Nicaraguan government, by decree, has re-annexed the Musquito territory to Nicaragua, and Col. Kinney has been directed to leave the country.

At home we have no startling events to record. Congress has not yet transacted any business of great general interest.

☞ Has any one of our readers ever used the meal made of Wyandot corn, or any other squaw corn? The Boston Cultivator says that the "meal of this corn, when cooked, has about the taste of nothing."

☞ The natural history of birds has furnished important facts for the consideration of farmers. With all varieties, it will be found, that in the destruction of injurious insects, they do a hundred times the good that they do injury in taking a slight toll from our crops of grain and fruit. The Ohio Cultivator recommends that in clearing up grounds we should spare the fruit bearing trees, shrubs and vines, for the birds, and that in planting ornamental trees, we should have regard to those which furnish food for the birds, and thereby attract them to our premises.

JAPAN SHEEP.—This is a new variety, recently imported from China. They are said to be of good size, and their fleeces good for coarse fabrics. But their most remarkable quality is that of their rapid propagation. The ewes have lambs twice a year, and from two to four at a time. The sheep are said to make fine mutton.

EARLY TOMATOES.—Sow some seed in a flower pot, put a pane of glass over the pot, and set in a sunny window. When the plants get into rough leaf, put them off into small pots, and again, as they grow, into larger. In May, set them out on the sunny side of a fence and train them up; when they set sufficient fruit, cut off the the tops.

☞ The Cincinnati papers have again commenced a war upon the Indiana Free Banks.

## Crops in Madison County.

EDWARDSVILLE, March 4th, 1855.

The undersigned, citizens of Madison county, Illinois, regarding the dissemination of information in respect to the agricultural productions of the country, both profitable and interesting, would submit the following facts in regard to this county, as having been derived from information in their judgment, entirely reliable.

Jesse Renfro, of Silver Creek, in this county, had 28 acres in wheat in the year 1855, from which he gathered and sold 1068 bushels clean wheat, averaging 38 bushels per acre. Mr. Renfro, who is a very reliable man, states that the land received only ordinary cultivation, without manure. Wheat sown by the drill.

Joseph Shaffer, of this county, raised on 11 acres of land, 500 bushels of wheat, in 1855, ordinary culture, no manure.

John J. Scott, of Madison county, Ill., raised in 1855, on 6 acres of ground, 43 bushels of wheat per acre; cultivation ordinary, no manure.

William Baird, of Madison county, Ill., had 6 1-2 acres of corn ground, from which he gathered and sold 728 bushels, in 1855. The cultivation was only ordinary, and no manure was used on the land.

Henry T. Bartlett, of Madison county, Ill., had 22 acres in wheat, from which he harvested, in 1855, nine hundred and seven bushels, averaging 41 1-4 bushels per acre; cultivation ordinary and broad cast sown, no manure used.

Mrs. Daphne Brown, of Madison county, Ill., harvested in 1855, from 40 acres, 1323 bushels, averaging 33 1-3 bushels per acre; cultivation ordinary, no manure.

A large number of cases approximating very nearly to the above yields, have come to our knowledge; but for want of specific data they are omitted. We can assure you that the above statement may be relied on implicitly.

Thinking that information from this part of our state, which has hitherto been almost overlooked, might not be unprofitable or uninteresting to your readers, we have transmitted the above statement. If you think it of sufficient importance we would be glad to have the facts made public through the columns of your paper.

We take a deep interest in every thing appertaining to the development of the agricultural resources of the country.

We remain obedient servants,  
J. GILLESPIE,  
JACOB J. KINDER.

## Meeting of the Association of Farmers and Mechanics of Sangamon County.

The regular annual meeting of the above Association was held in the city of Springfield, March 1, 1856. The President, JAMES M'CONNELL, in the chair.

The Treasurer presented his report, showing accounts due the Society of \$253 32, and accounts against the Society, unpaid, of \$506 48. The report was received and accepted.

J. C. Crowder presented an account of \$10, for a pump—allowed.

The claims of the Association against H. Crowder and M. M. M'Coy were assigned to John Williams, Treasurer, in part payment of his claim against the Society.

The Secretary was requested to make out and report at the next meeting the amount of shares of stock of the Association sold.

The Association then proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year. The following persons were elected by unanimous vote to the offices named:

H. JACOBY, President.

C. W. VANDERIN, A. B. MCCONNELL, Vice Presidents.

S. FRANCIS, Secretary.

S. M. PARSONS, Treasurer.

*Resolved*, That an exhibition and fair be held next fall; and that the President and Secretary be a committee to confer with the Morgan County Society in regard to the time at which the fairs of the respective counties shall be held.

*Resolved*, That the Association offer fifteen hundred dollars as premiums for the next fair.

The Association then elected the Superintendents of the several Departments of the fair:

James N. Brown, for cattle.

Joseph Stockdale, for horses, jacks and mules.

John M'Connell, for sheep and poultry.

John C. Crowder, for hogs.

Henry B. Grubb, for machinery and implements.

A. B. Cast, for farm products and dairy.

Chas. W. Matheny, for mill fabrics, needle work, paintings, drawings &c.

Jas. M'Connell, for preserves, pickles, bread, cake, &c.

*Resolved*, That the Superintendents be required to make out the list of premiums for their departments, respectively, and the names of the judges of the said departments, and report the same for the action of the next meeting of the Association.

*Resolved*, That H. Jacoby, John Williams, and S. Francis, take charge of the grounds of the Association as Trustees under the constitution.

*Resolved*, That the Association do now adjourn, to meet at the office of the Secretary, in the Journal Buildings, on the last Saturday in April next, at one o'clock p. m.

*Resolved*, That the papers of this city be respectfully requested to publish these proceedings.

T. G. TAYLOR, Sec'y.

### Mason County Agricultural Society.

Below are the proceedings at the annual meeting of the Mason County Agricultural Society, held at the Court House in Havana, on the twelfth of January, with the result of the election of its officers.

Article first was amended so to read one dollar for members' fee, instead of fifty cents as heretofore. Also the annual election "shall take place on the last day of the fair." The secretaries shall keep an account of the time actually employed in transacting the business of the society, and they shall receive a fair compensation for the same.

#### OFFICERS ELECTED.

President, J. D. W. Bowman, Havana precinct; Vice Presidents, Col. A. S. West, Bath precinct, John Bowser, Quiver precinct, Wm. Hibbard, Allen's Grove precinct; Recording Secretary, John Covington, Havana precinct; Corresponding Secretary, H. C. McIntire, Havana precinct; Treasurer, A. D. Hopping, Havana precinct.

Our society has purchased fair grounds. It contains five acres, and lies within the corporation of Havana. Our fair last fall was held on the grounds. We have a tight board fence, seven feet high, on two sides of it, and intend to fence the balance of it the coming summer. One half of it is prairie, and the balance is timber, furnishing a nice shade, with a fine blue grass sward. The grounds are better adapted for fairs than I think can be selected any where else in the county.

Yours, Respectfully,  
H. C. MCINTIRE,

Cor. Sec'y Mason co. Ag. Society.

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## THE MARKETS.

SPRINGFIELD, March 8, 1856.

There is a general depression in Breadstuffs. The state of affairs in Europe is undoubtedly the cause.— We anticipate a rise hereafter, though we apprehend produce will not reach the figures of last year.

The season thus far has been peculiar. We have passed through a winter of unusual severity. The snow, to appearances, has protected the wheat; but the cold has seriously injured the prospect of coming fruit crops. Of peaches, plums, apricots,—there will be none in this region; and we are told that most of the fruit buds of the apple tree are killed. The wood of last year's growth on the peach is all dead, and many of the trees. If we have fruit the coming season, it must come from southern Illinois.

Our quotations can hardly be relied on in the present state of the market.

FLOUR—Extra, \$8, retail.

WHEAT—Sales of fair to prime, \$1 00a\$1 10.

CORN—In the ear, 20a25c.; in sacks, 30a35.

POTATOES—90c to \$1 per bushel.

HIDES—Dry flint, 10a11c.

St. Louis, March 6.

Boats are arriving from New Orleans with Groceries. Changes in prices not material; but so far in favor of the buyer. Grain is declining. Flour, country, \$7 50; fancy, \$7 75; superfine, \$6 50. Wheat, \$1 40, prime, sacks returned. Corn, mixed, 35c; white and yellow, 37½c; white, 40c;—sacks returned. Oats, 30a32½c; sacks included. Rye, 26c. Pork mess, \$14; prime Lard, 8½; in bbls., 8½.

CINCINNATI, March 7.

Flour, country, \$5 50 to \$5 90. Pork, bulk sides, at 6½c; sides, 7½. Mess pork, \$14.

CHICAGO, March 7.

Flour, city mills \$8; superfine, \$7 50. Buckwheat flour, \$3 per 100 lbs. Wheat, red winter, \$1 20a1 25; white winter, \$1 35a1 45. Corn, 31a40c per 60 lbs. Oats, 22a30c. Barley, ranges from \$1 20 to \$1 30.

#### New York Cattle Market—Feb. 27.

Sales of Beeves—premium cattle 12 to 14c; 1st quality, 10a11½c; medium quality, 9a10c; poor quality, 8a8½; general selling prices, 9a11c. There was a large increase in the number of cattle in market, and they were, generally of superior quality.

#### Wool Trade—N. York, March 1.

Wool—The demand for Fleece continues active, part speculative, and with a diminished stock, prices are 2a3c higher on most descriptions. A number of holders have taken their stocks out of market in view of a higher range of prices on the opening of trade the coming season. The sales are not all for manufacturing purposes, but a great many lots have been taken by manufacturers to keep, should prices rise, as many owners think they will. Pulled is in fair request and not plenty. Sales of 220,000 lbs. Fleece, in lots, at our range of quotations, and 50,000 do Pulled at full prices.

# The Illinois Farmer.

VOLUME 1.]

SPRINGFIELD, APRIL, 1856.

[NUMBER 4.

## ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

### TO AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL Societies.

WE would particularly invite the attention of those Societies, who are about to make up their Premium Lists for 1856, to our large collection of Agricultural Books, which are peculiarly adapted for Premiums.

The awarding of Agricultural Books in the place of small money premiums has been extensively adopted, and has given the highest satisfaction.

#### Advantages of this Plan.

It promotes the dissemination of much needed information among farmers.

It combines the advantages of a diploma with a premium of intrinsic value.

It substitutes a permanent and expressive token of honor for the pittance which is frequently humiliating to the recipient.

It avoids the fostering of a mercenary spirit among competitors, and better comports with the dignity of an honorable emulation between friends and neighbors.

We have received a supply of these books, which will be subject to the examination of all and especially of the officers of agricultural and horticultural societies

FRANCIS & BARRELL.  
C. M. SAXTON,  
Agricultural Book Publishers,  
140 Fulton street, New York.

### Farmers' Store!

THE undersigned are maturing arrangements to establish in Springfield a Farmers' Store for the purpose of supplying farmers with

*Agricultural Implements;*

*Seeds for the Farm and Garden;*

*Trees for the Orchard;*

*Varieties of Fruit bearing and*

*Flowering Shrubs;*

*Groceries;*

*Queens, Glass and Stoneware;*

*Baskets, of Willow & Splintwork;*

*Ropes and Cords;*

*Bags and Bagging, and*

*Burlaps for baling wool;*

and many other articles used in the family and on the farm, too numerous to particularize: all of which will be sold for cash at reasonable prices.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,

Journal Buildings.

Jan 21

### WANTED TO PURCHASE

GRASS and Clover Seed, Flaxseed choice Potatoes for seed, and Beans for seed.

feb20

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

4

### Wethersfield Garden Seeds.

WE have now received and opened for sale, a stock of fresh garden seeds, and warranted true to their names. Among them are—Giant Asparagus, Windsor (English) Beans, seven varieties of Dwarf Beans, early Dutch Case Knife, Horticultural Cranberry, large Lima Pole Bean, six varieties of the Beet, fifteen kinds of Cabbage, Carrots, variety, five varieties of Celery, Cress, varieties, eight varieties of the Cucumber, six varieties of Corn for roasting, some very early and others very late, seven varieties of Lettuce, seven varieties of the Cantelope Melon, eight varieties of the Water Melon, large green and short white Okra, five varieties Onion, common and double Parsley, seven varieties Peas, large squash, bull nose and sweet mountain Pepper, early Tobolsk and Wyatt's Victoria, eight varieties Radish, summer, fall and winter Squashes, variety, choice varieties Tomato, varieties of early and fall Turnip. Sweet Herbs, &c., Caraway, Coriander, Rosemary, Sage, Sweet Basil, Sweet Maloram, Sweet Thyme, Sweet Mignonette, Summer Savory, &c.

These seeds are for sale wholesale and retail.  
February. FRANCIS & BARRELL.

### THE EYE, EAR AND LUNGS.

DR. HARPER continues to treat successfully all disease of the *EYE, EAR* and *LUNGS*. Also, all Chronic Diseases of the human system. The Lungs are treated by Medicated Inhalation, the only successful and rational method. The success which has attended my peculiar treatment the past many years is almost incredible to those unacquainted with its peculiar curative effects, having restored patients who were considered hopeless, and restored to sight cases that have been blind from one to twenty years.

Office west side of the square, Springfield.  
Jan 1, 1856.

### Agency for the Sale of all kinds OF Agricultural Implements.

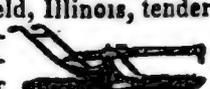
THE subscribers, at Springfield, Illinois, tender their services to the manufacturers of all kinds of Agricultural Implements for their sale in this region.

Such Implements are in great demand in this region of country;—and the demand will be largely increased.

Communications will be promptly attended to.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings, Springfield, Ills.

January 21, 1856.



**NOTICE TO FARMERS!**

**H. B. Grubb & Bro.**

MANUFACTURERS OF ALL KINDS OF  
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,  
AND GENERAL JOB SHOP,  
SPRINGFIELD,.....ILLINOIS.

WOULD respectfully ask leave to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjoining counties that they are now manufacturing a superior article of

**REVOLVING HAY RAKES,**  
*Harrows, of various patterns---several kinds of improved Straw Cutters, &c., &c.*

We are the authorized agents for Palmer & Williams' self-raking reaper, Danforth's reaper and mower, and can also furnish McCormick's reaper and mower.

Farmers wishing reapers or mowers will do well to give us a call. We will deliver every machine bought of us in good working order, as well as every other article in our line.

Having recently increased our facilities by the addition of a steam engine, we are prepared to attend promptly to all orders in our line at reasonable rates.

Shop one door south of E. P. Penniman & Co's Foundry.

**Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, &c.**

**W. D. WARD**

WISHES to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjacent counties, that he keeps on hand, for sale, different priced CLOCKS, manufactured by Seth Thomas, Hartford, Conn. These clocks are supposed to be superior to most others in market, being well made, of lasting material, and not liable to get out of order—an object of great importance to persons who live at a distance from shops where clocks can be repaired.

He has also for sale a variety of WATCHES, silver and gold, warranted to be good. He has silver watches at low prices, the running work of which is equal to the best class of gold watches.

He attends to clock and watch repairing, and does the business promptly and well.

**W. D. WARD.**

North side of the square in the front of Messrs Watson's confectionery.

**M. M. VANDEUSEN,**

*West side of the Square, Springfield, Illinois,*

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

**DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS, Perfumery,**  **Paints, Oils, VARNISHES, DYE STUFFS, Fancy Articles,**

**BRUSHES, GLASSWARE, LETTER PAPER, STATIONERY,**

And all kinds of GENUINE and Popular

**Patent Medicines,**

A complete assortment of the best quality, and at the lowest prices.

Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs, and Dr. Baker's Pain Panacea.

**Books for the Young.**



**R. H. BEACH,**

WEST OF THE STATE HOUSE

*Three doors from Freeman's Corner.*

Has on hand, for sale, a large variety of valuable Books, which can properly be put into the hands of the young of both sexes. They embrace history, biography, travels, geography, and other subjects; the knowledge of which will make the young wiser and better. He would say that these books are got up expressly with the design to furnish interesting and valuable reading matter for the young,—which can be made useful to them in that interesting period of life, and also when they advance into mature age,—a fact which cannot be said of a thousand trashy fictitious trifles which are now thrown upon the public, and which are not only read without profit to the young but greatly to their injury.

The books referred to are suitable for Sunday school Libraries, and the subscriber intends to keep a good supply always on hand for that purpose. He respectfully invites parents and others to examine his stock of "Books for the Young."

R. H. BEACH.

Jan. 21st 1856.



AND

**IRON FOUNDRY!**

**William Booth,**

*One block west of Great Western R. R. Depot,*

HAS his Foundry in readiness to execute all orders for Castings in Iron and Brass. He will furnish new Engines, all castings required for buildings, and all wanted by farmers. In a word, he is ready to do all work in his line, promptly and faithfully. He solicits public patronage, and will aim to deserve it.

Wanted to purchase Old Iron, Brass, Copper and Pewter, for which the highest price will be paid.

Recollect that this Foundry is one block west of the depot of the Great Western Railroad. Springfield, Jan 1, 1856.

**J. A. MASON,**

Manufacturer and Dealer in Cabinet Furniture,

HAS on hand a large stock of Chairs of all kinds; Bedsteads, Bureaus, Cases, Presses, Tables, Mattresses, Looking Glasses, Clocks from the Factory, Willow Ware, &c., &c.

It is my intention to sell as good articles and on as reasonable terms as any other shop in the city.

Repairing done at all times. Opposite the Journal office; also in the Journal Buildings.

Springfield, Feb. 14, 1856.

**HORSE REVOLVING HAY RAKERS,**

Straw Cutters—many varieties, Field Rollers, Grain Cradles, &c.

MANUFACTURED by H. B. GRUBB & Co., Springfield—all for sale at manufacturers prices, at the Farmer's Store.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings.  
Feb. 20, 1856.

# Plows! Plows! Plows!!!

AT THE  
**Farmer's Store,**  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

In great variety, of most improved patterns, Premium kinds, made of the best materials, just received and for sale, by  
**FRANCIS & BARRELL,**  
Journal Buildings.

We invite all farmers to examine these plows. feb20, 1856.

## CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION!

**R. H. BEACH,**

West of the State House—three doors from Freeman's Corner.

**K**EEPS always on hand a large supply of men's and children's Clothing, suitable for all classes—and especially for the hard service of the farm. He respectfully invites the farmers of Sangamon county, who want Clothing, to examine his stock. He will sell at as low prices as possible and live. His motto is, "Live and let live." Come on farmers, and see my stock. **R. H. BEACH.**

Jan 21, 18 6

## A WORD TO FARMERS.

**Y**OUR cry has been heretofore, "Why cannot we get carriages and wagons as durable and cheap here as elsewhere." The question can be satisfactorily answered, by calling at the

Carriage and Wagon Manufactory of  
**Withey & Brothers,**  
ONE BLOCK EAST OF THE COURT HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,

Where can be found constantly on hand, every variety of Carriages, such as Rockaways, Buggies, Sulkies, and Wagons, of the best workmanship, and at the shortest notice. As we employ none but those who have a thorough knowledge of their business, we can warrant all work leaving our establishment.

N. B.—Particular attention paid to repairing in all its various branches.

Orders respectfully solicited, and attended to, at our shop one block east of the Court House. Feb. 20th, 1856.

## Blooded Stock for Sale



THE subscriber, wishing to reduce his stock on his farm, two miles west of Springfield on the Jacksonville road, will sell low for cash or approved credit, 25 head of Durham and Devonshire cattle. Also, cows, heifers, Berkshire hogs, Irish Grazier pigs, very fine. Also, some very fine colts. Great bargains may be had by applying soon. feb20 **JOHN C. CROWDER.**

## PREMIUMS.

**G. W. CHATTERTON,** manufacturer of Silver Ware, will furnish State and County Societies with premiums at eastern prices, and at short notice. Silver pure as coin.

Keeps constantly on hand a large stock of Watches, Jewelry, and silver ware. Springfield, Illinois, West side of the Square.

## Premium Self-Raking Reaper!

PALMER & WILLIAMS' PATENT.

**T**HIS machine has now been through three harvests, and comes off victorious. The first premium was awarded to this machine at the great trial held at Bloomington, Illinois, in July, 1855, (for full particulars examine the report of the State Agricultural Society, on pages 142, 143, 116.) A Silver medal was awarded to this reaper at the State Fair held at Elmira, New York, in October 1855. Also—the first premium at the Wisconsin State Fair, in Oct. 1855. The above statement showing to the intelligent farmer of Central Illinois, that this Machine stands the test in every State where introduced. The demand for this Reaper is such that but few can be had so far south and to secure a machine they must be ordered at an early date. Price \$160—\$50 on delivery; balance on 1st Dec. 1856—freight added. For particulars, address **J. H. CURRIER, Ag't,** Springfield Ill.

**I. B. WHITMER** and **H. B. GRUBB & Co.,** are authorized agents, for receiving orders, can be found at their respective places of business.

**J. H. C.**

Testimony from the State of Illinois.

**VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.**

We purchased and used Palmer & Williams' reaper in the present harvest—have already cut fifty acres of wheat, some of it very heavy—it works admirably; cutting and taking up the grain perfectly clean and laying it off to bind; doing better work than we ever had done on our farms before. We consider the raking done better than can be done by hand.

**J. C. VIRDEN,**  
**J. H. HENDERSON.**

One Dollar per acre saved over other Reapers.

**VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.**

I bought one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers, for last harvest, and cut about 150 acres of grain with it. It was raked off better than can be done by hand. My grain was harvested cleaner than I ever had it done before. I think it saved me one dollar per acre over any other harvesting I ever had done with reapers. My repairs did not amount to 50 cents. I can cut twenty acres per day. I believe it to be the best reaper in use.

**JOHN L. MORRELL,**

**SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 1, 1856.**

I used one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers in the harvest of '55—cut badly lodged grain well, and laid the bundles fair for binding. I think it the best machine I have ever used or seen used.

**JOHN W. PRIEST.**

**CHATHAM, Ill., July 1854.**

I have purchased and am now using the celebrated Palmer & Williams reaper. I have already cut 100 acres of grain with it. I consider it a perfect self-raker, doing its work better than can be done by hand or ordinary reaping machines.

Jan. 1856.

**S. M. PARSONS.**

## Fruit Trees and Evergreens.

**T**HE subscriber has just received a choice lot of Apple Trees from his well known Nursery stock, formerly at Louisville, Ky., which he warrants to be what he sells them for; likewise, Standard and Dwarf Pears, Grapes, Gooseberries, Balsam and Spruce Firs, Arbor Vitæ, &c., for sale at his Nursery, on the road to the new Cemetery, one mile north of the Chicago and St. Louis Depot, Springfield, Ill.

**JAMES ORR, Nurseryman,**

Late of Louisville, Ky.

mar11

**MANNY & CO.,**  
 ROCKFORD, ILLS.,  
 MANUFACTURERS OF J. H. MANNY'S  
 PATENT ADJUSTABLE  
**REAPER & MOWER,**  
 COMBINED.  
**AND SINGLE MOWER!**



Combined Machine as seen in Mowing.

THE IMPROVEMENTS FOR 1856,

**R**EMOVE every objection which could be brought against the machine. The new Divider enables it to work in the worst condition of lodged grain, grass, clover, or even peas. The new castor wheel and the reach removes all side draft and weight from the horses necks, making the tongue perfectly limber like a wagon. The machine is drawn by two horses, and managed by one person for mowing, two persons for reaping; and is also warranted to cut from ten to fifteen acres per day. A larger machine for four horses is also manufactured.

Our extensive manufactory is located on Rock river, in the city of Rockford, Ill.; and, having an unsurpassed water power, and every facility necessary for the manufacture of Manny's Patent Adjustable Reaper and Mower, we are enabled to supply all orders for the same with promptness and with a perfect Machine. We shall endeavor to keep constantly on hand from three to five hundred machines, to meet single and wholesale orders; yet it is preferable that orders should be given in season to secure Machines.

Our Factory is constantly turning out from ten to twenty Machines per day, and with which we supply the following States and Territories, and ship Machines to any place where ordered, on any railroad, canal, navigable stream, or lake, in Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, northern Indiana, Iowa, (except the two southern tier of counties,) Minnesota, California, Oregon, Nebraska, Arkansas, Texas, the Canadas, and Kansas.

The prices of Machines, besides transportation, are—

For Two Horse Machine, about five feet cut, Cash, \$135, or, \$50 on delivery, \$50 Nov. 1st, and \$45 January 1st.

Four Horse Machine, about six feet cut, \$145. Or, \$60 on delivery, \$50 Nov. 1st, and \$45 January 1st.

Single Mower, about five feet cut, \$120.

**A WARRANTY**

Is given to each purchaser that the Machine is well built, and of good materials; that it will mow as well as can be done with the scythe, and reap as well as can be done with the cradle; and excel every other harvesting implement.

A full descriptive pamphlet of the Machine, containing a list of First Premiums, testimonials from all parts of the country, and much valuable information, sent promptly by mail to any applicant gratis.

**FIRST CLASS**  
**Grand Silver Medal!**  
 AT THE PARIS WORLD'S FAIR

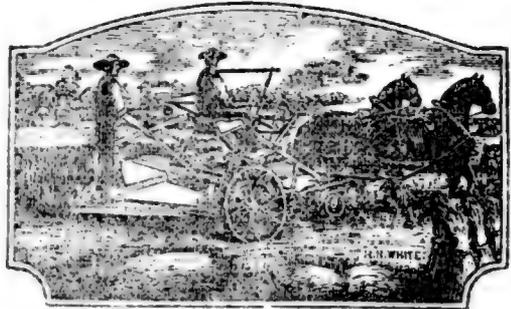
AWARDED TO MANNY'S CELEBRATED

**REAPER AND MOWER**  
 COMBINED.

AND MACHINE PURCHASED BY

**PRINCE NAPOLEON**

IN PREFERENCE TO ALL OTHERS.



Reaper and Mower as seen in Reaping.

**TEN THOUSAND**

OF MANNY'S MACHINES have been made, sold and used in the United States within three years past.

**SIX THOUSAND**

Manufactured the past season and used with the utmost success.

**One Hundred and Twenty-Eight First**

Premiums awarded to Manny since 1852.

A large number of these valuable Machines, with all the new and important improvements, are being manufactured for the next harvest. They are so well known as to need no further recommendation. They stand as they always have stood, the only successful and perfect combination of a Reaper and Mower in the world, besides being the best single Machine for either purpose.

Its superiority over every other machine is established by the great fact that it has received more first premiums than any other in every State of the Union where it has been presented in competition with every other machine of distinction, and still further by the fact that in every county where even a few have been introduced, it has always become in a short time the favorite machine among all intelligent farmers.

Over Thirty Thousand Dollars have been expended by Mr. Manny in bringing the machine to its present perfect state. And we are determined that neither pains or expense shall be spared to enable us to present the farmers with the best machine that can be made for either mowing or reaping.

The following extras are furnished with each Machine: One fork, one oil can, one wrench, one guard finger, one sickle section, one smooth edge section, and one bevel pinion. If more extras are wanted they should be ordered. A full supply is kept constantly on hand, and also in the hands of Agents. Two knives—one a sickle, the other a smooth edge—are furnished with each Machine, either of which may be used as required.

Orders must be sent promptly to secure a Machine. [mar 11.31] **MANNY & CO.**

**BASKETS.—CLOTHS AND CORN BASKETS.**  
 FRANCIS & BARRELL.

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printers.

VOLUME 1.

SPRINGFIELD, APRIL, 1856.

NUMBER 4.

## The Wind and Weather.

The attention of the inquisitive has at various times been called to the efforts of Lieutenant Maury "on the laws that govern the Winds and Currents of the ocean." This gentleman has mapped the sea into physical divisions almost as marked as those of the land. From data of the broadest kind, searching into the records of countless ships, of the past and present, over every track that they can swim, he has gathered information that now begins to be woven into the practical purposes of the mariner. Mr. Redfield, an eminent philosopher, had demonstrated pretty clearly that tempests, hurricanes, were like the little whirlwind that eddies through our streets, sometimes assuming destructive force in the forest, and then upon the sea, magnified into much larger dimensions, sweeping with its majestic power over vast spaces of the ocean.

Mr. Espy, another eminent investigator in the same field, held that these tempests, instead of being whirlwind, rotary, moved—that is, the wind of which they were composed, and not the body of the gale—directly toward the centre; and there was not much of practical effect, like the overthrowing of trees or dismasting of ships, that could disprove the theory. Still we think it has been generally abandoned. If upon the sea large storms can be resolved into their definite shapes; if their approach can be foretold; the direction from whence they come; the preparation, either of escape or the more snug security of the ship, be provided for, then why not apply this knowledge to atmospheric changes on the land? Lieut. Maury is endeavoring to do this, and we may hope that human insight will ulti-

mately determine, by the telegraphic wire, what weather we may expect at any given time, by comparing notes with other places. The sagacious mind of Dr. Franklin observed that north-east storms on the American coast commenced earlier in Philadelphia than they did in Boston; and we believe this holds good with that description of gales. The lower animals are endowed with great insight into the changes of the weather, and a gale has been predicted at sea by the antics of a stupid goat about the decks. Why, then, cannot man throw off his grossness, his dim perceptions, and interpret the Maker's designs, in the elements around him, with a little more interest than he has yet shown? Lieut. Maury proposes to assist the farmers and other investigators of this country in these researches. His purpose is simply, we imagine, to create an interest, to gather facts, trace effects, determine results, by which the book of nature may be better elucidated. In the west of Europe, the British Islands, Norway, the westerly winds, charged with the vapors of the ocean impinge against the cliffs and headlands and discharge themselves in copious showers.—The general configuration of the land, deep inlets with bold sides, rapid tides drawing with them the different air currents, all facilitate fickleness and change, in the weather and frequent rain. In Oregon, the climate is of much the same character, modified, however, by a more even outline of country. The mercury in the barometric scale, in these regions, more especially in the former countries, will subject itself to a change of several inches in the 24 hours. In the eastern U. States, the south-east winds in-

volve the greatest amount of atmospheric disturbance. In these gales, two conditions of atmosphere of most opposite character come together, and the conflict that ensues, to restore the equilibrium, is both grand and interesting.

At the westward of the Alleghanies the weight of the atmosphere is more uniform, and the barometer ceases to be an instrument of attention to the common observer.

Nature is full of observation, the sea, the air, the earth. The clouds, the wind, the rain, the frost, the dew, are a handwriting, and as man goes forth to his work, may he not discern it, and help exalt his toil out of the curse to which it was doomed? No tree, or shrub, or plant, or flower, is a silent spectator of the universe. The sun and light have unknown powers. The human frame wilts in dark and shaded rooms, and narrow streets and cellars. Houses should not be screened from the sun, and light, and wind, but the trees and shrubbery, placed at a little distance, is better. "The moon, the long autumnal harvest moon, that sweeps her lengthened arch over the northern regions, ripens their grain, and bleaches the housewife's linen," says Robert Mundie; but philosophers, fond of exact science, look with disdain upon this planet, and her emanations as regards action on the weather.

These remarks are rather discursive; and we regret we cannot, in this number, publish a synopsis of Lieut. Maury's plan or modes of procedure; but we are clear in this, that a knowledge of natural phenomena, of the effects of temperature and pressure of the atmosphere, of heat and moisture, on which the life of man, and brute, and plant depend, would enable us to provide more confidently for the exigencies of our condition, and intellectually and morally lift us in the scale of being.

~~RE~~ The Pension Office has recently received eight hundred and seventy-six dollars and forty-two cents, collected by the Marshal of the Eastern District of the State of Virginia, on an execution in favor of the United States, for money illegally obtained from the office upon forged or fraudulent paper.

### Educate the Woman.

It is regarded as a fixed fact that there are few cases known to the world where a man has become eminent in any calling who had not for his mother a superior woman. The exceptions to this rule are few and far between. How important then that woman should be properly trained and educated?

Education is not merely to learn the various branches taught in schools,—her own native language, foreign languages, music, and painting. These are all well enough in their places; some of them are essential;—but especially should she be taught that kind of education which would enable her, if Providence should so decide, that in after years, she would be able to see and know that the business in which she might be interested, was well and properly conducted, so that she would not be at the mercy of others. In a word, if she had an incompetent husband, she could lend to him a helping hand, in advice, in judgment and in financial matters; and further, if it should be her fortune, in after years, to be a widow, with children, she would be able to perform, all the duties that would fall upon her in taking the charge of their education.

These things are essential. The foundation of this knowledge must be obtained in early years. And there is still another branch of education of equal importance to her, and to those who look to her for the performance of those duties which belong to a competent mother—we mean physical education. While we educate and train the immortal spirit that inhabits this earthly tabernacle, we must not forget the important part which belongs to our bodies, to give to that spirit its greatest and necessary power of usefulness.

Much of the frailties of our physical systems are chargeable to others than ourselves, and much of those remaining, to our own improper physical education. Some of the fashions of the day in dress—every day habits of living—entail many of those evils which follow during the whole course of our lives. We need not particu-

larize. The intelligence of our readers does not require it.

While the mind is educated, no pains should be spared to produce a full physical development. Children can be made useful and habits of industry fixed upon them, without overtaxing their physical powers. This latter thing should never be done. Observe the girl in the country, who performs certain household duties, who runs about the farm and the gardens and the yards, who places herself on the horse and canters away to a neighbor's or to church, who is useful at all times at home, and who has a healthful system that enables her to give the powers of her mind to any subject required; and say whether there can be too much attention paid to the physical system?

Do our best in cities, there cannot be too much out-door exercise for females.— Let them enjoy the pure air as it comes upon our cities from the prairies. Let them not be afraid to know how to cultivate the flowers in their gardens, as well as learn the names and habits of the plants. Let them not be afraid of a little earth upon their fingers, or a little perspiration on the face. The last is needed for health, and to the first we are all tending.

But we cease this short essay. Woman, it is said, and especially when young, desires to render herself beautiful and estimable in the eyes of man. There are men who know how to value the high qualities we are contending for in woman; they have sense enough to observe them, and woman's ambition and happiness, are best consulted when they can secure the admiration and love of such men.

**ONE WAY TO KEEP EGGS.**—Eggs can be kept, it is said, by packing them in raisin boxes, and turning them over once a week. This keeps the yolk in the middle of the albumen. So long as this is done the eggs will be likely to keep, at least for some months. Hens understand this fact, for when setting, they turn over their eggs daily.

There are now living in Massachusetts eighteen clergymen whose ages range from 73 to 92 years.

### Annual Flowering Plants.

**CULTURE OF THE PANSY.**—The Pansy or Heart's Ease, is a most beautiful flowering plant, when a good stock is cultivated in perfection. This is not difficult to be done. In the first place it will be borne in mind that the varieties which spring up and grow wild without care in our gardens, are no more to be compared to the improved varieties, than the wild rose of the prairie with the best cultivated variety of the garden. To begin right, good seed should be obtained. These can usually be had at the seed stores. The best seed comes from France and England. Having procured seed, in order to have the plants come into flower early, it can be sowed in pots, in nicely prepared mould, and placed in a sunny window, with a pane of glass laid over the pot.— This can be done about the middle of March. When the weather is suitable, the plants can be transplanted into borders or beds, where the ground is shaded a part of the day, and the plants should be covered with a pot for a few days to protect them from the burning sun. The plants should be placed about a foot apart. When they commence growing well, you have only to keep the ground clear of weeds. Save the seed of the best and most beautiful plants. This is a favorite annual flowering plant among florists.

**PHLOX DRUMMONDI.**—This is an annual Phlox, from Texas. It was named in honor of Drummond, a distinguished botanist.— The fate of poor Drummond has often been referred to. In pursuit of his profession in South America, he slung his hammock, and went into it to repose for the night. In the morning his almost naked skeleton was found, he having been killed and eaten by some animal of the forest. The Phlox Drummondii is of easy culture. The common varieties have been cultivated in our gardens. New and better varieties have been introduced by florists. These have furnished seed which will produce flowers of equal beauty. The seed can be sown and plants reared, and planted out, as recommended for the pansy, if early flowers

ars desired. The plants should be transplanted so as to be at least six inches apart.

**ROCKET LARKSPUR.**—The double Rocket Larkspur, which grows some 12 inches high, with its varied tints, from white to the darkest purple, is one of our most beautiful annuals. The Larkspurs are among the hardy annuals—that is, the seed can even be sown in autumn, when it is desired that they shall come into flower early. In order to a full development of the beauties of this flower, the seed must be put into good ground and the plants should be thinned to at least six inches apart. They may be transplanted from seed beds; but as they have only a single root, this is a work of some uncertainty, and they do better when the seed is sown where it is intended the plants shall remain.

**CANDYTUFT.**—A great many colors have been produced from the Candytuft, and the flower in later years has been much improved. For early flowers, the seed must be sown early; but to prolong the flowering season, they may be sown from the middle of April to the middle of June. As in all cases of flowering plants, should be thinned out so as not to be nearer each other than six inches. By gathering seeds carefully, the varieties may be increased, and the flowers improved.

**PETUNIAS.**—These plants have been introduced but for a few years. The originals were white and red. By hybridizing, a good many varieties have been obtained, and the flowers increased in size and beauty.—There are many handsomely striped with white and red. These plants are most appropriately placed in clumps. They should at least be not less than eight or ten inches apart. They will even then soon cover the ground. The petunia blossoms the whole season. In green houses, the plant becomes woody, and will last two years or more.

**PORTULACA.**—This is now a very common flower. It is almost a nuisance in some gardens. It is, however, beautiful, when properly managed. The self-sown seeds will produce plants for early flowers; but if you desire to have these flowers in perfec-

tion in the autumn months, seed must be sown late. The plants should not be crowded. There are now several varieties—white, pink, scarlet and yellow, and some intermediate shades.

We shall continue this description of fine annual flowering plants.

#### The Ash as a Prairie Tree.

From some experiments made by Mr. John McConnell, near this city, we are impressed with the belief that the common Ash tree of the country, will grow well on our prairies. They are beautiful trees, grow as fast as the locust, and for many purposes are a valuable timber. Some young trees taken by him from the bottoms are thriving well, and he has found that the seed of the Ash can be gathered with little difficulty, and that when planted, it will sprout and grow readily. He has collected a quantity of the seed, and the coming season designs to make an extensive experiment,—if experiment it be.

We cannot but believe that our nurserymen would find it a profitable business to grow forest trees, in large numbers, for sale. The Ash can be raised as cheaply and easily as the Osage Orange. How many tens of thousands of ash trees would be purchased, and planted out on our prairies the coming season, if they could be had at \$2 and \$2 50 per thousand?

But we would by no means confine our prairie farmers to the ash tree for groves and timber. The yellow poplar can be propagated easily; and so can the chestnut, the oak, the black walnut, the beech, the maple, and many other trees.

There is a deep interest felt in this matter all over the prairie portions of our state; and our readers will hereafter hear often from us on the subject.

 If you have great talents, industry will improve them; if moderate abilities, industry will supply the deficiencies. Nothing is denied to well directed labor; nothing is ever to be attained without it. Remember a man's genius is always in the beginning of life as much unknown to himself as to others—and it is only after frequent trials attended with success, that he dare think himself equal to the undertakings in which those who have succeeded have fixed the admiration of mankind.

### Fruit.

Apples are the great and reliable fruit crop of this state. The interest taken by our farmers in planting out orchards, suggests the question—Is the raising of apples likely to be overdone in Illinois?

We think not, and for these obvious reasons: There are not at present in Illinois a tenth part of the number of bearing orchards required; and of these a good many are seedling orchards, and their fruit is of little value. There is at this time a great demand for good fruit. Last year there were fair crops, and at this time through all Central Illinois the prices of apples range about one dollar per bushel, for those of good varieties and in good order. The population of our state is increasing at a greater rate than one hundred thousand a year, and it is scarcely possible that orchards can be increased faster than the wants of our increasing population will demand. When there is a surplus of fruit, it can be made a profitable business to farmers to feed it out to stock. But it will be long before good fruit need be used for this purpose. We repeat that apples are the great and reliable fruit of Illinois. It seldom or ever happens that this fruit is entirely cut off in any extensive part of our state. Apples seem to be in a soil and climate peculiarly fitted for their full development in Illinois; indeed, the apples of Illinois cannot be excelled for their beauty and size, and we think for flavor, in any part of the United States. A fruit grower in New York informed the writer that the varieties of apples grown here were twenty per cent. larger than the same varieties in that state; but he contended they were not equal to those of his state in flavor. This point we will not discuss. Our convictions are different, and, at least, the flavor of the fruit here satisfies us.

Apples are as profitable fruit for cultivation and sale. A farmer in this county, the last fall, had some trees which bore fifty bushels of apples each; and he readily sold them, (the purchaser furnishing barrels,) at forty cents per bushel. He preferred sell-

ing them at this rate in large quantities, to selling them in lesser lots of a few bushels at higher prices. Manifestly this farmer's orchard, was the most profitable portion of his farm.

The present is the proper time for making arrangements for work the coming season, and, to many, one portion of that work should be the planting of orchards. And in the first place, the proper site for the orchard should be selected. It, at least, should be dry, warm ground, where the roots of trees would not be likely to stand in water during the winter season. Technically, "the land should have a dry bottom." A moderately high and rolling piece of ground would be the best for the orchard.

The trees for planting should be of good size; three or four years old; with strong and stout bodies, and good roots. Bruised and broken roots should be cut off; and the tops should be trimmed to correspond with the loss of roots. Care should be taken to plant out the trees well. A hole larger than the ground to be occupied by the roots of the tree, should be dug; the surface earth should be made fine and when the tree is put into position in the ground, it should be carefully thrown upon the roots so that every fibre should come in contact with the fine earth. The hole should be partly filled, and the earth pressed on to the roots. The filling should then be completed, and mulching about the tree, with coarse manure, or other proper article, would finish the work. Water need not be put about the roots when transplanting, unless the soil is dry. The work of transplanting thus done,—the trees being good and perfect,—they will be almost certain to live and flourish, and to pay the farmer for all the extra trouble he may give himself in planting them.

The nursery lists furnish the names of a large variety of apple trees. But we would suggest, that while for family purposes the farmer may grow a large variety of apples, that for purposes of sale he should limit himself to the cultivation of a few varieties, and those of the best for that pur-

pose. The very largest apples are not the most saleable, nor are they the best. The trees which produce apples less than the medium size, bring the best and largest crops. Mr. Pell, living near the North river, has an orchard of 20,000 trees in bearing. They are all of the Green Newtown Pippin variety. He exports the fruit largely to Europe.

One hundred apple trees will make a good farm orchard—designed for the wants of a family, and when they produce well, for feeding stock. Planted at forty feet apart, it will require twenty-seven trees for the acre. So that 100 trees will occupy about four acres of land. Of these some should be early summer apples, some late summer, some early autumn, and late winter, even carrying the fruit season into June, or when the new crop comes in. This can be done by a proper selection of trees. If well taken care of; if the ground is cultivated about the trees; cattle not suffered to injure them; the ground kept in good order; such an orchard in a few years will yield rich returns;—and if the supply of fruit should be greater than needed, our towns and villages will furnish a ready market for the surplus.

An orchard designed to produce fruit for sale, should not embrace too many varieties. Purchasers prefer to have different varieties in separate lots. Medium sized apples are most profitable for the farmer to raise, as well as for the purchaser to buy. And, indeed, there are varieties of apples less than the medium size which we should prefer to large fruit. We know of no better fruit for our taste than the Detroit Red. It is of high aromatic flavor, and of a size somewhat larger than the fruit known here as the "Little Romanite." It is in our opinion, much superior to that fruit, and also to the Milam. But there are different tastes, and twenty varieties will be ample, and we would say more than sufficient for a large orchard, the fruit of which is designed for sale. There are varieties which are favorites in localities in different states; and immigrants here are desirous to obtain fruits which were familiar to them in other

days, and which are connected with interesting recollections. This taste should be indulged to some extent; but it ought to be borne in mind that there are some eastern varieties of the apple that do not produce satisfactorily in the western states, and where they do, the fruit does not possess the same qualities that it does in eastern localities. The Rhode Island Greening, a good late winter apple east, becomes a fall and early winter apple here. Some eastern apples, however, preserve here their distinctive character.

**RAISING OF ONIONS.**—There is too small an amount of this valuable esculent raised to meet the demands for home consumption. In our own city, there have been few on sale for the last six months. They are undoubtedly, for most persons, a nutritious and healthy vegetable. Cultivated properly and on suitable grounds, they are cheaply raised. In localities in the eastern states, they have been raised for more than a century for market purposes, and in large quantities. Fifty cents per bushel—even thirty-seven and a half cents per bushel—there, is considered a good price; and that, too, where the ground is worth from one to two hundred dollars an acre, and where the land must be annually and heavily manured. Onions, different from most vegetables, can be raised on the same ground, always, provided it is kept constantly enriched by manure in sufficient quantities.

We could give the peculiar mode of growing onions in the east; but our readers will be content with a few particulars. A piece of light loamy ground is chosen; it is made very rich by rotten manure from the cattle yard or hog pen. It must be entirely "rotten," when it will be free from grass and other seed. It is carefully and evenly spread. We have seen it spread on the ground four to six inches deep. The ground is then well plowed and the manure covered up at least six or eight inches deep. It is well pulverised with the harrow. Then the beds are laid off three and a half feet wide. The process of "making the garden" thus proceeds. The earth from the edges of the

beds is thrown into the centre; the clods are broken with a wooden instrument made for the purpose. This is followed by an iron tooth rake and the soil made very fine. The rows are then marked out. This is done by a four tooth wooden rake. The teeth of this rake are made quite large, nearly as large as small harrow teeth, placed eight inches apart, and the rake is sufficiently heavy to make a drill or impression in the ground an inch or more deep. The rows are made across the bed. The sower then proceeds to sow the seed by sprinkling it in the drills. He can cover it with the hand, or with the head of a rake. All this is done as soon as the ground is in fit order for sowing—about the first of April—not later than the last of April.

When the onions are about two inches high, they are hoed and wed by hand. The small and young weeds are picked out from among the onions, and fresh earth brought up to them. This is repeated at intervals of a fortnight or more, three times, when wed the last time onions are in the way of maturing.

When the tops become dry and fall, the onions are ready to gather, and soon will be ready for market. This gathering is done by hand, and their tops are cut off so as to leave but about an inch and a half on the onions. They are divided into sorts. The most beautiful and well shaped are selected for seed, the smaller are selected to be planted for early onions the next spring, the "scullions," (those which are green and do not form the onion at the bottom,) are cast away, and the rest are made ready for market.—Immense numbers of onions thus grown, are sold in the New York city market.

This statement of eastern culture will be more curious than useful to western readers. In our prairie country, we can grow the best onions with very little labor. They will grow well on prairie land the second year after breaking it, making large yields, with comparatively small cost. The land will then be free from weeds. The seed can be sowed broadcast, very thin; if the

onions are four inches apart, the better.—But the seed must be covered. Much pains must be taken to do this; and without further culture, usually, there will be immense crops of large, tender, well-flavored onions.

The seed to be used ought to be that denominated "Large red Wethersfield Onion." Other Onion seeds no doubt will answer.—When the onions are ripe, which will be known when their tops become dry, they must be gathered, sorted and taken from exposure to the weather. Thereafter they must be kept cool and dry, to prevent sprouting in the winter. To keep them in good order will require a well ventilated, cool cellar, or some room above ground which does not freeze.

Onions, in large quantities, can be made a profitable crop in the west, and no better ground can be found in the world on which to grow them, than our prairies. Six hundred and fifty bushels of onions have been grown to the acre.

#### Testimony for the West.

The venerable Dr. HIRCHCOCK, Professor of Geology in Yale College, visited and lectured in several of the western cities the last winter. On his return to the East, in a communication to the *Boston Congregationalist*, he gave his impressions of his western tour. Passing over his description of western scenery—the gorgeous appearance of the frozen lakes, and of "the frost work on the prairies"—"the freshness and airiness of western cities," "their finished aspect,"—"the extent of elegant private and public mansions and enormous hotels, not inferior to any found in the East"—"the broad scale and wide-awake energy that characterizes western men"—he proceeds to remark in reference to the cities he visited—Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, Milwaukee and Cincinnati:—

"And what shall we say of the future of these cities? I could not see, as I passed over the vast plains of the West, why almost every rod is not capable of high cultivation. How dense, then, may the population become, one or two hundred years hence! I do not believe that any country on the

globe can sustain more. And the cities must keep pace with the country.

I confess that the grand scale on which nature exhibits herself in the West, and the correspondent progress of human improvement, gave quite an expansion to my ideas. Never before had I visited any region where I did not feel that it would be out of place and of harmony with existing nature, to find alive any of the old monsters of geological times, such as the Iguanodon, the Ichthyosaurus, the Otoroum, or the Dinosaurium. But it would hardly have surprised me to see them start up along some of the lakes and rivers of the West.

I believe that character is powerfully influenced by surrounding scenery as well as moral agencies. When any thing is on a grand scale in nature, and human enterprise corresponds in magnitude, it is much more difficult for a man to be mean, dishonorable and tricky, than in reversed circumstances. This is my theory to explain the fact, that during my tour of 3,000 miles, I met with no instance of meanness, or a disposition to filch from me more than was reasonable, till I had nearly reached home, when the dirty imp, inordinate selfishness, again thrust forward its harpy fingers. I do not doubt that there are unprincipled and low lived men at the West; but Providence spared me the pain of meeting them, and did allow me to meet a great many Christian gentlemen."

On his reception in the West, the Rev. Professor thus handsomely remarks:

"I ought to add more, and say that I have not met anywhere else with such generous hospitality. In Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Columbus, I accepted invitations to stay with refined Christian families, and their efforts to meet, and ever anticipate my every want, showed such warm hearted kindness and generosity, as is given only to intimate friends, but which was to me most grateful, especially in such severe weather, and in feeble health. And similar kindness was shown me by all with whom I had intercourse, so that I could not but inquire, have the most liberal minded and generous hearted of New England's sons and daughters left us and gone West? (most of those I met were from New England,) or is there something at the West that tends to develop kindness and liberal hospitality? I tried to believe in the latter theory."

We hope that the venerable Professor will be spared to visit the West again. We

would be glad to see him introduced to cities of less note than those he has named. He would find them scattered over our prairies in every direction; and the sight of them, and their rapidly growing importance, would impress him more deeply, if possible, than he now is, of the great future of the West.

#### Ayrshire Cattle.

The cows of this stock of cattle, are famed for their milking qualities. They derive their name from the county of Ayrshire, in Scotland. They are supposed to be a cross between the Durham and the Alderney. They are now scattered over England in large numbers. There are but few comparatively in the United States. It is estimated that a good Ayrshire cow will yield two or three months after having her calf, five gallons of milk daily; for the next three months, three gallons daily, and a gallon and a half for the next three months. This milk is calculated to afford about two hundred and fifty pounds of butter annually, or five hundred pounds of cheese. This estimate is made for cows of the best class.

The Ayrshire is by no means handsome stock; but still, for the dairy, is just the stock needed here; and we are glad to say there is an importation of this stock in Sangamon county. Mr. S. SPANGLER, who has recently purchased a farm in Round Prairie, six miles east of Springfield, has some of this Ayrshire stock. His object is to improve the breed of milch cows. We welcome such spirited and intelligent farmers to our state. They will be eminently useful in advancing her agricultural interests.

**A MAGAZINE OF DEATH.**—The grounds to the United States Arsenal, at Baton Rouge, La., embrace an area of twenty seven miles. In the three magazines there are 30,000 pounds of powder and 9,000 rounds of cartridges for small arms and cannon. The storehouses contain 35,000 muskets, rifles, carbines and pistols, 2,500 sabers, 100 cannons, 600,000 cannon balls and shells, 30,000 pounds canister, and accoutrements for 100,000 men. The total value of the land, building, with contents, is over \$61,000,000.

**"Boys! Stick to the Farm!"**

A fine looking, robust lad, some sixteen years of age, came into the "Agricultural Implement and Seed Store of Francis & Barrell," a few days ago, and wanted a situation as clerk. On conversing with this lad,—who was from the country,—in which conversation he frankly explained to us his motive for leaving the "hard work of the farm for the pleasanter business of selling goods," we said to him, as the result of considerable experience and some observation, in the sincerity of our heart, "Boy! stick to the farm!"

These words are suggestive of several interesting reflections:

That the children of farmers evince a strong inclination to break away from the profession of agriculture, and betake themselves to some mode of life by which they may be enabled to reside in the *town or city*. This is a fact of almost daily observation. Is it right that this spirit of discontent with the pursuits of rural life should be indulged in? In general, the answer to be given is, no. The rule is, "Boys, stick to the Farm;" the exception is, "Boys, leave the Farm."

The reason for this rule is, that farming is not less remunerative, not less honorable, nor less useful, virtuous and patriotic than any other calling of life.

But another suggestion offered by the above injunction is, can anything be done to render the sons of farmers more inclined to handle the plow and subsist by the labors of the field? The answer is, give them books, periodicals, schools, and in general, a sufficiency of all the appliances by which the sons of other people are instructed, enlightened and elevated in the scale of human honor and excellence. Some men think of no other means of honor and respectability for their children but money; and to acquire the desired treasure, the children are early put to work, without even time enough to obtain a decent education in the neighboring common school; and, more fully to carry out the great idea of hoarded treasures as the highest good, no

money must be spent for books, no newspaper or literary periodical must invade the circle of the farmer's family. O no! nothing of the kind; nor must any of the household be allowed to read the history of his country, or his race; much less, the current transactions of commerce, mechanics, politics, philosophy, and the stirring activities of the millions of mankind around him. No wonder, farmer's boys become restless amidst the monotony of their unenlightened homes in the country, uncheered by the lights of literature and learning everywhere else so highly prized. If farmers would keep their boys in the noble pathway of honorable tillage, they must not strive to make mere earthworms of them by dooming them to hopeless intellectual death and darkness.

Another reflection is, that when a farmer's boy evinces a strong taste and a decided aptitude for the mercantile, mechanical, legal or other pursuit, he should be allowed to follow the "bent of his genius."

It is not desirable, under a government like ours, that trades and professions should become hereditary. A mixing up and dovetailing, together of all the social elements, physical differences, and professional pursuits among our people, will tend to a far nobler civilization than ever was produced by the caste-ships of Hindostan, ancient Egypt, Carthage or Greece. Not shame of his calling, nor a morbid ambition for some other; but peculiar aptitude for a different calling, may incline the youthful follower of the plow to seek a change of profession. God was the first cultivator:—"He planted a garden eastward in Eden."

**Plow Deep!**

A great revolution is taking place in the public mind in regard to deep plowing. A newly settled farmer in this country, who purchased a farm that had been in cultivation for several years, found that the earth at the depth of about five inches on his plowed land, had never been disturbed by the plow. It was soft above, but below it was so hard that neither roots of corn or

grass could penetrate it but with difficulty. He found that when there were heavy rains, the surface would be soft, "a loblolly," and when the drought reached below where the earth had been stirred, the ground appeared to be of the consistency of dried brick, and vegetation showed the effects of it.

It should be the policy of the farmer, in our humble opinion, so to prepare his grounds, and put in his seed, as to place, as far as he can, the success of his crops beyond the casualties of weather. He can do this to a considerable extent.

The objection made in some parts of the country to deep plowing, that it throws up a worthless sub-soil, cannot well apply here. Dr. Roe, eminent as a geologist, says that our sub-soil, will make as fertile a soil as the surface earth, when exposed to the action of the weather; and besides, it will require very deep plowing, in the generality of cases, to reach the sub-soil. We have known of instances of deep plowing on our prairies, where the land had been in cultivation for years, attended with the most profitable results.

Deep tillage has this advantage. If the season should be dry, the roots of plants will run down to reach moisture. If the season be wet, the moisture is likely to sink into the ground, and be less injurious to vegetation than when near the surface.

#### Culture of the Strawberry.

We have seen no better plan than the following, which is copied from the Ohio Farmer, for the cultivation of the strawberry. The article was first published in that paper in 1852. Strawberry plants can be had at most nurseries. See advertisements of nurseries in the advertising pages of this paper.

Seven or eight years since, I made three strawberry beds in the month of April, using chip manure pretty plentifully, but no other kind. The soil was a clay loam. The beds were made about 36 inches in width, and the plants set about ten inches apart each way, three plants making a row across a bed. I left a space between the beds of about 15 inches for a path and made the beds narrow, that one might reach to the middle easily to pick the fruit without trampling the vines.

About the time the vines were well growing, I

had completed some house building, and having a quantity of short boards of little or no value, I thought I would try if they could not be made useful in preventing the running and matting of the strawberry vines, as I was aware they were prone to run "before they were sent." The beds were made and planted thus, as in Fig. 1.

No. 1.



PATH.



No. 2.

I then selected boards of about eight inches in width, and sawed them of a length to just reach across the bed, and placed them between the rows as in Fig. 2, leaving the plants standing in a two inch space running crosswise of the bed.

I had a more than medium crop the first season, and before the summer was over the creepers had taken root in the two inch spaces and formed a drill across the bed every ten inches, and to this day continue the same, growing so compactly as to keep out grass and weeds, and yet with a space of ten inches for the roots of each drill to run under the boards, flourishing as finely and bearing as abundantly as the second season, and far more abundantly than any other vines I have ever seen upon the same space of ground.

The only labor the beds have required since is to hoe out the creepers from the paths every spring, and even that might be avoided by placing a board in the path. One hour's labor has sufficed per year so far to keep the beds in perfect order.

After May, there is nothing seen of the boards for the vines are nearly ten inches high, and fall each way from the drills, covering the boards completely.

We had an excellent crop, as abundant as ever. "the dry summer," the boards keeping the ground underneath always damp. Frost has never destroyed, and seldom injure the crop, as the boards obtain heat from the sun during the day, which they impart during the night.

The boards gradually decay and furnish the manure the plants most like, and last though not least, one can go after the hardest thunder storm and pick clean fruit, free from sand or soil. And such a beautiful sight it is to part the vines when they meet over the boards in miniature arches, and reveal the rich clustering fruit!

 The Price Current Cincinnati publishes full returns of the pork trade in the West, and also of the shipments East. The increase in the number packed up to the present time, as compared with last year, is 343,000: and the increase in the shipment East, 155,000.

 The land sales of the Illinois Central Railroad Company for January and February amounted to \$251,000, notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather.

 The construction of the Alton and R. Island railroad is still agitated along the proposed route.

 The wool clip of Michigan, last year, was 2,948,821 pounds, worth \$1,035,398.59.

**Hints on Transplanting.**

Messrs. LEWIS ELLSWORTH & Co., have an extensive nursery at Naperville, DuPage county, Illinois. Their advertisement will be found in the advertising department of this paper. They have a very extensive stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants, for sale.

They recommend the following plan for transplanting out young trees for orchards. To those who are putting out apple trees for orchards the present spring, the plan thus recommended, if followed, will be worth twenty times the yearly subscription of this periodical. The old adage that "what is worth doing at all, is worth doing *well*," cannot be applied to any matter with more truth than that of planting out trees.

First, The soil for planting an orchard should be well prepared, by deep and frequent ploughing. Too many, in transplanting trees are indifferent as to the manner in which it is done; saving of time is the great consideration, a "penny wise, and pound foolish course." A tree will not thrive, unless carefully set out.

Second, It requires two persons to plant a tree properly; one to hold it in its place, the other to place the dirt around the roots.

Third, The hole for setting a tree in, should be dug from eighteen inches to two feet in depth, and from two to three feet broad, depending on the sub-soil, which, if clay, should be deep. Small stones, or what is better, bones, if you have them, should be thrown into the bottom of the hole, from six to ten inches in depth; fill up the hole with rich, mellow earth so as to fit the roots.—The trees should stand about as deep as in the nursery.

Fourth, Prune off all the ends of the roots, by a smooth sloping cut from the underside outward; immerse the roots in water, and place the tree where you wish it to stand, with the roots in their natural position. (Trees, except dwarfs, should not be planted in the orchard, deeper than they stood in the nursery; most orchards are injured by planting too deep. For a guide observe forest trees, their roots near the top, and the color above the ground.) Cover with rich pulverized earth, and press the dirt around the roots with the fingers, filling all the cavities. The practice of some to work the tree up and down, is very objectionable, as it draws the roots up, and in pressing them back, the smaller ones become more or less doubled up. When the hole is two-thirds filled, pour on from one half to one pail full of water; wait until it settles away, then finish filling up with earth, pressing it firmly with the foot from the outside of the hole towards the body of the tree, then throw on half a wheelbarrow load of long manure, loose litter or bones, extending from the tree each way, from twelve to twenty-four inches, according to the size of the tree. This will protect the roots from the action of the frost, if planted in autumn, and drought in summer, if planted in the spring. In no case should manure be mixed with the earth placed around the roots. Manure placed upon the top of the ground, will

impart its fertilizing qualities to the roots, by the aid of rains.

Fifth, Trim up a tree to four or five limbs, suitable to form a head, and then cut back one half last year's growth; where there are no limbs, the tree should be cut back to a height proper to form a top, remembering that in this western country, low heads are preferable. Trees planted in autumn should not be pruned until spring.

Sixth, If trees arrive during frosts they should be put under cover, or in a cellar is preferable.— If they are dry lay them down in a trench, wet and cover them with earth; keep them in this situation from six to twelve days, according to circumstances, when they will be restored.

TABLE showing the number of Trees required to plant an Acre. From 1 to 50 feet apart.

Feet.	Trees.	Feet.	Trees.	Feet.	Trees.	Feet.	Trees.
1.....	43560	14.....	222	26.....	64	38.....	30
2.....	10890	15.....	193	27.....	59	39.....	28
3.....	4840	16.....	170	28.....	55	40.....	27
4.....	2722	17.....	150	29.....	51	41.....	26
5.....	1742	18.....	130	30.....	48	42.....	24
6.....	1210	19.....	120	31.....	45	43.....	23
7.....	889	20.....	108	32.....	43	44.....	22
8.....	680	21.....	98	33.....	40	45.....	21
9.....	537	22.....	90	34.....	37	46.....	20
10.....	435	23.....	82	35.....	35	47.....	19
11.....	360	24.....	75	36.....	32	48.....	18
12.....	302	25.....	69	37.....	31	49.....	18
13.....	257					50.....	17

**Potatoes—Culture in the East.**

A writer in the Country Gentleman, after giving an account of an experiment in growing potatoes, states the following as the plan he will adopt for the purpose the present year. We have no idea that Illinois farmers will follow the "improved plan" proposed. It is curious enough; and furnishes some evidence of the labor and cost of making a crop of potatoes in some parts of the country known as "down east."

"I will now state the mode of culture I intend to pursue next season. I do it in time, so that if any objections be made to it, I can have an opportunity to correct my plan before planting time. I have a field of five acres—an old pasture the clover pretty much run out. The stone have all been taken off, having dug it over with the crowbar some 7 or 8 years since. I intend to plow deep early in the spring, and turn the furrow as flat as can be conveniently be done, so as to destroy all vegetation. Soon as the top of the furrows become dry and loose, to harrow the field with a short tooth harrow, so as not to invert the sod, and to do this as often as once a week until I got ready to plant. Then roll the land with a light two horse roller, so as to obliterate all the marks of the drag teeth. Then with a one horse marker to mark it out both ways in rows 2 feet 9 inches asunder—plant one piece about the size of the butternut in the angles—trow in the hill at the same time, a small handful of plaster, hen manure, guano or ashes, whichever I may have on hand at the time—cover with a hoe not to exceed 1 1/2 inches in depth, making the hill broad and flat, taking care that no roots of grass or weeds be brought round the hill, and all such on the surface to be carefully destroyed. This kind of care would lessen the work of hoeing very materially

—“a stitch in time saves nine. Soon as the tops have fairly broke through the hill, give them another small handful of plaster or other fertilizer, so as to give them the start of any weeds that may chance to have escaped the hoe in planting. As soon as the tops are of good size, and in dry weather, run a shovel plow both ways between the rows; lastly, with the hoe stir all the ground between the rows left by the plow, and the field is done until time to dig. My experience is all in favor of early digging. Observations on this part of the subject must be left till another time. The variety that I cultivate, are just as good for cooking, dug early as late.

G. W. DURANT.  
Rensselaerville, N. Y.

### The Osage Plant for Hedging.

The Osage Orange Plant for hedging, is rapidly making its way in the confidence of the people. We do not believe that a single instance can be found where it has failed to answer the purpose of the cultivator, in which there has not been neglect in its cultivation. It is one of the ten thousand things that succeed with proper attention, and fail when that attention is not given.— So satisfied are we of the great value of the Osage Orange plant for hedging, that we shall often refer to it.

It will be soon time to prepare and plant the seed for the coming crop of plants.— How shall that be done? is the first question to be asked; because a failure in this point, is a total failure.

JAMES M'GREW, of Dayton, Ohio, is an experienced cultivator of the Osage Orange. His experience, however, is like that of others. But his mode of propagating is simple, short, to the point, and we avail ourselves of it; and his after cultivation is given in language which can be comprehended by all. We copy from the Patent Office Report of 1854-5.

#### OF THE SEED.

In cultivating the Osage orange, great care should be taken in the selection of good seed.— The most certain way of testing it is to take a tumbler and fill it two thirds full with warm water; then put sufficient cotton in it to keep the seed you put on it just above the surface. The cotton in this way will keep the seed moist, which will also have the benefit of the air; and if kept in a warm room, it will soon vegetate. It may be necessary to change the water in the tumbler several times in the course of the process.

#### PREPARATIONS OF THE SEED FOR PLANTING.

The best method of sprouting the seeds is as follows. Soak them in warm water from thirty to forty hours; then put them into shallow boxes, not more than 4 or 5 inches deep; to every bushel of seed, put half a bushel of sand, (smaller quantities in the same proportion,) then mix thorough-

ly, keep it in a warm place, and wet it as often as twice a day with tepid water, stirring it well as often as three times in twenty-four hours. The seed should be put to soak from the 15th to the 20th of April, in this latitude. I do not know the precise temperature, but should think from 65 deg. to 75 deg. F. would be about right. Seeds attended to as above, and kept in a warm place at a proper temperature, would sprout sufficiently in ten days, to put into the ground. It will be necessary however, to have the seeds well separated from each other before planting.

#### OF THE PROPER GROUND FOR THE NURSERY BED.

Much care should also be taken in the selection of a good piece of ground for the nursery, or place of sowing the seed. It should be new, fertile, and as free as possible from the seeds of grass and weeds. It should be mellow, rather inclined to moisture, but not subject to “bake.” Good prairie land, which has been broken up the year previous, is undoubtedly preferable. It should be well ploughed, harrowed, and rolled, if necessary.

#### OF THE PREPARATION OF THE GROUND.

When the ground has been prepared as described above, and well pulverised, the seed may be sown by hand in dibbles, or drills, 16 inches apart, at the rate of a quart to each 3 or 4 square rods, which would amount to from 5 to 6 peck- to the acre. The covering of the seed can best be done with light steel rakes. The hands employed in this operation should walk upon the side where the seed is covered, in order that they may draw all the earth one way, to fill the holes or drills.— The spaces between the drills should then be hoed, after which all weeds and grass that may be among the plants should be pulled out by hand. This process of hoeing the spaces between the rows, as well as the weeding should be repeated as often as necessary, in order to keep down the weeds, and the ground loose and in good condition. Then, if the soil be rich, the season favorable, and proper cultivation given to the plants, they will be sufficiently large for removing the following spring.

#### OF THE MODE OF TAKING UP AND PREPARING THE PLANTS.

In removing the plants a subsoil plough may be used to cut them off, the share of which should be of steel, quite large, and as flat as possible.— The depth of its running may be regulated by a wheel in front, at the end of the beam. The plants should be cut off about 8 or 10 inches below the surface of the ground. They may then be gathered in bunches, stored away in some suitable place, with the roots covered to keep them moist, in order that they may afterwards be taken out, assorted, tied into bundles of from fifty to one hundred, with their tops cut off upon a block with a hatchet or an axe, when they will be in readiness for boxing or shipping. In packing them, the boxes should not be too tight, as some air is necessary to prevent the plants from moulding[?] Small boxes, or those of moderate size, are the best, say about 3 feet long and about 18 or 20 inches deep and wide.

#### OF PREPARING THE GROUND FOR THE HEDGE.

Preparatory to setting a hedge, the ground should be thoroughly broken up to a depth of 12 or 14 inches, the “lands” being at least 10 feet wide. By setting the plants in the centre of the “lands” there would be left spaces 5 feet wide on each side to cultivate. When a hedge is to be set along the site of an old fence, the latter should be removed the year previous, and the land broken up and cultivated. After the ground has been fully prepared, the row should be staked off, and a line stretched along its length to work by. The

holes for inserting the plants should be made with a pivoted iron, 12 inches in length, and 3 1/2 inches in diameter, at the top, with a socket into which is inserted a handle, with a pin at the top of the socket, to bear the foot upon in forcing the instrument into the ground in making the holes.— These holes should be about 8 inches apart, into which the plants should be inserted about an inch deeper than they originally grew in the nursery. This being done, the earth should be well packed about the roots.

#### OF CULTIVATION FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF THE HEDGE.

Next comes the operation of cultivating, hoeing, ploughing, &c. The spaces on both sides of the hedge require thorough cultivation, and the ground kept clear of grass and weeds during the season. No stock should be allowed in the enclosure where the hedge is set until after harvest, and not even then, if it can be avoided. After first year the growth will be sufficiently robust for the hedge to protect itself.

#### OF THE AFTER CULTIVATION.

The next spring, or one year after the hedge is set, the plants must be cut off near the ground, below all the buds, just above the top of the roots. The roots will then swell and put out a number of strong shoots near the surface of the ground.— The hedge then needs thorough cultivating until about the middle of June, when it should have another trimming, within two inches of the former cut, and again cultivated as before. By this process of cutting, there is formed at once a strong, firm base, which, if properly carried out, will render success certain. The second spring after transplanting, the hedge may be trimmed 6 or 8 inches above the former cutting, and again in June, 8 inches higher, after which, the latter part of the summer's growth will make it sufficiently strong to answer the purpose of a good fence. After this, trimming once a year will be all that is needed, which should be done in the latter part of summer or early in autumn, before the hardening of the new wood. The first cutting, which will be one year after the hedge has been set, can best be done with a pair of shears made for the purpose. The second cutting can be done with a short heavy bush scythe, hung upon a strong, stiff matke. The cutting of the second year can also be done with a scythe. The best way is to walk along the row with it at the right hand and cut half way to the centre of the row. When arrived at the end, turn about to the right and come back upon the other side of the row and trim off the other half as before. In so doing, the hedge will be cut in an oval shape. Then, by taking a large corn cutter, it can be trimmed into proper form. Great care should be taken to secure a close, strong, firm base. This can be done by allowing the lower branches to extend out in all instances, so as to form a base at the end of the second season, at least 4 or 5 feet wide. The trimming of the third year can be done in the same manner as that of the second. The fourth and subsequent years' trimmings will have to be done monthly with the knife, preserving at all times the shape above described.

We advise our readers to preserve this statement of "the mode of cultivating the Osage Orange for hedges." Mr. M'GREW has upon his farm specimens of Osage Orange hedge which are entirely impassable to stock, most beautiful, commanding the

admiration of all. They have stood all the vicissitudes of the seasons unscathed—the extreme wet of spring and summer, the more extreme drouth, and the excessive cold of winter.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

#### The Illinois Farmer—Effects of Winter on Nursery, Trees, &c.

NAPIERVILLE, March 10, 1856.

S. FRANCIS, Esq:

*Dear Sir:* I have received the first number of the "Illinois Farmer," with which I am much pleased; I congratulate the farmers of our state, especially the central portion, that a Beacon light has sprung up in their midst, and hope that generally they will become subscribers to, and readers of it, and from the store-house of experience, they will contribute their mite to its pages, which with its conducting ability will make it highly interesting and useful.

The weather this winter, is without its precedent for the sudden, extreme and long continued cold. Up to the night of the 22nd of December, we had but very little freezing weather, at nine o'clock that evening the thermometer stood at 32 deg., or at the freezing point, at 6 A. M.; on the 23d at zero, at 7, 3 deg., below zero, and at 8 it stood at 5 deg. below, and continued below zero all that and the next day; on the morning of the 25th 6 o'clock, at 21 deg. below zero the highest point reached that day was 6 deg. below zero; the mercury has been as low as 28 deg. below zero. It is now the 79th day since severe cold weather set in. Five of those days for a few hours the thermometer has been above 32 deg. Six other days it has been for a very short time in each day at 32 deg., and good sleighing constantly, with the exception of here and there where the wind blew the snow off.— Many of the 79 days have been as bright as a clear sky and shining sun could make them.

We have experienced a heavy loss in our Nursery by the destruction of many young trees and shrubs; and I predict that in some cases, large orchard trees will be destroyed. It will have one beneficial effect, *i. e.* to indicate the most hardy varieties, enabling the tree planter to judge what varieties will be the most safe to plant. All overgrown trees will suffer the most seriously. Tree planters must learn by experience that it is not for their interest to purchase overgrown fruit trees; a thrifty, healthy

growth is the safe mode. It will also test the hardiness of the osage orange for a hedge; if that comes out safe this year, there need be no fear of it hereafter.

I may, if desired, give some observations on the particular cause of the destruction of trees, so general this winter; other causes than simply freezing have to do with it.

Please send me the Farmer. I think we shall get up a small club in this place before long.

Respectfully yours,

LEWIS ELLSWORTH.

#### Raising Wheat.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER.—There has been considerable said on the subject of raising wheat, and the question is asked by our Eastern friends, why we do not raise as good wheat in Illinois, as the farmers do in the eastern States. If we do not do this, there can several good reasons be assigned for the failure. It has only been a few years that wheat would pay for raising. We used to haul our wheat to Springfield and sell it for 25 and 30 cents per bushel, and take the pay in store goods. We sometimes hauled it to St. Louis, and got for it there, 40 and 50 cents, and made the trip in eight or ten days, and then thought we were doing well. That day is past and gone.

It has not been but a short time since the large farmer has bought his own flour, rather than raise wheat. He turned all his attention to raising corn and stock, and the little farmer had to do the best he could to make both of the ends of the year meet.—But that time is also past. If our eastern friends knew how our wheat was put in the ground, and on the ground, they would wonder that we raised our own seed.

We have wheat put in, in every fashion that a man can think of, but very seldom in the right way. Some plow in corn, two furrows in a row, and leave half of the seed on the top of the ground; then in the spring it thaws and freezes till it slips out. Well, they get a half a crop. Some cut up their corn, and harrow in the seed without plowing; and I have known some to sow their seed in corn and do nothing to cover it.—Now what can we expect to reap when we farm in this way? That is what has given a wrong impression in regard to our wheat crops. It is the fault of the farmers, and not of the soil.

I would just ask my Ohio friends what crop they would expect to raise if they were to sow wheat on land that has been in corn and oats 30 or 40 years?

If we would summer fallow our grounds and put the same labor on our wheat crops

that farmers do in the east, then we might expect a full crop. It will do to put wheat in new ground almost any way, and you will have a good crop; but the same practice will not answer in old ground.

The present season I raise my twenty-first crop in Illinois, and have never failed to raise enough to pay me for my labor. Last year my wheat averaged twenty-five bushels to the acre.

I would be glad to see some capable person take up this subject of raising wheat, and do it justice; it has been neglected long enough. We lose considerable wheat by not cutting it before it gets too ripe. Last season I tried the experiment of cutting wheat when it was very green, and the grain soft and in the milk; the hands all said I would lose my wheat. I sold the wheat to the Premium Mill of the state, and told the miller to take notice when that wheat floured. He ground it, and he said it was just right for making good flour.

We may expect that wheat will be damaged this year with rust, for some fields were not sown until the ground was frozen. Wheat sown late in rich soil is more loth to rust than when thus sown in poor soil.—Wheat looked well when the snow left it. March is a hard mouth on wheat.

I think if an eastern farmer would pass by a farm in Illinois, and see a man sowing wheat on horseback, among corn, and filled with weeds and grass, he would never ask the question again why we don't raise better wheat. The only trouble I see in Illinois, is, that a man who has lived here a long while, can't keep posted up in regard to all the improvements in farming. When our heavy trade was carried on by means of ox teams, it was an easy matter then to keep up with the times, to keep posted up without an agricultural paper. But it is not so now. I take three papers, and yet I have not too many. A SMALL FARMER.

#### The Blue Bird.

EDITOR OF THE ILLINOIS FARMER:—Wilson's ornithology contains an interesting account of this bird. It is one of the first messengers of spring, bringing the charming tidings to our very doors; he bears his own recommendation always along with him, and meets with a hearty welcome from every body. Though generally accounted as a bird of passage, yet, as early as the middle of February, if the weather is open, he annually makes his appearance. Storms and deep snows succeeding, he disappears for a time; but about the middle of March, if the

temperature is at all favorable, he is again to be seen "When he begins his amours," says a curious and earnest observer "it is cheering to behold his courtship, his solicitude to please and gain the favor of his beloved female. He uses the tenderest expressions, sits down by her, caresses and sings to her his most endearing warblings. When seated together, if he espies an insect delicious to her taste, he takes it up, flies with it to her, spreads his wings over her, and puts it into her mouth." If a rival makes his appearance,—for they are ardent in their love—he quits her in a moment, attacks and pursues the intruder as he shifts from place to place, in tones that bespeak the jealousy of his affection, conducts him with many reproofs beyond the extremities of his territory, and returns to warble out his transports of triumph beside his beloved mate. The preliminaries being thus settled, and the spot fixed on, they begin to clean out the old nest, and to prepare for the reception of their future offspring.

The female lays five, and sometimes six eggs of a pale blue color, and raises two and sometimes three broods in a season; the male taking the youngest under his particular care while the female is again setting. Their principal food are insects, particularly large beetles, and others of the coleopterous kinds that lurk among old, dead, and decaying trees. Spiders are also a favorite repast with them. They also regale themselves on berries and seeds.

The usual spring and summer song of the blue bird is a soft, agreeable and oft-repeated warble, uttered with other quivering musings, and is extremely pleasing. He destroys a multitude of insects. In October his song changes to a plaintive note, as he passes over the yellow covered woods; and its melancholy air recalls to our minds the approaching day of the fall of nature. Even after the trees are stripped of their leaves, he still lingers over his native fields, as if loth to leave them. About the middle or end of November, few or none of them are to be seen; but, with every return of mild and open weather, we hear his plaintive note amidst the fields, or in the air, seeming to deplore the devastation of winter. Indeed, he seems scarcely ever totally to forsake us; but to follow fair weather through all its journeyings, till the return of spring.

As the blue bird is so regularly seen in winter, after the continuance of a few days of mild open weather, it has given use to various conjectures as to the place of his retreat; some supposing it to be hollow trees,

caverns and the like. But this is not the case. He passes to the south; and is seen in Louisiana, Mexico, and even in Central America, in winter.

#### "A Yankee Question."

MR. EDITOR:—I am a new comer from down east, and have located on the Central Railroad. I went on to my land without any improvement, and have been "busy as a nailer" for the last seven months in getting my farm into a condition so that I can pass through the next two years with as little inconvenience as possible. Like all new comers from a great way off, I have been used to all sorts of comforts and superfluities, and you may wonder why I left them! And I could tell you if I chose to do so; but I will not do it now. What I aim at is, to get a good farm, with a garden, orchard and other improvements as soon as possible. And now I want to ask a question, and would be glad if some of your experienced readers would answer it. On a portion of my ground the wild grass is tolerably well eat out: Now, can I break up this ground with a common prairie plow, turning the sward down flat, and follow this prairie plow by another plow, going to the depth of eight inches, and turn this subsoil over the turf, and thus secure at once, suitable land for a good garden, and for planting out an orchard? I am used to plowing deep; but whether in this particular case any advantage would result from it, I have not the experience to determine. We are a fast people, and I confess that I am so far in this fast way as to desire at once to make a good garden out of what I have heard called raw prairie.

There are thousands who are similarly situated with myself on the lines of the Central and Central Branch Railroads; and some information on the "special point" of this communication would be of service to us all.

A NEW COMER.

#### Corn Planted in Drills.

Mr. Editor:—Last season, in traveling over some parts of Logan county, I observed large fields of corn planted in drills, that is, the rows seemed to be about four feet apart, and the stalks in the rows some eight to ten and twelve inches apart. It appeared to me that the corn thus planted did not grow as large as the corn planted in the usual way. It might have been a smaller variety of corn; but the stalks were well set with ears. My present purpose is to enquire of some of your readers if there is any advantage in planting corn in the

way I have described? Does it produce more corn than if planted in the common way?

These are questions of some importance to me; and I hope to hear from one of those persons who have experimented on this subject, in your next publication. Every farmer should be willing, and I have no doubt will be willing, to contribute to the stock of agricultural knowledge whenever it is in his power.

ENQUIRER.

#### What Shall We Do for Roses.

EDITOR OF THE ILLINOIS FARMER:—I find that the wood of my June Roses, as well as the Hardy Perpetual Rose, is killed. The crowns of the roots, however, look well, and I have no doubt will send up strong shoots; but the June roses will not flower the present season. The Perpetual roses will blossom in the fall;—perhaps they will do so in mid summer. But is there no way of obtaining roses to blossom in June?

Syringas, the Scabras, the Spiraeas, Lilacs, some of the Altheas, Japan Quincie and Honeysuckles, are a good deal injured, not seriously I think. I am in hopes the herbaceous flowering plants have stood well;—some of them I am sure have done so.—Some of the Strawberries are killed; Raspberries not protected, have suffered a good deal. A few days of warm weather, will, however, tell the story of the degree of injury which all plants have suffered.

The dwarf pears, and most young pears are all killed. A good many of the peach trees are killed; Young peaches set out last fall, are mostly dead. I do not intend to cut down mine until I learn the extent of the injury. A few years ago many farmers cut down their peach trees, supposing them killed by a severe winter. Others left theirs, and they made good bearing trees afterwards. China, Tea, Bourbon and Noisette roses can be obtained at the Nurseries, and they will blossom during the whole summer.

#### Agricultural Papers and other Matters.

Mr. Editor:—I own to you that when it was first suggested to me to take your paper, I hesitated to do so. I already was taking several papers, and I thought that there was no way of making another paper useful to my family; yet, having been the reader of the paper you published many years, I concluded to take it for "auld lang syne." But I am agreeably disappointed. "The Farmer" is and will be useful in my family. My boys and girls look for its

coming with more anxiety than any publication I receive. It goes at once into their employments, and it has caused more inquiry, more asking of questions in regard to our every day business than is usual with us. I am inclined to think that they are more satisfied with their prospects in being brought up as farmer's boys and farmer's girls than they have been. They seem to desire to make improvements about our home; to make it, as they say, more pleasant, more neat, more comfortable, than it has been before. My boys talk about agricultural machinery, plows, horse-rakes, harrows, corn shellers, as if there was an object in having and using these things.—They talk, too, about seed of new varieties of grain, of corn, of garden vegetables, and they have already collected scious for grafting our old seedling apple trees, and they will this spring, if they can get the trees, set out a small new orchard of selected fruit. They have been sometime talking of the Osage Orange Hedge, and though they were at first opposed to these hedges, I am sure I shall have to get some seed for them this spring, to grow plants to be set out the next spring.

The girls, too, are not behind the boys, they have already their plans made for buying out a front yard and a garden, for their flowers and vegetables; and Dick and Tom have been forced by them to begin to clean up and make things snug and cozy about the house, by removing all the trash, and logs, and broken farming tools away out of sight; and they say they will have a milk room, so that they can make butter and cheese fit for the Fair. They say, too, that they must have a home for their fowls, where they can keep their chickens, and where their fowls can roost, and where they can have their nests; and they have already engaged the eggs of half breed shanghai fowls for setting their hens, for their neighbors tell them that such fowls are a great improvement on our present stock, which have almost run out "by breeding in and in," as we farmers say. The half-breed China fowl is of good size their flesh is good for eating, they will bring more than common fowls dressed to market, and what is better than all, they are great layers,—in fact, where they have a good house for their nests, warm in winter, plenty of feed, with gravel and occasionally a little meat cut up fine, to answer the place of worms and other insects, which they devour in summer, they will lay all winter, when fresh eggs are wanted, and

bring the high price of 30 and 35 cents a dozen.

But I find I am writing you a long letter, and must now cut it short, by just saying, that the education that we had when we were boys is not now what is needed for the rising generation; they must have better education or they will be behind the majority in general intelligence, and especially that intelligence which is, and will be necessary for farmers. I tell my boys so, and my girls too, and I think that our country schools, improved by good teachers, are improving rapidly our children. I do not like, however, the present school law.—In many particulars it is unequal and unfair, and I hope will be so altered as to make it more satisfactory to the people generally.

I have written you a long rambling letter. Do what you please with it. E. P.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

**TO KEEP A STOVE BRIGHT.**—Make weak alum water, and mix your "British Lustre" with it; put two teaspoonfuls to a gill of alum water, let the stove be cold, brush it with the mixture, then take a dry brush and lustre and rub the stove until it is dry. Should any parts before polishing, become so dry as to look gray, moisten with a wet brush and proceed as before. By two applications a year it can be kept as bright as a coach body.

**BEST COUGH MIXTURE.**—The best cough mixture that has ever been made, consists of a pair of thick boots, mixed with lots of fresh air and plenty of exercise. People who hug the stove and grow lean, will please take notice.

**STARCH FOR LINENS.**—I have seen much said about different ways of preparing starch, and have tried many with different success. I like the following as well as any:—Allow one teaspoonful of starch for each bosom, and dilute with cold water, till it is just thick enough to stir well, then pour in boiling water till it is cooked. Boil it from twenty to thirty minutes, and it is ready. I sometimes add a small piece of butter or clean tallow boiling. Care should be taken not to make it first, with cold water.—American Agriculturist.

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**TO RAISE AND KEEP CELERY.**—Celery must be sown early in the spring. As soon as the plants are four or six inches high, then dig a trench one foot deep; put in some good barnyard manure mixed with good earth; then set in your plants about nine inches apart; cover them from the sun three days through the day; as they grow keep filling in earth occasionally until the ditch becomes full, and by this means you can bleach it from twelve to fourteen inches in length.

It must taken up in November, and then prepare a box in your cellar, and put in good earth at one end of box; then lay in your celery, slanting, in rows; then put in earth, so the tops stick out four inches; so continue on till the box is full; water it occasionally during the winter. By this means it can be kept until spring.

**APPLE BREAD.** Take some good boiling apples, boil them till quite soft, pulp them through a sieve, put into a bowl or tub four times their weight of flour, add the yeast, and mix up as for bread, set the sponge twice, bake in tins. This, when nicely done, makes a good, short, sweet and wholesome bread. They will also mix very nicely with a soda cake for tea.

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way I have described? Does it produce more corn than if planted in the common way?

These are questions of some importance to me; and I hope to hear from one of those persons who have experimented on this subject, in your next publication. Every farmer should be willing, and I have no doubt will be willing, to contribute to the stock of agricultural knowledge whenever it is in his power.

ENQUIRER.

#### What Shall We Do for Roses.

EDITOR OF THE ILLINOIS FARMER:—I find that the wood of my June Roses, as well as the Hardy Perpetual Rose, is killed. The crowns of the roots, however, look well, and I have no doubt will send up strong shoots; but the June roses will not flower the present season. The Perpetual roses will blossom in the fall;—perhaps they will do so in mid summer. But is there no way of obtaining roses to blossom in June?

Syringas, the Scabras, the Spiraeas, Liliacs, some of the Altheas, Japan Quincie and Honeysuckles, are a good deal injured, not seriously I think. I am in hopes the herbaceous flowering plants have stood well;—some of them I am sure have done so.—Some of the Strawberries are killed; Raspberries not protected, have suffered a good deal. A few days of warm weather, will, however, tell the story of the degree of injury which all plants have suffered.

The dwarf pears, and most young pears are all killed. A good many of the peach trees are killed; Young peaches set out last fall, are mostly dead. I do not intend to cut down mine until I learn the extent of the injury. A few years ago many farmers cut down their peach trees, supposing them killed by a severe winter. Others left theirs, and they made good bearing trees afterwards. China, Tea, Bourbon and Noisette roses can be obtained at the Nurseries, and they will blossom during the whole summer.

#### Agricultural Papers and other Matters.

Mr. Editor:—I own to you that when it was first suggested to me to take your paper, I hesitated to do so. I already was taking several papers, and I thought that there was no way of making another paper useful to my family; yet, having been the reader of the paper you published many years, I concluded to take it for "auld lang syne." But I am agreeably disappointed. "The Farmer" is and will be useful in my family. My boys and girls look for its

coming with more anxiety than any publication I receive. It goes at once into their employments, and it has caused more inquiry, more asking of questions in regard to our every day business than is usual with us. I am inclined to think that they are more satisfied with their prospects in being brought up as farmer's boys and farmer's girls than they have been. They seem to desire to make improvements about our home; to make it, as they say, more pleasant, more neat, more comfortable, than it has been before. My boys talk about agricultural machinery, plows, horse-rakes, harrows, corn shellers, as if there was an object in having and using these things.—They talk, too, about seed of new varieties of grain, of corn, of garden vegetables, and they have already collected scious for grafting our old seedling apple trees, and they will this spring, if they can get the trees, set out a small new orchard of selected fruit. They have been sometime talking of the Osage Orange Hedge, and though they were at first opposed to these hedges, I am sure I shall have to get some seed for them this spring, to grow plants to be set out the next spring.

The girls, too, are not behind the boys, they have already their plans made for buying out a front yard and a garden, for their flowers and vegetables; and Dick and Tom have been forced by them to begin to clean up and make things snug and cozy about the house, by removing all the trash, and logs, and broken farming tools away out of sight; and they say they will have a milk room, so that they can make butter and cheese fit for the Fair. They say, too, that they must have a home for their fowls, where they can keep their chickens, and where their fowls can roost, and where they can have their nests; and they have already engaged the eggs of half breed shanghai fowls for setting their kens, for their neighbors tell them that such fowls are a great improvement on our present stock, which have almost run out "by breeding in and in," as we farmers say. The half-breed China fowl is of good size their flesh is good for eating, they will bring more than common fowls dressed to market, and what is better than all, they are great layers,—in fact, where they have a good house for their nests, warm in winter, plenty of feed, with gravel and occasionally a little meat cut up fine, to answer the place of worms and other insects, which they devour in summer, they will lay all winter, when fresh eggs are wanted, and

bring the high price of 30 and 35 cents a dozen.

But I find I am writing you a long letter, and must now cut it short, by just saying, that the education that we had when we were boys is not now what is needed for the rising generation; they must have better education or they will be behind the majority in general intelligence, and especially that intelligence which is, and will be necessary for farmers. I tell my boys so, and my girls too, and I think that our country schools, improved by good teachers, are improving rapidly our children. I do not like, however, the present school law.—In many particulars it is unequal and unfair, and I hope will be so altered as to make it more satisfactory to the people generally.

I have written you a long rambling letter. Do what you please with it. E. P.

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## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

### Death of Francis Arenz.

While the executive committee of the state agricultural society were in session, on Wednesday, of which Mr. Arenz was a member, they received a dispatch, announcing his death at the residence of Dr. O. M. Long, in Jacksonville. Mr. Arenz had been for many months in ill health; yet his demise was sudden, and the news of it will carry a pang to the hearts of his numerous friends everywhere. We have known Mr. Arenz for many years, and well. He was a gentleman, an intelligent and useful citizen, and "an honest man." This is the highest eulogium we can offer—as it embraces everything good that can be said of man.

### State Fair.

We have kept our paper back for a few days to enable us to announce the place for holding the State Fair. The Executive Committee of the State Society, met in this city on the 2d instant. Present—H. C. Johns, President; Jas. N. Brown, Wm. Strawn, C. W. Webster, J. M. Blackburn, John Gage, Wm. Ross, Vice Presidents; John A. Kennicott, Corresponding Secretary; S. Francis, Recording Secretary; and John Williams, Treasurer.

Three places made propositions for holding the State Fair in their localities, to-wit: Salem, in Marion county; Jonesboro', in Union county, and Alton, in Madison county. After a number of ballotings, Alton was selected as the point for holding the Fair by a majority of the votes given. It may be proper to say that Alton, fully met the requirements of the committee in the propositions for holding the State Fair in that city. Our own feelings were in favor of holding the Fair in southern Illinois, for reasons which were satisfactory to us. Others believed that the objects of the society could be best accomplished by selecting Alton for that purpose. We submit to the majority because in no other way can matters of this kind be properly decided. We shall do our best to make the Fair all that

can be expected from our growing, flourishing, ambitious state; and though disappointed in her hopes, we trust southern Illinois will do her best to sustain the efforts, and carry out the objects of the society.

### Preparations for Spring.

We should be careful not to put off the preparations for gardening and for farming too long. The season of planting and sowing will soon be upon us. We cannot be too early in procuring our seeds for both. We should obtain reliable seed in all cases where it is possible. These can be had at regular seed establishments, where the proprietors have quite as much interest in supplying good seeds as the purchasers have in buying them.

In gardening, it should be well understood that many of the common esculents degenerate in the Western country. As an evidence there is scarcely a house-wife that does not know that seeds procured from beets here, degenerate in a few years so as to produce worthless roots for the table.

The cabbage also degenerates, and many other vegetables. Great benefits result from changing seed, both in farming and gardening.

The most profitable spot on the farm is the garden. It furnishes delicious and healthy food, exactly suited to the season when it is best obtained. Physicians say, and with truth, that a substitution of a vegetable diet, in some degree, for that of pork in various forms, and heavy saleratus bread, would be of vast advantage to health. Get your seed for vegetables early. There are now many new varieties of peas, the excellence of which is known to but few. There are early cabbages, almost equal in richness to the cauliflower—early, less early, and indeed, varieties that continue in perfection from June almost to June again. There are pole beans in great variety, some of them far superior to the old sorts. The improved varieties of the radish are delicate, sweet, tender and healthful. There

are many other vegetables that have been greatly improved within a few of the past years, worthy the attention of those who desire to have the best of the kinds.

It is about to be a busy time with our farmers and gardeners. The usual work of two months will be thrown into one, on account of the backwardness of the season. All hands be ready!

#### Potatoes—Premium Crop.

O. B. GALUSHA, Esq., of Kendall county, obtained the premium of the State Agricultural Society for a crop of potatoes, grown last season. He describes his manner of cultivation in the *Prairie Farmer*.—In the first place, he selected for his "potatoe patch," a piece of clean ground, that had been broken up the previous year; ploughed ten inches deep as soon in the spring as it was in a proper state; harrowed it thoroughly; dropped the seed in the angles and covered it with hoes; if the tubers were no larger than hickory nuts, two were dropped in a hill, six inches apart; if as large as butternuts ("white walnuts") only one in a hill, and that cut lengthwise, and the halves dropped as before—making about three bushels and a half of seed to the acre. Planted thus on new land, they were plowed out each way before the potatoes blossomed, with a shovel plow, and the remaining weeds pulled up before they went to seed, by hand. The yield was 280 bushels to the acre, and only one in twenty was too small for use. Mr. Galusha states as the result of his experience, that "the size of the tubers produced depends upon the quantity of seed used, the condition of the soil and mode of cultivation, rather than upon the size of the tubers planted." He has found, too, that frequent hoeings increase the number of tubers without producing a corresponding increase in the yield of the crop.

#### Planting Early Potatoes.

Soon as the weather is open, and the frost is entirely out of the ground, is the time to prepare your ground for and to plant potatoes for an early crop. Select the very dryest and most exposed part of your

garden, a light, sandy mould, if possible.—Lay off the rows four inches deep, three feet apart; place the sets ten inches apart in the rows and cover. The potatoe must be kept clean of weeds and grass and the earth loose from the time that the plants are three or four inches high until they are laid by. The early kidney is the best variety of potatoe for early planting.

#### Blue Grass for Lawns and Yards.

Sometimes turfing yards with blue grass sod, answers the design very well; but a good growth of blue grass from the seed is better. If the ground is properly prepared, and the seed sown in sufficient quantities and raked in, the grass will soon appear and the ground be covered with it.

In the country, where new farms are being made, front yards and pastures can be well set with blue grass without much labor. The seed can be sowed on the wild sod, and if harrowed over, it will be all the better.

It will astonish many to notice, how soon, with a little care, a new prairie farm, can be made to appear beautiful in its improvements about the dwellings, as if it had been occupied for years.

What is more unsightly than a large yard about the house, either naked or filled with various kinds of weeds? What does such a yard say for its owner?

**SALES OF STOCK.**—The Island Grove is becoming famous for its fine stock. Recently many important sales have been made. The last noticed is of a valuable Short Horn Durham Bull, from James N. Brown's herd, to be sent to California; and two valuable calves, which have already gone to Callaway, Missouri. The stocks in the grove are able to supply all reasonable demands.

**J. M. Day**, of Cook county, states in the *Prairie Farmer* that "the apple trees, set from the Rochester Nurseries last fall are killed. That this is wholly owing to the hard winter, he says he is not convinced, for his own trees, raised in his own neighborhood, are in fine condition. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

THE NEWS.—European affairs have not changed their aspect. The ministers of the Western Powers, with those of Russia, are in conclave in Paris. The impression is yet that peace will be the result. There have been of late no active movements in the territories on the Black Sea.

English papers do not appear so anxious for a war with the United States as they have been. Probably they were merely blowing off steam. If they really want war they can have it without so much unnecessary bluster.

In India, British filibusterism is progressing. They are about annexing the kingdom of Oude, to the British dominions.—That country only contains some five millions of people. The British should be the last people on this earth to complain of filibusterism.

In South America, there seems little change. Our government has been in treaty with Paraguay for the opening of her rivers to our commercial vessels. Brazil has given our government notice that she will not permit the execution of such treaty.

In Central America, we find that there has been a union of all the States except Nicaragua, to drive Walker from power. His ministers to Honduras and Costa Rica, have been sent home. Walker says that Nicaragua is for peace and tranquility, but if the other states want war, they can have it. In the meantime, for some alleged infraction of their charter, the property of the Vanderbilt transportation company has been seized, the charter declared forfeited, and a charter given to a new company.—British men of war are in the neighborhood watching Walker's movements. It would not be strange if our government should take possession of and open the Nicaragua overland route.

The civil war in Mexico has not closed, though the government party claim great success. It is of little consequence to humanity or liberty which party succeeds.

In Canada, it is said, that a large organization has been discovered in favor of annexing Canada to the United States in case

war between Great Britain and the United States should take place. That event would certainly be followed by the annexation of the Canadas to the United States. It would cause the expenditure of much blood and treasure, but the thing would be done.

There has been but little change in domestic affairs. We have no news of the war in Oregon. In Kansas, the state government has been organized, and the legislature have held a session. The new government is awaiting the action of Congress.—The House of Representatives have appointed a committee to investigate the proceedings of the late election in Kansas for delegate. They are immediately to proceed to the territory.

Of commercial business we have little change to note within the last month.—The opening of the rivers did not affect the prices of sugars, molasses, coffee and many other leading articles of groceries, as was expected. It is anticipated that these will rule high the present season. Wheat and flour are still depressed; as also pork, lard and bacon. We anticipate, however, a small rise in these articles in the leading markets. At this time bacon, pork, lard and flour can be purchased at the leading commercial points in the west, at lower rates than in this city.

**HORSE MEDICINE.**—Messrs. Corneau & Diller, of this city, have for several years, been dispensing a medicine for horses which has attained a most deserving popularity.—It is of special value in the spring season of the year; and is said to be a most certain cure for Distemper, Hide Bound, Drowsiness, Loss of Appetite, Inward Strains, Yellow Water, Inflammation of the Eyes, Fatigue from hard exercise, and many other diseases, arising from impurities of the blood and other causes. The value of this medicine is so well known by most of our farmers, that names seem to be unnecessary to attest to its value. The advertisement will be found in the advertising department of this paper. We feel no hesitation in recommending this medicine to the favorable notice of our farmers.

**The Honey Bees Killed!**

It is even so. The winter has destroyed, we apprehend, most of the bees in the country. One of our citizens who had a number of swarms, has lost them all.—His bees were somewhat protected by a fence and trees from the severity of the weather. We have the same news from several parts of the country. This is a misfortune we had not anticipated. A work on bees that we have looked in, says, "Bees never freeze;" a sad mistake.

**State Fair.**

There are evidences of progress in the proceedings of the state agricultural society. All thorough bred cattle are thrown into one class, and competition is opened to the citizens of the states in stock as well as in all other articles embraced in the premium list.

**SEED PLANTERS.**—These are becoming plenty. Many of them, apparently, will do their work well. The greatest objection to those we have seen, is their cost, placing them beyond the means of the smaller farmers. This has led to some experiments in getting up a sower, which should cost but little, and which would answer all the purposes required. Mr. C. Sampson of this city, has been very fortunate in an attempt this way. He has invented a sower, to be placed upon the running gear of a wagon, which will sow twenty acres a day with great ease and regularity. We judge its cost will be about twenty dollars, perhaps fifteen dollars. He has applied for a patent; and hopes to be able to manufacture a number this spring. This sowing machine, we are of opinion, will be of great value to farmers.

**JERSEY COUNTY GROUND.**—The agricultural society of Jersey county, have purchased a very eligible tract for their fair grounds, a short distance south of Jerseyville. It contains eight acres, and there is on it a house, garden and orchard. The society are to pay \$1200 for it.

Wm. F. M. Army is our authorised agent in every part of this state.

**CULTIVATION OF THE GRAPE.**—The cultivation of the grape is rapidly extending in this country. We do not now speak of vineyards, but they are increasing. Few men who have lots of their own, are satisfied without cultivating more or less grape vines. The fruit is healthy when ripe, and can be used when green to advantage. The culture is not difficult, and the crop, with good management, is quite sure. A wholesome and pleasant wine can be made of either the Catawba or Isabella, with no more trouble than the making of currant wine. If men must drink liquor, light wines and western cider will do less harm than any other liquors we know of.

It will soon be time to put out grape plants. One year old plants are the best. The ground should be well prepared, be rich, and dry, and the vines should have a fair exposure to the sun. It would be well when the plants are put out to cut the wood back to two buds.

**CLOVER AND GRASS SEED TO THE ACRE.**—Allen's American Farm Book says, that clover may be sown either in August or September, or in the spring, with most of the cereal grains, or the cultivated grasses; or it may profitably constitute a crop by itself. The quantity of seed per acre depends upon the kind of soil. On well prepared loams, ten or twelve pounds good seed will frequently give a good covering to the land, while on clay twelve to sixteen pounds are necessary to the acre. When sown with the grasses, six on the first, and eight to twelve on the last, will suffice. The covering, like that of grass seeds, should be of the slightest kind; and when sown very early in the spring, or on well pulverised grounds, and followed by rains, it will germinate freely without covering.

**TIMOTHY.**—In well prepared soil ten pounds to the acre, will be sufficient. Some sow fifteen pounds and some less than ten.

**BLUE GRASS.**—From ten to fourteen pounds of clean blue grass should be put on an acre.

The United States Agricultural Society will hold their next Fair at Philadelphia, commencing on the 7th day of October next.

**Meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society.**

SPRINGFIELD ILL., April 2, 1856.

Members present—H. C. Johns, President; J. N. Brown, J. Gage, J. M. Blackburn, C. W. Webster, Vice Presidents; John A. Kennicott, Corresponding Secretary, and S. Francis, Recording Secretary.

The unfinished business of the Premium list for the next State Fair, was taken up.

The Corresponding Secretary reported that ten dollars had been deposited with him by C. R. Otis, as a donation to the State Agricultural Society, to add to the premium on the best bee hives.

On motion, said donation was accepted on the terms specified.

The reported premium list was read. Class A., Cattle.

Mr. Brown moved that the classes of all thorough bred cattle be merged into one class and number, and that perfect pedigrees be furnished for all animals competing for premium in this class. Carried.

The premium list in relation to cattle, was amended and passed.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the American and English Turf Register and Stud Books shall be the standard of reference for awarding committees on through bred horses.

The premium list in relation to mules, was read, amended and passed.

Adjourned till 2 o'clock, P. M.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Mr. Strawn, Vice President, and Mr. Williams, Treasurer, took their seats with the committee

The business of fixing upon a place for the State Fair, was taken up. Applications and propositions were presented from Jonesboro, Salem and Alton. Explanations were made by gentlemen who were delegates from these localities.

The committee resumed the consideration of the premium list. After some progress it was laid aside, and the Treasurer made his report.

On motion, Col. Williams was directed to call upon Isaac Spear, of Chicago, for moneys directed to be paid into his hands for the use of the Fair grounds, or on other persons who may be in possession of the same.

The business of locating the State Fair was made the special order for this evening.

Further progress was made in the premium list, and the committee adjourned till 7 o'clock.

7 o'clock. The President announced to the committee that FRANCIS ARENZ, a Vice President of this society had just deceased at the residence of Dr. O. M. Long, in Jacksonville.

On motion, Mr. Strawn, Mr. Kennicott, and Mr. Gage were appointed by the President a committee to draft resolution expressive of our regard for his worth, and sorrow for his death, and directed to report to the committee on tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The Board resumed the the consideration of the premium list, when it was laid aside, and took up the special order for locating the State Fair.

After several ballotings Alton received a majority of the votes given. Adjourned till tomorrow morning at half past seven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 3.

Present—Messrs. Johns, Brown, Webster, Blackburn, Strawn, Gage, Kennicott and Francis.

The committee resumed the consideration of the premium list. The subject of hedges being before the committee.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the Society change their premiums offered at the meeting of the committee in January last, for hedges, so as to provide that—

1. For the largest amount of well set hedge on one farm, the Society's special gold medal and diploma shall be awarded.

2. For the best hedge of one thousand rods and upwards, there shall be awarded a diploma and the Society's silver medal.

3. For the best hedge of forty rods and upwards, there shall be awarded a silver cup of the value of ten dollars.

4. The said hedges to be of not less than two summers' growth.

Mr. Gage moved that the committee unanimously declare Alton to be the place for holding the next State Fair; which was done.

The Corresponding Secretary presented to the committee the following letter from Lieutenant Maury:

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, }  
September 18, 1855. }

MY DEAR SIR:—I have taken the liberty of inclosing the copy of a piece from the American Farmer, that I might go further and solicit your co-operation in giving effect to the plan of which it treats.

The outlines are general, but sufficient, it is hoped, to enable you to comprehend the main features of the plan. Should it strike you favorably, I would be glad if you would give it a helping hand, by bringing it before the proper society or societies in your State, for consideration.

As suggestive of the action of the society, and

also as indicative of the means by which the plan may be forwarded, be pleased to see the accompanying rough draft of a resolution.

I would not I am sure waste words in argumentation on one hand, or in apologies on the other, upon an occasion like the present. All that I have to add is simply to submit the proposition to you that I have made to the agricultural interests of the country, and to ask such help in bringing it to a favorable issue, as in your judgment may seem good.

With very great respect, I have the honor to be,

Yours, &c.,

M. F. MAURY.

DR. J. A. KENNICOTT, Chicago, Ills.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That this society cordially approve of the plan proposed by Lieut. Maury in the August number of "the American Farmer," and of Prof. Henry of the Smithsonian Institution, for extending to the land for the benefit of Agriculture, the system of meteorological observations which has done so much for the improvement of navigation and commerce.

*Resolved*, That we commend the plan to the favorable consideration of our brother farmers in other States and request the members of Congress from our own State to procure that degree of encouragement for agriculture and sanitary meteorology which has been so wisely and beneficially extended to the meteorology of the seas, and that the President of this society be and is requested to forward a copy of this resolution to each member of the Congressional delegation from this State.

The committee after further examination of the premium list, examined and ordered several bills to be paid and adjourned till 2 o'clock.

2 o'clock P. M. Mr Strawn from the committee on that subject reported the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, By the executive committee of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, that in the decease of Francis Arenz, late member of the Board, it has lost a co worker, kind, courteous, able, and *always in his place*;—the society, one of its most talented, energetic and ardent friends;—the State and country at large, one of its most honorable, respected and revered citizens, and that while we bow in humility and awe before the will of ALMIGHTY GOD, we tender our most sincere and heartfelt sympathies to the family and friends of the deceased, hoping that their, and our loss, is his gain.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these proceedings be sent to the family and friends of the deceased, to the Prairie Farmer, Illinois Farmer and to the papers in Beardstown, Jacksonville and Springfield, with a request that the same shall be inserted in the papers indicated.

These resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The premium list was again taken up,

Mr. Brown moved that competition in all classes be open and free to the citizens of all the States, and that the premium list be arranged to accord with this resolution. Carried.

SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.

On motion.

*Resolved*, That the Corresponding Secretary prepare a report of the transactions of this Society, to be presented to the next Legislature.

The examination and amendment of the premium list, and the naming of awarding committees, was continued and concluded.

On motion, the President, H. C. Johns, John Gage and S. Francis were appointed a committee for the examination of hedges, under the resolutions of the committee.

Adjourned.

S. FRANCIS, Rec. Sec.

## THE MARKETS.

SPRINGFIELD, April 4.

Prices of produce are changeable. Wheat, from \$1 to \$1 25 per bushel. Flour, sup. \$7 per bbl. Corn 20c per bu. Potatoes, 75c per bu. Bacon—Hams, 9a10c per lb; Shoulders 6a7c; Lard, 8c. Butter, good, 20c. White beans \$2 50 per bushel.

CHICAGO, March 31.

Wheat, winter, 1 20 per bu. Corn, 38c per bu. Oats, 30c per bu. Potatoes, 75a80c. Butter, 18a20c. Lard, 9c.

ST. LOUIS, April 2.

Flour, sup, \$7 50 per bbl. Wheat \$1 50a\$1 60 per bu. Corn, 38c per bu. Oats, 35c per bu. Barley, \$1 50 per bu. Potatoes, \$1 80 per bu. Hides, dry, 16½c per lb — HAMS, 7a per lb. Bacon shoulders, 6c per lb; ribbed sides, 7a c lb; clear sides, 6½c per lb.

NEW ORLEANS, April 1.

Flour, \$7 25; extra, \$8 50a\$9 per bbl. Corn, 52c per bu. Oats, 40c per bu. Mess Pork, \$15 50 per bbl. Lard, 8c per lb. Bacon shoulders, 7c per lb; sides 9c per lb.

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**Seymour & Morgan's**  
 PATENT IMPROVED NEW YORK  
**SELF-RAKING REAPER,**  
 WITH MOWER ATTACHMENT.

**T**HE success of our Self-Raking Reaper has induced us to manufacture for the harvest of 1856, a larger number of Machines than we have built in any previous year.

Experience has proved that our Self Raker not only saves the hard labor of a man, but does the work much better, leaving the grain in better shape than the best hand rakes, and without perceptible increase of Draught.

We have made many improvements to our machine of last year, such as Spring Seat, and the making the Gear Frame of Iron, &c, and have, after many experiments, succeeded in attaching a short Cutter Bar to our Gear Frame, with smooth edged knife, and higher motion for mowing, which makes it the best Combined Machine before the public.

FOR SALE BY  
**Francis & Barrell,**

Agents—Springfield, Ills.

We invite the attention of those interested to the following points of excellence in our machine:

1. The Gearing Frame is made of Iron, and not liable to spring or become misplaced, thus impairing the working of the machine.
2. The simplicity, durability, and perfect working of the gearing, including that which drives the Rake.
3. The perfect manner of laying the grain for the binder, better than the best hand-rakers.
4. The ease with which the operator may regulate the size of the bundle, a slight pressure of the foot upon the pedal, stopping the Rake at any point, without interfering with the cutting.
5. The lightness of draught for the team; the absence of side pressure, and the ease with which it passes over uneven ground, for the large size of the ground wheels.
6. The ease with which it may be backed or turned.
7. The width of cut, with good driving 6½ feet.
8. It leaves the grain outside the track of horses, so that any amount may be cut without binding.

The Reaper is so constructed that the Mower Bar may be attached at any future time at a cost of \$2.

**GENERAL AGENTS.**—Wm. Bosworth Esq., Bloomington, Illinois, is our General Agent for the West, except Michigan, occupied by Willard Fisher, Ypsilanti, Michigan, and are authorized to appoint sub Agents. Orders received by them will be filled in due season. We again offer our acknowledgement to our friends, the Farmers, for their liberal patronage, and shall endeavor by promptness in executing orders, and the use of none but the best material, and the best mechanics, to merit its continuance.

**REFERENCES.**

- P E Uanalstyne, Kinderhook, N Y;
- Mayher & Co., 197 Water st., N Y City.
- Hon E B Holmes, Brockport, N Y.
- Jesse H Fisk, Stafford, “
- J. A. Tyler, Hector, “
- Sylvester Harman, Wheatland, “
- Reeve Brothers, Allowaystown, N. J.
- Wm. Crane, Goshen, Ind.
- J. G. Taylor, Lafayette, Ind.

- A. Hatwood, Elgin, Illinois.
- H. L. Rogers, Kendall, “
- J. B. Gillett, Peoria, “
- W. M. Carroll, Jacksonville, Ills.
- L. M. & S. M. Howard, Girard, Ills.
- G. Terry and G. W. Cory, Jerseyville, Ills.

Price of Reaper at the Factory, with usual extras, \$150,—Mower Attachment, additional \$25.

**SEYMOUR, MORGAN & CO.**

Brockport, N. Y., april, 1856.

**Another Triumph of American Genius!**

**Henderson's**  
**GRAIN AND GRASS HARVESTER,**  
 SANDUSKY, OHIO.

**MOWING MACHINE,** Patented to J. E. Health, September 11, 1856.

**AUTOMATIC RAKE,** Patented to A. H. Caryl, February 5, 1856.

**T**HIS Harvester has been practically tested through several seasons, and the unanimous verdict of those who have used it has been high in its favor—so much so, as to have already given it an enviable notoriety.

Its simplicity, beauty, lightness, durability and efficiency, in all of which it excels, may be truly said to stamp it

**THE MACHINE OF THE YEAR!**

Many certificates of its superiority have already been received; and the Indiana State Board of Agriculture awarded it the First Prize as a Mower, at the State Fair in 1855.

The following are some of the principal characteristics:

- 1st. The motion imparted to the Cutters is obtained without Gear, by zigzags in the face of the main wheel.
2. The Cutters are made like the best edge tools.
3. The cutting is done upon the principle of shears.
4. There is no 'side draft.'
5. The Machine can be started ahead without backing up.
6. A single span of horses can operate a Machine throughout a day, cutting from 8 to 12 acres.
7. The Reel is of great service when the grass or grain lean from the machine.
8. The Lever is at full command of the driver, by which the cutters can be raised to pass over any ordinary obstacle, without stopping the cutting operation.

2,000 Machines are being manufactured this year. To make sure ORDER EARLY, and give plain directions for shipping.

Price of Mowing Machine.....\$125  
 Mower and Reaper combined with Self-Raker,..... 150

One half and freight and charges from Chicago, to be paid on delivery; one fourth by note payable Sept. 1; one fourth by note payable Nov. 1, or \$10 off for Cash Down.

**D. C. HENDERSON,**

Manufacturer and Proprietor, Sandusky, O.

The farmers of Sangamon county are respectfully invited to examine the Reaper and Mower above advertised,—one of which will be found at the Farmer's store of Francis & Barrell, Journal buildings, Springfield. Farmers are desired to examine all Reapers and Mowers before they purchase. We believe in fair competition, and that they have sufficient judgment to discover the merits of our machine. Francis & Barrell are the agents for this machine in Sangamon and Maccon counties. april, 1856

**CANADA Club,** Mediterranean and Zimmerman Spring Wheats, Flaxseed and Spring Barley, for sale at the Farmer's store, Journal Buildings. april **FRANCIS & BARRELL.**

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printers.

VOLUME 1.

SPRINGFIELD, MAY, 1856.

NUMBER 5.

## Immigration.

Immigration from all countries has fallen off within the last year, partly owing, it is supposed, to the European war, and partly to other causes. The arrivals during the last ten years averaged nearly one hundred thousand annually. The causes are, a better demand for labor at home, and the better disposal of those unwieldy estates through the "encumbered estates courts." Formerly the letting, sub-letting and re-letting of these farms bore mercilessly on the poor tenant, who had no security that his improvement would not be overbid or taken from him on the next year by rental. The new system provides better tenantry rights, besides bringing in a better class of owners.

The immigration in the month of March was large, accumulating by the long passages and non-arrivals of the preceding months. It consisted mostly of Mormons from England, Scotland and Wales, who are chiefly from the mines, the least elevated of the population of Great Britain. They probably have very little conviction on the subject of religion, but are attracted by the socialistic and community sentiments of this new people. From Germany we believe immigration will continue, and probably augment. There is nothing in the condition of the continent flattering to the poor, or the lover of liberty. The late war has done nothing for humanity, and Europe will still groan under the tyranny of Russia, Austria and France, about to act in concert, we fear, until God in his mercy, unites the hearts of all the oppressed in one mighty effort of resistance. England lost her great opportunity to become the head of a gigantic movement that

might have liberated Europe from this damnable oppression.

The character of the Germans is as yet to be found out, but it appears favorable. Great attention is paid to education throughout the German Principalities, and we seldom meet a man who cannot read or is without some intellectual research. They are supposed to be irreligious and there is doubtless much scepticism among them, but they come from a country where the intentions of Providence in regard to rest and recreation have been frustrated through the week, and they use the Sabbaths in this more favored land, where there is no necessity for it, in the same way they were accustomed to at home. It is quite a new thing for them to be restrained on the Sabbath, or be restrained in much of anything that concerns their personal habits, and in our large cities they have been indurated to the moral influences that have surrounded them. Nothing shakes our faith in God so much as our want of faith in man, and this latter has been their misfortune from time immemorial. We have a greatdeal of leniency for this condition of character, and must bear and forbear until we can teach it better. We are rejoiced for ourselves—without, as we think, undue national laudation—that there is a land where the low, the weak, the oppressed, the despised, may come and be lifted up.

Since the establishment of the Emigration Office in Castle Garden, New York, it has been found that the average capital of the Germans per head who have landed there, amounted to over sixty-one dollars. It will be seen by this what a vast amount of money comes into the country by emi-

gration, and when it is considered how actively ramified through the various channels of locomotion, trade and labor this is, we may the better estimate the amount of benefit accruing to the country. There were over one hundred and seventy-nine thousand persons left Germany for the United States in the year 1854, when the number reached the maximum. The heavy tax of \$1 50 per head paid by the ship on their arrival at our ports, covers the hospital and any charges incident to the voyage, and their new circumstances, leaving the country little to complain on this score. The railroads take them into the interior at a diminished fare, they are saved from the pilfering of the runners and boarding house men, and their more affluent countrymen have been active in receiving, providing for and disposing of them. A large number of these people go to Wisconsin and Pennsylvania; a lesser proportion to Ohio and Illinois. There is supposed to be four million Germans in the United States, forming an important element in American life. The Germans are Saxons, or more properly Teutons, another distinctive family from the Celt. Without entering into a disquisition of the relative merits of these two races, we see the English and American character more potent in the former. Less impulsive, more enduring and deliberative, they change our national features very little by their admixture. Physiologists assert that the mixing of the Celt with the Saxon makes a very superior race. We are not advised as to its truth; but as yet, the Irish and southern European clan together much more than their compeers of the other family.

#### Our Politics.

We are, as a people, more than usually beset with the evils of party strife. Our institutions, by giving to every man a voice in the councils of the country, favor freedom of opinion, expression and action on political matters. But our zeal once awakened, we go all lengths in the acrimony with which we follow up and enforce our views.

Sides are taken in the social intercourse of life that are subversive of its best feelings, infuse into the character a narrowness and bigotry that suppress every patriotic emotion. Men are seen at the caucus and ballot box that are known no where else; like apparitions, they appear here for a time and then vanish. Doubtless the moderate men of either party approach very near each other, but they are few in comparison with those who entertain extravagant opinions.

The worst feature of this is that the less informed portions of the community, especially the foreign born, believe there is too much at stake, too momentous consequences pending, on these political issues; whereas public opinion, the pressure from without, ever keeps actual legislation very near the average of these aggregated forces. No President of the United States can force an extreme opinion upon this people; he cannot overturn anything that has been sanctioned by long usage; nor can he give undue preponderance to a course of action that is below the average demand of the times. He cannot declare war at the clamor of the unreflective, the selfish, or those who have nothing at stake; nor will he be permitted to degrade the country by mean, unworthy concession. He cannot force extreme Free Trade or Protection, be his own views what they may. True enough, there is an ultraism, an enthusiasm, that verges on the right; but the world will gravitate comfortably onward, until the masses perceive it and its enforcement will not distract or disturb existing things. France has attempted a Republic several times through violence; but the antecedents of the people were not equal to its establishment, and an awful retrogression ensued.

At our own firesides it is questionable whether we ought to enforce any very rigid opinions, whether it does not weaken, overthrow and cramp the independence of our children, the liberality, grasp and comprehensiveness of their minds, by making any political or even religious Shibboleth, the sine qua non of their life. Good men for office we consider more necessary than

measures; the one is equal to any emergency, the other becomes but the hootings of a party. Our local legislation seems to be peculiarly afflicted with these rank party divisions. The interests of the town or city are dropped, forgotten, swallowed up in the national, distant and worthless broil for one ambitious partizan or another, and the best men in the community are disgusted and retire from the profitless strife.

As to the newspapers, this fetid maelstrom, drags the greater part of them into it. Men of excellent powers, and otherwise attractive in their characters, are soured and perverted in their souls and understandings by contact with these political agitations. Their papers, instead of being a fair and impartial commentary on passing events, are but the vehicles of party tirade and abuse. They sow the wind and reap the whirlwind in their own personal enmities and dissatisfactions, and in the sectional and civil strifes, discussions and discord, they sow broad east over the land. Intelligent foreigners say that we "are the least free of all people. We are ostracized for opinion's sake. At the south we dare not speak openly for fear of personal violence. At the north a narrow estimate is taken of other institutions and usages. In what, they ask, 'are you better than Austria or France?'" And there is some degree of truth as well as irony in the criticism.

#### The State Fair.

We had barely time in our last *Farmer* to state, that the next State Fair would be held at Alton, and that a free competition was open from every part of the United States for the premiums offered by the State Agricultural Society. This last is a new feature, and we trust will secure a competition in stock, in machinery, in manufactured articles, in a word, in all the articles for which premiums are offered, in numbers and excellence beyond anything which has as yet been witnessed in the western country.

If there is better stock, horses, cattle, mules, sheep, hogs, in other states, than we have in ours, we wish to see them, and our

farmers wish to see them, and to purchase of such stock. And the same principle is involved in regard to other articles, for which premiums are offered. The great object of the society is *improvement*; and this, it is believed, can be best improved by free competition. Consequently there are no premiums offered for classes of foreign stock. They enter the lists for premiums on the same terms as do our own. We do not banter, but we desire honorable competition from all the states. If we are beaten, we shall rejoice that the enterprising owners of stock in other states, have superior stock to ours. We shall then know where to obtain stock to improve ours. The remark of one of our distinguished stock breeders last fall, is indicative of the feeling among all our stock breeders. "If I am beaten," said he, "I will not be beaten hereafter if better stock than mine can be had in the country."

We anticipate a triumphant exhibition at Alton. No expense will be spared in getting up the proper fixtures for the convenience of the Fair. The citizens of Alton are going into this measure with a spirit and energy that promises entire success.

Let the word pass round in all parts of Illinois that the farmers' great gala days of the year will be held at Alton; let them be prepared to bring their stock, the productions of the farm of every form; let the mechanics of our state see to it that the articles of their handiwork are brought to the fair; let artists, and chemists, and naturalists, and geologists, and all other kindred professions, be ready to contribute means to sustain the high character of our young and ambitious state, in all the sciences and arts that contribute to its prosperity. Let this be done, and well done.

#### Sangamon County Fair.

This Fair will be held in the week preceding the week of the state Fair, commencing on Tuesday, September, 23d, and continue four days. As we have already stated, the society have offered premiums to the amount of *fifteen hundred dollars*; and

they have also opened the fair to free competition from the whole country—we mean all the states—and the people, wherever interested, in exhibiting their stock, their fruit, their vegetables, their grain, their corn, their manufactures, their butter and cheese, and needle work, and paintings and daguerreotypes, and flowers, and their condiments, and cakes, and bread and hams—are invited to be present with their articles and contend for the premiums. We hope that there will be no holding back. We often hear it said, after Fairs—"I could have beaten" such and such articles. There is now sufficient time to prepare articles for our county fair; to grow vegetables and grain and corn—to arrange for the making of butter and cheese—and whatever else is called for. The premium list will soon be published. Preserve it! good friends—every where; and as this fair precedes the state fair but one week, many articles designed for exhibition at that fair can be exhibited at the Sangamon Fair, and may bear off the plate at both fairs. Let this be done—if it can be done. Sangamon county will rejoice to see a full and fair competition not only from Illinois, but from every state in the Union.

#### Cultivation of Beans.

The last year dried beans have ruled high in market, averaging from \$1 75 to \$2 00 per bushel; and the article was generally of very inferior quality. The small white bean, with a favorable season, produces well; but our soil is too rich for it as a general thing, the plant spreads, and not sustaining its weight, falls to the ground—hence a good portion of the beans are discolored and much injured.

We find the following communication on the subject of raising beans in the *Country Gentleman*:

"I have been a grower of beans more or less for the last twelve years—have tried all sorts, but have never had any to equal the enclosed for profit. I got them by accident, and do not know the name of them; perhaps you or some of your friends do. They are very early, so much so that I have been

first in Buffalo market with them as a string bean; they yield well; the pods are all ripe together, a very good property for a handsome sample, and are off the ground in good season for wheat. Had only two acres of them last year, managed as follows:

Ashed the land with leached ashes at the rate of six loads per acre; put on two bushels of seed to the acre, with Emery's drill barrow, the drills two and a half feet apart; worked the cultivator between the rows, and followed by the hoe. Pulled and thrashed them, and had eighty-one bushels of good beans on the two acres, and left perhaps four bushels in the straw as I was not particular, it being saved for sheep. They left the land in a fine mellow condition; sowed it to wheat without plowing, cultivating it in."

The bean alluded to is unquestionably that known as the "White Cranberry Bunch Bean." Last fall, seeing the condition of the field bean crop in this section of the country, and believing that the "White Cranberry Bean," was a better bean, more certain in production, and would suit our soil better, and yield greater crops than the common white bean, we recommended our business partners to send to Connecticut for a lot of "White Cranberry Beans," to dispose of to our farmers. The first supply was insufficient to meet the demand, and so was the second, and before this paper is issued another and larger supply will be received. What the writer in the *Country Gentleman* says of this bean is undoubtedly true: they produce well, ripen at the same time, come in early, and are beautiful when prepared for market.

It is not necessary to go into an analysis of the bean. All know it is the most nutritive of our vegetable productions, and desirable and healthful as food. In years that have long past, beans were an important article of food. They were regularly served several times in the week. Our ancestors were quite as healthy, and probably were capable of more labor than we are, and dyspepsia and some other common diseases of our time, were unknown at that day. We recommend the moderate cultivation of beans as a profitable and useful crop.

## Onions! Onions!

"Have you onion sets?" In the Seed and Agricultural Implement store, (in which the editor hereof is a partner,) we have within a few days heard this question probably asked a thousand times. There are but few top onion sets in the country. There were none a few days since on sale in Louisville, Cleveland or St. Louis, and it was by the merest chance we found a few barrels at Chicago. What we want to say to those who depend upon onion sets for onions hereafter is this: that from the scarcity of the variety of onion known as the top onion, which came to maturity the last season, and which was preserved to obtain seed the growth of the present season—top onion sets for the spring of 1857, will be likely to be quite as scarce as they are the present spring. In order, therefore, to secure small onions for spring planting, the next season, recourse must be had to sowing onion seed of the different varieties which grow from seed the present spring. The red onion is best, and if sown on clean ground, and well put in, will produce large onions for fall and winter use, and small onions for setting out the following spring. Late sown seed will also bring small onions suitable for spring planting.

These small onions will produce marketable onions, before the top onion sets, and will also make good sized onions with a little attention. Their tendency is to throw up seed stalks. When these stalks get up some ten inches, and while tender, they should be broken off down as low as possible. This can be rapidly done with a little experience. They are brittle and break off easily. This forces the strength of the plant into the growing bulb, and produces an early crop of good onions, called in *Old Wethersfield*, "Rareripes."

We have been a little particular in this description, because, if heeded, it will prevent the necessity of relying altogether upon top onion sets another year. We have thus given a chapter on "Onions! Onions! have you any onion sets?"

## Corn—As a Premium Crop.

The Sangamon County Agricultural Society have offered a premium for the best crop of corn on five acres of ground. We trust that many of our young farmers will compete for the premium. We want to know the best mode of cultivation and the best seed to be used for this crop. The best seed undoubtedly would be that which produces a large ear, a small cob, and a kernel of great depth. Such ears will produce much more shelled corn to the bushel, than large ears, large cob and short kernels. Let our farmers study upon this proposition. The subject is worthy of thought and care. The culture, whether in rows, in drills, the hills a large distance or nearer—all require reflection. The plowing, too, is a point of importance. The double Michigan Plow, in Michigan has been used, where the greatest crops have been secured. This is really a double plow—the first going to the depth, perhaps, of three or four inches, and the other following, going to the depth of eight or ten inches. [We have one of these plows, which can be examined by the curious.] This will turn up the soil deeper than it has been done before, and may be called *trench* plowing.

We hope the objects aimed at by the society will be accomplished in offering a premium on fields of corn—and that the result will show the best mode of cultivation to secure the greatest yield of the best corn. Corn is the great crop of Central Illinois, and the increased yield of even ten bushels to the acre, will make a vast aggregate increase of the crop.

We hope that there will be a spirited competition for the premium for the best five acres of corn. Boys! do you hear that?

## Sampson's Broad Cast Sower.

It was a happy conception of Mr. Sampson, that a cheap Broad Cast Sower might be invented, to be placed on the running gear of a wagon, at small cost, which would do the work of sowing grain better than by hand, and with little labor. We stated in our last that Mr. Sampson had

succeeded in his Broad Cast Sowing Machine. On the 8th of April, instant, we saw it work. It sows with great regularity and certainty. The whole machine will not weigh a hundred pounds; is easily attached to the running gears of a wagon; and two horses can draw it, with a light harrow attached, doing up the whole work of sowing and harrowing, without difficulty. This is one of those improvements which will be of great advantage to farmers of moderate means, who cannot well afford to purchase expensive sowing machines. Mr. Sampson will have them for sale during the summer and fall.

### Wool.

Messrs. Goodale & Co., of Cleveland, announce in a circular, that runners from the east are now in the west for the purpose of buying the coming clip of wool, and recommend that wool growers shall not sell their wool while it is on the backs of their sheep. The probability is that the wool manufacturers have despaired of getting a law through Congress to reduce the tariff on wool, and at the same time to reduce the price of the article in the hands of our farmers. These manufacturers go entirely for their own interests. They show no anxiety to reduce the cost of imported cloths by lessening the duties. Their object is to cheapen the price of wool and other articles used in manufacturing cloths, so that they can monopolize the cloth market. The indications are that wool will be likely to bring a fair price, and we trust our wool growers will think twice before they sell their wool to itinerating wool merchants.

### Early Flowers.

Some of the hyacinths are already in blossom, though the coldness of the season has admonished them to reserve their beauties for warmer days. We have some in our garden, now in blossom, from the nursery of Kennicott & Sons, which are most beautiful. Persons who desire to obtain bulbs, have the opportunity of making their choice while they are in flower.

### Evergreens.

We do not believe that one of fifty evergreens which are transplanted into our gardens from the forest, live and thrive. If all the evergreens which have been brought to Springfield, from the woods—generally pines—sold and planted here, had lived, our city would have been a “pinery,” at this present writing. Nurserymen, who collect large numbers of evergreens from the woods, see to their transportation, and plant them with great care in the nurseries, and usually lose a heavy per cent on the number. They expect this loss. But thus transplanted, if they live, they form new roots, and if thereafter, they are raised and again planted with care, they are not likely to die.

The old plan of putting rocks or gravel or sand about such trees, in transplanting them, is useless. What should be done is this: they should be raised from the nursery with care; all the earth which can be made to adhere to the roots while raising them, should be kept on them much as possible; on no account should the roots be suffered to become dry; they should be kept moist until transplanted, and when the hole is half filled, a bucket of water should be poured about the roots. It is a good plan, and has been found entirely successful in this city, when the tree is planted out, to drive three stakes about the tree, the tops rising above the tree, and a plank or barrel head nailed on the tops of these stakes so as to shield the young tree from the direct and burning rays of the sun for the first summer. As we have said before, this plan has been entirely successful in the early cultivation of various evergreens in this city, as can be seen on the grounds of THOS. CAMPBELL, Esq.

Evergreens are a great ornament about a home. They are particularly pleasant in winter. Indeed, they are always beautiful. But in order to have them, our people must take the proper care in their cultivation. If they follow a few obvious rules, they need not fail in securing the growth of these beautiful trees upon their grounds.

### Potatoes.

The people of this country can scarcely get along without a supply of this article; and there is a vast difference in the value of the potato used for the table. Much of this difference depends upon the soil in which they grow; but more upon the variety cultivated. There are now several valuable kinds in cultivation, greatly superior to the mongrel breeds usually found upon our tables. In former years, there were

distinct varieties cultivated in this part of Illinois—pink eyes, Irish greys, and Neshanocs. Most of the seed was lost last spring, and supplies were procured from every part of the country; and little attention was paid to the quality and kind of seed used. Hence, as a general thing, the last year's crop of potatoes in this region, were a poor and mixed article, scarcely fit for market, and should be got rid of, and other good seed used. Persons using seed potatoes should examine well the seed used, and see to it that it is of the kind it purports to be. This is absolutely essential, in order to secure valuable and merchantable stocks. Many of our farmers were deceived, to their loss, upon this point last spring; and the result was that many of them had worthless potatoes for the table.

The best varieties that first come to perfection and the seed of which can be had here, are early kidney, Hall's June, and the pure Neshanoc. The Carter and Purple Chili, are highly prized potatoes in New York.

#### Grapes.

No garden or farm ought to be without one or more grape vines; a dozen would not be too many. The varieties, Catawba and Isabella, will produce heavy crops with a little care. They are a delicious fruit, and in Europe, when grapes are ripe and freely used, it is regarded as "the healthy season." The cultivation of grapes is rapidly extending; and the fruit, when not wanted for desert, preserves, or for long keeping, can very easily be converted into a fine wine; and if the manufacturer is careful enough, he can keep it in an unfermented state, which does away all objections to drinking it. Wine from the grape can be made as easily as cider from the apple. A good many are discouraged from raising grapes because they seem to suppose that there is a mystery attending their cultivation. There is not more mystery in this case than there is in cultivating the currant well. The wood should be cut back and trimmed, so as to give a chance for the growth of new wood and fruit. With the old growth of wood running at random, the vine would exhaust itself in growing, and of course could produce little fruit. Now is the time to attend to the pruning and planting out of grape roots.

#### Purple Chili Potatoe.

"I procured through a friend in Boston, a potatoe of the above variety, and planted it in deep rich soil, two eyes in a hill. It produced at the rate of 537 bushels an acre.

It is a purple or peach blow skin and white inside. I consider it equal, if not superior, to our celebrated Carter, on account of its table qualities, healthiness, and great productiveness. I never saw a diseased potatoe among them. I harvested over a quarter of an acre last fall. A. WILLAD, jr., New York."—*Country Gentleman*.

Seed potatoes of this new and valuable variety and also of the Carter can be obtained at the Farmer's store, of FRANCIS & BARRELL, in this city.

#### Isabella and Catawba Grape Vines.

In this section of the country the bearing wood of the Isabella and Catawba Grapes is mostly, if not, entirely, dead. The Fox Grape seems to have withstood the severity of winter.

The roots of the Isabella and Catawba do not appear to be seriously injured; and will no doubt throw up strong shoots the coming spring. The best treatment undoubtedly will be to cut down the old wood, and when the new sprouts come up to prune them so that only one or two shall remain, and then to be more particular in training them than heretofore. It is usual to see long leafless vines, and the fruit, when the vine is in bearing, near the end of the vines. By proper training and cutting back, the vines can be made to fruit near the ground, and the vine beautiful instead of an unsightly object. The usual plan in vineyards is to permit one vine to grow the first year and the next year have this the bearing vine, at the same time while this vine is in fruit, to encourage the growth of another vine to bear fruit the next year—when the fruit bearing vine of the preceding year must be entirely taken away. This system will secure young wood always—will cause the vine to bear near the ground—and be likely to produce a supply of good fruit. We pretend to no particular science in the cultivation of grapes, and these brief hints are given from conversation with an extensive vine grower of Cincinnati. New vines can be put out at any time in this month, and even in May, if they have kept back from growing.

### The Deciduous Cyprus, as a Prairie Tree.

Mr. PHOENIX, of the Bloomington Nursery, recommends the deciduous Cyprus, for planting on our prairies. This tree grows in great perfection in southern Illinois. It is there a beautiful and magnificent tree, and its green feathery foliage makes it a most conspicuous object in the heavy forests of the south. But we felt some hesitation in adopting Mr. Phoenix's views until we had examined a tree in our garden, which had been in a most exposed condition the last winter. We found that the cold had not injured it. From which we judge that it can be introduced for prairie cultivation. But how are the young trees to be had in sufficient numbers and at prices which will justify farmers in planting groves on our prairies? Will our nurserymen obtain the seed and propagate them, so that yearling trees can be had for \$15 or \$20 a thousand? This can be done, and a good profit made by nurserymen. Ash trees can also be propagated by them and sold at low rates. Here is a fine field for the enterprise of nurserymen.

Artificial groves on our prairies will be made. In a few years the rule will be that every prairie farm will have its grove, and there will be few exceptions to the rule. The spirit is up—and it will be done.

### Trial of Reapers and Mowers.

The importance to the farming community of understanding the relative value of the mowers and reapers, offered for their patronage, will be readily acknowledged. To secure this object, the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, at its recent meeting in this city, made arrangements to procure a full and fair trial of the reapers and mowers which shall be entered for that purpose, under the direction of Hon. JAMES N. BROWN, one of the Vice Presidents of the society. The society offers the following premiums:

For best Reaping Machine.....	Diploma and	\$50 00
Second best Reaping Machine.....	Medal and	25 00
Best Mowing Machine.....	Diploma and	50 00
Second best Mowing Machine.....	Medal and	25 00
Best Combined Reaper and Mower....	Diploma and	50 00
Second best Combined Reaper and Mower.	Medal and	25 00

Exhibitors of machines must enter them

with Dr. JOHN A. KENNICOTT, Corresponding Secretary, Chicago, on or before the 15 of May; and on entry they are required to pay \$100 each, in order to defray the expenses of the Board, and the Committees, etc. The trial is to begin with the harvest in the south part of the State, and go to various places north, as the grain ripens. The Superintendent of the Agricultural Implement Department, shall select an Awarding Committee of three at each place of trial, from such persons as may be recommended by the citizens of the place, where the trial is to be held, who will make their decision according to the scale of points fixed upon. The committee will seal up their decision and deliver it to the superintendent or his assistant, and after the whole trial from south to north, the decisions will be opened by the Executive Board at their meeting during the State Fair. All the implements on trial must be exhibited at the fair. The whole trial to be under the charge and direction of Ex-President BROWN, Superintendent Agricultural Implement Department, and such assistants as he may appoint.

It is understood that this trial shall not be entered into unless six entries are made previous to the 15th of May next.

The scale of points adopted by the State Agricultural Society of New York will govern in this case, and a copy of this scale, with explanations, can be obtained by application to the Corresponding Secretary of the State Agricultural Society.

We trust that this trial will embrace all the machines offered for sale in this State. We regard the movement highly important to our agricultural interests.

### Agricultural Implements.

We venture to say there is no point in the whole west where establishments for the manufacture of Agricultural Implements would promise to be more successful than in the city of Springfield. With all that are manufactured here, and all that are brought here, it is impossible to meet the demands of our farmers promptly. This business requires capital. We have young men who

would be glad to engage in it, but have not the means. Cannot stock companies be got up for the purpose of furnishing means?

The establishment of John Deere, Esq., Moline, Rock Island county, shows the importance of Plow Manufacturing at a single point. His Plow is the celebrated "Grand de Tour Plow," with important improvements. He commenced the manufacture of these Plows at Grand de Tour eighteen years ago; but his business increased to such an extent that he was compelled to remove to Moline on the Rock River, where he has the advantage of an unlimited water power and is in the immediate vicinity of inexhaustible beds of bituminous coal. His mould boards are of German and cast steel and he imports them from Sheffield, England. He makes at this establishment every week more than two hundred plows of all sizes. An examination of his plows will test the excellency of the workmanship.

Augustus Guibor, at Peru, has a more modern establishment, and is manufacturing extensively all description of plows, and is unable to supply with his present large force, all the demands for his work.

There are other plow establishments in various parts of the State, though probably not one that equals the amount of work turned off at Moline. And there is room for more of these establishments. Five thousand plows can be sold yearly in this city.

 Mr. JAMES HEADLY, of Chatham, has called to inform us that his *Prairie Breaker*, made at Moline, works like a charm, and that his boys are delighted with it.

#### Fruit and Flower Culture.

The increasing interest taken in pomological and floricultural matters in this country, is a hopeful sign. The gardens of the wealthy, filled with choice fruits and beautiful flowers, and the nurseries and hot beds of those who make gardening a business, have greatly improved during the last ten years. Train the vines upon the sunny side of your house—dig up the little patches by your door—rear the trees, and vegetables, and nurse the flowers. Their fragrance will be at your windows, the birds will come and sing to you, and the melon, the plum, the pear, and the apple will be in their season.

#### Improvement in the Breed of Horses. The Canadian and Norman.

For many years it has been apparent to the farmers upon our prairies that the horses in use are wanting the size and muscle requisite to the hauling of heavy loads through our deep sloughs, and, in the rainy seasons, over muddy roads. The light breeds which prevail here were chosen in preference to others under the erroneous impression that they were adapted to this level country and would answer all the purposes of the heavier horses common in Pennsylvania and other mountainous portions of America. Experience has proved conclusively that we need even more powerful horses than do the teamsters of New England or Pennsylvania, inasmuch as our soil is composed of deep mold, and, though we have excellent roads during most of the year, there are frequently recurring periods of deep mud far more trying to the bone and muscle of draft animals than the steepest roads over rocky and hard soils. This fact accounts for the great number of knee sprung, half hipped and spavined horses to be found in our prairie districts. The farmer starts with a moderate load for the nearest market town; the road is perfectly smooth nearly every step of the way and the fine English bred nags move along without difficulty, on a trot. Presently a mud hole, perhaps not more than twenty feet wide (the only one on his route) is encountered, and the horses plunge through a baked upper crust into soft muck below and every nerve and sinew is exerted to drag the load to dry ground. Every farmer in Illinois is constantly meeting with unpleasant adventures of this kind, and his experience soon teaches him that it is this which lames and prematurely wears out and kills his teams.

The horses of Illinois are confessedly of very fine blood, but they are mostly of the racing stock common in Tennessee and Kentucky. They are active, kind and very muscular, but they lack weight to propel heavy loads and overcome the obstructions of sloughs and wet loam. They make very

desirable saddle and carriage horses for city use and rate very high as dragoon horses. Hence the large profits that are made in raising them for sale abroad.

But fine as these races of horses are they might be greatly improved by crossing with approved breeds of more powerful build. These Illinois horses are exactly adapted to a profitable cross with the Canadian or the Norman horse, and we learn that in Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa and northern Illinois the Canadian stock has been introduced with the most favorable results. It is said by those versed in horse culture, so to express it, that the light race breeds common in central and southern Illinois, when crossed with the Norman stock, or their descendants—the Canadians, produce a breed similar and equal to the famous Morgans of Vermont, with this exception, that the Morgans are small, while the Norman cross is large.

In speaking of the Canadians, we do not mean the ponies bearing that name. There are in Canada two kinds of horses—the large Norman and the small “Cannuck,” the latter being a very excellent but deteriorated descendant of the former. Though both would make a good cross with our spirited dragoon stock—the Norman is preferable on account of size and action.

It is supposed by many not acquainted with this stock that they are deficient in speed; but this is a great mistake. The records of the Canadian turf show extraordinary trotting, and the breed is noted for very rapid traveling. They are remarkably sure footed and tough to the last degree. They will grow fat on “roughness” and keep their flesh where a mule would almost starve. Those acquainted with the St. Lawrence river valley will subscribe to this statement. In hauling heavy loads, they have no equals in the world. Even the English dray horse is inferior to them, as may be shown by the publications of the best authors, among whom we may mention Mr. Youatt, the best English authority, who says that “a compact muscular horse, approaching to sixteen hands high, would

acquit himself much better” in a London dray.

As the Canadian and Norman breeds are not common in this part of Illinois, we will here give some extracts explaining their qualities.

Mr. Randall, one of the most eminent writers upon the horse in this country, speaks of the Canadian as follows:

“The Canadian horse, found in the Canadian provinces, and somewhat in the northern United States, is too well known to require any particular description.

He is mainly of French descent, though many so called, and doubtless some of the fleetest ones are the produce of a cross between the Canadian and the English thorough bred. They are a long lived, easily kept, and exceedingly hardy race, making good farm and draft horses, when sufficiently large. In form, many of them display in a marked manner the characteristics of the Norman—so too in their general qualities—but they are usually considerably smaller. The results of crossing in New York and other northern states have been decidedly satisfactory, particularly in giving compactness and vigor and constitution where the dam does not excel in these particulars. The prices for which the colts sell are far above the average.”

The same author gives the following observations in relation to the Norman breed which is occasionally to be found in its purity in Canada as will be seen before we conclude this article:

“In connection with the Canadian—though not so old a variety in the United States, as some of which we have presently to speak—we will advert to the French or Norman horse, from which the Canadian is descended. We cannot do this more satisfactorily to ourselves or more usefully to the reader than to quote from an interesting and admirably candid letter from Mr. Harris, of New Jersey, as follows:

These horses first came under my observation on a journey through France in the year 1831.

I was struck with the immense power displayed by them in drawing the heavy diligences of that country, at a pace which although not as rapid as the stage-coach traveling of England, yet such a pace, say from five to nine miles per hour, the lowest rate of which I do not hesitate to say, would, in a short time, kill the English

horse if placed before the same load. In confirmation of this opinion, I will give you an extract from an article on the Norman horse in the British Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, which I quoted in my communication to the Farmer's Cabinet of Philadelphia, in 1842, as follows:

The writer, in giving an account of the origin of the horse, which agrees in tracing it to the Spanish horse, (of Arabian ancestry) with the account which I have given above, which I procured from French sources, says, "The horses of Normandy are a capital race for hard work and scanty fare. I have never seen such horses at the collar, under the diligence, the post-carriage, the cumbrous and heavy voiture or cabriolet for one or two horses, or the farm-cart. They are enduring and energetic beyond description. With their necks cut to the bone, they flinch not; they put forth all their efforts at the voice of the brutal driver, or at the dreaded sound of his never ceasing whip; they keep their condition when other horses would die of neglect and hard treatment. A better cross for some of our horses cannot be imagined than those of Normandy, provided they have not the ordinary failings of too much length from the back downwards, and a heavy head. I think that all who paid attention to this particular breed of Norman horses (the Percheron, which stands A No. 1,) will bear me out in the assertion that the latter part of this quotation will not apply to them, and that, on the contrary, they are short from the back downwards; that their heads are short, with the true Arabian face, and not thicker than they should be to correspond with the stoutness of their bodies. At all events you can witness that the diligence has not these failings, which, when absent, are. Englishman (evidently, from his article, a good horseman) thinks, constitutes the Norman horse the best imaginable horse for a cross upon the English horse of a certain description. Again he says, 'They are very gentle and docile; a kicking or vicious horse is almost unknown there; any person may pass in security at a fair at the heels of hundreds.'"

"Those who are acquainted with the thorough bred Canadian horse, will see in him a perfect model on a small scale, of the Percheron horse. This is the peculiar breed of Normandy which are used so extensively throughout the northern half of France for diligence and post-horses, and from the best French authorities I could command, (I cannot now quote the precise authorities,) I

learned that they were produced by the cross of the Andalusian horse upon the old heavy Norman horse, whose portrait may still be seen as a war horse on the painted windows of the Cathedral of Rouen, several centuries old.

At the time of the occupation of the Netherlands by the Spaniards, the Andalusian was the favorite stallion of the north of Europe, and thus a stamp of the true Barb was implanted, which remains to the present day.

The bone and muscle, and much of the form of the Percheron is derived from this horse, and he gets his spirit and action from sides. On the expulsion of the Spaniards the Andalusian. Docility comes from both from the north, the supply of Andalusians was cut off, and since that time in the Perch district in Normandy, their progeny has doubtless been bred in and in; hence the remarkable uniformity of the breed, and the disposition to impart their form to their progeny beyond any breed of domestic animals within my knowledge.

I feel very confident that another cross from these on the thorough bred will give you the Morgan horse on a larger scale.

I still hold to the opinion I expressed to you years ago, that the action of our common horses would be improved by the cross.

I may safely say they are universally docile and kind, at the same time spirited and lively. They break in without any difficulty.

As for speed in trotting, we cannot doubt its being in the breed, when we look at the instances among the thorough bred Canadian ponies.

*Perhaps some part of what I say above will be more dear to you if I say, that I hold to the opinion that the Percheron blood still exists in Canada in all its purity.*

I therefore am decidedly of opinion, that we cannot do better, if we wish to produce in any reasonable time a most invaluable race of horses for the farm and the road, than to breed from the full sized Norman or Percheron horse."

Mr. Youatt, in speaking of the French horses, says:

"The best French horses are bred in Lincolnshire and Normandy. From the former district come excellent saddle-horses and hunters; and from the latter a stronger species for the road, the cavalry, or the carriage. The Norman horses are now much crossed by our hunters, and occasionally by the thorough bred; and the English road-

ster and light draft horse has not suffered by a mixture with the Norman."

In his remarks on the coach horse, Mr. Y. says:

"The Normandy carriers travel with a team of four horses, and from fourteen to twenty-two miles in a day, with a load of ninety hundred weight."

The Norman horse as here described is undoubtedly found in Canada in great perfection. Mr. Harris has informed himself of the fact and any one visiting Montreal or Quebec may satisfy himself of the same fact.

We have seen a specimen of the race in this city which seems to possess all the characteristics of the diligence horse of France. How far he may be mixed with the American stock we have no means of judging, but the points he presents are such as certainly to commend him to the notice of our farmers. He is now at the stable of Butler & Brother, (Strother Jones' old stand) where we understand he will make a season. He was here last season and his products are remarkable for all the qualities lauded by the authors we have cited.

It seems to us that he is just the animal that our farmers should look at and if possible secure stock from. In structure, he possesses all the elements of beautiful shape, strength, endurance and rapid action. Though heavy, he moves lightly with a square trot and fast. At first sight he appears small, but a close inspection reveals his colossal proportions. His head is remarkably well made; broad brain; large eyes; large nostrils; full throat; pointed ears and small for the size of the horse; deep chest; large lungs; rather long neck, held high under motion; powerful shoulders and arms; round barrel; perfect withers; short coupling, large hips; muscular stifles—and perfectly faultless in all his joints and feet. He is sixteen hands high and weighs twelve hundred pounds. His color is bay roan with coal black legs, mane and tail. He passes by the name of the "Canadian Roan," though his points are Norman—the breed from which the Canadian descended.

We have thus enlarged upon this subject for the purpose of drawing the attention of

our farmers to the importance of improving upon the light breed of horses predominating among us. In a future number we will give a chapter upon other breeds of horses and an essay upon the treatment and management of this best friend of man in the animal creation. For years to come the price of horses must rule high and our farmers can make money by selecting the best breeds. But upon this point we will speak more fully hereafter.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

SALEM, MARION CO., ILLS.,  
April 14, 1856. }

ED. PRAIRIE FARMER—*Dear Sir:*

I was much pleased with the tenor of your notice of the location of the State Fair for 1856, at Alton. Yet there is a single sentence to which I wish to call attention, lest it mislead some not conversant with the facts.

You say, "it may be proper to say that Alton fully met the requirements of the Committee in the proposition for holding the State Fair in that city." Is this not equally true of the propositions from Salem? Neither responded to the *specifications* in detail, as set forth in a former resolution of the Executive Committee. Each subscribed a gross sum, either being sufficient to defray all necessary expenses in fitting up the grounds, &c. Each proposed to furnish a police force sufficient for the occasion and Salem proposed to do all hauling for the society to and from the grounds, free of charge—the President pronounced in open meeting the Salem proposition amply sufficient in form and substance, and to pretend that it is not, is merely to quibble.

I have been thus particular, because, to southern Illinois the location of the State Fair, for the fourth time, beyond her real boundaries and without any sort of reference to her interests, is felt as a *very serious matter*.

Serious, because it has been done and assented to, by those to whom, more than to all others the agricultural interests of the whole state are committed and from whom the southern portion had a right to look for more equal justice, a wider and more liberal policy.

Serious, because it compels the south for more self-preservation, to assume a position hostile to the present organization of the state society, and that her agricultural interests may not be for ever disgraced, to in-

sist on the division of the state into two agricultural districts. This seems to be the only course which promises a ray of hope—unless the principle, in voting for members of the state society from each county, ONLY ONE VOTE be adopted.

Give each county in the state but one vote for officers; so that Sangamon county voters may not be made at \$1 per head, while others cost from \$5 to \$25, or divide this long, very long state into two districts, organize a society for each, hold union fairs where desirable, but in SOME WAY dispense the legitimate benefits of a State Agricultural Society to the extremes of her territory.

Very respectfully,

MARION.

### The Robin.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER:

The Robin is a most welcome and early spring bird. All know him. There are none of us that do not have an affection for "Robin Red Breast." He was a familiar bird with me in early life. But long a resident in this portion of the West, I recollect when I first saw him here. His notes, though late unheard, were not forgotten; and when they again struck upon my ear, "the days of other years" came in review before me—past scenes—past loves—past hopes; all those long cherished remembrances that sometimes steal over the heart.

I need not describe the Robin. He is a bird of passage, but his migrations are singularly erratic. During fall and winter he is frequently found in sheltered places in the Atlantic states, and he moves from east to west, and from the north to the south, to avoid the snows and the severe cold.

The Robin loves to build its nest on an apple tree. It plasters the inside of the nest with mud, and lines it with fine grass. The female lays five eggs, of a beautiful green color. The principal food of the Robin is berries, worms and caterpillars. Of the first he prefers the sour gum, a tree common in the east, and the savage sportsman need only to take his stand near the tree, load, take aim and fire, (one flock succeeding another, with little interruption during the whole day) to kill prodigious numbers of this bird. Such is the recklessness of man, in destroying this beautiful, interesting and most useful bird—whose whole life is devoted to the benefit of his persecutors, in ridding them of insects most fatal to the crops on which almost the existence of man depends. Such has been the devastation, that in several of the eastern

states laws have been enacted to preserve the poor Robins.

The song of the Robin is heard soon after the cheerful notes of the blue bird. Sometimes flocks are even seen in spring when the snow partially covers the ground. Early in April, they are only to be seen in pairs. We listen with pleasure to the song of this bird. Even his nest is more sacred than that of other birds. He seems even conscious of our regard, for he almost always seeks shelter for his young, and subsistence for himself, near the habitations of man.

The Robin inhabits the whole of North America—from Hudson's Bay to Nootka Sound, and as far south as Georgia. They are also common in New Foundland. The Robin can be domesticated, and his song improves in confinement. He suffers much in molting time, yet often lives to a considerable age. A lady near Tarrytown, on the banks of the Hudson, raised and kept one of these birds for seventeen years; which sung as well and looked as sprightly at that age as ever; but at last was unfortunately destroyed by a cat. The morning is their favorite time for song. His early song, as a welcome to spring, while sitting on a prominent branch of some neighboring tree, is most sweet and cheering to the lovers of the beautiful in nature.

### "The Moral Sense of Flowers."

This is a beautiful little volume, published at St. Louis, and written by Mr. Tarver. We have not seen it, but find a most favorable notice of the work in the Belleville Advocate, by Governor Reynolds. He says:

"No one can read and contemplate this classic essay, but will rise from the pleasing task a better man, and his views refined and elevated; he will, at least for a season, soar into the elevated region of refinement and intelligence, and enjoy the pleasure and happiness that are created for the enjoyment of man in his most exalted state of existence. This work prepares the heart of man with that purity and elevation of thought that raises him far above the base and sordid passions of the vulgar, and instructs him to commune with more pleasure and happiness with his Creator. It also gives to him that moral and intellectual excellence of which his nature is susceptible."

Superior coal, by some called Cannel, has just been discovered in Montpelier township, Muscatine county, Iowa.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

**HOW TO WASH FLANNEL.**—Some women possess quite a knack in washing flannel, so as to prevent its fulling. It is not the soapsuds nor rinsing waters that thicken up flannel in washing, but the rubbing of it. Cloth is fouled by being "pounded and jounced" in the stocks of the fulling mill with soapsuds. The action of rubbing flannel on a wash-board is just the same as that of the fulling mill. Flannel, therefore, should always be washed in very strong soapsuds, which will remove the dirt and grease by squeezing better than hard rubbing will in weak soapsuds. It should also be rinsed out of the soap in very warm water, and never in cold; as the fibres of the wool do not shrink as much in warm water as in cold after coming out of warm soapsuds. Great care should be taken to rinse the soap completely out of the flannel. This advice will apply to the washing of blankets the same as it does of flannel.—Scientific American.

**BLOODY MURRAIN IN CATTLE.**—The Prairie Farmer publishes the following as a cure for this disease. Take of white oak bark, newly pecked from the tree, as much as you can easily encompass with the thumbs and fingers of both hands. Boil this in one gallon of water for a short time; then pour off the water and dissolve in it a lump of alum of the size of a hulled walnut, and a lump of copperas of the same size. With this mixture, drench the sick animal, and a cure will soon be effected.

**SCIENTIFIC DETECTION OF FRAUD.**—Some days ago one of a number of barrels that should have contained coin was found, on arrival per rail at Berlin, to have been emptied of its precious contents and refilled with sand. Professor Ehrenberg was consulted, and he sent for samples of sand from all the stations along the different lines of railway that the specie had passed, and, by means of his microscope, identified the station from which the interpolated sand must have been taken. The station once fixed upon, it was not difficult to hit upon the culprit in the small number of employees on duty there.

**HOW TO DO UP SHIRT BOSOMS.**—We often hear ladies expressing a desire to know by what process the gloss on new linen shirt bosoms, &c., is produced, and in order to gratify them we subjoin the following recipe:

Take two ounces of fine white gum arabic, powder it in a pitcher, and pour on a pint or more of water according to the degree of strength you desire, and then, having covered it let it set all night. In the morning pour it carefully from the dregs into a clean bottle, cork it, and keep it for use. A tablespoonful of gum water stirred in the usual way will give lawns, either white or printed, a look of newness when nothing else can restore them after washing.

**TO KEEP MILK SWEET,** the Scientific American says can be effected by placing a piece of newly hammered iron, or three ten penny nails in each tin pan, then pouring the warm milk on them. It is believed that electricity has something to do with the result in this case.

**TO CURE BROKEN HORNS.**—Remove the mutilated horn, and bind the stump with a cloth well tarred and pitched; any fabric will do to bind with, if the wounded part be first well covered with warm pitch.

**TO MAKE EXCELLENT SOAP FOR COMMON USE,** you must have good ashes, and put them in hoppers, or barrels, on a thick layer of straw, adding a half bushel of lime to a common sized hopper; wet the ashes daily for several days, to let them rot; then run it through, and it will be strong; put it in your kettles, and boil it, and fill up for two or three days, or till you can skim up thick potash, that looks like dirty salt; then take out one fourth of the lie and potash, and set it aside. Now get your grease, and put in the coarsest skins of bacon, bones, &c., you have, and the lye will soon eat them up. If clear grease rises on the top, lade it off till it eats up all the bones, &c.; then, if there are any left, take a large fork and pick them out, and throw them in the other kettle of potash; then add the pure grease you dipped off, to make the soap so mild that it will not quite take the skin off your tongue; try and see if it lathers well; then stir it an hour, and make the other kettleful in the same way, and it will be hard, so you can cut it out when cool. If you now wish to refine some, put in a pailful of brine in a clean kettle, and dissolve ten pounds or so in it, stirring it till it boils; then let it cool in the kettle, and cut out and dry.

**To prevent "pouting" in oxen,** put on them a long yoke. Another remedy is, to take a strong cord and tie it to the end of the inside horn of each ox.

**To cure hoof ail.**—Many of the diseases to which the legs and hoofs of horses and oxen are subject, such as scratches and hoof ail, grow out of working in fall seasons in mud. This should be avoided as much as possible. Great care should be taken to keep their limbs clean—cleanliness is essential to the health of the animal.

**TO CURE FOOT ROT IN SHEEP.**—Take about ten ounces of nitric acid and put ten copper cents into it. The acid will generally eat one copper cent to the ounce. The composition is to be put on with a feather after the hoof is well pared down. Mr. W. J. Whitney, of Du Page county, Illinois, cured a flock of 200 with this remedy.

**EXCELLENT BISCUIT.**—**TO MAKE BISCUIT,** sift two spoonful of cream of tartar, and one of soda, in three pints of flour; mix with sweet milk, and it needs no lard, and is white and delightful bread. Try it.

**TO MAKE NICE CRACKERS.**—Put about a tea-cupful of butter, and a teaspoonful of salt, in about two quarts of flour; mix with cold water; beat them well, adding on flour till they are brittle; then roll thin as pie-crust, and cut out with a large round cutter, and bake hard in a hot oven; they answer as well as baker's crackers, for oysters, soup, &c. If you wish them for invalids, put very little butter in.

**AN EXCELLENT REMEDY FOR A BURN.**—Take strong lime water, and put in a bottle, with linseed oil, one-third oil, two-thirds lime water; keep it always ready, and if the skin is off, powder flour on, tie up in cotton, and do not open till it suppurates; then wash with cast-steel soap; dress with mild salves.

**TO CLEAN SPRING WHEAT OF OATS.**—Fill a large tub nearly full of water—put in salt enough to make a weak brine—then put in a quantity of the wheat, and the water being made heavy by the salt, will float all the oats, which can be skimmed off. The salt water will not injure the wheat.

## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

### The Wool Question.

The eastern manufacturers have been laboring for sometime to induce Congress to take off the duties upon wool, so as to secure to themselves the *home* market for the cloths they manufacture. The Secretary of the Treasury has yielded to their desires, on the ground of a wish to reduce the amount of revenues from importations. It is contended by the manufacturers that the taking off of the duty will not lessen the demand for native wools, or reduce their prices.

Now if this reduction of duty induces importations of foreign wool, we cannot conceive why this should not lessen the demand and the prices for native wools. It seems to us that the case is so clear as not to admit even of the shadow of a doubt. By reducing the prices of the wool grown by our farmers, the manufacturers, protected by twenty per cent. duties on foreign cloths, they can monopolize the *home market*, we believe to be true, and probably they will be enabled to furnish their cloths to our people at low prices—but will that compensate the losses that our wool growers must experience? We think not.

Judge Cheever, of New York, in an address on this subject, says that in 1850, that state produced more than ten millions pounds of wool, which is probably now increased to twelve and a half millions. This was in value more than five millions of dollars. Thirty per cent. on this, is one million and a half of dollars; and this now is to be taken from the pockets of the farmers of one state for the benefit of manufacturers—while the census of 1850, gives returns that show that forty-three per cent. profit has been made upon capital invested in manufactures in this country, and that agriculturists have only realized seven per cent. The plan of the Secretary, if carried out, will greatly benefit manufacturers of wool and at the same time injure the growers of wool in this country.

### Antiquity of the Rose.

According to Professor Agassiz, no fossils of the rose have yet been discovered by geologists. He thinks the creation of the plant was *cœval* with that of man.

For the Illinois Farmer.

### The Farmer.

Of all pursuits on earth invented,  
The Plowmen are the best contented;  
Their calling good, their profits high,  
And on their labor they rely.  
Their hands give meat to all around  
Up from the beggar to the crown;  
The milk and honey, corn and wheat  
Are by their labor made complete.  
Our cloths from them first arise,  
To deck the fop and dress the wise;  
We then by vote may justly state  
The Plowman ranks among the great.  
More independent than them all,  
Who dwell upon this earthy ball.  
All hail ye farmers, young and old,  
Push on your plows with courage bold.  
Your wealth arises from the sod;  
Your independence from your God.  
If then the Plow supports the nation  
And men who rank in every station—  
Let kings to farmers make their bow,  
And every man procure a Plow.

### Learn a Trade.

It is a great mistake in boys not to learn trades. "He that has a trade, has an estate," is an old saying. When you see young lads, hanging about stores and corners, with their hands in their pockets, and segars in their mouths, without any steady employment, you may make up your mind that the day will come when they will be likely to see hard times. They have no particular purpose in life—but calculate to take hold of some profitable business hereafter, of which they know nothing and will be likely to know nothing until they engage in it. Such lads will be a tax on their parents until they are of age, and be of little account afterwards.

Learn a trade—have some purpose in life. A few days since, a young man from the east called at the Farmer office, and wanted employment. "What can you do?" was the question. "I am willing to work at almost anything." "Have you a trade?" "I have not." "Was you brought up to any regular business?" "My father was tolerably well off and it was unnecessary." "Can you work on a farm?" "I don't know, but I am willing to work."

What could we say to this young man? We did say to him—"Had you a trade, did you understand farming, there would be no difficulty in getting employment; but in the west we are all industrious—we all have a purpose—I don't know what I can do for you." It was manifest that the young man went away with a sad heart. We were sorry for him. He should have learnt a trade.

A short time after, a full breasted, stout young man, entered our sanctum. He wanted employment. "What can you do?" "I have worked at farming four years in Vermont, and six in New York." "You want to work on a farm?" "Yes." "Well you are just the man wanted—and I would like to engage half a dozen more like you. I will give you a letter to JAMES CURTIS, Esq, at West Urbana, Champaign county. He wants several good farm hands. Can you go to him—and when?" "I will go in the first cars." We gave him a letter, and he was off in two hours. Now this man, if we mistake not greatly, will have his own farm in two years.

These incidents are common enough, yet we should not lose sight of their importance because they are common. "Learn a profession—have some fixed purpose in life," is our text, and needs no further application.

#### Mowers and Reapers.

We have advertised on our advertising sheet several Mowers and Reapers. The advertisers tell their own stories of their machines and their peculiar merits. First, there is Manny's Mower and Reaper; next Danforth's Mower and Reaper; next Atkin's Mower and Reaper; next Seymour and Morgan's New York Self Raking Reaper, and Mower Attachment; and finally, Henderson & Co.'s new Mower and Reaper, which runs without gearing and is of very light weight.

All these Mowers and Reapers have their friends. We only say to our farmers, examine them well "and be fully persuaded in your own minds," before you make a selection. They are all at hand for examination as well as the published evidences of their value.

#### Coming to the West.

A eastern gentleman who arrived in this city, in the middle of April, from the east, expressed his great surprise at the avalanche of emigration he witnessed coming to the west, as he leisurely pursued his journey to this city. There are several trains a day on the Central New York road and on the train in which he passed were thirteen cars crowded with emigrants. He was told by an officer of the road that every train would average an equal number of cars filled with persons moving to the west, and this had been going on ever since the first of March, and before. The Southern New York road is also crowded with emigrants. We suppose that emigration from New Jersey, as well as that of Pennsylvania, passed over the Pennsylvania road. There are no present means of estimating the number of emigrants from the eastern states who have and will come to the west and settle in the new territories and states the present year; but it must double, if not triple, that of any former year.

Even in the older settled portions of Illinois, new farms are being opened and old farms are being extended, beyond anything before witnessed. Wherever the wild lands can be purchased at any reasonable prices, there improvements are being made. Illinois is rapidly marching to her high destiny.

 Nursery peach trees, and those planted the present fall, are probably mostly killed by the winter down to within a foot or two of the ground. But if the trees are of but one year's growth from the bud, as is commonly the case, this destruction of the tops is but little real injury; as all experienced planters are aware that the top of a young peach tree is of little consequence, provided the root is healthy, and the greatest peach growers always recommend cutting off the tops entirely when planting young trees, as the stems put out young shoots very readily, and a better top is secured in that way at the end of the year, than when the original one is allowed to remain.

Of course when the stem is injured, the cut should be made as high as two or three feet from the ground, where it is desired the head should be formed; but if cut nearer to the ground, it is only necessary to see that but one shoot is allowed to grow during the summer, and to pinch off its top at the proper height for forming the head of the tree.—Ohio Cultivator.

**The Crops, Weather, &c.**

The season in this part of Illinois, (April 1) is very dry. Wheat has suffered and is now suffering greatly from drought. We must have rain within a few days or there will be a short crop. We already notice that papers published in some of the towns on the Illinois river, are advising farmers not to sell off their present stock of wheat too close before they shall be satisfied that there will not be a failure in the coming crop.

It is a bad plan, we think, for farmers to rely wholly on one staple crop. If one crop should fail, they ought to be able to fall back on another. If wheat fails, they should have corn, oats, barley, potatoes, buckwheat, &c. If the meadows fail, they should be able to fall back on corn sown broadcast and on millet. Both will do to sow late, and yield heavy crops.

Some of our farmers will try carrots as a field crop the present season. They yield well in our rich and deeply pulverized soils. The turnip is an important crop in England. The climate there is better adapted to its culture than ours. To insure a crop of turnips for stock, whether of the Swedish or Norfolk variety, we are constrained to believe that the seed should be sown earlier than is usual here.

High prices are paid for flax seed at the oil mills. The price must be high for years to come. Little seed, however, can be obtained. We have lately procured some from Chicago.

We hope some of our farmers will recollect the "sufferings of the country" last winter on account of the scarcity of buckwheat flour. It sold readily at six cents a pound. We have no idea that the country will be likely to have an over supply of this article. There is but little seed to be had.

We hope that before this number of our paper is issued, we shall have a supply of rain. "Summer and winter, seed time and harvest shall not fail." Let us keep to work and do our best to make crops. Poor Richard says "God helps those who help themselves."

**Agricultural Fairs.**

There seems to be great disappointment in Southern Illinois on account of the location of the State Fair. We give an article on the subject from a citizen of Union county. We have the proceedings of a meeting held in Marion county on the same subject. The executive committee are severely censured for the decision they conceived it their duty to make. The main point in the proceedings of the meeting referred to, seemed to be to get up a fair in Southern Illinois, and a committee was appointed to act in concert with other committees to be appointed in the southern counties, for this object.

We are in favor of this measure. Let the fair be held at the best point, a week, or two weeks, after the State Fair, and we believe that much good can be effected. We are for it, and will do all we can to carry out the project. We believe in the benefits of agricultural fairs, and especially have we confidence that such a fair as is contemplated, will benefit Southern Illinois. Go to work then, good friends—stir up the people in the "fifteen counties"—we are "heart and hand" with you in this undertaking.

**VERBENAS.**—So soon as the present cold storm passes over, we can plant out Verbenas in our gardens. Many persons fail to bring out the beauties of this plant. The requisites to effect this object, are—the plants must be young, strong and healthy. They must have a full exposure to the sun, from sun rise to sun set, if possible; for they will not thrive in a continued shade. The soil should be light and deep, and if heavy should be made light by the use of sand and rotten manure.

Encourage the plants to spread on the ground. Take out old and decayed shoots. Prevent them from overlaying each other so much as to prevent a full developement of the flower. A few plants of striking difference in color and appearance, will be sufficient to make a handsome bed, that will continue in blossom until winter. No good garden can be well without a Verbena bed.

**NEWS OF THE MONTH.**—Peace has taken place in Europe. All parties seem to have had fighting enough. France has come out of the fight with the most glory. There must be commercial changes as the result of peace. Some three hundred ships will be thrown out of employment as transports, and then seeking other business, will reduce the profits of the shipping interest. Peace does not seem to cause much rejoicing out of France. Nothing has been gained for human freedom by the war just closed.

The news from India is not of much interest. Oude has been formally annexed to the British dominions. There is much discussion in relation to the exportation of laborers from China to different parts of the world. This business has been managed with great inhumanity. China has an overburthened population, but this does not justify the brutal treatment, the recklessness in regard to human life, evinced towards the poor expatriated Chinese. It is well known that Chinese female children are often thrown into rivers to avoid the trouble of raising, and men frequently starve to death for want of food. Hence the desire to migrate.

In South America, the contest has been progressing between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. A party of Nicaraguans were surprised by a large force of Costa Ricans, and defeated with some slaughter. It is said fifty of the former were killed and sixty were missing. Subsequently the Costa Ricans invaded Nicaragua and captured Rivas from Walker, which he was compelled to abandon for want of ammunition—after killing some 400 Costa Ricans. The accounts yet seem favorable for Walker's success—though it is found that the British are furnishing arms and ammunition to the Costa Ricans, who are led on by British officers. There has been some disturbances on the Panama route—the natives having attacked the passengers over the route from San Francisco, killing and wounding some thirty persons. We have no idea that there will be permanent protection to property and life on the routes of Panama and Nicaragua

until the United States have possession of them.

The Indian disturbances in Oregon continue without any serious Indian fights lately. But the affairs of the country are unsettled—men are drawn from agriculture, as well by the war as by the gold mines at Colville, and times are hard; but a change for the better is anticipated.

The domestic wars continue in Mexico. It would be a blessing to that country if the United States should take control of it. The country is not as prosperous as it was under Spanish domination. Any change, almost, would benefit the people.

There have been no remarkable events in the United States since our last publication. Congress is proceeding with their business slowly. The House have not decided on the elections in Kansas. There are two propositions for the admission of Kansas into the Union, the first under the present State Constitution, and the other under a constitution to be formed at a future time. The House Kansas Committee have proceeded to the territory.

The bridge at Rock Island, across the Mississippi, was so far completed on the 9th instant, that cars passed over it. It was a grand sight, big with future events, to see the steam horse passing in triumph over the "father of waters." That great work is accomplished. We shall next hear that the steam horse has passed over the Missouri, and that he is working his way to the Rocky mountains!

"Westward! the Star of Empire leads the way!"

#### Corn Planters.

Our farmers are invited to examine the Corn Planters left with Francis & Barrell, for sale. First, we have the Wakefield, a single Corn Planter; then Randall & Jones, a double ditto; then Woodward's, by horse power; then Barnhill's, to plant in drills; and last, (which has just come to hand,) a new double planter. We venture to say that we can prove by the testimony of the inventor of each of those machines, that *his* is the best! But experience must determine this.

### The State Fair.

The Alton Courier of the 21st ultimo, says:

"On Saturday last, Dr. H. C. Johns, the able President of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, in company with a committee of our citizens, visited the different localities around our city, which had been mentioned as suitable places for holding the next annual State Fair, and after a careful examination of each tract, and duly weighing the advantages of each, the decision was finally made in favor of the Hopkins tract, immediately north of and adjoining the northern boundary of the city, and just one mile back of the river. The piece selected comprises about thirty acres; twelve acres of which are entirely clear of timber, the balance being a fine open grove, with a firm blue grass sod, and in point of natural beauty far surpasses, so we are informed by Dr. Johns, any piece of ground he has ever examined with the same view.

"J. A. Miller, Esq., Architect, of this city, has been employed to lay out the grounds in handsome style, and draw plans for the necessary buildings, to be submitted to the Executive Committee of the Society for its approval. Mr. Miller's acknowledged skill and taste are guarantees that in the laying out of the grounds and the erection of the buildings, there will be much to admire and approve.

"The supply of water will be abundant, and excellent in quality. Fine roads, (plank and pike) lead directly to the grounds. They can be reached on foot, from the steamboat landing, the hotels, and the business part of the city, in an easy walk of fifteen minutes, and so far as our citizens are concerned, whatever relates to the beautifying of the grounds, to the accommodation of the thousands of our fellow-citizens whom we expect to see here, and to the means of transport to this place, while here, and in getting away, by carriage, steamboat or rail, everything in their power will be done to make the Fair a pleasant one, honorable alike to the State, advantageous to its great agricultural interests, and beneficial to our city in the exhibition of the courtesy of our people, the natural resources at our command, and the advancement we are making in commercial and mechanical pursuits."

We further learn that the citizens of Alton are taking hold of this matter with a spirit and determination, that promises every needful preparation for the coming Fair.

Indeed, we are encouraged to believe that the preparations for the Fair will exceed the expectations of the public, and that they will compare with those at any Fair which has been held in this State.

**SPIREAS.**—These are all beautiful dwarf shrubs, quite hardy and very ornamental. All produce white or red flowers. The "Douglas" spirea, has beautiful, deep rose colored, spike shaped flowers, which appear in July and August. The "Prunifolia," or Plum Leaved, from Japan, is a new plant, and has flowers like white daisies. They are very beautiful. The "Ulmifolia," or Elm Leaved, has large round clusters of white flowers. The "Launceolata," has pointed leaves, with clusters of white flowers that cover the whole plant. The "Salicifolia" has beautiful white flowers. The "Sorbifolia," Ash Leaved, has long elegant racemes of white flowers in July.

These shrubs are all of the easiest culture and their flowering covers a space of three months.

J. C. Shannon, of Louisiana, Missouri, desires information in regard to the best machine for driving posts into the ground for fencing. He desires one that can be placed on wheels. Can any of our subscribers give him the desired information?

[Valley Farmer.

Junius Sampson, Esq., (whose post office is Waynesville, Logan county, Illinois,) has invented a machine, which, we are sure, will meet the wishes of Mr. Shannon. It drives posts rapidly—perhaps occupying in common ground, an average of three minutes in driving a post.

We have the well-got up nursery catalogues of trees, plants, &c., of John A. Kennicott & Son, West Northfield, Cook county; and of Lewis Ellsworth & Co., Napierville, Du Page county. These nurseries are very extensive—the articles they have for sale will be disposed of at reasonable prices—and they will be found true to name. The catalogues referred to can be examined at the office of the *Farmer*.

**Officers of the Du Page Co. Agricultural and Mechanical Society for 1856.**

President, Lewis Ellsworth.

Vice Presidents, C. E. Kinney, S. O. Vaughn, T. W. Smith.

Recording and Corresponding Secretary, James G. Wright.

Executive Committee, A. W. Colt, N. Crampton, Naperville; C. H. Goodrich, W. B. Green, Lisle; W. N. Rees, Daniel Kelly, Milton; W. R. Patrick, C. H. Mosely, Bloomingdale; A. Kershaw, Ira Albro, Wayne; S. Pierce, Daniel Lester, Addison; Russel Manville, G. N. Roundy, Winfield; H. M. Lyman, H. Martin, Downer's Grove; J. B. Hull, C. Litchfield, York.

**Frozen Cherry Trees.**

What can be done with them? WM. HEAVER, a distinguished nurseryman, thus answers this question, in a communication to the Ohio Farmer :

"I would advise you to leave your cherry trees alone, until after the time the cherries are in leaf, when, if there is any life in them, it will show itself. Should the main trunk be killed nearly down to the stock, allow all the sprouts above the original inserted bud, to grow until they attain the length of ten or twelve inches; then select the stoutest shoot, and secure in a perpendicular position, to form the future trunk of the tree; nip off about half an inch of the top of the other sprouts, and continue nipping them back as long as they continue to grow through the season, allowing them to make from four to five inches of growth each time. Select the strongest bud for your leader, whether it may be the upper bud or not, and let it grow unchecked. By pursuing this course you keep the vital principle in motion, by the healthful action of root and top.

By following the course recommended, I last year had fine fruit from some cherry trees that were killed down nearly to the bud in 1852.

Experience has satisfied me that the surest and easiest way to have hardy and healthy cherry trees, in the latitude of Southern Ohio, is to allow the trees to branch low. By growing cherry trees in this mode, I have succeeded in restoring trees to a healthy and vigorous state, after they had been so badly injured by winter-sun scalding, as to appear past hope of recovery; so far gone, as to have large fungi growing from the diseased wood; and in this fatal winter, I believe I

have not lost a single bearing cherry tree.

Grow cherry trees to a clean trimmed, naked stem, and they will soon scald with us (Cincinnati) in comparatively mild winters. Of some twenty or thirty cherry trees set out from ten to twenty years ago, scarcely three have escaped being so affected, killing the bark and sap wood on the southwest side of the trees."

**State Fair at Alton.**

At the adjourned annual meeting of the Bond county agricultural society, held at Greenville, April 21, 1856, Hon. Benjamin Johnson, president, in the chair, it was

*Resolved*, That this society have learned with much regret that the executive committee of the agricultural society of the state of Illinois have chosen Alton as the place for holding the next state fair.

The disregard to the interests and feelings of all southern Illinois in such selection, is perhaps less to be deplored than its injurious effect upon the influence of this society in the great object of its institution, to promote agricultural improvement throughout the state.

Not only by failing to encourage this improvement in quarters where such improvement is most needed, and where the influence of its example would prove most salutary and efficient, but by thus giving just cause for sectional jealousy, all hope of uniting the farmers of the whole state in one harmonious and general effort for mutual improvement is lost, and all just expectation of legislative aid to extend the useful action of the society, effectually cut off.

It is due not only to southern Illinois, but to the success of agricultural improvement throughout the state, that this glaring perversion to local influences, of an institution created for the benefit of Illinois farmers and artisans, should be rebuked. And in performing this unwelcome duty which the best interests of agriculture demand, we are prompted by a sense of justice to a portion of the executive committee, to say, that this wrong is committed against the expressed wishes of a respectable minority of that body.

We cast no censure upon any individuals, yet the fact is apparent, that the farmers of southern Illinois have nothing to expect from the justice or favor of the state institution, under its existing organization.

The State Register, Illinois Farmer, and other journals friendly to the best interests of agriculture throughout the state, are respectfully requested to publish the foregoing resolution.

### Culture of Carrots.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER:

As this is the proper season for sowing the Carrot, a few remarks about its value for stock feeding and the mode of culture, may be of use to those who are unacquainted with the mode of managing that crop. (I will hereafter give the mode for keeping it in the winter season.) For the dairy farmer no root that is known is of more value. The milk and butter from cows fed on it is of superior flavor, besides increasing the quantity in winter, and at the same time they will fatten on this food.

The three first weeks of May is the best time for sowing. The soil most suitable is a deep sandy loam, but they will yield a large crop on deep black loam. The ground should have, at least, two deep ploughings, and then well harrowed; lay off the drills about two feet wide so as to admit of horse hoeing, and if the land is in poor condition, some well rotted manure will be of great benefit. After covering over the manure with the plow, if you should use it, take a stick or the garden rake and make a track about one-half inch deep; get a bottle and put the seed into it, and if the bottle is too wide, shape a piece of cork to fit the mouth of the bottle so as to sow the seed of the thickness wished, shaking the bottle in going along. This makes a good substitute for a drill machine. The Orange Carrot requires about three pounds of seed to the acre, and the Altringham two pounds; some allow three pounds; if they come up too thick they must be thinned out as soon as practicable, as they will not come to a good and profitable size if left thick. Thin them out to four inches apart. They must be left clean of weeds and well worked among during the summer.

The Orange Carrot grows the largest, but the Altringham has more substance—and produces well. And as some people are very fond of Carrots for the table, perhaps the Altringham is to be preferred. A good plan is to grow a proportion of each kind. Hoping that the farmers will pay some heed to my suggestions in reference to the cultivation of the Carrot, as a useful and profitable crop.

I am, &c.,

A FRIEND TO AGRICULTURE.

### CHINA ROSES.

FOR planting in the garden, and which will blossom all summer; Verbenas and other plants for bedding out, &c. &c., for sale at the Farmer's Store. FRANCIS & BARRELL—May 1.

## THE MARKETS.

### Springfield Market.

We have but few changes to note in our market the past month. Wheat and Flour have fallen, and may yet even lower. There is little wheat, but an immense amount of Corn in the country. But few Oats are in market. The recent heavy rains have greatly improved the fields of wheat and oats—tho' some of the former are lost beyond recovery. Potatoes still rule high in market, and good potatoes are scarce. The farmers seem to be more particular in regard to the seed potatoes to be used the present season, than usual. Farmers are busy preparing their ground for corn, and many are already planting. Butter and Cheese are scarce articles in our market. For small farmers the dairy business must be very profitable. A few cows well attended to, would give a family a certain and profitable employment. Our market is nearly bare of garden vegetables; but from the number of persons in the neighborhood of the city who have engaged in the gardening business, we shall expect hereafter a good supply. It is manifest, however, that those who succeed in gardening here, must furnish the best vegetables of the different kinds, and bring them to the market in the best and most inviting order.

Our city is now well supplied with Bacon—hams, shoulders and sides—and with a variety of Butcher's meats. These latter bear a good price, while the former can be had at rates that will insure the consumption of large amounts.

Wheat—From 90c to \$1 10 per bushel.  
 Flour—Extra fine, \$7 50 per bbl.  
 Corn—From 15 to 20c per bushel.  
 Corn Meal—Retail prices 40c per bushel.  
 Potatoes—From 75c to \$1 per bushel.  
 Butter—From 20 to 25c per lb.  
 Eggs—From 8 to 10c per dozen.  
 Hominy—20c per gallon.  
 White Beans—From \$1 75 to \$2 50 per bushel.  
 Rice—8c per lb.  
 Hams—Best 12½c; inferior 10a11 per lb.  
 Shoulders—7½ to 8c per lb.  
 Ribbed Sides—8c per lb.  
 Clear Sides—9c per lb.

### New Orleans Market—April 26.

Flour—Demand limited. Sale of 250 bbls superfine St. Louis for shipment at \$6 37 1-2; 150 extra Illinois at 7 60, and 50 at 7 75 per bbl.  
 Oats—Good demand, in bulk, at 35c per bushel.  
 Pork—One lot of 90 bbls uninspected mess sold at \$16 25, which is the ruling rate.  
 Lard—91-2 refused for 300 bbls and tierces prime.  
 Bacon—Steady. Sales 30 casks ribbed Sides at 9c, and 16 clear (one lot) at 10 1-2c.  
 Coffee—150 bags sold at 11 3-8c.  
 Green Meat—A sale of 30 casks dry-salted Sides at 7 1-2c per lb.

### New York Market—May 3.

Flour...There is less doing in flour, but prices are without important change. The demand is chiefly for home consumption; sales 5,000 bbls at \$5 75 to 6 for common and state, \$6a6 37½ for extra do, 5 62 for mixed to good western, \$6a7 for low grades medium extra do, 7a10 for the whole range of extra Genesee and St. Louis, the market closing dull, and holders taking 6d off for lots exposed to the storm.  
 Corn Meal dull and drooping. Rye Flour steady; sales 200 bbls at \$3 75a4 75 for fine and superfine.

**St. Louis Market.—May 3, 1856.**

A despatch received to-day from New Orleans, and of this date, quotes Mess Pork at \$16 50; Lard 9½c; Flour \$6 50; Bacon Sides 9¼a9½c per lb.

Flour—Sale of 1,000 bbls city superfine \$5 75; country superfine and fancy do 200 bbls at \$5 50 on board.

Wheat...Several lots damaged 75ca\$1; 452 sacks common fall \$1 05; 227 do spring 97½c; 154 do red 1 20; 260 do prime 1 25; 350 do choice 1 27½; small parcel choice white 1 30 per bushel.

Corn...Sales of 600 bags in lots, mixed 35c; 1200 do white, in lots, 86c, new-gunnies included.

Oats...Sales of 850 sacks in lots 35c; 1100 do 36c, part on board; 250 do 36½c, sacks included.

RYE...168 sacks 65c, including packages.

Barley Malt...100 bags winter 1 80 per bushel, sacks returned.

Bale Rope...Sale of 120 coils country handspun 8c per lb.

Whisky...Sale of 70 and 100 bbls at 23c per gallon. Dried Fruit...Sale of 100 sks Apples 1 10a1 15; 30 do peaches 1 60 per bushel.

Hides...Sales of dry from levee at 14½c per lb.

Pork...Mess nominally 15 50; Rumps \$10; M. O. 14 75 per bbl.

Bacon...Sales of 14 casks country Shoulders and Hams, 6½ and 8c; 26 do country Sides 8½c; 58 do at same; 50 do porkhouse 8½; 50 do city 8½c; 50 do clear 9½c; 5 do plain Hams 9c; 14 do Shoulders 7c; 10 do Bagged Hams 9½c; 1500 Canvasaed do 9c; 700 Shoulders, loose, 6½c 6000 sugar-cured city Canvasaed Hams, packed, 10c per lb.

Bulk Meat...Sale of 30 casks Shoulders 6c per lb.

Lard...700 pkgs prime \$3a3 81; steam do 8½c; 200 kegs prime 10c per lb.

Grease...Yellow and white selling at 7½ and 8c per lb.

Groceries...Sugars, common to strictly prime, 6½a8 ½c; Rio Coffee do 10½a12½c; Plantation Molasses 42c; Rice 4½c; G. A. Salt, \$1 87½ per bag.

Cattle...H. Ashbrook & Co. report sales and shipment of about 500 head at 6a 6½c net. Butchers pay 6 to 7½c, as in quality. Small extra lots sold this week as high as 7 50a8 62½ per 100 lbs. The supply is fair, and but few unsold at the close.

Hogs...Good supply and liberal sales at 4 50a5 25 per 100 lbs.

Sheep...Supply fair, prices ranging from 2 50 to 3 75 per head.

**Chicago Market—May 2.**

Flour—Market quiet except for city trade. We quote nominal at \$2 75@4 for Fine; \$5@5 25 for No 2 Superfine; \$6 50@5 75 for No 1 do; 85 25 for Fancy, and \$6 50@7 for Extra; Chicago City Mills Superfine \$7 25; do Extra \$7 75. Rye Flour \$5 25@5 37 1-2. Buckwheat Flour \$3 per 100 lbs. Corn Meal \$1 12 1-2@1 25 per 100 lbs.

Wheat—Rather firmer, Common spring in store \$1 05@1 05. Milling samples \$1 08@1 10. Winter \$1 20@1 50 for Red and White.

Corn—Market a shade lower, closing quiet. Buyers offer 36c per 56 lbs on board; sellers ask 36 1-1@37c.

Oats—In fair demand for city trade at about 80@81c, delivered. Very little doing for export. We quote nominal at 28@29c on board.

Rye—Moderate demand at 85@90c.

Barley—In good demand at \$1 30 to 1 50, and 1 60 to 1 70 for very choice.

**Cincinnati Market—April 30.**

Flour and Grain—The market for Flour continues dull, and prices are declining. The only sales heard of were 125 bbls at \$5 25, and 160 do at \$5 10. In Grain, 700 bushels red Wheat sold at \$1 10.

Provisions—Market firm but not active. The only sale heard of to-day was 10,000 lbs. Bulk Sides, deliverable in all May, at 7½c.

Whisky—Sales of 300 bbls at 19½c, and 256 do from wagons at 19 3-8c. The market is steady, with a good demand.

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**Sales of Property at Auction,  
MAXCY & McALLISTER,**

**AT ALL TIMES READY TO SELL, BY** auction, real estate and personal property, in the city and country.

Auction room, centre room of the Journal Buildings.

They also attend to the private sale and purchase of farms and lands in the country, and lots and houses in the city.

Journal Buildings, May 1, 1856.

**The Springfield Woolen Factory,**

**IS** Prepared to Card, Spin, or Manufacture Wool into Cloths and Blankets in good style and with despatch.

They have added to their Carding Room, new and improved Custom Cards, which enables them to Card in first rate order

**1000 pounds of wool** per day.

Customers from abroad can have their wool attended to without delay.

**CASH PAID FOR WOOL.**

May 1. ARMSTRONG & CO.

**OSAGE ORANGE PLANTS.**

**FOR** Sale by May 7, 1856 FRANCIS & BARRELL.

**FAMILY GROCERIES,**

**FRESH** and good, of almost every variety, for sale by FRANCIS & BARRELL. May 1.

**WAKEFIELD'S CORN PLANTER.**

**T**HE WESTERN CORN PLANTER COMPANY, have over five hundred certificates as to the utility of this implement, from persons in different parts of the Union, who used it last Spring. Read the following:

Working Farmer Office, 143 Fulton Street, N. York. To whom it may concern—I have examined Wakefield's Hand Corn Planter and operated with it. I cheerfully recommend it is a practical and useful implement. The recommendations shown me by the Agent, are fully sustained by the working of the planter.

JAMES J. MAPES.

American Institute—Farmers' Club, New York, August 21, 1856.—Wakefield's Hand Planter was exhibited. This very handy implement weighs about six pounds. It is readily adjusted to plant at any depth, and to deliver accurately the number of grains desired, and to cover them at the same time. It is considered to be a very useful implement for the farmer, and is a cheap one; its price being only five dollars. The club are much pleased with it.

H. MEIGS, Sec'y.

These Corn Planters can be found at the Farmers' Store, Journal Buildings, at \$5 each.

May 1.

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

### To Persons Visiting Springfield to Purchase Goods.

**O**NE OF THE LARGEST, CHEAPEST, and most desirable stocks of Merchandise in Central Illinois, is to be found at

### Joseph Thayer & Co's.,

South side of the Public Square.

Their stock contains the richest fabrics as well as the more useful, of Dry Goods, Bonnets, Parasols, Cutlery, China and Glassware, Boots, Shoes and Gaiters, Clothing, Teas and Family Groceries, Trunks, Looking Glasses, Hats.

The second story of their store is devoted exclusively to

### Carpets and Oil Cloths.

They would call the attention of those in want of stout woolen goods to their stock, which they manufacture themselves of unmixed Sangamon county wool and warrant to wear well.

All persons in want of any of the above articles, are invited to inspect our assortment. We guarantee prices as low as the lowest.

May 1.

### Agricultural Implements, Hardware, Cutting, &c.

### B. F. FOX.

**H**AS ON HAND A GREAT STOCK OF these articles for sale. His Agricultural Implements embrace everything that the farmer wants in that line. His stock of Hardware cannot be excelled in the western country. He supplies all kinds of Mechanics with Hardware and tools in their line. And everything he sells is at the lowest and fairest prices. Call at his old stand on Fifth Street, just North of the Square.

May 1—1f.

### Cochin China Fowl Eggs,

**W**ARRANTED fresh and true—for sale at FRANCIS & BARRELL'S Store.

mar 30

DANIEL SCOTT.

### HOSTETTER'S

## Celebrated Stomach BITTERS.

**O**NE WINE-GLASSFUL TAKEN THREE times a day, before meals, will be a sure cure for Dyspepsia, will remove all flatulency or heaviness from the Stomach, keep you free from costiveness, assist digestion, give a good appetite and impart a healthy tone to the whole system, and a certain prevention of Fever and Ague.

FACTS cannot be questioned, when the people of any country bear testimony in mass, as in the case of

### Dr. J. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters,

not only have we the individual evidence of the land, but almost every paper in the Union is commenting upon the great benefit derived from the use of these Celebrated Bitters, besides various Diplomas awarded them, among which is one from the Ohio Mechanics' Institute, at their Thirteenth annual exhibition at Cincinnati, where the committee was composed chiefly of Physicians of the city. These are all weighty facts that cannot help but convince the most incredulous that it is at least worthy of trial. We therefore advise all who are not proof against three sudden transits from cold to hot weather, to be provided with a supply for family use, as it has been attended with the most beneficial results, when administered to ladies or children before meals, as per directions on the bottle. Once tried, their virtues will be realized in a very short time. It is not necessary for us to enumerate all the diseases prevailing and arising from the stomach, but suffice it to say that any derangement arising either from change of weather or diet, which is generally the cause of Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Cholera, Cholera Morbus or Cholera, all are speedily checked and cured by the use of these bitters.

SPRINGFIELD, April 14, 1856.

Some months since, while recovering from an attack of Remittent Fever, I was requested to try Dr. Hostetter's Bitters, as an article peculiarly suited to the condition of convalescents from fevers.

It is but simple justice to say, that it rapidly restored the powers of my digestive organs, and at the same time kept my bowels gently open.

I have no hesitancy in saying that hitherto, in using it in my practice, it has in every case where I have ordered, it acted like a charm.

In thus speaking freely of it, I FAR from puff a patent medicine, an article it by no means claims to be.

SANFORD BELL, M. D.

May 1.

For sale by all of the Druggists in Springfield.

## CLOTHING STORE.

### M. Hirschfield,

**S**OUTH SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE, HAS A Complete stock of Clothing for men and boys, coats, vests, pantaloons, shirts cravats, drawers, pocket kerchiefs and everything in the clothing line. Prices very low.

May 1—3m.

## FLOWER SEEDS,

**A** SPLENDID stock, just received and for sale by FRANCIS & BARRELL.

mar 30.

**GOOD NEWS!--NEW GOODS!!****W. O. JONES & W. V. GREENWOOD,**

**H**AVING associated themselves together under the name and style of Jones & Greenwood, for the purpose of conducting a general retail trade in the town of Chatham, Sangamon county, beg leave to say to the citizens of that town and surrounding country, that they are now in the receipt of a large, entirely new and carefully selected stock of seasonable

Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Hardware, Queensware, Clothing, Groceries,

And all articles kept by the general trader, which they pledge themselves to sell as low as they can be bought in the west. All kinds of country produce taken in exchange for goods.

They will occupy the house known as the Norton Store House, Chatham. Don't forget to call. (April) **JONES & GREENWOOD.**

**RANDALL & JONES'****CORN PLANTERS.**

**T**HOSE in want of this celebrated labor saving machine can be accommodated by calling upon the undersigned or at the Agricultural and Seed Store of Francis & Barrell. These machines have been thoroughly tested and can be relied upon. Three different and valuable improvements have been made in the Planters since last year which renders them perfect in every respect. Certificates have been obtained from numerous persons who have used the Planter last year, among which, one from a well known citizen of Sangamon county will be given.

Springfield, May 1. **J. G. P. PARKER.**

This is to certify that I have planted 100 acres of corn with Randall & Jones Corn Planter; the corn came up well. I can recommend it to farmers who have corn to plant: 1. For its speed in planting. 2. For its placing the corn where the moles are bothered to find it. And 3. For its placing the corn where it is not likely to be washed up. I intend planting my corn this Spring with it, but I see they have a decided improvement on those machines. All who want to plant corn right can come to Francis & Barrell's Store, where they will find them.

**H. W. OWEN.**

**CHEAP GOODS.**

**W. R. FONDEY, ON THE SOUTH SIDE** of the Square, Springfield, is offering bargains in

Dry Goods,  
Hats and Caps,  
Boots and Shoes,  
Hardware,  
Carpets & Oil Cloths,  
Glassware & Queensware,  
Nails,  
Liquors, Wines, &c.,  
for Cash.

Springfield, May 1.

**LAND BROKERS.**

**P**ERSONS HAVING FARMS OR FARMING Land for sale can find purchasers by applying to the subscriber.

**CAMPBELL & FONDEY,**  
Land and Insurance Agents.

Springfield, May 1.

**Premium Self-Raking Reaper!**

**PALMER & WILLIAMS' PATENT.**

**T**HIS machine has now been through three harvests, and comes off victorious. The first premium was awarded to this machine at the great trial held at Bloomington, Illinois, in July, 1855, (for full particulars examine the report of the State Agricultural Society, on pages 142, 143, 116.) A Silver medal was awarded to this reaper at the State Fair held at Elmira, New York, in October 1855. Also—the first premium at the Wisconsin State Fair, in Oct. 1855. The above statement showing to the intelligent farmer of Central Illinois, that this Machine stands the test in every State where introduced. The demand for this Reaper is such that but few can be had so far south and to secure a machine they must be ordered at an early date. Price \$160—\$50 on delivery; balance on 1st Dec. 1856—freight added. For particulars, address

**J. H. CURRIER, Ag't,**  
Springfield Ill.

**I. B. WHITMER and H. B. GRUBB & Co.,** are authorized agents, for receiving orders, can be found at their respective places of business.

**J. H. C.**

*Testimony from the State of Illinois.*

**VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.**

We purchased and used Palmer & Williams' reaper in the present harvest—have already cut fifty acres of wheat, some of it very heavy—it works admirably; cutting and taking up the grain perfectly clean and laying it off to bind; doing better work than we ever had done on our farms before. We consider the raking done better than can be done by hand.

**J. C. VIRDEN,**  
**J. H. HENDERSON.**

*One Dollar per acre saved over other Reapers.*

**VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.**

I bought one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers, for last harvest, and cut about 150 acres of grain with it. It was raked off better than can be done by hand. My grain was harvested cleaner than I ever had it done before. I think it saved me one dollar per acre over any other harvesting I ever had done with reapers. My repairs did not amount to 50 cents. I can cut twenty acres per day. I believe it to be the best reaper in use.

**JOHN L. MORRELL.**

**SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 1. 1856.**

I used one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers in the harvest of '55—cut badly lodged grain well, and laid the bundles fair for binding. I think it the best machine I have ever used or seen used.

**JOHN W. PRIEST.**

**CHATHAM, Ill., July 1854.**

I have purchased and am now using the celebrated Palmer & Williams' reaper. I have already cut 100 acres of grain with it. I consider it a perfect self-raker, doing its work better than can be done by hand or ordinary reaping machines.

**Jan. 1856.**

**S. M. PARSONS.**

**E. B. PEASE.**

**W. W. PEASE.**

Established in 1839.

**E. B. Pease & Brother,**

**WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS**

in Iron Nails and Steel, Carpenters, Cooper's and Blacksmith's Tools, Builders, & Cabinet Hardware, Chain Pumps, Agricultural Implements, &c.

Springfield, Illinois.

May 1—3rd.

# The Illinois Farmer.

VOLUME •1.]

SPRINGFIELD, JUNE, 1856.

[NUMBER 6.

## ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

### TO AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL Societies.

WE would particularly invite the attention of those Societies, who are about to make up their Premium Lists for 1856, to our large collection of Agricultural Books, which are peculiarly adapted for Premiums.

The awarding of Agricultural Books in the place of small money premiums has been extensively adopted, and has given the highest satisfaction.

#### Advantages of this Plan.

It promotes the dissemination of much needed information among farmers.

It combines the advantages of a diploma with a premium of intrinsic value.

It substitutes a permanent and expressive token of honor for the pittance which is frequently humiliating to the recipient.

It avoids the fostering of a mercenary spirit among competitors, and better comports with the dignity of an honorable emulation between friends and neighbors.

We have received a supply of these books, which will be subject to the examination of all and especially of the officers of agricultural and horticultural societies.

FRANCIS & BARRELL.  
C. M. SAXTON.  
Agricultural Book Publishers,  
140 Fulton street, New York.

### Sales of Property at Auction, MAXCY & McALLISTER,

AT ALL TIMES READY TO SELL, BY Auction, real estate and personal property, in the city and country.

Auction room, centre room of the Journal Buildings.

They also attend to the private sale and purchase of farms and lands in the country, and lots and houses in the city.

Journal Buildings, May 1, 1856.

### Blooded Stock for Sale



THE subscriber, wishing to reduce his stock on his farm, two miles west of Springfield on the Jacksonville road, will sell low for cash or approved credit, 25 head of Durham and Devonshire cattle. Also, cows, heifers, Berkshire hogs, Irish Grazer pigs, very fine. Also, some very fine colts. Great bargains may be had by applying soon. feb20 JOHN C. CROWDER.

### MOLINE PLOWS.

THE subscriber would call the attention of all persons interested in that main Pillar of Agriculture, a good Plow, to his large and varied assortment, made from the best Eng. Cast, German and American Steel. No pains have been spared to have the best of Timber for the wood work; and none but good and experienced workmen are employed in their manufacture. The following list comprises some of the kinds manufactured:

Two qualities of the Imperial Clipper Plow.  
Five " " old style Stubble " "  
Two " " Corn " "  
The Michigan Double Plow, for Sand or Stubble.

Breaking Plows from 12 to 30 in., every style.  
Double and Single Shovel Plows.

3 and 5 Steel Tooth Cultivators.

Guage Wheels.

Full rigged Trucks, Cast Iron Wheels, and Wrought Iron Axle.

Rolling Coulters (cast steel) with clasps.

Hanging and Stengding " "

Messrs. Francis & Barrell have the exclusive sale of my Plows in Springfield, Ill., where a good assortment will be found. Orders for any particular kind of Plow or Plow fixture, can be left with them and will meet with prompt attention.

Moline, feb20, 1856 JOHN DEERE.

### Threshing Machines.

THE subscribers would notify the Farmers of Sangamon and the adjoining counties that they are now prepared with increased facilities to furnish them.

Townsend's Separator with Cuming's improved Tub Power or Pelton's 8 or 10 Horse Power. Also, Pitts' Separator and Double Pinion 8 Horse Power.

We shall make both geared and hand machines.

Having superior facilities for the business, employing only first class mechanics and using the choicest stock, we shall make it for the interest of the farmers in Central Ill., to buy our machines in preference to all others.

Our machines are well known to be the best in use both for their capacity to do work WELL and FAST, as for their DURABILITY, we would refer to the following gentlemen who have used them the past season: Preston Breckenridge, esq., Sangamon co.; James Virden, Sangamon co.

CUMINGS & MATTHEWS,  
Dubuque, Iowa, mar11, 1856.  
JOHN WILLIAMS & CO., Agents,  
Springfield, Ill.

**J. A. MASON,**

Manufacturer and Dealer in Cabinet Furniture,  
**H**AS on hand a large stock of Chairs of all kinds; Bedsteads, Bureaus, Cases, Presses, Tables, Mattresses, Looking Glasses, Clocks from the Factory, Willow Ware, &c., &c.

It is my intention to sell as good articles and on as reasonable terms as any other shop in the city.

Repairing done at all times.

Opposite the Journal office; also in the Journal Buildings.  
 Springfield, Feb. 14, 1856.

**The Springfield Woolen Factory,**

**I**S Prepared to Card, Spin, or Manufacture Wool into Cloths and Blankets in good style and with despatch.

They have added to their Carding Room, new and improved Custom Cards, which enables them to Card in first rate order

**1000 pounds of wool** per day.

Customers from abroad can have their wool attended to without delay.

**CASH PAID FOR WOOL.**

May 1.

**ARMSTRONG & CO.**

**ILLINOIS**

**Mutual Fire Insurance Company.**

Located at Alton, Illinois.

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 23d, 1839—ORGANIZED APRIL 4th, 1839.

**A** MOUNT of premium notes in force Feb. 1st, 1856, constituting a fund for the payment of losses, \$679,537 41; secured by a lien on property insured, valued at over \$7,000,000.

This Company insures dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufactories, mills, barns, stables, and the contents of each, together with every other similar species of property within the state, from loss or damage by fire. The Directors feel justified in recommending this Company to the favorable consideration of the citizens of Illinois. Every one insured becomes a member—the Company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. As the indemnification fund augments in exact ratio with the increase for risks, the capital of the Company is comparatively exhaustless; and the entire safety of the institution must be apparent to every one who reads the charter.

The cost of insuring in this Company is so low as to render it almost inexcusable for the owners of insurable property not to avail themselves of its protection.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Timo. Turner,   | Lynan Trumbull,  |
| H. W. Billings, | Ben. F. Long,    |
| Samuel Wade     | M. G. Atwood,    |
| John James,     | L. Kellenberger, |
| Robert Smith,   | Henry Lea,       |
| Elias Hibbard,  | Alfred Dow,      |
| John Bailhache, | B. K. Hart,      |
| John Atwood.    |                  |

**B. F. LONG, President.**

**M. G. ATWOOD, Sec'y.**

**L. KELLENBERGER, Treasurer.** april 17

Application for Insurance may be made to **JAMES L. HILL, Agent at Springfield.**

1856.

1856.

**SPRING!! SPRING!! SPRING!!!**

Items for Farmers and all those interested in **HORSES AND CATTLE.**



**A**FTER THE hardest winter known to the oldest inhabitant, we again offer you our Improved German Horse and Cattle Powder—  
**"THE GREAT PENNSYLVANIA REMEDY."**

It is every man's duty not only to take care of his family but of his horses. He has been given to us for our service, usefulness and pleasure; it is therefore highly essential

that we should protect so willing and devoted a servant. The spring and summer campaign is near at hand, the horse must do the labor. Thousand and tens of thousands dollars depend on that noble animal.

**TAKE CARE OF HIM MR. FARMER!**

As you value your crop see that he is in good condition; let him go forth to the plow, head and tail up, having a good appetite,

**NOT HIDE BOUND,**

but full of energy to do the good work, every hair on his hide in the right place.

The above may be accomplished by using our celebrated horse powder, and without further ad, we refer you to the following gentleman who have thoroughly tested its efficacy.

Abner Stewart, Fancy Creek; S. A. Jones, Rochester; N. S. Bates, stage agent; M. Wickersham, street commissioner; Sam'l Shour, John Kavanaugh, R. F. Ruth, I. R. Diller, John Cook and many others.

**R. H. PRICE, Agent, Island Grove.**  
 We have always on hand, Neats Foot Oil, Brown Tanners Oil, and Frank Miller's Celebrated Blacking for harness. Call at

**CORNEAU & DILLER'S**  
 East side public square,  
 Springfield, Ill.

msrd-wtf

**A WORD TO FARMERS.**

**Y**OUR cry has been heretofore, "Why cannot we get carriages and wagons as durable and cheap here as elsewhere." The question can be satisfactorily answered, by calling at the

Carriage and Wagon Manufactory of  
**Withey & Brothers,**  
 ONE BLOCK EAST OF THE COURT HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,

Where can be found constantly on hand, every variety of Carriages, such as Rockaways, Buggies, Sulkeys, and Wagons, of the best workmanship, and at the shortest notice. As we employ none but those who have a thorough knowledge of their business, we can warrant all work leaving our establishment.

**N. B.**—Particular attention paid to repairing in all its various branches.

Orders respectfully solicited, and attended to, at our shop one block east of the Court House.  
 Feb. 20th, 1856.

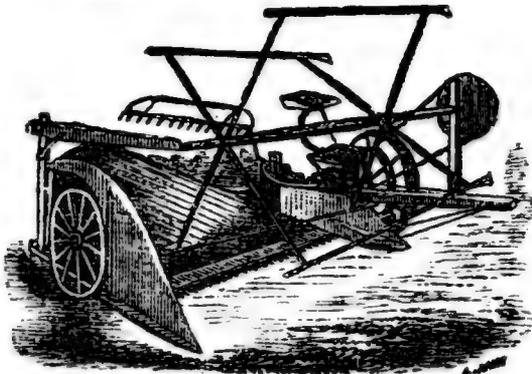
**CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION!**  
**R. H. BEACH,**

West of the State House—three doors from Freeman's Corner.

**K**EEPS always on hand a large supply of men's and children's Clothing, suitable for all classes—and especially for the hard service of the farm. He respectfully invites the farmers of Sangamon county, who want Clothing, to examine his stock. He will sell a as low prices as possible and live. His motto is, "Live and let live." Come on farmers, and see my stock.  
**R. H. BEACH.**

Jan 21, 18 6

**Seymour & Morgan's**



**PATENT IMPROVED NEW YORK SELF-RAKING REAPER, WITH MOWER ATTACHMENT.**

**T**HE success of our Self-Raking Reaper has induced us to manufacture for the harvest of 1856, a larger number of Machines than we have built in any previous year.

Experience has proved that our Self Raker not only saves the hard labor of a man, but does the work much better, leaving the grain in better shape than the best hand rakes, and without perceptible increase of Draught.

We have made many improvements to our machine of last year, such as Spring Seat, and the making the Gear Frame of Iron, &c, and have, after many experiments, succeeded in attaching a short Cutter Bar to our Gear Frame, with smooth edged knife, and higher motion for mowing, which makes it the best Combined Machine before the public.

FOR SALE BY  
**Francis & Barrell,**  
Agents—Springfield, Ills.

**UHLER'S PLOWS.  
THE DOUBLE CURVED UPRIGHT STEEL  
MOULD BOARD PLOW.**



THE proprietor of this superior plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the state of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

WM. P. LAWSON,	WM. PUFFINBARGER,
J. J. SHORT,	DAVID NEWSOM,
JOHN W. BYCK,	URIAH MANN,
JOHN KAVANAUGH,	PHILEMON STOUT.

Saugamon county, Jan. 17, 1856.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limit of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

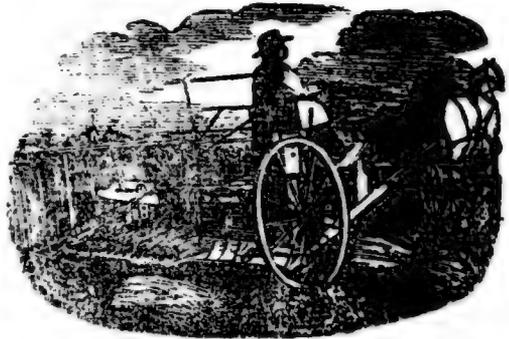
In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by John Uhler, Springfield, Illinois, at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited. feb16-wly

**Atkin's Automaton:**

OR,  
**Self-Raking Reaper and Mower.**  
**BEST MACHINE IN USE.**



1 the first used, in 1852.

40 used successfully in 1853.

300 in twenty different States in 1854.

1200 in all parts of the Union in 1855.

3000 building for the harvest of 1856.

**T**HERE are six good reasons for this unparalleled increase and great popularity: 1st. It is strong and reliable, and easily managed. 2nd. It saves the hard labor of raking. 3d. It saves at least another hand in binding. 4th. It saves shattering by the careful handling in raking; besides the straw being laid straight, it is well secured in the sheaf, and does not drop in the handling, and the heads are not exposed in the stack, so that the grain saving even exceeds the labor saving. 5th. It is a good Mower, being one of the best convertible machines in use. 6th. It has a knife that does not choke.

Its other excellencies, too numerous to mention here, are fairly given in the circulars. Its intrinsic worth is also attested by the award [mostly in three years] of

**OVER EIGHTY FIRST PREMIUMS!**

Price—Reaper and Mower, \$200,—\$75 first September, and \$50 first December. Price of Self-Raking Reaper only \$175. Considerable saving in freight to those at a distance who order prior to 1st March; also liberal discount for advance payment.

To secure a machine, order immediately.—Though so little known the past season, and none ready for delivery till 1st May, yet not two-thirds of the customers could be supplied. The reputation of the Machine is now widely established, so that three thousand will not as nearly supply the demand as twelve hundred did last year, and we shall also be selling four months earlier.

Order early, if you would not be disappointed.

Orders for, or information concerning the above Machines addressed to

**J. S. WRIGHT & CO.,**  
Prairie Farmer Warehouse, Chicago,  
Or T. W. SKIDD, Springfield, Atlanta, or,  
Lincoln, will be attended to promptly.  
Jan 1, 1856

**FAMILY GROCERIES,**

**F**RESH and good, of almost every variety, for sale by  
**FRANCIS & BARRELL.**  
May 1.

**For Sale.**

Cahoon's Seedling Pie Plant, Gooseberries, Currants, Grapes, Shrubby, Bulbs, Tubers, &c.

I WILL secretly pack in Boxes and forward according to directions, Ten Roots for \$5; Five Roots for \$3; One Root for \$1; by the hundred \$40; by the thousand \$350—cash in all cases, to be sent with the order.

**TESTIMONIALS.**

Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations. }  
NEW YORK, July, 4, 1854. }

B. P. Cahoon, Esq.—Dear Sir:—This is to certify that specimens of your "Seedling Pie Plant," are now on exhibition at the Crystal Palace, and deserving of special approbation for mammoth size and excellence of quality. They are superior to any production of the kind on exhibition.  
Yours, Truly, P. T. BARNUM, Pres't.

**MAMMOTH PIE PLANT**—B. P. Cahoon, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, has just sent us three Pie Plant leaf stocks that out go anything we have ever seen of the kind before; as after performing the long journey from their place of growth—in what way we are not informed—the stalks weigh eleven and a quarter pounds.—New York Tribune.

To the Cincinnati Agricultural Society—

Being on a tour through Wisconsin, I called upon Mr. B. P. Cahoon, of Kenosha, who has a remarkable variety of Seedling Rhubarb. I examined his plantation of about 9,000 plants, and its wonderful properties have not been overrated.—The Victoria I saw growing alongside of his Seedling and subject to the same treatment, soil identical, would not weigh one fourth as much as the Cahoon Seedling. I can, through your Society, recommend the plant to the notice of amateurs and cultivators as the best plant known. His stalks for market would measure from three to four inches wide, two to three inches thick, and two feet long, and so tender that many leaves I saw broke down with their own weight. It is a chance seedling, originated by Mr. Cahoon, from the seed given him at Chicago, and was the only plant from the seed that was worth cultivation.

Respectfully Yours,

Cincinnati, Aug. 24, '55. JULIUS BRACE.

We counted on one root fifty-five stalks, of which the longest was two feet in length from root to leaf, and would girt eight inches or more. The others were of all sizes down to fifteen inches in length, and an inch in diameter, though the average would be twenty inches long and four or more in circumference. This root was not an unusual size, and was only an average of those which have stood three years and are allowed a fair chance. Mr. C. showed us a stalk preserved in spirits which is five and a half inches wide by twenty-seven inches long.—Prairie Farmer for Sept.

B. P. CAHOON,  
Kenosha, Wisconsin.

mar1, 1856

**CHINA ROSES.**

FOR planting in the garden, and which will blossom all summer; Verbenas and other plants for bedding out, &c. &c., for sale at the Farmer's Store. FRANCIS & BARRELL—May 1.

**Farmers' Store!**

THE undersigned are maturing arrangements to establish in Springfield a Farmers' Store for the purpose of supplying farmers with

- Agricultural Implements;*
- Seeds for the Farm and Garden;*
- Trees for the Orchard;*
- Varieties of Fruit bearing and Flowering Shrubs;*
- Groceries;*

- Queens, Glass and Stoneware;*
- Baskets, of Willow & Splintwork;*
- Ropes and cords;*
- Bags and Bagging, and Burlaps for baling wool;*

and many other articles used in the family and on the farm, too numerous to particularize: all of which will be sold for cash at reasonable prices.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings.

Jan 21

**Excelsior**

**BRASS AND IRON FOUNDRY,**

One block west of G. W. R. R. Depot,  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLS.

Devotes most particular attention to

**Castings for Buildings**

And will make all patterns this year

**FREE OF CHARGE!**

HAVING now had considerable experience in that line, and also having a foundry peculiarly adapted for that work, with all the improvements of the 19th century, we are now enabled to say to those needing such work, that we can make it to their advantage to patronise this establishment, both as regards price, the speedy completion of orders and neatness or design of patterns.

april WILLIAM BOOTH.

**Books for the Young.**



**R. H. BEACH,**

WEST OF THE STATE HOUSE

Three doors from Freeman's Corner.

The books referred to are suitable for Sunday school Libraries, and the subscriber intends to keep a good supply always on hand for that purpose. He respectfully invites parents and others to examine his stock of "Books for the Young."

R. H. BEACH.

Jan. 21st 1856.

**THE EYE, EAR AND LUNGS.**

DR. HARPER continues to treat successfully all disease of the *EYE*, *EAR* and *LUNGS*. Also, all Chronic Diseases of the human system. The Lungs are treated by Medicated Inhalation, the only successful and rational method. The success which had attended my peculiar treatment the past many years is almost incredible to those unacquainted with its peculiar curative effects, having restored patients who were considered hopeless, and restored to sight cases that have been blind from one to twenty years.



Office west side of the Square, Springfield.

**PIE PLANT.**

A FINE SUPPLY, AN EXCELLENT ARTICLE, for sale by  
my20 FRANCIS & BARRELL.

**WAKEFIELD'S CORN PLANTER.**

**T**HE WESTERN CORN PLANTER COMPANY, have over five hundred certificates as to the utility of this implement, from persons in different parts of the Union, who used it last Spring. Read the following:

Working Farmer Office, 143 Fulton Street, N. York. To whom it may concern—I have examined Wakefield's Hand Corn Planter and operated with it. I cheerfully recommend it is a practical and useful implement. The recommendations shown me by the Agent, are fully sustained by the working of the planter.

**JAMES J. MAPES.**

American Institute—Farmers' Club, New York, August 21, 1856.—Wakefield's Hand Planter was exhibited. This very handy implement weighs about six pounds. It is readily adjusted to plant at any depth, and to deliver accurately the number of grains desired, and to cover them at the same time. It is considered to be a very useful implement for the farmer, and is a cheap one; its price being only five dollars. The club are much pleased with it.

**H. MEIGS, Sec'y.**

These Corn Planters can be found at the Farmers' Store, Journal Buildings, at \$5 each.

May 1.

**FRANCIS & BARRELL.**

**To Persons Visiting Springfield to Purchase Goods.**

**O**NE OF THE LARGEST, CHEAPEST, and most desirable stocks of Merchandise in Central Illinois, is to be found at

**Joseph Thayer & Co's.,**

South side of the Public Square.

Their stock contains the richest fabrics as well as the more useful, of Dry Goods, Bonnets, Parasols, Cutlery, China and Glassware, Boots, Shoes and Gaiters, Clothing, Teas and Family Groceries, Trunks, Looking Glasses, Hats.

The second story of their store is devoted exclusively to

**Carpets and Oil Cloths.**

They would call the attention of those in want of stout woolen goods to their stock, which they manufacture themselves of unmixed Sangamon county wool and warrant to wear well.

All persons in want of any of the above articles, are invited to inspect our assortment. We guarantee prices as low as the lowest.

May 1.

**Agricultural Implements, Hardware, Cutting, &c.**

**B. F. FOX.**

**H**AS ON HAND A GREAT STOCK OF these articles for sale. His Agricultural Implements embrace everything that the farmer wants in that line. His stock of Hardware cannot be excelled in the western country. He supplies all kinds of Mechanics with Hardware and tools in their line. And everything he sells is at the lowest and fairest prices. Call at his old stand on Fifth Street, just North of the Square.

May 1—1st.

**Cochin China Fowl Eggs,**

**W**ARRANTED fresh and true—for sale at **FRANCIS & BARRELL'S Store.**

mar 30

**DANIEL SCOTT.**

**HOSTETTERS'**

**Celebrated Stomach BITTERS.**

**O**NE WINE-GLASSFUL TAKEN THREE times a day, before meals, will be a sure cure for Dyspepsia, will remove all flatulency or heaviness from the Stomach, keep you free from costiveness, assist digestion, give a good appetite and impart a healthy tone to the whole system, and a certain prevention of Fever and Ague.

**FACTS** cannot be questioned, when the people of any country bear testimony in mass, as in the case of

**Dr. J. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters,**

not only have we the individual evidence of the land, but almost every paper in the Union is commenting upon the great benefit derived from the use of these Celebrated Bitters, besides various Diplomas awarded them, among which is one from the Ohio Mechanics' Institute, at their Thirteenth annual exhibition at Cincinnati, where the committee was composed chiefly of Physicians of the city. There are all weighty facts that cannot help but convince the most incredulous that it is at least worthy of trial. We therefore advise all who are not proof against three sudden transits from cold to hot weather, to be provided with a supply for family use, as it has been attended with the most beneficial results, when administered to ladies or children before meals, as per directions on the bottle. Once tried, their virtues will be realized in a very short time. It is not necessary for us to enumerate all the diseases prevailing and arising from the stomach, but suffice it to say that any derangement arising either from change of weather or diet, which is generally the cause of Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Cholera, Cholera Morbus or Cholera, all are speedily checked and cured by the use of these bitters.

SPRINGFIELD, April 14, 1856.

Some months since, while recovering from an attack of Remittent Fever, I was requested to try Dr. Hostetter's Bitters, as an article peculiarly suited to the condition of convalescents from fevers.

It is but simple justice to say, that it rapidly restored the powers of my digestive organs, and at the same time kept my bowels gently open.

I have no hesitation in saying that hitherto, in using it in my practice, it has in every case where I have ordered, it acted like a charm.

In thus speaking freely of it, I FAR from puff a patent medicine, an article it by no means claims to be.

**SANFORD BELL, M. D.**

May 1.

For sale by all of the Druggists in Springfield.

**CLOTHING STORE.**

**M. Hirschfield,**

**S**OUTH SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE, HAS A Complete stock of Clothing for men and boys, coats, vests, pantaloons, shirts cravats, drawers, pocket kerchiefs and everything in the clothing line. Prices very low.

May 1—3rd.

**FLOWER SEEDS,**

**A** SPLENDID stock, just received and for sale by **FRANCIS & BARRELL.**

mar 30.

**GOOD NEWS!--NEW GOODS!!**

**W. O. JONES & W. V. GREENWOOD,**

**H**AVING associated themselves together under the name and style of Jones & Greenwood, for the purpose of conducting a general retail trade in the town of Chatham, Sangamon county, beg leave to say to the citizens of that town and surrounding country, that they are now in the receipt of a large, entirely new and carefully selected stock of seasonable

Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Hardware, Queensware, Clothing, Groceries,

And all articles kept by the general trader, which they pledge themselves to sell as low as they can be bought in the west. All kinds of country produce taken in exchange for goods.

They will occupy the house known as the Norton Store House, Chatham. Don't forget to call. (april) **JONES & GREENWOOD.**

**RANDALL & JONES' CORN PLANTERS.**

**T**HOSE in want of this celebrated labor saving machine can be accommodated by calling upon the undersigned or at the Agricultural and Seed Store of Francis & Barrell. These machines have been thoroughly tested and can be relied upon. Three different and valuable improvements have been made in the Planters since last year which renders them perfect in every respect. Certificates have been obtained from numerous persons who have used the Planter last year, among which, one from a well known citizen of Sangamon county will be given.

Springfield, May 1. **J. G. P. PARKER.**

This is to certify that I have planted 100 acres of corn with Randall & Jones Corn Planter; the corn came up well. I can recommend it to farmers who have corn to plant: 1. For its speed in planting. 2 For its placing the corn where the moles are bothered to find it. And 3 For its placing the corn where it is not likely to be washed up. I intend planting my corn this Spring with it, but I see they have a decided improvement on those machines. All who want to plant corn right can come to Francis & Barrell's Store, where they will find them.

**H. W. OWEN.**

**CHEAP GOODS.**

**W. R. FONDEY, ON THE SOUTH SIDE** of the Square, Springfield, is offering bargains in

- Dry Goods,
- Hats and Caps.
- Boots and Shoes,
- Hardware,
- Carpets & Oil Cloths.
- Glassware & Queensware,
- Nails,
- Liquors, Wines, &c.,
- for Cash.

Springfield, May 1.

**LAND BROKERS.**

**PERSONS HAVING FARMS OR FARMING** Land for sale can find purchasers by applying to the subscriber.

**CAMPBELL & FONDEY,** Land and Insurance Agents.

Springfield, May 1.

**Premium Self-Raking Reaper!**

**PALMER & WILLIAMS' PATENT.**

**T**HIS machine has now been through three harvests, and comes off victorious. The first premium was awarded to this machine at the great trial held at Bloomington, Illinois, in July, 1855, (for full particulars examine the report of the State Agricultural Society, on pages 142 143, 116.) A Silver medal was awarded to this reaper at the State Fair held at Elmira, New York, in October 1855. Also—the first premium at the Wisconsin State Fair, in Oct 1855. The above statement showing to the intelligent farmer of Central Illinois, that this Machine stands the test in every State where introduced. The demand for this Reaper is such that but few can be had so far south and to secure a machine they must be ordered at an early date. Price \$160—\$50 on delivery; balance on 1st Dec. 1856—freight added. For particulars, address **J. H. CURRIER, Ag't,** Springfield Ill.

**I. B. WHITMER and H. B. GRUBB & Co.,** are authorized agents, for receiving orders, can be found at their respective places of business.

**J. H. C.**

*Testimony from the State of Illinois.*

**VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6. 1855.**

We purchased and used Palmer & Williams' reaper in the present harvest—have already cut fifty acres of wheat, some of it very heavy—it works admirably; cutting and taking up the grain perfectly clean and laying it off to bind; doing better work than we ever had done on our farms before. We consider the raking done better than can be done by hand.

**J. C. VIRDEN,**  
**J. H. HENDERSON.**

*One Dollar per acre saved over other Reapers.*

**VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.**

I bought one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers, for last harvest, and cut about 150 acres of grain with it. It was raked off better than can be done by hand. My grain was harvested cleaner than I ever had it done before. I think it saved me one dollar per acre over any other harvesting I ever had done with reapers. My repairs did not amount to 50 cents. I can cut twenty acres per day. I believe it to be the best reaper in use.

**JOHN L. MORRELL.**

**SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 1. 1856.**

I used one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers in the harvest of '55—cut badly lodged grain well, and laid the bundles fair for binding. I think it the best machine I have ever used or seen used.

**JOHN W. PRIEST.**

**CHATHAM, Ill., July 1854.**

I have purchased and am now using the celebrated Palmer & Williams' reaper. I have already cut 100 acres of grain with it. I consider it a perfect self-raker, doing its work better than can be done by hand or ordinary reaping machines.

Jan. 1856.

**S. M. PARSONS.**

**E. B. PEASE.**

**W. W. PEASE.**

Established in 1839.

**E. B. Pease & Brother,**

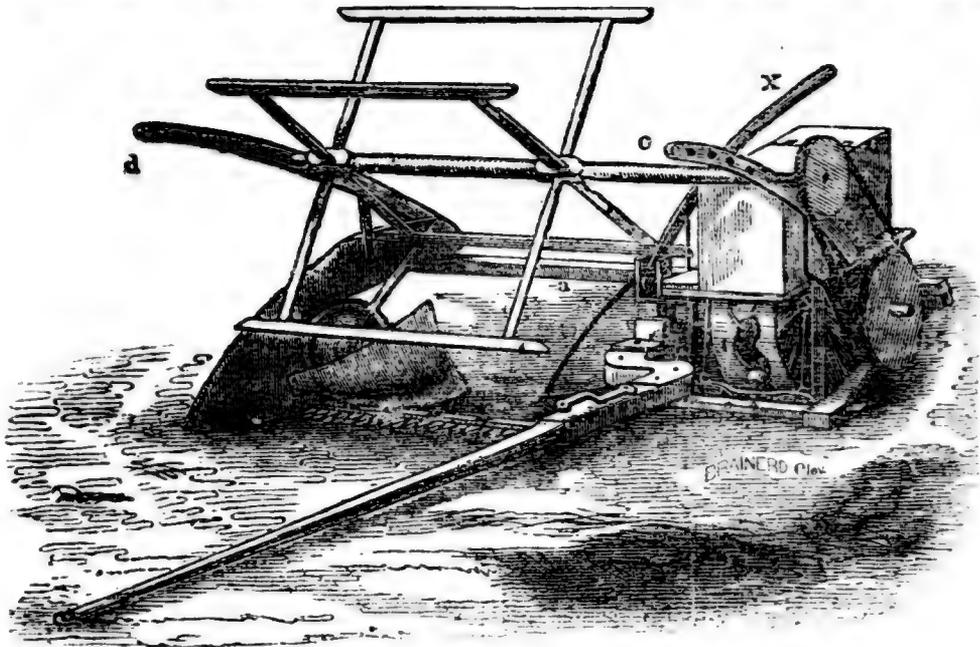
**WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS**

- in Iron Nails and Steel. Carpenters, Cooper's and Blacksmith's Tools, Builders. & Cabinet Hardware, Chain Pumps, Agricultural Imple-
- ments, &c.

**Springfield, Illinois.**

May 1—3m.

**Another Triumph of American Genius.**



**HENDERSON'S  
GRAIN AND GRASS HARVESTER,**

SANDUSKY, OHIO.

**MOWING MACHINE**, Patented to J. E. Heath, September 11, 1855.

**AUTOMATIC RAKE**, Patented to A. H. Cary, February 6, 1856.

**T**HIS Harvester has been practically tested through several seasons, and the unanimous verdict of those who have used it has been high in its favor—so much so, as to have already given it an enviable notoriety.

Its simplicity, beauty, lightness, durability and efficiency, in all of which it excels, may be truly said to stamp it

**THE MACHINE OF THE YEAR!**

Many certificates of its superiority have already been received; and the Indiana State Board of Agriculture awarded it the First Prize as a Mower, at the State Fair in 1855.

The following are some of the principal characteristics:

- 1st. The motion imparted to the Cutters is obtained without Gear, by zigzags in the face of the main wheel.
2. The Cutters are made like the best edge tools.
3. The cutting is done upon the principle of shears.
4. There is no 'side draft.'
5. The Machine can be started ahead without backing up.
6. A single span of horses can operate a Ma-

chine throughout a day, cutting from 8 to 12 acres.

7. The Reel is of great service when the grass or grain lean from the machine.

8. The Lever is at full command of the driver, by which the cutters can be raised to pass over any ordinary obstacle, without stopping the cutting operation. **2,000** Machines are being manufactured this year. **To make sure ORDER EARLY**, and give plain directions for shipping.

Price of Mowing Machine.....\$125

Mower and Reaper combined with Self-

Raker,..... 150

One half and freight and charges from Chicago, to be paid on delivery; one fourth by note payable Sept. 1; one fourth by note payable Nov. 1, or **\$10 off for Cash Down.**

**D. C. HENDERSON,**

Manufacturer and Proprietor, Sandusky, O.

The farmers of Sangamon county are respectfully invited to examine the Reaper and Mower above advertised,—one of which will be found at the Farmer's store of Francis & Barrell, Journal buildings, Springfield. Farmers are desired to examine all Reapers and Mowers before they purchase. We believe in fair competition, and that they have sufficient judgment to discover the merits of our machine. Francis & Barrell are the agents for this machine in Sangamon and Macon counties.  
april, 1856

**WANTED TO PURCHASE AT ALL**

**T**IMES, for which goods or cash will be paid. Butter, Cheese, Eggs, and almost every description of country Produce.

May 1. FRANCIS & BARRELL.

**APPLE TREES,**

**I**N Fine order and best variety; Grape Roots, ditto; Shrubby and Garden seeds on hand and for sale at the Agricultural Implement and Seed Store of FRANCIS & BARRELL.

May 1.

**ILLINOIS STOCK**  
AND  
**Grain Farms for Sale.**

In consequence of impaired health, the partnership betwixt myself and brother, in Farming and Stock raising, will be closed by mutual consent at an early day. We have made partition of a portion of our real estate, and now offer the remainder for sale. We will sell about

**1600 Acres,**

(including Timber, &c., thereto, appertaining,) of the north part of the farm upon which I reside, of the tract offered for sale, about 1486 acres are in the highest state of cultivation, and has upon it a Boarding House, Barn, Feeding Lots, &c., besides three

**FARM HOUSES.**

eligibly situated, (in reference to use or sub-division,) upon different parts of the farm. There are rows and groves of trees, scattered over the lands, which are highly ornamental, and afford shade for stock in summer, and protection in winter. The tract is well watered by a brook and its tributaries. The main stream traverses it two miles, from west to east, and about 1,000 acres of it are set with tame grasses. About five miles of (Osage Orange) Hedge Fence are growing upon the premises.

The tract, composed of high, rolling prairie, is compact in form, and susceptible of advantageous division into four or more, or less, farms, adapted either to grain or grass, and each with water and timber conveniently situated. The foregoing are situated at

*Island Grove, Sangamon County, Ills.,*

and midway betwixt Jacksonville and Springfield, and within a convenient distance of Island Grove Depot, on the great Western Railroad.

To a gentleman wishing the finest stock farm in the west, or to a number of gentlemen, wishing smaller farms adjoining each other, these lands present a rare chance.

Possession can be delivered of most of the lands, at such time as may be convenient to purchasers, and of the whole at an early day. Payments made easy. As to the farm, reference is made to Dr. KENNICOTT, Secretary Illinois State Agricultural Society, and to occasional notices thereof, in former numbers of the Prairie Farmer. We also offer for sale

**360 Acres**

of unimproved Prairie; about 14 miles east of Jacksonville and about 2 miles south of Great Western Railroad.

The undersigned will still continue his residence as heretofore, and will devote special attention to the improvement and breeding of

**DURHAM CATTLE,**

He invites all who may wish to buy Fine Stock to call and examine the superior herd belonging to himself and brother.

Persons wishing further knowledge touching the lands aforesaid, will call at my residence, or upon WILLIAM BROWN, esq., Jacksonville.

feb25

JAMES N. BROWN.

**NOTICE TO FARMERS!**

**H. B. Grubb & Bro.**

MANUFACTURERS OF ALL KINDS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

AND GENERAL JOB SHOP,

SPRINGFIELD,.....ILLINOIS.

WOULD respectfully ask leave to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjoining counties that they are now manufacturing a superior article of

**REVOLVING HAY RAKES,**  
*Harrow, of various patterns---several kinds of improved Straw Cutters, &c., &c.*

We are the authorized agents for Palmer & Williams' self-raking reaper, Danforth's reaper and mower, and can also furnish McCormick's reaper and mower.

Farmers wishing reapers or mowers will do well to give us a call. We will deliver every machine bought of us in good working order, as well as every other article in our line.

Having recently increased our facilities by the addition of a steam engine, we are prepared to attend promptly to all orders in our line at reasonable rates.

Shop one door south of E. P. Penniman & Co's Foundry.

**Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, &c.**

**W. D. WARD**

WISHES to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjacent counties, that he keeps on hand, for sale, different priced CLOCKS, manufactured by Seth Thomas, Hartford Conn. These clocks are supposed to be superior to most others in market, being well made, of lasting material, and not liable to get out of order—an object of great importance to persons who live at a distance from shops where clocks can be repaired.

He has also for sale a variety of WATCHES, silver and gold, warranted to be good. He has silver watches at low prices, the running work of which is equal to the best class of goldwatches.

He attends to clock and watch repairing, and does the business promptly and well.

W. D. WARD.

North side of the square in the front of Messrs Watson's confectionery.

**M. M. VANDEUSEN,**

*West side of the Square, Springfield, Illinois,*

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

**DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS, Perfumery,**  **Paints, Oils, VARNISHES, DYE STUFFS, Fancy Articles,**

**BRUSHES, GLASSWARE, LETTER PAPER, STATIONERY,**

And all kinds of GENUINE and Popular

**Patent Medicines,**

A complete assortment of the best quality, and at the lowest prices.

Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs, and Dr. Baker's Pain Panacea.

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printers.

VOLUME 1.

SPRINGFIELD, JUNE, 1856.

NUMBER 6.

## Commerce and its Progress.

The commerce of the United States now exceeds that of any other country in the world. It was surpassed by that of Great Britain until within the past year. It now reaches the enormous amount of nearly six million tons of shipping and probably measures the general development of our country as correctly as any other element of its growth. We have no data by which to determine the character or magnitude of the ancient traffic by sea. Tyre and Sidon and Tharshish contributed to the magnificent wants of Solomon. The two former, famous cities of Phœnicia, scoured the Mediterranean with their ships, founded Carthage, and adventuring through the "Pillars of Hercules," (straits of Gibraltar,) into the broad Atlantic, are known to have reached Britain and Ireland; the legends of which latter country assert for its people a Phœnician origin. The Phœnicians were not merely roving adventurers; they brought tin from Cornwall, as a trophy of their enterprise, and are deemed the most matter of fact commercial people of antiquity. Whether they are the Philistines of the Scriptures, who made themselves so objectionable to the Jews, and were under the displeasure of the Almighty for their gross heathenism, we are not advised; but we may be permitted to think they redeemed their character somewhat—or the maritime portion of them—in the industry and energy of their mercantile operations.

Of Tharshish we know less, but the language of scripture would imply a large trade—probably through the Red Sea—to India, the Indian Islands, and not unlikely to China. The Mediterranean Sea has at various

times been the scene of great commercial adventure. The Grecian states were possessed with an active, restless people, full of genius. Their fleets conquered the Persians; they colonized the neighboring Islands, and were intimate with Egypt. Rome, from the first Punic war, Sicily, the north of Africa, several hundred years anterior to the christian era, exhibited no inconsiderable maritime activity, in which commerce was at least of secondary importance.

The Danes and Northmen, (Norwegians) on the other side of Europe, and in another age, were famous explorers by sea. They ravaged England, and later, under more civilized influences, visited and colonized Zealand, discovered Greenland, it is said, and are supposed to have coasted down the American shores as far south as Rhode Island. The Scandinavians always possessed a thorough, substantial character, and will yet give a good account of themselves in Europe. Later still, in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, Venice arose, and has with difficulty, if ever, been excelled by any single port of modern times, in the amount and showy grandeur of her mercantile and naval marine. Over thirty thousand seamen were employed by this proud mistress of the sea, distinctly formed and buttressed up from the shoals and low isles of the Adriatic—and a general monopoly of trade secured to her ships. At this time, how fallen under Austrian tyranny! and yet the embers exist, and are smouldering, for better times.

Genoa, the birth place of the great Columbus, that gave direction to his genius, cotemporary with Venice, was noted for her commercial enterprise and opulence. More subsequently the Hanse Towns, in Germany,

distinguished themselves as commercial marts and Holland outstripped the Mediterranean in the enterprise of her merchants. Spain and Portugal followed next, and impressed themselves most notably on the character of the times in their discovery of the new world. Columbus was aided and encouraged, soothed under his difficulties and discouragements, by the gifted Queen of Spain; and Mazellan was a Spaniard; De Soto, the explorer of the Mississippi; Cortez and Pizarro—Vasco De Zama, second only to Columbus, of those early adventurers, was a native of Portugal and under the auspices of that country, visited Brazil, and from thence, for the first time, doubled the Cape of Good Hope, and opened the Peninsula of India to a commerce and colonization, that, under varying fortunes of Portuguese, French, English and native rule and misrule, contention, war and plunder, have transmitted their importance down to this day. Spain and Portugal looked for gold; the rich stuffs of India had an interest in their eyes, and a pious design with them was to spread the Gospel, much quaint account of which is given in their early annals, when alluding to the conversion of the Indians.

England, from the time of Elizabeth, when she first put forth her strength on the ocean to resist the Spanish Armada, has been advancing in commercial importance, and soon outstripped all competitors. Conceived in war; prosecuted through discovery and adventure; made an interest of by the state in gifts, grants and privileges to great companies—her commerce has expanded into immense value. These companies are now blotted out from the English Statute Book; but the Dutch cling to them, and an East India company still exists under a monopoly of the crown, that makes those luxurious articles—of which they have almost the sole control—nutmegs and the spices, that should be within the reach of the poorest, both high priced and scarce, as also Java Coffee.

Of the primitive, unknown, unauthentic inhabitants of the world, we must admit that they possessed some knowledge of navigation. The natives of the Islands have

been found to possess canoes of large dimensions, double in their construction, formidable for war purposes, and capable of carrying with safety fifty to one hundred men. Relics of these craft were to be seen not many years since at the Society Islands. The canoe of the North West Indian—the lowest in the scale of our tribes, is of beautiful symmetry, swift, not large, but covered with hides—a perfect life-boat. Why then should we doubt the ability of an early people to populate the Islands of the sea? Laying aside all origin of the human race than that through one family, we may yet imagine little difficulty in the dispersion of mankind everywhere over the globe. With the aid of trade winds and monsoons, the frailest skill, in a chosen season, might insure for herself a safe passage for many days over the expanse before it, until some isle had been reached. This migration would not be above the capacity of the Mexican or Persian when they were first known to Europeans, much less of those distinguished boatmen on the other side of the Pacific, the Chinese and Malays, both of whom within the knowledge of Europeans, have worked their craft with little less than miraculous skill.

Commerce will sustain no comparison with agriculture in the amount of wealth and interest involved—the humble grass of the field—the hay crop of the United States would show this; but such comparisons are not a fair test of the value of a national interest. Agriculture is a great necessity. As a writer in our former number expresses himself, "God was the first husbandman"; so now His acts displayed in Providence, are the main dependence of existence; whereas commerce stands out as an accessory, a device or agency, more peculiarly of man. Viewed in this light, commerce yet remains a leading interest in the state. In every full developed country it is the outlet, the inlet, the benignant keeper of the lodge, that gives access, egress; is the disposer, the recipient, the dispenser; the very humble servant of all the great and little interests that flow into and out of the land. "Can

the eye say to the hand I have no need of thee?" So God has ordained that nations and parts of nations should have essential need of one another. As light and liberty shine brighter, the mutual interests, necessities and dependencies of mankind, will enlarge in an accelerated ratio, and it is of the first importance, most assuredly, that nations, particularly of vast territory, and varying climates, like those of the United States, should strain many points to give their own internal commerce and movements every faculty within their power.

#### Farmer Politicians.

Every man in this country should, to some extent, be a politician, so far as to make himself acquainted with the principles of government, and the distinctive policy of parties. As a part of the government, he is bound to inform himself in regard to public measures, because, if he does not, he is liable to vote and act ignorantly, and, instead of benefiting the country in which all his hopes are interested, he may, to the extent of his influence and power, act to its injury. The position of men here, in regard to the welfare of the country, now and hereafter, can hardly be too highly estimated.

What we wish to say in this connection is, that so far as the happiness or prosperity of a farmer is concerned, he adds little to either by becoming a mere politician. Men of high aspirations are generally desirous to have in their employ and under their influence, drill corporals and sergeants, scattered over the country, whose ambition they sometimes gratify by flattering them, and at others by securing for them little offices. After a long run of excitement, these men, when they sum up their gains on account of politics, find the balance much against them. They can see where they have neglected their work, lost some portion of their crops, suffered their projected improvements to "slide," and perhaps have been the cause of introducing jealousies, heart burnings and bickerings in neighborhoods and families—and have otherwise brought upon themselves

much trouble and vexation and no profit.

In a few words we would say, that a moderate farmer, who is a professed politician—who neglects his work to attend to party business—who goes to all the gatherings to talk politics, and to get himself before the public as a candidate for any little office that may come along, makes a heavy investment of time and money to little purpose other than to his own personal disadvantage. He wastes time, which is money; and every thing about him, family and farm, feel the effects of this waste.

Is this not so? Look about on the thousands who have been politicians—who acted together and fought together, one half of them for the sake of office—what benefit has it been to them? There are a few, perhaps one in a thousand—who have secured some advantages from politics; but, in the long run, nine hundred and ninety-nine of the thousand have suffered by it. Politics is a poor trade by which to make a living.

#### Tree Culture in the Prairies.

We were deeply impressed with the importance of this subject in a conversation with a gentleman, who recently immigrated from Ohio, and located in one of our extensive prairies. He had made himself acquainted with the value of the different kinds of our native trees for timber, and the facility with which they could be grown on our open prairies. He conceived it to be sound policy, in order to secure wood for fuel and timber for the use of farms that the settlers on prairies should lose no time in perfecting arrangements for the growing of groves and skirts of timber upon their lands. He had learned the time of ripening the seed of the different forest trees, had procured many such seeds and was in quest of more. That man will soon be able to show groves on his farm, furnishing a fine example for the imitation of his neighbors.

The published "Transactions of the Illinois Agricultural Society," contains several valuable essays on the subject of this article. We copy that written by CHARLES DOWNING, Esq., of Newburgh, New York. His

essay, however, is especially devoted to the cultivation of "trees in the prairies as protection to farms." But this is a point of great importance.

Mr. DOWNING says:

"When I saw the prairie land for the first time it struck me very forcibly, and I have often thought of it since, how much more comfortable the inhabitants might be if they would plant hedges or wide belts of trees, to screen them from cold winter winds, and also be a protection to their crops, especially fruit. If each owner of one or two hundred acres of land, would plant their boundaries or division lines with belts of trees, say from twenty to one hundred feet wide, they would find it to their advantage and comfort.

Besides the protection, the trees would in a few years, when large enough to thin out, be valuable for firewood and timber. An objector might say, "it would be very expensive to procure and plant such wide belts of trees." To such I would reply, that many kinds, one year old, (which is large enough) could be imported very cheap from the English and French nurseries, by the 1000—such as elms, ash, maples, beech, birch, linden, larch, alder, &c. Agents in New York City would order them on application.

The ground should be plowed a year previous to planting, and well worked through the summer, with or without a crop, as most convenient; the following spring put in the plants from three to six feet apart; those which make the largest growth, such as elms, &c., plant on the back line, and so on with the different sizes, so as to have the lowest growing kind inside or front; the last or inside row it would be well to plant with evergreens, say Norway spruce, because it is a faster grower than evergreens generally, and small plants can be obtained cheap.

Osage Orange, locust and chestnut, being fast growers, would be desirable to mix with the above named kinds.

Another plan would be to procure seeds of any of the fast growing kinds of trees, grow them in belts in the garden one year, and then transplant them in the belts or screens. But there would be failures and disappointments, and it might not prove as cheap and satisfactory as to import them.

But the quickest mode of obtaining a screen for protection, would be to procure cuttings of some of the free and strong growing varieties of the willow; such as

*Salix triandra*, *S. Beveridgii*, *S. Purpurea*, &c., which grow from forty to sixty and seventy feet high, and very rapidly too, in a deep moist soil, and very suitable, no doubt, to much of the prairie land. This, however, would not be so valuable for general purposes, when grown, as elm, maple, &c.; but would make its growth in about half the time.

For profit and quick growth combined, there is nothing probably equal to the common yellow locust, (*Robinia Pseudacacia*;) it will not only make a fine belt for protection in a short time, but for fencing posts and durable timber, (especially ship building) nothing equals it; and it has always commanded a high price; and I think a portion of the western prairies might be planted with it, as a profitable investment. It is said there are two kinds, one durable and the other not; but I know of only one kind. It is possible if grown on deep, rich, mucky soils, the timber would be coarse grained, spongy and not as durable."

Mr. DOWNING was not aware at the time his essay was written, that the borers were destroying the locust groves in Central Illinois. Groves of these trees, from six to ten inches in diameter, *have been entirely killed by them*. We believe that these insects have come from the south, and that they are not yet known in many parts of our State. With the knowledge that we possess of the destruction of the locust tree by this borer, we should do wrong not to caution the farmers on our prairies against relying upon locust trees for timber. We apprehend that we shall hear of the progress of the locust borer north of us next summer. It is an enemy not easily met and destroyed.

We would much prefer that our farmers should purchase trees from our nurseries, instead of the nurseries of Europe, as is suggested in the article we have quoted. We doubt not, if the calls should be sufficient, our nurserymen would soon be able to supply all demands for trees for the purposes suggested by Mr. DOWNING, and at very low prices. A proof of what a great demand upon our nurseries will accomplish, can be seen in the low prices now asked for plants of the Osage Orange. A few years since, young trees of the Osage Orange

were sold at fifty cents each; *now* they can be had at two dollars per thousand! If maples, ash, beech, walnut, or other young forest trees were wanted in equal numbers, or in large amounts, in a short time, they could be had at very low prices.

When this number of the *Farmer* is issued, it will be past the time for tree planting; but the season will be close at hand for gathering some of the seeds of our valuable forest trees.

#### Shade Trees.

It is too late to plant out shade trees the present spring; but a few remarks on the subject may not be out of place. Our towns in Illinois, in nine cases out of ten, are located in prairies. Usually, the men engaged in building up new towns have little time to make other than necessary improvements; and hence it is that many of them, for years, have no trees to break the heavy winds that sweep over them or to furnish the refreshing shade so grateful to man and beast.

Nothing adds more to the appearance of a town than fine healthy trees, lining the streets and shading the sidewalks, especially in those portions of such towns as are at a distance from the bustle of business, occupied for residences, whether of the rich or poor, the gorgeous mansion or the unpretending cottage. Shade trees planted out with judgment, contribute too, to the convenience, comfort and health of those who can enjoy their refreshing shade.

On this subject we have noticed in several newspapers, published in new and growing towns in the west, the establishment of societies for "Tree Planting." The object of these societies is to combine taste with means for planting trees in the streets and public grounds. They raise funds among themselves and from outsiders, obtain the best varieties of trees for planting, in particular localities, and proceed with care and skill in planting, and the result will unquestionably be most gratifying to the members of such societies now, and they will deserve the gratitude of those who follow them in long years to come.

Not the least pleasing feature in this mat-

ter is, that many of the societies referred to are made up solely of females. In spring, usually, men have full employment; they can give attention to such duties only as cannot be easily dispensed with; and women with better taste and more leisure on their hands, can better superintend the selection and planting of trees, than men; and this work, done under their direction, will be well done.

There is not commonly much tree planting done in the fall. More could be done than is, and with great advantage. But if this subject, the coming winter should be brought up and discussed in our towns and villages, we are confident that the propriety and necessity of the case would induce the organization of numerous societies, both of women and men for tree planting—the result of whose labors would create a distinctive feature in such towns, where there would be such organizations, in long coming years.

#### Orchards—Peddling Trees.

The reputed agents of eastern nurseries are already passing through Illinois, soliciting orders for eastern trees. We again caution the farmers of this State against purchasing eastern nursery trees. They are not as large nor as thrifty trees as those grown in Illinois nurseries; nor are they of any better varieties. All the valuable varieties of apple trees worth cultivating in Illinois, can be found in our nurseries, and these nurseries are under the control of men who have quite as much regard for their reputation as any eastern nurserymen; and, besides, what security have our people that the trees sold by these reputed agents are the trees represented? These men are peddling clocks one month—tin ware another—essences the third, perhaps. If any man has a desire to see eastern trees, and how they stand this climate, he can gratify himself by traveling up and down our rail roads, where he will see thousands of them yet, "heeled" in the ground, dry as pea brush.

Our farmers can have no difficulty in getting good and reliable trees from Illinois nurseries. They are suited to our climate

and will grow off well. They come from establishments which have a reputation to sustain among us, and where every good variety can be had. They will not be packed with straw filled in Canada thistles; they will not of necessity be kept so long out of ground as to lose their vitality; and they will be of good size, with the names of some of the best men in our State as a guarantee for their excellence. There is, therefore, no necessity of buying the cast off trash of eastern nurseries here.

We will ourselves assist our farmers in getting trees from any nursery in our State which they may select; and our agency shall not cost them anything. We want a stop to be put to the system of peddling trees by men of whom the public know nothing.

#### The Farmer's Home.

The following article is taken from the *Country Gentleman*:

A great deal has been said about the farmer's home; as to what in many cases it is, and what in all cases it should be. And much has been said eminently to the purpose, though not all. For example: when the attention has been called solely to the farmer's physical comfort; when he has been exhorted to build a more elegant house, finer barns and fences and the like, the advice has been well-meant and perhaps judicious, but something more and better than this should have been said.

The first step towards improving the farmer's home, should be taken in the work of self-culture. At least this culture should go hand-in-hand with all external improvements. In most cases—not all—if his home looks badly, it is simply because he chooses to have it look so: it is the true expression of his character and tastes. Those unhinged gates and doors and shutters point to an unhinged owner. That mossy roof and tottering chimney, those weather-stained clapboards and dilapidated fences, speak of a proprietor who is himself out of repair. What good would it do to present such a man with a new and tasteful cottage, furnished within and without with all manner of elegance? It would not harmonize at all with his character; he would not feel at home within it; and if he did not either burn it up or run away from it, he would soon reduce it to the level of his old house—the level of his character.

To improve the homes of such farmers,

then, we would say, first of all, improve the man himself. Let him cultivate his mind by careful reading and observation. If possible, let him acquire a scientific knowledge of all the details of husbandry; the chemical composition of the soils he works upon; the action of different manures, and of light, heat and moisture in promoting all vegetable growths, from the elm and pine in his forest to the fruit trees in his orchard, the grain in his fields, and the esculents and flowers in his garden. The more secure his mental discipline and the wider his range of study in all the departments of knowledge, the better. Nor should he be satisfied with acquiring stores of learning. His taste for the fit and beautiful, his social and domestic affections, and his moral and religious character should all be cultivated in due proportion. The elements should be

"So mixed in him, that Nature might stand up  
And say to all the world—THIS IS A MAN!"

When he has improved himself to the extent of his ability, or is fairly in the way of doing so, a firm foundation is laid for an improved home. Remodel, now, the house he lives in, if needful, or build a new one, and the dwelling and its occupants will harmonize with each other. The house will seem like an out-growth or expression of himself, the fit habitation of such a character.

And why should not the farmer's dwelling be neat and tasteful? It is too often the case that his thoughts are so engrossed with his crops, his barns and his stock, that his house and the many little comforts and elegancies which go to make home attractive, are neglected. The kitchen is a very important place in domestic economy; and, where circumstances render it necessary, it will hurt no one very badly to live there. But it is highly important that the farmer should have another room in his house, for a family sitting-room, where parents and children can spend most of their time when not engaged in labor. This, and not the kitchen or parlor, should be the center of home. Here, let the industrious man come at the close of the day, and, having laid aside his soiled clothes and boots, and donned easy gown and slippers, spend the evening with his family in reading and conversation. This room may be made very pleasant. Here should stand the musical instrument—if the wife or daughter has one—and not in the stiff, cold parlor. A few pictures should grace the walls; easy chairs and a lounge would suggest comfort, and a well filled book case provide means for whiling away leisure moments or for

profitable study. And so far as it may be, the other rooms of the house should be made attractive. There should be no sham gentility, no aping of city fashions in the style of architecture or furniture; but simplicity, neatness, order and good taste should reign from one end of the house to the other.

And what shall we say of that part of the farmer's home which lies out of doors? Much, we should like to say. In place of the usual "front-yard," shut in by high white fences, and crowded with trees and starving lilac bushes and coarse grass, we would suggest that a small semi-circular plat of ground be laid off on two or three sides of the house, and be surrounded with a low paling or hedge. This should be planted with ornamental trees, deciduous and evergreens, and a few flower beds should be cut in the turf. Vines should be trained over the porch, and roses and flowering shrubs planted under the windows. Outside of this little lawn, and immediately surrounding the house, let several acres of land be devoted to an ornamental field or park. Let it be a hay-field, for the hay from this land will be just as sweet and profitable as from any part of the farm. Carefully preserve any trees that may be standing upon this land, and add to their number, from year to year, as opportunity may permit. Set some together in groups and others singly, and the field will soon take on a park like aspect. After the hay crop is gathered, cattle or sheep may be allowed to graze upon it.

Look now, at the rural picture we have drawn: A plain, substantial house spreads out and rests, as if in repose, upon an open lawn adorned with trees and flowers. Within, neatness, order, intelligence and refined simplicity reign. In the garden without, children are running to and fro, dressing it and enjoying its beauty. Around this ornamental plat stretches a beautiful park, with scattered trees and enlivened with grazing herds. Beyond and around this, are fields devoted to various crops, which show that the hand of intelligence and industry tills them.

Why may not such pictures be often seen? Why must we go to Europe, or to the residences of a few wealthy land-owners in our own country, in order to see them? Very many of our farmers can and should have such homes. They would give the farmer a higher standing in the community, for intelligence, large mindedness and independence; they would tend to make his family contented and happy; would attach his chil-

dren to the calling in which they were born, and would win many from other and more harrassing occupations to the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. A. D. G.

### Floral Exhibition.

Our readers will indulge us in a short article of local interest. In the month of June every year for the last six years, we have had a floral exhibition in our city. The occasion was interesting on many accounts; the beautiful display of flowers, their tasteful arrangement, and the general attendance of all classes of our citizens. It has become an Institution of our city, which ought not to be dispensed with without ample cause.

We give it as our opinion that more attention has been paid to Floriculture in our city than in any other in Illinois. We have a great and select variety of roses and other flowering shrubs, and Flowering Herbaceous Perennials; annual flowering plants, in great variety, are also cultivated. When the season was favorable, the amount of flower offerings at the Floral Festival, almost exceeded belief; and when these were arranged in the ample rooms of the State House and the Metropolitan Hall, they seemed scarcely to be missed in our gardens. The case is now different. One of the chief articles which made up these exhibitions was the rose, and that, to a great extent, will fail. Most of the June roses were killed to the ground by the severe and continued cold of last winter. The wood also of the Perpetuals was also destroyed; but the roots of these will throw up new shoots, which will soon show blossoms. There will be the usual amount of other flowers.

Under the circumstances, shall we defer the Floral Exhibition to another year? Shall we disappoint the thousands, young and old, in city and country, by abandoning one of our cherished institutions—the Floral Festival? We at once say—No! We are for having our usual exhibition. If we cannot make it equal to those which have preceded it, we will come as near doing so as

we can. What say the ladies? What say our young men?

We desire to repeat that there is no necessity for failing to hold the usual exhibition. There are a hundred reasons in favor of the measure, and not one of much weight against it.

#### Millet.

Millet makes excellent fodder. The seed is a great favorite of birds and poultry. It will produce from four to six tons of fodder per acre, and stock are more fond of it than hay. As high as 40 bushels of the seed have been raised to the acre. If for fodder, 16 to 20 quarts of seed should be sown. It may be sown from May till the middle of July.

There is now, and is likely to be, a great demand for the seed. Hence, probably, it would be most profitable at present to raise the crop for seed. Several Sangamon farmers will sow a few acres of Millet the present spring. We anticipate that the culture will be extended.

#### Plows and Plowing.

We find a good article on these subjects in the *Valley Farmer*, which we marked for our last number. It may, however, be of some service, though most of the spring plowing is now done.

"The kind of plow to be used to the best advantage for the farmer, should be governed by the depth and character of the soil to be plowed. Deep soils that have been subjected to the *skinning system*, that is, cultivated in the same crops for a long series of years without manure, and never plowed more than three or four inches deep, if either artificially drained or naturally dry and well plowed with the double or trench plow, may be rendered almost as fertile as when first brought into cultivation.

The Trench Plow, or as it is sometimes called, the Double Michigan Plow, has two mould-boards on the same beam; the foremost one removes the surface or sod to the depth of three or four inches, and throws it into the previous furrow. The large, or hindermost one follows, raising the soil from the bottom of the first furrow and covering the surface with mellow earth that has never before been exposed to the meliorating influences of the sun and atmospheric gases. This plow, when properly constructed, may,

with a double team, be run, to the depth of ten or twelve inches, leaving the soil in the most perfectly pulverized condition.

Trench plowing is sometimes performed by running a second plow immediately after and in the furrow of another. This requires an extra plowman and the work is not as well executed as when plowed with the double plow.

In soils of less depth, the sub-soil plow may be used to better advantage than the double plow. This plow follows in the furrow after a common turning plow, loosening up and breaking the sub-soil to a depth of eight or ten inches below the bottom of the first furrow.

The advantages of this kind of plowing, on soils not too wet, are four-fold: First, in times of excessive wet the deeply pulverized soil admits of the speedy passage of the water from the roots of the growing plants. Second: In times of severe drouth, the mellow soil below serves as a reservoir for a large amount of moisture held in a state of capillary suspension, to be given off as the plants require it. Third: A well pulverized soil serves as a medium for the transmission of moisture from the earth, below the roots of the crop, just as water is taken up through a properly prepared sponge on bringing a point of it in contact with water below. Fourth: A well pulverized soil is open to a greater depth to the free admission of light, warmth and air—three indispensable elements in the growth of plants, causing the roots to descend to a greater depth, beyond the blasting influence of severe drouth; a like advantage is also secured to winter grain and clover, against the heaving effects of frosts.

Another important implement is necessary in thoroughly pulverizing most soils. No plow will perfectly divide the particles of all soils, and to complete the work, the roller or clod breaker is required. These, in their various forms, we shall describe in another number.

**LEMON BUTTER.**—Twelve eggs, 6 lemons, 2 pounds white sugar, 2 oz butter. Rub the butter and sugar to a cream, beat the whites and yolks separate, grate the rinds of the lemons; mix the yolks with the butter and sugar over a slow fire, then stir in the whites and it is ready for use. Set away until cold. It makes very nice sauce.—Rural New Yorker.

England is at present distracted by a controversy as to whether Penn was or was not an honest man. That there should be a split about a Penn is not very surprising.

From an English Paper.

### Extinct Reptiles.

Among the achievements of science there is no one thing which more deservedly excites our admiration than the restoration of extinct animals. Various writers, who may be said to have discovered the science of geology, had shown that the strata of the earth were laid on one upon another in a certain regular succession, and that each class rock, to use the geological phrase, had its own peculiar suit of exuviae; but this had not supplied us with the true key with which we unlocked the cabinet of Nature and called from her secret treasury those strange creatures which were produced during the earth's childhood. Cuvier, however, has supplied what was wanting in this respect, and, by a rigid application of comparative anatomy, has enabled us to perfect our natural history by introducing scores of animals of whose existence our fathers knew nothing.

The construction of an animal, however, when only a small portion of the skeleton is discovered, is a matter of great difficulty, and requires much scientific knowledge. This, nevertheless, may be done; and in some cases a single bone is enough to indicate the size and structure of the animal to which it belonged. Suppose, for instance, that the jawbone of an unknown species of animal were found, it is surprising how much may be learned from it. The teeth will show whether the animal was carnivorous or herbivorous; then if the teeth were made for tearing flesh, so the claws must be made to lay hold of it; then, again the paws require strong muscles in the fore arm, and in a corresponding structure of the shoulder; and in this way a general structure of the creation may be determined. We may also descend to some minutiae—for the digestive organs must have a similar relation to the parts before mentioned, and may therefore be inferred from the jawbone.

Professor Austed has enabled us to recall the volute period in geology with great precision; for England was then a fine country, although there were no men in it. Let us suppose ourselves then, upon the south coast, near the Isle of Wight, and we shall find ourselves upon a promontory stretching into the sea. Behind us there is a country covered with brushwood, and the distant hills are clothed with lofty pines. The interior is decked with a forest of magnificent trees, and the most beautiful flowers bloom on thousands of shrubs. Added to this the whole place teems with life. Looking out

into the sea, we shall perceive a huge monster lift its head out of the water to breathe the air. It is the most fearful and terrible of all the inhabitants of the deep. Its jaws are twenty feet long, and as it opens its mouth it is appalling to think what an engine of destruction it must be, and what a number of living creatures must be devoured daily to support a carcass nearly one hundred feet long, and equal in bulk to two hundred fat oxen! He is armed with two large fins, with powerful claws at the end of them, and will grasp the enormous sharks abounding in the sea, and devour them instantly. Such was the cetiosaurus, the largest marine animal with which we are acquainted.

But, fierce and destructive as this creature is, his companion, the Icthyosaurus, is much more so. This is an air-breathing reptile, upwards of thirty feet long. It was covered, like the whale, with a smooth naked skin, thickly folded under the belly for the purpose of protection. The form of the head, as well as that of jaws and teeth, was like the crocodile. Its eyes were very large, being eighteen inches across, and adapted to all lights. Night and day, deep and shallow water were all the same, and the open air and deep ocean were alike transparent to it. It moved with difficulty on land, but swam with ease and swiftness in the water, whilst its large and vertical tail made it a strange mixture of the fish, reptile, and whale.

But, whilst looking upon the sea, we must not forget the animals that are around us on the land; for there are monsters on the land as strange and fearful as any that inhabit the deep. Indeed, this seems to be the age of monsters; and there are around us reptiles as terrible as the famous dragon of fable who was slain by our noble St. George.

First and foremost amongst these is a large vegetable-eating reptile called the Ignodrom. The bodies of two of the largest elephants would not make up the enormous carcass. The legs are ten feet high from the foot to the point of the shoulder. It is between sixty and seventy feet long, and—per parenthesis—the specimen restored at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, is sufficiently large to admit of twenty gentlemen dining in the inside of it. But there are other creatures associated with it, scarcely inferior in size, and more rugged in their form. The Megalosaur, or great sauriid, is amongst the most remarkable of the group; but there are others which are of less size, though of more monstrous shapes. The Lybrinthodon or frog-like reptile, was perhaps, the most

ugly and grotesque that ever breathed; but the pterodactylus was, of all creatures, the most singular.

Still retaining the old coast in our imagination, we may behold pterodactylus sitting on the ground or standing like a swan, with the long neck resting on the back to support with ease the heavy head, which is like that of the crocodile. Approach it, and it will rise in the air and fly like a bird, or cling against the cliff like a bat. Whilst you watch it, it will perhaps leave the rock, and taking to the sea, commence fishing. You will thus perceive that this creature possesses, in the organization of one animal, the head of the crocodile, the neck of the swan, the wings of the bat, a resemblance to the hand of a man, and legs and feet which enable it to swim and walk. In all points of bony structure, from the teeth to the extremity of the nails, it was a reptile covered with scaly armor, and having a true reptilian heart and circulating organs. Its wings when not in use were folded back like those of a bird, and it could suspend itself with claws attached to fingers, from the branches of a tree. Its usual position when not in motion, was standing on its hind feet, with its neck set up and curved backward lest the weight of the enormous head should disturb the equilibrium of the animal. With the huge monsters already described crawling over the land, and tens of thousands of these flying reptiles hovering round the rocks, or darkening the air with their wings; England must have been a strange place in the times of the iguanodon.

It will thus be seen how much may be learned from a few bones. A poor workman, in breaking a stone, in Tilgate Quarry, England, found the tooth of an iguanodon embedded in it. He sold it for a net of beer to a man of science, who soon perceived that it could not have belonged to any known animal. On further search being made, other bones were discovered, and the whole structure of the animal was then known. Near it were found the bones of other animals who had lived with it; and gradually, as the light enters a dark room, the whole country thus comes back to us peopled with its former inhabitants; and we have only to pause over the picture with the poet and artist, and we live for a while in those old times—so old it seems to us the morning of the world. But the whole are now gone. Death has swept them into his garner, and nothing but their bones remain to tell the story of their lives.

“‘Labor is worship!’ the robin is singing,

## A RHAPSODY ON GARDEN SEEDS.

BY H. W. BEECHER.

There is something in the very sight of a genuine seed store that does us good. Even when we lived in the West, and went to the country store, where the annual box of seed from the “Union Shaker Village,” or the later rival box from “Landreth,” was displayed, we felt a relaxation, and *smelt* garden long before it was time to have one. True, a seed is a seed. But it is a good deal more than a seed. It has a history, and it is ready for another history. A whole summer is wrapped up in that pea. A whole summer wrought to form that bean. A whole summer spent its time about that ear of corn. It came forth small as a needle. It stood tremulous and yellow for weeks, it waxed apace in June, it rustled in July, it stood up the noblest of all the grasses in August, with a many fringed band of flowers on its lap, and with a little baby ear at its breast, with silken hair hanging down uncombed yet untangled, and spotted and powdered with pollen.

Here are bins of peas. We shall take the *Cedo Nulli* for our early crop, and the *Champion of England* for our main supply of marrow fat peas. We will add a quart each of Bishop's Long Pod and the British Queen. Do not think that we are looking simply at these little shriveled pellets. Each pea is a lens. We see through it afar into summer. There stand long rows of pea vines! They would fain shake hands with you, and hold out little clusters of sweet blossoms; the only hand which they have. We have seen the wind shaking hands with them often.

Dear beans! Here you are. Though you *do* come up wrong end first, after you *are* up, nothing can be more praiseworthy than your conduct. Here is the Lima, full of twining aspirations, for whose industry no pole is long enough. Here are yellow, black, speckled, dun-colored, red, bush beans, the world renowned *snaps*. Beans will be honorable so long as *succotash* has one firm friend. This boon the Indians left us. Succotash is a liquid compromise between corn and beans. It is perfect when its flavor is that of corn lapsing into bean, and of bean just changing into corn. In short, it is a dish whose flavor represents the evanishing point of both beans and corn, towards a mystic vegetable union in some sphere. But to be perfect there should always be a hierophantic bit of pork, presiding over the

nuptials and giving its unctuous blessing.

In those little rough and ragged shells reposes the germ of the Bassano beet, best of all early blushes of the morning. For ourselves we have a preference for the extra early turnip beet!

Honest cabbage! Who could believe that a mighty drumhead, or a wrinkled savoy, would ever emerge from that little brown seed! Aristocratic cauliflower!—one of the few flowers that do best in a pot.

As we look about at all the stock of garden goods, celery, cucumber, egg-plant, radish, parsnip, lettuce, we almost hear the bees hum, and hens crooning and scratching in the garden! Those pumpkins' seeds swell as we look at them into great red globes and lie plump and fat all over the corn-fields!

Ah, wicked water-melons, ye lie stumbling blocks in the boys' way! If tempting is itself a sin, how many will be scored up against you.

And here is the brilliant pepper. How much these little red-cheeked cherry peppers put one in mind of equally pretty checked maidens. Alas, yes! That there is no disputing about tastes, is true to no more than to him who has bitten a pepper-pod.

I can hear the insect buzzing over the beds of thyme, sage, summer-savory. I can imagine myself under apple trees in a faint afternoon of August, and smelling the fennel, the dill, the caraway, which every puff of wind brings from the garden. Here, too, is lavender and pennyroyal, saffron for children and catnip for pet cats; balm and mint for boys with a stomach-ache; sweet basil and marjoram for dainty cooks; wormwood, rue, boneset, horehound, and elecampane for all sorts of ailments in all sorts of places.

#### Cultivation of Corn.

We copy the following paragraphs from the May number of the *Valley Farmer*:

It has been clearly established by careful experiments that corn properly planted in drills will yield a larger crop than when planted in hills or check rows. When drilled with a suitable machine, the stalks stand at a uniform distance apart, and so nearly in a line that the plow or cultivator may run so near them as to cut up most of the weeds without the necessity of turning upon them two inches of earth.

Some of the largest premium crops now on record, were produced by level culture. If the first plowing is done with the bar next to the corn, throwing the furrow from the hills, and the earth returned with the next plowing, the cultivator should be used

for all subsequent working. This leaves a level mellow bed for the thousands of minute roots which fill the entire space between the rows, and are in fact, the *mouths through which alone the plants are fed*. By keeping the surface level and mellow, it readily absorbs the rain as it falls, where it is held in reserve for the growing crop. But when the last working is done with the plow and the earth is thrown from the centre of the rows to the corn, a large portion of the roots are cut off and destroyed, which must necessarily diminish the yield. The idea advanced by some farmers, that plowing corn at this time, and reuding and breaking these roots, is beneficial to it, is simply absurd. Corn delights in a well pulverized, mellow soil, and if the ground is sufficiently moist and the weather warm, after a thorough working with the plow and causing the loss of these roots, the corn will continue to grow rapidly, notwithstanding the violence done, but if the weather is dry the injurious effects of such cultivation is clearly and fatally marked by the "drag" of all the lower leaves, and necessarily results in great injury to the crop.

The introduction of the cultivator has done much towards establishing an improved method of cultivating corn. The shovel plow is a much more suitable implement for the work than the ordinary plow; but, as they are usually made, they offer too great a resistance to the draft. The improved Cultivator Plow has been constructed so as to combine all the advantages of the shovel plow and the cultivator, and is regarded by those who have tried it, as the most valuable implement now in use.

We believe that with the additional labor, to the value of one dollar judiciously applied in the cultivation of each acre of corn the present season, the increased yield would not be less than ten bushels per acre, and estimating the whole number of acres in corn in the United States at 22,000,000, would add 220,000,000 of bushels to the crop the present season.

Most of the land cultivated in corn might be made to produce double the quantity that is now grown, if the proper course of cultivation was followed, with but a comparatively small increase of cost."

#### The Sleep of Plants.

The way in which sleep is shown in the vegetable kingdom, is infinitely more variable than among animals. Man throws himself prostrate; some kind of monkeys lie down on their sides; the camel places its head between the fore legs; and birds roost

their heads beneath the wing. Beyond these, there are few remarkable differences. But in plants there is no end to the curious and beautiful diversity which rewards the seeker after Nature's mysteries. Some plants droop their leaves at night, the first part becoming flaccid and pendulous. Others, of the kind called "compound," as clover and vetches, close their leaflets together in pairs, and occasionally the whole leaf droops at the same time. The three leaflets of clover bring their faces to the outside, and so forms a little triangular pyramid, whose apex is the point of union between the leaflets and their stalks. Lupines, which have leaves resembling a seven-fingered hand without a palm, fold them together like a lady's half-closed parasol. Chickweed raises its leaves so as to embrace the stem; and some species of lotus, besides many of its elegant family, the Leguminosæ, bring them together in such a way as to protect the young flower buds and immature seed-vessels from the chill air of night. These are only a few out of many cases which could be instanced of change position in leaves, whilst in flowers there seems to be no limit to variation. The greater part shut the petals at night, the stalks declining on one side: but there are some which roll the petals back, and curl them up like miniature volutes. The sleep of such plants is probably unaccompanied by any external change. The same may be said of Campanulas, and other bell-shaped flowers. The four petaled flowers of Cruciferae, it should have been observed, are remarkably careless of repose. Their sleep never appears sound, or even constant, for many successive nights; they seem restless, and in the morning always look dozy and uncomfortable. When flowers are over-blown, or the plant, if an annual, is near its decay, the phenomena of sleep are very considerably diminished. In fact, they are only seen in perfection when the growing powers of the plant are in full energy. Deciduous trees—that is, such as cast their leaves in autumn—are in a sort of trance in the winter months. Flowers, too, lose their sensibility altogether when the period of fertilization is passed, as may be readily seen by inspecting a field of daisies early in the morning, before the dew is off the grass. The over-blown ones will be found wide open; those in the younger stages all "crimson tipped," and sound asleep.

#### Silesian Merino Sheep.

The origin of these sheep is this—Ferdinand Fischer, of Silesia, visited Spain in 1811

and selected from the Infantado and Negretti flock, one hundred ewes and four bucks, and paid a very high price for them, as he would have none but the very best, and from that time to this (a period of forty four years,) they have been bred with the greatest care and kept entirely pure, never have been crossed or mixed with any other blood. In 1850, Mr. Ferdinand Fisher (who still lives) sold out his farms and flocks to his son, who pursues the same course as his father, keeps the same register and numbers, and finds ready sale for all his surplus sheep. In fact he does not raise half enough to supply the demand. He often has sheep engaged one, two and three years in advance.

These sheep are considered the best in Germany on account of their pure blood, excellent health, and the quality and quantity of their wool. The purity of their blood makes them invaluable to cross with other sheep, as a pure blooded animal is sure to transmit a full share of pure blood to its posterity.

I keep my sheep in summer in pasture, put them up in heavy rains, but give them no grain, and in winter I do not feed much strong feed, but prefer beets and carrots with a little wheat bran, or oats to corn, rye, etc. For my own experience teaches me that fat sheep are not as healthy and do not give as good lambs, as they do when kept strong, but not fat. I was a shepherd in Germany for many years and am able to say that the climate and grass in this country are much better for sheep than in Germany, and I find that our Silesians improve both in wool and lambs.—[Carl Heyne, of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York, in the Rural American.]

#### Succession of Forest Trees, and Germination of Seeds long kept in the Earth.

Whether the soil retains seeds through a long series of years, or has the latent power of creating them, or whether they are scattered in fitting localities at fitting times by certain mysterious agencies, are questions too nice for us to decide. We do not recollect of having ever seen any satisfactory solution of the question "where the seeds come from," yet from almost every day's observation we are forced to ask ourselves the question, and we can get no nearer an answer than the three preceding hypotheses. In regard to these three we are compelled to acknowledge they are only the positions we are forced into for want of better, or at least more secure.

In the course of our agricultural observa-

tions and experience, we have noticed that on certain soils, where a heavy growth of hard pine had been cleared off, the succeeding growth is white pine; in swamps where the growth was hemlock and spruce, the succeeding growth will be some diminutive species far inferior to the original growth; on some hard soils, where the first growth was inferior to the original growth was a mixture of white pine and oak, the next growth will be almost entirely chestnut, and in other cases, where the growth was mostly hardy wood, the succeeding growth will be all white pine. Then there are other soils which a farmer will clear up for grazing, and in three or four years his pasture will be a miniature forest of little white birches, if he does not cut it over every year. There are also a class of swamps whose mud may be as deep as the ocean, and which are bearing a heavy growth of spruce, when cleared will give you the alder and the willow of the smallest size.

All these phenomena and many more every farmer must have noticed repeatedly. It would be the satisfaction of a curiosity not altogether idle, to know how and when the seeds were planted from which spring these unlooked for successions of forest trees.

There was a time no doubt when every swamp was a lake, pond, or pool, and a still later time when it was a semi-fluid bog, still treeless, however. At length it bore trees, hemlock and spruce, and hackmatack. What hand planted the seeds or set the saplings? These were all cut in our presence and the swamp burned over and every root dug out. We watched that no hand should sow bushes on the spot we were preparing for nice natural mowing. But when the time for mowing came, the alder, willow, and firewood had overrun the grass. Where did these seeds come from? Did they float on the waters when the swamp was a lake, and outlive the element that bore them there, and sleep for ages while the water was driven from the lake, or exalted to the clouds?

There was a time too when every hill and highland was a "sterile promontory," without a tree to deck its nakedness, and as barren and soilless as Sahara; but at length the oak and pine and chestnut sprung up on these hills from some seed or germ, or by some agency unknown, and crowned them with beauty. The farmer at length, in want of pasture for his increasing flocks, cuts away the growth and sends the fire in to clean it. When it is cleaned he waits

for his grass; but behold another growth of trees instead, and he must cut, and cut for years in succession before his pasture will be useful, so tenacious the trees are to the soil. There must be seeds here; but whether old or new, the result of any antecedent vegetation, of the same genus or not, created when rocks were, or the growth of last year, sown by benign hands, or scattered from the circumambient air or dispensed in rain, are questions for philosophers.

In the Western States, where they boast of a virgin soil, there are still further phenomena of this line, that make us ask where the seeds come from? There are certain weeds which seem so indispensably the concomitants of man in his civilized state, that he does not exist without them—we mean the common garden weeds. A farmer settles down on the margin of a prairie, and builds his house, and plows his garden and plants it. He has fled thousand miles may be, and beside leaving friends, has hoped to see no more weeds; but in five mornings after the garden has been planted, he finds all those most familiar weeds which were the plague of his New England farming. He may justly doubt the virgin soil and believe some one has tilled before him.

No doubt the earth may preserve seeds in her bosom for a long time, but it staggers us to believe she may keep them in germinating order for thousands of years.

We wish we were able to offer a satisfactory hypothesis in regard to the questions suggested in respect to these facts; but since we are not, we must commend it to the mysteries of an over-ruling Power, whose system of agriculture outdoes all scientific research, and in this one particular alone confounds the skeptics who say He is not.

[From the *Western Agriculturist*.]

#### Forwarding Cucumber and other Vines.

A correspondent of the *Germantown Telegraph*, says that "cucumbers may be forwarded some weeks, simply by planting them in the open soil, placing around them, when up, four bricks laid flat-ways, and laying over them a pane of glass. The glass may be removed during the day, and replaced at night. The bricks will retain a portion of the heat absorbed during the daytime, and this, acting in favorable conjunction with the exclusion of the night air, will tend powerfully to accelerate the development, and produce a vigorous action of the system through it. Melons, squashes, and other vines of a similar description may be advanced by the same very simple and econo-

mical process. Broken glass from the shops, which will cost nothing, or at most, a mere trifle, will answer for this purpose as well as new, and will last for years. Watering frequently and copiously if the weather be dry, with soap suds, or diluted urine, as a stimulant, will be found singularly advantageous. Gypsum and pulverized charcoal should be frequently sprinkled over the vines as soon as they are up."

From the Journal.

#### The Pie Plant.

Messrs. FRANCIS & BARRELL are supplied with this article from the nursery and garden of Professor TURNER, at Jacksonville. The plant as furnished by him is very superior—requiring less sugar and no stewing in preparing it for pies. Prof. Turner in a note to the above gentlemen gives the following account of his manner of cultivating the plant, which may be of use to our readers.

"I wish to say in regard to this pie plant—first, that it is the best kind under good culture that I have been able to find in ten years; but no better than many others raised with common culture.

"The way I cultivate it—First, I select a piece of soddy land, and a water run of quick, or good dry soil and a good bottom—not clay; then trench it four or five feet deep, and put a brick arch under the whole at that depth (tiles would be better) then put the plant into the ground and spade in all the ashes and manure I can get in town, and time to haul; more or less every year, this is done.

"In this way the plant is never deluged or rendered sour and bitter by cold drenching rains, nor scorched by drought and heat—or starved for want of food—especially potash.

"Your customers will find it always tender and brittle, needs no stewing for pies, and not more than half or three-fourths the quantity of sugar to make it palatable than that plant does grown on a poor, cold, undrained, hard soil.

"The especial character of the plant I cultivate is so marked that I now refuse to sell any of my roots abroad, for it so speedily degenerates in common culture that I may be suspected of deception in the sale, and since I have found out this fact, I have refused to sell the roots.

"Of course I cultivate but little in the extra manner I have stated, and cannot send you as much as you may desire—as I have only two rows set for home use and experiment—but it has produced so enormously I have gone into selling what we do not want.

"I do not claim anything on the ground of mere size of stalks—which is no more in pie plant than in big romanite apples; but the tenderness and flavor is what I wish to excel in.

"I have heard it said recently that Mr. Cahoon's celebrated plant in Wisconsin is cultivated by him in the same way, that I cultivate mine, and that it also degenerates in the same manner out of his hands."

#### Working Girls.

Happy girls! who cannot love them? With cheeks like roses, bright eyes and elastic step, how cheerfully they go to work. Our reputation for it, such girls will make excellent wives. Blessed, indeed, will those men be who secure such prizes. Contrast those who do nothing but sigh all day, and live to follow the fashions; who never earn the bread they eat nor what they wear, who are languid and lazy from one week's end to another. Who but a simpleton and a popinjay would prefer one of the latter, if he were looking for a companion?

Give us the working girls. They are worth their weight in gold. You never see them mincing along, or jumping a dozen feet to steer clear of a spider or fly, they have no affectation or silly airs about them.

When they meet you, they speak without putting on a dozen silly airs, or trying to show off to a better advantage, and you feel as if you were talking to a human being, and not to a painted or fallen angel.

If girls knew how sadly they miss it when they endeavor to show off their delicate hands and unsoiled skin, and put on a thousand airs, they would give worlds for the situation of working girls, who are so far above them in intelligence, in honor, in everything. Be wise, then, you who have made fools of yourselves through life. Turn over a new leaf, and begin, though late, to live and act as human beings.

The above is well said. We do not know its author. Mrs. Osgood thus speaks on the same subject, in her eloquent "Hymn to Labor:"

"Labor is worship, the robin is singing,  
Labor is worship! the wild bee is ringing;  
Listen! that eloquent whisper springing,  
Speaks to thy soul from out Nature's great heart;  
From the dark cloud flows the life-giving shower,  
From the rough god blows the soft breathing flower,  
From the small insect, the rich coral bower;  
Only man, in the plan, shrinks from his part.

"Labor is life! 'tis the still water faileth;  
Idleness ever despaireth, bewaileth;  
Keep the watch wound, for the dark rust assaileth!  
Flowers droop and die in the stillness of noon.  
Labor is glory! the flying cloud lightens;  
Only the changing wing wavers and brightens;  
Idle hearts only the dark future frightens;  
Play the sweet keys would'st thou keep them in tune."

A Convention of Superintendents of Lunatic Asylums is now in session at Cincinnati. The object of the meeting is to discuss the best methods of treating the insane, morally, physically and medically. If we are not mistaken, it is the first Convention of the kind ever held in the United States.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

## Central Illinois Agricultural Society.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER:

I see that the South have started a project of organizing a *Southern Illinois Agricultural Society*. I am not sure but the plan is a good one; and that it may be extended so as to establish the *Central Illinois Agricultural Society*. A good nucleus for such a society might be formed by Morgan and Sangamon counties. These two counties have every material, in good farmers, good stock, good mechanics, good dairies, women who can execute all the work of their special departments, such as needle-work, crotch-et work, painting, &c. &c., to make good exhibitions—of which they may be proud. They have also their fair grounds, eligibly situated, and conveniences near at hand for the accommodation of all who may attend their fairs. The fairs could be alternately held in these counties. They have railroad facilities, also, and these are being increased, and all the Bounty Tract will in the course of another year have direct railroad communication with the two counties. Indeed, if the interests of the central counties are consulted there are many reasons for believing that the plan suggested would be eminently to their advantage, and especially so, as it seems, that some of those who should have been our friends, north and south, are disposed to make unjust complaints against us, and some of them manifestly to gratify private feeling or private ambitious designs.

It was from Central Illinois that the first movement was made for the establishment of the State Society. She has sustained it at some sacrifices; she is willing still to labor in that behalf; but attacked and abused without cause, she will not retort: she has nothing to gain by personal quarrels; and having manifested her disposition to do so all she can to further the interests of agriculture, if her services are not wanted, if they are despised, as we know they are contemned, a decent self-respect would seem to require that she should act for herself.

JUSTICE.

## Sowing Onion Seed.

MESSRS. EDITORS: It is absolutely essential, in order to make onion seed germinate in dry weather, that the earth should be made compact about it where it is sown. I have sown a good deal of onion seed this spring, and it has come up well. It was sown in drills, and after it was covered I tread down the earth, so as to make it hard. I always consider it necessary to do this, and

especially when the ground is dry to do it well. A cow got into my grounds and went up and down my onion patch, and wherever she put her feet on to the rows and tread down the earth, there the onions have come up better than anywhere else.

The wet weather will be likely to bring up the onions, which, otherwise, might have entirely failed.

It will answer to sow onion seed some weeks longer. If it is a favorable season, it will make some large onions, and, at any rate, it will make good onion sets for the next spring. B——r.

## New Farms.

EDITOR FARMER:

"A New Comer" wishes to know if he can have a good garden and set an orchard on his new land this spring. I answer that he can, with a fair prospect of success. If he can plow his land eight inches deep as he states, he need not hesitate to sow oats or plant corn, potatoes or any kind of garden vegetables after thoroughly harrowing the ground. Peas, beans and all the varieties of the squash and melon tribe grow exceedingly well on our prairie sod without any cultivation but planting, which can be done with an axe, in the same manner that corn is usually planted.

But he had better not be in a hurry about making a permanent garden; wait until next fall or until he has a good stock of manure on hand, spread it six inches thick on the ground, then spade two feet deep and mix soil, subsoil and manure all together, and then he can calculate with as much certainty on his crops as the breeder of his blooded stock can on the quality of his increase.

I am opening a new prairie farm this spring and have set several hundred fruit trees on sod ground. I dig large holes, at least a foot deep, pulverize the soil thoroughly that comes in contact with the roots, put the sods round the tree to keep it from blowing about by the winds and then mulch with straw. I have also sowed about an acre of wheat on sod as an experiment.

Nearly every one that gives directions for setting the hedge of the maclura plant, recommends to set with a dibble. I think it objectionable, for the reason that the roots are too much crowded together and frequently turned upwards and without great care a hollow space will be left under the roots. My plan, which I consider better as well as being more expeditious, is this—plow and drag the ground until it is thoroughly pulverized. Set stakes along the

line where the hedge is to be made, stretch a cord, with one horse and a boy to ride, plow a furrow directly under the cord which can be done by setting the plow to land, thin the land side with a hoe to make it straight, then lay the plants along two to four inches apart at an angle of about 45 degrees, draw on a little dirt with a hoe to keep the plants steady and then turn the furrow back with the plow, finish by treading directly over the roots which presses the ground firmly about them and the plants will grow all the better for being set at an angle.

S. W. ARNOLD.

CORTLAND, DeKalb County, Illinois.

### The Purple Martin.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER:

Will you indulge me in giving some short notices of this favorite bird—well known to every man, woman and child among us? He comes to us in early spring, and extends his migrations to the distant shores of Hudson's Bay, perhaps even farther north. On the return of cold weather he leaves his abode—suddenly his music ceases—and he is away to a more congenial climate.

The martin seems half domesticated. He is fond of fixing upon a home near the abodes of man. Anticipating his wants and his coming, we often prepare little houses for his accommodation. They are seen about on the tops of poles, on sign posts and on dwellings. In the south, even among the Indians of some tribes, care is taken to secure his companionship in the spring and summer season. The negroes on the Mississippi stick up long canes, with gourds on the top of them, with an opening for the entrance of the martins. The Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians used to be in the practice of cutting off the top branches of a sapling near their dwellings, on each of which they hung a gourd for the accommodation of their friends, the martins.

The range of the martins is not accurately known. They are found in the far north, and in the south in Chili, and even in Terra Del Fuego. In our regions the blue bird often gives the martin a severe fight for the occupation of the house erected for him. He arrives before the martin in the spring, takes possession of the box, and usually holds it. The fight continues long—is often renewed—but the martin is finally compelled to seek other quarters. This bird is a foe to hawks, crows and eagles. He mounts in the air to a surprising distance, chases these birds, strikes at them and annoys them. They do not stay long in his neighborhood, because he gives them no peace. Farmers

should encourage the martins to abide about their dwellings, by furnishing them sufficient house accommodation.

The martin does not trouble the garden or the orchard. His food is insects—worms, hornets, bees and the like. The birds pair and are remarkable for their conjugal fidelity. About the 20th of April they make their nests. They raise two broods in the summer. The first appears in May and the second in July. During the period in which the female is laying, and before she commences incubation, they are both from home the greater part of the day. When the female is sitting, the male frequently visits her and attends to the eggs while the mother takes an airing and visits her acquaintances. He also kindly sits on the outside, arranges his plumage and sings to her while she is in a state of confinement. Altogether, in some particulars, he is a pattern of a bird!

The flight of the purple martin is graceful, swift, with little action in his wings. He passes through our crowded streets with the quickness of thought, or plays among the clouds, gliding about at a vast height, like some aerial being. Soon after the 20th of August, he takes leave for the south.

LOOK OUT FOR CANADA THISTLES!—A Kendall county farmer writes, that he purchased a lot of trees that came from Rochester last fall, and found the straw that covered them full of Canada thistles! He burned all the packing, and hopes he has saved his farm from the scourge of thistles.

THE JAPAN POTATOE.—At a meeting of Horticulturists in Paris, France, who had cultivated this potatoe, its merits were discussed. The weight of evidence was in favor of its continued cultivation. Some spoke of it highly for table purposes, and others of its great yield when properly cultivated. Mons. Remont stated that he believed 25 per cent. of bread could be made of the tuber to advantage, and that planted in April, an acre of land might be made to yield about 35 tons of the tubers!

Something valuable may be made of this potatoe, but we have not quite forgotten the wondrous results to agriculture which the French promised to achieve by the cultivation of the Rohan potatoe.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

**TREATMENT OF HENS.**—Two flocks compared. The one laid eggs almost all the time. The other laid scarcely any. On examining their treatment, the following differences were found to exist: The former had a warm cellar to roost in, during the winter. The latter roosted in a stable where the snow blew in. The former had a fine place in an open cellar, for scratching among ashes, lime and earth. The latter scratched in the manure heap, or in the stable when the cows were out. The former had plenty of various kinds of food twice a day. The latter were sparingly fed once a day. The former had plenty of good water, with milk, &c. The other had no drink except what they could find. It can be seen, we think, why one flock laid eggs generously, and the other didn't. Ohio Farmer.

**CUT THIS OUT**—A correspondent of the London Literary Gazette, alluding to the numerous cases of death from accidental poisoning, adds: "I venture to affirm there is scarce even a cottage in this country that does not contain an invaluable, certain, immediate remedy for such events, nothing more than a desert spoonful of made mustard, mixed in a tumbler of warm water, and drank immediately. It acts as an emetic, is always ready, and may be used with safety in any case where one is required. By making this simple antidote known, you may be the means of saving many a fellow creature from an untimely end."

**MANGE IN CATTLE.**—The Boston Cultivator says: "The disorder termed the mange, arises from the excitement of the skin, probably brought on by disarrangement of the organs of digestion, in consequence of poverty, engendered by hunger and want of shelter. After these are supplied, a wash made of gunpowder and water, charcoal, nitre, and sulphur—will be found a valuable application. Mange is an infectious disorder; remove therefore the sick beast from the rest of the herd."

**POULTRY UNDER PLUM TREES.**—We have been presented with some specimens of very fine plums raised in this city. Until last season the fruit upon these trees was very imperfect, owing to ravages of the curculio, but for this season and the past, the fruit has been good, owing, undoubtedly, to the fact that poultry has been kept under the trees. It is an experiment easily tried.—Hartford Courant.

**WOUNDS ON ANIMALS.**—Ointment for wounds, sores of all kinds, and for horses, when galled by the saddle or collar, and also for broken chilblains. Take of honey 12 oz., yellow or bees' wax 4 oz.; compound galbanum plaster, 6 oz.; sweet oil, half a pint. Put the honey into a jar by the fire; then melt the other ingredients, and mix them together; to be spread very thin on linen, and changed twice a day.

For cows or heifers with swelled udders from cold or bruises, or after calving. Hot fomentations made by boiling in water, marsh mallows, gathered and dried in summer for use during winter, applied twice a day; and after each fomentation a bit of goose grease, as big as a nutmeg, rubbed well over the swelling, is found very efficient. Swellings in any other parts, from chills, or blows, or from injury from the horns of others, may be similarly treated; or, in cases where the skin is not broken, hot crab verjuice is most valuable as a fomentation, with goose grease afterwards, as before said.

**CRACKERS.**—Fourteen tea cups of flour, three tea cups of water, one tea cup of butter or lard, (half of each is best,) sift into the dry flour four teaspoonfulls cream tartar, two of soda, and salt to taste. Work the shortening into the flour, add the water and work till smooth. Roll very thin; cut out and bake and you will be very apt to try it again.

**STRIPED BUG.**—J. H. Davis, of Cartsville; Virginia, says that common fire black pepper dusted over vines, when they are attacked, will destroy the striped bug. Applied in the morning, while the dew is on the vines, it will not injure them.

**CROUP.**—A piece of fresh lard, as large as a butternut, rubbed up with sugar, in the same way that butter and sugar are prepared for the dressing of puddings divided in three parts, and given at intervals of twenty minutes, will relieve any one of croup not already allowed to progress to the fatal point.

**FOR HEAVES IN HORSES.**...In answer to an inquiry in the Country Gentleman from E. R. Brown, in reference to heaves in horses, I would advise the using of cut straw quite freely; wet the straw after cutting, mix on corn and meal—feed no hay—feed out straw as hay is fed from racks. The oats should be cut as early as possible and not to injure the grain for market—straw to be kept from rains as much as possible, and taken to the barn bright. More grain has to be fed, and may be as straw is much cheaper than hay to feed. When the weather is too cold to feed wet straw, oats and straw may be fed.

**BAKED INDIAN PUDDING.**—Into one quart of boiling milk scald ten tablespoonful of Indian meal; when cold, add a teacupful of molasses, a piece of butter the size of an egg, a teaspoonful of salt, also of ginger and cinnamon; bake it in a pudding dish from one to two hours in a cook stove, or longer if in a brick oven. When done it has the appearance of brown bread.

**PANCAKES**—Stir them in the usual way, but without eggs; and one cup of yeast instead of saleratus; let them stand two hours before baking.

**SUPERIOR CUP CAKES.**—Four cups of flour, three cups of sugar, one cup of butter, one cup of sweet cream, four eggs, half a teaspoonful of saleratus, half a nutmeg; bake in a moderate oven, in deep tins.

**BISCUIT WITHOUT SALERATUS.**—Take at night one pint of sweet milk, one teacup of yeast, butter the size of a walnut, flour to make a nice loaf; then let it stand till morning; roll to half inch thickness; bake in a moderate oven, and you will have very nice light cakes for breakfast.

J. B. Horton lately sued the editors of the New Orleans Picayune for libel-damages claimed. \$10,000. The jury gave him nothing, and made him pay all costs.

The Messrs. Harper are about to start a pictorial weekly newspaper, for which they anticipate a circulation of over a half a million copies.

Out-lots some ten or fifteen blocks from the square, sold at auction last week, at an average of \$125 per lot.

## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

### Work of the Last Month.

The last month has been a busy time with our farmers. The lateness of the Spring season, threw an unusual amount of work into May. Much spring grain had to be sown—wheat, oats, barley—some flax, rye, and then the preparation of ground for the corn crop had to be made. Farmers had no time to waste—and they pitched into the work with right hearty good will. The drought was favorable so far as to put the lands in order for plowing, though it killed some fields of wheat. Seasonable rains came in the middle of the month; the corn was well planted, and everything promises now for a fair crop—provided the after tillage is what it should be.

Potatoes can yet be planted for the main crop. Prepare the ground well; and plant a good variety. Whatever kind you do plant, let the seed be unmixed. The price of lots of potatoes is greatly injured by the mixture of different kinds. The seed should be often changed. Good potatoes are always in demand—and they are a necessity, that cannot be dispensed with.

Millet can be sown any time this month and nearly all next month. It is a good paying crop. It will generally yield some four tons per acre of fodder, and cattle prefer it to timothy. This crop presents this advantage—it can be sown at any time most convenient to the farmer. When the crop is cultivated for seed it can be sown very thin—for fodder, one peck of seed is sufficient for the acre. Fowls are very fond of the seed. As a seed crop, sometimes thirty bushels and more are obtained from an acre.

Buckwheat cakes are a staple for the table in winter. "The sufferings of the people is great," when they are deprived of them. Last year the crop was nearly lost by bad weather. That portion saved brought high prices. In our market, buckwheat flour was worth five and six dollars per hundred weight, and but little could be had at that price. Some farmers dislike to grow buckwheat on their farms. Others have no pre-

judices against it, and it proves with them a remunerating crop. We hope the sowing of buckwheat will not be lost sight of the present season. There is but little seed in the country, and the crop is not likely to be large under the most favorable state of the season.

**BEEES.**—We notice in the papers from different parts of the country, that there was great destruction of bees the last winter. Some have attributed this to the excessive cold; others to the want of ventilation. Probably both causes have had their influences in this case. A writer in the Country Gentleman says, that "Bees, if properly ventilated, will stand any degree of cold for a short time, when in strong condition; but let excessive cold continue for weeks and months without intermission, as it did last winter, and but few stocks can survive; they frequently starve. A good sized family of bees, in very cold weather, form a compact cluster, and occupy about one-third of their combs, near the center or bottom, the rest as well as the sides of the hives are covered with dense frost, that is, when the mercury is at zero or near it. Without moderate weather, sufficient to melt the frost occasionally, the bees will consume the honey within the cluster, and starve before venturing on frosty combs for a supply, even when a few inches from them, as a fate as certain as starvation would follow. A large cluster can only stand a severe cold. There is always an evaporation from bees in cold weather; this is condensed on the combs on the inside of the hive, but passes off when moderate. Now this vapor sometimes condenses at the bottom, and freezes and makes the hive air tight. Bees must breathe as well as man; and it is very probable that more bees were destroyed last winter by want of ventilation than from freezing. Even when bees are not smothered from want of air, there being no escape for vapor, it will condense on the honey, make it mouldy and render it thin by absorbing water.

The writer giving his practice for preserv-

ing bees in winter, says: "I have a way of wintering bees in a warm dry cellar, and by inverting the hive, the combs are as bright and dry in spring as in fall. In ordinary winters the loss has usually been less than two per cent."

**CORN PLANTED IN DRILLS.**—Last year, corn produced good crops planted in drills. In some cases, planted by the side of corn planted in hills, the drilled corn manifestly produced the heaviest crop. Whether this would prove to be the case under all circumstances, is a question yet to be tried. The Agricultural Society have offered a handsome premium for the best five acres of the corn, to be grown the coming season, and the friends of the drill culture will have an opportunity of testing that mode of cultivation with the old plan—in hills.

We have machines for planting corn in drills, as well as in hills. Two of the former machines are now on exhibition and for sale at the office of the Farmer.

**CUCUMBERS.**—In planting cucumber seed, two parties can be accommodated, the striped bug and the biped. Plant enough seed to supply both. The bug will then be likely to loose some flourishing plants, after he has helped himself liberally; and when he has left, the biped can thin out the plants, leaving enough to answer his purpose for producing the fruit. If the facts are so, and a writer in the Country Gentleman says they are, both parties, the lover of young plant, and the admirer of the fruit, can be accommodated. Uncle Toby, or some other equally sensible man, said on a former occasion to a poor fly.

"Go, poor devil, there is room enough for us both!"

**GARDENS.**—The late planted gardens will probably be the best this year. A good many seeds planted early failed to germinate; and others that did, have made a rich growth. Seeds planted now will send up vigorous shoots and yield good crops.

The planting and sowing of many garden seeds can be continued for some time. Early corn planted late makes a good yield, and so do all the varieties of early beans and

peas. Beets for winter are best if the seed is sown in the latter part of June. Cucumbers, for pickles, can be planted at the same time. Ruta Baga, a superior turnip for the table and for stock, should be sown by the middle of June. Radishes can be sown every two weeks through the summer; Lettuce can yet be sown.

Every family will bear in mind that economy and health are found in the products of a well managed garden; but if you have to hire your garden cultivated, by all means buy your vegetables.

**GRAPES.**—We know of but a single instance in this city where the Isabella Grape has not been killed down to the ground. If Dr. Bell takes care of the vine in this case, he will have grapes for the county fair. The Catawba has experienced the common fate of the Isabella. The Muscatine from North Carolina and the large New England Grape were uninjured by winter, and promise a good crop. The latter grape is superior to any other we know of for yielding; never blast, rot, or mildew—is entirely unmindful of all the severities of of the seasons—cold, hot, wet or dry.

**POT PLANTS.**—Persons are very often disappointed by the stunted and meagre appearance of Pot Plants. The earth in these pots should be of good soil, lively, not subject to baking. New plants in these pots should be watered in moderation, a constant over-watering will drown the plants, rot the roots, and thus induce premature decay. Pot plants are often placed in the hot sun, and the pot, absorbing heat, burns and destroys the roots of the plants, hence the necessity of avoiding an exposure to extreme heat. Every extreme in the management of plants should be avoided, extreme heat, cold, watering or suffering them to become dry. That lady who has fine plants, you may be certain attends to their wants.

The Danville (Kentucky) Tribune records the sale in that county of 53 herd of two year old mule colts at \$1 70 per head, the highest price ever paid in the State for a lot of two year old mules. Mules are high everywhere, and likely to be.

**NEWS OF THE MONTH.**—We have the treaty of peace between the western powers of Europe and Russia for examination, it is manifest that Russia has made great concessions to secure peace. She has agreed to the free navigation of the Danube; the sovereignty of the Sultan in the principalities; the demolition of her ports on the Black Sea, and bound herself not to create another navy in that sea. What advantages she has gained by the war, we cannot discover. The destruction of the Turkish Empire and the possession of Constantinople by Russia, seems to be a work postponed to a very indefinite period.

France appears to be rejoicing over the birth of a son of Napoleon. He has already been created prince of Algiers, a major in the national guards, and is now subject to receiving salutes when passing bodies of those troops. A good many other fooleries are taking place in France in connection with his name.

In England the peace is not popular, and on some occasions the ministry have found themselves in a minority in Parliament. The press talks bravely in relation to the difficulties with the United States, but England will not make war upon us, because she wants our trade!

We have the particulars of the horrid massacre of our people on the Isthmus of Panama; but are not advised of any destructive measures "to obtain indemnity for the past and security for the future."

We have no late news from Walker in Nicaragua, from which we judge that his position is not materially changed. Our government has recognized the new minister from that country. There seems to be evidence that the French as well as the English are assisting the Costa Rican's, and that the Spanish are also sending men and officers to Costa Rica for the same purpose. This interference will be condemned by the people of the United States, and may lead to serious misunderstandings.

In our own country, commerce generally appears prosperous; manufacturers, as a whole, are doing a safe business; and our

farmers have no reason to complain of low prices for their produce. Our own state is marching on in a career of prosperity, unrivalled by any portion of the Union. We have intelligence from Kansas of a most painful nature. We trust that Congress will fully investigate the state of things and that "justice will be done, though the Heavens should fall."

Political parties are holding their Conventions and preparing for the fall elections. We advise all men to keep cool.

**THE WHEAT CROP.**—As we are about sending our last sheet to the press, we will state that we have made diligent enquiry in regard to the prospect for the coming wheat crop. There was a large breadth of land sowed in wheat last fall; some of the wheat was winter killed; but the surviving winter wheat is now looking remarkably well, and promises a heavy yield. A good deal of spring wheat was sown, and that is looking well. The late heavy rains have brought forward wheat most rapidly.

A good deal of spring wheat was sown this spring; and the crop is very promising. At present prices, this crop will be a profitable one.

**THE CORN COB.**—Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, informs the Patent Office people, that he has analyzed the corn cob, and finds that it contains four and a half parts (in 100) of nutritive matter, consisting of gum, starch and dextrine. From this it appears that it is of scarcely more value to consume as food, than as fuel.

The value of the corn cob, however, consists in giving bulk to corn. Corn of itself, is in some cases, a too concentrated food. Hence it is, that corn, ground with the cob, is a better article for stock than corn alone!

**RABID DOGS.**—We learn from Dewitt county, that several persons and many animals have been bitten recently there by a mad dog. Other dogs may have been bitten? The people seem anxious to know what is to be done? Kill all the dogs. The life of one man, woman or child, is worth more than all the dogs.

**Hops.**

In many parts of the country the hop plant grows wild, and the hops if gathered from them in season and cured in a proper manner, are excellent. There is always a demand for them, and they are sold at high prices. It is a difficult thing for private families to obtain them at this time; and when they are to be had high prices must be paid for them. What we want to say in this connection is—that when gathered by children just before frosts, dried in the shade, say in some loft or chamber, and when well dried, put into sacks—the labor in procuring and saving them would be well paid for. We suggest that our young friends in the country attend to this matter. With the money they could thus procure, they could supply themselves well with books for the coming winter.

**VITALITY OF SEEDS.**—Parasnip, rhubarb and other thin scaly seeds keep for one year.

Carrot, cress, ochra, gumbo, onions, peas, peppers, and small herbs in general, for two years. \*

Asparagus, egg plant, endive, lettuce, mustard, parsley, for three years.

Cabbage, cauliflower, corn, radish, sea-kale, turnips, for four years.

Beet, celery, cucumber, melon, squash, for from five to ten years.

To preserve seeds they must be kept cool without being kept damp.—Patent Office Report, 1853--4, p. 326.

**FARMER!** Have you sowed a field of millet this spring? From the 1st to the 25th of June will be a good time to sow for fodder, a season in which you will have leisure to attend to the sowing. You will find it a valuable crop, paying well. You who have planted good fields of potatoes, will be interested in knowing that a plow for digging potatoes has been invented which will dig the crop so fast that it will keep sixteen men busy in picking them up! Such an instrument will save much time and expense. These plows can be seen at the "Farmer's Implement and Seed Store," of Francis & Barrell.

**RHUBARD—OR PIE PLANT.**—This is a hardy perennial from Asia, cultivated in gardens for the leaf stalks which are used for pies and tarts. The cultivation of this grateful vegetable has largely increased within a few of the last years, and new varieties, of enormous size, have been produced by gardeners. The seed cannot be relied on to produce the same plant. It should be sown like beets, and the plants put in their proper places, with plenty of manure, the next fall stalks ought not to be taken from plants until three years old. To get good stalks, the plants should not be allowed to run to seed. Among the best varieties are Tobolsk, Myatt's Victoria, and Nevitt's Plant, Cahoon's Mammoth Seeding is the largest variety grown—a stalk having been produced weighing eight to three and a half pounds. It was twenty-five inches long, five and a half inches wide, and three inches thick; the leaf measured twenty-two inches in circumference. We shall have plants of this variety for sale from Mr. Cahoon's nursery the coming fall.

**SANGAMON PREMIUM LIST.**—This has been published and can be had on application at the office of the farmer. The officers and superintendents have also copies for distribution.

We want every farmer in the country to have a copy of the premium list. The desire to see a more general attendance of our people at the county fair, than has ever yet been. We want them to bring out the wealth of Sangamon for exhibition. Morgan we anticipate, will greatly add to the articles to be exhibited at our fair. Hartly, will be here, with his new and magnificent horse; and there will be choice stock from Morgan. Who knows but Morgan will carry off the plate? If she does, it will go with a right hearty good will.

**THE NORMAN HORSE.**—We desire to answer numerous enquiries in relation to this celebrated horse, that he can be found at the stable of BUTLER & BROTHER, in this city. We have recently heard that \$575 have been offered for one of his colts. [See advertisement on the advertising pages of this paper.]

**THE WOOL CLIP.**—It is believed that the clip of wool will be less than usual this season—caused, in a measure, by the lack of nutritious food last summer and fall and by the severity of winter. In Ohio, last winter, a large per cent. of the sheep died. Last summer and fall, caused by wet weather, pastures were apparently fine; but the grass did not contain the ordinary nutriment. Sheep did not thrive as well as in the previous summer, when the grass was dried up by the drouth. The sheep went into the last winter in an unfavorable condition, and that winter was one of great severity, in which they were not likely to recover from the effects of former bad feeding. Hence, we believe, they will not yield the amount of wool which they have previously done.

The wool clip of Sangamon county, however, will be large. We shall not be surprised if it brings higher prices in market than last year. We see that eastern manufacturers have agents about purchasing wool—a pretty sure evidence that they are anticipating a scant supply.

**THE APPLE CROP.**—There never was a fairer prospect for a heavy crop of apples than at the present time. The trees bloomed most profusely. There has been no frost to injure the young apples.

There is some danger of trees overbearing the present season. If this is permitted, the apples will not be of the best quality. Especially is this the case with "Rawle's Janet." When the trees of this variety bear heavy crops, the apples are small and nearly worthless.

Since this was written, we hear that many apple trees which were profuse in blossoms, are now dying. We hope that our friends are unnecessarily alarmed for their orchards, though there is some ground for their fears.

**THE CORN CROP.**—We have heard several farmers say that "The corn, although well put in, does not make a good stand." We are apprehensive that it will be found that the seed was unsound. We have seen

it repeatedly stated that the germ of corn will be destroyed by intense freezing. If this be so, we shall hear much of the failure of the first planting. There is no other remedy than to re-plant; and if this be done our farmers must make themselves sure that their seed is good. Our season is sufficiently long to bring a good crop even if the corn is planted a fortnight from this time.

**CABBAGE.**—It is time to sow seed for winter cabbages. When sown, if the weather should be dry, wet the bed. When the plants come up, if they are too thick, thin them out. If they grow thick they will be spindling and as likely to head. It will always be well to raise the plants with a trowel, so that earth can be raised with the roots, and planted in the same manner. Cabbages can be forwarded, by planting the seed where they are to stand—and pull up at the proper time, all but one plant.

**REAPERS AND MOWERS.**—These will soon be wanted for use. Let every farmer exercise his best judgment in their purchase.

We annex a list of those advertised in this paper, and their prices and agents.

Manny's Mower and Reaper, B. F. Fox, Agent. Cost, 5 feet cut, \$135, 6 feet cut, \$145.

Palmer & Williams' Reaper and Self Raker, J. H. Carrier, Agent. Cost \$100 and freight.

Atkin's Mower and Reaper, T. S. Kidd, Agent. Cost \$200 and freight.

Seymour & Morgan's Mower, Reaper and Self-Raker, Francis & Barrell, Agents. Cost, \$150 and freight. B. C. Whitney, Agent, Chatham, Sangamon county, Illinois.

Brown's Reaper and Mower, Francis & Barrell, Agents. Cost, \$130.

Several of these machines can be examined on the grounds of Francis & Barrell, near their Agricultural Implement and Seed Store, Journal Buildings, Springfield, Illinois.

The Prairie Telegraph states that 450 tons of broom brush were exported from Schuyler County during the past year.

SANGAMON COUNTY FAIR.—The Premium List for Sangamon County Fair is published and ready for distribution. They can be had on application to the Secretary.

Persons desirous of becoming stockholders in the "Sangamon Farmer's and Mechanic's Association," which will enable them to enter articles for premium without expense, will please apply to the Secretary. S. FRANCIS, Secretary, Farmer's and Mechanic's Association of Sangamon County.

An explosion took place on the 29th inst. on board the steamer Union of the Ericsson line, running between Philadelphia and Baltimore, when off New Castle. Four deck hands and four passengers were scalded.

The scythe factory in Fayette, near Rutland, Vt., together with a grist and saw mill, a tannery and machine shop were burned on Saturday. Loss \$40,000.

The British steamer, at Havana, from Mexico on the 11th, brought \$2,800,000 for London, and \$100,000 for Havana.

Fifty thousand herrings were taken at Chappaquansett Creek, Holmes' Hole, on the 20th inst. Three hundred thousand have been taken there this season.

Dr. Owen, of Prince George county Virginia, recently had his horse killed under him by lightning. He was himself only slightly shocked by the electric fluid.

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THE MARKETS.

SPRINGFIELD, June 2.

The weather this spring is of a decidedly dry character, rain having fallen rather unequally and sparingly.

Wheat in the field looks fairly, and accounts of it elsewhere are generally favorable.

Corn if we have rain soon, will be very fine. Rain would help our grain and grasses, our gardens and flowers very much.

Wheat is worth from 85c to \$1 10, according to quality.

Flour, a well considered article in the eastern papers thinks that the wants in Europe for our breadstuffs will continue notwithstanding the suppression of the war.

Corn is worth in this market from 18 to 20c.

Sugars, in all the markets of the world keep high.

Coffee, some disposition is shown for a fall in this article, but as yet it has not taken place.

Hams, are from 7 1/2 to 9c per lb; Sides, do do; Shoulders, 6 1/2 to 7c.

Potatoes, from \$1 25 to \$1 75 per bushel.

Buckwheat for Seed, is \$1 50.

Other grains for seed can hardly be quoted in this number.

New Orleans Market—May 26.

Flour, 100 bbl fine, sold at \$1 50; Indiana, \$6; Superfine, \$6 12 1/2.

Pork, mess, retailing at \$17 per bbl. Bacon—Shoulders, 73-8c; Prime Sides, 9Mc.

Coffee, 9 7-8 to 10 1/2c.

New York Market—May 31.

Flour, common grades 6d to 1s lower, quoted \$5 63 to \$6 37.

Corn, prime lots from 43 to 62c, other kinds dull.

Wheat, dull, \$1 52 to \$1 80.

Pork, \$15 50 for mess; \$14 75 for prime.

Lard, 11 to 11 1/2c.

Stocks higher and inactive. Money plenty.

Chicago Market—May 29.

Flour, nothing doing beyond retail trade.

Wheat, \$1 16 to \$1 25 choice red; Spring Wheat sold at \$1 12 1/2.

Corn sales at 30@33 to 40c, on board; deliverable at Buffalo in August, about, 46c.

Oats, 20 to 30c.

The Canadian Roan.

THIS CELEBRATED HORSE WILL

Make a season in Springfield,

AT THE

STABLE OF BUTLER & BROTHER,

(STROTHER JONES' OLD STAND.)

At \$10, \$8, and \$5.

HE has proved himself sure, and his stock is unsurpassed in beauty, strength and action. He is exactly the breed required for a cross with the light dragoon or race stock, common in this part of the state. Farmers are invited to call and see him. His reputation is too well established to require any further notice. Farmers will judge for themselves on seeing him.

June 1.

35 LINEN DOZ CAMBRIC HANKER'FS, best quality 14 doz. 1/2 doz. at my 2 SMITH, EDWARDS & CO'S.

## C. B. BROWN'S PATENT IMPROVED COMBINED REAPER & MOWER.

THE undersigned are now manufacturing in this city, and are prepared to fill orders for any quantity of these valuable machines in time for the coming harvest.

From the complete success of these machines since their introduction, we have no hesitancy in saying that they are equal, if not superior, to any now in use. For the past four years they have been thoroughly tested, and compared with Manny's, Ketchum's, McCormick's and others, and proved to be superior to them in many respects, and particularly in lightness as draft, as it requires but two horses, under any circumstances, to work it with ease, and having less side draft than any other machine now in use.

The First Premium was Awarded to it as the

### BEST GRASS CUTTER

Exhibited at the State Fair, Held at Springfield, Ills., 1853.

And since that time it has gained a complete victory over every other machine that has been brought in competition with it; and also received a first premium at the Morgan and Madison county Fairs last fall, 1856, as a

### COMBINED REAPER AND MOWER,

and as the best Grass Cutter or Single Mower.

One hundred and fifty mowers, and two hundred Combined Machines, were made and sold by us last season, and gave the most entire satisfaction. These machines have been so improved for the Harvest of 1856, as to require but the removal of one bolt to alter them from a Reaper to a Mower, and having the Reel on for Mowing if required; thus enabling the farmers to cut light grass in very windy weather.

### The Price of the Combined Reaper and Mower

Is one hundred and thirty five dollars on the first of November, and forty five dollars on the first of January next.

We warrant the above machines to do as good work as any other machine of the kind; and in all cases where they fail to do work, or where they cannot be made to work by our agent, after a fair trial; we will take them back and refund the money and notes; the machines, in all such cases, to be returned to the agent at the place of delivery, immediately on such failure.

FRANCIS & BARRELL, Agents,  
Springfield, Illinois.

Orders for the above Machines, addressed to the undersigned at this place, will meet prompt attention.  
BUCKMASTER & WINE.

These Machines are for sale at the Farmer's Store,  
FRANCIS & BARRELL.  
June 1.

### SEEDS FOR SUMMER SOWING, Millet, Buckwheat & Turnips.

FOR sale at the seed store of  
FRANCIS & BARRELL.

June 1.

## CITY DRUG STORE REMOVED.

THE undersigned would announce to his friends and the public generally that he has removed across the street to the store previously occupied by C. Freeman & Co., on the Northwest corner of the public square, where he has fitted up in a handsome and convenient manner and made many and large additions to his stock, which consist in part of

Drugs, Chemicals, Medicines, Paints, Oils,  
Varnishes, Glass, Glass Ware, Patent  
Medicines, Surgical & Dental In-  
struments, Fancy Articles,  
Very Fine and a Great  
Variety, Combs,  
Brushes, Perfumery, Stationery,  
Fine Cutlery,

### Electric & Concentrated Medicines, Electric Machines, Belts,

Imported Cigars, Very Fine, Pure Wines,  
Brandies, Old Whiskey's, Ale, Porter.

A very superior assortment for Medical use, Lamps for Burning Fluid, a fine assortment. In fact everything that comprises a complete and saleable stock, which I offer at wholesale and retail at lower prices than ever before in this market. I feel confident that with my present facilities, I can sell to Physicians and others as low as any house in St. Louis, and would invite them to give me a call and examine my stock before going further.

Everything sold by me is warranted strictly pure and genuine. Don't forget the new store, where we may always be found ready and willing to wait on customers, day or night, and give satisfaction.  
J. B. FOSSELMAN.

June 1-4m.

## DAGUERREOTYPES. P. BUTLER,

WOULD respectfully announce to the public that he has opened ROOMS on the South Side of the square, Springfield, Illinois,

Where Daguerreotypes of the finest kind can be had and Photographs by the dozen, And Ambrotypes by Cutting's Patent Process,

That is more durable than anything ever offered to the public in this place, their being sealed up in such a way as to render the picture indestructible and presenting the features fuller and more perfect than any pictures offered to the public by any other process, the patent for which I have the exclusive right in this country.

June 1.

## THE SEASON HAS COME FOR THE USE OF REAPERS & MOWERS CULTIVATORS,

Corn Plows, Horse Rakes,  
GRAIN CRADLES,  
scythes and Souths, Hoes & Rakes,  
AND other Agricultural Implements which can  
be found at the Seed and Agricultural Im-  
plement Store of FRANCIS & BARRELL.

# The Illinois Farmer.

VOLUME 1.]

SPRINGFIELD, JULY, 1856.

[NUMBER 7.

## ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

### UHLER'S PLOWS. THE DOUBLE CURVED UPRIGHT STEEL MOULD BOARD PLOW.



THE proprietor of this superior plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the state of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

WM. P. LAWSON,

J. J. SHORT,

JOHN W. BECK,

JOHN KAVANAUGH,

WM. POFFINBARGER,

DAVID NEWSOM,

URIAH MANN,

PHILEMON STOUT.

Sangamon county, Jan. 17, 1856.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, shed off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limit of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by John Uhler, Springfield, Illinois, at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited. feb16-wly

### The Canadian Roan.

#### THIS CELEBRATED HORSE WILL

Make a Season, in Springfield,

AT THE

STABLE OF BUTLER & BROTHER  
(STROTHER JONES' OLD STAND.)

At \$10, \$8, and \$5.

HE has proved himself sure, and his stock is unsurpassed in beauty, strength and action. He is exactly the breed required for a cross with the light dragoon or race stock, common in this part of the state. Farmers are invited to call and see him. His reputation is too well established to require any further notice. Farmers will judge for themselves on seeing him  
June 1.

#### Blooded Stock for Sale



THE subscriber, wishing to reduce his stock on his farm, two miles west of Springfield on the Jacksonville road, will sell low for cash or approved credit, 25 head of Durham and Devon shire cattle. Also, cows, heifers, Berkshire hogs, Irish Grazier pigs, very fine. Also, some very fine colts. Great bargains may be had by applying soon. feb20 JOHN C. CROWDER.

### MOLINE PLOWS.

THE subscriber would call the attention of all persons interested in that main Pillar of Agriculture, a good Plow, to his large and varied assortment, made from the best Eng. Cast, German and American Steel. No pains have been spared to have the best of Timber for the wood work; and none but good and experienced workmen are employed in their manufacture. The following list comprises some of the kinds manufactured:

Two qualities of the Imperial Clipper Plow.

Five " " old style Stubble " "

Two " " Corn " "

The Michigan Double Plows, for Sand or Stubble.

Breaking Plows from 12 to 30 in., every style. Double and Single Shovel Plows.

3 and 5 Steel Tooth Cultivators.

Guage Wheels.

Full rigged Trucks, Cast Iron Wheels, and Wrought Iron Axle.

Rolling Coulters (cast steel) with clasps.

Hanging and Stengding " "

Messrs. Francis & Barrell have the exclusive sale of my Plows in Springfield, Ill., where a good assortment will be found. Orders for any particular kind of Plow or Plow fixture, can be left with them and will meet with prompt attention.

Moline, feb20, 1856

JOHN DEERE.

### Threshing Machines.

THE subscribers would notify the Farmers of Sangamon and the adjoining counties that they are now prepared with increased facilities to furnish them.

Townsend's Separator with Cuming's improved Tub Power or Pelton's 8 or 10

Horse Power. Also, Pitts' Separator and Double Pinion 8

Horse Power.

We shall make both geared and band machines. Having superior facilities for the business, employing only first class mechanics and using the choicest stock, we shall make it for the interest of the farmers in Central Ill., to buy our machines in preference to all others.

Our machines are well known to be the best in use both for their capacity to do work WELL and FAST, as for their DURABILITY, we would refer to the following gentlemen who have used them the past season: Preston Breckenridge, esq., Sangamon co.; James Virden, Sangamon co.

CUMINGS & MATTHEWS,

Dubuque, Iowa, mar11, 1856.

JOHN WILLIAMS & CO., Agents,  
Springfield, Ill.

**GOOD NEWS!--NEW GOODS!!**

**W. O. JONES & W. V. GREENWOOD,**

**H**AVING associateu themselves together under the name and style of Jones & Greenwood, for the purpose of conducting a general retail trade in the town of Chatham, Sangamon county, beg leave to say to the citizens of that town and surrounding country, that they are now in the receipt of a large, entirely new and carefully selected stock of seasonable

Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Hardware, Queensware, Clothing, Groceries,

And all articles kept by the general trader, which they pledge themselves to sell as low as they can be bought in the west. All kinds of country produce taken in exchange for goods.

They will occupy the house known as the Norton Store House, Chatham. Don't forget to call. (april) **JONES & GREENWOOD.**

**RANDALL & ONES' CORN PLANTERS.**

**T**HOSE in want of this celebrated labor saving machine can be accommodated by calling upon the undersigned or at the Agricultural and Seed Store of Francis & Barrell. These machines have been thoroughly tested and can be relied upon. Three different and valuable improvements have been made in the Planters since last year which renders them perfect in every respect. Certificates have been obtained from numerous persons who have used the Planter last year, among which, one from a well known citizen of Sangamon county will be given.

Springfield, May 1. **J. G. P. PARKER.**

This is to certify that I have planted 100 acres of corn with Randall & Jones Corn Planter; the corn came up well. I can recommend it to farmers who have corn to plant: 1. For its speed in planting. 2 For its placing the corn where the moles are bothered to find it. And 3 For its placing the corn where it is not likely to be washed up. I intend planting my corn this Spring with it, but I see they have a decided improvement on those machines. All who want to plant corn right can come to Francis & Barrell's Store, where they will find them.

**H. W. OWEN.**

**CHEAP GOODS.**

**W. R. FONLEY, ON THE SOUTH SIDE** of the Square, Springfield, is offering bargains in

- Dry Goods,
- Hats and Caps.
- Boots and Shoes,
- Hardware,
- Carpets & Oil Cloths.
- Glassware & Queensware,
- Nails,
- Liquors, Wines, &c.,
- for Cash.

Springfield, May 1.

**LAND BROKERS.**

**PERSONS HAVING FARMS OR FARMING** Land for sale can find purchasers by applying to the subscriber.

**CAMPBELL & FONDEY,**  
Land and Insurance Agents.

Springfield, May 1.

**Premum Self-Raking Reaper!**

**PALMER & WILLIAMS' PATENT.**

**T**HIS machine has now been through three harvests, and comes off victorious. The first premium was awarded to this machine at the great trial held at Bloomington, Illinois, in July, 1855, (for full particulars examine the report of the State Agricultural Society, on pages 142 143, 116.) A Silver medal was awarded to this reaper at the State Fair held at Elmira, New York, in October 1855. Also—the first premium at the Wisconsin State Fair, in Oct. 1855. The above statement showing to the intelligent farmer of Central Illinois, that this Machine stands the test in every State where introduced. The demand for this Reaper is such that but few can be had so far south and to secure a machine they must be ordered at an early date. Price \$160—\$50 on delivery; balance on 1st Dec. 1856—freight added. For particulars, address

**J. H. CURRIER, Ag't,**  
Springfield Ill.

**I. B. WHITMER and H. B. GRUBB & Co.,** are authorized agents, for receiving orders, can be found at their respective places of business.

**J. H. C.**

*Testimony from the State of Illinois.*

**VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.**

We purchased and used Palmer & Williams' reaper in the present harvest—have already cut fifty acres of wheat, some of it very heavy—it works admirably; cutting and taking up the grain perfectly clean and laying it off to bind; doing better work than we ever had done on our farms before. We consider the raking done better than can be done by hand.

**J. C. VIRDEN,**  
**J. H. HENDERSON.**

*One Dollar per acre saved over other Reapers.*

**VIRDEN, Ill., Oct. 6, 1855.**

I bought one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers, for last harvest, and cut about 150 acres of grain with it. It was raked off better than can be done by hand. My grain was harvested cleaner than I ever had it done before. I think it saved me one dollar per acre over any other harvesting I ever had done with reapers. My repairs did not amount to 50 cents. I can cut twenty acres per day. I believe it to be the best reaper in use.

**JOHN L. MORRELL.**

**SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 1, 1856.**

I used one of Palmer & Williams' self-raking reapers in the harvest of '55—cut badly lodged grain well, and laid the bundles fair for binding. I think it the best machine I have ever used or seen used.

**JOHN W. PRIEST.**

**CHATHAM, Ill., July 1854.**

I have purchased and am now using the celebrated Palmer & Williams reaper. I have already cut 100 acres of grain with it. I consider it a perfect self-raker, doing its work better than can be done by hand or ordinary reaping machines.

Jan. 1856.

**S. M. PARSONS.**

**E. B. PEASE.**

**W. W. PEASE.**

Established in 1839.

**E. B. Pease & Brother,**

**WHOLE-AND RETAIL DEALERS** in Iron Nails and Steel, Carpenters, Coopers and Blacksmith's Tools, Builders, & Cabinet Hardware, Chain Pumps, Agricultural Implements, &c.

Springfield, Illinois.

May 1—3m.

**ILLINOIS STOCK**  
AND  
**Grain Farms for Sale.**

In consequence of impaired health, the partnership betwixt myself and brother, in Farming and Stock raising, will be closed by mutual consent at an early day. We have made partition of a portion of our real estate, and now offer the remainder for sale. We will sell about

**1600 Acres.**

(including Timber, &c., thereto, appertaining,) of the north part of the farm upon which I reside of the tract offered for sale, about 1486 acres are in the highest state of cultivation, and has upon it a Boarding House, Barn, Feeding Lots, &c., besides three

**FARM HOUSES.**

eligibly situated, (in reference to use or sub-division,) upon different parts of the farm. There are rows and groves of trees, scattered over the lands, which are highly ornamental and afford shade for stock in summer, and protection in winter. The tract is well watered by a brook and its tributaries. The main stream traverses it two miles, from west to east, and about 1,000 acres of it are set with tame grasses. About five miles of (Osage Orange) Hedge Fence are growing upon the premises.

The tract, composed of high, rolling prairie, is compact in form, and susceptible of advantageous division into four or more, or less, farms, adapted either to grain or grass, and each with water and timber conveniently situated. The foregoing are situated at

*Island Grove, Sangamon County, Ills.,*

and midway betwixt Jacksonville and Springfield, and within a convenient distance of Island Grove Depot, on the great Western Railroad.

To a gentleman wishing the finest stock farm in the west, or to a number of gentlemen, wishing smaller farms adjoining each other, these lands present a rare chance.

Possession can be delivered of most of the lands, at such time as may be convenient to purchasers, and of the whole at an early day. Payments made easy. As to the farm, reference is made to Dr. KENNICOTT, Secretary Illinois State Agricultural Society, and to occasional notices thereof, in former numbers of the Prairie Farmer. We also offer for sale

**360 Acres**

of unimproved Prairie; about 14 miles east of Jacksonville and about 2 miles south of Great Western Railroad.

The undersigned will still continue his residence as heretofore, and will devote special attention to the improvement and breeding of

**DURHAM CATTLE,**

He invites all who may wish to buy Fine Stock to call and examine the superior herd belonging to himself and brother.

Persons wishing further knowledge touching the lands aforesaid, will call at my residence, or upon WILLIAM BROWN, esq., Jacksonville.

Feb 25 JAMES N. BROWN.

**NOTICE TO FARMERS!**

**H. B. Grubb & Bro.**

MANUFACTURERS OF ALL KINDS OF  
**AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,**  
AND GENERAL JOB SHOP,

SPRINGFIELD,.....ILLINOIS.

WOULD respectfully ask leave to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjoining counties that they are now manufacturing a superior article of

**REVOLVING HAY RAKES,**  
*Harrow, of various patterns--several kinds of improved Straw Cutters, &c., &c.*

We are the authorized agents for Palmer & Williams' self-raking reaper, Danforth's reaper and mower, and can also furnish McCormick's reaper and mower.

Farmers wishing reapers or mowers will do well to give us a call. We will deliver every machine bought of us in good working order, as well as every other article in our line.

Having recently increased our facilities by the addition of a steam engine, we are prepared to attend promptly to all orders in our line at reasonable rates.

Shop one door south of E. P. Penniman & Co's Foundry.

**Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, &c.**

**W. D. WARD**

WISHES to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjacent counties, that he keeps on hand, for sale, different priced **CLOCKS**, manufactured by Seth Thomas, Hartford Conn. These clocks are supposed to be superior to most others in market, being well made, of lasting material, and not liable to get out of order—an object of great importance to persons who live at a distance from shops where clocks can be repaired.

He has also for sale a variety of **WATCHES**, silver and gold, warranted to be good. He has silver watches at low prices, the running work of which is equal to the best class of gold watches.

He attends to clock and watch repairing, and does the business promptly and well.

W. D. WARD.

North side of the square in the front of Messrs Watson's confectionery.

**M. M. VANDEUSEN,**

*West side of the Square, Springfield, Illinois,*

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

**DUGS,** **Pants, Oils,**  
**MEDICINES,** **VARNISHES,**  
**CHEMICALS,** **DYE STUFFS,**  
**Perfumery,** **Fancy Articles,**



**BRUSHES, GLASSWARE, LETTER PAPER,**  
**STATIONERY,**

And all kinds of **GENUINE** and Popular  
**Patent Medicines,**  
A complete assortment of the best quality, and at the lowest prices.

Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs, and  
Dr. Baker's Pain Panacea.

**HOSTETTERS' Celebrated Stomach BITTERS.**

ONE WINE-GLASSFUL TAKEN THREE times a day, before meals, will be a sure cure for Dyspepsia, will remove all flatulency or heaviness from the Stomach, keep you free from costiveness, assist digestion, give a good appetite and impart a healthy tone to the whole system, and a certain prevention of Fever and Ague.

FACTS cannot be questioned, when the people of any country bear testimony in mass, as in the case of

**Dr. J. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters,** not only have we the individual evidence of the land, but almost every paper in the Union is commenting upon the great benefit derived from the use of these Celebrated Bitters, besides various Diplomas awarded them, among which is one from the Ohio Mechanics' Institute, at their Thirteenth annual exhibition at Cincinnati, where the committee was composed chiefly of Physicians of the city. There are all weighty facts that cannot help but convince the most incredulous that it is at least worthy of trial. We therefore advise all who are not proof against three sudden transits from cold to hot weather, to be provided with a supply for family use, as it has been attended with the most beneficial results, when administered to ladies or children before meals, as per directions on the bottle. Once tried, their virtues will be realized in a very short time. It is not necessary for us to enumerate all the diseases prevailing and arising from the stomach, but suffice it to say that any derangement arising either from change of weather or diet, which is generally the cause of Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Cholice, Cholera Morbus or Cholera, all are speedily checked and cured by the use of these bitters.

SPRINGFIELD, April 14, 1856.

Some months since, while recovering from an attack of Remittent Fever, I was requested to try Dr. Hostetter's Bitters, as an article peculiarly suited to the condition of convalescents from fevers.

It is but simple justice to say, that it rapidly restored the powers of my digestive organs, and at the same time kept my bowels gently open.

I have no hesitancy in saying that hitherto, in using it in my practice, it has in every case where I have ordered, it acted like a charm.

In thus speaking freely of it, I FAR from puff a patent medicine, an article it by no means claims to be.

SANFORD BELL, M. D.

May 1.

For sale by all of the Druggists in Springfield.

**CLOTHING STORE.**

**M. Hirschfeld,**

SOUTH SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE, HAS A Complete stock of Clothing for men and boys, coats, vests, pantaloons, shirts cravats, drawers, pocket kerchiefs and everything in the clothing line. Prices very low.

May 1—3m.

**CHINA ROSES.**

FOR planting in the garden, and which will blossom all summer; Verbenas and other plants for bedding out, &c. &c., for sale at the Farmer's Store. FRANCIS & BARRELL-

May 1.

**Farmers' Store!**

THE undersigned are maturing arrangements to establish in Springfield a Farmers' Store for the purpose of supplying farmers with

*Agricultural Implements;*

*Seeds for the Farm and Garden;*

*Trees for the Orchard;*

*Varieties of Fruit bearing and*

*Flowering Shrubs;*

*Groceries;*

*Queens, Glass and Stoneware;*

*Baskets, of Willow & Splintwork;*

*Ropes and cords;*

*Bags and Bagging, and*

*Burlaps for baling wool;*

and many other articles used in the family and on the farm, too numerous to particularize: all of which will be sold for cash at reasonable prices.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,

Jan 21

Journal Buildings.

**Excelsior**

**BRASS AND IRON FOUNDRY,**

One block west of G. W. R. R. Depot, SPRINGFIELD, ILLS.

Devotes most particular attention to

**Castings for Buildings**

And will make all patterns this year

**FREE OF CHARGE!**

HAVING now had considerable experience in that line, and also having a foundry peculiarly adapted for that work, with all the improvements of the 19th century, we are now enabled to say to those needing such work, that we can make it to their advantage to patronize this establishment, both as regards price, the speedy completion of orders and neatness or design of patterns.

april

WILLIAM BOOTH.

**Books for the Young.**



**R. H. BEACH,**

WEST OF THE STATE HOUSE

Three doors from Freeman's Corner.

The books referred to are suitable for Sunday school Libraries, and the subscriber intends to keep a good supply always on hand for that purpose. He respectfully invites parents and others to examine his stock of "Books for the Young."

R. H. BEACH.

Jan. 21st 1856.

**THE EYE, EAR AND LUNGS.**

DR. HARPER continues to treat successfully all disease of the **EYE, EAR and LUNGS.** Also, all Chronic Diseases of the human system. The Lungs are treated by Medicated Inhalation, the only successful and rational method. The success which had attended my peculiar treatment the past many years is almost incredible to those unacquainted with its peculiar curative effects, having restored patients who were considered hopeless, and restored to sight cases that have been blind from one to twenty years.



Office west side of the Square, Springfield.

**PIE PLANT.**

A FINE SUPPLY, AN EXCELLENT ARTICLE, for sale by

m/20

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

**S. FRANCIS. A. FRANCIS. G. BARRELL.**

To the Farmers of Sangamon and the Adjacent Counties.

# FARMER'S STORE.

## FRANCIS & BARRELL.

HAVE AT GREAT EXPENSE AND LABOR, OPENED A STORE IN SPRINGFIELD, where they have a stock of articles on hand suited to  
**THE WANTS OF FARMERS!**

Among their stock will be found

### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

Such as Reapers and Mowers, Horse Rakes, several kinds of Cultivators, Plows of all kinds, Potatoe Diggers, (an instrument by which potatoes are dug as fast as 18 men can pick them up,) Corn Planters, (hand and horse,) Corn Shellers, Scyths and Snaths, (patent and common,) Hand Rakes, Ames Shovels and spades, spades for digging post holes and ditching, churns, corn baskets, hand baskets, sickles, hoes, axes, &c., &c.

### Horticultural Instruments,

Shears, hooks and knives for trimming, saws for ditto, garden hoes and rakes, garden spades and shovels for ladies, miniature hoes and rakes for weeding flower beds, flower pots, &c.

### Seeds For The Field.

Buckwheat, rye, wheat, millet, clover, blue grass, timothy, red top, hemp, canary, white beans, &c., &c. Turnip, ruta baga, flat dutch, red top, strap-leaved and purple top strap leaved, cow's horn, Norfolk Tankard, &c., &c.

### GARDEN SEEDS,

In their season, embracing all kinds that can be called for, either at WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. A large portion of our Garden Seeds will be grown under our direction, and will be known to be pure and of the best quality.

### FLOWER SEEDS,

They keep a stock of choice FLOWER SEEDS, and have now on hand for sale bulbs of **Tulips, Hyacinths, Gladiolus, Narcissus, &c.**

The Tulips and Hyacinths are of splendid varieties, having flowered the present season, and were the admiration of all who saw them. The supply is limited, and persons who desire them should apply soon.

**Francis & Barrell** are also Agents for some of the best nurseries in the State, and have now on hand for fall sales

### 1800 Apple Trees,

From the nursery of John A. & Charles Kennebec, Cook county. They are now growing well, and can be seen on application as above. Also **Peach, Apricot, Nectarine and Plum Tree;** **Harary Garden Shrubby,** embracing the various kinds of Spirae, Lilacs, Snow Balls, Wiegela Rosea, Forsythia Viridissima, African Tamarix Deutzia Scabra, and Gracilis, June Roses.

### ORNAMENTAL TREES.

American Larch, Mountain Ash, (European and American,) European Maples, English and Scotch Elm, Evergreen trees—variety, &c., &c.

### Garden Perennial Flowering Plants.

These no good garden should be without. When once planted, they require little further care, and are in blossom in summer after the early flowers are gone. They embrace a great variety of Phloxes, Peonias, Delphiniums, Aconitums, Achillea Rosea, Penstemonus, &c., &c.

### GROCERIES.

**FRANCIS & BARRELL** also keep on hand for sale, a supply of groceries, embracing all those usually called for in families. Sugars, coffees, molasses, bacon, rice, mackerel, white fish, Sounds and Tongues, codfish, spices, extracts, almonds, Brazil nuts, cheese, dates, Havana honey, raisins, currants. They have also many other articles—crockery, ladies work and traveling baskets, fancy soaps, looking glasses, lanterns, razor strops, and various other articles too numerous to be enumerated.

### we Purchase

Country produce—such as good bacon, butter, lard, cheese, choice vegetables, eggs, fruit, for which we pay cash when goods will not suit.

Orders from a distance promptly attended to.  
June 1, 1856.

**FRANCIS & BARRELL,**  
Journal Buildings, Springfield, Illinois.

## Books for the Country

For sale by

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

- Browne's American Field-Book of Manures, \$1 00.  
 Browne's American Poultry Yard, twenty-sixth thousand, \$1 00.  
 Browne's American Bird Fancier, cloth, 50 cents.  
 Dadd's American Cattle-doctor, cloth, \$1 00.  
 Dana's Muck Manual, cloth, \$1 00  
 Dana's Prize Essay on Manures, 25 cents.  
 Stockhardt's Chemical Field Lectures, \$1 00.  
 Blake's Farmer at Home, \$1 25.  
 Buist's American Flower Garden Directory, \$1 25.  
 Buist's Family Kitchen Gardener, 75 cts.  
 Norton's Elements of Scientific and Practical Agriculture, 60 cts.  
 Johnston's Catechism of Agricultural Chemistry for schools, 25 cts.  
 Johnston's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology, \$1 00.  
 Johnston's Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry and Geology, \$1 25.  
 Johnston's Practical Agriculture, 75 cts.  
 Fessenden's Complete Farmer and Gardener, \$1 25.  
 Fessenden's American Kitchen Gardener, 25 cents.  
 Nash's Progressive Farmer, 50 cts.  
 Richardson's Domestic Fowls, 25 cts.  
 Richardson on the Horse; Varieties, Breeding, &c., 25 cts.  
 Richardson on the Diseases and Management of the Hog, 25 cts.  
 Richardson on the Destruction of the Pests of the Farm, 25 cts.  
 Richardson on the Hive and Honey bee, 25 cents.  
 Milburn and Stevens on the Cow and Dairy Husband, 25 cts.  
 Skinner's Elements of Agriculture, 25 cts.  
 Topham's Chemistry made easy for the Use of Farmers, 25 cts.  
 Allen's Treatise on the Culture of the Grape, \$1 00.  
 Allen on the Diseases of Domestic Animals, 75 cents.  
 Allen's American Farm Book, \$1 00.  
 Allen's Rural Architecture, \$1 25.  
 Padre on the Cultivation of the Strawberry, &c., 50 cts.  
 Pedder's Farmer's Land Measurer, 50 cts.  
 Phelps' Bee-keeper's Chart, 25 cts.  
 Guenon's Treatise on Milch Cows, illustrated, 38 cts.  
 Gunn's Domestic Medicine, a book for every married man and woman, \$3 00.  
 Randall's Sheep Husbandry, \$1 25.  
 Youatt, Randall and Skinner's Shepherd's own Book, \$2 00.  
 Youatt on the Breeds and Management of Sheep, 75 cts.  
 Youatt on the Horse, \$1 25.  
 Youatt, Martin and Stevens on Cattle, \$1 25.  
 Youatt and Martin on the Breeds and Management of the Hog, \$1 00.  
 Canfield on Management of Sheep, \$1 00.  
 Stephens' Book of the Farm, complete, 450 illustrations, \$1 00.  
 The Architect, or Plans for Country Dwellings, \$6 00.  
 Thær, Shaw and Johnson's Principles of Agriculture, \$2 00

Smith's Landscape Gardening, Parks, and Pleasure Grounds, \$1 25.

- Works on the Honey Bee, 50 cts.  
 Wilson on the Cultivation of Flax, 25 cts.  
 Miner's American Bee Keeper's Manul, \$1 00.  
 Quinby's Mysteries of Bee-keeping, \$1 00.  
 Cottage and Farm Bee-keeper, 50 cts.  
 Elliott's American Fruit-grower's Guide, \$1 25.  
 The American Florist's Guide, 75 cts.  
 Every Lady her own Flower Gardener. 25 cts.  
 The American Rose Culturist, paper, 25 cents, cloth, 50 cts.  
 Hoare on the Cultivation of the Vine, 50 cts.  
 Chorlton Cold Grapery, from direct American Practice, 50 cents.  
 Saxton's Rural Hand Books, 2 vols. 2\$ 50.  
 Beattie's Southern Agriculture, \$1 00.  
 The Farmer and Emigrant's Guide, \$1 00.

## Buckwheat for Seed.

WE have the article for sale.

July 8.

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## Wanted to Purchase!

Fruit of all kinds,  
 Vegetables of all kinds,  
 Choice and pure seeds of all kinds  
 Market articles of all kinds.

FOR which Cash or Goods will be paid.

June 10.

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## Situation Wanted.

A YOUNG man who understands the German language, and is otherwise well qualified, desires to obtain a situation in a store at a small salary. Apply at the Farmer Office. July 8

## DAGUERREOTYPES.

P. BUTLER,

WOULD respectfully announce to the public that he has opened ROOMS on the South Side of the Square, Springfield, Illinois,

Where Daguerreotypes of the finest kind can be had and Photographs by the dozen, And Ambratypes by Cutting's Patent

Process,

That is more durable than anything ever offered to the public in this place, their being sealed up in such a way as to render the picture **Indestructible** and presenting the features fuller and more perfect than any pictures offered to the public by any other process, the patent for which I have the exclusive right in this country.

June 1.

Agricultural Implements, Hardware, Cutting, &c.

B. F. FOX.

HAS ON HAND A GREAT STOCK OF these articles for sale. His Agricultural Implements embrace everything that the farmer wants in that line. His stock of Hardware cannot be excelled in the western country. He supplies all kinds of Mechanics with Hardware and tools in their line. And everything he sells is at the lowest and fairest prices. Call at his old stand on Fifth Street, just North of the Square.

May 1—1f.

**J. A. MASON,**

Manufacturer and Dealer in Cabinet Furniture,

**H**AS on hand a large stock of Chairs of all kinds; Bedsteads, Bureaus, Cases, Presses, Tables, Mattresses, Looking Glasses, Clocks from the Factory, Willow Ware, &c., &c.

It is my intention to sell as good articles and on as reasonable terms as any other shop in the city.

Repairing done at all times.

Opposite the Journal office; also in the Journal Buildings.

Springfield, Feb. 14, 1856.

**The Springfield Woolen Factory,**

**I**S Prepared to Card, Spin, or Manufacture Wool into Cloths and Blankets in good style and with despatch.

They have added to their Carding Room, new and improved Custom Cards, which enables them to Card in first rate order

**1000 pounds of wool** per day.

Customers from abroad can have their wool attended to without delay.

**CASH PAID FOR WOOL.**

May 1.

**ARMSTRONG & CO.**

**ILLINOIS**

**Mutual Fire Insurance Company.**

Located at Alton, Illinois.

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 23d, 1839—ORGANIZED APRIL 4th, 1839.

**A**MOUNT of premium notes in force Feb. 1st. 1856, constituting a fund for the payment of losses, \$679,537 41; secured by a lien on property insured, valued at over \$7,000,000.

This Company insures dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufactories, mills, barns, stables, and the contents of each, together with every other similar species of property within the state, from loss or damage by fire. The Directors feel justified in recommending this Company to the favorable consideration of the citizens of Illinois. Every one insured becomes a member—the Company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. As the indemnification fund augments in exact ratio with the increase for risks, the capital of the Company is comparatively exhaustless; and the entire safety of the institution must be apparent to every one who reads the charter.

The cost of insuring in this Company is so low as to render it almost inexcusable for the owners of insurable property not to avail themselves of its protection.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

Timo. Turner,	Lyman Trumbull,
H. W. Billings,	Ben. F. Long,
Samuel Wade	M. G. Atwood,
John James,	L. Kellenberger.
Robert Smith,	Henry Lea,
Elias Hibbard,	Alfred Dow,
Jehn Bailhache,	B. K. Hart,
John Atwood.	

**B. F. LONG, President.**

**M. G. ATWOOD, Sec'y.**

**L. KELLENBERGER, Treasurer.** april 17

Application for Insurance may be made to **JAMES L. HILL, Agent at Springfield.**

1856.

**SPRING!! SPRING!! SPRING!!!**

1856.

Items for Farmers and all those interested in **HORSES AND CATTLE.**



**A**FTER THE hardest winter known to the oldest inhabitant, we again offer you our improved German Horse and Cattle Powder—**"THE GREAT PENNSYLVANIA REMEDY."**

It is every man's duty not only to take care of his family but of his horses. He has been given to us for our service, usefulness and pleasure; it is therefore highly essential

that we should protect so willing and devoted a servant. The spring and summer campaign is near at hand, the horse must do the labor. Thousand and tens of thousands dollars depend on that noble animal.

**TAKE CARE OF HIM MR. FARMER!**

As you value your crop see that he is in good condition; let him go forth to the plow, head and tail up, having a good appetite,

**NOT HIDE BOUND,**

but full of energy to do the good work, every hair on his hide in the right place.

The above may be accomplished by using our celebrated horse powder, and without further ado, we refer you to the following gentleman who have thoroughly tested its efficacy.

Abner Stewart, Fancy Creek; S. A. Jones, Rochester; N. S. Bates, stage agent; M. Wickersham, street commissioner; Sam'l Shoup, John Kavanaugh, B. F. Ruth, I. R. Diller, John Cook and many others.

**R. H. PRICE, Agent, Island Grove.**

We have always on hand, Neats Foot Oil, Brown Tanner's Oil, and Frank Miller's Celebrated Blacking for harness. Call at

**CORNEAU & DILLER'S**

East side public square, Springfield, Ill.

mar4-wf

**A WORD TO FARMERS.**

**Y**OUR cry has been heretofore, "Why cannot we get carriages and wagons as durable and cheap here as elsewhere." The question can be satisfactorily answered, by calling at the

**Carriage and Wagon Manufactory of Withey & Brothers,** ONE BLOCK EAST OF THE COURT HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,

Where can be found constantly on hand, every variety of Carriages, such as Rockaways, Buggies, Sulkeys, and Wagons, of the best workmanship, and at the shortest notice. As we employ none but those who have a thorough knowledge of their business, we can warrant all work leaving our establishment.

**N. B.**—Particular attention paid to repairing in all its various branches.

Orders respectfully solicited, and attended to, at our shop one block east of the Court House. Feb. 20th, 1856.

**CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION!**

**R. H. BEACH,**

West of the State House—three doors from Freeman's Corner.

**K**EEPS always on hand a large supply of men's and children's Clothing, suitable for all classes—and especially for the hard service of the farm. He respectfully invites the farmers of Sangamon county, who want Clothing, to examine his stock. He will sell at as low prices as possible and live. His motto is, "Live and let live." Come on farmers, and see my stock. **R. H. BEACH.**

Jan 21, 1856

**Atkin's Automaton:**  
OR,  
**Self-Raking Reaper and Mower.**  
BEST MACHINE IN USE.

1 the first used, in 1852.  
40 used successfully in 1853.  
300 in twenty different States in 1854.  
1200 in all parts of the Union in 1855.  
3000 building for the harvest of 1856.

**T**HERE are six good reasons for this unparalleled increase and great popularity: 1st. It is strong and reliable, and easily managed. 2nd. It saves the hard labor of raking. 3d. It saves at least another hand in binding. 4th. It saves shattering by the careful handling in raking; besides the straw being laid straight, it is well secured in the sheaf, and does not drop in the handling, and the heads are not exposed in the stack, so that the grain saving even exceeds the labor saving. 5th. It is a good Mower, being one of the best convertible machines in use. 6th. It has a knife that does not choke.

Its other excellencies, too numerous to mention here, are fairly given in the circulars. Its intrinsic worth is also attested by the award [mostly in three years] of

OVER EIGHTY FIRST PREMIUMS!

PRICE—Reaper and Mower, \$200,—\$75 first September, and \$50 first December. Price of Self-Raking Reaper only \$175. Considerable saving in freight to those at a distance who order prior to 1st March; also liberal discount for advance payment.

To secure a machine, order immediately.—Though so little known the past season, and none ready for delivery till 1st May, yet not two-thirds of the customers could be supplied. The reputation of the Machine is now widely established, so that *three thousand* will not as nearly supply the demand as *twelve hundred* did last year, and we shall also be selling four months earlier.

Order early, if you would not be disappointed.

Orders for, or information concerning the above Machines addressed to

J. S. WRIGHT & CO.,

Prairie Farmer Warehouse, Chicago,  
Or T. W. SKIDD, Springfield. Atlanta, or,  
Lincoln, will be attended to promptly.

Jan 1, 1856

**Sales of Property at Auction,**  
**MAXCY & McALLISTER,**

**A**T ALL TIMES READY TO SELL, BY auction, real estate and personal property, in the city and country.

Auction room, centre room of the Journal Buildings.

They also attend to the private sale and purchase of farms and lands in the country, and lots and houses in the city.

Journal Buildings, May 1, 1856.

**FAMILY GROCERIES,**

FRESH and good, of almost every variety, for sale by  
FRANCIS & BARRELL.  
May 1.

**To Persons Visiting Springfield to Purchase Goods.**

ONE OF THE LARGEST, CHEAPEST, and most desirable stocks of Merchandise in Central Illinois, is to be found at

**Joseph Thayer & Co's.,**

South side of the Public Square.

Their stock contains the richest fabrics as well as the more useful, of Dry Goods, Bonnets, Parasols, Cutlery, China and Glassware, Boots, Shoes and Gaiters, Clothing, Teas and Family Groceries, Trunks, Looking Glasses, Hats.

The second story of their store is devoted exclusively to

**Carpets and Oil Cloths.**

They would call the attention of those in want of stout woolen goods to their stock, which they manufacture themselves of unmixed Sangamon county wool and warrant to wear well.

All persons in want of any of the above articles, are invited to inspect our assortment. We guarantee prices as low as the lowest.

May 1.

**CITY DRUG STORE  
REMOVED.**

**T**HE undersigned would announce to his friends and the public generally that he has removed across the street to the store previously occupied by C. Freeman & Co., on the Northwest corner of the public square, where he has fitted up in a handsome and convenient manner and made many and large additions to his stock, which consist in part of

Drugs, Chemicals, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Glass, Glass Ware, Patent Medicines, Surgical & Dental Instruments, Fancy Articles, Very Fine and a Great Variety, Combs, Brushes, Perfumery, Stationery, Fine Cutlery,

**Electric & Concentrated Medicines,  
Electric Machines, Belts,**

Imported Cigars, Very Fine, Pure Wines, Brandies, Old Whiskey's, Ale, Porter.

A very superior assortment for Medical use, Lamps for Burning Fluid, a fine assortment. In fact everything that comprises a complete and saleable stock, which I offer at wholesale and retail at lower prices than ever before in this market. I feel confident that with my present facilities, I can sell to Physicians and others as low as any house in St. Louis, and would invite them to give me a call and examine my stock before going further.

Everything sold by me is warranted strictly pure and genuine. Don't forget the new store, where we may always be found ready and willing to wait on customers, day or night, and give satisfaction.  
J. B. FOSSELMAN.

June 1—4m.

**SEEDS FOR SUMMER SOWING,  
Millet, Buckwheat & Turnips.**

FOR sale at the seed store of  
FRANCIS & BARRELL.

June 1.

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER Printers.

VOLUME 1.

SPRINGFIELD, JULY, 1856.

NUMBER 7.

## Facts and Speculations on Rice.

There are said to be about nine hundred millions of human beings on the earth, and of these four to five hundred millions use rice as their chief article of subsistence,—not as a diluent to other and stronger food, but as the all dependent necessity of their life. Rice is said to be largely absorbed into the system as a nutriment, and forming little refuse matter in the bowels, has been considered constipating, but without evil results, we think. Like most farinacea, it gives lightness to the sensations and clearness to the faculties, if not breadth and strength, which we think belong more to animal food. It is thought that the Foxs, Pitts and Websters of the world are greater animal food consumers, living strongly while they do live, and dying somewhat earlier in consequence. This is the prevailing opinion, and we think there is some truth in it.

The Hindoos, say one hundred and fifty millions in number, are a superior people. If we judge of superiority by an apt business habit, then there are few who excel the Hindoos. One who expects to over-reach them in trade may find himself mistaken, and in widely extended operations the Baboo of Calcutta is a perfect Rothschild, and with all his riches and European surroundings, is a rice eater from his birth to his grave, as are all his countrymen. One of these men died lately whom the writer of this article knew, worth his million or two of pounds sterling, a perfect heathen, a worshipper and sustainer of the Doorga Poorga, and yet, withal, a man of noble impulses, and who never could in all his intercourse with the English and foreign mer-

chants of Calcutta, condescend to any of their delinquencies, or submit to the tricks by which trade is very frequently conducted in civilized and christian countries. This man was a Bramin; but an inward law gave him christian sentiments, an enlarged benevolence, a truthful estimate of life, that rose high above anything to which the symbols of his degraded faith might point.

If we pass over to China we will find another rice-eating people of at least two hundred and fifty millions. And here we may be able to contradict the too prevalent notion, that, to animal food exclusively, belongs physical strength and endurance, whereas there are no other men more athletic than the Chinese laborer, or porter, who will walk away with a burden under which a European would sink. Much of this may be attributed to training, but more to a muscular frame, not injured but sustained chiefly on rice. Moreover, neither the Hindoo nor Chinese, in their contact with Europeans, are seduced into their dietetic ways, but continue throughout a rice consuming people. The Chinese are as celebrated as the Hindoos for their mercantile propensities, and Honqua and Tinqu would fall scarce below the Barings, Grinnells and Bacons, of our side of the world. In the lower walks of life the Chinese are a match for all competitors in the tricks, devices and artifices of trade. We have less opinion of their moral standing than of the Hindoo.

Rice in India and China forms the great staple of traffic; it is seen at all times and in all places, is the nucleus of home operations, the base that sustains the economic fabric. In China, privileges are conceded to rice laden vessels. In all the islands the same consequence attaches to it.

Rice in warm countries becomes a most

the effects of western immigration. A well informed citizen of Cleveland said to us that this was so. That even the rapid advancement of Cleveland itself had been arrested by the disposition of business men and mechanics to go west; that northern Ohio was a heavily timbered country, and that it required the best part of a man's life to make and clear a good farm there; that even the old settlers who had made improvements, tired of working among stumps and cutting down and burning forests, were disposed to sell out, and many had sold out, and had gone and were going to the prairies of the west. Their places were filled in some cases, by farmers from Pennsylvania, and in others one improved place was added to another, and thus improvements were at a stand still. Our farmers, continued he, have learnt the advantages offered by lands already cleared for the plow, over those that require fifteen years labor upon them to enable one to plow an unbroken furrow. He said that there were still fine lands in Ohio belonging to government, and he believed in a few years a re-action would take place, and eastern immigrants would find it for their interest to settle in Northern Ohio. This will probably be so, but after the lapse of a considerable time. In comparison with lands of the eastern States, those of northern Ohio are vastly superior. Much of them have been improved and they are among the most productive regions of the country, occupied by an energetic business population.

#### Cabbage Plants.

There has been a great call for cabbage plants the present season. The flies have destroyed most of the young plants. Two or three sowings did not remedy the evil.

One of our friends says he has no difficulty in raising plants. He fills a box or trough with earth, sows his seed in the same, and raises the box or trough some five feet, placing it on the top of a bench or fence. The flies never trouble the young plants in that situation.

This fact may be of service to some of our readers next year.

#### Farmers' Girls.

The time has gone by, we think, when a young woman is valued for her almost entire worthlessness. We mean such as have no other qualifications for usefulness than mere factitious accomplishments, which will enable her to pass off well in the street and in company, and who is ignorant of all the varied household duties, which specially come under the supervision and require the labor of woman.

We have no liking for that system of drudgery which makes woman a perfect slave to her family. Circumstances may require her untiring devotion to their interests, which are her own, but her parents or husband, should always aim to make the performance of her laborious duties as light and pleasant as possible. All the arrangements about and in the dwelling should have this object in view. In this free country, where slave labor is not to be had, and if it could be had, is not wanted, our women have much labor to perform; hence it is, and we believe it, that all the means which can render that duty light, should be brought into requisition.

We have too often seen in the country, where the owner could afford better accommodations, a small square house, without a single projection or piazza to keep off the sun or weather from the females, who were compelled to go out of the door in the performance of their work. We have seen, too, the approaches to the dwelling mere mud paths, which, when the weather is wet, furnish mud to soil the floors and make work for the women. We have seen men who ought to know better, squirt the juice of tobacco about on the floors, compelling women, who would not have their houses as dirty as stables, to be constantly using the mop to wash away the filth. We have seen women, who, it was expected, would make butter for market and family use, without the first convenience for doing so. We have seen many more things of this character which we might name, all tending to make the lot of woman hard, and which could have been avoided by careful men, who had

a just appreciation of the duties and value of the true woman.

We know that with these drawbacks woman cannot be what Providence designs and what the true happiness of the family requires, and what society demands. But these obstacles to the proper development of character and aims of the true woman, we hope will pass away with the increasing intelligence of our farmers. We are aware that progress with them is something more than a mere word, and with the majority their efforts are directed to appreciate their high calling, to make their homes what they ought to be, and to give woman those advantages which will render her a "help meet for man." But there are some instances in our mind's eye where our admonitions will not be undeserved.

How much of the happiness of man depends upon the intelligence, the industry, the neatness, the domestic qualifications of woman? A good woman, who would perform her part, and who is enabled to perform her part in life, by the well directed care of the husband, or father, is, indeed, the "crown of glory" to the whole household.

We are not admirers of fast women, but we reverence women in their true position. That can scarcely be attained by them unless the girl is properly educated. To that point the attention and effort of every good mother and father should be directed.

#### F. R. Elliott.

We visited a few days since the nursery grounds of this distinguished horticulturist, near Cleveland. Mr. Elliott has for the last few years been engaged in carrying on with other business, an Agricultural Store in Cleveland, and has not been able to devote that attention to his nursery grounds which he previously had done. The improvements, however, show great taste, and his cottage, nestled among the evergreens and deciduous trees, and surrounded with shrubbery of all the choice varieties ever heard of, is most beautiful, exhibiting the fine taste of its proprietor.

The last winter was a severe one upon the

nurseries of Ohio, as well as farther west. We believe the whole of Mr. Elliott's stock of peach trees was killed as well as many other tender nursery trees. His grounds show that several of the most beautiful foreign evergreens which had hitherto stood the rigors of winter, were also dead. We understood that Professor Kirtland, living a few miles distant, and who has been distinguished as the originator of many new and fine varieties of cherries, was likely to lose many of his trees. Such a winter as our last, of course, "is not in the memory of the oldest inhabitant," but though one of equal severity may not soon recur again, we will do well to be admonished by experience what trees will stand the changes of our climate, and those which will not. A loss of the peach trees, however, which are easily reproduced, will not prevent their cultivation.

Mr. Elliott has a very large stock of evergreen trees, of different hardy varieties for sale, and which will be sold at very low rates. These, with proper care, will be certain to live, an object of some importance to those who plant out evergreens.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Elliott will leave "the dull pursuit of mercantile life," which does not suit him, and devote his attention hereafter to horticulture and that branch of literature connected with it. As a scientific and practical horticulturist, he is known through the whole west.

#### Fruit Convention.

We have received the Report of "Transactions of the Fourth Session of the North Western Fruit Grower's Association," at Burlington, September 25, 1855. These transactions make a pamphlet of 140 pages, and embrace a vast variety of information most useful to the growers of fruit. The information thus given is practical, what is wanted and needed by our western people. We shall draw liberally from this work.

*Plum Culture* was the first subject considered. Mr. Fahnestock said that he had been intrusted by Mr. Matthews with his remedy for the great enemy of the plum, the Curculio; that he had given it to sev-

eral gentlemen of known integrity for the purpose of making a trial of it; and that he had received letters from four out of six, all of whom spoke of it with the fullest confidence of its efficacy. Mr. Young, President of the Louisville Horticultural Society, had written to him that his plum orchard had not produced any fruit for six years from the ravages of the Curculio, until the present year, (1855,) when he applied the Mathew's remedy and the trees were loaded with fruit. They commenced stinging the plums before the remedy was applied, but after the application it did not appear that one plum was stung. Mr——, of Oneida county, had made the application to six of twelve trees; the six to which the remedy was applied were loaded with fruit, while the entire crop of the others was destroyed by the Curculio. The other two gentlemen had made substantially similar reports. The remedy had been applied to the specimen trees of the Syracuse nursery with similar effect. Mr. F. had the fullest confidence in it, and believed, when properly applied, it would be effectual in every instance.

Mr. Barry had given Mr. Matthew's remedy a trial, but not sufficient to speak of its claims satisfactorily. He had succeeded in growing a good crop of plums by using a very simple remedy; in fact his trees were then breaking down with their load of fruit. Mr. B. gave a description of his remedy. He said—"The plan of having the ground under the trees, which had generally proved successful, gave the idea of beating the earth hard under the trees. This was done at the first appearance of the Curculio. A boy was sent among the trees daily to jar the trees and sweep up the insects and punctured plums and destroy them. By this the insects and larva were destroyed, not only protecting the present crop but making serious inroads into the next year's crop of insects. The habit of the insect was to fly from the ground upward. He had considerable confidence in the Mathew's remedy, but more in this. The discussion continued on the habits of the Curculio. Mr. Dunlap said that the Curculio was one

of the pests that followed civilization, and that unless some such remedy as Mr. Mathews proposed, would prove successful, but little further progress would be made by the farmers in the culture of this fruit. He was satisfied that the plan of paving the ground under the trees, or of beating down the earth and jarring the trees would be but an imperfect remedy.

Mr. Barry continued—that we should never find a remedy without labor, and that man who would say it was too much labor to cultivate and protect fruit, was not worthy of its enjoyment.

Mr. Mathew's remedy is a secret; but this discussion gives the assurance that this valuable fruit has a fair chance of being rescued from destruction, and again being placed on the list of productive crops.

#### Prices of Produce.

Our Prices Current for the last month show that prices of produce were then receding, and it is our opinion that they have not yet reached their lowest point. We especially refer in this case to two of our staples, wheat and corn. Of the latter there is yet a large amount in the hands of farmers, as well as a good supply of the former article. The wheat crop, as a whole, promises a large yield this season, much larger than that of the last. The severity of the winter injured some fields, but the stimulation of high prices caused an unusual breadth of land to be sown; and hence we anticipate a very large crop. As a general thing, the corn promises well. Some of it came up badly, but the weather has been such as to favor the success of re-planting, and our farmers feel assured of a good corn season.

We will have but little foreign demand for these articles. In a state of peace, Europe can nearly supply herself with breadstuffs. The country on the Danube is wonderfully adapted to the growing of wheat and under the system of Russian serf labor, it can be grown there at cheaper rates than in our own country. Even in English market, Russian wheat successfully competes with ours. There will be some foreign de-

mand in South America for flour; but our main reliance for market must be at home. All these circumstances considered, we anticipate low prices for breadstuffs compared with those a year since; but we believe that even these will be remunerating prices. Our farmers have had a *harvest* in high prices; and when these are caused by foreign demand for a heavy surplus, they benefit all classes of citizens.

#### Wheat.

Our farmers are at this present writing cutting their wheat. They will have a busy time.

There is some diversity of opinion in regard to the proper time of cutting wheat. R. N. ALLEN, in his "American Farm Book," says: "The grain should be cut immediately after the lower part of the stalk becomes yellow, while the grain is yet in the dough state, and easily compressible between thumb and finger. Repeated experiments have demonstrated, that wheat cut at that time, will yield more in measure, of heavier weight and a larger quantity of sweet, white flour. If early cut, a longer time is required for curing before storing and threshing."

The same authority says—"When stored in the straw, the grain should be so placed as to prevent heating or moulding. Unless very dry, when carried to the barn, this can only be avoided by laying it on scaffolds, where there is a free circulation of air around and partially through it. If placed in a stack, it should be well elevated from the ground; and if the stack be large, a chimney or lattice or open work should be left from the bottom, extending through the centre to the top; or a large bundle may be kept to the surface in the middle, and drawn upwards as the stack rises, thus leaving an opening for circulation, entirely through the centre of the grain. Additional security would be afforded by similar openings at suitable intervals, in a horizontal direction. Mice and rats may be avoided, by laying the foundation of the stack on posts or stones, elevated beyond their reach, and covered at the top with projecting caps.

Weevils sometimes affect the grain after storing. These may be almost, if not wholly, prevented, by thorough cleanliness of the premises where the grain is stored."

Stacks put up in this manner may preserve the grain from heating and growing. Much was injured last summer from these causes.

#### Buckwheat.

Some farmers are prejudiced against the growing of buckwheat. Few, however, carry their prejudices so far as to refuse to eat the product when put into proper shape and duly prepared. In fact, there is a certain and large demand for buckwheat flour, during the winter, in this country, and it will be had, even if extravagant prices are paid for it. Buckwheat cakes, are, in truth, an institution of the country, and worthy of being cherished. It shall be no fault of ours if it shall not prove perpetual.

Buckwheat is from China. It is grown largely in Europe. In 1850, New York produced 9,000,000 bushels, and Illinois 134,500 bushels. It furnishes nutritious food. It will grow on any common soil; but will yield well on light poor soils. The crop can be raised with little expense. Plow the ground well once; harrow it well; sow two to three pecks of seed to the acre, and harrow it well in. It will do well to sow from 20th of June to the middle of July.

It would be well to cut the crop with a cradle. If the straw is too dry, the seed will fall off and waste. It should be threshed immediately. A good crop will yield from 20 to 25 bushels an acre. But much will depend on the season. There will be a good market for a limited amount of this grain the coming winter, and, owing to the scarcity of seed, the supply will not be large.

#### Morgan County Fair!

Morgan county is in the field with a handsome premium list. The Fair will be held in Jacksonville on the 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th days of September next. The premiums are offered for thorough bred horses; horses of all work; draught horses; jacks and jennetts; cattle, short horns; natives and cross cattle; hogs; sheep; poultry; agricultural implements made in the

State; manufactured leather; flour; grain; fruit and vegetables; flowers and paintings, and ladies department. The entrance fees are one-fifth of the premiums. Competition open to all citizens of the State. All articles intended for competition must be entered by 9 o'clock on the day of exhibition. All articles in the ladies department, will be exhibited on the first day of the fair. Cattle will be exhibited on the second day, and horses on the third day, agricultural implements and manufactures on the fourth day. Pedigrees for stock in the thorough bred class will be required—English and American Herd Books will be the standard. Crops of grain to be entered on the first day of the fair. Any additional information in reference to the fair can be obtained on application to IRWIN DEXLAP, Esq., Secretary of the Society, Jacksonville.

The fair of Morgan county the present season will probably exceed in interest any which has ever taken place in that county. Citizens of other States who desire to be present at this and similar great gatherings of our people, can conveniently be present at the fair in Morgan county, in the third week of September next, being the 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th days of that month; at the fair in Sangamon county, in the fourth week of September, being the 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th days of that month; and at the State Fair, in Alton, in the subsequent week, commencing on the 30th day of September, and to be held four days.

#### Fruit Trees.

Many varieties of young fruit trees were injured by the winter. The tops will be killed down, more or less. This will not be a serious injury if these trees are properly attended to. The tops should be cut back just above where they sprout. The main reliance of the tree is upon the root. If this is sound the sprouts will soon take the place of that cut down, and if you desire it, will form a low head, which is the best form of the tree for our prairies. The dry weather is unfortunate for new trees planted out; but much can be done for their benefit by mulching about the roots.

We again say that if the tree throws out sprouts above the graft, you can make a good and valuable tree of it—and the killing of the top will not seriously injure it.

~~Mr.~~ Richter says, "No man can either live piously or die righteously without a wife." Another says to this, "O yes! sufferings and severe trials purify and chasten the heart."

#### The Crop of Hay.

The prospect is that hay will be short. The grass is now thin in the meadows, and even if we should have rain, the yield will be light. What is to be done? Our farmers have a recourse in millet and corn sown broadcast. Millet seed well put in will yield three or four tons of most valuable fodder to the acre, which cattle and horses will prefer to the best timothy. Corn will produce an equal amount of good fodder. It is time the attention of farmers was turned to these crops. The seed can be sown as late as the middle of July, and at a time when other crops do not press upon the farmer's attention. There is no little circumstance which will make a farmer feel more comfortable in winter than to know that he has plenty of food for his stock.

#### Potatoes.

The writer of the following communication has made a discovery—at least it is new to us—which may be useful. The object is to "renew the seed of potatoes" which has run out, or become worthless, from being planted long in the same locality. The experiment he proposes, can be easily tried. In this latitude, we suppose that the planting can be deferred even later than the second week in July. Potatoes planted near the first of July often make a handsome yield.

We invite our friends to try the plan proposed by Mr. Seager.

*To Renew Potatoes that have been run out by constant planting.*—Save back seed till the first or second week in July and then carefully harvested, the product will be potatoes not larger than walnuts, if these are planted the next spring at the usual time of planting they will produce large sized potatoes as sound and mealy as the particular species of potato planted ever was.

The advantages of this plan, is, the saving of time over the old plan of sowing seed from the potato apple, and renewing a favorite species of potato to its former excellence.

I have tried this plan myself and can assure farmers of its success.

CHAS. SEAGER.

Springfield, Illinois, 1856.

### Turnips.

The season has come for the sowing of turnips. The prospect being that in the coming winter, fodder, including hay, may be limited in supply, presents an inducement for an extensive cultivation of turnips. They can be used to advantage in feeding cattle and sheep. It is well known that English agriculturists place their chief reliance in fattening cattle and sheep on their turnip crops.

To succeed with this crop, the land should be well prepared. It should be clean of weeds especially. Sand or gravel mixed with loam, it is said, produce the best flavored roots. The land should not be too rich. Grounds which have been newly cleared from the forest, and burnt over, are troubled the least with the fly. It would not be a bad plan to burn the ground over with straw or other substance, if this can be done conveniently.

The ground being well prepared, good seed should be procured, and if danger of the fly is apprehended—and *there is danger from this rascally insect*—the remedy proposed by Meun, an English agriculturist, can be used. It is said to be effectual. "Steep the seed in sulphur water, putting an ounce of sulphur to a pint of water, which will be sufficient for soaking three pounds of seed." The seed should be harrowed in with a single harrow, and if the ground should be passed over with a roller it would be all the better.

Fessenden recommends a pound of seed to an acre of ground. On our soil this would be too much. The plants would be crowded and the crop injured. Really the plants should be ten inches apart, and the labor of thinning them to that distance would be well paid for by the excellence of the roots.

For the fall crop, the seed should be sown about the middle of July. "Doing it on a set day is ridiculous; for a time should be chosen when the ground has the right degree of moisture to make the seed vegetate; and if this should happen a week earlier or a fortnight later than the usual time, it need

not be regretted; but the opportunity ought to be embraced." [*Abercrombie.*] The latest sown turnips are the least liable to be injured by insects.

The Swedish, or *Ruta Baga*, is probably the most productive variety. It is hardy, solid, and is more nutritious than the white turnips. Consequently it is better for stock, and is a good table vegetable in winter, and if properly kept, through spring into July. Six hundred bushels to the acre is a common yield in England. It would be well to sow them earlier than the common white turnip.

### Open to All.

The *Prairie Farmer*, in a handsome notice of our proposed County Fair in September, says: "From the Premium List we cannot learn whether the premiums are open to adjoining counties for competition or are exclusively offered to citizens of Sangamon county." Had the Editor examined the premium list fully, his eyes would have met the following resolution:

"Resolved, That we invite a free competition from every portion of the State in articles for which premiums are offered."

That's to the point, we think.

### Salt Your Cattle.

An old farmer says that this should not be forgotten at this season of the year. The green food they eat is of a highly fermentable nature, and the use of salt in such case is indispensable to health. A mixture of salt and ashes, kept in boxes, within the reach of cattle, but out of the way of the weather, is just what they want. If they have a constant supply, there is no danger of their taking too much of it.

VARNISH TO PREVENT THE RAYS OF THE SUN FROM PASSING THROUGH THE GLASSES OF WINDOWS.—Pulverize gum tragacanth and put it to dissolve for twenty-four hours in whites of eggs, well beaten. Lay a coat of this on the panes of your windows with a soft brush and let it dry.—*Mrs. Hale's Receipt Book.*

The United States has housed in one of the Arsenals near Philadelphia, no less than three millions of pounds of salt petre.

### Silesian Sheep Shearing.

The annual sheep shearing of Silesian sheep, at Red Hook, New York, is an occurrence of great interest to the growers of fine wool in the northern States. We have an account of the late shearing at that place in the *Boston Cultivator*:

The annual shearing of Silesian Merino sheep by Chamberlain, Campbell & Ladd, took place at the farm of Wm. Chamberlain, Esq., Red Hook, New York, on the 13th and 14th instant. We had the pleasure of being a spectator on the occasion, as we were at the last year's shearing, and had thus an opportunity of adding some items to the information we previously possessed concerning the success of this variety of sheep in the United States.

The Silesian Merino sheep are remarkable for the great amount of fine wool which they produce in proportion to their weight of carcass, and also for the uniform quality of the fleece over the whole body—the belly, in particular, which in many sheep is either naked or thinly covered with an inferior kind of wool, is in the Silesian well set, that which is but little coarser than the best parts of the fleece. The fleece has also some other points of superiority, such as fulness of staple, and evenness of the size of the fibres.

These excellencies are the result of a long course of skilful breeding. The principal Silesian breeders, Messrs. Fischer, obtained the originals of their flocks, in Spain, in the year 1811. We have before given the particulars in regard to their selection. The flocks of these breeders have attained an eminence which cause animals from them to be sought after from the various countries of Europe. From the time of seeing the first of the variety which were brought to this country, a few years since, we have thought that there was at least prima facie evidence that they would prove a desirable acquisition. The more we see of them, the more are we strengthened in this opinion. We are aware that to keep up the refinement to which these sheep have been brought, a certain amount of skill in the breeder, accompanied by certain requisites of food and shelter, are required; but we believe there are men in this country who possess the ability and the means necessary to this result, and in such hands the Silesian Merino can hardly fail to be profitable. As to the effect of infusing the blood of the Silesian with other sub-varieties of the Merino breed, we have previously given some

facts showing the improvement thereby effected. We may on a future occasion give some further testimony of a similar character.

The shepherd, Carl Heyne, who has charge of the flock kept at Mr. Chamberlain's farm, has lately returned from Silesia, his native country, with 22 ewes and 2 rams, purchased of Messrs. Fischer, for Messrs. C. C. & L. The animals are in very good condition, notwithstanding the hardship of their long confinement, and the frequent cold baths in salt water which they were forced to take while on their voyage. They are a fine lot, altogether, and one of the rams was held in such estimation by Messrs. Fischer, that he was much used in their home flock.

The following memorandum shows the weight of carcass after shearing, and the weight of fleece, unwashed, of several of the sheep which we saw shorn:

No.	Weight of Sheep:	Weight of Fleece.
125,	74 lbs.	8 lbs. 12 oz.
111,	62 "	9 "
179,	71 "	8 "
213,	75 "	9 "
326,	65 "	8 "

The above are breeding ewes which have suckled lambs since December last. The wool was one year's growth, the sheep having been shorn last year during the first week in May.

No.	Weight of Sheep.	Weight of Fleece.
1,	55 lbs.	8 lbs.
270,	60 "	8 " 4 oz.
240,	67 "	8 " 5 "
121,	72 "	8 " 7 "
132,	57 "	8 " 7 "

These are yearling ewes. The wool was less than eleven months' growth, as they were all shorn on the 20th of June last year—the weight of the fleeces then taken off ranging from three to four pounds, which sold for hatting purposes at fifty cents per pound.

No.	Weight of Sheep.	Weight of Fleece.
4,	118 lbs.	13 lbs. 4 oz.
17,	128 "	11 " 12 "
275,	64 "	8 " 6 "
68,	74 "	8 " 8 "

These were rams. No. 4 is recently imported. His fleece was of eleven months' growth; his age four years. No. 17 had one year's growth of wool; his age four years. Nos. 275 and 68 are yearlings, with eleven months growth of fleece.

It was estimated that a deduction of 25 per cent. would make this wool equal in cleanliness to ordinary washed wool, and in this condition it is said, by those who are well acquainted the wool market, it would bring sixty cents per pound.

Of the 2,511 beeves in the New York market last week, 1,127 were from this State.

### The Wool Trade.

On account of the coldness of the spring, sheep shearing is rather late; but in a few days the clip will begin to seek a market. Last season wool was received at the Cleveland Depot May 5th. This year the first was received May 13th. This consisted of 1000 bbls. from Licking county.

We have obtained of Goodale & Co., a list of prices of their last sales, which, compared with sales of nearly the same date last year, show an advance 4 to 7 cts.

May 20, 1856,	June 1, 1855.
Super at 62c	Super at 55c
XX " 65	XX " 48
X " 60	X " 44
No. 1 " 45	No. 1 " 40
No. 2 " 40	No. 2 " 36
No. 3 " 38	No. 3 " 33
No. 4 " 35	No. 4 " 30
No. 6 " 33	No. 5 " 26

*Ohio Farmer.*

### Weaning Lambs.

The time of weaning differs materially, according to the locality of the farms and the quality of the pasture. In a mountainous country, and where the land is poor, the weaning often takes place when the lamb is not more than three months old, for it requires all the intermediate time to get the ewes in good condition by the time of blossoming, or to prepare them for market. In a milder climate, and on better pasture, they are not to be weaned until four months old, and that is the period usually selected. On the other hand, if the pasture is good, and especially if it is the system or the interest of the farmer to sell his lambs in store condition, they frequently are not weaned until they are six months old.

The first thing to be attended to is, to remove the lambs and the ewes as far as possible from each other. There will be plenty of confusion and unhappiness for a while, and which would be prolonged until it was injurious to both the mother and the offspring, if they were able to hear each other's bleating: indeed, it would frequently happen that the ewe could not be confined in her pasture, if she heard the continued cries of her young one. Two or three days before they are intended to be parted, the ewes and the lambs should be removed to the pasture which the latter are afterwards to occupy, and then in the evening of the appointed day, the ewes are to be driven away from the pasture occupied by their lambs, or if they are moved to another, it should be a poorer and barer one. It will be advisable, although it is not always practised, to milk them two or three times, in

order to relieve their distended udders, and to prevent an attack of inflammation or garget. In a day or two they will become quiet, or if any one should refuse her food, she should be caught and examined, and the state of her udder should be particularly observed.

The management of the lambs will depend on the manner in which the farmer means to dispose of them; but at all events, they should be turned on somewhat better pasture than that to which they had been accustomed, in order to compensate for the loss of the mother's milk. Many farmers are very fanciful as to the provision for the weaned lambs. The clover, or the sainfoin, or the aftermath, are selected by some; others put their smaller and more weakly lambs to weed the turnip crops; but there can be nothing more desirable than a fresh pasture, not too luxuriant, and yet sufficient to maintain and increase their condition. A great deal of caution is requisite here. The lamb must not be over gorged, lest some acute disease should speedily carry him off; on the other hand, he must not be suffered to decline, for if he does, he will rarely recover his condition, however good the keep may afterwards be.—*Youatt.*

### Frauds in the Sheep Trade.

The Wool Grower, for May, contains an article which we should to copy entire, for the benefit of Western sheep-buyers; but our space will not permit this; so we give some of its points, to put our readers on their guard:

1. Let the fleece grow two years, and pass off the fleece as one of a single year's growth.

2. Overstate the amount actually shorn, by one or two pounds.

3. Dope the sheep: that is, put on oil and coloring matter to make a sheep look like the required breed; that is, paint the sheep as a common horse was once painted, and sold for one of a superior race.

4. Always have a sheep or two on hand of just the breed the buyer wants, and that, too, though there was but one kind when the flock started.

Such are some of the frauds practiced on unsuspecting men, who have not yet learned how to look for dishonesty, under the mask of fair profession, which some of these scoundrels make. We know some facts, which, if published, would cover some men with infamy. Buy of none—we would say to all—but well known and honest men.

[*Wool Grower.*]

### Teas.

There are a great variety of teas under name. Formerly Gunpowder and Imperial rated as best. Latterly best teas are found in other varieties:

**GREEN TEAS.**—The following are the principal kinds: Twankay, Hyson-skin, Hyson, Gunpowder and Young Hyson.

*Young Hyson* is a delicate young leaf, called in the original language *Yu-t sien*, (before the rains,) because gathered in the early spring.

*Hyson* is from the Chinese word *He tchene*, which means flourishing spring. This fine tea is gathered early in the season and prepared with great care and labor. Each leaf is picked separately and nipped off above the foot-stalk and every separate leaf is rolled in the hand. It is much esteemed for its flavor.

*Gunpowder Tea* is only Hyson rolled and rounded, to give it the granular appearance, whence it derives its name. The Chinese call it *Choo-cha*, (pearl tea.)

*Hyson-skin*, is so named from the Chinese term, in which connection *skin* means the refuse or inferior portion. In preparing Hyson all leaves that are of a coarse, yellow, or imperfectly twisted appearance are separated and sold as *skin tea*, at an inferior price.

*Twankay* is the last picking of green tea, and the leaf is not rolled or twisted as much as the dearer descriptions. There is altogether less trouble bestowed on the preparation.

**BLACK TEAS.**—As soon as the leaf-bud begins to expand it is gathered to make Pekoe. A few days later growth produces black-leaved Pekoe. The next picking is called the Souchong. As the leaves grow larger and more mature they form Congou; and the last picking is Bohea.

*Bohea* is called by the Chinese *Ta-cha*, (large tea) on account of the maturity and size of the leaves. It contains a larger proportion of woody fibre than other teas and its infusion is of a darker color and coarser flavor.

*Congou*, the next higher kind, is named from a corruption of the Chinese *Koong-foa*, (great care or assiduity.) This forms the bulk of the black tea imported and is mostly valued for its strength.

*Souchong*—*Season-choong*, (small, scarce sort,) is the finest of the stronger black tea, with a leaf that is generally entire and curly. It is much esteemed for its fragrance and fine flavor.

*Pekoe* is a corruption of the Canton name

*Pak-ho*, (white down) being the first sprouts of the leaf-buds—they are covered with a white, silky down. It is a delicate tea, rather deficient in strength and is principally used in flavoring other teas.

From the Boston Cultivator.

### Pumpkin Family.

If the farmer duly consults his interest, he will strive to have, (rather than to be,) "some pumpkins." The vegetable to which we allude, comprises the many varieties known under the names of pumpkin and squash, of the cucurbita family.

It is not too late to put in pumpkin and squash seeds, as the plants require heat to make them do well, and not much is gained, unless they are started in hot-beds and transplanted, by planting before the ground is well warmed.

For feeding animals, the kind called the Yankee pumpkin, Connecticut pumpkin, &c., is best. It is hardy and productive. It will grow on almost any tolerably dry situation, yielding, of course, in proportion to the richness of the soil, and the care in cultivation. It is common to plant it in corn-fields, where it often flourishes to such a degree, that after the corn is cut down, the ground is thickly dotted with the golden fruit. It may be asked if it does not injure the corn crop. Perhaps it does, but generally, the value of the pumpkin far overbalances this. If the pumpkin vines are so thick, however, as to deeply shade the ground before the corn is eared, the sun's rays may thereby be too much intercepted to keep the earth in that state of warmth most favorable to the growth, and especially to the *filling* of the corn. The pumpkins, therefore, should not be planted too thick. Aside from the effect they have on the corn, the vines will bear better when they have ample space for light and air. Sometimes, pumpkins are allowed ground by themselves. In such cases, a piece of sward may be taken; any coarse, strawy manure ploughed in, not very deeply; and the seeds planted ten or twelve feet apart, leaving two plants in a hill, after they are well started. They will need but little attention, except to keep the weeds down with the cultivator. The weeds near the plants must be taken out by hand.

For feeding cows late in the fall, and the fore part of winter, especially for the production of butter, no crop is so valuable in proportion to its cost, as the pumpkin. It is also good in a raw state for fattening cattle, and when cooked, and its juice somewhat absorded by meal, stirred in at the

instant the cooking is done, it is excellent for fattening hogs. It may be used from the middle of October to the middle of December, but should be protected from frost.

The term *squash* is more frequently applied, in this section, to varieties of this family which are chiefly used for culinary purposes. But who can define the exact difference between pumpkin and squash?

We have several kinds of *summer* squashes, the best of which is the long warty variety. It is quite productive—is sometimes used for feeding cows and pigs—but its more common use is as an accompaniment to meats at the dinner table though in the hands of a skillful pastry cook, it makes a tolerable substitute for pumpkin or winter-squash pie.

Of the winter varieties of squashes, the New England marrow has held the preference. It is a hybrid, produced several years since, between the Valparaiso, and some kind which we have never seen fully described. It has been a very profitable crop in the vicinity of Boston. Ten tons to the acre is a good yield, though fifteen have been produced. They sell at wholesale, in autumn, at from \$20 to \$25 per ton, giving an income of \$200 to \$300 per acre. The crop has, however, of late years, been regarded as rather uncertain, owing to the attacks of an insect, called, by the late Dr. Harris, the squash vine *Ægeria*. The fly deposits an egg, commonly near the root of the vine, from which a maggot soon proceeds, and bores its way into the pith, where it continues to feed till fully grown. The insect is sometimes so numerous that many vines are destroyed by them. The vine of the marrow squash is very soft and tender, and on this account affords the worm more easy ingress, and is more subject to attack than any other kind.

A variety called the Marblehead squash, produced by Mr. Ephraim Brown, of Marblehead, and largely cultivated by him, appears to be very valuable. It is a cross between the marrow and some West-India variety, but is now as well fixed in type as the marrow. It is larger than the marrow, yields more weight to the acre, keeps as well or better, and is almost equal in quality. Several cultivators of this kind have obtained as much per ton for it as was brought at the same time by the marrow. Some specimens tried in the family of the writer, have proved very fine.

Another hybrid, recently produced from the marrow, (we do not know the stock on

the other side,) is the Wilder squash. It was originated by Mr. Stetson, of Bridgewater, and named for Hon. M. P. Wilder. It has received a premium from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. In shape and size it considerably resembles the Marblehead squash. We have tried only one specimen, which was equal to any squash we ever tasted—thick-meated, fine grained, very sweet and dry.

The Canada Crook-neck is a good kind—hardy and prolific—keeps well. It is much less attacked by the insect above alluded to, than the marrow, and for this reason has latterly been substituted for that variety by some cultivators. It is not equal in quality to the kinds before described.

The old-fashioned striped Crook-neck is still somewhat cultivated. It is more hardy than most of the kinds of better quality, and with proper care, keeps through winter and spring. It is, however, accounted less profitable than many others.

All the cucurbita tribe have a great tendency to hybridize; and to preserve a variety in its purity, it is necessary to have it grown at a distance from any other. Bees carry the pollen from flower to flower. How far intermixture might be effected in this way is not positively known, but we should not feel sure of the purity of a variety if there were others in bloom, at the same time, within half a mile.

Of the value of the pumpkin and squash as an article of human food, we need not speak, for every true-born Yankee understands it. The fame of pumpkin pies is wide-spread. But it may be well to state, as a matter of history, that since the introduction of the marrow squash, and the kinds produced from it, the most esteemed pumpkin pies are made of squash. The English laugh at us for eating these articles, and seem to think a taste for them must be acquired by being subjected to various influences belonging to a residence here. But we believe that even the most inveterate prejudices have given way at once, when a good sample of the marrow squash, properly prepared, has been fairly tried.

#### The Wild Horse.

The Sacramento, (California,) Journal, gives an interesting account of a noted wild horse which has lately been captured in that vicinity. The animal is known as the "Prairie Chief," or wild horse of Yolo, and is considered the best native trotter in the State, and country. He had baffled for years repeated attempts to capture him, although every effort that ingenuity could

devise and men exercise was tried years ago.

More than forty horsemen, mounted on the very flower of the ranches, pursued time and again, often running him from sun to sun, and occasionally hunting him on the second day, when he proved as fresh as on the first; and never until at last captured, even when hottest pursued, was he seen to break into a gallop. Trotting he could run round most horses galloping. Once he was decoyed by means of other horses into a corral, but on perceiving the snare he at one bound, cleared by several feet the bristling posts of the corral. A reward of fifteen hundred dollars was once offered for him, and he was, after several attempts, driven into a narrow pass and lassoed, but he snapped the lasso in an instant and escaped.

The last organized attempt to secure him, however succeeded, and the noble animal was robbed of the freedom he had so long and so gallantly contended for. A party of 30 persons, well mounted, assembled at the place where he was known to be grazing, which was on a range of hills on the west bank of the Sacramento. A few of them, in the morning drove him to the mountains, when he was compelled to turn back upon the plains, where the rest of the company, scattered in squads for a distance of 30 miles along the country, dashed at him by turns, and thus run him at his full speed back and forth to the mountains, and up and down the plains, until he was completely jaded and worn, and at dark they were enabled to lasso and capture him. Thus did this wonderful horse run (or trot, rather) the entire day without a moment's breathing time. At the close, when closely pursued he broke into a gallop. It is estimated, by those who know the ground well, that he traveled from 160 to 170 miles. He is a gray horse, with a darkish mane and tail, about fourteen hands high, and is believed to be about fourteen years of age, and is, withal, very fierce.

#### Ornamental Plants.

**ROSE CUTTINGS.**—When is a good time to root rose cuttings, and how, and in what soil? [G. Sherman, Huron county, Ohio.]

In the summer, choose a shady place—the north side of a wall or building is best, and prepare a soil from four to six inches deep, nearly all sand; pit sand will do. A frame and glass is desirable, although they will root in the open soil if kept moist and shaded from the sun. In selecting the cuttings, choose the short jointed wood, usually that from which the flowers have recently

fallen, taking a portion of the heel, or attachment to the larger shoot, with it. These being in what is called a half ripe state, remain green sufficiently long to enable the base to callous over, after which the roots are quickly produced; it may be known by its commencing to grow. The cutting is then a perfect plant, and ready for potting off. For a few cuttings, flower pots may be used with bell or hand glasses to cover them. Those kinds which flower more or less all the summer, as China and Bourbons, strike very readily in the spring or fall, or indeed at any season; the hybrid perennials best perhaps after the midsummer flowering, while the last named are more usually propagated, as are also all kinds of June or summer roses, by layers in the spring, from the greater difficulty in the rooting them from cuttings. The cuttings should be inserted about half their depth in the soil.—*Country Gentleman.*

**PETUNIAS.**—The handsome flowers under this name that are now so common in our city gardens, and propagated by cuttings, in the fall, are hybrids between *P. phanicea*, or the purple flowered, and *P. nyctagini-flora*, or the white flowered. The latter, when once introduced into the garden can scarcely be eradicated, and we think may be yet naturalized in this country. They are both natives of South America, and are perennials, but have become annuals here, ripening an abundance of seed, more especially the white species. The hybrid varieties are edged, or striped, white, and purple, and are very desirable plants for bedding out, producing flowers profusely, and until the fall frosts come. They are well adapted to beds cut in a grass plat, and will thrive in almost any soil, needing comparatively little care or attention, except pegging down side shoots.

**ROUGH-LEAVED DEUTZIA, (*Deutzia scabra.*)** This is also a native of Japan, and more hardy than the preceding. We have never seen it injured until last winter, when a large specimen of ours was killed to the ground. It is a strong, erect grower, with rigid branches, that spring from the crown, level with the ground, to the height of six feet. In June it produces its numerous white flowers, in compound panicles, and has a very pretty appearance. It prefers a sandy soil, and not very wet, and is readily propagated by layers and cuttings.

The rose bug, (*Macrodactylus subspinosa,*) commits great havoc upon the blossoms, of which they are very fond, and when plentiful, thousands can be found on this shrub.

Luckily their numbers have been gradually decreasing for some time back, so that the danger done is inconsiderable. There are two or three other species of *Deutzia*, of a more dwarf habit, that are well worth cultivation. They all have white flowers.

**ACHILLEA ROSEA.**—This is a hardy herbaceous plant. The foliage is singular; and the flowers, of rose color, are very beautiful. A fine plant for the garden.

**THE PENSTEMONS** are hardy perennial plants, with bell like flowers.

**THE PERENNIAL PHLOXES** are now to be had in great variety. They blossom at seasons when flowers are scarce; and no garden can be complete without them.

### Golden Rules for Gardeners.

Never work with bad tools. The difference between the work done in a month would buy a set of new ones.

Have a place for every tool, and never leave one out of its place; or, to go further, "a place for everything, and everything in its place."

Never waste animal or vegetable refuse. The very soap-suds from the laundry are rich manure.

Have all flower-pots washed, dried, and put away as soon as they are empty.

Never fill a pot so full of soil but that it may hold water enough to go through it; every pot should have an inch of space above the compost.

Never grow a bad variety of anything, if you can help it. It takes the same room, and wants the same attention as a good one.

Never buy cheap seed. It is only by getting good prices that a seedsman can supply articles to be depended on.

Cover all seeds with at least their own thickness of soil; but as some of it gets washed off, you must allow for it.

Gather fruit in dry weather, and with the sun shining, and place them as carefully in the baskets as if they were glass. The smallest bruise commences a decay.

Never subject a plant to a rapid change of temperature. Sudden check or sudden excitement are equally injurious.

Never grow the same crop or crops of the same family twice on the same spot without an intervening crop of a different nature.

Never tie up lettuces or endives, or earth up celery, except when perfectly dry. They are sure to spoil if you do.

Keep your plants clean. Dust and dirt on leaves make the plant unhealthy, and will in time kill it.

Never grow a plant too fast; it is no

credit to you, because any body can do it, and it spoils the plant to a certainty.

Never train or support a plant unnaturally. Climbers will not do hanging about. Trailers will not do climbing.

Mow lawns before the dew is off the grass, unless you have a machine, which cuts it best when dry.

Rapid growth makes a wild flower, slow growth a strong one. Therefore grow vegetables quick, and fruit moderately.

Carefully preserve the fallen leaves of trees, and procure as many as you can; when rotted into mould, the produce is invaluable.

Keep your seeds, bulbs, tubers, etc., in a place where neither heat, nor frost, nor damp can reach them, for either of these would destroy many.

Mind your own affairs. Let all the errors you see in others' management, suggest corrections in your own.

Let not the moisture that runs from the dung-heap be wasted: it is too good to be lost.

Never allow weeds to bloom; it is the worst proof of thoughtlessness. One day devoted to it this year will save a month's application next.

Never remove a plant from one place till you are ready to put it in another; unless to get rid of it.—*Life Illustrated.*

### Pruning.

From a paper read before the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, by E. J. Hooper.

The principal objects of pruning, are to procure a good bole or trunk for timber; to form a head moderately open and spreading (if a standard orchard) for the protection and healthy and perfect development of fruit; and subserve in some measure the purpose of ornament.

To effect these objects with the least trouble and greatest advantage upon all non-resinous trees, the following directions are recommended.

1. Begin to prune the tree when it is young.

2. Cut close and smooth to the bole or limb.

3. Cut, when small, to branches which are likely to cross one another, or which are likely to interfere, or become useless and dead, and which, if suffered to remain, will require to be removed at a more advanced period of growth; when very large they would create too great a shock upon the vital energies of the plant.

4. Avoid pruning to excess under our

hot sun. Let the branches occupy, at least, a third of the entire height of the tree.

6. Do not trim when the tree bleeds.

When the preceding suggestions are observed, I may add:

6. Pruning may be done at any time when the tree is in a dormant state; but the best and safest time is when vegetation is at rest, just at the time of the rising of the sap.

7. Shortening in, or the expiration of water spouts, may be done at all times in summer.

8. Dwarfing and early fruiting, shortening in or summer pruning is essential, but to be done with great delicacy at this season.—*Rural New Yorker.*

#### Chicago, Alton & St. Louis R. R.

Having always cherished a feeling of deep interest in this Road, it is gratifying to us to observe the immense increase in its business. In addition to two passenger trains each way daily, there arrive here every evening, three or four freight trains from the North, and as many from the South, all heavily laden with merchandise, lumber, cattle, stone, coal, &c. All goods from Boston and New York, for this place, and the surrounding towns, and, in fact, nearly the entire business of Bloomington, is done at the depot of this Road. Every merchant speaks of this as the best route. Every stock dealer praises its facilities for shipping stock and the accommodating character of its officers, and every dry goods box on the streets is marked "via Joliet to Bloomington"—practically showing the extended popular feeling regarding this Road.

The above remarks, which we take from the Bloomington Pantagraph, will apply with almost equal truth to the business of the C. A. & St. L. R.R. in our own city.

The freight and passenger business of the Road to and from Springfield for the past two months has far exceeded the same season in any previous year. Indeed nothing will better illustrate the rapid advancement of our city and vicinity than the fact which we have learned from the agent here, that during the last week in May one hundred and twenty five car loads of lumber were delivered at this Station, and the receipts during this month have averaged fifteen to twenty car loads per day.—In addition to this, large quantities of lime, coal and merchandise of all kinds are received and forwarded daily. Should we desire to give a stranger a correct idea of our vast resources as a stock raising country, we know of no better way to do it, than to take him to the extensive stock yards of C. A. & St. L. R. R. and let him witness the nightly departure of the long cattle trains heavily laden with the best calves that reach the New York market. The management of this Road is now in excellent hands, and trains run like clock work.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

### Curculio—An Infallible Remedy and no Mistake.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER:

The subscriber has paid some attention to the cultivation of the Plum for the last twenty years. I have not succeeded very well with any kind except the Damson, which flourished very well in my little Fruiterie. The trees grew luxuriantly and bore an abundant crop every year. But that little pest of the plum, the Curculio, would pay them his annual visits and ruin one-fourth or one-half of the crop. I tried various remedies which I found from time to time, recommended in the papers. But none of them seemed to stay its ravages, notwithstanding many of them were pronounced to be "sure preventives," until I tried the remedy recommended by William Adair, in the Horticulturist of April, 1855, page 172, in the following words, to-wit: "As soon as the fruit is as large as peas, take a common paint brush, or any other brush, or a wollen rag, and some fish oil, and cover all the principal branches and the trunk of the tree with the oil. It is the same that is in common use among curriers, harness makers, &c."

I tried this remedy on six flourishing Damson plum trees from 6 to 8 inches in diameter, heavily laden with their minute fruit, and it DID prove an infallible, and may I not say an infernal remedy? I have not seen a Curculio about my Damsons since. In about six weeks after I applied the oil, every one of those six beautiful trees was as "dead as a door nail." On cutting into the body of the trees, the wood was as black as a politician's conscience. I would not have taken twenty dollars apiece for my trees. To whom shall I appeal for damages?

My plum trees were 14 years old, "and they died." No—they were murdered by a scribbler for a public journal.

The above remarks are not designed to discourage any one from taking an Agricultural or Horticultural paper, for I esteem them the most useful periodicals "of the day."

I think it well, however, to caution the reader not to adopt too readily every "certain cure"—"sure preventive," or "infallible remedy," that Jim, Joe, or Jake, shall recommend, for most of them are like the certificates of Dr. Jackson's patients, "They belong to the Genus Puff Balls."

To me the "Illinois Farmer" grows more and more interesting every number I receive. I hope it will be abundantly sustained, that you may be encouraged to make it in external as well as internal, a first class Agricultural or farmer's paper—just what this great and growing state needs at headquarters.

FORESTUS.

UPPER ALTON, May 26, 1856.

### Agricultural Fairs.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER:

I am well pleased with the suggestions made by "Justice" in the last number of the Farmer in relation to a Central Agricultural Society.

His reasons are good, and many more might be offered. Illinois is a great and growing state, and if every man engaged in agricultural and mechanical operations were interested, as they should be, the product of their labor could not possibly be accommodated at one time and place. Let there be union of action, as to the State Society. I am a strong union man; but let there be four branches of the State Society formed—east, west, north and south; let them hold their fairs previous to the State Fair; then come together with their best productions to the centre of the State, where it should be permanently located and it would then work wonders for Illinois.

Justice says we have been abused without cause. Who cares for that? There are some men if they did not assail some one we would not know they were in the world. Such men generally have some hobby to ride, as is the case now, and if it don't carry them easy and pay them well for riding, they scold about it.

Justice says it was from Central Illinois that the first movement was made for the formation of a State Society. I very much doubt if she had have had no centre, if she would have had any State Agricultural Society; yet I have found by experience, that it takes perseverance to get such things going. Being one of those that constituted the first Agricultural Society in Central Illinois, perhaps in the State, I know something of the State Society; having attended all the Fairs, I have seen many things to condemn. But some men must be leaders—not practical men. Bell sheep or no sheep. Hence the abuse of Central Illinois.

I am a farmer and know that business, perhaps, imperfectly. But if I was to grow rich as many of my brother farmers are likely to do, and quit farming, it may be I would be proscribed on account of my occupation, as has been tried, and then, perhaps, because I am not an educated farmer. Away with theory, without practice. But [Mr. Editor, I am in a hurry now, and only wished to make the above suggestions, hoping the friends of Agriculture in Central Illinois will think and talk of the matter.] and right here I will make another suggestion; let us elect men to the next Legislature who have souls and are not afraid to take the responsibility and appropriate liberally to aid the State Society, that she may not have to tax the places where the fairs are held. Ah, says one, they make it up again. How? by extravagant bills you have so much scolding about. But who gets the money for the bills? But few of the men who make the subscriptions are benefitted. Many men, who make most out of the fairs, won't subscribe at all; and mainly the money raised comes out of the pockets of the poor and patriotic mechanics.

Our last Legislature refused to appropriate the dear people's money for the encouragement of Agriculture; but if a few thousand was wanted to help some political demagogue, the same economy would not be preserved. If State legislators and county judges would appropriate liberally, it would flow back four fold.

Let us hear from the central counties—from

men more able than myself to move in this matter. But let us show those that attend the State Fair at Alton, what Central Illinois can do. What would the fair have been last fall, that we hear so much about in the way of stock, but for Central Illinois?

I am in hopes the people have waked up. If not, we will beat the north and south better than we did last fall. Keep cool, gentlemen! Honorable competition is the life of business. Come to our Sangamon County Fair, the week before the State Fair, and we will show you sights, and be sure to take the Illinois Farmer, or you will be behind the times. My suggestions for the formation of those societies are not for this fall's operations—as it would be too late; neither are they for the purpose of injuring any society, or individual: but for the up-building of Agriculture in Illinois.

A FRIEND TO "JUSTICE."

### Gypsum.

Gypsum, or sulphate of lime, has been found to be of great benefit if applied to sundry garden vegetables, peas, beans, &c. It acts beneficially only on soils which are naturally dry, or have been made so by drainage. It is felt most on sands and loams. A small quantity of gypsum can be used advantageously in gardens. It usually does most good when sown on the surface. A spoonful applied to a hill of beans, cucumbers, &c., would give them a start that would well pay for the trouble of applying it.

### Harvest.

We are now in the middle of the wheat harvest in this section of Illinois. We judge from representations of those who ought to know, that there will be an average yield of wheat. Some fields will fail almost entirely; others will yield half a crop; and again others will yield immense crops.

The season has been fine, so far for harvesting; the weather quite dry and hot. Some days the mercury has been up to 97 degrees in the shade.

Nearly all the wheat will be cut by Harvesters; and we suppose that three hundred have been sold in Sangamon county the present season.

In a week or two the new crop will be in market. At present there seems to be no purchasers of wheat. We hope the market will open at \$1 per bushel; though we are not sanguine of that.

### ★ Work, but don't Worry.

Work, work, but don't worry, oh no, oh no;  
The less that you hurry the faster you'll go;  
All worry, no work, standeth still in the fire;  
All work, and no worry, soon wins his desire.

Work, work! it is hearty! but worry looks pale;  
In its eye there's a wildness, its vigor doth fail,  
Its nerve is not firm, nor its footsteps so free;  
Work, work, not worry is that which suits me.

Work, hearty work! see what it hath wrought.  
For right and for truth, what battles hath fought;  
What blessings hath won, and what benefits given,  
For man, and his workers on earth and in heaven.

But worry, poor worry! say what hath it done,  
But to flutter around and repine when alone?  
It hath stung its own heart, and dug its own grave,  
But ever been powerless to bless or to save.

"Work, work," saith the Scriptures, but "worry"  
nowhere,  
Faith, faith it rejoices, and forbids every care;  
With labors of love the hearts it would fill,  
And the peace of the Lord on the spirit distill.

Work, work! how it thickens! Yet do what you  
can,  
In patience and gladness, with the heart of a man;  
The workers shall joy when the work is all o'er;  
Work on, fellow-worker, but worry no more.

### Poland Oats.

This variety of oats is cultivated to some extent in northern and western New York, and is likely to prove a valuable acquisition to the farmer. We do not know that it has yet been tried in Western Pennsylvania. If it has, we would like to hear from the cultivator. In the Country Gentleman, we find a communication from J. A. Clark, of Marion, Wayne county, New York, from which we extract the following paragraph:

"I have grown the white Poland Oats for four or five years, and find them good producers on good soils. The only fault found with them, is, that they are liable to lodge on some soils, when nearly ripe, owing to the weight of grain. This can in a measure be remedied by cutting as soon as the straw turns yellow below the head. The White Poland, or more correctly the Friezeland or Dutch, has a large white grain, mostly double, the large awned, the awns more or less twisted. This oat requires a rich, warm soil. It is a week or ten days earlier than the common white. The grain weighs from 38 to 44 pounds per bushel. The yield last year was in several instances, from 70 to 100 bushels per acre. One field of 10 acres produced 700 bushels as measured from the thresh-er—another 98 bushels per acre. I received a line from a farmer, saying that from three bushels, sowed on one acre and thirty-six rods, he got 118 bushels, and took the first premium. With care in saving seed, and on good soils, I think it will not deteriorate."

**RAGGED FARMS.**—Almanza Rogers, of Shelby, writes that it is less expense keeping a farm in nice order, than shabby and ragged, and adds: 'If any person will get elder berries enough on my farm of 93 acres, for one pie, I will give him five dollars, and the same for a gill of thistles, burdock or mullen.' That is the right way to farm. Ohio Farmer.

### Cauliflower and its Culture.

The Cauliflower belongs to the Brassica or Cabbage family, of which it is one of the tenderest and most delicate members. While the common cabbage, however, forms a compact head of its leaves under favorable culture, the flower buds of the Cauliflower form a close, firm, white and delicate head, which, when properly prepared, constitutes a luxurious delicacy which no one, after having once tasted, will be willing to forego. For northern culture, the Cauliflower should be sown in a hot bed in March or early in April, and in May the plants should be transplanted at such distances as are suitable for common cabbages. It is a rough feeder—consequently the soil can hardly be too rich for its growth. Decayed vegetable matter is favorite food for it, though compost of muck, ashes, and lime or plaster, proves an excellent substitute. Soap suds is an agreeable condiment. Frequent hoeings, especially in dry seasons, hasten its growth. It is the natural tendency of the plant to protect and shelter the head while forming, with the large leaves with which it is provided. The effect of this is to blanch them almost to transparency, and of course remove all disposition to toughness, which an exposure to the atmosphere would be likely to promote. Whenever the leaves show an inclination away from the head, they may easily be brought to cover it by placing them upward in the morning, and thus habituating them to grow up and cover the head instead of downward.

**CHURNING IN WINTER.**—In cool, as well as in cold weather, the complaint is often made, "the butter won't come." A writer in the Maine Farmer has these remarks on the subject:

"The trouble arises from not getting the cream properly warmed at the moment of churning; it must be warm when put into the churn; it is not to be warmed, and then churned bye-and-bye, whether warm or cold; but warm it and then churn at once. Butter never came in the world when it was too cold. I have warmed the cream ever since the middle of August. The cellar was so cold that when the cream was brought up stairs it would not come until it was slightly warmed. Some smiled at my practice, this summer, of warming the cream; and one who smiled, complained of churning half a day, and so I churned in twenty minutes to half an hour, and finished the churning, taking, &c., in the next half hour; the butter was hard, sweet and yellow. In summer (cool days) and in the first of autumn, I set the cream in the sun for two hours, and then churn. Now I heat some water, put the pot of cream into it, and stir the cream till it feels a little warm, and then churn about half an hour, and bring good butter."

**EGG PLANT.**—(*Solanum Melongena*.)—This esculent fruit belongs to the same natural order and class as the Tomato, and like that fruit forms a wholesome and nourishing food. The meaning of its generic name—Solor and Bydendjan, (to comfort,)—would seem to recommend it for general use. It is a native of the Tropics, and is there used extensively, cooked in various ways. In England, it cannot be fruited, except under glass. In this country they may be grown to an immense size, by giving the plants the same treatment we have recommended for the Cockscomb in this number. Few persons seem to be acquainted with their management and excellence.—Ex.

**FILLING AROUND CELLAR WALLS.**—A correspondent (H. V. Weitoff, of Waterbury, Connecticut,) in a note at the end of a letter to us, says: "This cold winter brings to mind a matter connected with the building of houses, which I do not remember ever to have seen in print, and which, if generally known, is seldom practiced. It is this: in any cold climate cellar walls of houses should never be filled in around with loam or clay, or earth that retains much moisture, because the frost expands it, and exerts a great pressure against the walls, tending to thrust them out of position. The effects of this are seen in many cracked walls, the breaking of window and door sills and lintels; unjointed verandahs; and windows and doors rendered incapable of opening and closing, &c. In our New England States, this costs us many thousands of dollars yearly, all of which may be saved by filling in a few inches of sand or clean gravel next the walls."

We hope those who build houses this summer will not forget to follow the above advice. It is sound, and given in good season for practicing upon during the whole in-coming season for building.—Scientific American.

**QUALITY OF AMERICAN WOOL.**—The statement has been propagated far and wide that American wool is unfit to give that beautiful finish required for broadcloth of the best quality. It has been stated that our wools were longer in the staple than the foreign kinds, and were excellent for making strong warps, but did not possess the necessary felting property requisite for fine cloth, and for this reason a little foreign wool was necessary. H. C. Merriam, in a late number of the Country Gentleman, scatters all such assertions to the winds, and proves conclusively that American wool surpasses all foreign wools for the felting properties, and for making beautiful broadcloth—light or heavy. He states that American grown wool and fine wool from Saxony have been tested, and the palm awarded to the former. The finest Saxony wool obtained from Hungary contained only 2,400 serrations to the inch, while wool obtained from samples of American flocks contained 2,552 serrations to the inch.—Scientific American.

**CORN STALK HARVESTERS.**—Mr. W. M. Bonwill, of Camden, Delaware, has patented a corn stalk harvester, which is thus described in the Scientific American: "This is a low three-wheeled vehicle; drawn by a single horse, the animal walking in the furrow or open space between the rows of corn. On each side of the machine, in front, there is an upright revolving shaft, the lower end of which, near the ground, is furnished with a circular saw. The shafts are put in motion by means of bands or gearing which connect with the base of the stalks, and they are clipped off in an instant, falling over backwards upon the platform of the vehicle. As fast as a sufficient number of stalks to form a sheaf collect upon the platform, they are swept off upon the ground by the driver, who touches a lever for that purpose. Binders follow the machine, who tie up the sheaves."

**SOUTHERN SLOPES FOR APPLE ORCHARDS.**—Mr. Underwood, of Lexington, Massachusetts, in reply to a question put to him by the New England Farmer, says, that with a southern slope for a location the trees will be protected by the rising ground on the north, and from the winds and storms that prevail from that quarter. The frost will be out of the ground earlier, and the trees will sooner get the benefit of the opening spring.

### How to get Fruit Trees to Your Liking.

MR. EDITOR.—In the fall, October or November, take a branch of an apple or pear tree, such as suits your taste, take off down to the third year's growth, cut it smooth and rub it on a red-hot iron so as to scorch and shut the pores of the wood thoroughly; then bury in the ground all but the last year's growth. If placed in good ground and well taken care of, you will have fruit in five or six years. I have sometimes dipped the lower end in melted rosin, but think burning preferable. I have a tree near my door that is nine feet high and well proportioned, that I took from a graft four years ago; to this rosin was applied, and whatever sprouts sprung up the next summer were bent down and became roots. We can get fruit considerably quicker this way than from seeds, and we know what we have growing, and when grown the whole tree is of the same kind, and whatever sprouts come from the roots in after years can be transplanted without grafting. In case of drought the first year, they should be watered.—[J. Beckwith, in the New England Farmer.

**THE CAMEL EXPEDITION.**—The United States Storeship Supply, dispatched some time since to the Mediterranean for a cargo of camels, was at Kingston, Jamaica, on the 13th ult. Of these animals she has thirty-five on board. The Indiana (Texas) Bulletin of the 12th ult. says:

"Workmen are now busy in erecting inclosures for the camels that are daily expected at that port for service on the Western Plains. The inclosure will cover ten acres of ground. It is proposed to keep the animals at that place several months to recruit them. Some of the animals were presented by the Viceroy of Egypt to our Government, but most of them were procured by Major Wayne and Captain Porter, under the appropriation made for the purpose at the last session of Congress. Some Arabs accompany them to take care of them."

The less you leave your children when you die, the more they will have twenty years afterwards. Wealth inherited should be the incentive to exertion. Instead of that, "it is the title deed to sloth." The only money that does a man good is what he earns himself. A ready-made fortune, like ready-made clothes; seldom fits the man who comes into possession. Ambition, stimulated by hope and a half filled pocket book, has a power that will triumph over all difficulties, beginning with the rich man's contumely, and leaving off with the envious man's malice.—Police Tribune.

**STRIPED BUG.**—Mr. G. G. Neley informs us that he gets clear of the ravages of the Striped Bug, by dusting his vines when dry with the finest dust or sand he can obtain from the turnpike, where the limestone and sand is ground to a powder by wagon wheels. This fine dust adheres to the leaves, and to the stem; and the bug, having no relish for a mouthful of sand, retires. He has followed the practice for five years, and has never been troubled with the bug. Remember the sand must be fine enough to adhere to the vines when dry.

 A steam ferry has been projected at Cairo. The company expect to have a good boat, of sufficient tonnage and power, which will make two trips per day to the Kentucky and Missouri shores.

## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

### Wheat.

Who have raised the best crops of wheat the present season? The question from a slight examination of some fields, and from more inquiry, may be thus answered—those have raised the best crops who had their ground in the best order and put their seed into the ground in the most thorough manner.

Wheat is said to do best in corn here. Why is this so? Because in keeping corn clean by good cultivation, the land is thoroughly pulverized, and so far prepared for sowing; and another fact is, that the ridges and other inequalities of surface on corn ground, seem to retain the snow and prevent the winter-killing of the wheat. So say those who have experience on this subject, and we have no doubt that their convictions are just.

But still we are of the opinion, that wheat on well prepared fallow ground, will produce a heavier crop than on corn ground. We have in our mind's eye at this moment an eighty acre field of wheat on the farm of Mr. Neil M'Taggart, some four miles east of this city. Mr. M'Taggart is a Scotchman and a thorough farmer. He has been on his farm about two years. It had been previously improved. When he commenced plowing, he found the soil had not been disturbed over six inches deep. He put his plow into it as deep as it could be made to go; plowed the whole field in this manner thoroughly and deeply; sowed his wheat; harrowed well; and finally rolled it. The whole of that field was covered with wheat averaging five feet high, and as thick as could be desired, and with large and well filled heads.

We mention this as a single case coming under our own knowledge. Thorough cultivation pays better than half cultivation.

In a short visit to a neighboring county a week or two since, we examined many fields of wheat. We saw fields which were sown broadcast that promised good crops. But those fields where the seed was drilled in were better—we thought decidedly so—

than the best fields where the seed had been sowed in the usual manner, broadcast.

We made up our mind then that the greatest yield would be produced by drilling; though, if the seed be sown broadcast, the ground thoroughly pulverized and well harrowed and rolled, great crops can be produced.

We venture a further opinion, that drilled wheat is not likely to be winter killed; and that there is little danger of a failure of wheat by winter-killing, where the ground is well prepared, the seed well harrowed in, and the ground afterwards thoroughly rolled.

Nine times out of ten where fields of wheat fail, it may be charged to the manner of cultivation.

### "We don't take the Papers."

Happening to stop at a farm house, lately, somewhere, not a thousand miles from Sangamon county—the first thing we ascertained was that there were three hundred and twenty acres in the farm; that some of the improvements were nineteen years old, and that a family of children had been brought up on the farm. The house was a log house, badly built, and in worse condition. There had formerly been a yard about part of it, in which there were heaps of chip manure, old logs, some too large to burn, old sleds, broken wagon wheels, old plows, and rubbish generally. These were the happy abodes, as I would suppose of fleas and other insects. These domains were garnished in one part by May weed, and in others there were sprinklings of the "Jimson." The inside of the house was in keeping with the outside. There were some girls there that we would not have kissed for their part of the plantation.

Some conversation took place and inquiries made for the news. "Have the British whipt the French and Russians." There has been some whipping—and I believe all were pretty well whipped. "Is the road to the Pacific Ocean over west made?" It is not finished, I believe. "Did you ever ride on a railroad? I never seed one. The old

man says that he means to try one as soon as he sells his hogs next fall." He had better do it, and you'd better go with him. You will see sights. "Oh, I have seen sights—I've seen the sarcus—I've seen races, and trainings, the learned pig—Oh, when is there a sarcus coming?" I don't know. You will find it in the papers. "We don't take the papers. We never took the papers, and the old man says he wouldn't have one in the house—the children do nothing else than read, and are eternally telling what they've been reading about. We won't have any of them."

It was night—but *we* had no desire to spend the night there.

#### The Season.

It will be no news to tell our readers that the season is a very dry one. This drought has extended over a large portion of our State; but we are glad to learn that in many parts, latterly, there have been fine rains. In Central Illinois, however, the drought is oppressive, small streams are dried up; the potatoe crop seriously injured, and much of the corn is suffering. Garden vegetables have been mostly cut off. Grass is light, and altogether the prospect is not pleasant for the farmer. We trust, however, that rains are near at hand, and that corn and late potatoes will feel their reviving influence. Grass and oats cannot, however, be benefitted by coming rains. But few oats will be worth cutting; and hay will be an article which will pay well next winter.

FARMERS!—See to it that you save all the fodder, hay and straw you possibly can, for the coming winter! You will want it then. You can make all the straw useful as feed with a good straw cutter.

It is not too late to sow millet or corn broadcast. Both make excellent feed.

POTATOES.—There is a bad prospect for early potatoes. Late potatoes may be good, even if planted now. We have faith to believe that there will be rain in time for the late crop. If we don't, there will be wry faces in all "Potatoe-dom," which comprises nearly the whole country.

#### Corn.

Passing some fields of corn a few days ago, we could not but remark on the difference of two fields, of similar soil, and which, apparently, had the same culture. In answer to an inquiry, we found the following to be the facts in relation to these two fields.

The farm had been cultivated for some thirty-four years, and that cultivation was of the old foggy order. The corn land had been plowed five or six inches deep, and the soil below in summer, in dry weather, was of the consistency of sun dried brick. Of course, unless the season should be favorable, there would be only a medium crop. Last spring, by advice of a neighbor, the farmer was induced to give one field a thorough and deep plowing; while the other only received the usual plowing. The two fields of corn now present an entirely dissimilar appearance. One is tall, black, healthy; the other is small, evidently stunted, and must produce, rain or no rain, a poor crop of corn.

We hope our friend will hereafter believe in *progress*, and if he cannot afford to take one of the city papers (and he possesses a farm worth eight or ten thousand dollars,) we at least hope that he will borrow a copy of the *Illinois Farmer*, which we are sure he might read with some advantage.

FRUIT.—We regret to learn that a good portion of the apples are falling from the trees, and trees which looked well in the spring, are dying. What seems strange is, that the trees we supposed the hardiest, are the first to die. The Baldwin and Rawles' Janet are among those dead.

TURNIPS.—We want to say one word more on this subject. If the weather is at all suitable, no farmer should neglect to sow a large patch for turnips. Beside their use for table, they are excellent for stock.

The best varieties raised for the table are the Cow's Horn, Purple top, strap leaved, green top, red top, and Flat Dutch.

But there is no better turnip for the table than *Ruta Baga*. It will make good sized turnips if sowed now.

**THE NEWS.**—The foreign news of last month possesses but little interest. It is said the Russians are about rebuilding the city of Sevastopol. The Emperor of Russia has met his nobles in Poland, promised to do all he could to advance the prosperity of the country, at the same time informing them that "he knew how to punish."

In France we hear of great floods, of large crops of grain, and of the infant prodigy, Napoleon's baby.

In England, the dismissal of Crampton, the English Minister, by our government, has created some excitement, and there is some talk of fighting us; but as usual, this will be done over the left, as England will not hazard the loss of her best customer for trivial reasons. If she would mind her own business and quit interference in the concerns of Nicaragua, we have little trouble with her. Crops in the British Islands promise well, better than usual. She will be likely to require little wheat or flour from us for a year after the coming harvest.

Austria is about making a kingdom of her Italian territory, and putting upon its throne some poverty stricken scion of the Hapsburgh family. We were in hopes that the late war in Europe would upset the existing order of things; but the day for that is distant, we fear.

China is still convulsed with the efforts to revolutionize the country. The revolutionists, at the last accounts, were making some headway. Occasionally there is a reverse, and much blood spilt. What a glorious field China would be for our filibusters?

The last accounts from California, are very unsatisfactory. Mr. King, an editor, who had undertaken to oppose some official corruptions, was killed by a man named Cary, in San Francisco. The latter was sustained by the whole fraternity of gamblers. The people organized, took the fellow from jail and hung him. They formed a vigilance committee, having several thousand armed men to rely upon. They then ordered the gamblers to leave the country. The Governor had called out troops to put down the revolt. He had met with poor success.

Some regiments had disorganized themselves so as not to respond to the Governor's call. At the last accounts matters were entirely unsettled.

We have little reliable news from Nicaragua. The Costa Rica troops had gone home, and it was said that Walker intended to invade that State. Other accounts say that an expedition from Guatemala, which had started for Nicaragua, to attack Walker, had been broken up by desertion, and the commander, with the troops that remained with him, had returned. There were rumors that there was much sickness and many deaths among Walker's troops. At the last accounts from Panama, there was a considerable body of men there who were to leave by the first steamer, to re-inforce Walker.

The wheat crop throughout the United States, will be fully an average one. We have little domestic news which does not partake of a party character. Affairs in Kansas seem to be growing worse.

#### Michigan Double Plow.

A writer in the Country Gentleman says: "This is a valuable instrument, I have owned one since September, 1852, and used it sufficiently to wear out many points and one land side, and have this day replaced the worn parts with new, and commenced turning a stony piece of land, that, from causes needless to mention here, has been down too long—consequently June grass has taken the place of the clover, and now stands 9 inches high in defiance of stock, and seemingly boasts of becoming lord supreme of the premises; but my Michigan plow, with 3 horses, is putting it in the bottom of a 9 inch furrow, perfectly covered, and a good quantity of loose dirt about it, that will only need the harrow and gang plow to make it the most desirable preparation for wheat.

"With me nothing is equal to it for plowing corn stubble, and other material that should be put out of the way in preparing land properly for a crop. At this depth, (5 inches) it can be so arranged as to put 3 inches of pulverized new earth on top of 2

inches of the surface, with its contents, whatever they may be, which are placed in the bottom of the previous furrow, by the forward plow, upon the same principle that a good gardener would do his work with his spade."

The writer closes by recommending in the strongest manner, to farmers who desire to farm well, the Double Michigan Plow. Three horses are sufficient to work this plow. We have one of them for sale. It will be a capital plow to prepare ground for wheat in the fall.

#### Farms and Hedges Entered for Premiums.

The State Agricultural Society has offered premiums for the best farms and hedges. The following entries have been made:

Lewis H. Thomas, Virden, Macoupin county, Illinois. Largest amount of well set hedge. One thousand rods of best Hedge.

James E. Happer, Sangamon county. Enters Farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Also, four hundred rods of Hedge.

Charles M. Shepherd, Highland, Madison county; forty rods of Hedge.

James G. Strawn, Orleans, Morgan county; best arranged and economical grazing farm; best forty rods of Hedge.

John H. Armstrong, Orleans, Morgan county; best improved and most highly cultivated farm of forty acres; best forty rods of Hedge.

James N. Brown, Berlin, Sangamon county; best and most economically arranged grazing farm; best and largest amount of Hedge.

Murray & Van Doren, Ottawa; best improved farm, five hundred acres; largest amount of Hedge.

J. A. & C. Kennicott, West Northfield; best and most highly cultivated and improved Nursery, containing the best variety of fruit trees, sprouts and plants.

W. H. Ellis, Greenfield, Green county; best and largest amount of Hedge; best Hedge of forty rods.

Hon. Charles S. Benton, of Milwaukee, has been appointed Register of the Land Office at La Crosse.

#### The Cultivator.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER:

SIR:—I feel very well pleased with the cultivator I got from you. It is just the thing for working between any drill crop. I really don't know what I should have done had it not been for it. It is a great enemy to weeds, if it is kept going among them. It will save me a great deal of manual labor. I really don't see how any farmer or cultivator of drill crops, can do without a thing of the kind. For working between corn rows, it must be of immense benefit, both from killing weeds and loosening the ground. You, I think, are doing the country around a great benefit by introducing such useful implements amongst us.

I think the maker of the Cultivator might still make it a more useful article by fitting a set of common tines for it; for shaking up weeds or levelling between rows.

The above is from a thorough farmer. The Cultivator is a most capital instrument for putting in wheat, and we venture to say that any farmer who uses it once in putting wheat in corn will never be without one afterwards.

IRANISTAN DESERTED.—A correspondent of the Springfield (Massachusetts) American, who has just been to Iranistan, the late palace seat of P. T. Barnum, says:

A visit to Iranistan, where Barnum lived so lately in all his glory, affords an excellent text for a sermon on the mutability of all mundane affairs. The grounds are neglected, the hot-house has received no more care this winter than enough to keep the plants from freezing, the fountains have forgotten to play, the flowers are coming out amid heaps of leaves and rubbish, which had not been cleared away, and a rail bars the entrance to the deserted palace, whose figurative latch-string always used to be out. The robins and sparrows hold undisputed possession of the grounds. Aladdin has lost his palace for a time.

Jonas Webb, a wealthy Englishman, and the original cultivator of the Southdown race of sheep, is now exhibiting specimens of the breed at the Cattle Show in Paris. He was dressed in a peasant's blouse, under which he wore a magnificent chain reaching to his girdle. Each link of the chain consisted of a gold medal received by the owner at some agricultural fair or other, as a prize for the excellence of this Southdown.

# THE MARKETS.

SPRINGFIELD, July 3, 1886.

The grain market is at a stand. But little wheat is bought or sold. We suppose that when the new crop is brought to market there will be demand and prices will be settled. We think there will be quite an average crop, and the grain will be better than usual.

The drought is seriously affecting the corn and all other crops. Oats and spring wheat are mostly a failure. The hay is short and early potatoes are doing little.

Grocery articles—especially sugar, molasses and coffee, are high—and the two former will be higher.

Wool is doing better than last year.

Land Warrants are falling a trifle—bringing from \$0 92 to \$1 16—depending on size.

Mess pork has gone up to \$20. Lard is rising as well as Bacon.

**FLOUR**—Extra \$6; extra white, \$6 50; superfine \$6.

**WHEAT**—Sales of fair to prime at 75@90c.

**CORN**—15 to 20c.

**OATS**—Shippers offer 25c.

**POTATOES**—Sales at 125 to 135c ▽ bushel, new \$3.

**HIDES**—Dry flint, 10@11c ▽ lb.

**MARKETING**—Chickens \$1 75 ▽ doz., butter 10 to 12c ▽ lb. eggs, red 10c ▽ doz.

**GROCERIES**—Market unsettled; sugar, 8@10; coffee, Rio firm 14 to 16c; Laraguira 16c; Java, 18 to 20c; salt persack, \$2 75; N. Y. bbl \$3 25; molasses, N. O., 50c; Belchers 70c, Golden Syrup 90c; rice, 8c.

**BRAN**—8c ▽ bu.

**SHORTS**—12½c ▽ bu.

**WOOL**—Common 20 to 25c; ¼ to ¾ blood 27 to 34c.

## New York Market—June 28.

Flour market 5 to 10c better, with a fair demand for export and home use; sales 1,000 bbls at \$5 40 to \$5 60, for common State, \$6 to 6 50 for extra State, \$5 70 to \$6 10 for common to good extra do.

Grain—Wheat advanced 2 to 3c per bushel. Rye less active. Corn advanced 2 to 3c. Sales 1,800 bushels at 48c for distillery, 59 to 56c for common to prime Western mixed. Oats better. Sales 39 to 40c for State and Western.

Provisions—Pork easier. Sales of 600 bbls at \$20 for mess, \$17 to \$17 50 for prime. Beef firm. Sales 300 bbls. Cut meats a shade easier. Lard firm. Sales 700 bbls at 1.¼ to 12c.

Whisky—Sales 200 bbls at 30 to 31c.

## St. Louis Market—July 1.

Flour—City Superfine \$5 75; country do \$5 25. Sale of fine at \$3 50 per bbl.

Wheat—But little prime offering. Prices have advanced Common 80c to \$1; fair to good 1 05 to 1 15; prime to choice 1 29 to 1 35. A small lot choice at the latter figure.

Corn—Sales 1500 sacks mixed yellow and white, new gunnies included, 42 to 45c per bushel.

Oats—Have advanced and held at 48 to 50c; very small supply.

Rye—Small lot at 67½c, sacks included.

Whisky—150 bbls in lots, 80c per gallon.

Fruit—Prime apples \$1 25 and sale of 25 bbls at \$1 30, packages extra; 25 sacks fair peaches a \$1 85 per bu.

Sundries—Hides 12 to 12½c. Beeswax 23½c. Butter 12 to 16c. Feathers 45c. Hay 70 to 75c. Flaxseed \$1 60. White Beans \$2 to \$3 per bushel.

Provisions—Sale of 500 bbls mess pork delivered on the upper river at \$19, held here at 19 50 to 20 00, and a sale at the first figure. Prime Lard in bbls and tierces at 10½ to 11; 100 kegs 11c. Bacon active, country clear sides 9 9½c; packed; lot of loose sold at 9½c. Shoulders and hams 6 to 6c, 100 lbs canvassed hams 10c per lb.

Bulk Meat—100 casks city cut and cured, packed in dry salt, at 7½c per lb.

Dried Beef—Sale of 14,000 lbs 10½ to 11c per lb.

Groceries—All descriptions advancing, and a good business doing. Sugars 8 to 9½c. Molasses 53 to 55c. Coffee 11½ to 12½c, fair to prime Rio. G. A. Salt brisk at \$1 55 to 1 60 per bag.

## St. Louis Live Stock Market—June 28.

Market well supplied and shippers paying 6 to 6½c; demand light. Butchers paying 5½ to 7c, with light demand for slaughtering.

The stock of hogs is small and selling at \$5 50 to 6 50 per 100 lbs.

The sheep market is full and selling at \$1 50 to \$3 per head. Lambs plenty and dull with sales at \$1 50 to \$2 50 per head.

Cows and calves in limited demand at \$20 to \$40 per head.

## Chicago Market—July 1.

Business dull. The canal is not yet repaired.

Flour—Extra, \$6 75.

Wheat—Spring \$1; white winter \$1 18.

Corn—36 to 37c.

Oats—28c.

Pork—Firm at \$18.

Cheese—10 to 12½c.

Wool—30 to 34 for choice.

Barley—90c.

Rye—60c.

Salt—New York, very scarce, \$2 12.

Beef Cattle—From 3½ to 4c for extra.

Sheep—\$2 50 to \$3 75.

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**PURE LEMON SYRUP, A FRESH LOT**  
 Just prepared and for sale by  
**CANEDY & JOHNSON.**  
 Sign Red Mortar, West Side of square.

# The Illinois Farmer.

VOLUME 1.]

SPRINGFIELD, AUGUST, 1856.

[NUMBER 8.

## ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

### GOOD NEWS!---NEW GOODS!!

**W. O. JONES & W. V. GREENWOOD,**

**H**AVING associated themselves together under the name and style of Jones & Greenwood, for the purpose of conducting a general retail trade in the town of Chatham, Sangamon county, beg leave to say to the citizens of that town and surrounding country, that they are now in the receipt of a large, entirely new and carefully selected stock of seasonable

Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Hardware, Queensware, Clothing, Groceries,

And all articles kept by the general trader, which they pledge themselves to sell as low as they can be bought in the west. ☞ All kinds of country produce taken in exchange for goods.

☞ They will occupy the house known as the Norton Store House, Chatham. Don't forget to call. (April) **JONES & GREENWOOD.**

### RANDALL & ONES' CORN PLANTERS.

**T**HOSE in want of this celebrated labor saving machine can be accommodated by calling upon the undersigned or at the Agricultural and Seed Store of Francis & Barrell. These machines have been thoroughly tested and can be relied upon. Three different and valuable improvements have been made in the Planters since last year which renders them perfect in every respect. Certificates have been obtained from numerous persons who have used the Planter last year, among which, one from a well known citizen of Sangamon county will be given.

Springfield, May 1. **J. G. P. PARKER.**

This is to certify that I have planted 100 acres of corn with Randall & Jones Corn Planter; the corn came up well. I can recommend it to farmers who have corn to plant: 1. For its speed in planting. 2 For its placing the corn where the moles are bothered to find it. And 3 For its placing the corn where it is not likely to be washed up. I intend planting my corn this Spring with it, but I see they have a decided improvement on those machines. All who want to plant corn right can come to Francis & Barrell's Store, where they will find them. **H. W. OWEN.**

### LAND BROKERS.

**P**ERSONS HAVING FARMS OR FARMING Land for sale can find purchasers by applying to the subscriber.

**CAMPBELL & FONDEV,**  
Land and Insurance Agents.

Springfield, May 1.

### MOLINE PLOWS.

**T**HE subscriber would call the attention of all persons interested in that main Pillar of Agriculture, a good Plow, to his large and varied assortment, made from the best Eng. Cast, German and American Steel. No pains have been spared to have the best of Timber for the wood work, and none but good and experienced workmen are employed in their manufacture. The following list comprises some of the kinds manufactured:

Two qualities of the Imperial Clipper Plow.

Five " " old style Stubble " "

Two " " Corn " "

The Michigan Double Plows, for Sand or Stubble.

Breaking Plows from 12 to 30 in., every style.

Double and Single Shovel Plows.

3 and 5 Steel Tooth Cultivators.

Guage Wheels.

Full rigged Trucks, Cast Iron Wheels, and Wrought Iron Axle.

Rolling Coulters (cast steel) with clasps.

Hanging and Stengding " "

Messrs. Francis & Barrell have the exclusive sale of my Plows in Springfield, Ill., where a good assortment will be found. Orders for any particular kind of Plow or Plow fixture, can be left with them and will meet with prompt attention.

Moline, Feb 20, 1856

**JOHN DEERE.**

### Threshing Machines.

**T**HE subscribers would notify the Farmers of Sangamon and the adjoining counties that they are now prepared with increased facilities if furnish them.

Townsend's Separator with Cuming's improved Tub Power or Pelton's 8 or 10

Horse Power. Also, Pitts' Separator and Double Pinion 8

Horse Power.

We shall make both geared and band machines. Having superior facilities for the business, employing only first class mechanics and using the choicest stock, we shall make it for the interest of the farmers in Central Ill., to buy our machines in preference to all others.

Our machines are well known to be the best in use both for their capacity to do work WELL and FAST, as for their DURABILITY, we would refer to the following gentlemen who have used them the past season: Preston Breckenridge, esq., Sangamon co.; James Virden, Sangamon co.

**CUMINGS & MATTHEWS,**

Dubuque, Iowa, Mar 11, 1856.

**JOHN WILLIAMS & CO., Agents,**  
Springfield, Ill.

**ILLINOIS STOCK**

AND

**Grain Farms for Sale.**

In consequence of impaired health, the partnership betwixt myself and brother, in Farming and Stock raising, will be closed by mutual consent at an early day. We have made partition of a portion of our real estate, and now offer the remainder for sale. We will sell about

**1600 Acres,**

(including Timber, &c., thereto, appertaining,) of the north part of the farm upon which I reside, of the tract offered for sale, about 1486 acres are in the highest state of cultivation, and has upon it a Boarding House, Barn, Feeding Lots, &c., besides three

**PADDOCK HOUSES.**

eligibly situated, (in reference to use or sub-division,) upon different parts of the farm. There are rows and groves of trees, scattered over the lands, which are highly ornamental and afford shade for stock in summer, and protection in winter. The tract is well watered by a brook and its tributaries. The main stream traverses it two miles, from west to east, and about 1,000 acres of it are set with tame grasses. About five miles of (Osage Orange) Hedge Fence are growing upon the premises.

The tract, composed of high, rolling prairie, is compact in form, and susceptible of advantageous division into four or more, or less, farms, adapted either to grain or grass, and each with water and timber conveniently situated. The foregoing are situated at

*Island Grove, Sangamon County, Ills.,*

and midway betwixt Jacksonville and Springfield, and within a convenient distance of Island Grove Depot, on the great Western Railroad.

To a gentleman wishing the finest stock farm in the west, or to a number of gentlemen, wishing smaller farms adjoining each other, these lands present a rare chance.

Possession can be delivered of most of the lands, at such time as may be convenient to purchasers, and of the whole at an early day. Payments made easy. As to the farm, reference is made to Dr. KENNICOTT, Secretary Illinois State Agricultural Society, and to occasional notices thereof, in former numbers of the Prairie Farmer. We also offer for sale

**360 Acres**

of unimproved Prairie; about 14 miles east of Jacksonville and about 2 miles south of Great Western Railroad.

The undersigned will still continue his residence as heretofore, and will devote special attention to the improvement and breeding of

**DURHAM CATTLE,**

He invites all who may wish to buy Fine Stock to call and examine the superior herd belonging to himself and brother.

Persons wishing further knowledge touching the lands aforesaid, will call at my residence, or upon WILLIAM BROWN, esq., Jacksonville.

feb25 JAMES N. BROWN.

**NOTICE TO FARMERS!**

**H. B. Grubb & Bro.**

MANUFACTURERS OF ALL KINDS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

AND GENERAL JOB SHOP,

SPRINGFIELD,.....ILLINOIS.

WOULD respectfully ask leave to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjoining counties that they are now manufacturing a superior article of

**REVOLVING HAY RAKES,**

*Harrows, of various patterns--several kinds of improved Straw Cutters, &c., &c.*

We are the authorized agents for Palmer & Williams' self-raking reaper, Danforth's reaper and mower, and can also furnish McCormick's reaper and mower.

Farmers wishing reapers or mowers will do well to give us a call. We will deliver every machine bought of us in good working order, as well as every other article in our line.

Having recently increased our facilities by the addition of a steam engine, we are prepared to attend promptly to all orders in our line at reasonable rates.

Shop one door south of E. P. Penniman & Co's Foundry.

**Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, &c.**

**W. D. WARD**

WISHES to inform the farmers of Sangamon, and adjacent counties, that he keeps on hand, for sale, different priced CLOCKS, manufactured by Seth Thomas, Hartford, Conn. These clocks are supposed to be superior to most others in market, being well made, of lasting material, and not liable to get out of order—an object of great importance to persons who live at a distance from shops where clocks can be repaired.

He has also for sale a variety of WATCHES, silver and gold, warranted to be good. He has silver watches at low prices, the running work of which is equal to the best class of gold watches.

He attends to clock and watch repairing, and does the business promptly and well.

W. D. WARD.

North side of the square in the front of Messrs Watson's confectionery.

**M. M. VANDEUSEN,**

*West side of the Square, Springfield, Illinois,*

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

DUGS,  **Pants, Oils, MEDICINES, VARNISHES, CHEMICALS, DYE STUFFS**

**Perfumery, Fancy Articles.**

BRUSHES, GLASSWARE, LETTER PAPER, STATIONERY,

And all kinds of GENUINE and Popular

**Patent Medicines,**

A complete assortment of the best quality, and at the lowest prices.

Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs, and Dr. Baker's Pain Pannacea.

**J. A. MASON,**

Manufacturer and Dealer in Cabinet Furniture.

**H**AS on hand a large stock of Chairs of all kinds; Bedsteads, Bureaus, Cases, Presses, Tables, Mattresses, Looking Glasses, Clocks from the Factory, Willow Ware, &c., &c.

It is my intention to sell as good articles and on as reasonable terms as any other shop in the city.

Repairing done at all times.

Opposite the Journal office; also in the Journal Buildings.  
Springfield, Feb. 14, 1856.

**The Springfield Woolen Factory,**

**I**S Prepared to Card, Spin, or Manufacture Wool into Cloths and Blankets in good style and with despatch.

They have added to their Carding Room, new and improved Custom Cards, which enables them to Card in first rate order

**1000 pounds of wool** per day.

Customers from abroad can have their wool attended to without delay.

**CASH PAID FOR WOOL.**

May 1. **ARMSTRONG & CO.**

**ILLINOIS**

**Mutual Fire Insurance Company.**

Located at Alton, Illinois.

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 23d, 1839—ORGANIZED APRIL 4th, 1839.

**A** MOUNT of premium notes in force Feb. 1st, 1856, constituting a fund for the payment of losses, \$679,537 41; secured by a lien on property insured, valued at over \$7,000,000.

This Company insures dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufactories, mills, barns, stables, and the contents of each, together with every other similar species of property within the state, from loss or damage by fire. The Directors feel justified in recommending this Company to the favorable consideration of the citizens of Illinois. Every one insured becomes a member—the Company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. As the indemnification fund augments in exact ratio with the increase for risks, the capital of the Company is comparatively exhaustless; and the entire safety of the institution must be apparent to every one who reads the charter.

The cost of insuring in this Company is so low as to render it almost inexcusable for the owners of insurable property not to avail themselves of its protection.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

Timo. Turner,	Lyman Trumbull,
H. W. Billings,	Ben. F. Long,
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Elias Hibbard,	Alfred Dow,
John Bailhache,	B. K. Hart,
John Atwood.	

**B. F. LONG, President**

**M. G. ATWOOD, Sec'y.**

**L. KELLENBERGER, Treasurer.** april 1y

Application for Insurance may be made to **JAMES L. HILL, Agent at Springfield.**

1856.

**SPRING! SPRING! SPRING!!!**

1856.

Items for Farmers and all those interested in **HORSES AND CATTLE.**



**A**FTER THE hardest winter known to the oldest inhabitant, we again offer you our Improved German Horse and Cattle Powder—**"THE GREAT PENNSYLVANIA REMEDY."**

It is every man's duty not only to take care of his family but of his horses. He has been given to us for our service, usefulness and pleasure; it is therefore highly essential

that we should protect so willing and devoted a servant. The spring and summer campaign is near at hand, the horse must do the labor. Thousand and tens of thousands dollars depend on that noble animal.

**TAKE CARE OF HIM MR. FARMER!**

As you value your crop see that he is in good condition; let him go forth to the plow, head and tail up, having a good appetite.

**NOT HIDE BOUND;**

but full of energy to do the good work, every hair on his hide in the right place.

The above may be accomplished by using our celebrated horse powder, and without further ado, we refer you to the following gentleman who have thoroughly tested its efficacy.

Abner Stewart, Fancy Creek; S. A. Jones, Rochester; N. S. Bates, slave agent; M. Wickersham, street commissioner; Sam'l Shoup, John Kavanaugh, R. F. Ruth, I. H. Diller, John Cook and many others.

**R. H. PRICE, Agent, Island Grove.**

We have always on hand: Neats Foot Oil, Brown Tanager's Oil, and Frank Miller's Celebrated Blacking for harness. Cabat

**CORNEAU & DILLERS**

East side public square,

Springfield, Ill.

**A WORD TO FARMERS.**

**Y**OUR cry has been heretofore, "Why cannot we get carriages and wagon— as durable and cheap here as elsewhere." The question can be satisfactorily answered, by calling at the

**Carriage and Wagon Manufactory of Withey & Brothers,**

ONE BLOCK EAST OF THE COURT HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

Where can be found constantly on hand, every variety of Carriages, such as Rockaways, Buggies, Sultries, and Wagons, of the best workmanship, and at the shortest notice. As we employ none but those who have a thorough knowledge of their business, we can warrant all work leaving our establishment.

**N. B.**—Particular attention paid to repairing in all its various branches.

Orders respectfully solicited, and attended to, at our shop one block east of the Court House Feb. 20th, 1856.

**CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION!**

**R. H. BEACH,**

West of the State House—three doors from Freeman's Corner.

**K**EEPS always on hand a large supply of men's and children's Clothing, suitable for all classes—and especially for the hard service of the farm. He respectfully invites the farmers of Sangamon county, who want Clothing, to examine his stock. He will sell a' as low prices as possible and live. His motto is, "Live and let live." Come on farmers, and see my stock.

**R. H. BEACH.**

Jan 21, 1856

**S. FRANCIS. A. FRANCIS. G. BARRELL.**

To the Farmers of Sangamon and the Adjacent Counties.

# FARMER'S STORE.

## FRANCIS & BARRELL.

HAVE AT GREAT EXPENSE AND LABOR, OPENED A STORE IN SPRINGFIELD, where they have a stock of articles on hand suited to

THE WANTS OF FARMERS!

Among their stock will be found

### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

Such as Reapers and Mowers, Horse Rakes, several kinds of Cultivators, Plows of all kinds, Potatoe Diggers, (an instrument by which potatoes are dug as fast as 18 men can pick them up.) Corn Planters, (hand and hor-e,) Corn Shellers, Scythes and Snaths, (patent and common.) Hand Rakes, Ames Shovels and spades, spades for digging post holes and ditching, chains, corn baskets, hand baskets, sickles, hoes, axes, &c., &c.

### Horticultural Instruments,

Shears, hooks and knives for trimming, saws for ditto, garden hoes and rakes, garden spades and shovels for ladies, miniature hoes and rakes for weeding flower beds, flower pots, &c.

### Seeds For The Field.

Buckwheat, rye, wheat, millet, clover, blue grass, timothy, red top, hemp, canary, white beans, &c., &c Turnip, ruta бага, flat dutch, red top, strap-leaved and purple top strap leaved, cow's horn, Norfolk Tankard, &c., &c.

### GARDEN SEEDS.

In their season, embracing all kinds that can be called for, either at WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. A large portion of our Garden Seeds will be grown under our direction, and will be known to be pure and of the best quality.

### FLOWER SEEDS.

They keep a stock of choice FLOWER SEEDS, and have now on hand for sale bulbs of Tulips, Hyacinths, Gladiolus, Narcissus, &c.

The Tulips and Hyacinths are of splendid varieties, having flowered the present season, and were the admiration of all who saw them. The supply is limited, and persons who desire them should apply soon.

Francis & Barrell are also Agents for some of the best nurseries in the State, and have now on hand for fall sales

### 1800 Apple Trees.

From the nursery of John A. & Charles Kennicott, Cook county. They are now growing well, and can be seen on application as above. Also Peach, apricot, Acetarine and Plum Trees; Hardy Garden Shrubbery, embracing the various kinds of Spirae, Lilacs, Snow Balls, Wiegela Rosea, Forsythia Viridisima, African Tamarix Dentata Scabra, and Gracilis, June Roses.

### ORNAMENTAL TREES.

American Larch, Mountain Ash, (European and American,) European Maples, English and Scotch Elm, Evergreen trees—variety, &c., &c.

### Garden Perennial Flowering Plants.

These no good garden should be without. When once planted, they require little further care, and are in blossom in summer after the early flowers are gone. They embrace a great variety of Phloxes, Paeonias, Delphiniums, Aconitums, Achillea Rosea, Penstemons, &c., &c.

### GROCERIES.

FRANCIS & BARRELL also keep on hand for sale, a supply of groceries, embracing all those usually called for in families. Sugars, coffees, molasses, bacon, rice, mackerel, white fish, Sounds and Tongues, codfish, spices, extracts, almonds, Brazil nuts, cheese, dates, Havana honey, raisins, currants. They have also many other articles—crockery, ladies work and traveling baskets, fancy soaps, looking glasses, lanterns, razor strops, and various other articles too numerous to be enumerated.

### we Purchase

Country produce—such as good bacon, butter, lard, cheese, choice vegetables, eggs, fruit, for which we pay cash when goods will not suit.

Orders from a distance promptly attended to.

June 1, 1856.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings, Springfield, Illinois.

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N. V. HUNT. A. Y. ELLIS.  
**HUNT & ELLIS,**  
 (LATE HICKOX & HUNT)

Dealers in

**Staple and Fancy Dry Goods.**

**BOOTS AND SHOES, CAPS,  
 And Bonnets, Groceries, Hard-  
 Ware, Queensware, &c.**

**Wanted, at all Times,  
 Almost Every Description of Coun-  
 try Produce.**

North east corner of the Public Square,  
 No. 1 Logan's Building.  
 August 1.

**Seed for Fall Sowing.**  
**T**URNIP, Early Beet and Early Cucumbers, for  
 the Garden, Buckwheat and Millet, Seed for  
 the Field. FRANCIS & BARRELL.  
 August 1, 1856.

**Sale of Durham Cattle  
 and other Stock.**

**T**O Close up the Partnership betwixt myself  
 and William Brown, Esq., of Jacksonville, we  
 will sell, at public auction, at my residence, Island  
 Grove, Sangamon County, Illinois—midway be-  
 twixt Jacksonville and Springfield, and near Island  
 Grove Station, on the Great Western Railroad—  
 our entire herd of Durham Cattle, at out forty-five  
 head; also our herd of Grade Cattle; also 500  
 head of choice Sheep; forty head of Mules and  
 Horses; three young Jacks and five Jennets; one  
 Tom Hale Stallion. Also Waggon and Farming  
 Utensils.

The sale will commence with Durham Cattle,  
**On Thursday, September 11, 1856,**  
 At one o'clock, P M, and be continued from  
 day to day until completed. A credit of six  
 months, on terms made known on the day of sale.  
 Catalogues will be sent to such persons as may  
 desire them, by addressing me, at Berlin, Sangam-  
 on County, Illinois.

JAMES N. BROWN.

**To Subscribers of the  
 Farmer.**

**W**E Regret to say that a good many subscri-  
 bers for the FARMER have not yet paid  
 their subscriptions. We hope that they will now  
 pay them without further notice.

The Farmer is sent in packages, paid for in ad-  
 vance, for a year, 75  
 Single numbers, \$1 00  
 The back numbers can be furnished to new sub-  
 scribers.  
 August 1, 1856.

**WE WANT TO PURCHASE,**  
 Butter, Eggs, Chickens, Vegetables, Bacon,  
 Lard, and most kinds of  
**Country Produce.**

At the FARMERS STORE;  
 For which we will pay cash or goods.  
 FRANCIS & BARRELL.  
 August 1.

**Beach's Eagle Fan.**  
**T**HE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN  
 and Seed Separator ever offered in this mar-  
 ket.

This machine has been greatly improved by the  
 substituting of gear wheels, in place of the band  
 formerly used, and we now offer it to farmers as  
**THE BEST IN USE.**

It will clean from 60 to 100 bushels of wheat  
 per hour, and in all kinds of grain will do the  
 work faster, better and with less power than any  
 other machine ever introduced into this market.  
 Price 20 00. For sale by  
 July 1, 1856. POST & BROTHER.

**FAMILY GROCERIES,**

**F**RESH and good, of almost every variety, for  
 sale by FRANCIS & BARRELL.  
 May 1.

**COOPER'S ISINGLASS—FOR SALE BY**  
 June 26 CORNEAU & DILLER.

**Farmers' Store!**

THE undersigned are maturing arrangements to establish in Springfield a Farmers' Store for the purpose of supplying farmers with

- Agricultural Implements;*
  - Seeds for the Farm and Garden;*
  - Trees for the Orchard;*
  - Varieties of Fruit bearing and Flowering Shrubs;*
  - Groceries;*
  - Queens, Glass and Stoneware;*
  - Baskets, of Willow & Splintwork;*
  - Ropes and Cords;*
  - Bags and Bagging, and Burlaps for baling wool;*
- and many other articles used in the family and on the farm, too numerous to particularize: all of which will be sold for cash at reasonable prices.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,

Jan 21 Journal Buildings.

**Excelsior  
BRASS AND IRON FOUNDRY,**

One block west of G. W. R. R. Depot,  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLS.

Devotes most particular attention to  
**Castings for Buildings**

And will make all patterns this year

**FREE OF CHARGE!**

HAVING now had considerable experience in that line, and also having a foundry peculiarly adapted for that work, with all the improvements of the 19th century, we are now enabled to say to those needing such work, that we can make it to their advantage to patronise this establishment, both as regards price, the speedy completion of orders and neatness or design of patterns.

april WILLIAM BOOTH.

**Books for the Young.**



**R. H. BEACH,**  
WEST OF THE STATE HOUSE

Three doors from Freeman's Corner.

The books referred to are suitable for Sunday school Libraries, and the subscriber intends to keep a good supply always on hand for that purpose. He respectfully invites parents and others to examine his stock of "Books for the Young."

R. H. BEACH.

Jan. 21st 1856.

**THE EYE, EAR AND LUNGS.**

DR. HARPER continues to treat successfully all disease of the *EYE, EAR and LUNGS*. Also, all Chronic Diseases of the human system. The Lungs are treated by Medicated Inhalation, the only successful and rational method. The success which had attended my peculiar treatment the past many years is almost incredible to those unacquainted with its peculiar curative effects, having restored patients who were considered hopeless, and restored to sight cases that have been blind from one to twenty years.



Office west side of the Square, Springfield.

**PIE PLANT.**

A FINE SUPPLY, AN EXCELLENT ARTICLE, for sale by  
my20 FRANCIS & BARRELL.

**HOSTETTERS'**

**Celebrated Stomach BITTERS.**

ONE WINE-GLASSFUL TAKEN THREE times a day, before meals, will be a sure cure for Dyspepsia, will remove all flatulency or heaviness from the Stomach, keep you free from costiveness, assist digestion, give a good appetite and impart a healthy tone to the whole system, and a certain prevention of Fever and Ague.

FACTS cannot be questioned, when the people of any country bear testimony in mass, as in the case of

**Dr. J. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters,** not only have we the individual evidence of the land, but almost every paper in the Union is commenting upon the great benefit derived from the use of these Celebrated Bitters, besides various Diplomas awarded them, among which is one from the Ohio Mechanics' Institute, at their Thirteenth annual exhibition at Cincinnati, where the committee was composed chiefly of Physicians of the city. These are all weighty facts that cannot help but convince the most incredulous that it is at least worthy of trial. We therefore advise all who are not proof against three sudden transits from cold to hot weather, to be provided with a supply for family use, as it has been attended with the most beneficial results, when administered to ladies or children before meals, as per directions on the bottle. Once tried, their virtues will be realized in a very short time. It is not necessary for us to enumerate all the diseases prevailing and arising from the stomach, but suffice it to say that any derangement arising either from change of weather or diet, which is generally the cause of Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Cholera, Cholera Morbus or Cholera, all are speedily checked and cured by the use of these bitters.

SPRINGFIELD, April 14, 1856.

Some months since, while recovering from an attack of Remittent Fever, I was requested to try Dr. Hostetter's Bitters, as an article peculiarly suited to the condition of convalescents from fevers.

It is but simple justice to say, that it rapidly restored the powers of my digestive organs, and at the same time kept my bowels gently open.

I have no hesitancy in saying that hitherto, in using it in my practice, it has in every case where I have ordered, it acted like a charm.

In thus speaking freely of it, I FAR from puff a patent medicine, an article it by no means claims to be.

SANFORD BELL, M. D.

May 1.

For sale by all of the Druggists in Springfield.

**CLOTHING STORE.**

**M. Hirschfield,**

SOUTH SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE, HAS A Complete stock of Clothing for men and boys, coats, vests, pantaloons, shirts cravats, drawers, pocket kerchiefs and everything in the clothing line. Prices very low.

May 1-3m.

**CHINA ROSES.**

FOR planting in the garden, and which will blossom all summer; Verbenas and other plants for bedding out, &c. &c., for sale at the Farmer's Store. FRANCIS & BARRELL-

May 1.

**UHLER'S PLOWS.**  
**THE DOUBLE CURVED UPRIGHT STEEL**  
**MOULD BOARD PLOW.**

 The proprietor of this superior plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the state of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

WM. P. LAWSON,	WM. P. OFFINBARGER,
J. J. SHORT,	DAVID NEWSOM,
JOHN W. BRCK,	URIAH MANN,
JOHN KAVANAUGH,	PHILEMON STOUT.

Sangamon county, Jan. 17, 1856.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, shed off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limit of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by John Uhler, Springfield, Illinois, at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited. feb16-wly

**Sales of Property at Auction,**  
**MAXCY & McALLISTER,**

**AT ALL TIMES READY TO SELL, BY**  
 Auction, real estate and personal property, in the city and country.

Auction room, centre room of the Journal Buildings.

They also attend to the private sale and purchase of farms and lands in the country, and lots and houses in the city.

Journal Buildings, May 1, 1856.

**CHEAP GOODS.**

**W. R. FONDEY, ON THE SOUTH SIDE**  
 of the Square, Springfield, is offering bargains in

- Dry Goods,
- Hats and Caps.
- Boots and Shoes,
- Hardware,
- Carpets & Oil Cloths.
- Glassware & Queensware,
- Nails,
- Liquors, Wines, &c.,
- for Cash.

Springfield, May 1.

E. B. PEASE.

W. W. PEASE.

Established in 1839.

**E. B. Pease & Brother,**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS

in Iron Nails and Steel, Carpenters, Cooper's and Blacksmith's Tools, Builders, and Cabinet Hardware, Chain Pumps, Agricultural Implements, &c.

Springfield, Illinois.

May 1-3m.

**PETTIT'S CANKER BALSAM, FOR NURS-**  
 ing sore mouth, for sale by  
 July 15 CANEDY & JOHNSTON.

**To Persons Visiting Springfield to**  
**Purchase Goods.**

**ONE OF THE LARGEST, CHEAPEST,**  
 and most desirable stocks of Merchandise in Central Illinois, is to be found at

**Joseph Thayer & Co's.,**

South side of the Public Square.

Their stock contains the richest fabrics as well as the more useful, of Dry Goods, Bonnets, Parasols, Cutlery, China and Glassware, Boots, Shoes and Gaiters, Clothing, Teas and Family Groceries, Trunks, Looking Glasses, Hats.

The second story of their store is devoted exclusively to

**Carpets and Oil Cloths.**

They would call the attention of those in want of stout woolen goods to their stock, which they manufacture themselves of unmixed Sangamon county wool and warrant to wear well.

All persons in want of any of the above articles, are invited to inspect our assortment. We guarantee prices as low as the lowest.

May 1.

**CITY DRUG STORE**  
**REMOVED**

The undersigned would announce to his friends and the public generally that he has removed across the street to the store previously occupied by C. Freeman & Co., on the Northwest corner of the public square, where he has fitted up in a handsome and convenient manner and made many and large additions to his stock, which consist in part of

- Drugs, Chemicals, Medicines, Paints, Oils,
- Varnishes, Glass, Glass Ware, Patent
- Medicines, Surgical & Dental Instruments, Fancy Articles,
- Very Fine and a Great
- Variety, Combs,
- Brushes, Perfumery, Stationery,
- Fine Cutlery,

**Electric & Concentrated Medicines,**  
**Electric Machines, Belts,**

Imported Cigars, Very Fine, Pure Wines, Brandies, Old Whiskey's, Ale, Porter.

A very superior assortment for Medical use, Lamps for Burning Fluid, a fine assortment. In fact everything that comprises a complete and saleable stock, which I offer at wholesale and retail at lower prices than ever before in this market. I feel confident that with my present facilities, I can sell to Physicians and others as low as any house in St. Louis, and would invite them to give me a call and examine my stock before going further.

Everything sold by me is warranted strictly pure and genuine. Don't forget the new store, where we may always be found ready and willing to wait on customers, day or night, and give satisfaction. J. B. FOSSELMAN.

June 1-4m.

**Wanted to Purchase**  
**For Seed.**

Winter Barley; Winter Rye; Zimmerman Winter Wheat, and the higher price paid. August 1. FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## Books for the Country

For sale by

**FRANCIS & BARRELL**

Browne's American Field-Book of Manures, \$1 00.  
 Browne's American Poultry Yard, twenty-sixth thousand, \$1 00.  
 Browne's American Bird Fancier, cloth, 50 cents.  
 Dadd's American Cattle-doctor, cloth, \$1 00.  
 Dana's Muck Manual, cloth, \$1 00  
 Dana's Prize Essay on Manures, 25 cents.  
 Stockhardt's Chemical Field Lectures, \$1 00.  
 Blake's Farmer at Home, \$1 25.  
 Buist's American Flower Garden Directory, \$1 25.  
 Buist's Family Kitchen Gardener, 75 cts.  
 Norton's Elements of Scientific and Practical Agriculture, 60 cts.  
 Johnston's Catechism of Agricultural Chemistry for schools, 25 cts.  
 Johnston's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology, \$1 00.  
 Johnston's Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry and Geology, \$1 25.  
 Johnston's Practical Agriculture, 75 cts.  
 Fessenden's Complete Farmer and Gardener, \$1 25.  
 Fessenden's American Kitchen Gardener, 25 cents.  
 Nash's Progressive Farmer, 50 cts.  
 Richardson's Domestic Fowls, 25 cts.  
 Richardson on the Horse; Varieties, Breeding, &c., 25 cts.  
 Richardson on the Diseases and Management of the Hog, 25 cts.  
 Richardson on the Destruction of the Pests of the Farm, 25cts.  
 Richardson on the Hive and Honey bee, 25 cents.  
 Milburn and Stevens on the Cow and Dairy Husband, 25 cts.  
 Skinner's Elements of Agriculture, 25 cts.  
 Topham's Chemistry made easy for the Use of Farmers, 25 cts.  
 Allen's Treatise on the Culture of the Grape, \$1 00.  
 Allen on the Diseases of Domestic Animals, 75 cents.  
 Allen's American Farm Book, \$1 00.  
 Allen's Rural Architecture, \$1 25.  
 Padre on the Cultivation of the Strawberry, &c., 50 cts.  
 Pedder's Farmer's Land Measurer, 50 cts.  
 Phelps' Bee-keeper's Chart, 25 cts.  
 Guenon's Treatise on Milch Cows, illustrated, 38 cts.  
 Gunn's Domestic Medicine, a book for every married man and woman, \$3 00.  
 Randall's Sheep Husbandry \$1 25.  
 Youatt, Randall and Skinner's Shepherd's own Book, \$2 00.  
 Youatt on the Breeds and Management of Sheep, 75 cts.  
 Youatt on the Horse, \$1 25.  
 Youatt, Martin and Stevens on Cattle, \$1 25.  
 Youatt and Martin on the Breeds and Management of the Hog, \$1 00.  
 Canfield on Management of Sheep, \$1 00.  
 Stephens' Book of the Farm, complete, 450 illustrations, \$4 00.  
 The Architect, or Plans for Country Dwellings, \$6 00.  
 Thayer, Shaw and Johnson's Principles of Agriculture, \$2 00

Smith's Landscape Gardening, Parks, and Pleasure Grounds, \$1 25.

Works on the Honey Bee, 50 cts.  
 Wilson on the Cultivation of Flax, 25 cts.  
 Miner's American Bee Keeper's Manual, \$100.  
 Quinby's Mysteries of Bee-keeping, \$1 00.  
 Cottage and Farm Bee-keeper, 50 cts.  
 Elliott's American Fruit-grower's Guide, \$1 25.  
 The American Florist's Guide, 75 cts.  
 Every Lady her own Flower Gardener, 25 cts.  
 The American Rose Culturist, paper, 25 cents, cloth, 50 cts.  
 Hoare on the Cultivation of the Vine, 50 cts.  
 Chorlton Cold Grapery, from direct American Practice, 50 cents.  
 Saxton's Rural Hand Books, 2 vols. 2\$ 50.  
 Beatties Southern Agriculture, \$1 00.  
 The Farmer and Emigrant's Guide, \$1 00.

## Buckwheat for Seed.

WE have the article for sale.  
 July 8. FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## Wanted to Purchase!

Fruit of all kinds,  
 Vegetables of all kinds,  
 Choice and pure seeds of all kinds  
 Market articles of all kinds.

FOR which Cash or Goods will be paid.  
 June 10. FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## Situation Wanted.

A YOUNG man who understands the German language, and is otherwise well qualified, desires to obtain a situation in a store at a small salary. Apply at the Farmer Office. July 8

## DAGUERREOTYPES.

P. BUTLER,

WOULD respectfully announce to the public that he has opened **ROOMS** on the **South Side of the Square, Springfield, Illinois,**

Where **Daguerreotypes** of the finest kind can be had and **Photographs** by the dozen, and **Ambrotypes** by **Cuting's Patent Process,**

That is more durable than anything ever offered to the public in this place, their being sealed up in such a way as to render the picture **Indestructible** and presenting the features fuller and more perfect than any pictures offered to the public by any other process, the patent for which I have the exclusive right in this country.

June 1.

## Agricultural Implements, Hardware, Cutting, &c.

**B. F. FOX.**

HAS ON HAND A GREAT STOCK OF these articles for sale. His Agricultural Implements embrace everything that the farmer wants in that line. His stock of Hardware cannot be excelled in the western country. He supplies all kinds of Mechanics with Hardware and tools in their line. And everything he sells is at the lowest and fairest prices. Call at his old stand on Fifth Street, just North of the Square.

May 1—1f.

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER Printers.

VOLUME 1.

SPRINGFIELD, AUGUST, 1856.

NUMBER 8.

## Sugar as an Article of Consumption.

The consumption of sugar in the world appears to more than keep pace with the supply. Mankind live much better than they did in past ages. Notwithstanding scenes of distress are now trumpeted everywhere with the speed of lightning, and by the power and spread of the press, yet scarcity, stinted food, small variety, do not so generally obtain now in the civilized world as in former times. In few things has this improvement in our living been more manifest than in the consumption of sugar, having increased within the last three hundred years from being a luxury to the few, unknown to whole communities, to be the necessity of the many. The discovery of the West Indies, their admirable adaptation to the growth of cane, gave stimulus to sugar production, and it soon became their great staple. The fine Island of St. Domingo, otherwise called Hayti, gave to Europe its chief supplies for a long time, but when it was lost to the French in their great Revolution of 1793, cultivation almost entirely ceased. So of the British West Indies; production very much declined on the abolition of slavery, and if we only measured freedom by its advantage in producing sugar, rum and coffee, we should abandon our ground and consider abolition a curse in countries where there is a deficiency of free native labor. If toil and labor constituted the chief end of man, we might have something to say in favor of slavery. If the practical virtues to the slave were not forced upon him by restraint; if they were not appendages rather than corporate parts of the character, we should think better of his condition. If the imposition of labor on the

black did not put it in corresponding disrespect with the white, and induce, with all the favorable externals which leisure affords, an obvious deterioration of the inner man, we should have less to fear of slavery.

The change of the sugar duties in Great Britain, admitting the foreign article on the same terms with the colonial, had an injurious effect on the sugar plantations of the West Indies. Nevertheless, after the passage of the slavery and tariff acts, production increased in Barbadoes and Trinidad—it decreased very much in Jamaica and Demerara, and to a less extent in the smaller islands of the group. At present some improvement is taking place, and the exports of the islands are now nearly equal, if not quite up to, what they were at the period of emancipation. St. Domingo has been very much a prey to anarchy—with French and Spanish habits of thought, grafted on an exclusively African basis, with a total absence of the philanthropy which England and the United States exert in almost all other degraded lands, through missionary and other ameliorating efforts, this fair spot seems to have been abandoned to its own benighted course. The exodus from Africa to this continent is bringing its retributions, in the surrendering up of a hot bed of industry in the West Indies, in political and social estrangements here, in those retrogressions which may everywhere be apprehended under the dominion of slavery. The island of Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, with an immense advantage in the abundant supply of labor, is given over to the cultivation of sugar, of which there may be at this date 55,000 tons produced. The ease with which labor has been transported there, as also to Ceylon, from the neighboring Peninsula of

India has increased the productive energy of the Islands, especially of coffee, in the "Spicy Isle," immortalized by Heber. The Coolie trade, with few repulsive aspects in the eastern world, shows quite a different complexion when it emerges to this side of the Cape of Good Hope. Under restraint, without the power of returning home, away from their former scenes, this expatriation of the Coolie becomes but among an entirely new people, the partial surrender of an inhuman traffic, and as such should meet with universal reprobation. The conveyance from China to Cuba, and to a small extent to the Brazils, in some of our own ships, has been deemed by our government as equal to piracy, and if any thing could be devised to bring out the darkest passions of man, it is the contact of the vengeful Malays, pilfered, deluded, betrayed, with the most remorseless of Sax-on blood—for who would engage in this traffic—on these long, wearisome, hot, stived up, unwholesome passages. Such are the fruits—in patched up revulsions—that must sooner or later ensue from an unnatural condition of life, labor and human effort.

Java, under any other than the restrictive policy of the Dutch would be equal in fertility to any region on earth, and now excels in producing indigo, coffee and sugar. Siam, China, and the regions tributary, are great sugar producing and consuming countries.

The cultivation of the beet root on the continent of Europe is increasing very rapidly. The late inundations in France will probably injure the roots in that quarter, and with the failure of the cane in Louisiana, will make two deductions from the prospective estimates of the coming crop. We have a list from a standard English authority, of the probable quantity in tons of the sugar produced in the world, or appearing in commerce for the year 1851. It shows very markedly the supremacy of Cuba in this great substantial of life, which manufactured that year 320,000 tons. The British West Indies 153,000. Brazils 113,000. Louisiana 103,000. Java 85,000. British East Indies 78,000. The French colonies 54,500. Mau-

ritius 50,000. Porto Rico 49,000. Manilla, Siam and China, 20,000. Dutch West Indies, 13,000. Danish West Indies 6,000. This appears to have been a favorable year, for in the next there was a decided falling off, with the exception of Louisiana and the French colonies. From Beet root, France produced in 1849, 38,000 tons of sugar, increased in 1851 to 75,000 tons. The Zollverein, under similar comparisons 33 and 49,000. Russia and Austria 20 and 30,000. Belgium 5 and 8,000. It is not probable that any thing like this ratio of increase has taken place in the cane and other descriptions of sugar. The cultivation of Beet root is due, I suppose it is generally known, to Napoleon Bonaparte. France being embargoed by the "British orders in Council" from all foreign supplies of sugar, his colossal mind immediately grasped the difficulty, and put all the science of France in requisition to supply a substitute,—with what success is now known, and to this day there is no leading country on earth that lives so much within itself as France. Cane being confined to the tropics, with all the difficulties and vicissitudes which necessarily affect it there, many substitutes have been brought forward, but none as yet have proved equal to it in strength, granulating power or general reliability.

If the premises here assumed be true, the next crop will be much under the needs of the trade, and a fall in price can hardly be anticipated, if a rise be not looked for. The Rothschilds and other capitalists of Europe are said to be in the market, in anticipation of short supplies, but these reports should be received with caution.

With all the disputes about sugar and sweets, experience appears to prove that they are wholesome for the young. Disguised in candies and adulterations, in pastries and sponge cakes, we have not much opinion of them, but in plain and simple combinations, under discretion of quantity and time of use, we consider them good. From middle life onward, the constitution has less demand for them, and the appetite, unless

vitiated, ceases to require them as a controlling taste.

We ask no apology for what is here written on slavery—it is eternally thrust upon our notice by writers of the opposite school, when treating of West India sugar and economics generally.

### Hygiene.

This subject has interested most thinking men for the last generation, and within the last few years, volume after volume has been written in relation to this important topic. Various theories have been advanced, and plans devised, in order to secure the greatest amount of health and happiness;—many codes of rules have been invented for observance in relation to diet, exercise, sleep, &c., which were supposed to favor so desirable a result.

A Graham, an Alcott, and numerous other writers have figured largely in this field of reformation; nearly all of whom have presented the public with long and labored essays, both for and against certain articles of food, and by a course of plausible reasoning pretended to have established their doctrines beyond dispute. But notwithstanding all their labors and sacrifices in this field of research, nearly all of them have lived to see their supposed infallible systems crumble like all other pyramids of error, when submitted to a practical test. They did not base their theories on correct premises, and, as a consequence, their deductions were false.

It is well known that most writers on hygiene have recommended an exclusively vegetable diet, and have adduced as proof of their opinions, the authority of chemistry which declares that certain vegetables contain a greater amount of nutriment than a similar quantity of animal food, and for this reason they have adopted an exclusively vegetable diet,—forgetting that there are other elements required in the human constitution in order to secure perfect health and longevity.

It is true that an article of food will sustain life for a great length of time, but there is a vast difference between sustaining life

and living in a manner most conducive to health and happiness.

Chemistry teaches us that the human system is composed of and supported by various elements, duly proportioned, and consequently perfect health depends upon a due supply of each of these constituent principles. According to "Liebig," many of the elements required to sustain life well, are not to be found in vegetable substances, and as there is a constant waste going on in the human economy, the only means for supplying every portion, is by a resort to a certain amount of animal food, because the requisite element cannot be obtained from any other source.

We grant that the vegetable kingdom furnishes the greatest amount by far of nutrition, but vegetables alone will not promote perfect health, and any person who abstains from animal food for any considerable length of time, will manifest symptoms of constitutional disease and debility, which will sooner or later result in death, if not seasonably counteracted.

Graham was obliged to resort to animal food before his death, and most of his followers have been compelled to adopt the same expedient, on account of declining health and strength.

The idea that a certain code of rules could be established in relation to hygiene, which all could follow with benefit, is as absurd as the notion that one certain remedy could be discovered to invariably cure all diseases. The same arguments are employed to sustain the one as the other, and however plausible these may appear to mental abstractions, they cannot be reduced to successful practice.

The wise benevolence of our Creator has furnished us with a wide and almost exhaustless number of remedial agents by which we are enabled to restore the diseased to health, and also an equally large range of articles of diet to sustain life, and to promote uninterrupted health. He has also furnished the brute creation with an unerring instinct, enabling them to select from the multitude, only such articles of food as

are adapted to their peculiar wants. But man has been endowed with reason, and consequently made responsible to natural as well as to moral laws for its use, and consequent punishment follows any violation of a physical law, just as much as disobedience to moral laws—and hence perfect health mainly depends upon our knowledge of, and obedience to, these laws.

It must be apparent to every one that no two individuals are constituted alike in every respect, and hence each may require different diet, in order to have it perfectly adapted to each peculiar constitution;—again, persons in health require different food from those that are ill—a person laboring under a disease of an inflammatory nature, from those afflicted with a disease of an opposite character—the youth from those advanced in life—those of a sedentary habit from those of a more active life. Hygiene rules should be adopted in reference to reason and common sense—having regard to climate, age, temperament, sex and any other condition of body and mind.

As men differ in the perfection of their organization, so the habits of life should differ in order that they may be adapted, as nearly as may be, to each peculiar constitutional peculiarity—and inasmuch as no two individuals are constituted alike in every respect, it is utterly impossible to establish any uniform rules with regard to hygiene, whereby all could be benefited.

The question naturally arises in this connection, how are persons to know what course of hygiene would be best adapted to their own peculiar systems? We reply that each individual may observe much in reference to the congeniality or uncongeniality of all or most articles of diet on his own system, if he will but give the requisite attention to his own case. Men generally observe too little in regard to these things, the harmony or derangement of the delicate machinery on which depends so intimately the health and happiness of our race.

Too many live to eat, instead of eating

only to live; for many a man scruples not to "make a god of his belly."

The true doctrine is to follow the dictates of reason and nature,—those 'never erring guides. "Throw physic to the dogs" unless you be actually ill—benefit by the experience of others, and learn to live and supply nature's wants without pampering the appetite to the injury of the constitution. To live long, people must live well; that is, not upon the fat of the land, but upon the wholesome products, animal and vegetable, which our land affords, properly prepared and cooked. Temperance, the mother of virtues, and so essential to happiness, is one of the mighty panaceas which the world needs, and ought to be so cherished that it would soon enable men to "live all the days of their lives," with satisfaction to themselves and comfort to every one around them.

We may in a future number pursue this subject farther.

#### Sanitary.

The tendency of cities, towns and villages to concentrate their wealthier population at the western extremities, has attracted no little attention from philosophic and other observers. In all great cities of the world, considerable obstacles of topography and configuration have been overcome to obtain this desired result, and apparently by an unknown and instructive impulse. In countries beyond the tropics, or in other words, in most of the civilized world, the prevailing winds are from the west, leaving that side of towns to windward, and the opposite or eastern side to leeward, where they are more exposed to smoke, gasses and exhalations. The easterly winds being of short duration and frequently stormy, so many unpleasant consequences do not arise from them.

Many valuable ideas may be gleaned in contemplating this peculiarity of our habits. Certainly with the thought of it before them, no pioneers would commence their labors by burying their first dead to the windward of their settlement, or would they afterwards construct gas works, objectionable manufac-

tures, or other economic appliances, in the same quarter, but would more wisely retire with them at a distance in the east, all things being equal.

It is obviously not a fortuitous circumstance that those in the community most capable by their means, and generally by their education, should be placed in a position to become the conservators of their less favored brethren, by opening wide streets, by their more enlarged dwellings, the more extended spaces they occupy, and the results of greater cleanliness accruing from these causes combined. But our ideas on this subject may be exemplified still farther, and may direct us in the choice of a location for a settlement or town. Certainly with these impressions we would not commence building or laying out a town under the lee of a wood or timber, where the air is arrested in its movement, or lies imbedded upon a moist soil, with vegetable matter living and steaming and dying around; but we would go to the opposite point of the compass, say to the south-west, and there pitch our tent. Moreover, in building a house anywhere in the town or country, we would not locate on the north or east side of a hollow or stream, and especially, if the latter was stagnant we should prefer being on the other side, even if it was but a few steps. And in the laying out of the grounds, we should not put the trees or shrubbery where they would shade, or break the wind or obscure the view from the S. W., but leave that part of our horizon more open, with the trees at a moderate distance. These are some of the lights which we daily gather from reading, observation and experience, and if they are not to be forced into undue prominence, neither are they to be altogether ignored in our plans for a life-long habitation, that may become the heritage of our children.

#### Remedy for the Striped Bug.

These are a great nuisance on melon and cucumber vines. This year they have been unusually abundant, and they have destroyed several plantings of vines in succession. We have been informed by one who has tried

the remedy successfully, that—take assafœtida, put it into a dish and set it on the stove with water until the gum can be cut up into pieces of the size of a pea—take these pieces and place one in the centre of each hill on a bunch of dirt which will raise it half the height of the plant, and the bug will leave the vines at once. They dislike the odor of the assafœtida. This is a simple remedy, and easily applied. The article can be had at the drug stores

#### Butter.

There is not an article produced on the farm which requires more attention, care and skill to prepare it for market in the best order, than butter. It enters into the consumption of every family. But,

*"It is like Jeremiah's figs,  
If good, it is ve y good,  
If bad, not fit to give pigs."*

Capital sense, if poor poetry. There is much butter brought to market that belongs to the latter class. Good butter is always a saleable article, and bad, it is hard to get it off at any price.

A little common sense will teach much that is necessary in the manufacture of butter. In the first place, there should be a good dairy house. It should be cool, airy and sweet. The milk pans should also be clean and sweet. The milk should be kept of the right temperature to raise the cream in the proper time, and the cream should be churned while sweet. Churning ought to be regularly continued till the butter comes. If the motion in summer be too quick, the butter will, in consequence, ferment and become ill tasted. Some writers advise to wash the butter after it is formed, thoroughly, in several waters, till all the milk is removed. Dr. Anderson, however, who is good authority, advises to force the milk out of the cavities of the butter by means of a flat wooden ladle, furnished with a short handle, at the same time agitating the butter as little as possible, lest it become tough and gluey. "The beating up of butter," he observes, "is an indelicate practice, particularly if it be warm; as a general thing, butter is injured by soaking in water."

Fresh butter should be put into crocks or

jars for immediate sale. These should be made perfectly sweet by scalding. These jars should then be put into a cool spring house or ice house until sent to market. They should not be sent to market, exposed to hot weather; for the heat will destroy the beautiful appearance of the butter, and indeed will injure its flavor very materially. A good butter maker will not be desirous of damaging the article by sending it to market with the mercury at 80 and 90 degrees.

Speaking of an ice house, reminds us that every farmer can have an ice house at little cost, and it is essential where there is a dairy. Indeed, to preserve meats, to keep butter and milk cool, to keep ice for the use of the farm, they will not be dispensed with after their benefits are once enjoyed. They can be made at little expense by the farmer, and can be filled in a day or two at a leisure season in winter. At the proper time, we will furnish our readers with a cheap plan for an ice house.

We have the best country for dairy farms. The making of butter and cheese can be made a profitable portion of husbandry; for these articles always find a ready market at fair prices.

#### The Early Harvest.

This is over, and the farmers have had busy times. Their wheat, oats, and barley are cut and are safe. The weather has been fine for harvesting, though quite warm. As we have already stated we believe the wheat is an average crop, and the berry never was better. The spring grain crops are light.

The market for wheat is not fairly opened. For a week or two after harvest, \$1 per bushel was paid, but at this writing it is only bringing in this market from 80 to 90 cts. per bushel. If a good price is offered much wheat will be promptly brought to market; but if the price is low, it will be kept back.

We notice in English papers that the grain crop in England promises well, and that bread-stuffs have experienced slight decline. Should England require more wheat than she produces this season, the supply wanted must come from the United States. We trust that prices here will reach a remunerating figure; but our farmers should not expect the high prices of last year.

#### Grain Growing.

The harvest is hardly past before preparations are commenced for growing another crop of grain. If the raising of grain pays at all, it pays best when good crops are obtained. These can always be had, at least in nineteen times out of twenty, as we believe, if the farmers attention is given to the preparing of the ground and the seed put in in a proper manner. New grounds of course cannot be plowed deep; but they should be harrowed well, and the seed sown upon them well covered. Old grounds should be plowed deep—if the Double Michigan plow is used, all the better for then the seeds of weeds and roots of grass are placed where they will give no further trouble, and the ground is left in good order. Wheat sown broadcast on such prepared grounds, the grounds harrowed well, and afterwards rolled—will produce heavy crops. Although our last winter was severe one, we have not heard of a single failure of wheat when the ground was thus prepared and the seed thus sown. But we have examined several fields of wheat, and we are impressed with the belief that wheat sown with the Drill, taking every thing into consideration, is the best plan of growing, and rarely indeed, will there be a failure of a crop when the drill culture is practiced.

"What is worth doing at all, is worth doing well," is a capital maxim for the cultivators of wheat.

#### The Orchard.

The hot weather of summer is trying to our orchards and young trees just planted out.—Large apple trees are dying even these which leaved out and blossomed full in spring.. Many others appear sickly, and before fall comes in we apprehend that nearly half of the trees which compose our orchards will be dead.

We have made enquiries of the "oldest inhabitant" and he remembers no instance by excessive cold of winter, where there has been such a destruction of apple trees. The winter of 1830—31 was a very hard one and some trees were killed. The apples in a large nursery near our city, were much injured. Several years passed afterwards before new orchards were set out, but since that period until the present orchards have done well as a general thing. Fruit growers should not be discouraged. Probably the present generation will never witness such another winter. Apples grow to great perfection in our region, and their culture, even under present discouragement, should not be neglected.

### The Weather and its Signs.

Central Illinois is now suffering by severe drought. Some portions of it have been favored by rains, but as a general fact, garden vegetables are nearly cut off; the early potatoe crop will be scarcely worth gathering; grass is short; oats and spring wheat will yield but little, and even the corn crop is greatly injured.

We are anxiously looking at the signs for rain. They come often; the clouds with heavy showers seem to be near us, and at the moment when we expect the fruition of our hopes, the clouds separate, become thin and pass away, to our great disappointment. This state of things has been presented and repeated almost every day for weeks past. Occasionally we hear that some fortunate spot has received the outpourings from the clouds, but these localities are like rains in the desert, few and far between.

Will man be ever able to judge with any thing like certainty of the coming weather? We find an article in the Scientific American in reply to this query, and which is of such value in our opinion, that we here annex it:

"There is no subject of more importance, and yet there is none with which men of science, and others, are so superficially acquainted, as that indicated in the above caption.

The heat of summer and the cold of winter, the rain and the snow, the thunder and the lightning, the hurricane and the gentle breeze, how many mingled associations of pleasure and grief are connected with these? Our enjoyments, yea, our very existence, it may be said, are dependent on those operations of nature, which we call the weather.

Sometimes, as in 1854, the clouds will refuse their refreshing showers for a long period, and over extensive tracts of country the grass withers and the corn and wheat fields become parched and barren; the lowing kine perish for want of the water-brooks, and then famine comes and desolates many once happy homes. Sometimes, again, the clouds will pour down their torrents for long periods, and the floods will come and sweep resistless over broad lands, carrying the crops of the farmer from his fields, and his flocks from the vales. Again, the hurricane will sometimes come on a swift wing, bearing destruction in its pathway; and if accom-

panied with red bolts of lightning, may consume well filled barns and storehouses, and level many beautiful dwellings to ashes. Were those weather changes governed by immutable laws, and were we well acquainted with these, we might adopt special means to meet special ends, and provide against the coming drouth, the floods, and the hurricane. Hitherto the weather has been considered fickle as the human temper, and if it is governed by fixed laws, the whole world lieth nearly in gross darkness respecting them. The sky may be cloudless to-day, and to-morrow, yea, in a few hours, the lightning and the tempest may come, and no man living, so far as we know, can predict the event with certainty.

The astronomer has watched the motions of the distant planets, has weighed them in a balance, and can tell the exact period when the moon, after a long interval, will hide the sun's rays from the earth by day; and also when the eccentric comet, after long journeys in unseen regions of space will re-visit our system again—but he cannot positively tell the particular atmospheric changes that will occur to-morrow in the city where he dwells; and yet a correct knowledge of coming atmospheric changes would be most useful to all men.

Can such information ever be obtained? Not unless such phenomena are governed by fixed laws. Well, when we consider that the planets roll, and the tides flow by immutable decrees, can any person doubt that the weather is governed by fixed laws? That such laws do exist, no one in his senses can doubt, and that they will yet be discovered, we have as little doubt, and it is a shame that so little has been done to discover them. We are glad, however, that something has been done, and there is a promise of something more. Various stations have lately been established in our own country for taking meteorological observations, and all the leading nations of Europe have also entered upon the same course of investigations. Such observations extending over various parts of the globe, and for a number of years continuously, will no doubt lead to astonishing results. Already by private enterprise and keen observation, Prof. Espy and Mr. W. C. Redfield, of this city, have made valuable discoveries relating to gales and hurricanes, and the latter has laid down some practical rules for navigators, regarding the rotary progressive course of tornadoes, which have proven to be of great benefit, by teaching seamen how to withdraw from their power. The spots observed on the sun's disk, take place at reg-

ular intervals, and these, Sir Wm. Herschel asserts, affect the weather on our globe to such a degree as to regulate the very price of wheat. Lieut. Maury has done much to reduce the weather changes on the ocean to a science. It is believed by Humboldt and other eminent philosophers, that the sun is the source of magnetism as well as heat, and that the vibrations of the magnet are to our globe, as the beating of the pulse to the human system.

In an article in the last number of the *North British Review*, believed to be written by Sir David Brewster, he says: "Had Hipparchus and Ptolemy made hourly observations, and had they also been made by their cotemporaries and successors in different parts of the world, we might now be predicting the weather with as much certainty as we do the planetary motions." The great number of meteorological observations now being made in various parts of the world, inspire us with hope that such a result will yet be accomplished. We hail every effort that is made to reduce "the weather and its changes" to a positive science, because, as we have already stated, such knowledge will be most useful and important to all men.—*Scientific American*.

#### Pulverizing Soil in Drouth.

An interesting article has lately appeared in the *Southern Cultivator* on this subject. It furnishes the results of several experiments in exceedingly dry weather, and which amply sustains the following facts:

1. All sandy soils, or those which are always mellow and which never crust in the least, are made drier by frequent stirring in summer; and the operation should be no oftener performed than may be necessary to keep the soil perfectly free from weeds.

2. All soils containing more or less clay (and as a consequence liable to become hardened) should be worked often enough to keep up through pulverization, which will be less frequent for the under portions, and more frequent for the surface—the pulverized earth at the top preserving the moisture below, in the same way that a coating of saw dust or of tan is found to operate in mulching.

3. Any soil after being brought to a state of complete pulverization, is made drier by being repeatedly turned up to the sun's rays; but as a crust forms on the surface after any shower or heavy dew, the oftener this crust is broken by stirring the surface the better. And it is decidedly better to plow deep and frequently, than to wholly omit cultivation

and allow the surface to become hardened.

It may be proper to add, that in order to get the benefit of the absorption of the dew, earth should be freshly turned up at evening, when the surface will remain cool and condense the dew. If turned up during the heat of the day, the upper surface becomes warm and does not readily condense the moisture.

[Communication.]

QUINCY, July 15, 1856.

SIR:—I write to you to suggest whether it should not be an object with the State Agricultural Society to hold their fair at such time as may be agreed upon by the various State Societies.

There should be, I think, an arrangement made by the Societies of Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, whereby any one may attend all the fairs.

This arrangement might at least be made by Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, the first State to hold their fair on the first week in October, the second, the second week, the third, the third week, and the fourth, the fourth week. If this plan could be adopted it would suit many persons who otherwise might not be able to attend more than one fair.

Respectfully,

C. ROWLAND.

Many efforts have been made to perfect such an arrangement as our correspondent suggests; but hitherto without success. In our own State, we are compelled to fix upon the period of holding the fairs, earlier or later as they are to be held in a southern or northern locality. We think, however, that an arrangement, such as is proposed, might be made, and that it should be made. To do this, consultation should be had, the present winter for the fairs of 1857. The times of holding the fairs the present year, of course cannot now be changed.

#### California Wheat.

Probably in California more wheat is raised by a given quantity of labor, than in any other country in the world. With little attention sixty bushels per acre are produced. The wheat has a very large berry; but whether it is a different kind from that cultivated here, we are not informed.—California now raises more wheat than her population consumes. Oregon looked to California as her wheat market. This failing her wheat has fallen in her home market to 50 and 75 cents per bushel. The present season the crop of wheat is exceedingly large in California.

### The Potatoe Bug.

This insect has been very destructive in this region the present season. They have completely denuded the potatoe stalks of leaves in most fields. Almost all the appliances that could be thought of have been used to destroy or drive them off. We are not acquainted with the habits of the pest. The Rural New Yorker has an article upon the subject from Levi Bartlett of Warren, New Hampshire, which will possess interest to those who may lose their crops by the Potatoe Bug. He says:

"According to Dr. Harris, its true name is "the three-lined leaf-beetle." It is about one quarter of an inch long, of a rusty buff, or nankin yellow, with three black stripes on the back. They appear in June on the leaves of the potatoe vines, having at that time recently come out of the ground, where they pass winter in the pupa state. The winged insects eat the leaves of the potatoe, gnawing irregular holes through them; in the course of a few days they lay their yellow eggs, usually glued to the under sides of the leaves, in parcels of six or eight together. The grubs are hatched in about two weeks. They of course are quite small when first hatched, but they are a filthy and voracious creature. After making a hearty meal upon the leaves of the plant, they cover themselves with their own filth. Their numbers are sometimes very great, and the leaves are then covered and nearly consumed by these insects.

That was the case with a patch of my early potatoes in the season of 1854. The same ground, a warm, light soil, had been used for several years for the raising of early vegetables of various kinds, a portion of which had been annually planted with early potatoes. This fact, I suppose may account for their great numbers on this particular spot; for the first crop of worms attain their growth in about fifteen days, when they leave the plant, burrow in the ground, in about two weeks, they change from the grub state to winged insects. This happens toward the end of July, or early in August. —The second crop is much more numerous than the first. Mr. Barnard noticed the great number, on his potatoe vines on the 12th of August. The August crop lay their eggs for a second brood of grubs. These come to their growth and go into the ground in autumn, and remain in the pupa form during the winter. Should Mr. B. plant the same ground with potatoe the coming

season, he would be likely to raise a larger crop of *bugs*, and a smaller crop of potatoe, than he did last year.

We think neither the bug nor its progeny have any connection with the potatoe rot. Their ravages upon the foliage, no doubt, lessen the yield or product of the crop. Any cause that operates to lessen the size and number of the leaves of a plant, must just so far weaken and disarrange the functions of the leaves, as it is through their agency that many of important changes take place in the preparation of the crude food for assimilation in the plant.

Dr. Harris remarks:—"The only method that occurs to me by which we may get rid of these insects, when they are so numerous as to be seriously injurious to plants, is to brush them from the leaves into shallow vessels, containing a little salt and water, or vinegar." The two past seasons I sifted dry ashes or lime upon my early potatoe in the morning, while the plants were wet with dew. This, I thought, somewhat lessened their numbers—at any rate, it seemed to much annoy them, and that was some satisfaction to me."

### Cranberry Culture.

The following statement is from the Middlesex (Mass.) Ag'l Transactions, and was made by Addison Flint, of North Reading:

In the autumn of 1843, I bailed a dam and flowed the swamp from that time till August 1846; then let off the water.

The following October, burnt over the swamp, and set the vines. The vines were cut up with a sharp hoe or shovel, and set in hills, three and a half feet apart; the bunches about the size of a quart measure.

In raising from the seed, I planted in October, 1846, about half an acre; crushing each berry between the thumb and finger, and placing it just under the mud, single berries in a hill, three and a half feet apart. Also, sowed broadcast a number of bushels the following spring. Very few vines appeared from them for two or three years, no berries till 1852, then very small; in 1853, good size, in quantity, worth picking.

My practice has been to stop the water in October, and keep it on till May, or until the weather is warm enough to start vegetation—then lower it down to the top of the vines, and keep it on them until I think the spring frosts are over; then let the vines be fairly out of the water until the berries are grown—say from the 10th to the 15th of August—then draw it off for ripening and picking.

We found three or four small beds of na-

tive vines on the swamp, after we let off the water to set the vines, and a few very fine berries; there is now probably a dozen beds that bear berries.

In 1850, we picked seventeen bushels of berries on the swamp. in 1851, twenty-eight bushels; in 1852, ninety-three bushels; in 1853, we estimated them at one hundred and fifty bushels.

In 1852, the native vines produced by estimation, before selling, forty bushels; the transplanted vines, sixty bushels; the increase this year is, principally, from the transplanted vines.

I now give a statement of the proceeds:

1850	picked	17	bushels,	sold	15	1-2	bushels	for	\$26	20
1851	"	28	"	"	26	"	"	"	70	00
1852	"	93	"	"	93	"	"	"	800	00
1853	"	62	barrels,	"	54	barrels	"	"	330	00
1854	"	47	"	"	47	"	"	"	305	60
1854	"	50	by estimation,	probable	value				500	00

\$1581.00

REMARKS.—Since the above statement was made, we have learned from Mr. Flint, that he had just fifty barrels of cranberries as his crop of 1855, which he sold for thirteen dollars a barrel, delivered at the depot two miles from house, making the pretty sum of six hundred and fifty dollars, as the product of two acres of what was quite recently an almost worthless bog meadow. Mr. Flint also states that in looking about he notices a good many tracts of land apparently as good for the cranberry crop as his, and that some of the pieces might much more readily be flowed and reclaimed than his own.—N. E. Farmer.

#### A Poisoned Valley.

A singular discovery has lately been made near Batten, in Java, of a poisoned valley.—Mr. Alexander Bouden visited it last July, and we extract a paragraph from a communication on the subject, addressed by him to the Royal Geographical Society:

"It is known by the name of Guevo Upas or Poisoned Valley; and, following a path which has been made for the purpose, the party shortly reached it, with a couple of dogs and fowls, for the purpose of making experiments. On arriving at the mountain, the party dismounted and scrambled up the side of the hill, at a distance of a mile, with the assistance of the branches of trees and projecting roots. When at a few yards from the valley, a strong, nauseous, suffocating smell was experienced, but on approaching the margin the inconvenience was no longer found. The valley is about a half mile in circumference, of an oval shape, and about thirty feet in depth. The bottom of it ap-

peared to be flat, without any vegetation, and a few large stones scattered here and there. Skeletons of human beings, tigers, bears, deer and all sorts of birds and wild animals, lay about in profusion. The ground on which they lay at the bottom of valley, appeared to be a hard sandy substance, and no vapor was perceived. The sides were covered with vegetation.

"It was proposed to enter it, and each party having lit a cigar, managed to get within twenty feet of the bottom, where a sickening nauseous smell was experienced, without any difficulty of breathing. A dog was now fastened to the end of a bamboo and thrust to the bottom of the valley, while some of the party, with their watches in their hands, observed the effect.—At the expiration of fourteen seconds he fell off his legs, without any moving or looking around, and continued alive only eighteen minutes. The other dog now left the company and went to his companion; on reaching him he was observed to stand quite motionless, and at the end of ten seconds fell down, he never moved his limbs after, and lived only seven minutes. A fowl was now thrown in, which lived a minute and a quarter, and another which was thrown in after it, lived only a minute and a half.

"A heavy shower fell during the time that these experiments were going forward, which from the interesting nature of the experiments, was quite disregarded. On the opposite side of the valley to that which was visited, lay a human skeleton, the head resting on the right arm. The effect of the weather had bleached the bones as white as ivory. This was probably the remains of some wretched rebel hunted towards the valley, who had taken shelter there, unconscious of its character."

#### Time to Plow.

It is often difficult to know when to plow. If ground is moved when wet, it often remains in very compact lumps. If we wait until the ground is dry, so much work is brought together that it cannot be done in time. A few common sense thoughts may aid in this matter:—1, Sward ground may be plowed when much wetter than any other without causing it to be hard on drying. 2, Sandy and gravelly land is much less injured by handling when wet, than clay or clay loam. 3, The plow is not half as bad for wet ground as the harrow, for several reasons. In plowing, the team tread on the broken ground far less than in harrowing. The action of the plow is different. The one raises up and turns over, the other drags

down and presses together. So true is this, that ground thus harrowed will become a mass of brick-bats, and remains so for years. Ground may be plowed when pretty wet if you will let it remain untouched afterwards, until dry, and warm and by this treatment it will be fit for sowing sooner than if not plowed.

The same principles will apply to spading and raking. Ground may be spaded up when considerably wet, if you will lay down each spadeful carefully and be sure not to touch it again with the spade or with a rake until it is thoroughly dry. But if each spadeful is knocked down with the spade, and and as soon as the very surface will crumble is raked until it is beautifully smooth, the air will be to a considerable extent excluded, and the whole ground will be hard and difficult to till during the whole season. Plowed or spaded, the ground if wet, should be left as loose as it could be left, that it may dry rapidly and crumble easily, and the case must be a very urgent one which will justify putting the harrow or rake upon it till it is dry. Then it will break down easily and remain light and easily tilled through the entire season.—Culturist.

#### Remedy for the Borer.

Make a concave mound of mellow earth around the tree, rising about six inches above the work of the insects. Thoroughly saturate this mound with a strong common salt brine, twice at an interval of four weeks at any time of the year when the ground is not frozen; stale beef or pork brine in its full strength, is just the thing. The mound of earth holds the liquid in suspension, round the tree, until by capillary attraction it is carried into the holes and burrows of the insect—where the salt is sure destruction to every grade of this ravaging and pestilent enemy. Vary the quantity of the dose with the size of the tree. Be cautious with small trees. Old, large trees, three feet round, may have a pailful at a time.

I have revived trees by this application from apparent death. Apple trees 30 years old, with their trunks perforated very badly, are now perfectly healthy, and their wounds are healing over. Two golden Sweetings, 8 years old, last June withered and showed signs of death. On examination I found the trunks full of borers, and more than half the surface eaten off. I made the application twice. Both trees revived and made new wood the same season. This spring, I have treated every other tree with the application. These trees are in bloom, and the wounds made by the

insects are rapidly healing over. I would not now, without trial, recommend the application to any other than the apple, quince and peach.

N. S. SMITH.

Buffalo, N. Y.

#### Planting Strawberries.

Skillful gardeners can transplant strawberries at any season of the year, when the ground is not frozen, but if done during the summer months in this climate, much care and labor is requisite in watering and shading or mulching the plants; so that few persons of any experience in the business will choose to undertake it at this season. In the month of September, or as soon as the heat and drought of the summer is over and the ground is well moistened with rain, is the best time for planting; and this will allow the plants to become well rooted, so that by covering them slightly for the winter, they will bear a moderate crop of fruit the next spring. If the planting is not done in September or October, it had better be deferred till spring. Spring planting is the easiest and safest of all, but of course it involves a year's delay before any fruit of consequence can be realized.—Ohio Cultivator.

#### Change of Food for Animals.

The kind of food for animals should be changed frequently. A horse long kept on shorts will be affected by a fever in his legs and feet, producing a result similar to founder. Shorts, corn meal or cob meal, should never be given except in a mixed state with cut hay or straw. This will require them to eat slower and the food is better prepared for digestion. If given alone it ferments rapidly in the stomach, produces a general fever, injures the digestive powers and finally produces a stiffness throughout the limbs. When these results are discovered the remedy is a change of food. Continued feeding on oats alone, will produce the same result as shorts or meal, and many a founder is caused by it, is by feeding and drinking when the horse is warm. If necessity compels a person to feed a horse on shorts, corn meal, or cob meal, a supply of salt should be added to prevent fermentation in the stomach.

 In private conversation between intimate friends, the wisest men very often talk the weakest.

 Politeness is like an air-cushin—there may be nothing in it, but it eases your jolts wonderfully.

### A chair trade in New York.

A stranger, on observing the vast throng of operatives pouring from the ferry boats and through the main streets of the city, to and from their daily toil, is led to wonder oftentimes, how so many found employment and from their respectable dress and appearance of evidently so good a description. — Those who have such doubts know but little of the mighty business which is transacted in Gotham, and the extent of its commercial and mechanical operations. In proof of this, they need carry their thoughts no further as to one great branch, than the common chair they sit upon. This article alone, to say nothing of the mahogany or other descriptions of fancy chairs, employs in this city about one million dollars of capital, there being eight large houses and about one hundred smaller ones, engaged in the business. The number of such chairs manufactured in or for New York is about four millions annually, and the value some six millions of dollars.

In New York city about one thousand men, two hundred females, and four hundred children, are employed in the manufacture of the cane bottom and other common chairs and about double that number in the country for this market. Of the four million chairs, about one third are manufactured in New York, and two thirds by machinery in the Eastern States, and on the line of the Hudson river. In regard to the sales, about one sixth are disposed of for city use, four sixths for country trade, including California, and one sixth exported to the West Indies and South America. The cost of the wood with which they are made is about \$300,000—it consists of black walnut oak, white and curled maple, and white wood. The other materials used are ratan, or split cane, and rush for the seats; varnishes, paint and some gold leaf.

The wood is brought from the Western States, by the way of the Erie Canal, usually in planks of 12 and 16 feet. When received into the manufactory here, it passes into the hands of the different branches of workmen, for the purposes of sawing, turning, seating and framing or putting together; also, as to some descriptions, as veneering. The chairs when put together, which they are without glue, then go into the hands of the varnishers, painters and gilders, whence they return to the varnishers ready to be prepared for immediate use or taken apart for transportation or shipping. In the latter process the backs are kept entire, but the whole of the remainder

such as legs, rounds, cane bottoms, &c., are taken apart, sorted and compactly boxed up so that the chair is exported with as close packing, nearly, as cloth or any similar article.

The young women and children employed in the factories in New York, are engaged almost exclusively in the cane and rush work connected with the chair. In the country they are also employed in the process of painting and gilding. This as already stated, is but a sketch of business in New York connected with one branch, the common chair, and which is by no means the largest, or one of the largest. The fancy and mahogany chair employs, probably, in the city, four or five times the capital of the common chair, and a very large number of operatives in the manufacture. The heads of some of the establishments in both branches, are among our most enterprising, shrewd and prosperous men, and whole trade emphatically exemplifies the adage that "Industry is Wealth."—*Sun*.

### A Certain Method to Secure Wheat in wet Weather.

Having seen from the newspapers, and heard from other sources, of the losses and damage which happened to the last wheat crop in this State from the quantity of rain which fell during harvest, I am induced to communicate the result of my experience as to the best method of saving wheat during a continued spell of rain after wheat cutting has commenced.

About thirty years ago, I lived in Eastern Virginia, in the county of Essex.—At that time, there was the most promising crop of wheat growing, that I ever remember to have seen but once before. But, in the beginning of harvest, a rainy spell set in, and continued during the whole harvest, and for some days after wheat cutting had been finished. The rain fell, in torrents, and to the best of my recollection without the interruption of a single day. Finding that there would be a total loss of the crop, if permitted to stand in the field, by the advice of an experienced overseer, (for I was then but a young farmer,) I commenced and continued to cut my wheat, regardless of rain, and put it up immediately, in cocks of four or five bushels, made as sharp as they could be formed, by pressing the wet straw as closely as it could be squeezed together, and capping the cocks with a sheaf of wheat. When the wheat was thin, and too far to carry conveniently, the cocks were made of smaller size.

Under such circumstances it is best not to

tie the wheat in bundles—the object being to cause the wet straw, to adhere so closely as to render the wheat perfectly impenetrable to rain. As soon as the weather cleared off, I commenced hauling my wheat to the barn, and although the outside of the shocks were perfectly green with sprouted wheat, much to my surprise and gratification, I found the inside of the wheat cocks so perfectly dry, that the dust rose from the inside straw as the cocks were opened, and the grain was in perfect preservation. It was evident that the drying process had been going on during the whole of the rainy spell doubtless from the internal heat generating from the wet straw. It is true, that the wheat straw was somewhat moulded, but it was not so much injured as to prevent both horses and cattle from eating it readily; and the crop was better both as to quality and quantity than I ever afterwards made from the same land.

From my own experience, then and since, I feel myself warranted in assuming that I have never since known a harvest so wet, as necessarily to occasion any greater loss than the wheat unavoidably exposed to the weather, on the outside of the shocks, put up as herein recommended.

WM. GARNETT.

#### Butter-Making in Northern New York..

The following interesting article we copy from the *Rural New-Yorker* of the 12th July, for which paper it was furnished by a correspondent in Jefferson county :

I propose briefly to hint at the process of Butter making, as practised by the best dairymen in Northern New York. I shall endeavor to confine myself to the usage of the best makers, rather than to advance theories of my own—simply premising that for several years I have been extensively engaged in the butter and cheese trade, and ought perhaps, to be considered as conversant with the best methods of manufacture. It may be necessary here to state—what may not be known to all your readers—that the first class butter dairies of Jefferson, Lewis and Oneida counties are very much sought after, and principally depended on, by the Boston dealers, for their winter and spring trade.

In the first place, our best dairymen deem it very important to provide a suitable place for setting the milk. Many prefer a room wholly or in part underground. Ordinary cellars are much used, pains being taken to have them cleanly and well ventilated. Some prefer an upper room,

well shaded, and with a northern exposure. Strong currents of air are to be avoided, as tending to harden the surface of the cream, and as a consequence, there are specks of unchurned cream in the butter. When these specks are found in the butter, it is sometimes necessary to overwash in order to get them out.

It is quite important to skim the milk exactly at the right time. If skimmed too soon you lose in quantity; if too late the quality is irreparably injured. It is difficult to give a rule in reference to this matter. Regard must be had to the weather, places of setting the milk, &c. Our best makers watch their milk closely in hot weather, and always skim when they observe the slightest indication of a frothy appearance on the surface of the cream, which would not be noticed by a casual observer, and only on looking across the surface toward the light.

When the cream is taken off it should be well stirred, and set away in a cool place. Ice is very much used. Some use coolers, lowering them into the well. It is impossible to make fine butter out of partially melted or heated cream. The temperature should not be allowed to get above 62 or 64 deg. This is easily regulated with ice or an abundance of cold water. It is important to churn often. Our large dairymen churn every morning; the smaller ones in two days. The common dash churn is a good deal used, and attached to a horse, sheep or dog power. If the butter does not come readily, it should be set into a tub of cold water; or, when the thermometer churns are used, the temperature is kept down by keeping cold water in the chamber. If the butter comes very soft and spongy, it is past remedy. It should not be packed, or if it is, let it be put in a package kept for such churnings.

As soon as the churning is done, the butter is carefully and thoroughly washed; hence an abundance of cold water is a necessity. No doubt butter can be over-washed, but it is necessary to insure its keeping qualities that the milk be entirely excluded; and washing is the cheapest and most expeditious method of getting rid of it. Nine tenths of our best makers wash till the water is clear, more or less. I do not know ten good makers in Jefferson county that do not wash their butter. Some few make an excellent article without washing; but in warm weather it becomes necessary to over-work, in order to get the milk out perfectly, and thus the grain is injured, and the butter has a salvy appearance, and not unfre-

quently has white specks that are a very material injury. It is but just, however, to say that some of this small class, when the weather is favorable, or where they have extra facilities, get up an article every way superior, and of very fine flavor.

The common rule for salting, is one ounce to the pound during summer, rather less in the fall. If the salt is good, this is about all the butter will dissolve. It should have about all it will retain, if it is to stand through the summer; but there should be no undissolved particles of salt in the butter. An overdose of salt kills the flavor, is always a bar to a high price, and is of no possible advantage. Inexperienced makers should weigh each churning, and get it exactly right, neither too little nor too much. Great care should be had in selecting salt. It should be free from foreign substances, clear and fine. One of our Boston dealers has been in the habit of sending car loads of salt from Boston, gratuitously supplying his dairies that were under contract, so much importance did he attach to the quality of the salt. The ground rock salt is very generally used with us. The Syracuse Evaporated would be more in favor with us, if we could rely on getting it pure and in proper shape.

Very many of our best makers salt immediately after washing, mix the salt evenly and pack at once. Others let it stand a few hours and work the second time, taking care not to work more than is necessary to mix the salt thoroughly. The package having been thoroughly soaked in strong brine, the butter is put in as solid as possible, many pound it in with considerable force, as a matter of economy of room, and as rendering the mass less impervious to the air. Dealers also like to see a package of butter, when turned out, present a smooth, solid appearance. Our dairymen are not particular about working out the brine, not so much so as the dealers would wish. Not that the brine injures the butter, but it works out rapidly, and if sent to market soon after it is made, almost always subjects the buyer to a loss in weight.

The favorite package with us is the Welsh tub, with a cover, largest at top. Great care is taken to get strong, tight, well made packages. The Welsh tub is preferred for the city trade, as it admits of slipping the butter out easily, and it is then cut into layers of suitable thickness with a brass wire. The size of package is regulated by the size of the dairy and time of sending to market. Most of our fine dairies of large

size, prefer to hold on for the fall market, and choose one hundred pound tubs for the summer, and fifty pound tubs for the fall made. Some dairies use smaller packages, especially when sent off monthly. The Goshen pail is being introduced to some extent. Oak firkins are used to a limited extent.

Finally, after the tub is filled, say within an inch of the top, it is nicely smoothed and covered with a cloth, and the whole is covered with a heavy coat of moist salt. Some dairymen by using fine salt and hot water form a solid crust, which is nearly impervious to air. Care is taken to replenish the salt whenever it dissolves away, so as to exclude the air as thoroughly as possible. It is impossible to keep butter well without excluding the air, measurably at least. It is better to keep the butter entirely under pickle; but it is difficult to do so, especially where the Welsh tubs are used. By far too little attention is paid, even by our best dairymen, to keeping their butter after it is made. If properly made it is no doubt practicable to keep butter entirely sweet, and well flavored, for a long time. Some few succeed in effecting it; but lest I weary your readers I will only say that a good, cool cellar and tight packages, and proper attention to excluding the air, are absolutely essential. I am not sure but it would pay to have a double set of packages, somewhat after the California shipping style.

In conclusion I wish most earnestly to call the attention of our farmers to the importance of improving the quality of their butter. Prime dairies are always wanted at high prices, yet the really fine butter constitutes but a small proportion of the whole seen in our best dairying districts.

#### System in Farming.

Success in farming, as in every other operation, is a consequence of order, system and thoroughness. The following extract from an address before the Oakland (Mich) County Agricultural Society, by Hon. J. B. Hunt, pictures to the life, the practice of the Make-do family, who undertake farming. It also gives at a glance, the requisites to success.

There is no great branch of business carried on at the present day, which is managed with as little system as farming. On looking over the whole country, how few you find who conduct the whole operation right. We are happy to say that we can

find many successful farmers among them, but they fall infinitely short of what they should be. The whole business appears to be carried on without any certainty; not one farmer in ten knows the exact quantity of land he has in each field on the farm, and when he has sown his seed, he is not certain whether he has sown a bushel or a bushel and a half to the acre of wheat, whether he has put on six or ten quarts of grass seed to the acre; and when the grain is cut he cannot tell how many bushels he has grown to the acre; it is guess work all around.

Another great defect is, we undertake the cultivation of too much land each season, we have not sufficient force to carry it out we are compelled to hurry the work, leave one thing unfinished to commence another which is in a more suffering condition; and in this way the whole is slighted and run over. We undertake to put in a large crop of wheat, and for that purpose the team is divided, if more than one, and if there is but one team, the plowing is done as shallow as possible, to hasten the process, instead of taking time and plowing deep. We put in a large crop of corn when we have not manure for more than half of it, and not half hands enough to give it a thorough hoeing. Large meadows and little grass because the ground has been worn out raising wheat years before. The fences are allowed to rot down, because there is such a long string of it. The bushes grow up over the fences, because there is so much other work to be attended to, and so the bushes are put off to a more convenient season; all goes on in this slovenly manner. We have a class of men who call themselves farmers, who make the street their cow-yard in the summer, and frequently through the year; while the hog pen is made to grace the door yard. With such men, manure has no value, deep plowing is all folly, and ditching does not pay.

We would not, if we were capable of doing so, give a system of farming on an occasion like this; but there are certain leading features, to which the attention of every farmer should be called, although they are perfectly well known to every man who has ever worked on a farm, and almost as universally neglected as they are known; and yet they are the foundation of his success. In the first place, the land must be kept clear from surplus water, if he is desirous of raising anything but wild and miserable grass. It must be made rich, or it will grow nothing of any value, and when it is

thus made dry and rich, if it is allowed to be overgrown by weeds, the grain is deprived of all sustenance.

These three things are absolutely and essentially necessary, and yet some one or two of them are constantly neglected, on almost every farm in the country. If the ground is not kept clear of the surplus water, its value is gone. If it is not well manured, the grain or grass will not grow, for they require food as well as your horses and cattle. If when this food is furnished by the proper kind of manure, what avails it if you allow the weeds to get in, and eat it up from your plants. But if these three pre-requisites are faithfully attended to, then with a proper rotation of crops, deep plowing and clean seed, sown in due season, with God's blessing on your labors, you will have a full and abundant crop. If you fail in either of these, although the bow of the covenant may still span the Heavens to show that the seed time and the harvest are still allotted to us by our Heavenly Father, to you the harvest will come in vain, or be shorn of its richest blessings.

#### Our Vinegar Plant.

We spoke last April of a Vinegar Plant given us by a lady friend in Webster. We took it home to our office, procured at an apothecary's store one of his largest glass jars, holding some two gallons, filled it with common sweetened water, committed the plant to it, and there it has been ever since spreading its folds upon the surface, till it was evident that the vinegar had become strong enough almost for the death of the plant; whereupon, this week, we removed the original sweetened water, and supplied its place with new for the plant to work upon. On drawing off the vinegar it was found very strong indeed, almost as strong as ley, and for ordinary table purposes it will require to be diluted with fresh water. There is no mistake about, this vinegar plant will keep our family in the purest vinegar as long as we shall need such an article.—Rural Intelligencer.

**FOR KICKING COWS.**—Take a short strap and fasten the ends together. Next prepare a pin of some soft wood, about 6 or 8 inches long, 1 1-2 inches in diameter. Take the cow by the off fore-leg, and double it at the knee joint close; pass the strap or loop over the knee, pressing it back until you can insert the pin between that and the knee joint, and she cannot kick.—J. B. T.

 Why are teeth like verbs? Because they are regular, irregular and defective.

### To Divest Calves of Vermin.

It often happens that calves become covered with vermin, causing them to lose flesh and look very dull. To clean the calf is a very disagreeable piece of work; but if the following recipe is adhered to, they will become clean with a very little trouble. Give the calf a tablespoonful of brimstone three mornings in succession; if one trial does not completely rid the calf, the second will never fail. I have tried it several times, and once has been enough in each instance.

**POTTED CHEESE.**—I send you a recipe for making cheese that may benefit some who have but a cow or two. Prepare your curd as you would for the press, then put it in a bag secure from flies, and hang in an open room until thoroughly drained, then chop fine and pack in a brown earthen crock, (stone is not as good,) put in a layer of cheese, a very little saltpetre, and sprinkle in a little good brandy, say half a pint to twenty pounds. When your crock is full press down with the hand; cover your crock with two or three thicknesses of writing paper, pasted to the crock to secure from flies, over the paper tie a cloth to prevent bugs from gnawing through, and set in a dry place not too warm. In one month it will be good, but in six it will be "cheese that is cheese."

We have found it beneficial in hot weather, also, for making butter, to put in each pan of milk, when first strained, a teaspoonful of strong saltpetre water; the milk will not sour as soon, and will make yellower and harder butter.—An Old Dairy Woman, Allegan, Mich.

**COFFEE—ITS COST AND CULTURE.**—It is believed by many that coffee can be cultivated in some of Southern States as successfully as it is Brazil, Java and Jamaica; if so, it is high time that some of our planters were entering upon its culture, as it costs our country no less than \$15,000,000 annually for the beans of this plant.

The coffee tree lives a great age, provided that the land is kept well drained. The tree begins to bear when three years old, and is at its full bearing when seven years old. The tree is allowed to grow in height from six to seven feet; the top branches are pruned off when the tree is five years old, so that by the time it is seven it resembles a spread umbrella. Each branch droops downwards, and thus gives the pickers a good chance to pick the berry. The coffee tree in Brazil bears two crops each year, the

large crop in the spring, and the small one in the fall. The first crop is picked when the berry is red, resembling a cherry. The second crop is in general small, and allowed to remain on the tree until fully ripe and dry. This crop, cured in the husk, is fair superior in quality, and is called "pearl coffee."

The blossom is beautiful, small, and tender. It remains on the tree from three to four days. If the weather is warm, with showers, during those few days, the crop is sure; if cool at nights it often fails. When the berry is taken home from the field it is carried to a mill house. The mill consists of three small rollers. The berry is put into a hopper, and a constant stream of water falls on the rollers during the time the mill is at work. By this process the outside hull is separated from it, and the coffee falls into a brick tank, where it is washed perfectly clean, and then put on a place covered with tile or brick raised in the center that the water may drain. It is then taken to the curing loft, where it is turned four times a day until the hull is crisp and dry. Then by putting it through large fanners the inside hull comes off, and leaves the berry ready for hand-picking for market.

**CLOVER PASTURAGE—HOVEN.**—For milk cows clover constitutes one of the best of pastures. Corn must be used in turning them on to it in the spring; otherwise they are liable to be hoven—that is from fermentation of the clover in the first stomach they become so distended with gas as to endanger their lives, if not speedily relieved. To guard against this, they must not be turned on the clover till the dew is entirely dried off, and if the pasture is good they should not at first be allowed to remain on more than an hour at a time.

If any cattle should become hoven, they may be promptly relieved by the following simple process:

As soon as you discover the affection, which you will know by their swollen appearance and uneasy movements, make a stout straw rope, well twisted; about as thick as your wrist, turn the cow into her stall, and putting the rope into her mouth tie it over the top of her head behind her horns, secure it well and turn her loose. In her endeavors to get rid of the straw rope she will so turn up her head as to allow the escape of the gas, and in fifteen minutes she will be relieved.

Some five or six years ago we found six of our cows thus affected at the same time;

having somewhere read of the above remedy we tried it, with immediate success; the cattle were so much affected that they must have died if not relieved. We have seen it tried several times since, and always with success.—*Louisville Jour.*

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

From the Wisconsin Farmer.

**COSTIVENESS IN SHEEP.**—Two table-spoonfull of castor oil, every twelve hours. Or give one oz. epsom salts. This may be assisted by an injection of warm water, weak suds and molasses.

**SCOURS IN SHEEP.**—A pint of new milk, thickened with wheat flour. To be given twice a day till the discharge is stopped.

**ITCH IN SWINE.**—Rub the animals with equal parts of lard and brimstone, and put them in a clean pen.

**WOUNDS IN SHEEP.**—Take the leaves of the elder tree, and make a strong decoction, and wash the parts affected two or three times a day, and you will not be troubled with flies or worms. It also removes fever from the wound and is healing.

**CURE FOR BOTS.**—Make some sage tea, and sweeten it well; when about milk warm, drench the horse with it. If it turn out to be the colic, and not the bots, the sage tea will be good for that.

**ANOTHER REMEDY FOR BOTS**—A half pint good gin, half pint molasses; shake well together and pour it down while foaming. It will cure in five minutes; never known to fail.

**TO DESTROY LICE ON CATTLE.**—Camphor dissolved in spirits is an effectual agent, and may be used at all times, even in very cold weather, without the least injury to the cattle.

**MURRAIN IN CATTLE.**—Take one quart of the juice of Jamestown weeds, and one teaspoonfull of saltpetre. This is enough for an ox or a cow; for small cattle, one half or one-third the quantity is sufficient.

**FOR CUT FEET AND LEGS WITH SHOE CORKS.**—Take one oz. of gum camphor, and one pint of vinegar. Apply three or four times a day, and your horse need not stop work.

**TO MAKE HARD WATER SOFT.**—Water is frequently hard from holding in solution a quantity of carbonic gas of lime. It may be rendered soft by the addition of a little quick lime.

**TO TAKE RUST OUT OF STEEL.**—Cover the steel with sweet oil, well rubbed on. In forty-eight hours rub with finely powdered unslacked lime, until the rust disappears.

**HARD GINGERBREAD.**—Two cups of molasses, one of buttermilk, eight tablespoons of melted lard or butter, four teaspoons of saleratus, six of ginger, a little salt, flour enough to roll (not very hard)

**ANOTHER.**—One pint of cold water, one teacup of lard, a little salt, two teaspoonfull of soda (or saleratus,) dissolved in a little vinegar; work in flour with your hands until quite hard; bake in a quick oven.

**CREAM COOKIES.**—Two eggs, two cups of sugar, half a cup of butter, half a cup of sour cream, one teaspoon of saleratus, caraway seed, two teaspoon cream of tartar, flour enough to roll.

**A VERY NICE FRUIT CAKE.**—One pound sugar, half a pound of butter, four eggs, one teacup of sweet milk, three and a half cups of flour, one teaspoon of saleratus, nutmeg, cinnamon and cloves—as many raisins as you can afford.

**CUP CAKE.**—Five cups of sifted flour, two and a half cups of white sugar, six eggs, one cup of butter, one of sour cream, one teaspoon of soda, nutmeg. If sweet milk is used instead of sour cream, put in two teaspoons of cream of tartar.

**CLEANING STOVES.**—Stove lustre, when mixed with turpentine and applied in the usual manner, is blacker, more glossy and durable than if put on with any other liquid. The turpentine prevents rust, and when put on an old rusty stove, will make it look as well as new. The odor of the turpentine passes off quickly.

**TO PREVENT CABBAGES FROM GROWING TO "LONG SHANKS."**—To secure true, solid heads on those stalks that manifest a disposition to grow to what are commonly known as "long shanks," take a penknife and stab it through the stalk about the middle; insert a small piece of wood to keep the incision open, which will check the growth. By doing this, a good head of cabbage may be secured on every stalk.

**TO CLEAN WALL PAPER.**—Soiled wall papers may be made to look as well almost as new, in most cases, by the following expedient: Take about two quarts of wheat bran, tie it in a bundle in coarse flannel, and rub it over the paper. It will cleanse the whole paper of all descriptions of dirt and spots, better than any other means that can be used. Some use bread, but dry bran is better."

**TO KEEP FURS.**—Roll the furs (of any description,) into compact, close bundles, and wrap around them two, three, or more wrappings of unbroken paper, in such a manner as to prevent the ingress of insects. If this be properly done, they may be put where most convenient, in a dark place or in a light one, in a tight drawer, or on an open shelf, and they may be left undisturbed until wanted, whether that be months or six years, without danger. No need of camphor, tobacco, &c.

**TO BROIL HAM.**—Cut some slices of ham, quarter of an inch thick, lay them in hot water for half an hour, or give them a scalding in a pan over the fire; then take them up and lay them on a gridiron, over bright coals. When the outside is browned, turn the other; then take the slice on a hot dish, butter them freely, sprinkle pepper over, and serve.

Or, after scalding them, wipe them dry, dip each slice in beaten eggs, then into rolled crackers and fry or broil.

**DOUGHNUTS.**—Take seven coffee cups of bread dough when light, mix into it one and a half cups of melted lard, with one of sugar, and a teaspoonfull of saleratus; when it has again become light roll it out, cut into what shape you please, and boil in hot lard. To succeed well, the dough should be mixed with milk.

**CRACKERS.**—Three quarts of flour, one cup of butter, one pint of water, one tablespoonfull of salt. Pound until the dough snaps.

## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

### The New Plow.

Mr. Jesse Frye, of this city, has invented a new plow, for which he claims, that it is made and arranged "on mechanical and philosophical principles"—and that "it requires only the fourth of the team to do the same amount of work that the common plow now requires, and at the same time the driver sits upon an easy seat, from which he has perfect control of every part of the plow instantly." He calls it the **'ADJUSTIBLE ANTI-FRICTION CARRIAGE PLOW.'**

This plow has only been arranged for prairie breaking. It turns a furrow of twenty six inches. Two trials have been made with it in the hardest and strongest prairie sward. The plow was drawn by two horses; it cut a furrow four inches deep and twenty-six inches wide, and did the work well. The following is as accurate a description of the plow as we can give :

*First.* It is supported on a carriage which runs on four wheels. This carriage takes all the weight of the plow, and the weight of all the sod and earth when in operation, leaving nothing to be dragged on the ground. It overcomes all the land-side friction—the land side being entirely dispensed with,—consequently there is no friction on that part. The share-bed and upright being in one solid piece, and to which the share is secured with screws,—no part of the plow runs or bears on the ground when in operation except on the axles of the wheels. Thus when the plow is out of the ground a boy twelve years old can move it all about the lot, a feat not easily performed by two men with an ordinary breaking plow.

*Second.* The mold-board is composed of anti-friction rollers, which are arranged in the most scientific manner, so as to lift the turf and turn it over, with the least possible resistance, thus overcoming nearly all the friction from this operation.

We have stated that two public trials have already been made with this plow. It did its work well. We have heard scarcely a doubt expressed of its success as a

prairie plow. A more thorough and effectual trial is fixed for Saturday the 2nd inst. If it is successful,—and we believe it will be,—Mr. FRYE will have achieved an improvement in the plow entirely original, and which will be of vast importance in bringing out the undeveloped resources of Illinois.—A gang of plows on this principle, with little power, would do an astonishing amount of work.

The public will be interested in the further trial of this plow. We are not able to say what will be its cost when manufactured for market. Mr. F. intends to proceed in the manufacture of them immediately.

### County Fairs.

The progress of Illinois in Agriculture is distinctly marked in the organization of agricultural societies in counties which have not before had such organization, and in the numerous fairs which are to be held in all parts of the State, we verily believe, at least one half of the counties. Clinton co., has now her agricultural society, and proposes a fair the coming fall. Other southern counties are organizing societies, and with those already existing there, by another year, she will not be behind, if indeed, she will not be in advance, of some other portions of the State.

The counties around us will all have their fairs—Logan, Macon, Macoupin, Cass, Marion, Tazewell and Menard. Morgan county has a splendid premium list. Her fair takes place a week before Sangamon county fair, and we anticipate a strong competition between the two counties. All we have to say, (as a couple of chaps once said when they were about to "pitch in,") let the fight be fair, and if we are whipped out, we shall rejoice that Morgan has stock and other articles superior to ours;—and if so, we will strive not to be behind her again. Our contests are based on the question—"which party most *worthy* of success." It is a noble contest, worthy of men.

We want to say to the farmers of Sangamon county that the citizens of the county

expect every farmer to do his duty. In this competition, we call upon our farmers to do their part; let us see your best horses, best cattle, best hogs, best sheep, best poultry—best of every thing belonging to your farms. Many hearts will beat with anxiety for our county's success at the next fair. Morgan once or twice, carried off some of our most valuable plate. Let her do it again if she can. And we would just here remark that a couple of bright eyed Morgan girls, not only took our highest county premiums for useful needle work at the last fair, but they even carried off the honors at the State Fair! Ladies! we submit this matter to your especial consideration.

#### Mowers and Reapers.

A vast number of these machines have been disposed of in our State the present season. We understand that 140 of Manny's have been sold in our county; nearly the same number of Rugg's, and some seventy of Atkins, besides many others.—Mr. T. W. Kidd, the industrious and well known agent for Atkins' mower and reaper, has made an estimate by which it appears that within a year more than \$100,000 have been sent out of Sangamon County in the purchase of Reapers and Mowers. This is a large sum and which, if it had been kept here, would give employment to a great many mechanics, who, in their turn would employ other mechanics, add business to our mercantile establishments, and furnish consumers for the products of our farmers. We suggest that Springfield is a great and commanding point for the manufacture and sale of Agricultural implements, and we have reason to believe that an establishment got up for this purpose, with an adequate capital, and managed by the right men, would be a profitable concern to the owners, and at the same time, in many ways, be a benefit to the community generally.

 The Odd Fellows of Portsmouth, Va., acknowledge the receipt of \$6,852 36 from their brethren in the United States during the epidemic.

#### Reaper and Mower Trials.

In our last we referred to the proposed Reaper trials under the supervision of the State Agricultural Society. The arrangements on the part of the Society were, as we have understood, perfected; but at the same time it was quite convenient to the parties most interested to postpone the trials.

We are beginning to think that these trials do not prove much. All the machines, if in good order, and every thing occurs in their favor, are likely to do well. Sometimes a capital machine, from some defect, will fail to do good work, while an inferior one, all circumstances favoring, will do excellent work.

Mr. Kidd, the agent for Atkins' Reaper, made his head quarters at Francis & Barrell's store, before and during the harvest season, and we know something about the operations of the seventy machines he sold. Some five of them did not work well at first, and three were returned. These returned machines were imperfect; but, with little expense can be put in good order. The great difficulty however, with all complicated machines, is, that, as our farmers are generally ignorant of machinery, they are often unable to put up the machines properly. Hence the difficulty in making them work. To avoid much trouble and vexation farmers, who design to purchase machines for a coming harvest, should get their machines in time, and the agent who sells them should put them up, and see that they work. If this is done the farmer will be able to go about his harvest, when the proper time arrives, and suffer no vexations or delay by the bad working of his machine.

We suggest this view of the matter to our farmers. Those farmers who intend to purchase machines for the next harvest should contract for them in time, should have them put up by the agent, and made to work before they are needed for his harvest. All this can easily be brought about, and if the farmer consults his own comfort and interest, he will have all these preliminaries to a successful harvest effected in time.

If farmers in Sangamon cannot now de-

termine which of the various Reapers will suit them best---after all the trials which have been made in the extensive wheat fields of the county,---we are induced to believe that even a trial of Reapers, such as was proposed by the State Agricultural Society, would be of but little service to them.

#### Osage Orange.

We give below a communication from a citizen who desires information from some grower of the Osage Orange, which he deems important to himself and others. We shall send this paper to several individuals engaged in the cultivation of the plant with the hope of procuring a satisfactory answer to the enquiries of our correspondent.

The last winter injured in many localities the Osage Orange hedge. But few plants, however, were killed. Where they were injured, new and vigorous shoots have put out, and the result is that the severe winter instead of lessening confidence in the value of the Osage Orange plant for a hedge, has increased it.

SPRINGFIELD, July 30th, '56

MR. EDITOR: Having been a constant reader of your useful paper since its commencement, and wishing to obtain information in regard to planting and cultivating the hedge plant, from those who have experience on that subject; I beg leave to make a statement in regard to my own limited experience in the matter.

I planted a nursery four years ago, but the following summer being very dry, and the plants consequently small, I did not remove them until they were two years old. I then plowed them up from the nursery and planted them around my farm. The roots that remained in the nursery sprang up that year and produced an abundant crop of plants, I wish to know if those plants will be as good as those produced from the seed.

Respectfully yours.

J. H.

**CINNAMON CAKES.**---One cup of sugar, one of molasses, one of butter, one tablespoon of ginger, one of cinnamon, one of saleratus, dissolved in half a cup of water, flour enough to roll, to be rolled very thin and cut in round cakes.

**COOKIES.**---Two cups of butter, two and a half of sugar, four eggs, half a teaspoonfull of saleratus, caraway seed, flour enough to roll, made very thin.

#### The Kitchen Garden---Some things that may be Planted at this Season.

**TURNIPS.**---These can be sown from this time to the middle of the month. The later the seed is sown, if it does well, the tenderer and sweeter the turnip. The red top is probably the best for fall and early winter for the table. The white Dutch is a good winter variety; and the white globe for late winter and spring. The English have several varieties, hybrids, being crosses of the white turnip and Ruta Baga, which are excellent for cooking. Indeed the Ruta Baga itself is the richest, sweetest and most nutritious of all turnips, and it possesses the excellent quality of keeping well until late in the spring. Indeed, we have eaten them in June, and they then seemed to be in perfection. The seed of the Ruta Baga ought, however, to be sown in July. All turnip seed with the exception of the Ruta Baga, should be sown, if possible, on new ground.

**BEETS.**---The seed of the early beets, including the early Bassano, early Blood Turnip and early Red Scarcity, if sown in favorable weather in the latter part of July or in the first half of August, if well cared for, will produce good crops. They grow rapidly and are all the better and sweeter from growing in the cool part of summer and early fall.

**LETTUCE.**---Those fond of late lettuce can yet secure it in abundance by putting in seed at any time within two or three weeks. On rich soil, kept well moistened in hot weather, it will be ready for use in five or six weeks from sowing.

**CARROTS.**---If the garden is not yet provided with a bed of carrots, a small plot may be sown in this latitude. For a large crop the sowing should have been done previous to this date. The early Horn variety is the most forward in ripening. Carrots grow best on deep, light, sandy soil, well manured. The seed may be soaked a few hours, and then sown pretty thickly in drills, to be thinned out to three or four inches after they are well started.

**KIDNEY BEANS**---These may still be planted, and produce a good crop of string beans either for cooking or pickling. The early Mohawk has frequently been ready for the table in five weeks after planting. Green beans are by many preferred to cucumbers for pickling, and not without good reason, we think. For a late crop choose a light soil, tolerably dry.

**CUCUMBERS**.--Those who are fond of pickled cucumbers, but who have lost their first plantings from the attacks of bugs, and we have heard an unusual number of complaints on this score the present season, may still secure a fair crop from seed planted as late as August 10, especially in localities not further north than 41 degrees north latitude. Prepare the soil by spading it deeply and pulverizing it well, mixing with it a fair supply of decomposed manure. The vines will be basted forward by an occasional watering with liquid manure. The soapsuds made on washing-day is also very good for cucumbers.

**RADISHES**--May be sown at any time and on almost any soil. Early radishes do best on light, rich, dry sandy loam, but at this season a deep moist soil is preferable. Winter radishes may be sown all through August and into September, taken up before freezing, and stored in sand in the cellar for table use in winter. The Black Fall Spanish, White Fall Spanish, and Rose colored China Winter, are good varieties for the purpose.

#### Great sale of Durham Stock.

The great sale of Durham Stock belonging to J. N. & Wm. Brown, at Island Grove, in this county, will take place on Monday, the 11th day of Sept. next, near the Island Grove station, on the Great Western Rail Road. For particulars, see advertisement. Persons who desire to obtain fine stock, will find a most excellent opportunity to do so at the said sale.

**CHIVALRY**.--The religion of chivalry was that of the motives of the heart. It was love, faith, hope, gratitude, joy, fidelity, honor, mercy; it was a devotion of mind and strength of the whole man, of his soul and body, to the discharge of duty, and the sacrifice of every selfish and dishonorable feelings.

#### News of the Month.

European news is not important. France and Russia seem to have a slight misunderstanding; but it will result in nothing serious.--The Crimea has been evacuated by British and French troops. Crops in France and England promise well.

There have been no late strange events in the United States. There are the usual number of steamers burnt and boiler explosions, and deaths by these and railroad collisions. Politicians are becoming excited on the subject of elections; but there has nothing unusual as yet taken place. A stranger dropping from one of the planets would conclude at every Presidential election that the earth was shaking to its base. But, the election past, every man goes about his business, and the country and the masses plod on their way as usual.

Walker still maintains his situation in Nicaragua. His prospects are not the brightest. There is much fighting in store for him, if the signs are to be relied on.

The vigilance committee are still the government of California. They appear to find plenty of business in purifying the government. Their administration of the government, though illegal, seems to be aimed for the public benefit.

The wars continue in Oregon. The Indians are getting the worst of it. Clouds of grasshoppers are eating up the vegetation in the Willamette Valley.

#### Preserving Eggs.

The *Scientific American* says that W. C. Thurgar, of England, has recently patented in the United States an invention whereby fresh eggs or their equivalent, can be had at all times and in all places. The invention consists in taking fresh eggs, breaking them, and placing their matter in proper shallow trays, where they are subjected to a stream of moderately hot air to evaporate all the moisture. When perfectly dry they are reduced to powder in a proper mill, and are employed for the making of pastry, &c. The air for drying the eggs must not be allowed to exceed 130 deg.; the object of this is to evaporate the moisture and not coagulate the albumen, so as to render the egg powder soluble in water. On the Atlantic side this process, if it is really practicable, will be of great advantage.

### Fine Stock.

At the recent sale of Wm. Hunt's stock of short horned Durham cattle, in Lexington, Ky., several citizens of this State purchased some of the most valuable animals offered, at large prices. J. N. BROWN, Esq. of Island Grove, in this county, purchased the cow, Sally Campbell, at \$402, the heifer Queen Victoria, at \$502 and the heifer Orphan, at \$502, Mr. J. Jacoby, also of this county, purchased at the same sale, the heifer young Splendor, at \$600, and the heifer Snow Drop for \$125, the heifer Red Bird, at \$460; the heifer Flora at \$180.

This stock arrived in this county two or three weeks since. Those who have examined the animals, speak of them in the highest terms.

### Beets in the Garden.

We suppose all good gardeners have a thrifty bed of beets already planted, still it is not too late to plant another bed. They may be even sown to the last of this month.

A garden well laid out with all the vegetables growing in rows, in imitation of some geometrical figure, presents a fine appearance to the eye, and this practice is to be commended. We have, however, found it advantageous to have a plot of beets in some less conspicuous part of the garden, which was planted more with regard to economy than beauty.

For this purpose we take about a square rod of ground, and as soon as it will do to work it, sow it thickly with some early variety of beets putting on the seed broadcast and digging it in with a hoe. If the plants come up very thick, we pull out a part at the first weeding. As soon as they begin to interfere with each other, we pull up a quantity and boil roots and tops together, and thus have a good dish of greens. The thinning process goes on almost daily till late in the summer; and this single rod of ground furnishes us an abundant amount of greens, and there is still left growing a good crop of beets, which are benefitted rather than retarded, by the stirring of the ground while thinning them out. We are aware that the above plan contains nothing new to many, but we have visited scores of gardens where the only practice was to sow beets in rows, with the seeds at a distance of three or four inches from each other.---  
*Am. Agriculturist.*

The Oregon skirmishes still continue.

### Fowls.

The following statements are from extensive raisers of poultry, and are worthy of the consideration of all interested in the subject:

The Dorking fowl, which some still attempt to bring forward as the best, has been found to be tender, and unfit for a general barn yard fowl. The Polands and Black Spanish are the same—good layers, but unfit for the table, when compared with some other breeds, and their young so tender as to be very troublesome to raise them. The Creoles or Bolton Greys are excellent layers but owing to their small size can never be anything but a fancy fowl. "Cochin China" fowls are a humbug.—There is no such breed and those that were said to have been imported from Cochin China came from the city of Shanghai in China. They are a Shanghai fowl, with smooth legs. There are but few Shanghai fowls now existing in this country in a pure state; but those that have short legs, plump bodies, short tails, and weigh, hens, 8 lbs., and cocks, 10 lbs. are a valuable fowl. Cinnamon colored hens, and red cocks are marks of genuine stock. There are some beautiful black Shanghais that are quite as valuable as those of a cinnamon color. The white Shanghai are a good fowl, but not hardy as those of other colors. The Chittagong fowl is great, unsightly bird, cock of a mixed hue of black and white, hens grey mottled brown, etc. Indeed, it is difficult to find two fowls of the same color of this breed, and they have crossed so extensively with the Brahma and other fowls, that the original stock is mostly merged in some other breed. This is the reason why so ill shaped, long legged "Brahma" fowls are in the country which in fact are generally one half, or three fourths Chittagongs. The pure Brahma fowl we believe has no superior in the world, in all that constitutes hardy fowl, one of great size yet not too large, with short legs, compact bodies, and great prolificness in eggs. This is our experience with them, after a trial of four years.—"Rural American.

### Birds and Insects.

Wilson Flagg, in a late number of Hovey's Magazine, makes five classes of insects and as many birds, acting as natural checks upon the increase of insects.

The swallows are natural enemies of the swarming insects, living almost entirely upon them, taking their food upon the wing. The common martin devours great quantities of wasps, beetles and goldsmiths. A

single bird will devour five thousand butterflies in a week. The moral of this is, that the husbandman should cultivate the society of swallows and martins about his land and out-buildings.

The sparrows and wrens feed upon the falling insects that lurk within the buds, foliage and flowers of plants.

The wrens are pugnacious, and a little box in a cherry tree will soon be appropriated by them, and they will drive away other birds that feed upon the fruit,—a hint that cherry growers should remember this spring and act upon.

The thrushes, blue-birds, jays and crows prey upon butterflies, grasshoppers, crickets, locusts and the large beetles. A single family of jays will consume twenty thousand of these in a season of three months.

The woodpeckers are armed with a stout long bill, to penetrate the wood of trees, where the borers deposit their larvæ. They live almost entirely upon these worms.

#### The French Short Horn Carrot.

As is well known, the Early Horn Carrot is always sown for first crop, as from its early coming to maturity it is much sooner fit for the table than any of the long kinds. The French differs only in size, being much larger, and though not extending into the soil, is a good one to sow in shallow or poor carrot soil where the long kinds seldom do much. A writer in the *English Gardener's Chronicle* says: "I have found it to be a much faster grower than the Early Horn. To prove this, on the 15th August I sowed on a well prepared piece of ground two beds, one of each sort, side by side, six yards long and five feet wide. They vegetated and came up as nearly as possible at the same time; but I find now, November 5th, that the French Horn is nearly double the size of the other, which makes it still more valuable upon the soil of this neighborhood. The carrots commonly grown are very subject to canker, &c., so much so that they frequently prove a complete failure, while the other as yet has entirely escaped all disease, and done remarkably well in every way." It may be remarked, it is common to sow carrots at that season, to be able to have them young for the table all the summer. E. S.—Country Gent.

**SCOUR IN HORSES.**—Put one pint of good gin, and one oz. of indigo into a bottle, and shake them well together, and administer in one dose.

**RING BONE.**—Mix equal parts of spirits of turpentine and common lamp oil, and apply to the parts affected night and morning, rubbing it well into the hair, around the edge of the hoof.

#### Machine for husking Corn.

Oren Stodard, of Busti, N. Y., has obtained a patent for a machine for husking corn. The ears of corn are pushed down by an attendant between a pair of rollers having raised stumps of rubber upon them. The rollers rotate in a direction contrary to that in which the ears are pushed and serve to strip off the husk. The but or stalk part of the ear, is cut off by means of a knife, which comes in play as soon as the ear passes the rollers. The husks are discharged at one place, and the clean ears at another.

**THE PHILOSOPHY OF DROWNING.**—Man is the only animal that drowns naturally. He does so because he is endowed with reason; that is to say with a large spherical brain with a skull on it, which rises above his nose. If he falls into deep water, in spite of his great brain, he has not presence of mind enough to stick his nose out and keep it out, as he might easily do, but lets his heavy head, like a stone, press his nose under water. In this position he inhales, and fills his chest with water, so that he becomes, on the whole, so much heavier than water as to sink. While the lungs are filled with air, the body is lighter than its bulk of water, and of course swims, just as an iron vessel does. All, therefore, which is necessary to keep a person from drowning in deep water, is to keep the water out of the lungs. Do you ask how this is to be done?

Suppose yourself a bottle. Your nose is the nozzle of the bottle, and must be kept out of the water. If it goes under don't breathe at all till it comes out.—Then to prevent its going down again, keep every other part under,—head, legs, arms, all under water, but your nose. Do that, and you can't sink in any depth of water. All you need to do to secure that, is to clasp your hands behind your back, and point your nose at the top of the heavens, and keep perfectly still. You will never go under water to the end of time, unless you raise your brain, hand, head, knee or foot, higher than it. Keep still, with your nose turned up in perfect impudence, and you are safe.

This will do in tolerably still water; in boisterous water you will need a little of the art of swimming, which if you don't get, you deserve to be drowned.

☞ I remember that Adam Smith and Gibbon had told us that there would never again be a destruction of civilization by barbarians. The flood, they said, would no more return to cover the earth; and they seemed to reason justly, for they compared the immense strength of the civilized part with that which remained savage, and asked from whence were to come those Huns, and from whence were to come those Vandals, who were again to destroy civilization. Alas! it did not occur to them that, in the very heart of great capitals, in the very neighborhood of splendid palaces, and churches, and theatres, and libraries, and museums, vice and ignorance, and misery might produce a race of Huns fiercer than those who marched under Attila, and Vandals more bent on destruction than those who followed Genseric.—Macaulay.

## THE MARKETS.

SPRINGFIELD, August 1, 1886.

There is a good deal of wheat coming to market. Prices range from 95 to 100 cents, according to quality. We shall soon have enough on the market to absorb all the spare cash in the country and to tax all the means of the railroads for its transportation. There are many buyers in the market in this city.

**BACON** has advanced, but there is little beside side meat in the country. Country hams are generally in bad order. Both hams and shoulders did not take salt sufficiently, owing to the extreme cold of last winter, to save them well. Good hams are much called for. We quote good country hams from wagons at 8½, ribbed sides at 7, and clear sides at 8c; shoulders at 7c; prices ranging above and below these figures, according to the quality of the articles. Lard is worth 8 cents.

**CORN**.—We have heard of sales of corn at 25 cents. There is much old corn in the country; and the late rains will make a tolerable yield of our present crop.

**MARKET ARTICLES AT RETAIL**.—Butter is worth 12½¢ @15c; cheese, 10c, eggs, 10 cents a dozen; chickens, \$1 25 @1 50; corn, green, sweet, 12 cents a dozen; onions, bushel, \$1 25@1 50, potatoes, bushel, \$2. Table vegetables are scarce in market.

**SEEDS**.—Timothy, \$3 50 per bushel; clover, \$9 00.

**GROCERIES**.—Sugar and molasses still advancing. N. O. 10½c; molasses 70, at retail. Coffee, Rio and Lagulra, 14c; Java, 17.

### Chicago Market—July 30.

**FLOUR**—in fair demand; superior from \$5 50 to 6 60. Corn meal, \$1 per 100 lbs.

**WHEAT**.—\$1 08 to 1 10 per bushel for spring; \$1 25@1 30 for winter.

**CORN**, 46c. Oats, 30@31c. Barley, none in market. Rye, ditto.

**PROVISIONS**.—Hams, plain smoked, 11½c per lb. Lard, 11c. Tallow, 9c. Butter, 12@14c. Eggs, 16@17c per dozen. Cheese, 6@8 by quantity. White fish, half barrels, \$4 50@4 75.

Contracts are made for live hogs, to be delivered next winter, at \$5 50 nett.

### St. Louis Market—July 31.

**FLOUR**.—Superior, \$6 10 to \$6 30 per bbl.

**WHEAT**.—Ranges from \$1 15 to 1 23 per bushel as per quality. Corn, white, bushel, 50@51c. Oats, per bushel, 32c. Rye, 72c, sacks included.

**Wool**—Small lot of washed 32c; unwashed do 21c; per lb.

**PROVISIONS**.—No recent sales of Mess Pork, nominally \$20 per bbl. Prime Lard 11½@12c.

**BACON**.—Sale of 100 hhd's city pork—house ribbed sides 10½c; 50 do shoulders 9½c, both McFaul's brand, and deliverable from 1st to 15th September. Country clear sides 21 casks 9½c; 17 ditto 9½c; 19 ditto 9½c, in prime shipping order.

**GROCERIES**.—Market quiet. Sugar, low fair 9½c; fair 9½c; prime 9½@10; white clarified 11½@12c. Refined molasses in barrels 53c; in half barrels 55c. Prime Coffee 11 7-8@12c. Rice 5½c. G. A. Salt \$1 50 per bag.

### New York Market—July 30

**FLOUR**—5c better. Demand fair for export and home consumption; sales 9,000 bbls at \$6 15 for common to good superfine State, \$6 2½ 40 for State, \$6 25 40 for common to good superfine Indiana, Wisconsin and Ohio, \$5 67 40 for common to good export do. Sales 400 barrels Canadian Flour at \$6 30@6 75

**GRAIN**.—Wheat quiet; sales 1000 bushels at \$1 65@1 68 for Canadian club, \$1 70 for fair white Canadian, \$1 83 for new white Kentucky. Rye steady; sales of 5,000

bushels fair at 85. Corn firm, sales 25,000 bushels at 55 for hot, 60 for western. Oats steady.

**PROVISIONS**.—Pork dull, sales 300 barrels at \$20 for mess; 17 13¼ 17 25 for prime. Beer steady; sales 200 bbls. Cut meats dull. Lard heavy; sales 200 barrels at 12 5-8@1 3.

**WOOL**.—Nothing new has presented itself in this department of trade since our last report. The same quietness noticed for a long time past continues, and for all descriptions of domestic the market is firm and unchanged. The receipts of fleeces are daily increasing, and the stock of inferior and common qualities is large, while the better kinds, especially of low wools, is moderate. Sales of 60a 70,000 lb fleece, in lots, at 35a 17½c for common to extra; 15,000 lb pulled at 30c for No 1, and 12,000 lb old extra do 45c. Foreign is without material change, and only moderately active, with a limited supply; sales of 100 bales Entre Rios, 150 Buenos Ayres, and 50 African, on private terms, supposed at our quotations.

### Foreign Markets.

**PER ARABIA**. LIVERPOOL, July 19, 1886.

**BREADSTUFFS** generally a shade higher. The Brokers Circular reports an advance of 6d per bbl in flour, with a fair business. Wheat 2d per bushel higher and in good demand. Corn in active speculative demand at 1s advance.

The weather was cold, rainy and ungenial.

The following are the quotations of Richardson, Spence & Co. Western canal flour irregular as to quality; Baltimore, 35a 36s; Philadelphia, 34a 35s 6d, Ohio, 35s 6da 37s. Red wheat 8s 9da 10 9; white 10a 6da 11 6d; white corn, 32s, yellow 33s.

**PROVISIONS**.—Richardson, Spence & Co., and others, report beef and pork unchanged in every respect, but rather more inquiry for both. Bacon firm at former rates. Lard dull, and tendency downwards; sales of 60 tons at 6 a 67s. Tallow firmer; large business doing at rather higher rates; North American 60, 51s.

**LONDON MARKETS**.—Barring Brothers report iron dull; rails quoted at £8; Scotch pig quiet, 72a 73s. Breadstuffs firm; transactions on a limited scale.

**LONDON MONEY MARKET**.—Money was easier, but the Bank of England has not changed its rates of interest. The imports of gold were large but they were mostly re-shipped, and the bullion in the bank had decreased £223 280 during the week. Consols underwent no change, closing at 95½a 95 5-8 American securities, but limited transactions. United States 6s, bonds and stock 103a 104.

The favorable tenor of the commercial advices by the Atlantic and America were somewhat neutralized by heavy failures in Manchester, involving a Liverpool house which held cotton to a large extent. Apprehensions were entertained that said house would have to force sales, but they have proved groundless, and the market recovered its tone.

**CIGAR ASHES**, it is said, will be found an invaluable remedy for the bite of the mosquito and other insects. Wet the ashes and rub them on the part, and the stinging sensation will be extracted almost instantly. The reason of this is that the ashes contain alkali, which neutralizes the acid of the poison. Visitors to the sea-shore, will please make a note of this fact. It may add to their comfort when these pestiferous plagues, the mosquitoes, are about.

The Steamer T. S. Larkin was destroyed by fire near Chester on the 25th. She was valued at \$100,00.

**Why are teeth like verbs?** Because they are regular, irregular and defective.

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printer.

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## Tea and Coffee.

From the earliest times, even from the patriarch of the flood, men have used substances that stimulate, excite, exhilarate, intoxicate, and produce narcotic effects. They have imbibed them or used them in some form, and the fact cannot be discredited, that there is a want in man's physical organization that tempts him to these indulgences. We believe the time will come, (for we are an advocate of human progress,) when we shall more fully understand the nature of this necessity, and be able to control it to the varying wants of our constitution, habits, temperament, &c. That intoxicating beverages have produced more calamity than the wars of the world, is an established probability; but we will leave the dissertation to another place than this.

Tea is grown in China, and the popular belief is, that it requires immense manipulation, such as the thronged population of China only can offer, to prepare it for use, and the impression appears plausible.— There is some uncertainty whether there are two species of the plant, or not. The suspicion with which foreigners are viewed in China, prevents that close scrutiny into its culture by which only facts can be corroborated. The various modes by which it is prepared, would seem to exercise more difference over the leaf than any thing else, and from the heating and drying process the chief distinction arises. Black tea is prepared by throwing the leaves into a heap immediately after they are gathered; and hence a slight degree of fermentation is produced that blackens the mass. There is more elaboration required in the preparation of the green varieties; but we have no re-

liable testimony that they are heated on copper sheets, but think iron is used alone in all cases. The adulterations, however, belong chiefly to the green, and the coloring matter that imparts the peculiar hue is caused from impure substances, and the tea generally does not sustain the unsullied reputation of the black. The Chinese use the black alone, and treat with contempt the Fanqua, who requires them, at no little trouble, to adulterate and tamper with the simple elemental qualities of the plant.

Tea is soothing to the excited frame, the disquieted mind, relieves the headache, and is notorious for its wakefulness, if used improperly; in other words, towards night copious draughts of tea should not be taken with meat or solid food, but confined rather to a light repast of bread and butter. It is clearly impossible to do without tea. We might impiously be willing to die a little earlier than not have it; but no such rebellion to the beneficence of Providence is called for, as tea to the aged female, is a balm and nutriment that she need not abandon and would suffer if she did, though abuse in this article is as possible as in any other. There is great nutriment in tea, or as Johnston, in his "chemistry of common life," observes, "it arrests the waste of the body and thereby less solid food is required." The tea leaves are said to be as nutritious as the pulse, the peas and beans, of our gardens.

Great Britain, Holland and Russia, are the tea drinking countries of Europe.— Russia gets her supplies overland through her Asiatic Provinces, and there is no certain data to determine the quantity taken. The export from China is supposed to be one hundred million pounds; of this vas

amount Great Britain takes over one half. An English gentleman seldom calls for coffee as a refreshment, but prefers tea, and that of the black variety. Coffee cannot be supplanted in the morning for breakfast, but at all other times give us tea. The inhabitants of this country are becoming a more tea consuming people; about thirty million pounds are taken, two thirds of which is green. The respectable authority above quoted, writing a few years back, thinks there is over twenty two hundred millions of Chinese tea produced, and that it becomes a necessary of life to five hundred millions of persons. To show the relative importance of analagous articles, it is stated that probably one hundred millions of men use coffee, and some fifty millions, cocoa. The latter has not much stimulating property aside from its fatty nature, and is used mostly in Spanish countries mingled with sweets, which that people indulge in to a great extent.

As an article of commerce, the light and bulky character of tea makes it formidable, coming from a great distance, requiring a large number of ships to convey it; and its value as a purchasable commodity puts in requisition a vast amount of industry. The smallest farmer of Illinois, it would be unnecessary to say, in the light now shed on political science, is as much an agent in the furnishing of exchange as the broker at Canton or Shanghai. Tea, moreover, is a capital revenue article, when the national needs should demand it, as ten per cent. per pound levy, would hardly be known to the household dame, and yet produce to the country, under the present assumed stocks, not less than three million of dollars. That this great product may come rolling over the Rocky Mountains, should be the eager desire of every person in this country, for the complexities and complicities of Central America, as a high way between our provinces, are scarcely endurable.

The Chinese tea has been cultivated in Assam, a province lying northeast of Bengal and belonging to the East India Company, who yet hold, as against the crown, the revenues of this and the adjoining English

territory; but this enterprise is as yet an infant one, and we hear little of it. The Chinese tea is also cultivated in Java by the Dutch, and it has been taken to Brazil as an experiment; but with what success and on what scale we know not.

The Paraguay tea is extensively grown in South America, and under the name of Mate, is used by all classes. It contains a greater extent of exhilarating ingredient than the Chinese tea and may even slightly intoxicate, if taken in excess. Of this stimulating property we may hazard the opinion that no infusion can be generally acceptable without it, and the coincidence is very striking, that nations of diverse habits and tastes, scale of intelligence and extremes of position, have seized upon articles similar in their properties, to gratify a universal longing. The leaves of this shrub are four to five inches in length, and after drying, are rubbed to a powder. It is exported from Paraguay through the whole of South America, to the extent of six millions of pounds, besides what is grown in other provinces. It has not yet appeared, to our knowledge, as a foreign commercial article, and is not suitable for long preservation, nor is it of a very concentrated character.

The Coffee-tea, an infusion from the leaf of the coffee plant, has lately come into notice, and elicited much interest from the extraordinary virtue attached to it, and vouched from testimony of great respectability. It is used in Sumatra by the natives, and has recently come to the knowledge of the English and other residents at the factories, who assert that it sustains the physical powers under fatigue, privation and labor, better than any other known thing. If half be true that is told of it, the farmer may overwork to his heart's content, and find, beyond any of the transformations of the fables, immediate renovation in its use. The bodily strength is increased, relief from hunger secured and general endurance gained from it. It gives strength and activity to the mental faculties, rather than nervous excitement. Attention begins to be paid to it, and we may hope to hear more of it by and bye.

### Domestic Wines.

A great variety of these wines can be made, and while they possess fine medical qualities they are free from the poisonous ingredients that make up most of the wines sold at the present day. It is well known that most, if not all the wines, which purport to come from foreign countries are manufactured if not wholly, at least in part from ordinary alcohol and unhealthful and poisonous drugs in our cities. In New York there are establishments where the various articles of Brandy, Gin, Irish and Scotch Whiskey and the wines with various names are manufactured, and bought by private dealers all over the country and sold as liquors true to their names, which have not a drop of the genuine articles in their composition. When we purchase, and use what we suppose is a genuine article of brandy or other foreign liquor, nine times out of ten, we are just emptying into ourselves a most villanous compound of drugs and alcohol.

If, therefore, use is to be made of wines and other liquors, we have no security for their purity unless we manufacture them ourselves. The English have followed out this idea, and they manufacture their different kinds of wines, for domestic consumption, making the basis of them, vegetables and indigenous fruits. A most excellent wine is made with the rhubarb or pie plant, rivalling, as we are told, the famous sherry. Wines are also made with plums, gooseberries, elderberries, the root of the parsnip, and other vegetables and fruits. We here give the receipt for making rhubarb wine, which we copy from manuscript furnished Gov. MOORE, while in England, and it may be followed by other recipes as we can obtain them:

Get your Rhubarb stalks cut off the leaf and just the bottom of the stalk, but do not peel them, wipe the dirt off with a wet cloth cut your stalks into lengths say six or eight inches, then with a mortar and pestil reduce them to a pulp, squeeze out the juice and let it stand a few hours to settle, and

when settled pour off the clear juice from the sediment.

Boil your water but not your juice; put two quarts of boiling water to two quarts of juice, then put to it five pounds of coarse sugar and stir it about until your sugar is melted, and when cooled down to a little warmer than new milk, put to it a quarter of a pound of good new yeast, let it stand in a state of fermentation two days and nights then put into to your cask and let it ferment as long as it will; keep filling it up every night and morning until it ceases to ferment and when you are sure it is done, get one pennyworth of good Isinglass, sew it up in a narrow musling bag, tie to it a piece of twine, put it into your cask, and let it hang about half way down between the bung-hole and the bottom of your cask, and then bung your cask, and set it in a cool dry situation, and in six months you may bottle it for use, but the longer you keep it the better it will be. When you bottle it put three or four small lumps of loaf sugar into each bottle, then fill your bottles with Wine, cork them safe, and in three or four weeks you may begin to use it. When it is three or four years old it is equal to Sherry."

### Department of Agriculture.

Agriculture is the leading industrial pursuit in the United States. More capital and more people are engaged in it, than in all others. It should command the attention and care of government in proportion, at least to its importance. Whatever advances the interests of agriculture, especially advances the interests of the whole people. The time has gone by when it was supposed that no improvements could be made in agriculture, in the modes of increasing crops, and in preparing them for market. Within a few years the science of Mechanism has been employed in inventing and perfecting agricultural implements, and agricultural chemistry, ascertaining the character of soils, enriching and making them capable of producing large crops.

We think that government should devote a special department for the benefit of agri-

culture. Much has been done by scientific men, by ingenious mechanics, by thorough farmers, by the various societies of agriculture, Horticulture, Arboriculture, and by the agricultural press. All these auxiliaries will still be employed, and increased, and their influences extended. But we still need a Department of Government to be specially charged with the superintendance of the great Agricultural interests, of the United States, endowed with ample means to advance these interests. We have a department especially devoted to the management of our foreign affairs through the Secretary of State; another for our finances, through the Secretary of the Treasury; another for our military affairs, through the Secretary of War; and our naval affairs, through the Secretary of the Navy; our post-office affairs are managed by a Post Master General; our law matters by an Attorney General; all our other affairs except *agricultural*, (in which more people of the United States are interested, which strike home to every family and every house, are under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior) are taken care of by a subordinate clerk, with a niggardly appropriation, who has a room in the cellar of the patent office!

The Census Reports for 1850 give us the number of population employed in commerce, trade, manufactures, mechanic arts and mining, 1,596,265; and in agriculture alone, 2,400,583 !!

Now it does seem to us that the employments of Agriculture do not receive the attention and consideration by our government that their importance imperatively requires. But this is the fault of the agriculturists themselves. They are divided on political questions. Their influence and power are thus destroyed and neutralized. This ought not to be. If the farmers of the country would act together on a single point, they would accomplish their wishes. We are about to elect congressmen for the next congress. Whoever are elected in the west, will of necessity, with rare exceptions, represent an agricultural constituency.— Now is the time to understand the views of

candidates in regard to the establishment of a Department of Agriculture, with adequate appropriations to give it power for usefulness. Let the votes of farmers for candidates depend on a satisfactory response to inquiries propounded to these candidates. Let this be done, and we shall soon see at Washington a Department of Agriculture—where the great agricultural interests of the country will be properly represented and cared for under the fostering protection of government.

#### Fall in the Price of Wheat.

At the time of writing this article there is a great fall in the price of wheat. This has been caused by the great rush of wheat on the market and the decline of breadstuffs in the Eastern markets. The crop of the present season in England and on the continent is above an average.

For some time in a portion of the last year, wheat brought high prices. Many farmers not satisfied with \$1.50 for their wheat, held on to their crop for a still higher figure. The result finally was, that they were compelled to sell it at \$1 and even less. The lesson taught in this case was, that when wheat reached what was deemed a high price, it should be sold. Few supposed that the market would open higher than from 80 to 95 cents. When therefore, wheat operators paid 95 cents and \$1 an immense amount of wheat was rushed upon the market,—entirely beyond the amount of funds in the hands of wheat purchasers, their facilities for storage or for sending off to the great wheat market of Chicago.

Go where you will upon the lines of our rail roads at the stations, you will find all the store houses full, all the rail road cars employed and piles of wheat in stacks protected by rails or temporary shelters—and this pressure cannot be relieved by all the means of the railroads for weeks.

Thus it is, that many wheat operators decline purchasing wheat.—They will however, resume in a week or two; and we think at higher than the present nominal prices. We do not believe taking the whole country together that there is an average crop of wheat. We have a full crop in Illinois, but

that is not the case in other great wheat growing States.

Our best wheat market is in the Eastern Manufacturing States. They always furnish a certain and fair market. Foreign markets are always fluctuating.

#### PREPARATION FOR SOWING WHEAT.

It has become a settled conviction among our most thorough farmers that the crop of winter wheat need not fail and will not fail in this country, one time out of fifty, of the grounds are well prepared and the seed put in properly. The skimming process of cultivation for old lands is now generally condemned and deep plowing, thorough harrowing and rolling the ground if the seed is sown broadcast; or drilling it in—are resorted to for securing certain crops.

Now is the season for making arrangements for the next year's crop of wheat. A long and learned article on the subject of wheat culture (even if we were capable of writing such a one) is not needed. All our readers know what thorough culture means. It is commenced by plowing deep, by putting all the weeds and seeds of weeds and straw, if there be any, to such a depth that it will not thereafter be troublesome. When this is done, and the time comes for sowing, a sufficient quantity of good seed should be sown to the acre. We are enthusiasts for the drill culture. Where this cannot be done, the seed should be harrowed in well, and the land should be then rolled; and there should be drains made so that water shall not stand upon the ground. In many portions of New York, the cultivator is used for putting in wheat, and wheat thus put in has yielded better than wheat sown broadcast and harrowed in. The cultivator is a most valuable instrument for putting in wheat on all lands, and especially so in corn lands. No farmer who has used the cultivator one season will ever thereafter be willingly without it.

The central portion of Illinois has been claimed to be the great corn region of the State; but there is no just reason why wheat should not be cultivated here as successfully as corn. Wheat will not winter-

kill here if put in well. It yields large crops and is not more likely to be affected by other casualties, rust fly, bug, weevil—than wheat grown in any other portion of the Union.

Winter wheat is much preferable crop to spring wheat. It is more certain, and generally a better article. In the Northern part of our State, and in Wisconsin, Northern Indiana, &c. winter wheat does not succeed well. In some cases, the cultivation of winter wheat has been abandoned, after many trials and much loss. In a visit to Northern Indiana we heard many enquiries by persons disposed to emigrate to our State, in regard to the successful cultivation of winter wheat here. One great object of removing hither was to find a country where winter wheat can be successfully grown. We have no doubt of its success here, when man does his part.

Wheat culture is increasing here. A much greater breadth of land will be sown this fall than last. It is important to the general interests of the country, and the special interests of the farmers, that the coming crop shall be a good one; and that mainly depends on the manner in which the grounds are prepared and the seed sown. The rest we must leave to Providence, believing with Poor Richard that "God helps those who help themselves."

#### Sangamon County Fair.

Our readers of Sangamon county are reminded that the fair for this county is to come off on the fair grounds on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, being the 23d, 24th, 25th, and 26th days of September next. The premiums amount to more than one thousand five hundred dollars. These are offered for pure blooded cattle, grade cattle, fat cattle, working oxen, horses mules and jacks, horses of all work, matched geldings and mares, matched and single mules; sheep—Spanish and merinoes, long wool, middle wool, fat sheep; poultry, hogs, various classes, agricultural implements, farm products, products of the orchard, dairy, mill fabrics, needle work, paintings and daguer-

reotypes, designs for buildings, bread, cake preserves, &c., plants, flowers and floral designs.

The superintendents of the different departments, are as follows:

J. N. BROWN, cattle.

J. STOCKDALE, horses, jacks and mules.

JOHN McCONNELL, sheep and poultry.

J. C. CROWDER, hogs.

H. B. GRUBB, Agricultural Impliments, &c.

A. B. CAST, farm produces, dairy, fruit.

C. W. MATHENY, mill fabrics, needle work daguerreotypes, paintings, &c.

JAMES McCONNELL, condiments, cake, bread, meat, &c.

N. M. BROADWELL, plants, flowers, floral designs.

We understand that all the gentlemen named as superintendents have received copies of the premium lists for distribution. If there is a mistake in this matter they are desired to call on S. Francis, secretary of the society, for other copies.

*The superintendents are desired to ascertain if the committee men named for their departments will serve, and if they cannot serve, the superintendents will please appoint others and report to the secretary of the society as soon as possible. This is absolutely necessary in order to prevent confusion and difficulty on the days of the fair.*

The committee for that purpose are now engaged in making arrangements for the improvement of the grounds. Many improvements ought to be made, and it is believed that liberal men, who have a proper regard for the interests of agriculture in Sangamon county, will take stock in the grounds—which stock is now worth more than par—to enable to society to fit up the grounds in the most liberal style—making them a credit to the county, and a leading point of attraction.

Some changes in the regulations of the coming fair have been made, and which differ materially from those of the last fair.

The society will dispense with the use of badges for membership. Exhibitors tickets will be provided for which they will pay one dollar each, which will admit exhibitors during the fair; and tickets will be provi-

ded for each day of the fair—to be sold at twenty-five cents—to admit one person.

Officers of the society and superintendents will wear badges.

The further regulations for the fair are as follows:

Any person paying ten dollars to the secretary shall be permitted to exhibit as many articles of his own property as he may desire, and shall be considered an annual member of the association.

The stockholders in the fair grounds may exhibit any article for which a premium is offered, free of charge, and may enter the grounds of the exhibition and fair, in such conveyances as they may deem proper, free of charge.

The gate fees shall be as follows:

Tickets to be designated for each day,	25c.
Double carriage or wagon, or other carriage, to contain at least one lady,	50 cts.
Single carriage,	25 cts.
Horse,	25 cts.

The entrance fee for each article to be paid to the secretary, shall be one fifth of the premium offered: provided, that the domestic articles manufactured and exhibited by the ladies, shall be entered free of charge.

All stock and articles offered for exhibition, shall be entered in the name of the proper owners thereof, and all entrances shall be made by 12 o'clock M. of Tuesday, September 23d.

For the convenience of exhibitors, entries may be made at the secretary's office, in Springfield, on Monday, September 22d.

Provender will be furnished on the ground at cost.

Premiums shall be ready for distribution on Friday morning of the fair.

Premiums shall not be given when the animal or article is unworthy.

The same article or animal shall not receive two premiums.

Animals or articles cannot receive premiums when awarded, if removed from the grounds without the consent of the President.

The awarding committee on animals will

have regard to symmetry, early maturity, size and general characteristics of the breeds to which they belong; they will make proper allowances for age, feeding and other circumstances affecting the character and condition of the animals.

The awarding committee on fat cattle will give particular attention to the animals submitted for examination. It is believed, all other things being equal, those are the best cattle that have the greatest weight in the smallest superficies.

Exhibitors of stock will be required to give all information possible, of the pedigrees of their animals, and their treatment.

No exhibitor shall attempt to influence the awarding committee.

No horse, or other animal, will be allowed to be attached to any tree, sapling, or vine, within the grounds.

Exhibitors are required to have their articles entered upon the books, at the business office, before they are placed within the inclosure.

The executive committee will take all possible care of stock, and other articles, after their arrangement on the ground, but will not be responsible for any losses or damage that may occur.

We need not urge, at this time, on the consideration of our farmers, our mechanics, our artists and our ladies, the importance of the coming fair to the reputation of our county. Sangamon county has stood high in the list of agricultural counties, but she has now ambitious and aspiring rivals which would wrest from her honors she has long worn. This is right and we should not complain if other counties successfully rival us. We believe, however, that if such shall prove to be the fact, it will be because our county and city will not do their best—will not put forth their whole strength.

We have as good stock; as good field crops; as good fruit; as good vegetables; as good dairies; as good mechanics, artists, ladies who can execute as fine needle work, as any county in the State. And we want to see all parties put forth their best efforts.

We want the fair days to be proud days for our county. We want to show the numerous strangers who will be here, the rich products of the central county.

Mechanics! are you preparing articles for the fair? Farmers! will you have the best stock you have on hand? Fruit growers! shall we see specimens of your best fruits duly labelled with their names! Dairy-women! shall we see your golden butter and rich cheese? Shall we see the needle work of the fairy fingers of our girls and women? Shall we see exhibited, all the different articles that make up the extensive list for which the society offer liberal premiums, and the presence of which will make glad the hearts of the noble, industrious population of old Sangamon, who will be present on the occasion! We say present, because fair days are the great gala days of our farmers—and they with their wives and their sons and their daughters, will mingle with the people of our city and our villages, and strangers, on the occasion we have named.

Some gentleman entirely qualified for the purpose, will address the people present on subjects connected with agriculture.

#### Frye's Adjustable Prairie Plow.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., there was a public trial of this plow on the Sangamon Bottom Prairie, near the new bridge, at what is called "Marsh's Ferry." The trial was made on a piece of what is called "swamp ground," the toughest piece of ground that could be found on the whole prairie. The plow was put into the ground about three o'clock, and was drawn by four horses. It did the work well, cutting some twenty-six inches. The ground was, of course, baked hard. It was hard work for the horses; but it was conceded by good farmers present, that eight yoke of cattle would not have drawn a common plow, cutting the same width which was cut by the Adjustable Plow, with anything like the ease with which the horses did their work.

Several contracts had been made by persons to break prairie in the same locality but they were all compelled to relinquish

the work on account of the hardness and toughness of the soil in consequence of the extreme dry weather.

We state the facts in this case, and our farmers can make their own comments.

At the close of the trial, the company present was organized into a meeting, and the following proceedings were had:

NEAR SANGAMON BRIDGE, }  
Marsh's Ferry, Aug. 16, 1856. }

At a collection of farmers and others, who had come together to witness a trial of Frye's Adjustable Prairie plow in the Sangamon Bottom Prairie.—after the trial had been made—

On motion, J. H. Robinson, Esq. was called to the chair, and S. Francis, appointed Secretary.

On motion of James Keyes, Esq., it was unanimsly

Resolved, It is the sense of this meeting, that the "Adjustable Anti-Friction Carriage Plow," invented by Mr. Jesse Frye, is an important improvement on any plow now in use, and will do more work with less power than any plow with which we are acquainted.

Resolved, That the editors in Springfield be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting in their respective papers.

The meeting then adjourned.

J. H. ROBINSON, Chm'n.

S. FRANCIS, Sec'y.

We need only add, that since the above noticed trial of the plow was made, it has been subjected to several other trials, and in all cases has been successful. The exact amount of the power saved cannot be ascertained except by use of the dynamometer.

We hope that this plow will be used with the ordinary prairie plow, cutting the same width of furrow. The dynamometer in such case would demonstrate the practical advantages of the new plow.

We know of several gentlemen who intend to have the new plow as soon as they can be manufactured. To see two or three horses breaking prairie with a plow cutting 26 inches—the plowman sitting comfortably on a seat above the plow—having the team and the plow at his perfect control—is a gratifying and wonderful sight, even in these days of progress.

### The State Fair.

Arrangements are rapidly progressing at Alton for the State Fair. The grounds selected are the most picturesque, convenient and beautiful to be found any where; and the fixtures for the convenience of the Exhibition are to be entirely sufficient and got up in the best style.—The preparations will probably be greater and better for the occasion than any which have preceded them.

The position of Alton—accessible from every quarter by river navigation and railroad—will bring an immense number of people to the fair, and also of all those articles for exhibition which make the fair interesting. The different counties will send their best stock, and other agricultural productions, the cities will send specimens of success in the mechanical arts—and we shall have machinery, paintings, fruit, needle work, &c., &c.—a greater display than we have ever yet witnessed. The St. Louis Mechanical and Agricultural Association, which had made arrangements for an exhibition the week preceding the State Fair, have in a true spirit of kindness, postponed their fair until after that of the Illinois State Agricultural Society.

Our friends at Alton will have their hospitality taxed to the utmost to accommodate the vast crowds which will be in attendance; but we are assured that means will be provided to meet the demands of the occasion. Alton never was behind when a call was made upon her generosity or hospitality.

### The Garden Raspberry.

Lewis F. Allen, Esq., has two varieties of raspberry in cultivation on his farm on Grand Island, near Buffalo, which possess some important advantages. He says he has cultivated them for ten years—that they are perfectly hardy, have withstood every winter without any sort of protection—and bear abundantly. He procured the original plant from the garden of a gentleman now deceased, but does not know where they came from. He does not find them described in books. Mr. Allen further says:

"These raspberries withstand the cold of this latitude, 42 deg 45 min. north, as well as the wild raspberry of the woods or any thing else—never missing a full crop; and my small plantation has given me several bushels every season. They have never been marketed until this summer, and having leased my farm-garden grounds to a

Scotch gardener, he sends them to town, where they are pronounced by the fruit dealers the best they have had, although the true Red Antwerps—requiring winter protection—are sent in for sale.

Having seen frequent inquiries in the papers for hardy raspberries, and believing that the varieties I have so long cultivated comprise the most desirable qualities for popular culture, I have advised my gardener to offer a part of his young plants for sale, which will be seen in the advertisement accompanying this for your paper. I grow them together promiscuously in the rows, which I think is an advantage to their abundant bearing, and they are easily distinguished by the color and character of their wood and fruit. They should be fairly cultivated, in good ground, three to five canes in the hill, and cut down in the fall or spring to three feet in height, according to the strength of the canes. Tied at the top with a piece of twine, they need no additional support, the natural strength of the canes being sufficient. Owing to their strong growth, I set the rows six feet apart, so as to use the plow between them, and four feet apart in the row. When first planted I put but one cane in a hill as that throws up plenty of suckers for the coming year. The "true" Red, or Hudson River Antwerp compared with mine, has proved a failure in this vicinity.

Yours truly,

LEWIS F. ALLEN.

Black Rock, N. Y., August, 1856.

### The Wheat Crop for 1857.

Our farmers are now busy in preparing for putting in seed for the next wheat crop. Wheat is now one of our great staples. When the ground is properly prepared and seed is put in well, a good crop is almost certain. Scarcely too much can be said in regard to the necessity of attending to these particulars. With poor culture, there may be a good crop of wheat, but with good culture there will be a fair crop in forty-nine out of fifty cases.

We give two articles below—one on "the Cultivation of Wheat," and the other on the means of "Cleaning Chess out of Seed Wheat." They are both worthy of the farmer's attention.

#### TO CLEAN CHESS OUT OF SEED WHEAT.

On our last visit to the farm of Mr. John Johnston, near Geneva, New York., he informed us that some years ago he was a believer in, and an earnest advocate of, the theory that wheat would turn to chess. In some of the early volumes of the Genesee Farmer, he cited several facts which had

come under his observation, and which appeared to prove that, in spite of botanists and vegetable physiologists, wheat would turn to chess. This idea was combatted by several correspondents of the Farmer,; and as Mr. J. confessed to us, he had to acknowledge to himself that he was worsted in this "paper war." Fully persuaded that he had the best side of the argument, and thinking that his opponent had the advantage simply because better skilled in the use of the pen, he resolved to prove beyond all controversy by ocular and practical demonstration, that wheat would turn to chess.

He took three bushels of wheat (we believe this was the quantity, but it is immaterial) and looked it all over, grain by grain, picking out all the chess. When he had finished, he was satisfied that there was not a grain of chess in the whole three bushels. Now then thought he, I shall have them; if I get chess from this wheat, it won't do for them to tell me that I sowed chess with the wheat; and he had no doubt that, as usual he should have "lots of chess." The wheat was sown, and the result was, that while there was an abundance of chess in the wheat cleaned in the ordinary way, there was not a single ear of chess on the land sown with the clean wheat. This experiment which Mr. J. made in order to convince the theorists that wheat would turn to chess, had the effect of convincing himself that he was in error, and that the great cause of chess in wheat must be described by sowing chess with the seed wheat.

Once satisfied that wheat would not turn to chess, Mr. J. resolved to sow no more of it; and he hit upon a plan of cleaning seed wheat which took out every grain of chess. The method is simply this: After the wheat has been cleaned in the ordinary way, by running it through a fanning mill, take the riddles out of the fanning mill, leaving the screen in; take off the rod that shakes the riddles and the screens; pour the wheat slowly into the hopper with a basket or a half bushel; turn the mill a little quicker than for ordinary cleaning, and every grain of chess will be blown out, unless where three seeds stick together, which is some times the case with the top seeds. Two men will clean from ten to fifteen bushels per hour. If the wheat is light, say weighing from fifty to fifty-five pounds per bushels, considerable wheat will be blown away with the chess; but where good Genesee wheat is raised, as in this section, weighing from sixty to sixty-four pounds per bushel, little or no wheat is blown out. In some cases it is better to raise the hind end of the

fanning mill about two inches from the floor.

Since Mr. Johnston adopted this plan of cleaning his seed wheat, he has not raised a "wine-glass full of chaff in more than twenty years."

We may remark that the same practice is very generally adopted in England, not only in cleaning seed wheat, but in cleaning all their grain for market, more especially barley.

There is a high duty on the process of converting barley into malt (about seventy-five cents per bushel,) and the malsters naturally do not wish to pay duty on barley of an inferior quality, or on light grains that will not germinate, or, consequently, make malt. On this account, farmers are particularly careful to clean their barley before sending it to market. It is first run through the fanning mill to separate the chaff from it; then through a machine to break off the "pales," or beards; and then again through a fanning mill with a finer set of riddles and screen. After this the riddles are taken out, and the barley is run through as in the process above described. Many farmers have a machine on purpose for this work and consider it indispensable. It is called a "Heaving Machine." A good sample of English barley, when cleaned in this way, will weigh fifty-six pounds per bushel. On Mr. Lawes' farm at Rothemstead, we have known his experimental barley to weigh fifty-eight pound per bushel. This great weight per bushel, however, must not be attributed to the process of cleaning alone. It is more probably due to climate inasmuch as the wheat, no matter how well it is cleaned is not so heavy as Genesee wheat.

Mr. Johnston thinks every agricultural paper in the country should give this process of cleaning wheat, and urge their readers to adopt it. If any wheat grower will once try it, he will never again sow wheat without running it through a fanning mill in the way described.—*Genesee Farmer.*

#### Planting and Care of Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

Notwithstanding the repeated lessons that have been given for the planting and subsequent treatment of trees in the garden and in the orchard, we are pained in passing through almost every portion of the country to witness the unpardonable neglect, and the consequent loss of thousands of newly planted trees, for the want of a little foresight and care. So much has already been said upon the subject of properly planting trees that we shall not here repeat it; but in view

of the immense number of trees that have died of the last spring's planting, of the starved, sickly and discouraging appearance of thousands of others that still retain some signs of life, we will offer a word of admonition and advice, although now too late to be of benefit the present season, but from the experience of the past we offer it as a guide for the future.

In the first place, trees, when reset from the nursery, should have all the top branches cut back, so as to restore an equilibrium between the demand of moisture by the leaves and branches, and the supply from the roots. It is a fact clearly established by vegetable physiologists, that every tree in a vigorous and healthy condition gives off daily through its leaves a large amount of moisture, and this moisture is furnished to the leaves from the earth through the roots. In removing a tree from the nursery, not only many of the small fibrous roots, the terminal ends of which, in a healthy state, are the mouths through which this moisture is received, are either injured or destroyed, but many of the larger roots are unnecessarily and carelessly, we had like to have said voluntarily, cut off and lost, so that the supply of juices to the leaves and branches of the tree are exceedingly meagre and limited. Now, unless the branches are shortened, more or less, according to the condition of the roots, say to within three or four inches of the base of the last season's growth, the quantity of moisture given off from the newly expanding leaves will be so much greater than the supply afforded by the mutilated roots that the vital forces of the tree becomes rapidly exhausted and it lingers and finally dies. But what too frequently tends much to hasten this result is the want of properly pulverizing the ground and digging the holes for the trees of sufficient size, and the application of rich and mellow soil to the roots. When trees have been newly planted in the way they generally are, and when followed by a dry season, like the present, they are slow in starting to grow, and soon present a sickly, dying appearance. Then the owner becomes alarmed and at once attempts to remedy the evil by giving to each tree an occasional bucket of water, perhaps directly from the well; this settles the earth compactly around the roots and stem of the tree, which under the influence of the wind and the following day's sun, becomes baked hard and only increases the evils it was intended to remedy.

A tree well pruned and properly planted in good season, in a well prepared and mel-

low soil, with a covering four inches in depth of old straw, leaves, sawdust or tan bark, for a distance of four feet around it, will never require watering and in the driest season ninety nine of every hundred trees so treated may be expected to live and flourish. This is an exceedingly simple matter and only requires to be remembered and practiced to save to the country millions of trees that are now annually lost.—[Valley Farmer.

#### Fruits in Summer.

By an arrangement of Providence, as beautiful as it is benign, the fruits of the earth are ripening during the whole summer. From the delightful strawberry on the opening of spring, to the luscious peach of the fall, there is a constant succession of delightful aliments; made delightful by that Power, whose loving kindness is in all his works, in order to stimulate us to their highest cultivation, connecting with their use also, the most health-giving influences; and with the rich profuseness of a well-attended fruitery, it is one of the most unaccountable things in nature, that so little attention is paid, comparatively speaking, to this branch of farming.

It is a beautiful fact, that while the warmth and exposure of summer tend to biliousness and fevers, the free use of fruits and berries counteracts that tendency.—Artificial acids are found to promote the separation of the bile from the blood, with great mildness and certainty; this led to the supposition, that the natural acids, as contained in fruits and berries, might be as available, and being more palatable, would necessarily be preferred. Experiment has verified the theory, and within a very late period, Allopathic writers have suggested the use of fresh, ripe perfect, raw fruits, as a reliable remedy in the diarrhoeas of summer.

How strongly the appetite yearns for a pickle, when nothing else could be relished, is in the experience of most of use. It is the instinct of nature pointing to a cure.—The want of a natural appetite, is the result of the bile not being separated from the blood, and if not remedied fever is inevitable, from the slightest grades to that of bilious, congestive, and yellow. "Fruits are cooling," is a bye-word, the truth of which has forced itself on the commonest observer. But why they are so, they had not time, opportunity, or inclination to inquire into. The reason is, the acid of the fruit stimulates the liver to greater activity in separating the bile from the blood, which is its

proper work, the result of which is, the bowels become free, the pores of the skin are open. Under such circumstances, fevers and want of appetite, are impossible.

How to Use Fruits.—To derive from the employment of fruits and berries all that healthful and nutritive effect which belong to their nature, we should,

First—Use fruits that are ripe, fresh, perfect, raw.

Second—They should be used in their natural state, without sugar, cream, milk or any other item of food or drink.

Third—Fruits have their best effect when used in the early part of the day, hence we do not advise their employment at a later hour than the middle of the afternoon; not that, if perfect and ripe, they may not be eaten largely by themselves, within two hours of bed time with advantage, but if the sourness of decay should happen to taint them, or any liquor should inadvertently be largely drank afterwards, even cold water, acidity of the whole mass may follow, resulting in a night of distress, if not actual or dangerous sickness. So it is better not to run the risk.

To derive a more decided medical effect, fruits should be largely eaten soon after rising in the morning, and about midway between breakfast and dinner.

An incalculable amount of sickness and suffering would be prevented every year if the whole class of desserts were swept from our tables during summer, and fresh, ripe, perfect fruits and berries were substituted, while the amount of money that would be saved thereby, at the New York prices of fruits, would in some families, amount to many dollars, enough to educate an orphan child, or support a colporteur a whole year, in some regions of our country.—[Hall's New York Journal of Health for July.

#### Salting Asparagus Beds.

The editor of the Germantown Telegraph, in noticing an article on this subject in a recent number of the Country Gentleman, says:

We are not sure that we can add anything very specific or valuable to the correspondent and editor's information on this subject, but we can give our own experience in the matter, which inclines very decidedly in favor of a plentiful application of salt as a top dressing in the spring, when the plant begins to show its nose. We sowed this spring (and the same quantity for a number of years,) one bushel and a half upon five small beds about fourteen by three and a

half feet in dimensions, and finer asparagus, both in size and flavor, cannot be produced, taking the entire season together. The salt destroys everything coming in contact with it, except the asparagus plant, and on this it acts as a powerful stimulant. We have raised a number of stalks this season and every season, measuring full four inches in circumference, and we are very certain that to produce the same effect, without salt, if it could be produced at all, would require the heaviest kind of manuring, at a much greater expense and five times the labor.—The only other application we give to our beds, is a covering of barnyard manure in the autumn, a portion of the remains of which is forked in in the spring. We will add, that few or none will attempt to raise asparagus to perfection, without the liberal use of salt.

#### Preservation of Potatoes for Seed.

BY J. N. CHANDLER, OF ADRIAN, MICHIGAN.

The potato, when first obtained from its native mountains, was a small, watery and even bitter tuber. By cultivation it has been brought into so high and refined a state that most of the countries of the civilized globe look on it as one of the most important articles of food. How has this great change been brought about? How has every one who has planted the potato assisted in refining it? Generation after generation has adopted the same treatment which has wrought this change. It may be asked by what means? I answer, by violating the laws of nature.

The natural place for potatoes is in the earth; but most of those which are used for planting are out of the ground from five to seven months in the year. When we dig them in the fall, we find them, if matured, when baked or boiled, to be dry and mealy. They are generally put into cellars to remain until spring. As warm weather approaches they are often removed to some out-building, to remain several weeks, which renders them less fit to grow. Out of this out-building we select our potatoes for seed, although some of them may not be planted before the middle of June, much wilted, of course, and the remainder are felt for summer use.

Every one who has ever noticed the difference between the flavor of a potato in the fall, when first dug, and one in the spring which has been kept in a large dry cellar, has observed that the flavor becomes much impaired, much more so than those which

are buried in holes in the earth, where they retain nearly all of their freshness and vitality. It has also been observed that farmers who have small and inconvenient cellars keep their potatoes in better condition than those who keep them in large cool ones.—Hence, by storing them in the latter, and letting them wilt before planting, they become weakened in their nature, and are subject to degeneracy, and finally to disease.

In order to obtain good potatoes for seed, make choice of a small spot of arable land on which water will not stand, an eastern slope and new ground are the best, ploughed early in the spring, and furrowed four or five inches deep, two and a half feet apart. Select middling sized potatoes which have touched the ground during the winter previous, but do not cut them. Drop one every eight inches along the furrows, and cover them by filling the furrows with earth. Then cover them with a top dressing of forest leaves or straw two inches deep. As soon as the tops of the young plants are a few inches high, pass between them with a shovel plough, do not hill. This is all you have to do until fall. When the ground begins to freeze, cover with straw, chaff, or forest leaves, six inches deep, to keep them from frost. Your potatoes will now have a chance to ripen and rest during the winter. In this way, you will have the greatest yield and best quality. Continue this course from year to year and the rot will not only disappear but your crop will increase from twenty five to one hundred per cent. The third year, you may increase your field crop by plowing in fine manure. You will now have had Nature's course.— [Patent Office Report.

#### *Dielytra Spectabilis.*

So long as we see a garden or "yard" without this glorious plant being amongst the number grown, or meet with a person who is still ignorant of its transcendent beauty, at a season when flowers are scarce, we shall not fail to urge a plea in its behalf. Imagine a plant as hardy as a dandelion, and capable of furnishing a bush several feet in diameter of the current spring's growth, surmounted by rich pendant racemes of blossoms of a most singular form, of a bright pink or rose color, commencing to open in this latitude early in May, and at its greatest beauty by the middle of the month, and it hardly requires a greater recommendation to every body who loves flowers. It is indeed a striking object, and the gem of the flower garden at the season when it blossoms. After it has done flow-

ering, it may be taken up and divided into as many pieces as there are eyes and planted again in a good border, all of which will make respectable flowering plants by next spring. The shoots may also be cut up into cuttings with two or three eyes each, and inserted in sandy soil, covered with a mat to keep off the sun till rooted. If not wanted to propagate, it will make an immense bush in three or four years. E. S.

#### The American Goldfinch.

There is a peculiar trait in the habits of this bird which I have never seen mentioned by any Naturalist and am at a loss to conceive why it should have escaped their notice, when such habits digress materially from the general custom of all other birds. I allude to the time of their breeding. It is a fact which I have for many years, noticed, that these birds do not commence building their nests until the month of July, while many kinds, who remain with us through the whole season, have reared their first brood, and have commenced laying their eggs for the second. By careful observation and study with regard to this fact, I am led to the conclusion that, although the old birds find a sufficient quantity of food at all seasons of the year, and the kind that is adapted to their wants, they would be unable to find in spring or early summer those new and milky seeds which are the necessary food for their young, for those seeds that have escaped vegetation are exceedingly hard and dry by age, and would be highly injurious to them as food. Had they been constructed with a pouch, as some birds are, into which the hardest grain or seeds may be received, and in a short time softened by the chyle formed in such pouch or stomach, as is the pigeon's they might commence their breeding earlier in the season, and not delay the time until a certain period arrives.

In the study of nature one is surprised to see the beauty and harmony that exists through all the works of Him who is the contriver of them all. How wonderful it is that the Goldfinch, by a law of their nature, should not be allowed to bring forth their young before, nor after, but at the very time when those seeds used by them for food have commenced their formation, or have passed into the milk, in which state they are more easily dissolved in their stomach, and at which time an abundant supply may always be found.

They sometimes feed their young on the pulps of barley, oats, and even Indian corn; but their principal and favorite food is the

seeds of the autumnal hawk weed thistle.

Although a small bird, they are remarkably hardy, enduring the rigors of winter, and sporting over the snow as blithe and contented as when they bask in the sun, or bathe or plume their feathers in the month of June, and it really seems rather than otherwise to them a season of pastime; but the cold winds which drive the snow from its northern home, brings with them their most dreaded enemy; he perches upon some post in the fence, or topmost branch of a tree, from which he can detect the least moving object within scope of his vision, and while the Goldfinches are busy in gleaning for food in a variety of positions unconscions of an enemy about them, the "Butcher bird" drives in their midst, striking his victim and bearing him off to the nearest tree; at this the whole flock is alarmed and rise in the air, flying in all directions, not knowing which course to take, while in the confusion small detachments are formed the main flock who remain separate, until in subsequent time, they meet the same or some other party.—[N. E. Farmer.

#### Frauds in the Sheep Trade.

The Wool Grower, for May, contains an article which we should copy entire, for the benefit of western sheep buyers; but our space will not permit this; so we give some of its points, to put our readers on their guard:

1. Let the fleece grow two years, and pass off the fleece as one of a single year's growth.
2. Overstate the amount actually shorn, by one or two pounds.
3. Dope the sheep; that is, put on oil and coloring matter to make the sheep look like the required breed; that is paint the sheep as a common horse was once painted, and sold for one of a superior race.
4. Always have a sheep or two on hand of just the breed the buyer wants, and that, too, though there was but one kind when the flock started.

Such are some of the frauds practiced on unsuspecting men, who have not yet learned how to look for dishonesty, under the mask of fair profession, when some of these scoundrels make. We know some facts, which, if published, would cover some men with infamy. Buy of none, we would say to all, but well known and honest men.

Bad words, like bad shillings, are often brought home to the person who has uttered them!

### Psalmody vs. Labor.

Snooks had occasion to call on the reverend Dominie Thomas Atrachard while he was in Glasgow, 'Is the Dominie in?' he inquired of a portly dame who opened the door.

'He's at hame, but he's no in,' replied the lady. 'He's in the yard, soober intendin' Sauners, the carpenter. Ye can see him the noo, if your business is vare precise.'

Snooks assented, and walked through the door pointed to him into the yard, where he beheld a carpenter briskly planing a joist to the air of 'Maggie Lauder,' and the worthy dominie standing by. Unwilling to intrude on their conversation, Snooks stepped unseen behind a water cask, and heard:

'Sauners!'—no answer from the carpenter. 'Sauners, I say! Can ye no hear me?'

'Yes, minister, I hear ye! What's your wull?'

'Can ye no whistle some mair solemn and goodly tune while ye're at work?'

'A weel, minister, if it be ye're wull, I'll e'en do it.' Upon which he changed the air to the dead march of Saul, greatly to the hindrance of what was now really painful planing. The Dominie looked on some minutes in silence, and then began:

'Sauners, I had anither word to till ye. Did the guide wife hire ye by the day's drag or by the job?'

'The day's drag was our agreeing, maister.'

'Then on the whole, Sauners, I think ye maun just as weel gae back to whistling bonnie Maggie Lauder.'—[Sat. Eve.

### The Cultivation of Wheat.

As another harvest is gathered, the farmers of New York again have an opportunity to judge of the products and value of the different varieties of wheat sown in the fall. Fearing the depredations of the midge many have sown the Mediterranean variety, believing that its long beards and early maturing would prevent the working of that insect. The long beard is useless, however, and the early maturing is its only protection from these depredations. Taking into consideration the quality of the grain, and the yield per acre, it will not be advisable to sow the Mediterranean wheat, if two-thirds of a crop can be obtained from White Flint or Sole's variety. It is for the interest of the farmers of Western New York to furnish the millers with wheat which will make the best quality of flour made in any quarter of the globe. If they should cease growing the choice varieties the loss would

be greater than that occasioned by the midge.

To guard against midge and the Hessian Fly, much attention should be paid to the preparation of the soil and the time of sowing. If we sow before the fifth of September, the wheat is liable to be injured by the Hessian Fly, and if we sow after that date the midge is to be feared, for other things being equal, the earliest sown is the earliest matured. Much also depends on sowing seed that was fully matured before being gathered, and wheat cut when it will make the most and the best flour, is not fit to sow. Wheat which is fully ripe when cut, is preferable for sowing, as it has proved to be more hardy and not so liable to be injured by the Fly.

The farmer who believes that wheat will turn to chess, and yet sows wheat that contains chess, injures himself as well as the miller, for chess wheat will not make superior flour. No wheat should be sown which has other seeds mixed with it, as it will take years to clear them from the land. If those who believe in the change from wheat to chess, will sow nothing but pure wheat, they will in time clear their lands of chess. When once introduced, however, it will take several years with the closest attention to disperse it; for it ripens early, and mixes with the wheat in cutting, and produces another growth. Farmers should be careful to frequently change their seed wheat. If they procure it from a distance, and from different soils, the improvement in their crop will compensate them for their trouble and expense. I have found some new varieties do well in favorable seasons, but when the grounds were bare most of the winter, there would be almost a total failure. Most of the varieties from Europe are later in ripening, and not hardy. [R. Harrison in N. Y. Chronicle.

### The India Rubber Tree.

The tree (*Siphilla Elastica*) is quite peculiar in its appearance, and sometimes reaches the height of 80 and even 100 feet. The trunk is perfectly round, rather smooth and protected by a bark of a light color.

The leaves grow in clusters of three together, are thin and of an ovate form, and from ten to fourteen inches in length. The centre leaf of the cluster is always the longest.

This remarkable tree bears a curious fruit of the size of a peach, which although not very palatable, is eagerly sought after by different animals—it is separated into three lobes, which contain each a small black nut.

The trees are tapped in the same manner that New Englanders tap maple trees. The trunk having been perforated a yellowish liquid resembling cream which is caught in a small clap cup, fastened to the tree. When these become full their contents are emptied into large earthen jars, in which the liquid is kept until desired for use.

The operation of making the shoes is as singular as it is interesting. Imagine yourself, dear reader, in one of the seringo groves of Brazil. Around you are a number of good looking natives, of low stature and olive complexion. All are variously engaged. One is stirring with a long wooden stick the contents of a cauldron, placed over a pile of blazing embers? This is the liquid as it is taken from the rubber tree. Into this a wooden "last" covered with clay, and having a handle is plunged. A coating of the liquid remains.

You will perceive that another native takes the "last" and holds in the smoke arising from the ignition of a species of palm fruit for the purpose of causing the glutinous substance to assume a dark color. The "last" is then plunged again into the cauldron, and this process is repeated as in dipping candles, until the coating is of the required thickness.—You will moreover notice a number of Indian girls engaged in making various impressions, such as flowers, etc., upon the soft surface of the rubber, by means of their thumb nails, which are especially pared and cultivated for this purpose. After this final operation, the shoes are placed in the sun to harden, and large numbers of them may be seen laid out on mats in exposed situations. The original name of rubber is cauchu, from which the formidable word caoutchouc is derived.

Attempts are being made to prepare the gum for exportation in its liquid state and a quantity has been thus brought into New York and New Haven from Para., S. A. It is of great value for many purposes and the prospect is that it will soon be imported in large quantities.—*Journal of Commerce.*

#### American Race Horses going to Europe.

Among the passengers of the steamship Asia, which sailed yesterday for England, we noticed the name of R. Ten Bræck, the Napoleon of the American turf since the decease Col. Johnson, of Virginia. The object of Mr. Ten Bræck's visit to Europe is to test the powers of the English race horse on English ground by actual experiment with those bred in America. For that purpose he takes out with him Lecompte, Prior, and the filly Prioress—three of the fastest hors-

es in this country. His horse Lexington, however, is left behind for reasons best known to himself. For last century, England has been celebrated for the superiority of her race horses, and it is to her principally that we owe our fine stock. Most of our best stock stallions have been imported from that country. It is contended by English turf men that the horse in England has attained the maximum of speed and no foreign horse is equal to them. In order to solve this problem, Mr. Ten Bræck, confident of the powers of the American bred horse, goes to England, and time will tell the result.—We should be surprised were he to come off victorious—stranger things things have happened. As we have beaten the English in many things, why should we not beat them in racing also? It is well known that the American trotting horse, whether owing to the skill of the driver or the inherent qualities of the animal, is far in advance of any thing in Europe.—Numbers are annually exported to England and France and sold at high prices, and will so continue until the breeding, training and driving of the trotting horse—an art by itself—is better understood in those countries. We will, however, watch the movements of Mr. Ten Bræck in England, and keep our readers fully posted.—[N. Y. Herald.

#### Care of Chickens.

In rearing fowls for the market, the early treatment of chickens is of the highest importance, they should be warmly sheltered and housed, and moreover fed most liberally at very short intervals. If a chick receives a check in its growth at an early age, it never afterwards attains a large size, as the boney frame becomes set, and a stunted growth is the inevitable result.

With good and abundant feeding, and the advantage of free run; in favorable weather, Dorkings will become fit for the purpose of fattening at the age of three to four months in summer, and four to five or six in winter. In order to be in the highest perfection, fowls must be killed before they have arrived at their full development; the male birds must be taken when the sickle feathers of the tail begin to show, or as the country women say, "when their tail tails begin to turn;" and the females, whilst still pullets, i. e.—before they have laid.

Life, we are told, is a journey—and to see the way in which some people eat, you would imagine they were taking in provisions to last them the whole length of the journey!—*Punch.*

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The New York Tribune has been furnished by an old Yankee with the following valuable recipes for making home-made—

**WHEAT AND INDIAN BREAD.**—To two quarts of sifted Indian meal add hot water enough to wet the same; when sufficiently cooled, add one teaspoon full or more of salt, half a pint of yeast and one teacup full of molasses. Then add wheat flour enough to make it into loaves, (it should be kneaded well) and when risen light, bake or steam it three or four hours; if this should get sour while rising add a teaspoon full of sugar and a little saleratus dissolved in water.

**BROWN BREAD.**—Take equal quantities of Indian meal and rye flour: scald the meal, and when lukewarm add the flour, adding one half-pint of good yeast to four quarts of the mixture, a table spoon even full of salt, and half a cup of molasses, kneading the mixture well.—This kind of bread should be softer than wheat flour bread; all the water added after scalding the meal should be luke-warm. When it has risen well, put it to bake in a brick oven or stove—the former should be hotter than for flour bread; if a stove oven, it should be steamed two hours, then baked one hour more; when done, it is a dark brown. The best article for baking this kind of bread is brown earthen ware—say pans eight or ten inches in height, and diameter about the same; grease or butter the pans, put in the mixture, then dip your hand in cold water, and smooth the loaf; after this slash the loaf both ways with a knife, quite deep. Some let it rise a little more before they put it to bake. Many people prefer this bread made of one third rye flour instead of one half. When it is difficult to get rye, wheat flour will answer as a substitute. It adds much to the richness and flavor of this kind of bread to let it remain in the oven over night.

**VIRGINIA CORN BREAD.**—Dissolve one table-spoonful of butter in three and a half pints of boiling milk; into this scald one quart of Indian meal, when cool, add half pint of wheat flour, a little sugar, a teaspoonful of salt, and two eggs well beaten; mix well together, and bake in two cake tins, well greased and buttered.

**INDIAN BREAD.**—Beat two eggs very light, mix them with one pint of sour milk, (or butter with sweet milk will do,) then add a teaspoonful of soda or saleratus, then stir in slowly one pint of Indian meal and one teaspoonful of melted butter; beat these well together; bake in a common cake pan in a quick oven. The bread can be made very good without eggs.

**MUSH OR HASTY PUDDING.**—Stir into a half pint of cold water enough Indian meal to make a thick batter; put this to three or four quarts of boiling water over the fire; after this has boiled ten minutes stir in a dessertspoonful of salt, and sifted meal it is quite thick; let it boil from one to two hours, stirring it often to prevent its burning.

**FRIED MUSH.**—Mush to be fried should boil a little longer, with a half pint of flour, say, to two quarts of mush; put the mush in an earthen dish dipped in cold water; let it stand until

perfectly cold; then cut it in slices half an inch thick, and fry them brown on both sides in a little butter or pork fat—lard will do with a little salt.

**INDIAN CAKES.**—Take some much add milk or warm water to make a batter, add flour enough to make the cake hold together; two or three eggs; two spoonful of molasses or sugar, a little nutmeg or lemon, to suit the taste; bake on a griddle or in an oven.

**RHEUMATISM—A REMEDY.**—The New England Farmer recommends the following recipe as a simple and invaluable remedy for rheumatism: "Take a half pint of spirits of turpentine, to which half an ounce of camphor; let it stand till the camphor is dissolved, then rub it in on the part affected, and it will never fail of removing the complaint. Flannels should be applied after the part is well fomented with turpentine. Repeat the application morning and evening. It is said to be equally available for burns, scalds bruises and sprains, never failing of success"

**Strychnia,---Lard an Antidote.**

The American Journal of Medical Science says that lard is an antidote to strychnia. It was discovered in an attempt to poison a dog, by placing the strychnia upon meat. The meat, was near a jar of refuse lard, and after the meat had been eaten, the dog devoured the lard, and to the surprise of the person watching the effect of the poison, it failed of producing any effect, although one grain had been swallowed. The experiment was repeated nine different times with like results and eleven times without the lard, in every instance proving fatal.

**For Seasoning Sausage Meat.**

To thirty pounds of well cut meat, from nine to ten ounces of clean, well rubbed fine salt, four ounces of pepper, and one ounce of sage. If you use a cutter, as most persons do, apply the seasoning after the first operation, and then pass it through the machine again, which will facilitate the process of mixing, and which should be done thoroughly.

**TO IMPROVE THE WICKS OF CANDLES.**—First steep the wicks in a solution of lime water, in which saltpetre has been dissolved. To 1 gallon of water add 2 ounces saltpetre and 1-4 pound of lime. Dry well the wicks before using. It improves the light, and prevents the tallow from running.

**FOR SOFT GINGERBREAD.**—Two eggs, half cup of sugar, a cup of Orleans molasses half a cup of butter, a cup of warm water with a teaspoonful of saleratus, and a table spoonful of ginger.

**GOOD YEAST.**—Boil one pound of good flour, a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and a little salt, in two gallons of water for an hour; when milk warm, bottle and cork it close. One pint of this will make eighteen pounds of bread.

## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

### The Sangamon Fair.

We again repeat that this Fair, will take place on the 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th, of the present month. We hope all who can, will bring articles for premium and exhibition. It is usual to hear farmers say that they would have beat such and such articles, if they had brought their articles of the same kind to the fair. And the same thing is often said by the ladies, and we have no doubt with truth. We trust our mechanics will show us what they can do in their several departments. Our citizens should feel an ambition and pride to show off their best on the occasion.

There will be new arrangements for exhibiting the fine articles of ladies', artist's and mechanic's skill the coming fair. New exhibition rooms are to be erected, and other important improvements are to be made upon the grounds.

The coming fair is more important than usual, from the fact, that many strangers, who will be visiting our State, looking for locations, examining the country, or on their way to attend the State Fair, will be present. Our county has a reputation dear to its citizens, to sustain.

### The Stock Show.

The stock show at our fair must be fine if our farmers will bring forward their stock. The arrangements will be ample to receive it, and we learn that many stock purchasers will be present.

Sangamon county will be hard to beat when her horses, her cattle, hogs and sheep, are brought out. It will be a glorious sight when this is done—and we believe it will be done.

### Morgan County.

The fair in Morgan county will come off a week before ours. We trust arrangements will be made with the Great Western Rail Road Co., and other companies for transporting stock free to that fair, and in all cases for carrying passengers to and from the fairs on the usual terms half price. This will bring revenue to the companies and greatly benefit the public. We hope the

people of Sangamon and the adjacent counties, in goodly numbers, will be at the Morgan fair. The fair grounds are near Jacksonville, are well fitted up, and every effort will be made by the citizens of *Jacksonville* to accommodate the people who will be in attendance.

### Planting Orchards in the Fall.

On some accounts, the fall is the best time for planting out orchards, if the grounds are in good order. These in all cases should be well worked, that is, deeply and well plowed, and should be in locations where the roots of the trees will not be in standing water during the winter. Where trees are in good condition, are planted out in suitable grounds, and a bank of earth thrown up about the roots, so that they will not be swayed by the winds and become loose, they will undoubtedly do well.

The pedlars are already in the field. Our farming friends will do well to recollect that trees grown in Illinois Nurseries, are best suited to our soil and climate—and of course are likely to do better than when bro't from Eastern Nurseries; they embrace all the desirable varieties and are usually more thrifty, healthy and larger, than trees brought from a great distance, and grown in soils unlike our own and in climates very different; besides our Nurserymen are responsible now and hereafter that the trees sent are true to their names. This point is of great importance, for there are orchards all about this country nearly worthless from deception of the venders and persons who have been over this country, grafting trees.

For the accomodation of our friends, we will receive orders for trees and shrubbery for all Illinois Nurseries on the lines of our Rail Roads.

### Sowing of Grass Seeds.

Timothy sown in the spring, as a general thing, did not do well. If there was moisture enough to bring it up, the drought with the hot sun, dried it up and burnt it out. Many farmers prefer sowing it in the fall. If well put in, it will be likely to do well.

If put in with wheat and the ground rolled, we are sure it will.

We would suggest that our farmers pay more attention than they have done to the saving of timothy seed. They will agree with us that this can be effected with very little labor. The timothy perfects its seed here as well as in any part of the country. Thousands of dollars are sent out of this county every year for timothy and clover seeds.

#### Cool Weather.

At the close of last month and the first of the present, we had some days of that peculiar weather which precedes the fall. Cool evenings, warm days, still atmosphere, pure skies—everything betokening that a change of the season was about to take place. Some of the birds of passage had already taken their departure for the South—the leaves of the trees were exhibiting a hue that told that their office was nearly performed—the fields of corn were losing their green—and even the insects which seemed to abound in the fields and groves, were chanting their last song of the season. Well, be it so. Nature has performed its duty; the time is rapidly approaching when it must lay off its livery of life, and repose for the winter season and until time produces a resurrection,—when the same seasons of spring and summer and autumn will return to greet the glad vision of many of our readers.

We will not say that we have not serious thoughts when we think of the past season,—the spring, the summer and the autumn upon which we are now entering. But these thoughts are common to all. Let us fulfil the part which has been allotted us in the great system of Nature, and it will be well whate'er may betide us.

#### County Fairs.

All the counties around us will hold fairs. We have already stated that Macon, Mason, Tazewell, Cass, Logan and Scott, have made arrangements for holding fairs. All these counties have their fair grounds, which are being handsomely improved. Christian

county—as good a county of land as there is anywhere, and rapidly filling up with substantial farmers—has recently organized an agricultural society which is about to purchase a tract of land for the use of the society. From the character of the gentlemen engaged in this matter, we are sure that success will attend their efforts. There is some fine stock in Christian, and some farms that can't be beat anywhere.

#### Rye for Winter Feed.

A number of our Sangamon farmers are sowing Rye for fall, winter and spring feed for stock. It is found to be most excellent and valuable feed. One farmer will sow 200 bushels. Late in Spring the stock is turned off; a crop is secured and, if the farmer chooses, he can turn in his hogs upon it, which grow rapidly and get fat upon the grain. It is not grown here for flouring or for distilling. The use made of the crop in Illinois would be considered almost sacrilege by those farmers who grow rye on the sterile hills of New England for breadstuffs. Rye flour however, even here, has admirers, who can seldom find it in market.

#### Winter Barley.

This grain is quoted in the St. Louis papers at \$1, 65. Many large sales have been made at these figures. The article is in good demand, and this demand seems to be increasing. Here many of our farmers are desirous of sowing barley this fall. Mr. Hensley of Morgan, the present season, has raised some 45 acres, which yielded forty bushels to the acre. FRANCIS & BARRELL have a portion of his unsold stock of barley for sale. It is designed for seed. It is a plump and clean grain.

The prospect is fair that for some time to come, the cultivation of barley will pay the farmers better than wheat.

#### Sale of Stock.

The sale of Messrs. J. N. and Wm. Brown's stock, will come off in Island Grove on the 11th instant. To such persons as desire to purchase valuable stock, this will furnish a very favorable opportunity.

### The Apple Crop.

This crop will be tolerably good in this section of Illinois. The fruit, however, will not be as large as usual.

We wish more care was taken in preparing apples for market. Many varieties are nearly useless when shaken from the tree; and all are worth a third more when gathered by hand than they are when shaken off. Apples, too, should be sorted and the different kinds kept separate, when brought to market. They appear better and bring better prices when in this condition.

There are many calls for cider mills this season. Cider, if used for no other purpose than to make vinegar, is a valuable article. Cider vinegar is healthful and pleasant. The vinegar usually sold is a most villainous compound, and its use only benefits the dishonest manufacturer, doctors and dentists.

### Green Corn.

What is more luxurious food than roasting ears? The use of this luxury can be prolonged at least three months in summer with a little care. Get the earliest sweet corn—plant it early; then the large sweet corn, plant soon after; then the mammoth sweet corn; plant that—and you will have sweet corn till September. Plant all of these two or three weeks later than the first, for a later crop; and you will have delicious green corn, until "Jack Frost" comes. And with little further attention you can have green corn until it grows again! How?—A young lady gives us this recipe:

"Boil the corn on the cob, and when done, cut it off; dry it in the oven; put it into a bag, hang it in a dry place, and you have green corn for the winter." And in the winter, it is capital. Now is the time to lay in a stock of this article.

Prof. Mapes states that nine-tenths of the olive or sweet oil that is used in this country, is manufactured in France from American lard oil, which is purified by soda. The oil thus obtained is sweet and pure, excellent for oiling machinery and for making hair pomade, and for eating is about equal to real olive oil.

### Events of the Month.

Our foreign papers assure us that crops in Europe are quite an average the present season. In England especially they are fine;—so heavy, indeed, that labor sufficient to save them is difficult to be had. The war with Russia has cut off much of the laboring population, which, with the emigration from Ireland to this country, has reduced the number of farm laborers so much that the best hands can obtain a dollar a day—and difficult to be had at that price. Labor in Ireland is also well paid for. War and emigration has thus been of benefit to the British Isles, and if high prices for labor continue, the laboring classes will be better fed and better educated, and if these prices extend to the manufacturers, our country will be able to enter into more successful competition with England in the various productions of the "loom and the anvil." The revolution in Spain is about put down, and affairs in Europe exhibit little change.

Our accounts from the Asiatic continent, are of slight interest. From China we learn that the rebels were advancing on Shanghai, which greatly injured the tea trade. The domestic war there seems to have little other effect than to cut off large numbers of the population. The parties kill but few in their battles, but when one of them is successful and secures prisoners, their heads are taken off without mercy.

We have news from Liberia which shows that the new administration is doing well, and the country prospering. Settlements are to be made in the interior where the soil is fine, water good, and climate healthful. Citizens who have gone into the interior, find well peopled districts, which have the means for profitable commerce.

In Central America much doubt exists in regard to the position of Walker. Some of his men are deserting, and even a whole company, which is a pretty strong evidence against the permanency of his government.

In California, the Vigilance Committee still hold the government of the country. Several attempts had been made to burn St. Francisco and Sacramento. A considerable degree of quiet exists.

### "The Adjustable Prairie Plow."

It will be seen by advertisement in this paper, that Mr. FRYE is to commence manufacturing these plows immediately. There seems to be no doubt of the success of this plow among those who have witnessed its performances. Many have already spoken for them. We wish we could state their cost, but the proprietor is unable to do this at the present time. So soon as he has manufactured a few this will be done.

We presume that arrangements will be made to test this plow sometime during the fair days of the Sangamon Agricultural Society. This exhibition will be worth the attention of all farmers,—especially of those who have lands to break up. Mr. Frye has received several invitations to attend other fairs with his plow, and will certainly be at the State Fair, and probably at the Morgan County Fair.

The "Adjustable Plow," is an original conception, and in our opinion will render the steam plow for breaking our prairies unnecessary for some time to come.

### The Season.

Lately we have had seasonable rains in this part of Illinois. The result is that the ears of corn are filling out well, and we shall have a good crop of that important staple. The grass has started up finely and late vegetables are coming in well. Early potatoes are a failure, but we have some hopes of the late crop. The land is in good order for plowing for wheat, and prairie breakers can resume their work. More turnip seed has been sown the present fall than ever in any season before. The fly has done some damage, but we still expect a large crop.

### Strawberry Beds.

Now is the time to set out strawberry plants. If planted out now, and they get a tolerable growth this fall, they will produce handsome crops the coming year. We have already given in detail plans for strawberry beds. Strawberries are a healthful and delicious fruit, and come when they are most wanted, and produce well in our soils. Mr. FENNER has a fine variety of plants for sale; and they can be had elsewhere in our city.

### The Rail Roads.

The Rail Roads of Illinois, are doing an immense business at the present time. This business will increase with the coming years, faster, we apprehend, than the ability of the companies to perform it. The Rail Roads of Illinois will ultimately become the best paying stock in the country.

We see it stated that T. J. CARTER, Esq. has resigned the superintendency of the Great Western Rail Road, and that Mr. B. F. POND is appointed to succeed him. We also hear that Gov. MATTESON has purchased the lease of the Chicago and Mississippi rail road for seventeen years. We are not certain of the correctness of this report, but we are sure of one thing,—that if Gov. Matteson has charge of the road, its business will be conducted with the energy, promptness and liberality which are the distinguishing traits of his character. This road is doing an immense produce business.

The road through from Naples to Toledo will soon be completed. That will most unquestionably be an important road for Central Illinois. It passes through a country which possesses capabilities of production that cannot be eclipsed in the world.

### The Potatoe and Corn Crops.

The potatoe crop is good in New York, Michigan and some portions of Northern Illinois. In Central and Southern Illinois, the early planting is an entire failure. We have some hopes from the late planting—not much, however. Potatoes are found to bring high prices, though, we think, when the crops at the North are matured, they will be lower than at present.

There were but few sweet potatoes planted; but these as a general thing look well. Some have been brought to market and sold at high prices. As the sweet potatoe will grow until there are frosts, most persons who have them choose to let them remain in the ground sometime longer.

Corn has greatly improved under the effects of late rains. The ears are generally filling out well and there will be a tolerable crop. We are informed, that where the ground

was plowed deep and the corn well tended, there are good crops. Such is the case so far as our information has extended.

Three weeks ago the corn prospect was a bad one, and it was anticipated that old corn would be worth fifty cents by Christmas. Now it is supposed that it will not be above it, present prices 25 cents per bushel.

There is no chance of the people of Illinois, suffering from famine within the next year certainly.

#### To our neglectful Subscribers.

When we recommenced the publication of this sheet, it was without any expectation that the income from it would pay the cost of its publication. In that we are not disappointed. But we did expect that our subscribers would pay us the amount of their subscriptions, which would enable us to defray a portion of the expense of printing. Many have done this, and a good many have not. We desire to know what yet will be done to determine whether this work shall be continued or not. It is not unreasonable, therefore, to ask those who are indebted to us, and who have not a convenient opportunity to send us the amount of their subscriptions, to enclose us in a letter one dollar cash and forward it to us by mail. The small sum asked for this publication we cannot afford to lose, and we ought not to lose it. We hope those of our subscribers who are behind, will promptly attend to these suggestions.

#### Seed Drills.

We notice that Francis and Barrell are disposing of several of Pennock's seed Drills. This instrument for Drilling in wheat, has been used in many of the adjoining counties with decided success.

PEACHES.—The Delaware peach crop, it is said, is a total failure. The peaches are few and inferior in quality. With a large wheat crop well secured throughout the country, the people can endure the loss of their peaches. The crop in Jersey is also represented to be very small—not more than one half of an average.

#### A Sermon on Fairs.

The last Ohio Cultivator, gave us a sermon on Fairs. Its suggestions are of general application: We copy it:

"MY DEAR HEARERS:—The season of agricultural Fairs has returned, and our rural population will join with the dwellers of towns and cities to celebrate the triumphs of Labor. The farmers and the farmers' wives and daughters, will bring of the excellencies of their products to place alongside the handiwork of the shop and factory, and they altogether will rejoice in their own and each other's successes. It will be a day to be looked forward to and back upon, with a relish that will compensate many an hour of toil and weariness.

Of course you will go to the fair. Let no little sneaking jealousy rob you of that pleasure and duty. What if Mr. Smith did not get the premium last year, when you thought you should have had it? What if the judges did not decide in favor of Mrs. Jones' quilt!—Mistakes will happen, they say, in the best of families, and may be it was not a mistake after all. But you must go to the fair, and you must take along Sally and Tommy, and all the youngsters that are old enough to enjoy such a scene, and have a right nice family time of it.

In the first place you should go because it is your fair. Now don't hold back because the Managers make you pay ten or fifteen or twenty-five cents admission fee. Without fences and buildings, who would risk costly articles on exhibition? And fences and buildings don't grow up like toad stools, and no bills to be paid. This matter settled, the next question is, how to go. Be sure to dress in a plain substantial manner, prepared alike for a crowd, for dust or rain. This precaution will put you at your ease while visiting the fair. To women in particular I would say, don't for pity sake put on costly shawls, thin slippers or very long skirts. The first will be a source of uneasiness to yourself while elbowing your way among rough men and rough fixtures, the second endangers your health and comfort, and the third is a positive nuisance to all parties. I fear the fall fairs will be terribly upon the new institution of hoops; these may make a necessity for enlarging the fair grounds. We shall see. Do not take any baggage that can be dispensed with; for a couple or three days, you will hardly need a change of apparel. Do not not have upon your person any considerable sum of money. Stealing is one of the fine arts, or exact sciences. Do not get out of humor

if you have to wait for cars or a seat at table, or a chance to look at some attractive object on exhibition. Patience and good nature will conquer more than passion in such cases."

#### Steam Plow.

Mr. Obed. Hussey has sent his steam plow from Baltimore to Ohio, and proposes to introduce it into Illinois, if means are furnished by some of our public spirited and able farmers. We learn that the Hon. H. C. JOHNS, President of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, has now propositions of Mr. Hussey to that effect. We should be glad to see the steam plow at the State fair at Alton.

#### Bulbous Roots for Planting.

These embrace Hyacinths, Tulips, Crocus, Jonquils, Narcissus, Gladiolus, &c. It will be soon time to put them into the ground. No plan's make a more acceptable and beautiful show of flowers in spring and summer than these. When a supply is once obtained, there is no further trouble than to take them up occasionally and replant them. Young ladies should see to this matter before it is too late in the season to make beds and put out the bulbs. The beds should be of rich ground, partly sand or light soil, and the bulbs of all the plants mentioned should be planted out about eight inches apart. If a covering of spent tan bark or straw should be put over them during the intense cold of winter, it would be all the better for the plants.

**BLACK SPANISH RADISH.**—There is a variety used in winter, by taking up and stowing away along with other root crops in November. It grows very large in rich soil, and will keep good till April.—Sow in rows one foot apart in August, thin out when well up, to three or four inches apart in the row.

#### For Curing Beef.

Eight lbs. of clean coarse salt, 2 ozs. of nitre, 1 1-2 lbs. of sugar, and 4 gallons of water to the 100 lbs. of meat. Remove the scum, and let the rounds and other drying beef remain in pickle from 9 to 14 days. Beef is not improved by smoking. Boiling meat will keep all winter in this pickle.

#### Millet.

Mr. Editor.—I have noticed in some of the last numbers of the Farmer pieces recommending Millet as a profitable crop, which is no doubt the case in many instances, but one thing seems to present itself as an objection to its cultivation and that is the difficulty in getting rid of it again.

When a boy I recollect of a field being sown with millet on my father's farm which was very troublesome for several years afterward. Others tried it with the same result.

On coming to Illinois I saw Millet growing. I enquired if it was not bad about seeding the next year and was told it was not. But now some of my neighbors have raised it and have as much trouble as with almost any other seed. Those who have raised it are unwilling to sow it again. So I have concluded that millet in the Yankee land is millet with the Suckers too.

Do not think that I would discourage my brother farmers in the cultivation of a crop profitable and in itself harmless, but is it so? Let us hear from some of our old farmers who have raised it in Illinois years ago. If this difficulty can be obviated, tell us how. Tell us whether it will not grow if the ground is seeded down for the next ten years and then plowed.

W. B.

#### Musical Practice among Birds.

Many people imagine that birds sing by instinct and their songs come to them without any labor or practice. But ornithologists, who have made the habits of the feathered tribes a life study, hold a different theory, and tell of long and laborious practice in species and individuals, to acquire facility and compass of song. The following information from a practiced observer will be new to many of our readers :

Birds all have their peculiar ways of singing. Some have a monotonous song, as the bay winged sparrow. The yellow bird has a continuous chatter without any particular form of song. The cat-bird is a mocker. The golden robin has a song of its own ; but each one may have a song of its own, though those of the same locality are apt to sing the same tune. The hermit-thrush has a round of variations, perhaps the sweetest singer of the feathered choir. But the song sparrow has the most remarkable characteristics of song of any bird that sings.

Every male song sparrow has seven independent songs of its own, no two having

the same notes throughout, though sometimes, as if by accident, they may hit upon one or more of the same.

Six years ago this spring I first made the discovery. A singer that had taken up his residence in my garden, attracted my attention by the sweet variations of its songs, so I commenced taking observations on the subject. I succeeded at last in remembering all his songs, which are at this day so fresh in my memory as any of our common airs that I am so fond of whistling. On one occasion I took note of the number of times he sang each song, and the order of singing. I copy from my journal six years back :

No. 1 sung 27 times ; No. 2, 36 times ; No. 3, 23 times ; No. 4, 19 times ; No. 5, 11 times ; No. 6, 32 times ; No. 7 18 times. Perhaps next he would sing No. 2; then, perhaps, No. 4 or 5, and so on.

Some males will sing each tune about fifty times, though seldom ; some will only sing them from five to ten times. But as far as I have observed, each male has seven songs. I have applied the rule to as many as a dozen different birds, and the result has been the same. I would say that it requires a great degree of patience and a good ear to come at the truth of the matter ; but any one may watch a male bird while singing, and will find he will change his tune in a few minutes, and again in a few minutes and again in a few minutes more.

The bird that I first mentioned came to the same vicinity five Springs in succession singing the same seven songs, always singing within a circle of about twenty rods. On the fifth Spring he came a month later than usual ; another sparrow had taken possession of his hunting grounds, so he established himself a little one side. I noticed that he sang less frequently than of old, and in a few days his song was hushed forever. No doubt old age claimed him as a victim. In other cases I have known a singer to return to the same place, two, three, and four years ; but frequently not more than one. I think there is not a more interesting or remarkable fact in natural history than the one I have related, and it is a fact you may confidently believe.—[N. E. Farmer.

#### Grapes and Wine.

N. Longworth writes to the Cincinnati Commercial saying: "In your paper this morning you remark, The wine manufacturers of our city contemplate raising the price of their wines, in consequence of a failure of the grape crop.' I have heard of such intention, and believe there will be cause for

it. I last spring had upwards of 40,000 gallons of old wine, which I had been selling, and still sell, at one-fourth less than cost. It is true that last winter was very destructive to the crop. But in our vicinity many will have a fair crop, and a better yield in Kentucky and Indiana, south of us. And I believe increased grape culture will give us as large a crop as we had last year. But little injury has been experienced from the rot, and believe the season of danger is passed."

TO MAKE TOMATO KETCHUP.—The tomato should be squeezed up in the hand, salt added, and then allowed to stand 24 hours. After passing through a sieve, add cloves, allspice, pepper, mace, and whole mustard seed. Then boil it to one third, bottle, and cool it. A considerable portion of salt and spice is needed to keep the tomato well.

~~is~~ The juice of one bushel of sugar-beets, worth twenty-five cents, and which any farmer can raise with little cost, will make from five to six gallons of vinegar, equal to the best made of other wine. First wash and grate the beets, and express the juice in a cheese press, or in any other way which a little ingenuity can suggest, and put the liquor into a barrel; cover the bung with gauze and set it in the sun, and in fifteen or twenty days it will be fit for use. By this method the very best of vinegar can be obtained without any great trouble.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—As a spring or summer medicine we would recommend Dr. J. HOSSETTER'S celebrated Stomach Bitters above all others. Its strengthening, and invigorating effect upon a debilitated system is truly astonishing. Its tonic action on the liver, its tendency to drive all humors to the surface, thereby cleansing the system from all impurities, is what has gained for these Bitters such an enviable reputation, inasmuch as they are pleasant to the taste even as a beverage, and are in general use as a family medicine wherever known. For sale by druggists and hotels throughout the city.

ERRATA.—In the last paragraph of Mr. Frye's advertisement, read "that he has been a practical Mechanic in various branches,' &c.

Recreation is a second creation, when weariness has almost annihilated any one's spirits. It is the breathing of the soul, which otherwise would be stifled with continual business.

## COMMERCIAL.

SPRINGFIELD, Sept. 4, 1856.

We have no important changes to note in the markets the present month. Wheat has slightly advanced and as the latest European advices represent the market for breadstuffs there as improving, we may anticipate that present prices for breadstuffs here will keep up. All the means of our railroads are unable to remove the pressure on the depots. There are still vast amounts of wheat remaining with the farmers.

On the 3d, flour advanced in New York 5 and 10 cts. per barrel. At the close of the market, however, the rise was barely sustained.

Wheat advanced the same day from 3 to 5c per bushel.

We make the following quotations, and believe them to be nearly correct.

WHEAT—95c@\$1 ½ bushel.  
 WINTER BARLEY—For seed, \$2 ½ bushel.  
 SPRING BARLEY— — ½ bushel.  
 CORN—25c ½ bushel.  
 OATS—23c ½ bushel.  
 POTATOES—\$1@\$1 50 ½ bushel.  
 ONIONS—\$1 50@\$1 75 ½ bushel.  
 FLOUR—\$6 ½ barrel for first choice.  
 BUTTER—15@20c ½ lb.  
 LARD—10c ½ lb.  
 BACON—Clear sides 10c; ribbed sides 9c; country hams 12c; sugar cured, 15c ½ lb.  
 DRIED BEEF—15c ½ lb.  
 GREEN APPLES—37@75c ½ bushel.

### St. Louis Market--Sept. 3.

WHEAT—Prices for prime and choice grades, to-day were easily sustained. Receipts nearly nothing and a limited quantity only offering. Sales 167 and 39 common red at 92½; 440 and 160 red and 72 white at \$1; 75 red at same; 200 fair white at \$1 06; 649, 288 and 117 prime red at \$1 10; 836 choice red at \$1 12; 384 and 1,033 do at \$1 12½, and 115, 155 and 300 choice white at \$ 15 ½ bushel. Very few lots under prime in quality selling.

FLOUR—Transactions in city superfine amounting to 3,000 bbls on private terms. Country in fair demand, with sales of 113 bbls musty at \$3 40; 100 superfine on its merits at \$5; 50 do inspected at \$5 25; 59 extra on its merits at \$5 50, and 50 do inspected at \$6 ½ bbl.

OATS—Sales 134 sacks at 40, sacks returned; 76 at 41, and 35 at 45, sacks included.

CORN—No sales of prime; 260 sacks mixed at 47c; 92 yellow at 45 and 50c, and 234 and 268 fair white at 53c.

BARLEY—A lot of 160 sacks spring at \$1 60, and 60 do prime fall at \$1 80 for seed, sacks included.

HEMP—Nominally, at \$150@\$160 ½ ton.

ROPE—100 coils prime hand-spun at 10c.

WHISKY—The following lots: 36, 50, 48 and 50 Gal ½ gallon and a later sale of 35c, an advance.

LEAD—Sale of 300 pigs Missouri soft at \$6 10 ½ 100 lbs.

POTATOES—Sale of 500 bags, quality not ascertained, at \$1 50 ½ bushel.

HIDES—Dry flint to regular dealers selling at 14c ½ lb.

COFFEE—Sale of 300 bags Rio reported fair at 11¼c.

LARD—A sale of 500 tierces prime at a price exceeding 12c, supposed to be 12½c.

BACON—Sales 8 casks country pork house shoulders at 7½c, and 25 casks country clear sides at 8¾c.

### New York Market--Sept. 3.

CATTLE MARKET—Receipts of beesves, 4,057. Sales moderate at a decline of one cent. Quotations range from 7 to 16c. Receipts of sheep and lambs, 12,000; Lambs good at full prices. Quotations range from \$1 50 to \$8 ½ head; the average price being \$3 40 ½ head. Receipts of swine 3,500 head. With large receipts prices have declined quality generally excellent.

### Chicago Market--Sept. 3.

FLOUR—\$6 25, city mills.  
 WHEAT—99c ½ bu for spring; \$1 12½ for red winter.  
 CORN—40½c ½ bushel.  
 RYE—75c ½ bushel.  
 BARLEY—80c@\$1 ½ bushel.  
 TIMOTHY SEED—\$2 50@\$3 ½ bushel.  
 BUTTER—Fresh, in jars, 16@18c.  
 POTATOES—Vary much. Some have been sold at 80c@\$1 ½ bushel.  
 CRANBERRIES—New, \$3 ½ bushel.  
 PRAIRIE CHICKENS—\$1 25@\$1 50 ½ dozen.  
 TALLOW—9@9¼c ½ lb.  
 WILD PLUMS—\$2 50 ½ bushel.  
 GREEN APPLES—\$3@\$5 ½ bbl.  
 WHITE FISH AND TROUT—\$4 50 ½ half bbl.  
 SALT—By the cargo, \$1 85 per bbl; in lots \$2 ½ bbl.

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## NEW MARBLE WORKS,

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.,

Monuments, Grave Stones, Mantel Pieces, Counter and Table Tops, and all other work in this line.

## A. J. HALDERMAN,

Opposite the Chenery House,

**H**AS ESTABLISHED HIMSELF AT Springfield for the purpose of furnishing all who may desire the above articles. He has a large stock now on hand of the best quality of White Marble: His experience in the business enables him to say with confidence, that he will furnish as good articles, and as handsomely executed work, upon as low terms, as can be procured in the west. He considers it only necessary to add to this notice an invitation to purchasers to call on him and examine his work at his establishment on Washington street, opposite the Chenery House.

He will receive in payment for work most kinds of country produce.

aug1daw

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printers.

VOLUME 1.

SPRINGFIELD, OCTOBER, 1856.

NUMBER 10.

## Tobacco and Opium.

Tobacco is the most widely known of that class of indulgences called narcotic and for which there is such a prevailing taste among men. Whether instinctive or derived from artificial modes of life, the fact remains that the craving exists, and that man has sought out the means to gratify it without preconcert or knowledge of others, or by acquired influence beyond his own sphere. Tobacco is only equalled by Tea in its universal use. Columbus found it in America in the year of his great discovery in the form of cigars. From thence it was taken to Spain and France, and was introduced into England by those celebrated cavaliers and gentlemen Drake and Raleigh about the Year A. D. 1535. It met in England with some obstacles, the pedantic king said it was a "custome loathsome to the eye, harmful to the brain, and in the black stinking fume thereof nearest resembling the horrible stygian smoke, of the pit that is bottomless." In Turkey and Persia their religion conspired against it, and yet now they have become the greatest smokers in the world. Cross legged they sit at all times of the day yielding themselves to the power of this indulgence. The practice swept over Asia, Hindoos, Tartars, Mongols and Mahometans bowed to an influence, which much more strongly in opium, produced those soothing and resigned sensations, that surrender of character and consequences, so congenial to fatalism. It is said, and the above remarks would imply it, that the use of Tobacco first originated in America, but there is more probability that it was only revived and stimulated by that discovery, that it had been known in Asia from the very earliest times, and from thence, like the human family, was

transplanted across Beehrings Straits into America. The use of tobacco is less harmful than King James's edicts would seem to imply, it cannot however be used by all constitutions with the same freedom, as some temperaments are naturally very exciteable without it, but it has one virtue in its excess, that it neither destroys the mind, incapacitates for business, or involve others in the general wreck like intoxicating beverages. Tobacco is an article that the Revenue Laws of most countries have seized upon as their inalienable right, their especial inheritance; it is a luxury of the clearest type, and with respect to Great Britain the 'custom defences' have hedged in all its shores with little battlements, and a protective Coast-Guard is ever stationed to prevent intrusion by the smuggler or other illegitimate source. It has been asserted that a lower duty—now seventy five cents per pound on manufactured Tobacco; about two dollars and twenty five cents on cigars, and one dollar and fifty cents on snuff—would produce to the kingdom more revenue, by diminishing the temptation to smuggling, and the adulteration which is so extensively carried on in all forms of manufactured tobacco. In France the laws for the protection of this interest are not only quite as severe, but absurd and inconsistent, and put at naught all rational construction in their application. A few cigars left inadvertently in a captain or passengers drawer on the arrival of ship or steamer, will be seized upon by the functionaries in attendance, whose duties, like that of a clock, admit of no qualification or remonstrance, and fine follows, and frequently imprisonment in the more aggravated cases. In Spain the smuggler threads his way over

the Pyrenees, moves about in town or hamlet as Spaniards only can do, be he beggar or prince, with the most dignified self-possession, conscious probably of only evading the most ridiculous and absurd restraints, in a land given over to a lax and lawless government, the worst form of social and political tyranny. In Spain the government holds the monopoly of the tobacco trade. Respectable statisticians have put the consumption of tobacco in the world at two millions of tons, the United States being the largest grower, say to the extent of one hundred and ten thousand tons. Holland, of European countries, cultivates tobacco to a great extent.

Opium comes next in importance of the narcotics, and there is something of dread attached to the contemplation of its secret and seductive powers. We know not the quantity that is used, aside from medicinal purposes, or as a simple indulgence, but it must be very great, and is said to be increasing as the consumption of spirits is diminishing, if this be not rather apparent than real. The influence of a moderate dose of the drug is exhilarating and pleasurable, but when the system becomes inured to it and excess follows as is most sure to be the case, the effect is depressing and melancholy. It weakens the powers of resolution and resistance, that upon which the character most depends, and the victim, as known in Eastern countries, becomes a most degrading and loathsome object. That its use will degenerate into a common vice in more enlightened countries is hardly possible, as the votary gets too far robbed of his manhood, too emasculated to be endured by a vigorous, athletic people. The drug is taken in the three forms of a fluid, a pill, and by the habit of smoking, and the effect of each is very similar. Two eminent men in England have left us the records of its effects on them. Coleridge lived and conquered the habit, "but after what struggles and tortures, mental and bodily who can tell." Another still more pleasant writer, De Quincy, also shook off his slavery and has written a very impressive statement of the "terrible trials

and temptations he had to withstand in finally abandoning the drug." From these men we know perhaps better than from any other source its action on the superior races, the more improved sensibilities. Of others in the East of inferior organization it displays in its abuses a different action, varying with the temperament and character of the race, but in all showing general features that indicate the same origin. The Malays and Javanese become greatly excited under its influence, and in large doses are frantic, dashing through the streets, and with the accumulated nervous energy imparted, do terrible mischief to all who fall in their way. The Anglo Saxon is lightly or slowly affected, its influence active on entirely higher faculties. The quantity of opium used in Persia, India, Siam, China, and the Indian Archipelago is said to be quite incredible. The export of this product from Hindostan to China yields a yearly revenue of over ten millions of dollars. It is an entirely forced trade as the laws of China prohibit it, and one of the greatest blemishes on the British Escutcheon that no Englishman pretends to defend, and yet his government is permitted and, *vi et armis*, continues the traffic, against the universal sentiment of the world. We cannot dictate to other nations either liberty law or government without we discern our own weaknesses, and the language of scripture is of universal application, physician heal thyself; see the beam in thine own eye, or thou cannot by any subtilty or metaphysics be an effective teacher of others. In moderation opium gives clearness and vigor to the intellectual faculties, with great power of bodily exertion, and there are those who assert from their knowledge of it in Eastern countries that its use may be graduated to a good or at least to a harmless purpose, but of this there is doubt as the "terrible temptation" to increase the dose admits of no long continued moderation. As a medicine opium is probably used to a most pernicious effect. Its soothing quality is a virtue to the invalid and in a bread pill or other deceptive compost imparts a happy sensation that is mistaken for a check to the

disease or for returning health. This charm soon passes away only to be repeated until faith is lost and a new trial attempted in some other distinguished nostrum. To children, cordials with these mixtures to keep them quiet during night is about equal to murder in the slow unalleviated draft it makes upon the powers of nature, and the quietus it puts upon every capacity of enjoyment. What children endure under this brutal and inexcusable administration of medicine is known only to the Maker above, who in mercy may give them a constitution to outlive it, but in higher mercy according to our feeble apprehensions may better take them to himself. The opium used in Europe and probably in this country comes from Turkey in Asia and from Persia through the port of Smyrna. That used in Eastern countries comes from India where three to four hundred tons and acres are grown for export to China alone.

#### Fall of the "Charter Oak."

This venerable tree, connected with interesting historical recollections, fell in the late gale (Aug. 21) which swept over a large part of New England and the Middle States. This oak stood on the old "Myttys place" in Hartford. About the year 1650, Gov. Myttys made arrangements to remove from England to the colonies and sent his steward to provide for him a residence in Hartford. He found a venerable oak tree upon the lot which he purchased, and which seemed to possess a peculiar sanctity in the eyes of the natives. They said that it towered above the forest and "had been the guide of their ancestors for centuries." It was spared at their solicitation, and has fallen after the whole aboriginal race has passed away from the State. It had no doubt been the monarch of the forest for at least twenty centuries, and finally fell by natural decay. Three years ago some lads made a fire in its hollow trunk, which burnt out the rotten wood, and left an opening so large that it inclosed 27 men at one time. It was thought that the fire would kill the tree; but it did not, and it seemed to flourish better after this treatment. The tree measured

33 feet in circumference at the bottom and 21 feet in circumference eight feet above. Colt's Armory Band came up after the fall, and while the "Monarch of the forest" was surrounded by thousands of citizens, played solemn dirges over the remains.

The incidents that gave to this tree the name of the "Charter Oak," may be briefly related. Charles II. in 1662 gave to the colony of Connecticut a liberal charter. In 1686, James the II demanded a surrender. It was not given up. In 1687, Sir Edmund Andross came over from England as the newly appointed Governor. He arrived in Hartford when the General Assembly of the colony was in session. He entered the Assembly room with his council and demanded the charter. The charter was brought and laid on the table. Sir Edmund thought that the last moment of the colony had come, when the lights were suddenly extinguished and the charter disappeared. It was taken by Jeremiah Wadsworth and hidden in the oak. In 1689, King James abdicated the throne and the government of the colony was resumed by the officers elected by the people. The "Charter Oak" has been always regarded with reverence by the people in its vicinity. It has stood all the visitations of time, probably from the advent of our Savior. Like all earthly things, decay has claimed it for its own, and it "has passed away."

#### Hedge Fences.

Can the osage orange be set in hedge rows in the fall? We have often heard this question asked. Our springs are short,—too short to accomplish all desirable spring work. Thence it is, that there will be great advantage if some of the work set for spring can be done in the fall, because in the fall, there is, annually, some leisure time with our farmers.

But, this is not answering the question—"can the osage orange be set out for hedges in the fall?"—The question is satisfactorily answered in the annexed communication, which we copy from the Valley Farmer:

**MESSRS. EDITORS:**—For the propriety and safety of setting hedge plants in the fall we

have the same arguments that we have for setting fruit and other trees in the fall. These are few and simple, as we find them in books and in the files of our best agricultural papers in past years. It will answer all my purpose to present them here as exact quotations, and with your permission I will do so. From a New York horticulturist, in a paper of that state, I find the following :

"Autumn is the best time for transplanting hardy trees, such as the apple, pear, quince, &c. An experience of a quarter of a century, during which period we have rarely, if ever failed to do some planting, both in the spring and autumn, leaves no doubt in our mind, that the autumn is preferable to the spring for this all-important work. The fall planting favors the packing of the soil and prepares the young tree the better to vegetate in the opening of the season. This is the best season for planting every species of deciduous trees."

A writer of the West, in the Valley Farmer last year, argues as follows :

"In a cold, northern climate, and in a tenacious clay soil, it is perhaps best to defer planting trees till spring. But in this section of the south-west, particularly where the soil is not too retentive of moisture, the fall is decidedly the best season to plant most kinds of trees, and particularly apple and peach trees. In planting fruit trees, care should be taken to press the earth firmly around and under the roots. If cavities are left under the bottom of the tree, as they often are, when planted in the fall the rains of winter cause the earth to settle firmly around the roots, and the growth is sure and rapid in the spring.—When trees are planted in the fall the roots will often make a considerable growth before spring."

These advantages of fall setting, and all others which can be named, are as much greater in the case of setting hedges, as is the importance and labor and hurry of setting extensive lines of hedges greater than that of setting orchards. For the fact is, that to the extent which hedge-growing is now undertaken in our country, year by year, it is impossible to crowd the setting all into the spring season.

I am aware that reasoning from analogy will not suit some persons. With regard to setting the Osage Orange plant in hedge row in the fall season, we have some testimony as positive as can be desired.

The hedge grown by Mr. A. H. Ernst, around Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati,

he says was set early in November. This hedge, the Ohio State Agricultural Society's Committee reported in 1853 as the next best to that which they awarded the premium. It was then six years old.

To come now to personal knowledge, I can say I have seen some hedges which grew well of both fall and spring setting, and some setting of both seasons that did not. Between fall setting and early spring setting there is more difference caused by the manner of setting than anything else. I advocate setting hedges in the fall—all that can be well done, from the time of the first frost until the ground freezes. I hope to set more this fall than I did last spring. Hedges can be set in the fall with much more safety than late in the spring, after the middle of May, unless it be very wet and continue so a month. But in both cases, and in all cases, I shall hereafter insist upon more careful setting, deeper plowing and deeper setting than have most generally been practiced, or than I have heretofore practiced myself. I find the plants and the season are often blamed for failures which are chargeable only to insufficient plowing and careless setting. Instructions are not too definite upon this point. Mr. James McGrew says : "Break the ground from twelve to eighteen inches deep."—[Pamphlet, page 10.] Mr. H. W. Petkin, in his directions upon preparing ground for setting, says : "If you have no sub-soil plow, go two or three times in the same furrow with the same plow. Break up thoroughly at least fifteen inches deep."—(Pamphlet page 5.) Mr. C. R. Overmann, Canton, Ill., in his pamphlet (page 9,) says, "Set the plants two inches deeper than they stood in the nursery," and emphasises the words very conspicuously. And for this peremptory direction he gives the sound reasons of dear-bought experience in the following words: "Unless the plants are set very deep, the ground will recede from the plants in setting, and expose the upper parts of the roots, a common and fatal error."

LOGAN SLEEPER.

BRIDGETON, Aug. 1856.

#### Sale of the Messrs. Browns' Stock.

This took place on the farm of J. N. Brown, Esq., in Island Grove, on the 11th. The valuable stock offered was all sold at fair prices—higher, however, than any we have lately noticed. The purchasers were from different parts of the State. Much good will result from the dissemination of this valuable stock.

**Cultivation of the Grape in the United States.**

Dr. GUMPREIT, a German, has recently published a work on this subject. He explains the causes of the failure of the manifold attempts to domesticate the European grapes in the United States by comparative thermometrical and hygrometrical statements from which it appears that the ill success is attributable to the greater proportion of moisture to which the vine is subjected here; while the temperature is more favorable in Philadelphia, Cincinnati or St. Louis than in Paris, Dresden or Prague. The Catawba grape, an indigenous variety, is now extensively cultivated in the West and Southwest, and the Catawba wine bids fair to become an important article of commerce. In 1854 the vineyards comprised less than three thousand acres, the greater proportion of which was in the vicinity of Cincinnati, from thence the grape culture has since spread, along both banks of the Ohio, to Pittsburgh and Cairo, and in a southerly direction through Kentucky and Tennessee to Alabama, and westwardly to Missouri.

On the Ohio an acre yields on an average 500 gallons of wine—an immense yield, compared with the average of France, which is only 200 gallons. In 1853, however, which was the most fruitful year since 1848, the yield was most extraordinary, averaging along the Ohio 650 gallons to the acre, some vineyards even producing from 800 to 900 gallons. The wine-growers of Ohio are mainly Germans and their descendants.

In 1853, notwithstanding the comparatively small area devoted to wine-growing, the produce of wine in the United States was estimated at 500,000 gallons; and in 1854 the mammoth cellar of Messrs. Longworth & Zimmerman, at Cincinnati, contained 80,000 gallons. In a few years the product will doubtless be doubled and trebled, since the present high prices of wine pay the producer a fair profit, and the demand is so great that the wine dealers are scarcely able to keep a stock on hand.

The juice of the grape is manufactured either into still wine or sparkling wine. The latter, in the preparation of which, as in

that of Champagne, liquor is added, is the most sought after, and its production has already increased to such an extent that Buchanan estimated the value of sparkling wines raised in Ohio, at \$175,000 per annum.

The wine produced in the United States is mostly of the description known as the white wine, but little of it being red. The value of the wine depends, as in Europe, on the character of the soil, the mode of treatment and the weather. The years, 1846, 1848 and 1851, produced the best wines both here and in Europe; the vintage of 1853 was also a good one. In general, the product of the Catawba grape has the finest flavor, and the greatest durability—it improves in quality for thirty years. According to an analysis made in 1846, the American wines contain from seven to eleven per cent. of alcohol. A sample of the Catawba hock from Longworth's cellar, seven years of age, was proved to contain from eleven to eleven and five-tenths per cent. of alcohol, and a sample of red wine, of the cape species, was found to contain nine and one-eighth per cent. Buchanan states that the proportion of alcohol in the American wines is about the same as in the wines of France and Germany. Brande, however contends that the French Grape wine contains 18.94; Barsac, 13.86; Sauterne, 14.22; Rudesheimer of 1800, 12.22; Hock 14.37, per cent. of alcohol.

The prices of American wines may be considered high. Ten or twelve bottles of stored still wine cost from five to eight dollars, and sparkling wine brought twelve dollars in 1854. New wine ranges from forty cents to one dollar ten cents.

Of the recent Territorial acquisitions of the United States, California and Florida will, probably, ere long be ranked among the wine-producing States. In California, the efforts of the old Catholic Missionaries to cultivate the grape resulted satisfactorily and the manufacture of wine from the domestic grape of Florida was also attended with success. Sir John Hawkins reports, that in 1694 the early settlers of Florida re-

alized twenty hogsheads of palatable wine from the native grape. The good results which were anticipated from this discovery were, thanks to the political disturbances in which that colony became involved, never realized.

In Canada West, where certain species of wild grapes are very abundant, the manufacture of wine recently introduced, has been attended with the most signal success. Buchanan's Journal pronounces it superior to the imported port wine.

The severe weather of the last winter cut short the present grape crop in the vineyards in the neighborhood of Cincinnati. There will probably not be half a crop. In all the Northern half of Illinois, the wood of the Catawba and Isabella grapes was nearly all killed. There may be a few grapes of these varieties in Southern Illinois. The roots have thrown up good wood the present season, and if no untoward weather intervenes we are likely to have large crops of grapes the ensuing season.

The wild vines of our woods are loaded with fruit, and it is now gathered in large quantities. Mr. Brush of Ottawa, has manufactured a valuable wine of these grapes much resembling port, which however, is not a new thing—for the early French residents of Illinois, made wine in large quantities from the same species of fruit some two hundred years ago.

Whatever may be said about the case of the wines from our native grapes, it is certain that they will be far injurious than these crugged compound, sold as foreign ardent liquors.

#### Of the Moon.

In the course of the last month there was a meeting of savans "for the advancement of science," at Albany. A good many curious subjects were discussed and new discoveries announced at this meeting. The moon was one of the subjects of discussion. Prof. ALEXANDER discoursed of the relative age of different portions of its surface. He exhibited diagrams of the moon, in comparison with the Eastern Hemisphere of the earth, and went on to show that the moon had undoubtedly been subjected to convulsions similar to those which had occurred

on the earth, the white objects which are observed upon its disk being evidently the matter thrown up by the convulsions which had disturbed its surface. Prof. MITCHEL inquired if Mr. A. had observed upon the moon's surface appearances like a lake and a river. Professor ALEXANDER had observed them; they were once fluid, but are now cooled lava. Prof. MITCHEL noted the peculiar appearance of the river, which was one hundred and fifty miles long, and tunneled a hill, disappearing and then reappearing. He would not be understood as asserting that there were actually lakes and rivers up above, but the appearance of things was so much like them, that if he were transported to the moon, with his knowledge of the earth, with his telescope, with the privilege of observing this mundane sphere from thence, he should certainly say that the lakes and rivers here were in appearance precisely similar to those of the moon, when viewed from the Cincinnati hill, for instance.

We are increasing our acquaintance with our celestial neighbor.

#### Cultivation of Fruit.

The season is now at hand for the planting out of fruit trees. Little that is new can be said on this subject. But old facts can be with advantage brought to mind, can be dwelt upon, and can be impressed upon the attention of the reader. All love fruit. It is healthful; it is desirable; and its cultivation can be made a source of profit as well as pleasure. In these days, it would be regarded as strange, indeed, if any man opening a new farm did not take measures to plant out an orchard. It is demonstrated beyond a doubt that the West is second to no country in the production of fine fruit, and especially of apples. Fruit growers from the East, who attended the Fruit Growers' Conventions at Chicago and Burlington, admitted, without question, this fact.

The opening of new farms in Illinois, and the extension of old farms, in every quarter of the State, is beyond any precedent, even in this progressive age, and almost beyond estimation.—These improvements, as a general fact, are made by men whose ambition is not confined to the fencing of a few acres, to the erection of ill-lighted, ill-ventilated and unhealthy dwellings, and the raising of produce merely sufficient to carry the farmer from one year's end to another; but they are made by men who aim at having good farms, managed and improved with good taste, and who intend them as desirable, profitable

ble and healthful homes for themselves and their families.

We have already, in former numbers of this paper, spoken of the expediency of planting out skirts of timber and groves on our prairie farms, and that this should be done as expeditiously as possible. Not a year should be lost in doing this. Life is short; but middle aged and young men, by planting out forest timber in time, can live to realize the advantages of handsome groves and timber on their bleak and exposed farms. The fury of the winds which occasionally pass over our prairies can be arrested in time by planting out groves and skirts of timber.

But our present object is to furnish something on the subject of fruit cultivation. We suppose our farmers, many of them, at least, desire to produce fruit trees—especially apples and peaches. These can be had in any desirable quantities from the nurseries of this State. We repeat what we have said on former occasions—that trees raised in our nurseries suit better our soil and climate than those grown east of the mountains. Eastern trees are smaller, are not so thrifty, oftener covered with insects, and still oftener are not reliable fruit. We have at this time reputed agents of Eastern nurseries scouring the whole country, seeking orders for Eastern trees. We again repeat that the nurseries of Illinois, conducted by responsible men, are entirely adequate to meet all the demands upon them for trees; and the trees supplied by them can be transmitted upon our railroads to almost any point in the State; within forty-eight hours of the time they are taken from the ground.

The Catalogue of L. ELLSWORTH & Co. furnishes some interesting hints in regard to the destruction of insects which infest trees, as also valuable rules for transplanting trees, which we are sure will be serviceable to our readers:

“INSECTS.—Fruit trees should have good culture, and they should also be protected from the depredations of insects.

The BORER is one of the most formidable.—They are generally found near the ground, some times high up the body, and even in the limbs. They can be detected in their early existence, by the appearance of small punctures in the bark, and chips like fine sawdust. At this time they are easily destroyed, as they have not yet penetrated far into the wood; they should be attended to and destroyed at once. When they have penetrated to the heart, or so far that they cannot be reached by a wire, a small piece of camphor gum, or a little turpentine, put into the hole, covering it with wax on the outside, will destroy them.

CATERPILLARS should be destroyed on their first appearance; this should be attended to in the morning, when in their nests.

The SCALY APHIS, OR BARK LOUSE, is more

difficult to destroy than any of the whole tribe of depredators. This insect is found on trees brought from the Eastern nurseries. Various modes for its destruction have been recommended, such as strong ley, whale oil soap, whitewash of lime, &c., &c. Some of these are good when the application can be made directly to them, but on limbs of large size this is difficult.—Throwing quicklime or ashes into the tops when the trees are wet with dew or rain has also been recommended. The ashes, or lime, adheres to every part they touch. This can best be done when the trees are not in leaf; it should be repeated several times. The best time to apply any of these washes is the fore part of June, or the latter part of May. When the fruit trees are young frequent washing is beneficial. When the bark is rough it should be scraped smooth. This is best done with the tree scraper.

The WOOLLY APHIS is seldom met with at the West, but, like the Bark Louse, we are indebted to the East for its appearance here. When first found they should be effectually destroyed, as they spread rapidly. We have none in our grounds, and had we, we should destroy rather than sell trees infected with them. They infest the roots as well as the limbs. Sulphuric acid diluted in water, in the proportion of one to ten, can be applied to them; or, two parts soft soap and eight of water, mixed with lime enough to make it the consistency of thick whitewash, put on with a brush; when found on the roots, the earth should be taken away before applying the remedy, and fresh earth replaced afterward.—*Continued vigilance is the only safety against depredators.*”

#### HINTS ON TRANSPLANTING.

More has been written on the subject of Tree Planting than has been written understandingly. All trees should not be planted in the same manner nor at the same depth, whilst the same condition of things in some particulars must exist in all cases.

1st. The ground should be deeply and thoroughly worked, and where wet underdrained.

2d. The ends of all broken roots should be pruned off by a smooth, sloping cut from the under side outward.

3d. Trees planted in the orchard (except pears and dwarf apples\*) should be planted about the same depth they stood in the nursery. More orchards are injured by planting too deep than otherwise.

For a guide, observe forest trees, the roots near the top and the collar above the ground. The hole should be at least two feet deep; and in breadth from three to five feet, according to the length of roots; in no case should the ends come in contact with the hard earth. If the sub-soil is retentive or clayey, small stones, broken bricks, bones, or something of the kind, should be thrown into the bottom of the hole, to the depth of six or ten inches; this will prevent water remaining around the roots; then wet the roots, place the tree in the position you wish it, with its roots in their natural position, cover with rich pulverized earth, closely pressing it around the roots with the fingers, filling all the cavities. The practice of some to work

the tree up and down is very objectionable, as it draws the roots up, and in pressing them back the smaller ones become more or less doubled up; when the hole is nearly filled (if the soil is dry) pour on from half to one pailful of water; wait until it settles away, then finish filling up with earth, pressing it firmly with the foot, leaving the ground around the tree somewhat, concave or dishing; then place around the tree long manure or loose litter, extending beyond the ends of the roots, it protects from drought in summer and severe freezing in winter; it should never be omitted in our sudden changing climate and almost snowless winter, prairie country.

The practice of mixing manure with the earth placed around the roots of fruit trees is very objectionable. Manure placed upon the ground will impart its fertilizing qualities to the roots, by the aid of rain, in a more acceptable form. Trim up the tree to the desired height for the head (which should be low) leaving limbs sufficient for the top; cut back one half of the proceeding year's growth; when there are no limbs suited to the purpose, cut the trees back to the proper height, to form a top. Those planted in autumn should not be pruned until spring.

If trees, shrubs, or plants arrive during freezing weather, they should be put over cover (a cellar is preferable) and not be disturbed until a thaw; if they are dry, lay them in a trench, wet and cover them with earth, keep them in this condition from six to twelve days, according to circumstances, when they will be restored.

TABLE

Showing the number of Trees required to plant an acre.—  
From 1 to 50 feet apart.

Feet.	Trees.	Feet.	Trees.	Feet.	Trees.	Feet.	Trees.
1.....	43560	14.....	222	26.....	64	38.....	30
2.....	10890	15.....	193	27.....	59	39.....	28
3.....	4840	16.....	170	28.....	55	40.....	27
4.....	2722	17.....	150	29.....	51	41.....	26
5.....	1742	18.....	130	30.....	48	42.....	25
6.....	1210	19.....	120	31.....	45	43.....	24
7.....	889	20.....	108	32.....	43	44.....	22
8.....	680	21.....	98	33.....	40	45.....	21
9.....	537	22.....	90	34.....	37	46.....	20
10.....	435	23.....	82	35.....	35	47.....	19
11.....	360	24.....	75	36.....	32	48.....	18
12.....	302	25.....	69	37.....	31	49.....	18
13.....	257					50.....	17

### Valuable Raspberry Patch.

Mr. Samuel Seymour, of Norwalk, Coun. raises raspberries for market. This is his process: His land is on a stony side hill; the large stones were removed from the surface; land well manured; stalks planted in the fall of '52, four in a hill; hills four feet apart; the stalks were three feet high; they were immediately laid down and covered with one or two inches of soil. In the spring, just as peaches were in bloom, they were uncovered and tied to small stakes; the ground was kept clean and in good order, and the plants cultivated as corn. There was five-eighths of an acre in the piece of land thus occupied. The plants yielded, the first year, 440 pint baskets; the second year, 226

baskets, the third year, 5,026 baskets, worth at the rate of \$658 40 per acre. Of the production the present year we have not a full estimate.— On the 24th July, 4,600 pints had been gathered, and still the gathering was going on. The variety of raspberry cultivated in this case was the *pure* Antwerp, which is not the variety cultivated here as the Antwerp. The canes are prickly; shorter; and the fruit larger and of a higher flavor than the false Antwerp.

### Poultry.

According to the census of 1850, the value of the poultry in Illinois was estimated at \$330,968. Large as this sum is, the value of the poultry now in this state will now double the amount. Probably nine-tenths of this estimate is based on the returns of the dunghill fowl—the remainder on the turkies, geese and ducks.

The common dunghill fowl can be raised on our farms, generally, with little cost.— There is always plenty of feed about. But they should be provided with places for laying and raising chickens. In winter all varieties of hens will lay if provided with proper food, warm shed, and plenty of lime, ashes and occasionally fresh meat.

The care taken of the Shanghais, Brama Pootras and other choice fowls, causes them to lay through winter. One family within our acquaintance sold \$30 worth of Shanghai eggs last winter. Eggs are of sufficient value in the winter months to justify the best care of fowls.

### English Durham Stock.

The value of the improved Short Horn Durham stock is proved by the fact, that in England, where this stock is most sought, the supply of valuable, first class animals is much less than several years ago. Early in the month of July, the Royal Agricultural Society of England held its Fair at Chelmsford, thirty miles from London. The best stock of England was there on exhibition. An American stock breeder, R. ATCHIESON ALEXANDER, was present. He purchased several animals, at prices one half more than they were a year ago. He says that these high prices are the result of demands for this stock from France and Australia. Mr. ALEXANDER writes to the *Ohio Farmer*:

"The number of Short Horns exhibited this year at the Royal Society's Show was seventy-

eight, which I believe to be considerably less than usual; and if we look at the shape and quality of the stock, generally, there is a most decided falling off in it is show as compared to those of former years. But how can it be otherwise? Exhausted by the constant demand first from America, then from France and the Continent of Europe, and more recently from Australia, the short Horns have within the last four years diminished most wonderfully in numbers. And as most people who come here for stock desire to get the best, the number of good ones left is very small, compared to the whole number."

From the Prairie Farmer.

### The Eagle Fan.

A certain firm in this city commenced the manufacture of this Fan last year, but failing to make a good article the patentee abandoned them, being determined to manufacture a mill which he could warrant, or none at all. The manufacture has now been commenced at Laporte, Ind., on an extensive scale, with a heavy controlling capital. The name of this firm is William Jervis & Co.

In compliance with the invitation of the general agent of the company, A Bonham, Esq., we dropped down to see the mill work. It was the wish of the proprietors to have its quality of separating chaff, cockle, oats, rye &c., from wheat, thoroughly put to the test. We therefore took some wheat adding to it and mixing thoroughly about one third of chaff, cockle and rye. This put through rapidly, and came out in fine condition—nearly every kernel of chaff and cockle taken out. A second turn through not only removed all foul stuff, but most perfectly separated the small kernel of the wheat from the large—more perfectly and exactly, perhaps, than could have been done by hand; and all this done with only one screen in at a time. The construction of this mill is peculiar. In the first place it has no hopper separate from the body of the mill. It has no "shoe" in the rear part, which in the old mills contains the sheives, and does the "shaking." This mill is entirely open here, whereby the blast is all directed upon the falling grain. In the old mill much of the blast is unavoidably lost at the shoe where no grain ever goes. How then does it clean! The grain in falling from the top of the mill strikes upon four plates of iron placed across the space which is occupied by the sieves in the common mill. These plates are set at an angle of about forty-five degrees to a perpendicular, and as the grain strikes those it is held suspended for a moment by the powerful blast, and the chaff and other foul stuff is mostly blown out. The grain can all be let fall on the floor under the mill, or be carried to the front as usual. The working of the mill is done with the greatest ease—no jar, no shaking, but runs as smoothly as an ordinary cylinder churn filled with cream.

The largest size may be easily passed through any granary door, being only 28 inches wide, and weighs only about 150 lbs. It will clean grain as rapidly, we think, as any mill we ever saw.

It separates grass seeds from grain completely by one operation, and will free grass seeds from all light and useless seeds perfectly. Specimens were examined through a microscope, and so completely was every thing useless thrown out, that we could not discover a single refuse kernel. It is on the whole the most perfect fan ever patented. Every mill will be warranted. This is saying enough for the manufacturers expect to turn out twenty mills per day—employing twenty men. Everything is to be done by machinery which they are now engaged in fitting up. They use one of Bulkley's Steam Dry Kilns for seasoning their timer.

The advantages of thoroughly cleaning grain for market, farmers have been wont to disregard, and have practiced selling their wheat direct from the thrashing machine, until the credit of western wheat has been lowered to an unreasonable and unmerited degree, greatly to our discomfort and disadvantage. Eastern buyers are willing to pay a good price for a pure article, but they are unwilling longer to buy for wheat that which is not wheat. The general introduction of this mill will, we have no doubt, add five per cent. to the market value of the wheat crop of the Western States.

But the preparing wheat in a superior manner for market is not the only advantage, which this mill offers; the perfect preparation of the seed we regard as its chief quality. No one thing tends so much to diminish the yield of grain of any kind, as the sowing of light imperfect seed. Plants have no vigor, they are in fact diseased—are more liable to be attacked and destroyed by insects or other casualties, just as a weak and debilitated person is more liable to the attacks of prevalent diseases, epidemics, &c., than one of robust constitution, full of vigor and strength. The farmers in this section of country have it in their power to make their wheat second to none in the United States if they will fit it for market as it should be, and by taking pains and procuring the best mills, can always be sure of good prices for their grain. There cannot be a better Fanning Mill made for the price than this Eagle Fan, and will clean more rapidly than any other than we have known.

### Apples for Food.

Liebig, the eminent physiologist, says: "The importance of apples as food has not hitherto been sufficiently estimated in this country, or understood. Besides contributing a large proportion of sugar, mucilage, and other nutritive matter, in the form of food, they contain such a fine combination of vegetable acids, extractive substances, and aromatic principles, with the nutritive matter, as to act powerfully in the capacity of infrigerants, tonics and antiseptics; and when used freely at the season of ripeness, by rural laborers and others, they prevent debility, strengthen digestion, correct the putrifactive tendencies of nitrogeous food,

avert scurvy, and probably maintain and strengthen the powers of productive labor.

The operators of Cornwall consider ripe apples nearly as nourishing as bread, and more so than potatoes. In the year 1801, a year of scarcity, apples, instead of being converted into cider, were sold to the poor, and the laborers asserted that they could stand their work on baked apples without meat; whereas, a potatoe diet required either meat or fish. The French Germans use apples extensively; indeed it is rare that they sit down, in the rural districts, without them, in some shape or other, even at the best tables.

**The Tulip and Hyacinth.**

These have long been the most agreeable flowers of spring. They are beautiful, and when grouped with taste, make a gorgeous view.

We shall not attempt to describe the endless varieties, some of which are dwarfish in their habits while others are from two to three feet in height, some blooming in the early part of May, and others not till the end of that month. Plant during October or early in November in groups along borders, or in beds six to eight inches apart each way. Clumps of three to six bulbs of different colors have a fine appearance along a border, or a circular bed may be made by spading deep and mixing in sand and muck, after which set the tallest growing plants in the centre and form consecutive circles with the dwarf varieties for the outer border, interspersing all the different hues. Let such a bed have a gradual inclination from the centre to the outer edge, and cover the bulbs with three to four inches of earth up every third year, three or four weeks after plowing, placing a little dry sand around each.

Hyacinths are very hardy and easily cultivated, commencing to bloom about the middle of April, and if shaded from the mid-day sun, will continue in flower for a month. The stalks are about one foot high, and covered with florets or small bells of every hue, with red, blue or purple eyes, giving the bed a very beautiful appearance. Plant firm, sound bulbs in October and November in bed similar to those for the tulip. Set them eight inches apart and cover three or four inches deep, having previously put a little fine sand about the bulb. The flowers will be more perfect and of an improved size if the beds are covered during winter with coarse manure or straw. The bulbs can be taken up in about one month after they have completed their blooming season, or they may remain for two or three years.

**OFFICIAL LIST OF PREMIUMS, AWARDED BY THE SANGAMON COUNTY Agricultural and Mechanical Association, at the Exhibition and Fair, held on their grounds near Springfield, on the 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th days of September, 1856.**

**PURE CATTLE OF ANY BREED—FOR BREEDING.**

Best Bull 4 years old and over, Calif & Jacoby.....	\$10
2d do do do do John D. Hutchins.....	5
Best Bull 3 years old and under 4 years, Rutter & Pollock...	10
2d do do do do Wm. Thompson...	5
Best Bull 2 years old and under 3 years, Brown & Chambers...	10
2d do do do do Rutter & Pollock...	5
Best Bull 1 year old and under 2 years, Calif & Jacoby....	10
2d do do do do John Ray.....	5
Best Bull Calf under 1 year old, J. M. Hill.....	10
2d do do do do J. C. Crowder.....	5
Best Cow over 4 years old, J. M. Hill.....	10
2d do do do do J. N. Brown.....	5
Best Cow over 3 years old and under 4 years, Calif & Jacoby	10
2d do do do do J. N. Brown....	5
Best Cow over 2 years old and under 3 years, J. D. Smith....	10
2d do do do do J. N. Brown....	5
Best Cow over 1 year old and under 2 years, J. N. Brown...	10
2d do do do do Calif & Jacoby....	5
Best Heifer Calf under 1 year old, Calif & Jacoby.....	10
2d do do do do J. D. Smith.....	5

**GRADE CATTLE—COWS.**

Best Cow 3 years old and over, J. D. Smith.....	10
2d do do do do J. D. Smith.....	5
Best Heifer Calf under 1 year old, J. D. Smith.....	6
2d do do do do Jos. Stockdale.....	3

**FAT CATTLE.**

Best Steer 4 years old and over, Calif & Jacoby.....	10
Best Steer 3 years old and under 4 years, John Pruntz....	10
2d do do do do John Pruntz....	5

**WORKING OXEN.**

Best Yoke 4 years old and over, Calif & Jacoby.....	10
2d do do do do E. N. Tainter.....	5
Best Yoke 3 years old and under 4 years, Ezra Barnes.....	10

**SWEEPSTAKE.**

Best Bull of any age or breed, Brown & Chambers.....	20
2d do do do do Rutter & Pollock.....	10
Best Cow of any age or breed, J. D. Smith.....	20
2d do do do do J. N. Brown.....	10

**THOROUGH BRED HORSES.**

Best Stallion 4 years old and over, A. Anderson.....	10
2d do do do do B. W. Gray.....	5
Best Stallion 3 years old and under 4 years, Shelton Bacon	6
2d do do do do Col. Jacob Shy	4
Best Stallion 2 years old and under 3 years, Jno. L. Bridges	6
2d do do do do J. C. Crowder...	3
Best Stallion 1 year old and under 2 years, F. M. Scott....	6
2d do do do do T. G. Taylor....	3
Best Mare 4 years old and over, B. W. Gray.....	10
2d do do do do F. M. Scott.....	5

**HORSES FOR ALL WORK—ROADSTERS.**

Best Stallion 4 years old and over, Jos. Stockdale.....	10
2d do do do do B. W. Gray.....	5
Best Stallion 3 years old and under 4 years, Thos. Smith...	6
2d do do do do Albert Stacy...	4
Best Stallion 2 years old and under 3 years, Jas. M. Hill....	6
2d do do do do Jos. Stockdale	3
Best Stallion 1 year old and under 2 years, Tru. Stephens.	6
2d do do do do J. W. Byers....	3
Best Stallion under 1 years old, B. W. Gray.....	5
2d do do do do J. Crowl.....	3
Best Mare 4 years old and over, J. T. Newman.....	10
2d do do do do Jos. Stockdale.....	5
Best Mare 3 years old and under 4 years, — Brock.....	6
2d do do do do — Fitch.....	4
Best Mare 2 years old and under 3 years, A. M. Peddicord...	6
2d do do do do Wm. Braughton...	3
Best Mare under 1 year old, F. M. Scott.....	5
2d do do do do John Pruntz.....	3

**DRAUGHT HORSES.**

Best Stallion 4 years old and over, John Smith.....	10
2d do do do do W. H. Renfro.....	5
Best Stallion 2 years old and under 4 years, J. D. Slack....	6
2d do do do do J. Tashberry..	3
Best Stallion 1 year old and under 2 years, Jos. Clloyd....	5
Best Stallion Colt under 1 year old, A. P. Cuskler.....	5
2d do do do do W. S. Pickerell.....	3
Best Mare 4 years old and over, W. S. Pickerell.....	10
2d do do do do W. S. Pickerell.....	5
Best Mare 3 years old and under 4 years, Jno. Pruntz....	6

2d do do do A. M. Peddicord	3
Best Mare 2 years old and under 3 years, S. Davidson	6
Best Mare 1 year old and under 2 years, W. S. Pickerell	5
Best pair draught Horses for family use, Jas. M. Hill	10
2d do do do Jos. Stockdale	5

**MATCHED GELDINGS AND MARES.**

Best mat'd Geldings or Mares for all purposes, J. Stockdale	10
2d do do do J. B. Perkins	5
Best mat'd Geldings or Mares for light harness, J. Stockdale	10
2d do do do G. H. Manning	5

**GELDINGS OR MARES FOR SADDLE.**

Best saddle Gelding or Mare, B. W. Gray	10
2d do do do W. H. Renfro	5
Best Gelding or Mare for light harness, J. Stockdale	10
2d do do do Calif & Jacoby	5

**SWEEPSTAKE.**

Best Stallion of any age, Jos. Stockdale	10
2d do do James Scott	5
Best Mare of any age, A. M. Peddicord	10
2d do do A. M. Peddicord	5

**JACKS AND MULES.**

Best Jack 3 years old and over, Rutter & Pollock	10
Best Jack 1 year old and under 2 years, Wm. French	5
Best Jack Colt under 1 year, G. W. Taylor	5
Best Jennett 3 years old and over, G. W. Taylor	10
Best Jennett Colt under 1 year old	5

**MATCHED MULES AND SADDLE MULES.**

Best pair mat'd Mules 3 years old and over, Thos. G. Taylor	10
Best single Mule over 1 and under 3 years, R. F. Barrett	10
2d do do do Jas. M. Hill	5
Best Mule 1 year old and under 2 years, J. H. Spear	6
2d do do do J. H. Spear	3
Best Mule Colt under 1 year old, G. W. Taylor	6
2d do do G. W. Taylor	3

**SHEEP—FRENCH AND SPANISH MERINOES.**

Best Buck over 2 years old, A. B. McConnel	10
2d do do B. E. Hoppin	4
Best Buck under 2 years old, G. W. Taylor	10
2d do do John McConnel	4
Best pen of 5 Ewes over 2 years old, A. B. McConnel	10
2d do do G. W. Taylor	4
Best pen of 5 Ewes under 2 years old, John McConnel	10
2d do do A. B. McConnel	4
Best pen of 5 Ewe Lambs, G. W. Taylor	8
2d do do A. B. McConnel	3
Best 5 Buck Lambs, G. W. Taylor	Diploma

**LONG WOOL.**

Best Buck over 2 years old, C. W. Price	6
Best Buck under 2 years old, C. W. Price	6
Best pen of 5 Ewes over 2 years old, C. W. Price	6

**SWEEPSTAKE.**

Best Buck of any age, G. W. Taylor	10
2d do do A. B. McConnel	3
Best pen of 5 Ewes, A. B. McConnel	10
2d do do John McConnel	3

**POULTRY.**

Best pair of Shanghais, S. N. Fullenwider	1
Best pair of Brama Pootra, S. N. Fullenwider	1
Best pair of Cochins, B. S. Robinson	1
Best pair of Dorkings, R. S. Hurd	1

**HOGS.**

Best Boar over 18 months old, W. S. Pickerell	10
2d do do J. C. Crowder	6
Best Boar over 8 and under 18 months, J. C. Crowder	10
2d do do S. N. Fullenwider	6
Best Boar Pig under 8 months old, John Hulit	6
2d do do J. C. Crowder	3
Best Sow over 18 months old, J. C. Crowder	10
2d do do Wm. S. Wallace	6
Best Sow over 8 and under 18 months, J. C. Crowder	10
2d do do S. N. Fullenwider	6
Best Sow Pig under 8 months old, S. N. Fullenwider	6
2d do do J. C. Crowder	3
Best Litter Pigs under 3 months old, not less than six in number, J. C. Crowder	10
2d best Litter Pigs under 3 months old, not less than six in number, S. N. Fullenwider	6
Best lot fatted Hogs, not less than 3 in number, E. N. Tainter	6

**AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, ARTICLES OF MERCHANDISE, &c.**

Best Reaper, B. F. Fox	Diploma
Best Harvester or Heading Machine, B. F. Fox	Diploma

Best Mower, B. F. Fox	Diploma
Best Prairie Plow, Jesse Frye	Diploma
Best Bridge Model, Samuel Grubb, Sen.	Diploma
Best Buggy, G. S. Manning	\$5 00
Best Corn Hand Planter, Q. A. Fisk	2 00
Best Corn and Cob Crusher, B. F. Fox	Diploma
Best Hay and Straw Cutter, E. Woolkill	Diploma
Best Separator, Leonard Bricker	Diploma
Best Fanning Mill, Post & Brother	Diploma
Best Portable Grist Mill, B. F. Fox	Diploma
Best Set Carriage Harness, J. J. Ingells	\$3 00
Best Half Dozen Horse Shoes, Alex. Duncan	2 00
Best Half Dozen Brick, E. N. Tainter	2 00
Best Wheat Broad-Cast Sower, considering its Cost, C. Sampson	Diploma
2d Best do do S. Chamberlin	Diploma
Best Wheat Drill, considering cost, Fravil & Lemon	Diploma
Best Lot Cabinet Furniture of Home Manufacture, S. Conant	Diploma
Best Pair of Boots, W. Beckemeyer	2 00
Best Saddle and Bridle, J. J. Ingells	2 00
Best Cook Stove for Wood Fire, Elder & Brother	2 00
Best Barrel, N. E. Bateman	Diploma

**FARM PRODUCTS.**

Best Two Bushels Winter Wheat, exhibited by Producer, S. Peterson	\$5 00
2d do do E. F. McConnel	3 00
Best Sample Beets for Table use, M. Pierson	1 00
Best do Turnips do do M. Pierson	1 00
Best do Swt Potatoes do do David Talbott	2 00
Best do Ir'h Potatoes do do John McConnel	2 00
Best do Cabbage do do M. Pierson	2 00

**ORCHARD.**

Greatest and best variety of named Apples, M. Pierson	\$7 00
Greatest and best do do Grapes, Mrs. Sheldon	3 00

**DAIRY.**

Best 10 lbs. Butter made within 20 days, F. G. Wilson	\$7 00
2d do do do Mrs. J. R. Duryea	4 00
Best 15 lbs Cheese, F. G. Wilson	5 00

**MILL FABRICS.**

Best lot of Cloths, Satinets, Blankets, &c., from one Manufactory, H. M. Armstrong	Diploma and \$10 00
Best 10 yards Jeans, Miss Martha Bradley	3 00
2d do do Miss H. M. Earnest	2 00
Best Pair Wool Blankets, Miss H. M. Earnest	3 00
Best Pair Wool Stockings, Mrs. W. B. Peake	2 00
2d do do Mrs. S. B. Brown	1 00
Best Pair Wool Socks, Mrs. E. Todd	1 00
Best 10 yards Wool Carpet, Mrs. W. S. Pickerell	3 00
2d do do do Mrs. Juddkins	2 00

**NEEDLE WORK.**

Best evidence of skill in Needle Work, Miss E. Barnes	\$3 00
2d do do do Miss A. Clinton	1 00
Discretionary, Mrs. M. M. Vandusen	1 00
Best evidence of skill in Needle Work by a Girl under twelve years of age, Miss M. A. McConnel	2 00
Best Embroidered Pantalets by a Girl under ten years of age, Nellie Matheny	3 00
Best Embroidered Skirt, Mrs. A. C. Beers	3 00
2d do do Mrs. E. Chapman	2 00
Best Plain Fine Shirt, Eliza M. Frackelton	2 00
Best Plain Fine Shirt by a Girl under twelve years of age, Anna Brown	2 00
Best Domestic or Worsted Spread or Quilt, Miss Lou Warren	2 00
Best Quilt, Patchwork, Miss M. E. Williams	1 00
2d do do Mrs. J. E. Gibson	2 00
Best Silk Spread, Mrs. E. Todd	1 00
Best Silk Quilt, Mrs. W. A. Turney	2 00
Best Child's Dress, Silk Emb'd, Mrs. S. B. Fisher	2 00
Best Child's Dress, Embroidred Muslin Work, Mrs. G. Barrell	1 00
Best Pair Embroidered Worsted or Cloth Slippers, Mrs. E. Todd	1 00

**PAINTING, &c.**

Best animal Painting by an American Artist, Miss E. A. Post	Diploma
2d do do do Miss M. Constant	Diploma
Best specimen of Drawing, Miss Mary E. Hughes	Diploma
Best 3 do do do Miss Mary A. Spear	Diploma
Best Daguerreotype, P. Butler	Diploma
Best Ambrotype, P. Butler	Diploma

**BREAD.**

Best Two Loaves Wheat Bread, Mrs. S. Francis	\$2 00
Best Two Loaves Corn Bread, Mrs. S. Francis	2 00

CAKE.

Best Sponge Cake, Miss Marietta Francis, 12 years old	2 00
Best Pound Cake, Mrs. Joseph Stockdale	2 00
Best 2 pounds Cookies, Miss E. M. Hughes	1 00

PRESERVES.

Best Apple Preserves, Mrs. Newton	1 00
Best Peach Preserves, Mrs. M. Pierson	1 00
Best Quince Preserves, Mrs. S. Francis	1 00
Best Jelly of any kind, Miss Anna Brown	1 00

FLOWERS AND FLORAL DESIGNS.

Best Vase of Cut Flowers, M. Doyle & Co.	2 00
2d do do Mrs. Thomas Moffett	1 00
Best 2 hand Bouquets, M. Doyle & Co.	2 00
Best show of Dahlias, M. Doyle & Co.	1 00

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.

Wax Fruit and Flowers, R. M. Knox	Diploma
Two Hats and Caps, J. H. Adams	Diploma
One Worsted Ottoman, Mrs. G. W. Chatterton	1 00
One Case Mechanical Dentistry, C. Granville French	Diploma
One Clear Stuff Board, E. R. Ulrich	Diploma
One Hair Wreath, Mrs. A. Lipscomb	1 00
One Embroidered Collar, one Lamp Mat and one Cushion, Mrs. A. Starne	1 00
One Lamp Mat, one Cushion, one Bottle Cherry Cordial, Mrs. Sheldon	1 00
One Lamp Mat, Miss Maria Wright	1 00
Two Todies, one Rug, one Ottoman, one Collar, one Bracelet, two small Mats and one Pillow, Eliza Sahlberg	1 00
One Fancy Needle Work Watch Case and Needle Book, Mrs. S. R. Hurd	1 00
One Case Bonnets, Caps, &c., Mrs. Labarthe	Diploma
Samples of China Tea, Timothy Seed and Egg Plant, Daniel Scott	1 00
Watermelon Preserves and Sweet Grapes, Margaret Scott	1 00
One Newel Post, A. Hughson	Diploma
One Case Guns, Pistols and Sporting Apparatus, Wm Bishop	Diploma
One Fancy Cushion, Mrs F Eggerking	1 00
One Box Lima Beans, C L Conkling	1 00
Sample Tomatoes, Mrs T Moffett	1 00
One Bead Work Book, Mrs M J Merritt	1 00
Fire Board and Picture Frame, Leather Work, Misses Akard	1 00
Oil Painting on Glass, A Perkins	1 00
Rug Carpet for Center Table, Mrs II Rathack	1 00
A Lot of Lumber, Poplar Flooring, Pine do., Pine and Oak Shingles, and Pine and Poplar Siding, Huntington & Campbell	Diploma
One Tidy, Mrs A R McNabb	1 00
Two Cases Optical Instruments, Dr. J. Philips	Diploma
Marble Work, A Haldeman	Diploma

S. FRANCIS, Secretary.

EDUCATION OF THE AGRICULTURIST.—No man is so high as to be independent of the success of this great interest; no man is so low as not to be affected by its prosperity or decline. Agriculture feeds us; to a great degree it clothes us; without it we could not have manufactures, and we should not have commerce. These all stand together, but they stand together like pillars in a cluster, the largest in the centre, and that largest is agriculture. We live in a country of small farms and freehold tenements; a country in which men cultivate with their own hands their own fee-simple acres, drawing not only their subsistence, but also their spirit of independence and manly freedom from the ground they plow. They are at once its owners, its cultivators, and its defenders. The cultivation of the earth is the most important labor of men. Man may be civilized, in some degree, without great progress in manufactures and with little commerce with his distant neighbors; but without cultivation of the earth, he is, in all countries, a savage. Until he gives up the chase, and fixes himself to some place and seeks a living from the earth, he is a roaming barbarian. When tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers, therefore, are the founders of human civilization.—Daniel Webster.

Great Sale of Stock.

It will be seen by the following that the sale of Messrs. Brown's averaged higher than any stock sales the present season.

DEAR SIRS:—The undersigned having dissolved their partnership in farming, sold stock &c., on the 11th and 12th inst. J. N. Brown, designing in the future, to devote special attention to the breeding of Short Horns, entered into competition at the sale, with other bidders. The following is the result of the sale:

Animals Sold.	COWS AND HELPERS. Price.	Purchasers & Residence.
Bracelet and calf	\$600;	J. M. Hill, Cass County,
Tulip	630;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Blossom	410;	W. M. Deweese, Morgan "
May Dacre	715;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Moss Rose	280;	A. Pyle, St. Clair "
Angora	295;	E. L. Gillham, Scott "
Beauty	425;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Miss Bowers	235;	R. Morrison, Morgan "
Jean of Arc and calf	210;	J. S. Smith, Sangamon "
Eglentine	525;	J. N. Brown, "
Lulu	470;	W. M. Deweese, Morgan "
Tuscaloosa	425;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Mandane	340;	J. T. Newman, Morgan "
Margaretta	450;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Angora 2d	300;	E. L. Gillham, Scott "
Betona	325;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Pink	220;	E. L. Gillham, Scott "
Lulu 2d	200;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Big Kate	180;	Jas. Strawn, Morgan "
Flora	100;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Princess	190;	J. C. Crowder, "
Countess	130;	A. Pyle, St. Clair "
Red Rose and calf	240;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Dutchess	250;	E. L. Gillham, Scott "
Misfortune	200;	A. Beckett, Morgan "
Clara	180;	S. Winn, St. Clair "
May Flower	150;	Jas. Strawn, Morgan "
Miss Warfield	115;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Spot	75;	R. Morrison, Morgan "
Margaret	125;	W. M. Deweese, "
Mary Bell	115;	D. Wight, "
Bessey	60;	E. L. Gillham, Scott "
Fashion	95;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Buttercup	75;	C. C. Sacket, "
Madam Malvina	130;	J. C. Crowder, "

BULLS AND BULL CALVES.

Young Whittington	\$475;	Calif & Jacoby, Piatt Co.,
Albert	105;	J. R. Rhea, Sangamon "
Splendor	380;	J. M. Hill, Cass "
Fair Day	400;	J. Morrison, Morgan "
Chicago	350;	S. Winn, St. Clair "
Prince Regent	100;	Jas. Strawn, Morgan "
Young Ben	75;	S. B. Nichols, Clinton "
Whitler	50;	W. Thompson, Sangamon "
Red Jacket	60;	A. Thornton, Morgan "
Frank	90;	H. Very, "
Oregon	100;	J. N. Brown, Sangamon "
Total	\$11,630	

All males sold except Young Whittington and Red Jacket, were under one year of age.

The foregoing sales added to those of our grade cattle, mules, horses, sheep, &c., foot up \$19,400, payable in six months, at the Banking House of Elliott & Brown, Jacksonville.

250 beef cattle, 50 stock cattle, and 300 hogs, (ready for the pen,) we will sell as they become fit for the knife.

In partition of our real estate, W. Brown becomes sole owner of the Sulphur Spring Farm on the Rail Road, 15 miles east of Jacksonville, containing 1580 acres, and James N. Brown of 670 acres, upon which his residence is situated. We now offer for sale 1500 acres N. of said farm owned by J. N. Brown and part of the original

farm of the undersigned. Said land is susceptible of division into 4 or 8 farms, and is in a high state of cultivation. Terms as to payments easy.

Respectfully,  
J. N. & W. BROWN.

### Productive Orchards.

In a statement made at the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York, Dr. E. W. Sylvester, of Lyons, New York, said:

If people do not cultivate and take care of their orchards they cannot expect good fruit from them, or that fruit will bring a good price. I picked from one of my Spitzenberg trees, this year, five barrels. We have forty trees to the acre, that will give us 200 barrels of apples. These apples I sold at one dollar a barrel, and barrels round. My man picked from eight to ten barrels per day, and put them up. The cost then was probably about one shilling per barrel. The total amount therefore, for fruit is \$200 per acre, from which deduct one shilling per barrel for picking, and you have left, as the profits on one acre, \$175. This, I acknowledge, is above the true estimate as a general thing, but orchards may be brought very nearly to this point under good cultivation. I know some orchards the owners of which, the year before last, received eight and nine shilling per barrel, and made \$100 to the acre, without any extra cultivation. On New Year's day I had an occasion to look over a farm of one hundred and eighty-three acres, on which there was an orchard of about five acres. I asked the owner how much he received from the orchard the last year and the year before. The year before last he had received \$510 for his apples. Now, I doubt whether the whole of the other portion of his farm produced more than a thousand dollars. The last year he got about four hundred barrels but had not yet received his pay for them. Here is an orchard of five acres, averaging \$160 to the acre.

On the subject of the early productiveness of well cultivated trees of the right sort, J. M. Mattison, of Tompkins county, remarked "that he had apple trees that had been planted six years; they bore five bushels each in the season; others, five years planted, four and a half bushels;" and A. Loomis, of Bryon, Genesee county furnished the Society the following statement in relation to an older tree:

"There is one of the Baldwin variety on the premises of my brother, adjoining ours, that bears a crop once in two years regularly, and the average yield is about thirty bushels. Last season it produced twelve barrels, which sold for \$2.24 per barrel, besides four or five bushels of windfalls." This is twenty-seven dollars for the tree; and forty such trees on an acre, with half this amount, would be \$540 per acre. Would not skillful management and cultivation, in the place of the neglect, insure a result equal to this?

L. B. Langworth, of Greece, Monroe county made the following remarks:

As to the profit of raising fruit, I have al-

ways supposed that an ordinary apple tree that will produce five bushels, does not use up more than a square rod of ground; and one square rod does not produce more than one bushel of potatoes in this country. If this is so, then the apple trees that produce but one bushel give as much return as potatoes from the land they occupy; therefore, it can never be said that apples even at five shilling per barrel, are a very poor product, except when they grow on such very badly neglected trees as have been spoken of to day, which are allowed to run up twenty or thirty feet, then perhaps the cost of picking would take off a large amount of the profits. A gentleman of my acquaintance has sent some twenty thousand bushels of apples to England in a year and at a very great profit. I have sent the Newtown Pippin to the West Indies, and made well of it; and, therefore, I think we may decide that apples can be transported. It cannot be otherwise than that the apple and pear crop should always prove a profitable investment. I have known the Virgalieu Pear to sell in New York at \$18 per barrel. From these facts I think there can be no doubt that the fruit that grows in this portion of the country—and if properly cultivated there is no fruit as fair and as sound as that of Western New York—will ever command a ready sale, and take the preference in any market in the world.

### The Fireside Forty Years ago.

Wood-piles on the hearth, like wigwags and log-houses, are, as the clearings increase, getting to be matters of history. They are very pleasant things to remember, but on the whole would be, to our more cultivated substitutes, in these times, very uncomfortable to depend on, for house warming in a New England winter.

I trust I am not ungrateful in what I am saying. Many a pleasant evening have I danced with the boys and girls of the village by the light of the blazing fire on the kitchen hearth. Many a time have I sat on a stool in the chimney corner, and looked up and seen the stars twinkling through the broad flue. Well do I remember the high-backed settle, which was as essential then in a kitchen, as a sofa is now to the parlor. There may be readers of the *Farmer* so ignorant as not to know what a settle is! It is a high-backed wooden bench, long enough for four or five, or occasionally, six or eight boys and girls to sit on, boarded close, from top to bottom on the back, and with arms at the ends, and a board overhead—a piece of furniture doubtless designed not only for a seat, but for a screen to break the current of cold air, that always whistled past every door and window towards the big fire-place to supply the tremendous draught. I remember well, too, the fund we had getting in the wood for the evening fires, at one of our neighbors' where the old fashioned fire place flourished in its purity. The boys had a sled, with a yoke at the end of the tongue, for the two largest to pull by, and a rope hitched forward, for the smaller ones. We piled on the wood, four foot length, to the top of the stakes, about three feet high, and then at the word, with the doors set open, in we went, into the kitchen, sled and all, and

unloaded near the fire place. A back-log, of any size, not less than a foot and a half in diameter, and a *fore-stick* of half the size, were essential to every respectable fire, and a supply of pine knots for light, finished the preparations for the evening's comfort, in the way of light and heat.—They say there is a house in Chester, where the occupants always hauled the wood into the kitchen, sled-length, with a horse, but that was before my day. In our own homestead, we used to burn four-foot wood in the kitchen, and ours was a modern house, built about the year one, of the present century. Now, as to the comfort of this stile of fires—everybody knows who ever lived in an old fashioned house in the country, that in a cold day, everything froze, even in the back part of the room, with the big fire blazing, and the chambers where there were no fires, seemed considerably colder than out-doors. Who that remembers how his breath was frozen like snow upon the blankets—(we should have perished in sheets)—at waking, ever desires to go back to the old way of keeping warm?

\* \* \*

Old fashioned people must *see the fire*, and war was for a long time, waged against close stoves, mainly because they shut the fire from sight. I have always fancied, that the reason why we love to see the fire, is because we are usually cold where open fire-places are used. I never knew a person who thought a blazing fire a very beautiful object in dog-days, and am inclined to think that a person who is comfortably warm, usually thinks very little of the presence or absence of the fire that warms him; while it is very natural for one who is obliged to stand close by the andirons, and turn round, like a goose suspended by a string to roast, once a minute, to keep from freezing—it is very natural for him to like the looks of a wood fire. Some one has suggested, as an economical substitute for the use of those who want a fire to look at, that they should warm their house with a stove, and have a picture of a good fire painted on the fire-board.—*H. H. French in N. B. Farmer.*

#### Demonstration of Foreign Animals.

Those who have of late years familiarized themselves with the "Department news" of Washington, or rather of that portion devoted to the encouragement of farming and the materials for manufactures, have doubtless come to the conclusion that Government deserves not a little praise for its efforts in this direction. Much has undoubtedly been done for the industrial benefit of the country, and our different agricultural and scientific societies are entitled to even more praise for their efforts. But there is one branch which, despite all that has been done, may be said to be as yet comparatively neglected. We refer to the introduction and bringing into general use, of animals as yet unknown among us.

It is somewhat remarkable that though we live in a comparatively peaceful age and one in which the arts of peace are presumed to be making incredible advances—those of agriculture of course included—we are still

very far behind the old Romans, so far as strenuously endeavoring to accustom foreign animals to our climate is concerned. David A. Wells, whose name is very familiar to most of our scientific readers, even asserts that out of many thousand species, we have at present domesticated only between forty and fifty. It is beyond all question, indisputable, that of all the thousands alluded to, there may be only a few hundreds of or scores worth domestication. But admitting this to be the case, have we not still many curious tasks yet before us?

We have read with the utmost interest the account of the camels recently introduced into Texas, and we are happy to learn that, as we anticipated, the experiment has proved a perfect success—fifty more having been ordered. A beast of burden which bears with ease sixteen hundred pounds—which is faster than a horse, its "long walk" being equivalent to the trot of the latter,—and which to great powers of endurance joins the faculty of subsisting on the coarsest provender, must be invaluable for our western deserts. Those who will examine Marsh's recently published work on the camel will there find information which will in a few years be of the most practical nature, when the camel shall have become one of our regular institutions.

There is another animal which it is intended shall be acclimated and reared in France, and which it is to be earnestly desired will be introduced into this country—especially into the immense Northern belt of growing States where its remarkable hardiness will cause it to be appreciated. We refer to the Yark of Thibet; an animal, which Bugon, with the enthusiasm of a naturalist, declared "is more precious than all the gold in the New World." This animal actually combines in a remarkable degree the qualities of the horse, the ass, the cow and the sheep; since "it bears heavy burdens, draws large loads, supplies milk, has flesh which is excellent, and hair which is wrought into warm cloths." The fact that the Yark is far from being a handsome animal since it is short and shaggy, with an aggregated horse's tails, need not hinder its being generally used, since it is as cheaply raised as the mules, bears the intensest cold with ease, and forms in every respect just the animal for poorer farmers.

We are happy to learn that the domestication of the Cashmere goat, first attempted a few years ago, in South Carolina, may now be regarded as a fact accomplished, not only in it, but in all the neighboring Southern

States. The superior quality of the fleece and flesh of these goats are too well known to require description; but there is one quality peculiar to the breed, not so generally known. A herd of them will defend itself against dogs—a recommendation of no trifling nature in a country like our own, where the number of worthless curs is so great that there are but few States in which they do not form a serious impediment in sheep raising.

The recent and successful experiments in pisciculture or fish raising, a subject which we could wish to see more generally agitated and encouraged—have raised the query why we cannot have every variety of foreign fish in this country—so far as they are desirable. Mr. Pell, of New York, who has been most successful in raising Shad, has also imported the ova of the Tench, Barbel and Carp from Europe, as well as the spawn of the Turbot and Sole—with what success we are not aware, but we presume the experiment has, like many quite as difficult, been conducted to a happy conclusion.

By turning over any book of natural history, the reader will find that an immense field of importation still lies open to us. We trust that it may be cultivated. Every year demonstrates more forcibly the folly of Malthusian doctrines, and the fact that the world can feed itself, no matter how full it may be of consumers, if people will only look about them and employ their wits. A new country, which is not ironed by old prejudice, should be among the first also to avail itself of every sensible innovation.—*Phila. Bulletin.*

**AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES.**—A correspondent of the Louisville Courier has grouped together some highly interesting facts from the Census. The average number of acres per farm throughout the Union is 203. The total agricultural products amount annually in cash to \$1,300,000,000. Agriculture yields a larger gross revenue than any of the industrial departments, while manufactures yield the largest profit in proportion to the capital. The number of acres to a farm is smaller in Maine, and larger in California, than in any other State.

In produce and stock Ohio holds the first rank in the following items, viz: Horses, sheep, corn, and wool; Kentucky is first in mules and hemp; New York in cattle, hay, butter, cheese and fruit; Pennsylvania in wheat; Tennessee in hogs, Louisiana in sugar, Alabama in cotton, and Virginia in Tobacco.

Corn is the chief product of the United States, yielding, as it does, nearly twice the gross revenue of any other crop.

In 1850, thirty one million acres of land were cultivated in corn, the average yield per acre

being about 18 bushels. The largest yield was in Connecticut, where the average was eight barrels. In Kentucky the average was five barrels to the acre.

The average yield of wheat in the United States is nine bushels to the acre. In Kentucky it is eight bushels.

Of potatoes the average is about 120 bushels to the acre. In Kentucky it is 130.

At the present prices of produce an acre of ground in Kentucky would yield \$15 in corn, \$13 in wheat, and \$130 in potatoes—a fact worthy of consideration among farmers.

The most extensive manufacture is in the article of cotton. Of the raw material there is nearly three times as much exported as manufactured. Of the manufactured article used in the United States, in its various shapes, three-fourths is domestic.

The next largest manufactured article is of woolen goods—the exportation and domestic use of which is nearly three times that of importation.

Iron manufactures, one of our largest staples, are rapidly increasing in the excess of the domestic over the imported article. The importation as yet is about one-ninth of the home manufacture.

The distillery and brewery products, if proportioned equally to the population, would be two gallons to each man, woman and child.—About two and a half per cent. of the corn produced is made into whiskey. Ohio produces more than one fourth of the whiskey made in the United States.

In commerce the largest importation is of silken goods, amounting annually to more than \$33,000,000.

In articles for consumption, coffee is the most expensive, the importation being about \$16,000,000 annually.

Of exports, cotton is the largest, and flour next in importance. More than one-half of our commerce is with Great Britain.

In 1853, our imports from Great Britain amounted to \$143,000,000, and our exports to that country to \$145,000,000. Since 1830 our exports have continued to exceed the imports.

This country is eminent for railroads and contains more than one-half of the aggregate on the face of the globe. The average taxes paid by each person in the United States is \$3, while in Great Britain it is \$13.

**THE RAILROAD.**—At a meeting of the board of directors of the Tonica and Petersburg railroad company, held in the town of Delaware, on Wednesday last, that portion of the road lying between Washington and Uniontown was directed to be put under contract immediately. The board also directed the speedy location and letting of the division between Delevan and Washington. The board will meet on the last Wednesday in November, when they will direct the entire line to be contracted for speedy construction. The work North of us is progressing finely.—*Menard Index.*

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

**CANVASS BAGS FOR HAMS.**—The following directions are from the *Louisville Journal*:—The hams should be well tried and smoked. If they are to be put up for family use, bags made of heavy cotton cloth, the shape of the ham, but something larger with a drawing string at the large end, are the most convenient, and may be used several years if taken care of. Cover the hams neatly with brown paper and drop them into the bag—draw up the end and hang them up in a cool, airy house.

Or they may be covered with the paper as directed, and the cloth cut to suit the size and form of the hams, and then sewed firmly around them; then prepare a box or large tub of white-wash, made of common lime, about the consistency of cream, and dip the hams into this; then hang them up and dry them. If a neater article is required for market, dip them into a wash made of whiting, to which should be added sufficient thin paste to set the whiting; to this add chrome yellow to color to suit the fancy.

**A FIRST RATE SUET PUDDING.**—Having frequent occasion to take a noon "lunch" at the Dining Rooms Savery's Temperance Hotel in this City, we have been particularly pleased with the "Suet Pudding" there served up, and at our request Mr. Savery kindly furnished the receipts for the readers of the *American Agriculturist*. It is made as follows:

Blend well together:

- $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. white Sugar, pulverized,
- $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. Beef Suet, chopped fine,
- 1 quart of Milk,
- 2 teaspoonful Cream of Tartar,
- 1 teaspoonful cooking Soda,
- 6 Eggs, well beaten.

When the above are thoroughly mixed, stir in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of Flour, and flavor with extract of Lemon. Bake in cups for about twenty minutes, in an oven hot enough for baking biscuits. The above amounts are used for two dozen dessert cakes.

N. B.—One half pound of Butter may be used instead of the  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. of Suet.

**HOW TO MEND CHINA.**—From an English Almanac we cut a recipe for mending China, a long time since, and the opportunity having occurred for trying, we found it admirable, the fracture scarcely being visible after the article was repaired. It is thus made: Take a very thick solution of gum arabic in water, and stir into it plaster of Paris until the mixture becomes a viscous paste. Apply it with a brush to the fractured edges and stick them together. In three days the article cannot again be broken in the same place. The whiteness of the cement renders it doubly valuable.—*Exchange*.

**RICE JELLY.**—Having picked and washed a quarter of a pound of rice, mix it with half a pound of loaf-sugar, and just sufficient water to cover it. Boil it till it becomes a glutinous mass; then strain it; season it with whatever may be thought proper; and let it stand to cool.

**LINSEED TEA FOR SICK HORSES.**—Linseed tea is not only a valuable *restorative* for sick horses, but it is exceedingly useful in cases of inflammation of the membranes peculiar to the organs of respiration and digestion; it shields and lubricates the same; tranquilizes the irritable state of the parts, and favors healthy action. We have prescribed linseed tea in large quantities, during the past month, for horses laboring under the prevailing influenza; they seemed to derive much benefit from it, and generally drank it with avidity. Aside from the benefit we derived from the action of mucilage and oil, which the seed contains, its nutritive elements are of some account, especially when given to animals laboring under soreness in the organs of deglutition, which incapacitates them from swallowing more solid food, linseed tea may be resorted to, and in cases of irritable cough, the addition of a little honey makes it still more useful. In the latter form, it may be given to animals laboring under acute or chronic disease of the urinary apparatus, more especially of the kidneys.

*To prepare Linseed Tea.*—Put a couple of handfuls of the seed into a bucket, and pour a gallon and a half of boiling water upon it. Cover it up a short time, then add a couple of quarts of cold water, when it will be fit for use.—*Am. Veterinary Journal*.

**ANTIDOTE FOR LAUDANUM.**—When so large a quantity of laudanum has been swallowed as to produce dangerous effects, the fatal drowsiness has been prevented when all other remedies have failed by administering a cup of the strongest possible coffee. The patient has revived and recovered, and no ill effects have followed.

**FOR COOKING VEGETABLE OYSTERS.**—After cleaning, cut into slices a quarter of an inch thick; boil in plenty of water until tender, with a few bits of codfish; salt and season with pepper, butter and cream, and you will have a soup almost equal to shell oysters.

**TO MAKE YELLOW BUTTER IN WINTER.**—For a churning of ten or twelve pounds of butter, take about three or four carrots, grate them fine, and press out the juice; then pour some hot water on and press again. Take the juice thus obtained, and mix it with about a pint of new or sweet milk, and put it in the cream and churn as usual.

**PUDDING SAUCE.**—With the above, as well as other puddings, two kinds of sauce are used.—**Hard Sauce**—Butter beat up with pulverized Sugar. **Lemon Sauce**.— $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. Butter;  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. Sugar; 1 Lemon, cut fine; 1 pint of Water. The whole boiled, thickened with a little Flour, and a little Nutmeg grated in.

Others may have better receipts than the above—if so please send them on.—[Ed.]

**PRESERVING BUTTER.**—"It is said" that butter will keep for a long time, if each pound be treated with one ounce of the following composition recommended by Dr. Allen, viz: Salt, 2 parts; saltpetre, 1 part; sugar, 2 parts.

### Juice of the Water Melon.

A correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer* presents the following method of using water melons:

I endeavor every year to raise a good water melon patch. They are a healthy and delightful fruit, I think. I cultivate the icing variety; plant early in May, and again towards the end of the month, so that they may come in succession. When they commence ripening, we commence cutting, and use them freely during the hot weather. When the weather becomes cool in September, we haul a quantity of them to the house, split them open, with a spoon scrape out the pulps in a cullender, and strain the water into vessels.

We boil it in an iron vessel, then put in apples or peaches, like making apple-butter, and boil slowly until the fruit is well cooked, then spice to taste and you have something that most people will prefer to apple-butter or any kind of preserves. Or the syrup may be boiled without fruit, down to molasses, which will be found to be as fine as any sugar-house molasses. We have made in a fall as much as ten gallons of the apple-butter, if I may so call it; and molasses which has kept in fine condition until May.

### Husk Beds.

We find in *Drew's Rural Intelligence* the subjoined very useful paragraph. We can also add our testimony to the great superiority of husks over straw for underbeds.

"As each autumn has returned for several years past, we have advised all corn-growers to save their husks, for under-beds, believing they are the best substance for this purpose that is or can be used. They should be the inner husks, clean and whole, and spread on some airy floor for a few days, in order that they may become perfectly dry. Then they may be put into the ticks, and they will last for many years. We have some of the under-beds now in our house which have been in use more than twenty years; and with an annual ventilation and beating, by being emptied on a chamber floor, and with a little replenishing with new cusks, they are as good and as lively as when new. The husks had better not be stripped up as some have done. This makes the substance finer and more liable to mat up. Let the husks be whole, and, drying in irregular shapes, they will retain those shapes and lie lively in a bed for a long time. There is a beard, or furziness, on each husk, that prevents any insects crawling through the beds; consequent-

ly they are entirely free from vermin, of which straw is full. They are, therefore, clean, sweet and healthy. A good husk bed is equal to the best mattress for summer use, and we have slept in feather beds in winter not half so soft as these."

**THE TURKEY.**--M. Soyer: 'It is singular that this bird should take its name from a country in which it has never been seen. In other countries in Europe it is called the Indian cock, because, on the first discovery of America by Columbus it was supposed to be part of the continent of India, and thus it received the name of West Indies; and this bird, being brought over on the first voyage was thus named. By many, it is supposed to have been brought over by the Jesuits in Spain and Portugal. I have seen it stated that it was known to the Romans, and was served at the marriage of Charlemagne. From my researches, I rather think they confound it with the pheasant.'

**BUTTER.**--Probably the best way for packing summer butter to keep is to pack it after most thoroughly working out all the buttermilk and water, and moderately salting, in glazed crocks as compactly as possible, so as to exclude all air, and then to cover it with a thin piece of cotton and to pour over it a strong brine, strained, to remove all impurities. This way is highly recommended, but if any body knows of better we should be happy to hear about it.--Home-stead.

**SHEEP.**--Keep in a trough, under cover, accessible to your sheep, from now until fall, tar and salt. Every few days tar should be strewn over the bottom of the trough, and salt over the tar. The sheep in eating the salt will smear their noses with the tar, and thus will they be armed with a repellent against the fly that deposits eggs in their nostrils, that cause worms in the head.

**TO PREVENT A COW FROM FRETTING AFTER HER CALF.**--Let the calf wear a strap around the neck; when taken from the cow, put the strap around the cow's horns. The smell of the calf that remains on the strap will in a great measure prevent her fretting. If she has been accustomed to go to her calf at noon, let her be milked for a few days at the same time.

**STONE CEMENT.**--A cement of three parts fine coal ashes, one of red lead, three of sand, and two of chalk, (by weight,) made into a putty with oil, is excellent for filling up the exposed joints of stones, brick, &c. It becomes as hard as marble.

### Plant a Tree.

There is no way a man can so effectually rear a monument to posterity, and one for which he shall receive their blessing, as by planting a tree; no matter whether a shade tree that shall protect from the scorching heat of the midsummer's sun, or one that shall yield a luxury in its wealth of delicious golden fruit. From the window by which I am sitting, I see a row of maples planted by my father twenty years since, that suggested this word to you, kind reader; and that row of maples, that cost but a few hours labor then, is now the admiration of all who see it, and an ornament to that old homestead, that is valued above price.

Have you never in riding over the country, passed a house entirely destitute of trees and shrubbery? and has not its dreary, forsaken, uninviting appearance, painfully impressed itself upon your remembrance? And then again have you not passed another in direct contrast with it? here and there scattered around it a flowering shrub, or a climbing vine; if a rustic cot, a honeysuckle or a grape protecting its porch, and yielding sweet incense or delicious fruit; just back of it a venerable orchard, fit retreat for the gambols of joyous, merry, laughing childhood, while to complete the picture there were scattered around, a few noble trees that one could love and venerate with a reverence akin to that we feel for those who nurtured our childhood, and guided our youth. Has it not been your fortune to see and compare the two, and has it never occurred to you what gave to the one its charming, attractive, home-like appearance,—and the want of which in the other, rendered it thus repulsive and uninviting? If not, look at the picture again, study it more closely, and you will see that the tree, the shrub and the vine, tastefully arranged and cared for, have far more to do with the beauty of home, than all else that science and architecture, aided by wealth, can bring. The cottage thus adorned, however humble, is far more attractive and beautiful, than the most stately mansion in its coldness and grandeur, where these are wanting.

### Bed Bugs.

"My family having an irreconcilable hatred to these pestiferous creatures, have, for years, been trying to keep them in subjection by the constant use of the brush, hot water, turpentine and various other bug medicines, but until lately everything, except constant labor, proved to almost an entire hum-bug. At last, some one gave the following recipe, as being effectual: Take ten cents worth of quick-silver and the white of one egg; beat them well together, and apply the mixture around the pins and joints of the bedstead with a small brush, or feather.—This has proved to be entirely effectual. The above quantity will serve for about two bedsteads."

CARPETS last longest by being often shaken, preventing the dirt under and in them from grinding out the texture; and by not being swept too frequently.

### A Lesson from the Birds.

A gentleman observed in a thicket of bushes near his dwelling a collection of brown thrushes, who for several days attracted his attention by their loud cries and strange movements. At length curiosity was so much excited that he determined to see if he could ascertain the cause of the excitement among them.

On examining the bushes he found a female thrush, whose wing was caught in a limb in such a way that she could not escape. Near by was her nest, containing several half-grown birds. On retiring a little distance, a company of thrushes appeared, with worms and other insects in their mouths, which they gave first to the mother, and then to her young; she in the meanwhile cheering them in their labor of love with a song of gratitude.

After watching the interesting scene until curiosity was satisfied, the gentleman released the poor bird, when she flew to her nest with a grateful song to her deliverer, and her charitable neighbors dispersed to their usual abodes, singing, as they went, a song of joy.—National Intelligencer.

**CURE FOR CORNS ON HORSES' FEET.**—*Messrs. Editors:*—In one of your late numbers, a correspondent inquires the best cure for corns in horses' feet. I have a very valuable horse, that, from carelessness and inattention, was corned in his fourth year. My blacksmith wished to cut it out, but my own judgment said no. I had his shoes pulled off, took him home and turned him out. This was in May; in October I took him to the same blacksmith, and he declared his hoof to be sound and without blemish. I have seen it tried several times—always with success. I never saw a case where the knife was used that did not materially injure the value of the animal. Burning is one remedy, but I consider it worse than cutting. We all know that an easy shoe will cure corns on our own feet quicker than any other remedy. The two cases are parallel.

Louisville, Ky.

A SUBSCRIBER.

**TO CURE SHEEP-SKIN WITH THE WOOL ON.**—Take one spoonful of alum and one of saltpetre pulverized, and mix well together; then sprinkle the powder on the flesh side of the fresh skin, and fold together, leaving the wool outside. Then roll up as tightly as you can, and hang up in a dry place. In two or three days, or as soon as it is nearly dry, take down and scrape the flesh side with a common case knife till clean and pliable. This completes the tanning. Now wash clean with soap-suds, and you have an excellent saddle cover, cushion for your wagon seat, or, when nicely trimmed, a soft and elegant mat for inside doors.

## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

### The Corn Market.

We have seen some notices of late in the papers on the trade of Cincinnati, and observe a striking fact that the Whiskey trade consumes more corn than is demanded by the export to all Foreign countries. This would hardly be the general impression, when the one exercises the greatest influence on prices, and the other is a comparatively unknown matter. During the year ending August 31st, 1856, there was, according to these figures 6,420,015 bushels of corn used in the distillation of Whiskey in Cincinnati, while the average annual shipment from the United States to Foreign countries was but 5,278,585 bushels. Certainly the temperance lecturers have something to expatiate upon in view of these things. The trade in Whisky is flourishing—not from any increased consumption amongst ourselves we imagine, but from the fact that France and Southern Europe are taking our spirits to fill up the vacuum caused by the failure of their own vintages; and the Emperor of France, in consequence of the high price of bread stuffs, has prohibited the distillation of grain in his dominions.

We regret, aside from any question of morals, to see this export to Europe. It comes back to us, by undoubted testimony and open to chemical tests, in shape of wines and brandies, that poison any and every use that may be made of them. We believe a choice wine may be manufactured in this country that will secure to it popularity, be safe and wholesome to consume, and win over the general taste from worse articles. There is a change of opinion in the last twenty years moving adversely to the consumption of spirits. We are as a nation beginning to be tired of drunkenness, tired of the poverty tax, crime and misery to which it leads, and cannot but think this reformation would be accelerated by the use of wines made from indigenous substances, of which there are many in our vegetable kingdom, and thereby a pure taste be promoted, one step gained—better than many attempted—and direction to which the higher taste of the world is evidently verging.

### Morgan County Fair.

There was a good show of cattle at the Morgan county fair. It beat the exhibition of stock at the first stock fair—and that is saying a good deal. There was as good stock as can be found anywhere. There was a good exhibition of Horses and the largest Jack we ever saw. There was not a great exhibition of Hogs or Sheep. There were some fine apples, vegetables and ladies work, several cheese and many other articles.

The grounds of the Morgan Agricultural Society, are valuable, and in the immediately vicinity of the town. But there is not a tree upon them. There is no beautiful promenades upon them, where you can avoid the hot sun or be free from dust, and no seats or benches provided where the weary can rest. On the whole, the near vicinity of a town under such circumstances, will not counterbalance the advantages of shade and shelter, found at a farther distance. The idea of growing groves in fair grounds is a good one where grounds with groves already in perfection cannot be had, but we should recollect that the planting of groves is for the advantage of another generation, not this, not the generation that undergoes the costs and burthens of the present time.

### Fall Visiting.

Our farmers and their families have worked hard the past summer and so soon as they can get their fall grain sowed, they should enjoy a little respite from their toils. By all means they must attend the fairs within their reach and should make short visits to their friends. This should be done to keep up the associations and friendships of earlier years; and if your visit be short, and you make yourself useful & give as little trouble as possible, your friends will be glad to see you—they will enjoy your visit;—it will be a source of great pleasure to them and they will be glad to have it repeated. We are all passing down the vale of life, and it is pleasant to know that "it is well" with our friends. We often see wagons with families now passing

about the country. We know why it is, what are their objects, and we love them better for it. On their return home they will resume their work; gather their late crops; see that their fences and buildings are in order for winter; look up their stock; collect their fruit; plant out trees; pay their debts; renew their subscriptions for newspapers; provide their families with new books for the winter, and see to it that suitable instructors are provided for schools, and that school houses are made pleasant, comfortable and healthful for children. You will have a busy time to get every thing ready for winter—but if you take time by the forelock, you will accomplish much.

#### Potatoes.

The late potatoes in this section are looking well and it is hoped will make a tolerable crop. The tubers at this time are growing rapidly. In the North part of this State the crop is a fair one. Under the rush of potatoes upon the market prices have fallen to 50 and 65 cts. These will be higher in a few weeks. If there is not a sufficient supply for consumption provided at home, we can readily obtain them from the counties north of us.

We hope our farmers will take measures to secure their crops from frost the coming winter. They had a severe lesson upon this point last winter. Potatoes will undoubtedly keep well, if well covered, in heaps, upon the ground.

Mr. Gardner Cox, in St. Lawrence Co. Mo., has given his method of preserving potatoes. Last spring many potatoes were sold in this city which were raised in St. Lawrence county. Mr. Cox says:

"My experience is this. In the Summer of 1846, I erected a cellar sufficiently large to hold eight thousand bushels of potatoes, and stored that fall seven thousand and averaging about eight feet deep. The cellar was built upon the North side of a hill sufficiently high to admit of two ventilations, to enter beneath the floor of the cellar, timbers were laid crossways upon the bottom of the cellars and boards laid upon them about 8 inches wide and one inch apart, admitting the cold fresh air to circulate under the whole body of the potatoes. The result

has been that my stock has been preserved. No chemical action has been discovered to work the work of decay. Potatoes which were diseased when stored, have been arrested from further decay, and the diseased part of the potatoe dried down and the sound part preserved."

#### Domestic "Port" Wine.

This article when pure, is most unquestionably, in many uses, a valuable remedial agent. But little of what is called Port Wine has that character of purity. Often, it is believed, it is an entirely spurious article, made up of drugs and alcohol. In our country, we can scarcely rely for a pure article of wine on any other source than our own domestic manufacture;—and it is said now, that even the American Wines manufactured in the neighborhood of Cincinnati, are adulterated.

We have said in another place that a valuable medicinal wine can be made from our native grapes, the grapes of our woods, approaching maturity.

Charles A. Peabody, the Horticultural Editor of the "Soil of the South," published at Columbus, Geo., and known as a successful fruit grower,—has an article in his last number, on the manufacture of wine from the wild grape of Alabama. It is employed by medical men for cases in which port wine is usually prescribed. He says that so much mystery has been thrown around wine making, that many are deterred from the effort who can secure an abundance of grapes. He gives the following as the mode of making wines of grapes:

"Let the grapes be fully ripe; gather them in clear dry weather; look over the bunches and pick out all imperfect and rotted berries. Now have the wooden troughs, trays or tubs perfectly clean and sweet, and mash the bunches on the stems by hand; as the tray is filled, empty the mass into a clean tub, and so continue, until all the grapes are mashed; stir the whole mass together in the tub, and leave it for fermentation; in a few hours bubbles will begin to rise, and in twenty-four to thirty-six, the mass will become so agitated that it will boil like a pot over the fire; watch it closely now, and as the fermentation subsides, put the mass into strong bags, and by some

strong lever power, press the juice out; after the juice is all extracted, place it in a clean vessel and try its strength, if an egg will float in it, so as to show the size of a quarter of a dollar, the juice will keep without the addition of sugar or brandy; if the egg sinks, add good brown sugar until it rises. Now turn the juice into a sweet cask; five, ten, or thirty gallons, according to the quantity of the liquid; set the cask in a quiet shady place, in the attic or in the cellar. (We prefer the attic.) Leave the bung out, and from a pitcher of the juice, which should be reserved for the purpose, fill up the cask, three, four, or five times a day, for eight days; in the mean time, all the impurities in the juice will work out at the bung-hole; after eight days, place the bung slightly in the hole. Let it so remain for eight days longer, then drive it in, and seal up the cask tight as possible. Let the cask remain perfectly quiet, and any time after the March following, it may be drawn off and bottled. It will be no injury to the wine that it remain upon the lees for two or three years before it is bottled, as it ripens better and fattens upon the lees, but it may be used as soon as the March after the making.

**MARKET ARTICLES.**—These are increased in value according to the manner they are prepared for the market.

The varieties of apples should be kept separate;—the smallest and worthless should be given to hogs, as also those which show symptoms of decay. All apples look better and are better for being selected and sorted. All apples intended to keep more than three days, should be picked from the trees.

Potatoes should be sorted when brought to market. Of what use are small potatoes to inhabitants of cities?

The same principle applies to other articles brought to market. A few inferior specimens injure and lessen the value of the whole stock. Farmers who bring articles to market, would do well to heed these hints.

**CUP CAKE.**—The ingredients are as follows: One tea cupfull of butter, two tea cupsfull of sugar, three tea cupsfull of flour, one half tea cupfull of milk, four eggs, and nearly a tea spoonfull salaratus.

**ADHESIVE PASTE,** made of rye flour, with a little alum added while it is boiling, is almost as strong as glue.

### THE STATE FAIR.

We have just returned from the State Fair at Alton, and have only time to say that it more than realized our expectations. The drouth and the cold weather for the first two days were unfavorable; but there was a large attendance of people, and on Thursday, according to the most reliable estimates there were from 16,000 to 20,000 people upon the grounds. The cattle exhibited were fine, and more numerous than at any preceding fair. The same fact may be stated in regard to horses, mules and jacks. There was a good show of sheep; and a tolerable show of hogs. We say tolerable, because we think there were better hogs in Madison County than were exhibited at the Fair. The fruit department was well sustained in apples; there was little other fruit presented.

There was much worthy of admiration in the ladies' departments; and the farm products were superior to our anticipations. The dairy was well represented; there was present more fine butter than we have before seen at the Fairs, and the cheese would have done credit to any dairies in the world. There was a large amount of machinery, and the agricultural implements on exhibition were in great variety and excellence.

Indeed, without going into particulars, we may say that the exhibition was eminently successful. The collections made at the gates were nearly \$9,000,—sufficient, it is believed, to pay all the expenses of the Fair.

### Facts to be Understood.

**BUTTER.**—Sometimes butter is so much salted as to lead to the belief that salt is added, more than required, to increase the weight of the butter. Is this honest?

**BUTTER.**—A good clean vessel, with white delicate cloths covering butter, add materially to its value, in the estimation of the consumer.

**BUTTER.**—If brought to market in a bucket from which to appearance hogs have been fed, the fact gives rise to suspicion, that the milk was set in a pig trough.

**SENTENCE OF ARRISON.**—ARRISON, the torpedo fiend, at Cincinnati, has been sentenced to ten years imprisonment—the utmost limit of the law.

### Early Vegetables.

Who does not like early vegetables? With what anxiety do we look for them? How eager to get them?

The Country Gentleman gives the following direction for obtaining early cauliflower, cabbage, lettuce and radishes:

"Cauliflower.—About the middle of Sept. is the time to sow cauliflower for wintering in frames, pits, or a cold vinery as the case may be. The seed should be sown on a warm border, and transplanted to their winter quarters when in rough leaf, or large enough to handle nicely—three inches apart more if room is plenty. As long as cold weather keeps off, they must be kept exposed as much as possible, or they grow weak and spindly, and are susceptible of injury from frost. Although frames and pits are the most convenient to winter them in, many succeed in preserving them by other means, as shutters on old boxes, oiled muslin, and the like.

Cabbage may be sown any time from the middle to the 25th of September, for supplying early plants next spring. There also require some protection, although not so much quite as the cauliflower. South of New York many preserve cabbage plants through the winter; by planting them on the south side of deep drills, and laying straw thinly over them when the sharp weather commences. Whenever this can be done, the plants being already established in the ground, commence growing early the ensuing spring, and come in slightly in advance of those wintered in frames.

Lettuce.—Those who are fond of salads will not fail to sow lettuce also about the same time. The Brown Dutch and Green Hammersmith, and Cabbage Lettuce, are excellent for keeping through the winter, the same as the preceding crops, while a small sowing should also be made of the summer kinds, for coming into use in frames in winter. While the weather continues open, such little plants are immensely benefitted by frequent stirring of the soil. Snails will occasionally prey on the young lettuce, their presence being easily detected by the slime they leave in their trail. If a little air slacked lime is dusted over them, they will have no trouble after, that is, if the lime while in a dusty state comes in contact with their bodies.

Radishes may now be sown with almost certain results of tender roots. Those who emulate a well supplied table, will of course sow in frames as soon as all chances of their

coming being past out of doors. Merely a cold frame will be sufficient at first, making a second and subsequent sowing in very gentle hot beds of leaves and dung, at stated intervals in the winter.

Onions can also be had early in spring by making the beds and planting out the onion sets in the fall. It may be desirable to cover them slightly with straw,—to be removed early in spring.

### Hydraulic Cement for Walks.

I have now a walk through an avenue, ten rods in length, floored with a sort of cement or stucco, formed of hydraulic cement, lime and sand, which has been laid two years, and which presents, at present, no sign of flaw or fracture, although it has been used daily since it was laid down. The proportions observed in mixing the stucco, was one part cement to one part of lime, (unslaked) and one part of sand. The sand was sifted thoroughly, and the mass after being mixed, allowed to remain undisturbed for a week; it was then laid down evenly, and was not again touched or trod on till dry. It has a very neat appearance, and is quite cheap compared with brick; it is also much preferable to sand and pebbles. The question of its durability remains yet to be decided. The same article is also extensively used to supply flooring for cellars, dairies, and even out buildings; but when used for the latter purpose it requires to be laid thick, say two or three inches; whereas for the former one inch will be found sufficient. The more cement and the less sand is used, the more firm and durable will be the concrete, and the more effectually, of course, will it subserve the objects for which it is applied—[Germantown Telegraph.

### Buckwheat Porridge.

Take a quart of rich milk, and after boiling it hard, stir in as much buckwheat meal as will make it of the consistency of thick mush, adding one tea spoonful of salt and a table spoonful of fresh butter. In five minutes after it is thick enough take it from the fire. If the milk is boiling hard, and continues to boil while the meal is being stirred in, very little more cooking will be required. It should be placed on the table hot, and eaten with butter and sugar, or with molasses and butter. This is sometimes called a five minute pudding; it is excellent for children as a plain dessert, or for supper.—Some add a seasoning of ginger or grated nutmeg before sending it to the table.

### Preserving Fruit in Air-Tight Cans.

As we experimented pretty freely the past season in preserving fruits by the exclusion of the air, some of our friends may desire to know how they have stood the test of the hot weather we have now had. We reply, they have fully answered our expectations. Those recently opened were as fresh as those first inspected. Those put up without sugar being simply scalded, were not only fully equal in flavor to the others, but equally fresh also, and we prefer the flavor when sugar is added at the time of eating, to that produced by scalding the sugar with the fruit.—We found no superiority in one kind of can over another, and the tomatoes (the only vegetable we put up) have kept as well as the fruits.

The various cans of berries and small fruits, put up by the same process, and sent us by our friend Mrs. Hornbrook of Wheeling, Va., have stood the warm weather, perfectly, and have elicited praise from all who tasted them. We take this opportunity of tendering her our thanks for so valuable a present.

That the glory of sweetmeats has departed with the advent of this new system of preserving fruits and vegetables, is now we think a safe prediction, so general is the voice in their favor.

Fruit of most kinds is likely to be scarce this year, that very little we presume will be put up. Apples only promise an abundant supplant supply, and those who have the cans, and nothing more rare with which to fill them, will do well to take some of the Richest as Pippins or Rambos, quarter them and put them up in the usual way.—

Another spring eat them with sugar and cream, and they will be found quite a treat in comparison with even the best of dried apples.—Ohio Cultivator.

### Fertilizing Properties from the Air.

A quantity of ammonia and nitric acid, equal perhaps on an acre to 100 weight of guano, is annually brought down to the soil by the rain, for the benefit of vegetation. Let not, however, the farmer deceive himself, and imagine that he may indulge in idle repose, while nature is thus keeping up the fertility of his lands. But he may profit by this newly-discovered bounty of nature if he will take full advantage of the atmospheric manure by manure by means of drainage, which promotes the equal flow of water through instead of over his soil; by deep cultivation, and thorough pulverization of the land, which brings every part of it

into contact with the air. The atmosphere is to the farmer like the sea to the fisherman—he who sreads his nets the widest will catch the most.

### Improvement in Soap.

The wife of an American agriculturist has been experimenting on soaps, and finds that the addition of three quarters of a pound of borax to a pound of soap, melted without boiling, makes a saving of one-half in cost in soap; and three-fourths the labor of washing, and improves the whiteness of the fabrics; besides the usual caustic effect is thus removed, and the hands are left with a peculiar soft and silky feeling, leaving nothing more to be desired by the most ambitious washwoman.

**A BULL DOG AND A BEAR**—A man in Chicago, whose stock consist of horses, has a novel way of preventing constables from levying on his property. At one side of his door is chained a fierce bull dog, with rope enough to enable him to guard half the entrance. At the other side is a savage bear, which has chain enough to barely reach the dog. Between Tray and Bruin it is impossible to effect an entrance, as a certain fat constable found to his cost after walking a couple of miles with his attachment.

### MARRIED.

**CHILDS—MARSHALL**—On the 6th inst., by Rev. B. F. Perkey, Mr. William W. Childs, formerly of Philadelphia, and Miss Sallie L. Marshall, of this city. \*

**HALE—MANTLE**—In Mechanicsburg, on the 30th ult., by Rev. W. T. Bennett, Mr. Wm. Hale and Miss Sarah A. Mantle, all of Sangamon county.

**LYON—GOULD**—On the 24 ult., by L. B. Adams, Esq., Mr. Jason Lyon and Miss Rosella Gould, both of Sangamon county

### DIED.

**NESBITT**—At the residence of V. R. Mallory, Esq., on the night of the 29th ult., at 12 o'clock, Emma Katurah, daughter of Mr. S. G. and Mrs. M. B. Nesbitt, of Clear Lake Prairie, Sangamon county, aged about 9 years.

*Decatur papers copy.*

**JOHNS**—On the morning of the 23d ult., Mrs. Almira E. Johns, consort of E. G. Johns of this city, in the forty-second year of her age.

This estimable woman, whose sudden departure has carried such grief into the hearts of a wide circle of friends, was too well known in this community to require any description of her character or a lengthened eulogy. A residence here from childhood, a connection in the Church of Christ, for nearly thirty years, and close and intimate association with many who only knew to love and esteem her; all combine in rendering her loss one to be deeply felt. But we cannot say, *deplorable*—for surely, why deplore the death of those, "who die in the Lord?" "She sleeps in Jesus." A child of suffering here, often called to pass through affliction, especially in seeing many of her little ones precede her to the "spirit-world," she, sanctified by those afflictions, has now gone to the land where sickness and suffering no more shall come. Absent from the body, she is now present in the Lord. Who would wish her back to earth again?

COMMERCIAL.

The Markets.

We are of opinion the price of wheat will be sustained through the season, or undergo little fluctuation. The yield of wheat through the Union is rather above than under the average and is of superior quality. In England the harvest is not so abundant but that considerable imports will be required from us. The stocks from the Black Sea will be reduced in consequence of the war. In France there will be a large demand upon us, and Spain, generally a bread exporting country, has at present but a limited supply. At home, with a liberal supply left over from last year, we shall be able to meet these deficiencies and retain an abundance for our own consumption. Our Millers have almost destroyed the sale of flour in Europe by their wretched brands, and if some change for the better does not soon take place, we shall lose the manufacture in this country and export wheat alone. Europeans are not partial to our Indian Corn, and apart from famine seasons, it is supposed there never will be a general demand or taste for it in that hemisphere. The increase in the shipments of breadstuffs from this country is most remarkable and will yet verify the general impression, that between the Rocky Mountains and the Alleghanies, no other soil on earth can compete with it for productions.

Springfield Market.

There is a good demand for wheat, at quotations, with very liberal receipts to mills and shippers. All kinds of marketing are scarce and in request.

FLOUR—Extra \$6; Extra White \$6 50; Superfine \$5.

WHEAT—Sales of Fair to Prime at 80@90c for Red; 100c for White.

CORN—Sales at 25@30c.

OATS—Shippers offer 25c.

POTATOES—Sales at 75 ¢ bushel.

HIDES—Dry Flint 10@11c.

BRAN—3c ¢ bushel.

SHORTS—12c.

MARKETING—Chickens, \$1 25@1 50 per doz. Butter, 15@20c. Eggs, 8@10c ¢ doz. Onions, \$1 50 ¢ bu. Tomatoes, 80@150c ¢ bu. Apples, 35@50c. Cabbages, \$8 per hundred.

GROCERIES—Market unsettled. Sugar, 8@10c. Coffee, Rio, firm at 14@15c; Laraguira, 16c; Java, 18@20c. Salt, per sack, \$2 75; N. Y. ¢ bbl \$3 25. Molasses, N. O., 50c; Belcher's 70c; Golden Syrup, 90c. Rice, 10c.

Chicago Market--Oct. 7.

Flour—Superfine, \$5; extra, \$6 25; double extra, \$7 ¢ bbl.

Rye Flour—\$5 ¢ bbl.

Corn Meal—\$1 ¢ 100 lbs.

Wheat—Spring, prime 93@95c; red, \$1 03@1 10; white, \$1 23 ¢ bu.

Corn—11c ¢ bu.

Oats—26@27c ¢ bu.

Rye—65c ¢ bu.

Timothy Seed—\$3 ¢ bu.

Clover—\$7 ¢ bu.

Potatoes—50c ¢ bu.

Salt—\$2 ¢ single bbl.

Lard—13c ¢ lb.

Pork—Mess, \$12 ¢ bbl.

White Fish—\$5 ¢ bbl.

New York Market--Oct. 7.

Flour—Common, \$6 10; good super State \$6 50 ¢ bbl.

Wheat—Chicago spring, \$1 45; red Illinois, \$1 50 ¢ bu.

Rye—Firm, at 90c ¢ bu.

Oats—Firm, at 48c ¢ bu.

Pork—Mess, \$20; prime, \$18 ¢ bbl.

Lard—14@14½c ¢ lb.

Coffee—6@12c ¢ lb.

St. Louis Market--Oct. 7.

Flour—Superfine, \$5 65; extra, \$7; country lots, \$5 10 to \$5 50 ¢ bbl.

Wheat—Spring, common, 85c; fall, do, 92 to 100c; do fair, \$1 03 to \$1 10; red and white, \$1 08 to \$1 12½; white, with sacks, \$1 22 ¢ bu.

Corn—Gunnies included, 43 to 45c ¢ bu.

Oats—Sacks included, 48 to 50c ¢ bu.

Barley—Good spring \$1 65 ¢ bu.

Potatoes—90c to \$1 ¢ bu.

Onions—\$1 65 ¢ bu.

Country Bacon—7½ ¢ lb.

Lard—Prime, in bbls, 12½c ¢ lb.

Sugar—Fair, 10c; prime, 10½ to 11c ¢ lb.

Coffee—11½c ¢ lb.

Salt—G A \$1 40 to \$1 45; Turks Island, \$1 10; L B \$1 80 ¢ bbl.

Flax Seed—\$2 22 ¢ bu.

Timothy—\$3 ¢ bu.

Beans—\$3 50 ¢ bu.

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RYE AND BARLEY;

FOR FALL SOWING, JUST RECEIVED and for sale by FRANCIS & BARRELL.

SEAMLESS BAGS;

SEAMLESS BAGS—JUST RECEIVED AND for sale by FRANCIS & BARRELL

WHEAT AND FLOUR AND CORN MEAL FRESH AND FINE, FOR SALE BY sept 27 FRANCIS & BARRELL.

# The Illinois Farmer.

## ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

VOLUME 1.]

SPRINGFIELD, NOVEMBER, 1856.

[NUMBER 11.

### MOLINE PLOWS.

THE subscriber would call the attention of all persons interested in that main Pillar of Agriculture, a good Plow, to his large and varied assortment, made from the best Eng. Cast, German and American Steel. No pains have been spared to have the best of Timber for the wood work; and none but good and experienced workmen are employed in their manufacture. The following list comprises some of the kinds manufactured:

- Two qualities of the Imperial Clipper Plow.
- Five " " old style Stubble " "
- Two " " Corn " "
- The Michigan Double Plows, for Sand or Stubble.
- Breaking Plows from 12 to 30 in., every style.
- Double and Single Shovel Plows.
- 3 and 5 Steel Tooth Cultivators.
- Guage Wheels.
- Full rigged Trucks, Cast Iron Wheels, and Wrought Iron Axle.
- Rolling Coulters (cast steel) with clasps.
- Hanging and Stengding " "

Messrs. Francis & Barrell have the exclusive sale of my Plows in Springfield, Ill., where a good assortment will be found. Orders for any particular kind of Plow or Plow fixture, can be left with them and will meet with prompt attention.

Moline, Feb 20, 1856

JOHN DEERE.

### Threshing Machines.

THE subscribers would notify the Farmers of Sangamon and the adjoining counties that they are now prepared with increased facilities to furnish them.

Townsend's Separator with Cuming's improved Tub Power or Pelton's 8 or 10 Horse Power. Also, Pitts' Separator and Double Pinion 8 Horse Power.

We shall make both geared and band machines. Having superior facilities for the business, employing only first class mechanics and using the choicest stock, we shall make it for the interest of the farmers in Central Ill., to buy our machines in preference to all others.

Our machines are well known to be the best in use both for their capacity to do work WELL and FAST, as for their DURABILITY, we would refer to the following gentlemen who have used them the past season: Preston Breckenridge, esq., Sangamon co.; James Virden, Sangamon co.

CUMINGS & MATTHEWS.

Dubuque, Iowa, mar 11, 1856.

JOHN WILLIAMS & CO., Agents,  
Springfield.

### The Grove Nursery.

West Northfield, Cook County, Ill.

JOHN A. & CHAS. KENNICOTT.

HAVE a large stock of Nursery Articles for sale, including—

- APPLE TREES;
- PEAR TREES;
- PEACH TREES;
- PLUM TREES;
- APRICOT TREES;
- QUINCE TREES

ORNAMENTAL TREES—including the various Evergreens;

SHRUBBERY—Roses, Spiraeas, Currants, Gooseberries, Honeysuckles, Snowballs, &c.

HERBACEOUS PERENNIAL PLANTS—including most varieties of Phlox, Peonias, Lillies, &c., &c.

DAHLIAS, TULIPS, HYACINTHS, GLADIOLUS, CROCUS, &c., &c.

RHUBARB PLANTS—and indeed, almost every variety of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubbery, Bulbous Flower Roots and Herbaceous Flowering Plants.

FRANCIS & BARRELL will receive orders for any articles in the above Nursery, and they will be furnished promptly.  
Sept. 1, 1856.

### GOOD NEWS!--NEW GOODS!!

W. O. JONES & W. V. GREENWOOD,

HAVING associated themselves together under the name and style of Jones & Greenwood, for the purpose of conducting a general retail trade in the town of Chatham, Sangamon county, beg leave to say to the citizens of that town and surrounding country, that they are now in the receipt of a large, entirely new and carefully selected stock of seasonable

Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Hardware, Queensware, Clothing, Groceries,

And all articles kept by the general trader, which they pledge themselves to sell as low as they can be bought in the west. All kinds of country produce taken in exchange for goods.

They will occupy the house known as the Norton Store House, Chatham. Don't forget to call. (April 1) JONES & GREENWOOD.

Pennock's Patent Seed and Grain Planter.

WE ARE AGENTS FOR THIS MACHINE for Drilling in Grain. Grain Drilled in will not winter kill and produces much more to the acre than when sown broadcast. Where it is possible, all wheat should be sown by the Drill. FRANCIS & BARRELL, Farmer's Store, Journal Buildings.  
aug5-dld

1856. **SPRING!! SPRING!! SPRING!!!** 1856.

Items for Farmers and all those interested in HORSES AND CATTLE.



**AFTER THE** hardest winter known to the oldest inhabitant, we again offer you our improved German Horse and Cattle Powder—**"THE GREAT PENNSYLVANIA REMEDY."**

It is every man's duty not only to take care of his family but of his horses. He has been given to us for our service, usefulness and pleasure; it is therefore highly essential

that we should protect so willing and devoted a servant. The spring and summer campaign is near at hand, the horse must do the labor. Thousand and tens of thousands of dollars depend on that noble animal.

**TAKE CARE OF HIM MR. FARMER!**

As you value your crop see that he is in good condition; let him go forth to the plow, head and tall up, having a good appetite,

**NOT HIDE BOUND,**

but full of energy to do the good work, every hair on his hide in the right place.

The above may be accomplished by using our celebrated horse powder, and without further ado, we refer you to the following gentleman who have thoroughly tested its efficacy.

Abner Stewart, Fancy Creek; S. A. Jones, Rochester; N. S. Bates, stake agent; M. Wickersham, street commissioner; Sam'l Shoup, John Kavanaugh, B. F. Ruth, I. R. Diller, John Cook and many others.

R. H. PRICE, Agent, Island Grove.

We have always on hand, Neats Foot Oil, Brown Tanner's Oil, and Frank Miller's Celebrated Blacking for harness. Call at

**CORNEAU & DILLER'S**

East side public square, Springfield, Ill.

ward-wif

## A WORD TO FARMERS.

**Y**OUR cry has been heretofore, "Why cannot we get carriages and wagons as durable and cheap here as elsewhere." The question can be satisfactorily answered, by calling at the

**Carriage and Wagon Manufactory of Withey & Brothers,**

ONE BLOCK EAST OF THE COURT HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,

Where can be found constantly on hand, every variety of Carriages, such as Rockaways, Buggies, Silkies, and Wagons, of the best workmanship, and at the shortest notice. As we employ none but those who have a thorough knowledge of their business, we can warrant all work leaving our establishment.

N. B.—Particular attention paid to repairing in all its various branches.

Orders respectfully solicited, and attended to, at our shop one block east of the Court House Feb. 20th, 1856.

## CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION R. H. BEACH,

West of the State House—three doors from Freeman's Corner.

**K**EEPS always on hand a large supply of men's and children's Clothing, suitable for all classes—and especially for the hard service of the farm. He respectfully invites the farmers of Sangamon county, who want Clothing, to examine his stock. He will sell at as low prices as possible and use. His motto is, "Live and let live." Come on, farmers and see my stock. **R. H. BEACH.**

Jan 21, 1856.

## J. A. MASON,

Manufacturer and Dealer in Cabinet Furniture

**H**AS on hand a large stock of Chairs of all kinds; Bedsteads, Bureaus, Cases, Presses, Tables, Mattresses, Looking Glasses, Clocks from the Factory, Willow Ware, &c., &c.

It is my intention to sell as good articles and on as reasonable terms as any other shop in the city.

Repairing done at all times.

Opposite the Journal office; also in the Journal Buildings. Springfield, Feb. 14, 1856.

## The Springfield Woolen Factory,

**I**S Prepared to Card, Spin, or Manufacture Wool into Cloths and Blankets in good style and with despatch.

They have added to their Carding Room, new and improved Custom Cards, which enables them to Card in first rate order

**1000 pounds of wool** per day.

Customers from abroad can have their wool attended to without delay.

**CASH PAID FOR WOOL.**

May 1.

ARMSTRONG & CO.

ILLINOIS

## Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

Located at Alton, Illinois.

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 23d. 1839—ORGANIZED APRIL 4th, 1839.

**A**MOUNT of premium notes in force Feb. 1st, 1856, constituting a fund for the payment of losses, \$679,37 41; secured by a lien on property insured, valued at over \$7,000,000.

This Company insures dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufactories, mills, barns, stables, and the contents of each, together with every other similar species of property, with the same, from loss or damage by fire. The Directors feel justified in recommending this Company to the favorable consideration of the citizens of Illinois. Every one insured becomes a member—the Company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. As the indemnification fund augments in exact ratio with the increase for risk, the capital of the Company is comparatively exact, there are no trustees of the institution, but the same is apparent to every one who reads the charter.

The cost of insuring in this Company is so low as to render it almost inexcusable for the owners of insurable property not to avail themselves of its protection.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Timo. Turner,	Lynan Trumbull,
H. W. Billings,	Ben. F. Long,
Samuel Wade,	M. G. Atwood,
John James,	L. Kellenberger,
Robert Smith,	Henry Lea,
Elias Hibbard,	Alfred Dow,
John Bailhache,	B. K. Hart,
John Atwood,	

B. F. LONG, President.

M. G. ATWOOD, Sec'y.

L. Kellenberger, Treasurer. april 1y

Application for Insurance may be made to JAMES L. HILL, Agent at Springfield.

**To Persons Visiting Springfield to Purchase Goods.**

ONE OF THE LARGEST, CHEAPEST and most desirable stocks of Merchandise in Central Illinois, is to be found at

**Joseph Thayer & Co's.,**

outh side of the Public Square.

Their stock contains the richest fabrics as well as the more useful, of Dry Goods, Bonnets, Parasols, Cutlery, China and Glassware, Boots, Shoes and Garters, Clothing, Teas and Family Groceries, Frunks, Looking Glasses, Hats.

The second story of their store is devoted exclusively to

**Carpets and Oil Cloths.**

They would call the attention of those in want of stout woolen goods to their stock, which they manufacture themselves of unmixed Sangamon county wool and warrant to wear well.

All persons in want of any of the above articles, are invited to inspect our assortment. We guarantee prices as low as the lowest.

May 1.

**CITY RUG STORE REMOVED**

THE undersigned would announce to his friends and the public generally that he has removed across the street to the store previously occupied by C. Freeman & Co., on the Northwest corner of the public square, where he has fitted up in a handsome and convenient manner and made many and large additions to his stock, which consist in part of

Drugs, Chemicals, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Glass, Glass Ware, Patent Medicines, Surgical & Dental Instruments, Fancy Articles,

Very Fine and a Great

Variety, Combs,

Brushes, Perfumery, Stationery,

Fine Cutlery,

**Eclectic & Concentrated Medicines, Electric Machines, Belts,**

Imported Cigars, Very Fine, Pure Wines, Brandies, Old Whiskey's, Ale, Porter.

A very superior assortment for Medical use, Lamps for Burning Fluid, a fine assortment. In fact everything that comprises a complete and saleable stock, which I offer at wholesale and retail at lower prices than ever before in this market.

I am confident that with my present facilities, I can sell to Physicians and others as low as any use in St. Louis, and would invite them to give a call and examine my stock before going further.

Everything sold by me is warranted strictly pure and genuine. Don't forget the new store, where we may always be found ready and willing to wait on customers, day or night, and give satisfaction.

J. B. FOSSELMAN.

June 1—4m.

The Farmer is sent in packages, paid for in advance, for a year, 75 Single numbers, \$1 00 The back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers

August 1, 1856.

**HOSTETTER'S Celebrated Stomach BITTERS.**

ONE WINE-GLASSFUL TAKEN THREE times a day, before meals, will be a sure cure for Dyspepsia, will remove all flatulency or heaviness from the Stomach, keep you free from costiveness, assist digestion, give a good appetite and impart a healthy tone to the whole system, and a certain prevention of Fever and Ague.

FACTS cannot be questioned, when the people of any country bear testimony in mass, as in the case of

**Dr. J. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters,**

not only have we the individual evidence of the land, but almost every paper in the Union is commenting upon the great benefit derived from the use of these Celebrated Bitters, besides various Diplomas awarded them, among which is one from the Ohio Mechanics' Institute, at their Thirteenth annual exhibition at Cincinnati, where the committee was composed chiefly of Physicians of the city. There are all weighty facts that cannot help but convince the most incredulous that it is at least worthy of trial. We therefore advise all who are not proof against three sudden transits from cold to hot weather, to be provided with a supply for family use, as it has been attended with the most beneficial results, when administered to ladies or children before meals, as per direction on the bottle. Once tried, their virtues will be realized in a very short time. It is not necessary for us to enumerate all the diseases prevailing and arising from the stomach, but suffice it to say that any derangement arising either from change of weather or diet, which is generally the cause of Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Cholera, Cholera Morbus or Cholera, all are speedily checked and cured by the use of these bitters.

SPRINGFIELD, April 14, 1856.

Some months since, while recovering from an attack of Remittent Fever, I was requested to try Dr. Hostetter's Bitters, as an article peculiarly suited to the condition of convalescents from fevers.

It is but simple justice to say, that it rapidly restored the powers of my digestive organs, and at the same time kept my bowels gently open.

I have no hesitancy in saying that hitherto, in using it in my practice, it has in every case where I have ordered, it acted like a charm.

In thus speaking freely of it, I far from puff a patent medicine, an article it by no means claims to be.

SANFORD BELL, M. D.

May 1.

For sale by all of the Druggists in Springfield

**Beach's Eagle Fan.**

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN and Seed Separator ever offered in this market.

This machine has been greatly improved by the substituting of gear wheels, in place of the band used, and we now offer it to farm

**THE BEST IN USE.**

It will clean from 60 to 100 bushels of wheat per hour, and in all kinds of grain will do the work faster, better and with less power than any other machine ever introduced into this market. Price \$20 For sale by

July 1, 1856

POST & BROTHER.

**ILLINOIS STOCK**  
AND  
**Grain Farms for Sale.**

In consequence of impaired health, the partnership betwixt myself and brother, in Farming and Stock raising, will be closed by mutual consent at an early day. We have made partition of a portion of our real estate, and now offer the remainder for sale. We will sell about



**1600 Acres.**

(Including Timber, &c., thereto, appertaining,) of the north part of the farm upon which I reside, of the tract offered for sale, about 1486 acres are in the highest state of cultivation, and has upon it a Boarding House, Barn, Feeding Lots, &c., besides three

**PALM HOUSES.**

eligibly situated, (in reference to use or sub-division,) upon different parts of the farm. There are rows and groves of trees, scattered over the lands, which are highly ornamental, and afford shade for stock in summer, and protection in winter. The tract is well watered by a brook and its tributaries. The main stream traverses it two miles, from west to east, and about 1,000 acres of it are set with tame grasses. About five miles of (Osage Orange) Hedge Fence are growing upon the premises.

The tract, composed of high, rolling prairie, is compact in form, and susceptible of advantageous division into four or more, or less, farms, adapted either to grain or grass, and each with water and timber conveniently situated. The foregoing resituated at

*Island Grove, Sangamon County, Ills.,*

and midway betwixt Jacksonville and Springfield, and within a convenient distance of Island Grove Depot, on the great Western Railroad.

To a gentleman wishing the finest stock farm in the west, or to a number of gentlemen, wishing smaller farms adjoining each other, these lands present a rare chance.

Possession can be delivered of most of the lands, at such time as may be convenient to purchasers, and of the whole at an early day. Payments made easy. As to the farm, reference is made to Dr. KENNICOTT, Secretary Illinois State Agricultural Society, and to occasional notices thereof, in former numbers of the Prairie Farmer. We also offer for sale

**360 Acres**

of unimproved Prairie; about 14 miles east of Jacksonville and about 2 miles south of Great Western Railroad.

The undersigned will still continue his residence as heretofore, and will devote special attention to the improvement and breeding of

**DURHAM CATTLE,**

He invites all who may wish to buy Fine Stock to call and examine the superior herd belonging to himself and brother.

Persons wishing further knowledge touching the lands aforesaid, will call at my residence, or upon WILLIAM BROWN, esq., Jacksonville.

**Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, &c.**  
**W. D. WARD**

WISHES to inform the farmers of Sangamon and adjacent counties, that he keeps on hand, for sale, different priced CLOCKS manufactured by Seth Thomas, Hartford, Conn. These clocks are supposed to be superior to most others in market, being well made, of lasting material, and not liable to get out of order.—an object of great importance to persons who live at a distance from shops where clocks can be repaired.



He has also for sale a variety of WATCHES silver and gold, warranted to be good. He has silver watches at low prices, the running work of which is equal to the best class of gold watches. He attends to clock and watch repairing and does the business promptly and well.

W. D. WARD.

North side of the square in the front of Messrs Watson's confectionery.

**M. M. VANDEUSEN,**

*West side of the Square, Springfield, Illinois,*

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

**DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS,**  **Paints, Oils, VARNISHES, DYE STUFFS.**

**Perfumery, Fancy Articles, BRUSHES, GLASSWARE, LETTER PAPER, STATIONERY,**

And all kinds of GENUINE and Popular

**Patent Medicines,**

A complete assortment of the best quality, and at the lowest prices.

Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs, and Dr. Baker's Pain Panacea.

**Books for the Young.**



**R. H. BEACH,**

WEST OF THE STATE HOUSE

*Three doors from Freeman's Corner.*

The books referred to are suitable for Sunday school Libraries, and the subscriber intends to keep a good supply always on hand for that purpose. He respectfully invites parents and others to examine his stock of "Books for the Young."

R. H. BEACH.

Jan. 21st 1856.

**THE EYE, EAR AND LUNGS.**

DR. HARPER continues to treat successfully all disease of the EYE, EAR and LUNGS. Also, all Chronic Diseases of the human system. The Lungs are treated by Medicated Inhalation, the only successful and rational method. The success which had attended my peculiar treatment the past many years is almost incredible to those unacquainted with its peculiar curative effects, having restored patients who were considered hopeless and restored to sight cases that have been blind from one to twenty years.



**GARDEN SEEDS**  
**At Wholesale & Retail.**

**FRANCIS & BARRELL**

**A**RE now receiving their Garden Seeds of this year's growth, from the establishment of Comstock, Ferre & Co., Wethersfield, Conn. They comprise the following seeds.

**ARTICHOKE**, Globe  
**ASPARAGUS**, Giant  
**BEANS, ENGLISH**, Windsor  
Early Long Pod  
**BEANS, DWARF**, Early China  
Early Valentine  
Early Yellow Six Weeks  
Canada Six Weeks  
Early Cluster  
Early Mohawk  
Large White Kidney  
Refugee, or Thousand to One  
White Cranberry, or Soccotash.  
Newington Wonder  
**BEANS, POLE**, Early Case Knife  
Large Lima, or Butter  
Sieva, or Carolina Lima,  
Scarlet Runner  
White Dutch Runner  
Horticultural Cranberry  
White Cranberry  
Red Cranberry  
Indian Chief  
**BEEF**, Early Blood Turnip,  
Extra Early Flat Bassone  
Early Yellow Turnip  
Early Scarcity  
Early Half Long Blood  
Smooth Long Dark Blood  
Long Blood Red  
White Sugar  
Mangold Wurzel, Long Red  
Large Yellow Globe  
Swiss Chard  
**BROCCOLI**, Early White  
Early Purple  
Large Purple Cape  
White Cape, or Cauliflower  
**BRUSSELS SPROUTS**  
**CABBAGE**, Early York, or June,  
Early Wakefield  
Early Sugarloaf  
Early Drumhead or Battersea  
Nonpareil  
Large French Oxheart  
Large York  
Comstock's Prem. Flat Dutch  
Large Flat Dutch [Eng.]  
Large Bergen  
Large American Drumhead  
Large English Drumhead  
True Green Glazed  
Fine Drumhead Savoy  
Green Globe Savoy  
Red Dutch  
Improved Red Dutch  
Green Kohl Rabi  
Purple Kohl Rabi  
Couve Tronchuda  
**CARDOON**,  
**CAULIFLOWER**, Early London,  
Large Asiatic  
Walcheren  
Demi dur Paris  
**CARROT**, earliest Short Horn  
Early Horn  
Long Orange

Large White Belgian  
Blood Red, or Purple  
Large Altringham  
**CELERY**, White solid  
New Silver Giant  
Seymour's Superb White  
Large Manchester Red Solid  
Cole's Superb Red  
Cole's Crystal White  
Turnip Rooted  
**CHERVIL**  
**COLLARDS**, Georgia  
**CORN SALAD**, or **FETTICUS**,  
**CRESS**, Curled or Peppergrass  
Broad leaf Garden  
Winter  
**CUCUMBER**, early Frame  
Early Russian, earliest known  
Early Cluster  
Early White Spine  
Short Green Prickly  
London long Green  
Extra long Green Turkey  
Gherkin, or West India,  
**EGG PLANT**, early long Purple,  
Large Purple  
**ENDIVE**, Green Curled  
White Curled  
Broad leaved Batavian  
**INDIAN CORN**, early sweet,  
Large sweet or sugar  
Mammoth sweet  
Evergreen sweet  
Smith's early White  
Early White Flint  
Early Tuscarora  
**KALE**, Green Curled Scotch  
German Greens  
Sea  
**LEEK**, large Scotch, or Flag,  
Large London  
**LETTUCE**, early Curled Silesia  
White Cabbage, or Butter, early,  
Fine Imperial Cabbage  
Royal Cabbage  
Versailles Cabbage  
Green Ice Head, large,  
Brown Dutch  
Large India  
Drumhead  
Ice Cos  
Paris Green Cos  
White Cos  
**MELON**, Green Citron,  
Beechwood  
Pine Apple  
Skillman's Fine Netted  
Nutmeg  
Yellow Cantaloupe, large,  
Large Musk  
**WATERMELON**, Mountain Sprout  
Mountain Sweet, fine  
Spanish  
Ice Cream  
Long Island  
New Orange  
Citron for preserves  
**MUSTARD**, White, or English,  
**NASTURFIUM**,  
**ONION**, early Red  
New Danvers Yellow  
Yellow Silver Skin  
White Portugal  
**OKRA**, short Green  
Large White

## THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

**PARSLEY**, Plain or Common,  
 Curled or Double  
 Extra Double Dwarf  
 Myatt's Garnishing  
 Hamburg, or large Rooted,  
**PARSNIP**, long smooth  
 Early short  
**PEAS**, Comstock's earliest d'f  
 Extra early May  
 Early Emperor  
 do Kent  
 do Prince Albert  
 do Warwick  
 do Washington  
 do Frame or June  
 do Double Blossom  
 do Charlton  
 do Champion of England  
 Bishop's early Dwarf  
 Bishop's early long Pod  
 Dwarf Blue Imperial  
 Black's Dwarf Victory  
 Dwarf Blue Peas  
 Large White Peas  
 Black-eyed Marrowfat  
 Dwarf Sugar  
**PEPPER**, long Cayenne  
 Cherry  
 Large squash or tomato  
 do Bullnose or Bell  
 do Sweet Mountain  
 Sweet Spanish  
**PUMPKIN**, Connecticut Field  
 Large Cheese  
 Cushaw  
**RADISH**, early scarlet Turnip  
 Short-top long scarlet, early  
 Long salmon  
 do White summer  
 Demi-long Rose, Olive shaped  
 White Turnip  
 Yellow Turnip  
 Black Fall Spanish  
 Bose Colored China Winter  
**RAPE**, For Greens.  
**RHUBARB**, early Tobolsk,  
 Myatt's Victoria Giant  
 Mitchell's early Albert  
**ROQUETTE**,  
**SPINACH**, Round or summer  
 Prickly, or Fall  
 Flanders, large,  
 Lettuce leaved  
 New Zealand  
**SALSIFY**, or Vegetable Oyster,  
**SCORZONERA**  
**SQUASH**, White Bush scollop  
 Yellow Bush scollop, early,  
 Bush summer Crookneck, early,  
 Green striped Bergen  
 Fall or Winter Crookneck  
 Autumnal Marrow, or Boston,  
 Lima Cocconut  
 Custard  
**TOMATO**, large Red,  
 Smooth round Red  
 Pear Shaped  
 Yellow, large,  
 Small Yellow  
 Cherry, very small  
**TURNIP**, early Flat Dutch, or Spring  
 Red Top Flat, early,  
 Strap-leaved red top Flat  
 Strap-leaved White Flat  
 Early Six weeks  
 do Snowball

do Garden stone  
 Stubble stone  
 Large English Norfolk  
 Large White Globe  
 Large White Flat  
 Long White or Cow Horn  
 Long Tankard  
 Early Yellow Dutch  
 Yellow Stone or Orange  
 Yellow Aberdeen or Bullock  
 Orange Jelly or Golden Ball  
 Dale's Hybrid  
**RUTA BAGA**, Purple-top  
 Skirving's Liverpool  
 Laing's Improved  
 Early Stubble Swede  
 White French  
 Bene  
 Caraway  
 Coriander  
 Sweet Fennel  
 Lavender  
 Lemon Salt  
 Long Leafed Parsley  
 Summer Savory  
 Sweet Marjoram  
 Sweet Basil  
 Thyme  
 Red Marigold  
 Nasturtium  
 November 1st, 1856.

We refer the reader to the advertisement of Mr. Nelson Newman, in this paper under the head of taming "Wild Horses." Mr. Newman can be found at Perkins' Livery Stable, in this city, near the American House.

We have long been satisfied with the fact, that horses can be readily tamed, however wild, by persons who understand the peculiar process of doing it. What that was, we were anxious to learn.— Mr. Newman has explained it to us, and what was once a great mystery seems now to be a very reasonable matter. He has done it in numerous instances in this city, and there is no longer any necessity for having vicious and untamed horses. He has also tried the process upon the wildest and most vicious mules, and succeeded in rendering them entirely gentle. One was brought to him a few days since, from twenty-five miles distance. The owner said he would kick and bite everything within his reach, and "was, in fact, a perfect devil." In a short time Mr. Newman succeeded in rendering him as kind and gentle as a lamb.

Mr. Newman's charge for breaking horses and mules is very moderate. He breaks them in the right way—learning them just what he wishes them to know and practice.

We think we are doing the public a favor in publishing these remarks.

### 6000 PAPERS OF FLOWER SEEDS! FRANCIS & BARRELL

ARE now receiving their stock of Flower Seeds comprising some three hundred choice varieties, fresh from the Gardens of Comstock, Ferris & Co., Wethersfield, Conn. [nov1]



THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

**S. FRANCIS. A. FRANCIS. G. BARRELL.**

To the Farmers of Sangamon and the Adja-  
cent Counties.

# FARMER'S STORE,

## FRANCIS & BARRELL.

HAVE AT GREAT EXPENSE AND LABOR, OPENED A STORE IN SPRINGFIELD,  
where they have a stock of articles on hand suited to  
THE WANTS OF FARMERS!

Among their stock will be found

### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

Such as Reapers and Mowers, Horse Rakes, several kinds of Cultivators, Plows of all kinds, Potatoe Diggers, (an instrument by which potatoes are dug as fast as 18 men can pick them up,) Corn Planters, (hand and horse,) Corn Shellers, Scyths and Snaths, (patent and common,) Hand Rakes, Ames Shovels and spades, spades for digging post holes and ditching, churns, corn baskets, hand baskets, sickles, hoes, axes, &c., &c.

### Horticultural Instruments,

Shears, hooks and knives for trimming, saws for ditto, garden hoes and rakes, garden spades and shovels for ladies, miniature hoes and rakes for weeding flower beds, flower pots, &c.

### Seeds For The Field.

Buckwheat, rye, wheat, millet, clover, blue grass, timothy, red top, hemp, canary, white beans, &c., &c. Turnip, ruta бага, flat dutch, red top, strap-leaved and purple top strap leaved, cow's horn, Norfolk Tankard, &c., &c.

### GARDEN SEEDS,

In their season, embracing all kinds that can be called for, either at WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. A large portion of our Garden Seeds will be grown under our direction, and will be known to be pure and of the best quality.

### FLOWER SEEDS,

They keep a stock of choice FLOWER SEEDS, and have now on hand for sale bulbs of **Tulips, Hyacinths, Gladiolus, Narcissus, &c.**

The Tulips and Hyacinths are of splendid varieties, having flowered the present season, and were the admiration of all who saw them. The supply is limited, and persons who desire them should apply soon.

Francis & Barrell are also Agents for some of the best nurseries in the State, and have no hand forfall sales

### 1300 Apple Trees,

From the nursery of John A. & Charles Kennecott, Cook county. They are now growing well, and can be seen on application as above. Also **Peach, Apricot, Nectarine and Plum Trees;** Hardy Garden shrubbery, embracing the various kinds of Spirae, Lilacs, Snow Balls, Wiglea Rosea, Forsythia Viridisima, African Turpex Deutzia Scabra, and Gnocalis, June Roses.

### ORNAMENTAL TREES.

American Larch, Mountain Ash, (European and American,) European Maples, English and Scotch Elm, Evergreen trees—variety, &c., &c.

### Garden Perennial Flowering Plants.

These no good garden should be without. When once planted, they require little further care, and produce a lossom in summer after the early flowers are gone. They embrace a great variety of Phlox es neies, Delphiniums, Aconitums, Achillea Rosea, Penstemous, &c., &c.

### GROCERIES.

Francis & Barrell also keep on hand for sale, a supply of groceries, embracing all those usually called for in families. Sugars, coffees, molasses, bacon, rice, mackerel, white fish, sounds and tongues, codfish, spices, extracts, almonds, Brazil nuts, cheese, dates, Havana honey, raisins, currants. They have also many other articles—crockery, ladies work and traveling baskets, fancy soap, looking glasses, anterns, razor strops, and various other articles too numerous to be enumerated.

### WE PURCHASE

Country Produce, such as good bacon, butter, lard, cheese, choice vegetables, eggs, fruit, for which we pay cash, when goods will not suit.

Orders from a distance promptly attended to.  
June 1st, 1856.

FRANCIS & BARRELL,  
Journal Buildings, Springfield, Illinois.

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printers.

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## Beneficent Agencies of the Useful Arts.

BY HENRY C. DEMING.

Among the instrumentalities, which affect the condition of man, the precedence is quite uniformly, and rightfully given to those which address themselves to his spiritual nature, to Religion, Education, Law and the Fine Arts. But if these agencies were the first in order of time, as they are in rank, to which he is subjected, and after they had done for him their utmost, he should be bereft of others, equally indispensable to his welfare, he would find himself the most miserable and pitiable specimen of the mamalian family.

He might be good, wise, upright, "noble in reason, infinite in faculties, in form and moving express and admirable, in action like an angel, in apprehension like a god," but he would be naked, thin-skinned, hungry, thirsty, short-winded, shame-faced biped, without hide, fur or feathers. In such a condition the useful arts receive the paragon of animals from the hands of his spiritual guardians. They feed, clothe, shelter cleanse and adorn him. In comparison with other creatures, they find him weak, and endow him with strength superior to all; defenseless, and equip him with arms that vanquish all; slow, and give him wings that outstrip the eagle; in short, they encircle his perishable with comforts and luxuries worthy of his imperishable nature.

Though the useful arts find man thus destitute personally, he is no beggar, but the undoubted and rightful heir of a most splendid inheritance,—useless and unavailable, it is true, in its moral condition, but under proper culture and management, an inexhaustible mine of plenty and wealth. It

consists of the rough matter which composes the solid earth; of the soil and water which cover it; of the birds of the air, and the beasts of the field and the fishes of the sea. Of this inheritance, the useful arts become the most servicable and trust-worthy of stewards. They convert the solid earth into innumerable objects of convenience and value. They open communications, secure the harvests, collect the flocks, cultivate the soil, improve the fisheries; in short, they render the world, over which dominion was given to man, a comfortable, convenient and elegant abode.

God creates matter, but the useful arts create its utility, or in language of Political Economy, they are producers, and production is the sole, the only fountain head, of that enviable stream, the wealth of Nations. Commerce, to be sure, is an important agent in diverting the current and in changing the relative position of wealth, but it adds not one drop to the golden stream, for which countless myriads thirst. Production is its only origin, and every flight of human credulity, every device of ingenuity, to discover some other source of this pactolus, has signally sailed. The Golden Fleece, the dream of the Alchemist, the visions of El Dorado, South-Sea Bubbles, tulip-manias, multicaulis-manias, California-fevers, stock-jobbing, and up-town lots, are the weighty authorities and confirmation strong, which successive centuries have brought to the truth, that production is the only real source, of the aggregate wealth of nations. Many falser images have been used than that which declares, that "Gold, in its last analysis, is the sweat of the poor and the blood of the brave."

It is a liberal estimate, which assigns one-

fifth of the human family, in civilized countries, to the non-producing class; the useful arts provide for the remaining four-fifths, and thus convert into props, and pillars, and bulwarks, what would otherwise be, intolerable drags and burthens, and nuisances in a state. They give employment, not servile and degrading, but honorable and remunerative employment, to a vast majority of the human family. This consideration alone, if it was all that could be urged, would place them foremost, among the agencies which contribute to the welfare of the race.

But still higher commendation belongs to them. They are the grand instruments by which labor acts upon the world, and thus the paramount obligations justly due to labor, become justly due to the useful arts. "In the sweat of thy brow thou shalt eat bread," is a curse which carries a blessing with it. Like Mercy, labor is twice blessed,

"It bleaseth him that gives and him that takes."

That toil to which we are condemned, as the tenure of existence here below, is the training, which invests both body and soul, with the insignia of true and genuine manhood. Effort is the only school for muscles of the frame, and muscles of the intellect. Where but in that rocky mine which labor delves, can be found those priceless gems, will, efficiency, courage, pluck, perseverance, patience, self-confidence, self-reliance, contempt for difficulties? These are the sheet anchors of the heroic character; this is the stuff of which martyrs and heroes are made; these fashion those souls that are adamant in a just cause. Goethe gracefully compares the effect of a strong necessity, imposed upon a mind habitually untasked, to an oak planted in a China vase; when the branches expand and the roots strike out, the vessel flies to pieces.

Invaluable as is this disciplinary function of labor, it is but a pebble picked up on the shore—a drop in the boundless ocean of her beneficence. Labor is a universal solvent, a philosopher's stone, with transmuting powers, magical and gorgeous beyond the dying alchemist's dream. Entering into all the dead, sluggish, inert matter of the earth, she

imparts to all the life-like properties of utility and value. There is nothing in the caverns of this round globe, in the depths of the sea, I had almost said in the realm of air, which labor transforms not into a necessity or a luxury. No sweep of ocean, no forbidding desert, no fastnesses of forest or of wilderness, can hide a product useful to man from the omnipresent eye of his great benefactor. She catches from the passing breeze, the waste white down of the cotton shrub, and lo! bleaching cloth lies in the place of idle litter, and the nakedness of man is covered. She stumbles upon a worthless mass of vitrified sand, and behold! window panes for every man's dwelling, cheap drinking cups for every man's table, the mirror, the Portland vase, the prism, the telescope, the microscope, the Crystal Palace. It stretches its hand over the waste places of the earth, and "instead of the thorn comes up the fig tree, and instead of the brier, the myrtle tree." Iron, in its fingers, is as flexible as clay in the potter's, while language struggles in vain to depict the infinite variety of texture and utility, which it imparts to the fleece of an animal, the gum of a tree, and the entrails of a worm. There are no such words as "useless," "worthless" in her vocabulary. Refuse and rubbish are no longer such, when touched by her wand.—The dead animal, which was formerly banished to the wilderness as a nuisance, she now transmogrifies into something useful and ornamental; she even brings life out of death, vitalizing exhausted soils, by the moldering relics of mortality, which she digs from the Blenheims, the Austerlitzes and the Waterloos of the world.

The blessings which mankind owe to productive labor, can be vividly realized, by imagining the state of things, if it should be annihilated. Suppose then, by some all-pervading distemper, or by some fiat of divine displeasure, the arm of universal labor was paralyzed. It would cut off the supply of life at the fountain. The wheel of business, losing its only momentum, would soon cease to revolve. Grass would grow in our most crowded thoroughfares. Those great marts,

where traffic now chaffers in its thousand tongues, where cheerful art rings its innumerable sounds, and busy and hurrying myriads proclaim the bright and joyful reign of labor, would become noiseless, and blighted, and petrified, like some vast city of the dead. Not the clink of a hammer nor the rattle of a shuttle, nor the whiff of a steam engine, nor the roll of a wheel, would break the sepulchral stillness of an idle world. The axe, the file and the saw would lie silent where they had dropped from the hand of the yawning artizan; the plough would rust where it stopped in the furrow. All the products of the now idle weaver, would soon drop piecemeal from the shelves of the merchant, and tattered rags hanging on a universe of sluggards, would pre-announce man's speedy return to his original nakedness.—Crops would rot in the field. The ungathered fruit would rot upon the ground; the granery would soon surrender its last kernel. Ships, sailorless, would toss upon the seas, the forest would be burnt for fuel, the mine would no longer send to our wharves the grateful coal, and frost—a third fury—would follow in the footsteps of nakedness and famine. The palaces of the great, the habitation of every family, would be burnt for fire; whole cities would be consumed, and naked and starving man would soon be houseless, shelterless and gathering around the dying embers of their dwelling, would rake together the feeble sparks, with skeleton fingers. Religion, Education, Law, the Church, the Altar and the Capitol would all be whelmed and wrecked in a world-wide maelstrom of wretchedness and despair.

#### The Chinese Sugar Cane.

Last spring we received some seeds of this cane from the Hon. T. L. Harris, and we distributed it to individuals scattered in different parts of the State. We have only had returns from one parcel of the seed thus disposed of. Mr. J. D. Patterson, residing a few miles from this city, on the Jacksonville road, planted the seeds given him in good ground. They came up well, the plants grew rapidly, and perfected their seed. The plants have something of the appearance of

the "Chocolate Corn," but it is a distinct variety. Several stalks sprung from one root, and a large crop can be raised from a small stock of seed. Thus it appears that this Chinese Sugar Cane will grow to perfection in this climate, yielding a large quantity of stalks.

Mr. Patterson procured some of the juice from the stalks in an imperfect manner, and manufactured it into syrup. The syrup was delicate, without strong taste, equal to any syrup from the sugar cane. Mr. Patterson has lived in Louisiana—is familiar with the cultivation of the sugar cane, and he says that a large amount of sugar can be made from the Chinese Sugar Cane. Here are additional facts of importance.

We regard the cultivation of the Chinese Sugar Cane, in this part of Illinois, as *promising well*—sufficiently so to justify the continuance of further experiments. We have strong hopes that we shall be able by means of this cane to supply our State with sugar and molasses. We copy some articles which we find on this subject, from the agricultural press.

A. H. Ernst, of Cincinnati, writes to the Prairie Farmer:

"I notice an inquiry by one of your correspondents, where the seed of the Chinese Sugar Millet can be obtained? Permit me to say, that having a small parcel sent me from the Patent Office, last spring, I carefully put it in the ground, and it has produced finely. I shall have quite a good supply of seed, which it will afford me pleasure to distribute to those who wish to give it a trial. Of course, I cannot supply a large quantity to any one individual. Those wishing the seed, by enclosing me a postage stamp to pay the postage—can have it.

I have not a sufficient quantity of the cane to test its merits, but it grows as free and as finely as corn, and I presume it will flourish where that does. I have seen and tasted some of the syrup made from this cane, which was remarkably finely flavored, altogether superior to the New Orleans for table use, and it is said to be quite productive. It seems well worthy of a full and fair trial in our country. Especially at this time when sugar is so enormously high."

Experiments have been made with the Chinese Sugar Cane in South Carolina. Ex-

Governor Hammond obtained some of the seeds, and reported the result of his experiments, which have been published in the *Charlestown Mercury*. He says that he planted a pint and a half of seed on half an acre of rather poor soil, on the 22d of last March, the seeds were dropped 18 inches apart in three feet wide rows. When the plants came up they were frequently hoed to keep down grass and weeds. On the 22nd of July some of the advanced heads had passed the milk stage, and he had a rude mill put up, consisting of two wooden rollers, to ascertain whether the millet would make syrup. About 1760 canes were cut and 400 passed through the rollers twice, and the remainder four times; the yield was 195 quarts of juice, and ten selected canes put through the mill seven times, yielded three quarts. The juice was received in common wooden tubs, and tested with a thermometer, and a saccarometer having a scale of forty degrees. The temperature of the juice was 78° Fah., and the strength 22.5°, and floated a fresh egg. It was boiled in a deep old-fashioned cow pot, for seven hours, and yielded thirty-two quarts of tolerable syrup. Next day he selected more of the canes in different stages of progress, and submitted them to the mill seven times; and from every ten again obtained three quarts of juice. This was also boiled, and he obtained a rather better syrup. To every five gallons of the cold juice a teaspoonful of lime water was added. The canes were one inch thick at the butt, and seven feet long, after cutting off the head. The syrup was equal to the best New Orleans. Ex-Gov. Hammond says.

"I did not attempt to make sugar, not being prepared for that. There can, however, be no doubt that sugar can be made from such syrup as this. And, as they make more syrup in the West Indies, per acre, than they do in Louisiana, only because the cane matures better, it is not unreasonable to infer that the millet, which matures here perfectly, and will even make two crops in one year, will yield more and better sugar than the Louisiana cane.

Beginning to cut the cane as soon as the head is fully developed, it may be cut for a

month before it will all ripen—how long after that I do not know. A succession of crops might be easily arranged so as to insure cutting and boiling from the 1st of July—probably earlier—until frost. I have housed some stalks immediately from the field, to ascertain, hereafter, whether thus treated, it will yield juice and make syrup next winter."

From all the experiments we have noticed thus far, we feel sure, as we have before said, that the culture of the Chinese Sugar Cane *promises well*, and we trust that our farmers will give it an effectual trial.

#### The want of Water.

In passing over the railroad north of Bloomington, at this season of the year, very little water is to be seen. A stranger would regard the country as likely to suffer for water when settled. We overheard the following conversation, in the cars, at the point spoken of, a few days since:

"This country cannot be settled by stock-farmers. They could not obtain water for their stock. I see but few running streams, and those at great distances from each other.

"I live in McLean county, have considerable stock, and have watered 400 head, during the dry weather, from a single well.—The water is drawn by a pump moved by a wind-mill."

"The mill must give you trouble to regulate it, and how do you get along when there is no wind?"

"We have now wind-mills, the speed of which is regulated by the wind itself.—Get the right speed, and however heavy the wind may be, that speed will not be increased. You apprehend that the mill may not run for want of wind. I have seen the time when there was no wind on the prairies.—This rarely happens, and when it does it lasts for a short time only. Indeed, sir, I feel no apprehension of a want of water, from the want of wind to propel the wind-mill."

Another gentleman said:

"The newly invented wind-mills will do wonders for Illinois. On account of the general level of the country, or from some other cause, unknown to us, there is almost always wind, lighter or heavier, moving over the country. Wind-mills regulating

their own speed when properly set in motion, can be used for grinding grain and for most purposes for which water and steam power are used at the present time. I know it is hard to make people believe this, but time will prove its truth. There is wind power passing over Illinois all the while, within command, sufficient to propel all the mill machinery in the United States."

#### Drilling in Wheat.

Fields of wheat, the seed of which was drilled in the present fall, now look beautifully; while many fields sown broadcast, in the usual manner, are suffering by the dry weather. Should the winter set in without rain, much wheat will be destroyed.

The practice of drilling in wheat is increasing. Our farmers are satisfied that it is the best practice for securing good crops. It insures uniformity in the distribution of the seed; it puts the seed so deep that the plants are not killed by unfavorable weather in winter.

We take this occasion to say that farmers who would use the drill for putting in grain, must prepare their grounds well. If they are weedy they must be plowed so deep that the teeth of the drill will not be interrupted by them. This is absolutely essential to success, in using the drill. If the ground is clean, it need not be plowed so deep, though we are sure that deep plowing will be well paid for by increased crops.

#### The Beauty of Trees.

A tree undoubtedly is one of the most beautiful objects in nature. Airy and delicate in its youth, luxuriant and majestic in its prime, venerable and picturesque in its old age, it constitutes in its various forms, sizes, and developments the greatest charm and beauty of the earth in all countries. The most varied outline of surface, the finest combinations of picturesque materials, would be comparatively tame and spiritless without the inimitable accompaniment of foliage.-- Let those who have passed their whole time in a richly wooded country, whose daily visions are deep leafy glens, forest clad hills, and plains luxuriantly shaded, transport themselves for a moment to the desert, where but a few stunted bushes raise their heads above the earth, or those wild steppes, where the eye wanders in vain for some "leafy garniture," where the sun strikes down with parching heat, or the wind sweeps over with unbroken fury, and they may, perhaps, estimate, by contrast, their beauty and value.

#### The County Fairs.

*Friends and Brethren:* The last month was a busy season with your editor. He had scarcely time to prepare articles for this paper, and could not be present to read the proof sheets. The County and State Fairs are now passed, and he is again at his post.

We will now speak of our own County Fair. The beautiful grounds belonging to the Sangamon Agricultural and Mechanical Association, were considerably improved from last year, yet much remains to be done upon them to make them what we desire. That is a matter in which all our citizens have an interest; and if all will lend a helping hand, by taking a small amount of the stock of the Association, which will be a light tax, we can make those grounds a pride of our city and of the central county of the State. The lands cost the society \$75 per acre; they are now worth \$150; consequently the stock is worth more than par. We learn that a committee will wait upon our citizens and receive subscriptions to the stock. The shares are only \$20 each.

The articles and animals on exhibition at the county fair, were more numerous and better than at any preceding fair. The attendance of people was large, though it might have been larger both with advantage to the farmers of our county and to the Society. There has been some dissatisfaction on account of dispensing with the use of family badges; but such was the abuse under this badge system, that the society felt itself under the necessity of abandoning it. The badge only was intended to admit the heads of families and their females, and boys under eighteen years of age. These badges were in many cases used to admit neighborhoods. We have ourself seen carriages with parts of four families come into the grounds on one of these badges; and we know in one case that one wagon came to the gate with thirteen persons, all claiming to come into the grounds under one badge. Carriages with loads of people were brought into the grounds under one badge.

In some way there seems to be a misunderstanding in relation to the objects of

the Agricultural Society. Men act as if they considered its object was to make money. All the means raised from gate fees and entrance fees, are paid out in premiums and expenses; and fortunate does the Society deem itself which pays its way. We know that this has not been the case with the Sangamon County Society, and the present year, with all the economy that can be used, several hundred dollars will have to be obtained to relieve the Society from debts incurred by the late Fair. The Agricultural Society of this county labors to make itself useful to the people, by introducing to their attention valuable stock, superior fruit, vegetables, grains, the products of household skill, &c., &c. There can be no question that the objects of the Society are good and that every class of our people are interested in promoting its welfare, because in doing this they are advancing their own. Is it not a mortifying truth that many farmers are seen crowding about circuses, with their families, cheerfully buying tickets of admittance, while they grudge to pay the entrance fees to their own county fairs, where is represented, to some extent, the agricultural wealth and enterprise of their county?

Now, we claim only the right that we allow to every one else, that of thinking and acting on this and many other subjects as we please; but we would earnestly ask our readers if we have not presented some facts in relation to the subject under notice? Is it not true that many farmers view the objects of agricultural societies under a wrong light? Is it not equally true that if our farmers would more generally take an interest in the affairs of our Society, would attend its meetings, would become personally interested in its property, that much prejudice would be dissipated and much advantage gained?

Politicians combine to advance their interests; religious men do the same, and so do most professions. Why should not LABOR unite to advance its own interests? Why should not the sons of Labor in Sangamon county meet together, and act together, and employ all the aids offered by this improved age, to advance their welfare? Fathers must

recollect that the same amount of education which was made to answer for past days, among farmers, will not meet the wants of those days now coming. Farmers' sons and mechanics' sons must now learn the *reasons of things*, and not pass on, doing their work as the horse does his in the mill, without thought of the improvements in their profession, and without the aids of science and improved intelligence to make their employments profitable and pleasant, and worthy of cultivated minds.

#### The Autumn

Has been a pleasant one. Farmers have had a favorable time for gathering their fall crops and preparing for winter. If they have not yet done this, they have no time to lose. It is much better to drive business, than to have it drive you.

The past season, from spring till this time, has been dry. The crop of fodder has been, to a great extent, cut off. Cattle will need all the food that can be saved for them the coming winter. Every thing that will answer for food for them should be saved—corn fodder should be saved—straw should be saved—buck-wheat straw should be saved—--and the cutting box should be used, which will secure economy in feeding. Our farmers have one advantage over the last fall: their stock is in better condition than it was then, and this will be a great advantage in wintering them.

Another thing should not be neglected. Stock will consume more food when they have to undergo all changes and severities of weather without shelter, than they will when under protection, even when it is slight. These shelters can be made without much expense for small stocks; and if stock—horses, cattle, sheep and hogs—could express gratitude for this winter protection, they would do it in a more effective way than by their cheerful appearance, their better health, and the less quantity of food they consume.

#### Schools.

There are many school districts where schools are only kept in winter. It is full time that the houses were put in order and instructors obtained. Don't employ cheap instructors. They

are too dear for any valuable purpose. There are a good many of them about the country.— Obtain good men, well-qualified men; pay them well and they will serve you and your children. Cheap labor in this country is the poorest labor you can have. Labor which would be well directed, whether it be training children or guiding a locomotive, should have mind as well as muscle to back it. The great advantage of free labor is found in this last important item.

Parents want their children to learn well at school; then give them good instructors, provide rooms that are comfortable and pleasant; encourage your children, make them realize the anxiety you feel on their account, and you will be likely to see your desires realized in the progress they make in their studies.

### Ground and Management for Corn.

James Beatty, of Lawrence county, Indiana, gives his experience in raising corn, at a recent meeting of the Agricultural Society. If we should criticize his practice at all, it would be to discard the use of the plow entirely in working corn. We hope farmers will practice upon the closing suggestion of this extract. Mr. B. says:

I raised the best crop of corn last year that I ever did. The season was fine for corn, but I think the process of cultivation had something to do with the heavy yield. The principal part of the land I planted was old blue grass pastures. I commenced breaking in February. I broke deep, perhaps, on an average, eleven inches—the first plow running five, and the subsoil six inches deep. I planted the last week in April and the first week in May. I laid the ground off 3½ ft. apart, running four inches deep. The cut worms did not do much damage to my corn, while some of my neighbors that broke later than I did, and not so deep, had to plant the second time. After some reflection, I concluded that early and deep breaking combined to prevent the worms from coming into existence. In the first place, the surface where the egg is deposited was covered so deep that the heat of the sun did not hatch them out at the usual time; and in the second place, the eggs that by chance fell near the top of the ground were destroyed by the hard frost. When the corn was hand high, I run two furrows in the row with a steel plow, the bar next the corn, not running deep enough to stir the sward. In about ten days I run two furrows in the row with the cultivator, and that levelled the ground; and in about ten days again, I run two furrows in the row, with the mould board next the row, and followed with the hoe, thinning it to three stalks in the hill, and about two weeks after laid it by with the cultivator. The corn grew large and fine. I begun early to feed my hogs, and I selected the best ears for seed and put them on the kitchen loft, so that the cob dried thoroughly before freezing weather, and I

planted some early and some late, but all came up well. I earnestly request my brother farmers to gather seed corn before hard frosts, and lay it up in a dry place so that the cob will be thoroughly dry before winter.

### Preparing Produce for Market.

This is an important subject for the consideration of that class of farmers who supply our cities with market articles. It addresses itself to their good taste as well as to their pockets. The same articles will always bring a much higher price in market when well prepared, than if not so prepared. We have seen so much of carelessness in this respect, and so much loss by it, that we think we may often refer to it, to the advantage of all parties concerned.

How often do we see butter brought to market in an untidy manner; apples bruised, mangled, some rotten, and containing small and worthless fruit—sometimes fall and winter apples mixed together, white and red, large and small.— Potatoes of every odor, of every shape and of all sizes; Beans, many of which are mouldy and unfit for eating—and many other articles in the same slovenly style. Farmers may suppose that they make money by getting up market articles in this way—but in nothing can they be more mistaken. A good article, well prepared, will readily sell at a good price, while the same articles, poorly prepared for market, will hardly bring a remunerating price.

### Farming Thoroughly.

The following extract from a letter of Gen. Washington to Arthur Young, our young farmers would do well to copy out in a full, fair hand, and put in a frame. It is not the least of the lessons of wisdom which he left as a legacy to his countrymen.

"The agriculture of this country is indeed low, and the primary cause of it is, that instead of improving a little ground well, we attempt too much, and do it ill. A half, a third, or even a fourth of what we mangle, well wrought and properly dressed, would produce more than the whole."

Will such of our friends as think they have not capital to improve with, ponder it well? If it be true that one-fourth, or one-third, or one half, well wrought and properly dressed, will produce more than the whole, then the wisdom of applying the whole value, if need be, of the remaining three-fourths, or two-thirds, or one-half to the proper working and dressing of the remainder is apparent. Yet, nothing like such an expenditure would be usually necessary.

In no pursuit is the wisdom of doing things

well, so manifest to the observer as in agriculture, and in none perhaps is it so neglected. It seems marvelous that a man should expend ten or twenty or thirty thousand dollars in land and stock, and devote his time with the energies of his body and mind to make it productive, and lose one-half and frequently all his profits, for the want of a few inches more depth of soil, or a few dollars wisely expended in manures, and yet nothing is more common.

It would be curious to estimate the millions of bushels of corn that might have been made in Maryland and the more Southern States, during the extraordinary drouth of this season, by the mere difference of four inches more of well pulverized soil underlying all their corn fields. And how very small compared with the amount of capital of which the farmer now loses the interest, would have been the additional outlay necessary for the purpose.

Talking of deep ploughing, the friend of whom we lately made mention, as having by digging down, found another farm underneath that which he bought, having caught the infection of the politicians we suppose, is willing to make a wager, that two men of equal capacity as farmers, shall take, one fifty, and one a hundred of surface acres, and shall treat them in all respects alike, using the same expense of manures, &c., the only difference being that the one who tills fifty, shall plough twelve inches deep, and the other but six, and that the man who cultivates fifty, will in two rotations of five or six years each, make not only more clear money, but more crop than he with a hundred. Who will take him up?

Besides the direct good of doing a thing in the best manner, the moral effect is not to be overlooked. He who ploughs his land thoroughly, is on that account more apt to manure well, and he who manures well, is more apt to have good fences and good stock.—[*Am. Farmer.*]

There were some few instances of deep and thorough tillage in this county the last season. We believe in every instance where this was the case, good crops of corn were secured. We are quite sure that such farmers as practiced on this system the last season, will continue it the next. The article we copy above is worthy of earnest consideration by our farmers.

### The Orchard.

Apple orchards can now be planted out with advantage. Many of our best fruitgrowers prefer to plant out apple trees in the fall. This is especially the case where lands have a dry bottom—so dry that water will not stand about the roots of the trees. Nursery trees which stood

the trial of the last winter, and have been growing this summer, can be relied on.

Our farmers have more leisure to plant out orchards in the fall than in the spring; and besides, they can plant the trees out better in the fall than in the spring season. The ground is in better condition for the purpose, and they have more time to do the work well.

### Hints for Autumn.

**APPLES.**—Gather winter varieties with care and carry them to the fruit room. Pick them during dry weather and if they are put in barrels, allow the beads to remain off for a week or until the sweating process is completed.

**CHERRY TREES.**—Plant out standards during the latter part of the month, or at any time after heavy frosts.

**ECONOMY OF LAND**—Plant out an orchard of apple, pear or cherry trees in rows say 25 or 30 feet apart, and set out Raspberries or Blackberries between them, bringing the berries in a line with the trees so that the whole ground can be worked for a few years with the plow or cultivator. Both of these smaller fruits do well in a partial shade, which the fruit trees will soon make. The ground must be manured, commensurate with the crops expected from it.

**EVERGREENS** may be transplanted early in this month.

**FRUIT TREES** of all kinds may be set out this month though the Peach, Nectarine and Apricot are more certain to live when transplanted in early spring.

**PRUNING** may be done at any time during the month.

**ASPARAGUS.**—Cover old beds with coarse manure m. to l. Plant out new beds trenching the ground and manuring heavily.

**BEETS**—Harvest before heavy frosts and keep in a cool cellar where they will not freeze.

**GRAPE VINES.**—Remove layers which are well established; take down tender vines and cover with earth.

**PARSNIPS.**—Take up what are required during the winter, covering with sand or earth in the cellar; the remainder will keep better in the ground.

**RASPBERRIES**—Make plantations trenching or subsoiling the ground, using much compost freely. Bend down the canes and cover with earth or litter before the ground freezes.

**RHUBARB**—Plant out. It is better to plant in the fall as it starts very early in the spring.

**Squashes and Pumpkins**—Place in an airy situation out of the reach of storms. Do not allow them to freeze before being carried to a cool dry cellar.

**Bulbs**—Plant borders and beds. See last month's directions, page 281.

**Peonies**—Transplant and they will bloom next season.

**Perennials** of all kinds may be transplanted during the month.

## Labor.

“What profit hath a man of all his labor which he taketh under the sun,” is a scripture saying and ascribed to Solomon. That the writer of the Ecclesiastes viewed labor with great respect, is evident, though there are frequent allusions to the vanity of human effort, rather as questions to be afterwards answered in lessons of practical wisdom, “that whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might,” and “the hand of the diligent maketh rich,” and summing up with these words, “that God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.” Paganism has never given encouragement to labor; its civilization was of quite another order. War and the warrior were ever held up to its esteem and delight. Of what are the songs of Homer; of what sentiment does the heathen mythology most abound, but of contests, stratagems and wars? Virgil wrote on pastoral and agricultural pursuits, but not as a main purpose of life, not as a deep and abiding influence acting on social existence; but rather as a pastime, as an auxiliary to luxury and pleasure. But Christianity—for we have commenced in rather a serious vein—asserts the dignity of labor. Jesus Christ selected his disciples from those whose professions and business would induce some humility of aim and deportment—characteristics congenial to the acceptance of his religion. Our Saviour himself was a carpenter, or reared under the roof of one, and the common people heard him gladly. In the middle ages the farmer was only an adjunct to his lord, the mechanic and artizan but the retainer to the merchant Prince, and all of a nobler order than themselves. As civilization has incorporated with it more of the Christian sentiment, so has labor attained a higher dignity, and the man who works now stands forth in our best communities untrammelled by any shade or suspicion of inferiority to other men: nay, more, we believe there is a growing conviction that those who do nothing, be they as rich as Cræsus of old, or Astor of our day, will be unhappy in proportion as

they are idle; let them work on in all their wealth, and put the results of their labor to some good, and Providence will vindicate their position, and exempt them from the maledictions of the sacred page against mere selfish accumulation.

The results of man's labor have often been put in invidious comparison with God's works in the natural world. The late Agricultural Shows, Mechanics' Institutes, and other Fairs, have shown that works of art and man's device may excite some of the best emotions. An eloquent lecturer at the East, from whom we have drawn largely in this article, says: “Shall I admire the iron less when it is shaped into the bright bolts and levers that form the machinery of the steam engine, than when it sleeps a dull and useless ore in the veins of the earth; or the walnut tree less when it is carved into the cunning devices of household comfort or ornament, by the artificer, than when it stood waving its top and shading cattle in the fields?” “Shall I prize the cotton plant above the tapestry, or the lime-bed above the sculptor's model?” “I do not deny the fact, nor the inference from it, that the simple beauty of God's own workmanship, in his creation—the coloring of a lily's leaf, the splendor of a flower, or the course of a water-fall—transcends any creative power in man.” Why, again “is the mortice and tenon by which the seasons plant the roots of an oak in the valley, more venerable than a kindred process done by a cabinet maker's tools; or why the architecture of coral insects, building islands in the sea, nobler than the genius of the bridge builder, springing his arches across the flood?” “Whatever gives their fairest form and color even to the growth of horticulture, is the effect of man's scientific care and pains, and you feel that these are new arguments for giving God thanks for labor.” The latter years of the life of Amos Lawrence, of Boston, were mostly occupied in the beneficent duty of giving away some of his accumulations. He could probably have lived to better advantage by not acquiring so much, but he redeemed any subserviency of his earlier life to gain, by the duties which

followed his after years. "Labor does nothing in the light of christianity, to separate one man, in honor or in true respectability, from another, whether in his hours of labor he stands at the plow or the desk; holds in his hand a saw or a compass, a trowel or a pen, a pencil brush or a sample of merchandise. We must go within, for all just measurements of worth; you must estimate, not by the outward look or fashion, but by the contents of the breast that bends over the task and glorifies or disgraces it." In this country, people rise up to wealth with few early advantages, and it becomes a hard task to them, in the conventional usages of society, to know how to use and not abuse their privilege. As wealth comes in, so may labor, as appears to me, be justly abridged. To employ others then to assist us—of whom there are so many everywhere that stand in need—is certainly philanthropical, and he who employs another is doing some good in his day and generation; and we think no reflective person would enter into this relation without feeling that there was a higher interest involved than that of mere dollars and cents. To bring up a family well, as our means augment, is a trial, a temptation. If we adopt the levelling system with our children, think it is truly democratic to keep them at drudgery, at work in which their mind and heart is not engaged, that we thereby frown down pretension and show, we shall do a serious injury to ourselves and them. As their opportunities alter so does their relations to the world alter, and if we can infringe on labor to cultivate our intellectual nature the better, we should do so, as a favor from God to be used to a good purpose at our peril. If, then, to delve and wash and dig and scrub is not the whole of life, what shall we think of those who spend their time—girls we will suppose—in sitting at the windows to see and be seen, or lounging in the drawing and other rooms, waiting for visitors, while the mother is toiling in the kitchen, or perchance, following their bad example to the neglect of her household. If there is no proper blending of the duties and labors of life, under its changing circum-

stances, we will cry out with the wise man—ending in the same strain that we begun—"Give me neither poverty nor riches, feed me with food convenient for me, lest I be full and swerve from my simplicity and innocence and reliance on God, or lest I be poor and steal, and lapse into degradation and ruin."

#### To Preserve Potatoes.

Last winter nearly the whole crop of potatoes in this section of the State, and South of us, was destroyed by the intense cold.—We trust that effectual preparation will be made for securing the present crop the coming winter.

Mr. Henry Enders, of Freeport, in this State, has published in the American Agriculturalist, his plan for preserving potatoes. He says:

"We dig a pit one foot deep six feet wide, and as long as may be needed. If deeper than one foot the potatoes are more liable to heat. The potatoes are then put in and heaped up as high as they will lie, in the form of a long ridge. We then cover them with the soil removed from the pit. We use no straw at all, because it adds to the warmth and makes them sooner germinate and decay. Let any one try two heaps side and side, the one with straw under the earth put on, and the other without, and he will find a marked difference in favor of not using any straw. We do not leave any air-holes; finding that they injure the potatoes. In winter, on some days of extraordinary cold, we cover the outside of the pit with a coating of straw.

At first only two or three inches of soil are put on. As it grows colder more soil is added. This is taken up from the sides of the pits in such a way as to form drains one-and-a-half to two feet deep. This drain is very important to keep the potatoes and the ground under them dry. When several long pits are arranged side by side, they are put four to five feet apart and a good drain is made between every two. A few pits thus arranged together resemble a fort; and present a fine sight; and in spring you may expect to dig out excellent potatoes.

In the same manner as described for potatoes—we preserve our turnips and other roots. I know of some best sugar manufacturers who cover to thirty to forty acres with such pits. In summer this ground is used for garden crops raising different kinds of seeds, &c."

**Vacancies in Orchard.**

The last winter destroyed the most tender varieties of the apple trees. Trees the most valuable, and as we supposed the most hardy, were killed. Among those destroyed were the Milam, the Jeneting, the Baldwin. Many, which were not destroyed, were so much injured that they will probably die within another year. What is to be done? We cannot think of abandoning orchards. Probably a winter of equal severity with the last will not occur again in fifty years. We must fill up the vacancies in our orchards with new trees from the Nurseries. Nursery trees now living, having withstood the cold weather of last winter, may be considered hardy.

In planting out trees it will not do to remove an old apple tree and put a new one in its place without subjecting the soil to some preparation. Experience has shown that apple trees thus planted out will never make good and flourishing trees. To succeed well the old apple tree must be removed and the soil about it, and new and good soil be substituted. Into this new soil, the new tree must be well planted. If in the fall, it should be well staked—so that it shall not be loosened in the soil by winds. Trees planted to fill out spaces in orchards, often fail for want of proper care in planting them out.

**The St. Louis Fair.**

This has been a splendid affair. Great expense was involved in getting it up. The land and fixtures cost some \$150,000. St. Louis will now have her annual fairs, which will draw much patronage from our own State. The permanent fixtures for the fair give great advantages, and these will be improved to the extent of making the Fair Grounds of St. Louis one of the leading objects of interest near the city. We have not yet seen the list of premiums awarded. We are told that several first premiums were given for Illinois stock.

 There are ten times as many newspapers printed in German in the United States as there are in Germany.

**Essay on Health.****THE DECLINE OF HEALTH.**

We doubt not that man in his primitive condition was perfect in bodily functions and perfect in health. He lived in and enjoyed a physical Eden, in the sense that all his physical powers acted in harmonious concert—Then life and full measure of sweets was enjoyed. Disease and pain were unknown.—In the early periods of our race our fathers lived through centuries in the enjoyment of health. Age crept slowly on. Five, six, seven and eight hundred years were the common age of man. Children outlived their fathers. The earth then held no infant grave. We read of no disease, no medical profession, of no hospitals, of no epidemics, of no universal panaceas; for the people were all well. Health flowed in all their veins.—But as mind grew in power, passion augmented its strength, evil concupiscence poured its tides of viciousness among the people, disease crept in and increased in form and violence; children began to be born in weakness; hereditary weakness magnified; childhood suffered and youth faded and died.—Luxury grew and the rose of health paled. Century by century things grew worse, till in David's time the common age of man had sunk down to "threescore years and ten." And still the tide of evil rolled on. Mental restlessness, morbid ambition, vitiated appetite, unchecked impulse, red-hot passion, vicious desires, luxurious greed, pampered fashion added yearly to the list of evils, to the poisons corroding the life of man, till now his average age is wasted to a little more than one-score years and ten, and much of that lived in weakness and pain. It is a sad but true reflection, that now there are but very few, if any, healthy bodies. Hereditary frailty or personal transgression of the laws of health, is now almost, if not quite universal.

**CAUSE OF DISEASE.**

Once disease was a mystery, sometimes attributed to evil spirits, sometimes to an angry Providence. And even yet there is too much of the feeling that human diseases are especially and directly connected with Providence. Too many are half disposed to accept from the superstitious ignorance of the past, the idea that God, in anger, sends the choleric scourge and every malignant disease that preys upon human flesh. But enlightened reason, the science of this age, rejects every such irreverent thought. That diseases and pain are the penalty of transgression, is now the conviction of every enlightened mind. Every disease has its cause;

every pain originates in a violation of some of the laws of health. The physical organism has its laws; it has a system of laws, a constitutional code, obedience to which secures health—disobedience to which causes disease. Violent disease is not always the immediate result of the violation of physical law. The violation is more often slight, and the penalty felt is in a scarcely perceptible derangement; but repeated from time to time, for years it may be, it at length undermines the citadel of health, and a violent attack destroys the constitution for life and carries off the subject. Our chief transgressions of the laws of health are small ones in themselves considered, little deviations from the rule of right. "Continual dropping wears the stone," so do little violations oft repeated completely impair the health. These are the great points for us to know, that our health is in our hands—that its laws are within the comprehension of every ordinary intellect, that obedience of them insures soundness of body—that disobedience brings derangement and suffering—that small violations are the most common, and are usually the most dangerous, because most frequent and less perceptible in their evil results—and that many of the most approved customs of society are directly and powerfully detrimental to our bodily interests.—Valley Farmer.

#### A Horse with the Heaves.

I tried all sorts of heave powders on my patient, with no effect whatever. It is said that in a limestone country this disease is unknown, and lime water was prescribed with no apparent advantage. Some one told me to give the horse ginger, and strange to tell, I found that a tablespoonful of ginger given to the 'General' with his oats would cure him for the day, in half an hour after he had eaten it; but on giving it daily the effect soon ceased. It is a jockey's remedy and will last long enough to swap upon. Finally I was advised to cut my horses' fodder and give it always wet. I pursued that course carefully, keeping the 'General' tied with so short a halter that he could not eat his bedding, giving him chopped hay and meal three times a day, and never more than a bucket of water at a time.

He improved rapidly. I have kept him five years, making him a factotum—carriage horse, saddle horse, plow and cart horse—and he bids fair to remain useful for five years to come. Kept in this way, his disease does not lessen his value for speed or labor, a single dollar. When the boys grow careless, and give him dry hay, he informs me of it in a few days by the peculiar cough I

have mentioned; but sometimes for 6 months together, no indication of the disease is visible, and he would pass for a sound horse with the most knowing in such matters.—There is no doubt that clover hay, probably because of its dust, often induces the heaves. Stable keepers, with us refuse it altogether for this reason.

Many suppose that the wind of the horse is affected by the heaves, so that fast driving at any time will, as we express it, put him out of breath. With my horse it is not so.

When the 'General' was at the worst, rapid driving, when just from the stable, would increase his difficulty, but a mile or two of moderate exercise would dissipate the symptoms entirely. We have occasionally what are called wind-broken horses, which are nearly worthless for want of wind.—They can never be driven rapidly without great distress, and frequently give out entirely by a few miles driving. This is thought to be a different disease. The 'General's' case is, I suppose, a fair example of the heaves.

I have no doubt that regular feeding with chopped and wet fodder, and exclusion of dust from hay fed to other animals in the same stable, would render many horses now deemed almost worthless, and which manifestly endure great suffering, equally valuable for most purposes, with those that are sound.—[Indiana Farmer.

#### Drougths--Whither are we Tending.

The destruction of our forests, a destruction which has been going on now ever since the settlement of the country, and which has been remarkably rapid in the West for the last fifty years, is producing the following results, which must be very obvious to every observant person.

The surface of the earth is more exposed to the drying winds, and to the beams of our summer sun. These causes quicken the drying of the soils.

The sources of many a well and stream are dried by the removal of trees from slopes and hills, from whose bosoms they once drew a permanent supply of water.

Far less rain falls on the earth during the summer months than would fall if the earth was more generally shaded with trees. Wide forests attract showers. Many a forest enjoys a generous rain, when the wide, open plain is scorched with drought. Forests act as do streams, to direct the courses of showers, and concentrate them upon their own area. Perhaps as much water falls in a year on a prairie or open country, but it comes in great storms, and in the winter, or spring, or autumn. When it is needed most it is most lacking.

Forests serve as pumps to draw up water from deep in the ground: Every one who knows what

an amount of water a single large tree will draw from the ground by its roots, and throw into the air from its leaves, can form some idea of the vast quantity of moisture which is exhaled by a wide forest in a single week, or even in a single day. The ordinary vegetation of a farm does this in a far less degree. The removal of the forests, therefore, greatly diminishes the amount of moisture, which, during the summer, is exhaled into the air from the vegetation which covers a given area. Consequently much less exists in the air as the material for showers, than would exist were the forests drawing from the deep earth a more generous supply.

It will be seen from these facts that the destruction of the forests is one grand cause for the droughts which have become more frequent and intense for the last several years. Some, if not all, of these results of the removal of our forests have attracted the notice of our farmers and they have doubtless prepared them to consider somewhat the question, what remedy is feasible.

The only remedy possible is simple and plain. It might not cure the evil; but it would doubtless diminish it. It consists of an adherence to the following maxims: *Save* all the forest trees you can. And *plant* (on the prairies especially) all the trees you can.

Under the head of saving trees, the course would be somewhat like this. On the older farms and in the older districts, *clear no more land.*—Select the least valuable wood for fuel. Allow the second growth of timber to have a fair chance. When trees are felled for lumber and building timber, let them be cut so that in falling they shall injure as little as possible the surrounding trees. Then use for fuel all those parts of the felled trees that you cannot use for lumber or timber. If you must clear land, clear the lowest ground, leaving the hill-sides and the summits covered with their leafy honors. There are more reasons than one for this advice.

Under the head of planting, we would recommend the following things. We may repeat the same suggestions hereafter. So we will begin now. Plant trees around wells and permanent bodies of water. Plant trees on broken ground, on the peaks and sides of rocky ledges. Plant trees to protect houses and barns and other buildings from the heats of summer, and from the storms of winter. If your farm is cleared too much, and you decide to keep it, devote a portion of it to the growth of forest trees. Get the best advice you can. Select the ground with the best judgment you can command; fence it up well, and plant a good variety of quick growing trees, mostly indigenous, for the use of your children. If you are not a very old man, you may live to use them yourself, and to learn by that time, that they render the ground they stand on the most valuable part of your estate

[Ohio Farmer.]

#### Fall Treatment of Asparagus.

As soon as the heavy frosts come to kill the tops, they should be cut and removed to the styer or to the compost heap. The surface of the bed which has become hard and perhaps weedy—should be thoroughly scarified with the hoe, or

forked over, taking care not to injure the crowns. About the last of the month, spread on a heavy coating of stable manure, at least a half cord to every two rods square. The rains will carry down its fertilizing properties to the roots, and give them great strength and vigor for an early start in the spring. If near the shore, where marsh mud is accessible, a coating of this, one inch thick, in addition to the manure, will do good service. We have also found it an excellent plan to cover the beds with sea-weed or old hay during the winter. The roots keep active, longer before the ground closes up; the ground does not freeze so deep, and starts sooner in the spring. The mulch, of course, needs to be removed as soon as the winter is over. Asparagus is a gross feeder and can be had in its perfection only by high manuring. This we believe will pay, whether the beds have been thoroughly prepared or not.

#### THE RHUBARB

Plantation needs much the same treatment, and so far as our observation goes, is as much benefited by salt as asparagus. It would probably be killed sooner by an excessive application, but it thrives well on a compost of marsh muck, and comes out strong and vigorous from a winter's mulch of sea-weed. Old plants should be dug around, and the earth removed a foot in depth, and the place supplied with rich compost or stable manure. The roots should be divided every third year. Larger and more vigorous stalks will be produced.—*Am. Ag.*

#### Packing Eggs for Winter Use.

About Christmas eggs are very scarce, and consequently high. With little care in the summer when they are abundant, they may be put up so as to keep sound and fresh until a new supply can be had in the spring. One of the best ways we have tried for packing eggs so as to keep them long, is to pack them in charcoal dust, in boxes, by setting them on end; put the boxes in a cool, dry place, and turn them over as often as once in two days. Put the boxes in some place where they are sure to be seen or they will be forgotten and the turning neglected. Another plan, requiring less attention, and may answer just as well, is to pack the eggs in large earthen jars and fill them with lime-water, made by pouring water on quick lime and letting it stand a day or two covered. The finer particles of the lime which run off with the water is deposited upon the shells of the eggs, and fills the pores and keeps the eggs perfectly sweet for a long time, even should the yolk settle down against the shells.—*Val. Farmer.*

#### The Horse.

Hon. Zedock Pratt, in a lecture on the Horse, gives some valuable hints and suggestions.

#### POINTS OF A GOOD HORSE.

He should be about fifteen and a half hands high; the head and neck clean made; wide between the nostrils, and the nostrils themselves large, transparent and open; broad

in the forehead; eyes prominent, clear and sparkling; ears small, neatly set on; neck rather short and well set up; large arm or shoulders, well throw back, and high; withers arched and high; legs fine, flat, thin and small boned; body round and rather light, though sufficiently large to afford substance when it is needed; full chest, affording play for the lungs; back short with the hind quarters set on rather obliquely. Any one possessing a horse of this make and appearance, and weighing eleven or twelve hundred pounds, may rest assured he has a horse of all work, and a bargain well worth getting hold of.

**CARE OF HORSES.**—No horse can endure labor all the time. A few months in pasture, after being high fed and worked for several years, will renew his energies, as stated periods of rest and recreation will preserve the vital energies of man, unimpaired through a long life; and by a wise law of Providence, which is as beneficial to beast as to the man; a horse will do more labor in six days, than if he were worked the whole seven.

#### Fruit Trees--What Becomes of them?

At the recent Fruit Grower's Meeting in Western New York, the question was raised: "What becomes of all the trees that are propagated and sold in the nurseries of that section?"

The opinion of the meeting, as expressed in the discussion, was, that although many trees were lost and worthless from improper treatment in the nursery, and many from damage sustained in transportation, yet more were lost by unskillful planting, and neglect afterwards, than from any and all other causes combined.

This, I believe to be the case. In all my observations of travel, I think I can safely say that I have not seen one orchard or one garden in a hundred even tolerably managed. By far the greater number look as though the proprietor had abandoned his trees to ruin.

Blown over to one side, anchored in a tough grass sod, buried up in groves of corn-stalks, torn and broken by cattle, barked and bruised by the plough, pruned with an axe—thus they perish in their youth, or become old, deformed, covered with lichens, and a prey to swarms of insects, before they have yielded their first fruits. What folly it is in men to invest their money in trees, and then wilfully ruin them in this way! In Western New York, where cultivation is about as good as in any other section, a man who cultivates his orchard or his garden thoroughly, whose trees are healthy and handsome, making vigorous growth, and yielding fine fruit, is talked of as a rarity—and so he is.

The specimen trees in the establishment with which I am connected, are but tolerably well managed; the ground is kept clean around them, and is occasionally dressed with manure or com-

post; so that in all seasons, we get a fair growth and a fair crop—but amateurs might have theirs vastly better. Yet we are daily asked what we do to our trees? and many seem to think that we have some secret art—some system of "terra-culture"—with which the world at large is unacquainted.

We need a complete revolution in these matters. I cannot now detain you to go into the details of planting, and pruning, and mulching; but I beg you who understand these matters, to constitute yourselves missionaries, and preach this doctrine of high cultivation zealously in your respective parishes, and give examples of it in your own grounds, that your practice may correspond with your precept.

#### Boys and Girls at School Together.

Mrs. Jameson, in her "Common Place Book of Thoughts, Memories and Fancies," says:

I am convinced from my own recollections, and from all I have learned from experienced teachers in large schools, that one of the most fatal mistakes in the training of children has been the early separation of the sexes. I say has been, because I find that everywhere this most dangerous prejudice has been giving way before the light of truth and a more genial acquaintance with that primal law of nature, which ought to teach us that the more we can assimilate on a large scale the public to the domestic training, the better for all. There exists still the expression—in the higher classes especially, that in early education, the mixture of the two sexes would tend to make the girl masculine, and the boys effeminate, but experience shows that it is all the other way. Boys learn a manly and protecting tenderness, and girls become at once more feminine and more truthful.

Where this association has begun early enough, that is before five years old, and has been continued till about ten or twelve, it has uniformly worked well. On this point the evidence is unanimous and decisive. So long ago as 1812, Francis Homer, in describing a school he visited at Eamore, near Bridgewater, speaks with approbation of the boys and girls standing up together in the same class; it is the first mention I find of this innovation on the old collegiate or charity school plan, in itself a continuation of the monkish discipline. He says, "I liked much the placing of boys and girls together at any early age; it gave the boys a new spur of emulation." When I have seen a class of girls standing up together, there has been a sort of empty tittering, a vacancy in the faces, an inertness, which made of it, as I thought, a very up-hill work for the

teacher; so when it has been a class of boys there has been often sluggishness; a tendency to ruffian tricks; requiring perpetual effort on the part of the master.

In teaching a class of boys and girls accustomed to stand up together, there is little or nothing of this. They are brighter, readier and better behaved; there is a kind of mutual influence working for good; and if there be emulation, it is not mingled with envy or jealousy. Mischievousness, such as may be apprehended, is in this case far less likely to arise, than where boys and girls habitually separate from infancy, are first thrown together at the age when the feelings are awakened and the association has all the excitement of novelty. A very intelligent schoolmaster assured me that he has no trouble with a class of fifty boys and girls together, (in the midst of which I found him) and that there were no inconveniences resulting, which a wise, careful and efficient superintendence cannot control. "There is," said he, "not only more emulation, more activity, more quickness of brain, but altogether a superior healthiness of tone, body and mind, where the boys and girls are trained together till about ten years old, and it extends in their after life. I should say because it is in accordance with the laws of God in forming us for mutual dependence and for help from the beginning of life.

What is curious enough, I find many people—fathers, mothers, teachers, who are agreed that in the schools of the lower classes the two sexes may be safely and advantageously associated, yet have a sort of horror of the idea of such an innovation in schools for the higher classes. One would like to know the reason for such a distinction, instead of being encountered, as is usual, by a sneer or a vile inuendo.

**TO PREVENT COWS FROM HOLDING UP THEIR MILK.**—One of the best methods to prevent cows from holding up their milk, is to feed them at the time of milking. If this is done they will give down their milk freely. But if you neglect to feed them they will hold it up so that it is almost impossible to get any from them. Try the experiment of feeding them at milking.

**SCRATCHES IN HORSES.**—"It is said" that this often troublesome disease, unless very bad, may be cured by washing thoroughly with soap suds, and then rubbing with lard fried out of salt meat. Keep clean and wash and grease every other day until a cure is effected. Leaving mud to dry upon the legs of a horse is one great cause of this disease, and many horses are injured by want of care and cleanliness when driven in muddy weather.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

### To make Hens lay in Winter.

**MESSRS. EDITORS:** As we are social beings, let us talk about poultry a few moments.

Now to my caption. First make a house 8 by 10 feet—a 16 light window on the South side, a double door on the west, ventilator eight inches square, in the top, let it run up 2½ feet above the ridge board. Line the inside of the room with boards, leaving a space of four inches, fill the space with sawdust and tanbark. Let the room be 6 feet between joints; lath, plaster and whitewash it. Bank it up on the outside four feet high with horse manure. Now you have a room that will not freeze. This room is sufficiently large for 25 hens and 1 cock. Place in a corner, a box 6 feet long, 1 foot square, with 5 partitions for nests. Place the box on the end; let the front be open except a four inch protection to each nest. Let the roosts be in the shape of a ladder. Your house is finished.

Keep 2 inches of sand upon the floor, with a box of ashes, another with slacked lime, one with gravel, and one with old lime mortar. Feed every variety that nature requires—corn, oats, buckwheat, screenings, boiled potatoes, cabbage, Indian meal ground with the cob, apples, cut hay, warm puddings, a little sulphur mixed with it. Keep fresh water or milk constantly *come-at-able*—also plenty of feed. Feed fresh meat three times a week, of this fail not at your peril. In a warm day raise your slide and let them roam. Cold days let them stay in. Follow these directions and your hens will lay in winter as well as in summer.

I have 15 early pullets kept as per directions. The 14th of December I found the first egg, and the 1st of March we have sold 36 dozen for eight dollars and twenty cents, and they still continue laying. Hens kept in this way will lay equally as well in the summer as if they were idle during the winter; but two or three years will use up any hen—therefore sell the old and keep the young ones.

I once kept from 300 to 500 hens for years, and if rightly managed, they are profitable—if not, vice versa.

STORRS BARROWS.  
South Trenton, Oneida co., N. Y.

**VENTILATION.**—It would be well if, taking advantage of opportunities, managers of places of amusement would endeavor to improve the almost universal want of adequate means of exit for the foul air generated by them. Science would surely show how this could be done, without creating "draughts." Managers, as caterers for the public, are morally bound to provide that most necessary of all things—air that may be breathed; so as to prevent their audiences undergoing a *peine forte et dure* while passing the ordeal of a modern "entertainment." Yet scarcely is this deemed worthy of passing notice; and the atmosphere is, generally speaking, in such places, so compounds of bad gases, as not only to render respiration difficult, but to inflict a certain and irradicable injury on the audience.—The Builder.

A LITTLE THING.—“For want of a nail the shoe was lost, for want a shoe the horse was lost, for want of a horse the man was lost.”

Being in the country, I had an example of one of those small losses which a family is exposed to through negligence. For the want of a latchet of small value, the wicket of a barnyard leading to the fields was often left open. Every one who went through drew the door to; but as there was nothing to fasten the door with, it was always flapping; sometimes open and sometimes shut. So the cocks and hens, and the chickens, and the pig, got out and ran off to the woods. The gardener first caught sight of the runaway, and hastening after it, sprained his ankle; in consequence of this, the poor man was not able to get out of the house for a month. The cook found, when she came back from pursuing the pig, that the linen she had left by the fire had fallen down and was burning; the dairymaid having, in her haste, neglected to tie up one of her cows, the cow had kicked a colt that was in the same stable, and broken its leg. The gardener's loss of time was worth twenty-five dollars, to say nothing of the pain to be suffered. The linen which was burned, and the colt which was spoiled, were worth as much more. Here, then, was caused a loss of fifty dollars, as well as much trouble, plague and vexation, for the want of a latch that would not have cost three cents.

[Say.

INDIAN CORN BISCUIT.—Sift a quart of corn meal and a pint of wheat flour into a pan with a teaspoonful of salt and three pints of milk, mix them well, beat the whites of four eggs and the yolks separately in two pans, the yolks must be beat until very thick and smooth, the whites to a stiff froth that will stand alone by itself, then stir the yolks a little at the time into the milk, butter a sufficient number of cups or small deep pans, nearly fill them with batter, set them immediately into a hot oven and bake them fast, turn them out of the cups and send them warm to table, pull them open and eat them with butter. They will puff up finely if at the last you stir in a teaspoonful of soda, dissolved in a little warm water.

HOW SEED CORN SHOULD BE SELECTED.—Let no real farmer neglect to save his *seed corn* in due season, and string it up where it may be not only above the reach of mice, but above the suspicion of foggy atmosphere and close covers.—The best ears of corn are often rendered unfit for vegetation by being put in hogheads and close bins. But the seed ears must not be selected in harvest time. They should be plucked in the field at the time when the very earliest ears can be selected. This has an important effect on the next harvest, as all farmers know. And as corn wants the whole length of the season to insure a full harvest, it is vastly more important to gain a few days by selecting the very earliest of any of the English grains, for our summers are long enough for any of them. As soon as any ears in a cornfield have grown to be too hard for boiling they may be gathered for seed. The husks should be stripped down, and the ears should be braided together by means of the husks, so that they may

hang for twenty years at least without detriment. But should they be closely packed, there will be no certainty of their power of vegetation. The selection of the best ears at husking time is not the thing; for a great majority of the ears then appear sound, though some may have ripened a whole week earlier than others. Just think of a week's gain in the latter part of August. One week would save many a field of corn from a cruel frost.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

#### Hasty Pudding—How to make it.

Corn meal should always be coarsely ground. The finest meal should be as coarse grained as mustard seed. Fresh corn should be ground at least as often as once in three or four weeks.—The meal should be kept in a dry cool room.—Second: Our favorite mush is not a very *hasty* pudding. It is made thus: For two quarts of pudding put three quarts of water and one tablespoonful of salt into a kettle and heat it until it is quite warm. Then take out one quart of water and stir into it Indian meal enough to make a thick batter, so thick that it will scarcely run. Work it over with the ladle or wooden spoon until not the smallest lump remains, and then return it to the kettle where the other two quarts of water will by this time be boiling rapidly. It must now be kept boiling briskly with constant stirring, for *not less than twenty minutes*, and until it has boiled down so much as to be hard to stir. Nothing but constant stirring from the bottom will prevent it from burning or scorching, the least degree of which will spoil the delicious taste.—*Am. Agriculturist.*

There has been a kettle invented, which will enable housewives to cook rice, hasty pudding, &c., without stirring the article when in the process of boiling, and which cannot be scorched or burned. These kettles can be procured of most tinners. We believe they are called “Farina Kettles.”

BAKED INDIAN PUDDING.—Into one quart of boiling milk scald ten table spoons full of Indian meal; when cold, add a tea cup full of molasses, a piece of butter the size of an egg, a tea spoon full of salt, also of ginger and cinnamon; bake it in a pudding dish from one to two hours in a cook stove, or longer in a brick oven. When done it has the appearance of brown bread.

CORNS ON HORSES' FEET.—J. G. Kemp, of Wayne Center, Ills., says in the *Prairie Farmer* that he knows “by experience that by paring the hoof and cutting the corn off slightly, not too much, because that will make it sore, and then applying spirits of salt, you may cure corns of long standing. Three cents worth of spirits of salt will last a man his life time.

TO DESTROY MITES IN CHEESE.—A piece of woolen cloth should be dipped in sweet oil, and should then be well rubbed on the cheese. If one application be not sufficient to destroy the mites, this remedy may be used as often as they appear. The cheese shelves should be well washed with soap and water.

### A Horticultural Hint.

Every year witnesses great improvements in the cultivation of all kinds of fruit, and we are glad to perceive that there are thousands of intelligent farmers in all sections of the country, who manifest some degree of interest in this matter, and are beginning to realize that few subjects are more worthy of their attention. Still, it must be confessed that good cultivation is the exception, and an unprofitable and shameful neglect the rule, among the generality of fruit growers. How many trees are planted every year in grain or in grass, and left to wither and to die? How many are planted without judicious pruning, without due preparation of the soil, without mulching, or that cultivation of the land which is necessary to insure the vigorous growth of all the superior kinds of fruit trees? We have met with individuals who appear to think that the best way to secure good fruit, is to allow the trees to take their natural growth. This is a great mistake. Fruit trees are not, strictly speaking, in a natural condition. "Our garden varieties of fruit," says the lamented Downing, "are not natural forms. They are the artificial productions of our culture. \* \* \* \* \* Transplanted into a warmer aspect, stimulated by a richer soil, reared from selected seeds, carefully pruned, sheltered and watched, by slow degrees, the sour and bitter crab expands into the Golden Pippin, the wild pear loses its thorns and becomes a Bergamotte or a Beurre, the Almond is deprived of its bitterness, and the dry and flavorless Peach is at length a tempting and delicious fruit." These results are the work of art.—Our fruit trees are in an artificial condition, and require treatment. Left to themselves they soon deteriorate, and ultimately return to their natural, or wild state.—[Genessee Farmer.]

### Remedy for Borers.

Mr. N. S. Smith, of Buffalo, says, in the Country Gentleman, that he has found the following an effectual remedy for the borer:

"Make a mound of soft earth around the root, rising about six inches above where the borers are at work. Then saturate this mound with a strong brine made out of common salt. Make the application twice within four weeks, any time when the ground is not frozen. Old pork or beef brine is just the thing. Mr. Smith says the brine is taken up by the tree and thus destroys the insects. He adds that it should be applied cautiously to young trees.

### Stopping.

Pinching off the end of a shoot or branch is called "stopping," in gardener's phrase, because the growth of the shoot is arrested or stopped in that direction. It is often done unwisely, and with injury to the crop or tree. Sometimes weeds are pulled up when there is sap enough in them to mature all their seeds. If the person was experienced, he would remove the entire weed, root and branch, and a harvest of weed-seeds would be avoided. Many people have the benevolent but rather officious habit of pulling up weeds, when walking in a neighbor's garden. It would be better to leave this matter for him or his gardener. The work would probably be better done, and certainly more to the taste of the parties concerned. It is not always best to see a weed in a neighbor's garden.—[Horticulturist.]

### Root Grafting Roses.

This has been done in England for a long time, and in this country for the last ten years, by Mr. Weston, of Ashwood, Tenn. He describes the manner substantially as follows: Take the root of any hardy variety, from a quarter of an inch to an inch through and cut it into pieces of six inches long.—Rub the thorn from the scion with the back of the knife, as far as the bandages will extend. Make the cut on the root two inches and a half long, and the cut on the scion to correspond. As early as possible plant the grafted roots, in two rows, two feet apart; the plants one foot apart in the rows. Plant the roots firmly. Leave only one or two eyes of the scion above ground. When the buds begin to push, loosen the soil with a hoe.—Pinch out all the flower buds as they appear. Pinch back the shoots when they are about eight inches long. Mr. M. says he has been quite successful in this mode. The kinds that make the stoutest wood do best by root grafting.—[Horticulturist.]

### Beet Root Coffee.

A very good coffee can be made of beet root in the following manner. Cut dry beet root into very small pieces, then gradually heat it in a close pan over the fire for about fifteen minutes. Now introduce a little sweet fresh butter and bring it up to the roasting heat. The butter prevents the evaporation of the sweetness and aroma of the beet root, and when fully roasted it is taken out, ground and used like coffee. A beverage made of it is cheap, and no doubt equally as good for the human system as coffee or chickory.

[Sci. American.]

## EDITORIAL NOTICES.

### The Next Volume.

The first volume of the ILLINOIS FARMER is drawing to a close. It has been published under some disadvantages, which will hereafter be avoided. The next volume will be improved in typographical appearance, and it is designed to embrace illustrations which may be of service to its readers.

We are indebted to many individuals for the interest they have taken in this publication. We hope it has been of some service to them and the public. We aim to make it a practical work, which every reader may understand, and especially design it for farmers and laboring men of Illinois.— Eastern agricultural periodicals, although conducted with distinguished ability, are not suited to the agriculture of the West.

We are impressed, too, with the belief that there should be published a paper devoted to agriculture in Central Illinois, and that it should be presented at a cost that will enable every farmer to subscribe for it, and in a form that will allow of its convenient preservation. Our paper will be published monthly, in its present shape, at \$1 a year for single subscribers, and at 75 cents a year in packages of five copies and over. The publication is put thus low, because we wish for a large patronage.

We introduce this subject thus early because we desire farmers and other men of labor, to give this paper a helping hand. We want them to introduce it among their neighbors, and to interest themselves for it—believing that in doing so they will advance their own and the general welfare. Agriculture is the great interest of Illinois. Why should not those engaged in it—whose hands and hearts are engaged in it—labor to give this branch of industry the prominence it deserves? Why should not farmers, in this easy way, give their boys information that will be most useful, and which will create an ambition in them to excel in their profession? Why should not these same farmers furnish their wives and daughters with the means of improving themselves in those branches of domestic economy which more directly come under their care?

But we will not further extend this article. We shall soon submit to the public our prospectus for the second volume of the Illinois Farmer. We wish to obtain a large subscription, that will enable us to do ample justice to our subscribers, in making the Illinois Farmer what we desire it to be—an efficient auxiliary in advancing the Agricultural interests of the State.

### Poultry---Does it Pay?

Within a few years there has been a poultry mania over most of the country. Much money has been spent in procuring and propagating divers varieties of the dunghill fowl. The great Chinese fowl, which in our younger days was considered merely as a curiosity—unworthy of raising as an article of profit, in late years has obtained a high reputation, which it is hardly entitled to. In cities and towns, and the country, where feed is scarce and high, such is their inordinate appetites and the immense quantities of food they devour, that they will not pay the cost of keeping and the care bestowed upon them. They may be kept for fancy, in order to see what monstrous birds can be raised, and as things of curiosity, but they will not pay, so far as dollars and cents are concerned. In the country, such a country as ours, where there is plenty of food constantly going to waste, there may be some reasons in favor of rearing the large Chinese fowls. While the demand exists for them for propagation, there will be profit in raising them.

Much is said in favor of the large breeds on account of their being great layers. Does not this result from their good keeping?—Have they not good places for roosting, for laying and well furnished with food?—Have the common dunghill fowls failed to lay in winter, when they have warm rooms to retire to in cold weather; good places, secure from winds and cold, to roost in and to lay in, and especially when they are provided with boxes of sand and ashes to roll in, and are fed with corn and other grains, and refuse meat to supply the place of insects, which they obtain in summer? While this course of treatment is as effectual with the common dunghill fowl in causing them to lay

in winter, as with the larger breeds, it is quite certain that if this feeding and care is neglected with the larger breeds, they will be likely to disappoint us in furnishing eggs in winter.

Our little experience in regard to the large breeds of fowls amounts to this: they are valuable for producing cross breeds with the common fowl. By this process a large fowl is reared, and these fowls make excellent layers when they are properly cared for. In our opinion it is true, that a good cross of our common dunghill fowl, plump, fat and fine, is better eating than the large fowl. Many persons, who seek economy, will go in for quantity, and in such case the half breed large fowl is most profitable for the table.

But there is a difference in size and in excellence for the table, and as layers among the common breeds of the country. It is reduced to certainty, that a race of fowls kept on one of the farms in this county, without care, made to cater for themselves for food, for places to roost and to lay, in the lapse of a few years have degenerated so as to be of very little account; being too small, tender, and ceasing to breed. Fowls, like stock, require attention. The system of breeding in and in for a long time will work serious injury to fowls. The common dunghill fowl can be greatly improved by attention. The best should be saved for buyers and breeders; exchanges should be made in different neighborhoods of fowls, which by a judicious change and selection of stocks, would greatly add to their value.

These are general remarks. We have no doubt that among the different choice varieties of fowls, some are much superior to our common neglected dunghill fowl. The Dorking has a good reputation. It is larger than our common fowl, has five toes when of full blood, is a good layer and breeder, and capital for the table. The Black Spanish is a good layer. The Black Poland is a small fowl, excellent as a layer, but a poor breeder.

If we were to recommend a system to such farmers as are disposed to raise the common fowl and desire to improve them, it would be this: Select the best and largest and

most beautiful pullets of your early spring broods; let them be as nearly one color as possible, and let that color be a beautiful one. It may be white, or mottled, or blue, or yellow as the predominant color. Now seek among your neighbors for a proper proportion of roosters, so as to make up a suitable fowl family. Let these roosters, too, be of such a color as suits your taste. Dispose of all your poorer specimens of fowl stock.—Take care of your fowls. Give them a warm place to roost and lay in, in winter. Keep for them a supply of gravel and dry ashes and lime. Save such fresh meat of hogs and beef as does not enter into consumption for the family; feed it occasionally to them. Now do all this, and you will have a valuable stock of poultry, that will weigh heavy, be capital for the table, and prove to be good layers. You will be well paid for your trouble in furnishing yourself with delicate, healthful and cheap food, and you will have the best chickens and lots of eggs to sell.

A good many of the facts in this article are derived from reports published by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society.

#### The Wheat Crop in Kentucky.

The "Western Farm Journal," a monthly paper published in Louisville, Ky., has a statistical article which shows a great falling off in the production of wheat in that State. The figures stand as follows:

Product of 1840	4,803,152 bushels.
Product of 1850	2,142,330 bushels.

Decrease in ten years 2,661,822 bushels.

The writer furnishes figures to show that Kentucky had 909,799 bushels of wheat for sale in the year 1840, and 2,750,734 bushels to buy in the year 1850! The sum of these two quantities is 3,660,533 bushels, which at \$1 per bushel, is the exact difference in the money value of her wheat crop, to Kentucky, between the year 1840 and the year 1850. A decrease of three and a half millions per year, in the value of the most important element that goes into the production of the "breadstuffs" of the world, is certainly not a very encouraging picture for any State.

### Emigration.

"You have spoken of the rich prairies of the West; but can you fancy the dull monotonous employment of sowing and harvesting grain always upon a dull, monotonous level surface, out of which the sun rises gloomily in the morning, and into which he sinks in solitary sadness at evening, staring with his great white eye all day; his glorious light undivided, unvaried by the beautiful prisms of nature that everywhere surround you here; the mountain, the forest, the vale, the river, the cloud; violet, indigo, blue green, yellow, orange, red, and all the variety of their combinations. Here can you realize the sublimity of the simple though wondrous words, "God said let there be light, and there was light." Are you sure you will not find among the strangers you meet there, the trace of numerous and fatal diseases? Will you not burn with fever and shudder with ague? Is it a pleasant thing to pass through the purgatory of acclimation? Do you believe that the ease with which you acquire the means of abundant living will be favorable to industry, vigorous effort and variety of thought and acquisition? Is it not the law of your human nature, that ease and leisure beget indolence and lead us into temptation? Is not effort, continued effort, the tenure by which you hold your health? And is not that, with your habits, education, and mode of life, your best safeguard against temptation? Is it not necessary to the development of the full man which you hope in the best years of life to become? You speak of the facilities of travel, and the means of returning frequently to revisit the scenes of your nativity. Are you sure there will be more of pleasure than melancholy and disappointment, when you find the old scenes changed and the companions of your youth no longer here?"

The above is extracted from an address by the Hon. Julius Rockwell, before the Berkshire, (Mass.) Agricultural Society.—There is some truth and a good deal of poetry in this extract.

The people of New England wish to retain their population. The emigration from the East to the West, always great, has increased greatly within the last two years. Never in the history of the country has the emigration from the East to the West been so great as within the last year.

We shall not complain of Mr. Rockwell.—He presented, honestly we believe, the objections which occurred to him against emigration to the West; and there is weight in some of these objections. The life of a Western farmer is one of toil. In opening a new farm he is compelled to severe labor, and he suffers many privations. He may be attacked with the chills or annoyed by

agues. He will often be reminded of comforts he has left; and although he may be surrounded with the wonderful scenery of the West, the green hills, the sparkling streams and the blue mountains of the East will rarely ever pass from his mental vision.

We have sickness here. We have diseases peculiar to this country. Men, families, are, however, often acclimated without sickness. In many respects our climate differs from that of New England. Emigrants are required to be prudent, to avoid exposure, and when this is done their general health will be as good here as in New England. This is our judgment and experience.

Mr. Rockwell would disabuse his mind in regard to alleged sickness in the West, if he were to examine the census returns of 1850. He will there find that Massachusetts is one of the most unhealthy States in the Union, while Illinois is one of the healthiest. No man should stay in New England to avoid sickness and death. We have seen cases of mortality here, arising from local causes; and we have known, in New England, families swept from existence by that dreadful enemy of our race there—consumption.

We are quite sure that everything here is not the color of the rose. We know that we have not all of the comforts of older society. Our roads are not as good; mills are not as convenient; churches are not as numerous; schools are not as plenty and convenient. But these inconveniences are rapidly passing away. More can be accomplished in Illinois in ten years, in this respect, than in some Eastern countries in fifty, or even ninety years. Some districts of Illinois, settled twenty years, in their improvements, are ahead of districts in New England which have been settled two hundred or more.

One fact which binds the inhabitants of the West to the West—which makes a Western man feel that he is in the centre of the world, almost—is the rapid increase of wealth, population, comforts and improvements here. Why, we have in Illinois more miles of railroad than there is in any State of the Union; and with the same rate of growth now pro-

gressing in Illinois, for the next fifteen years, she will be, in population and improvements, not far behind the first State in the Union.

With the means which farmers in this State have to accumulate wealth, Mr. Rockwell may feel assured that they will spend but little time in idleness. There is quite as much industry among our farmers now, as there is in New England. **INDUSTRY PAYS WELL—***better* here than on the farms of New England. No well informed New England farmer, who will come here and examine facts, will doubt this truth.

#### Reclaiming Bushy Land.

Sheep have been put to a good purpose in Massachusetts, in destroying bushes and weeds in pastures. These sometimes take such possession of the ground as to render it nearly worthless. Why cannot they be used here to destroy the hazel bush, blackberry, wild rose, and other wild shrubs?

Mr. R. S. Fay, of Lynn, Mass., gives his experience on this subject. He had a large tract of land between Cape Ann and Cape Cod. It was covered with brambles and other shrubs.—Except in a few wet spots these shrubs covered the whole tract. A cow would have starved on the whole; two hundred acres. Sheep were put upon this land as an experiment, in reference to killing the bushes. It was soon seen that they would do the work. To aid them, some of the larger briars and shrubs were cut down. The young sprouts were nipped as soon as they started; and each renewed effort of the plant to maintain itself was in like manner instantly checked, till its vital energies were exhausted, and it was forced to yield possession of the soil to grasses and clover. It may be taken as a maxim, that no plant can long bear to be deprived of its leaves: they are the lungs, and without them it dies "for want of breath." Acres of this once wild and worthless land were thus reclaimed and made valuable pastures. The experiment of Mr. Fay can well be repeated where the destruction of bushes is desired.

**CURE FOR BDOODY MURRAIN.**—Take fresh droppings of a healthy cow; mix with water, blood warm, as thick as will conveniently pour, and give one quart at a time, three doses, two hours between each. Eight or ten hours after, give one pint soft soap. I have never known it to fail, and have tried it a number of times.

JESSE MOSS, Jubilee, Ill.

#### Mice.

Last winter the mice were very destructive to fruit trees. More than half of some orchards were destroyed. The fall and winter was dry. They made their nests about the trees, and after eating the seeds about their beds, which were deep under the snow they had recourse for subsistence to the bark of the trees, and when that failed to the roots.

The prospect is that winter will come in upon us, with the ground dry, and with dry grass, and trash about the roots of our apple trees, furnishing just the places the mouse seeks for his winter quarters. If the winter be severe, and snow deep, woe to your trees under such circumstances!

What is to be done? How are the trees to be protected from the ravages of mice? Will it answer a good purpose to clean the grass away about them, smear the bodies and about the roots with tar, assafoetida, coal tar or any other nauseous article?—Coal tar about the roots of peach trees, it is said, will protect them from the peach borer? This tar has a very offensive odor—and if mice are delicate in their taste, they will avoid any food spread over with this article.

But if any of our readers have a specific against the injury of fruit trees by mice, they will do the public a benefit by publishing it in the next Illinois Farmer.

#### The Chinese Sugar Cane.

We have some additional evidences of the value of this plant. Richard Peters, of Atlanta, Ga., contributed at the late Fair of the National Agricultural Society at Philadelphia, specimens of the Chinese Sugar Cane and some of the syrup made of it. He raised a quantity of the plants the last season, crushed the juice from them between vertical iron rollers, sufficient in quantity to make eight gallons of superior syrup every hour. He says that the yield of the plant is very great—the juice is easily expressed—and he is of opinion that the cost of the syrup in Upper Georgia will not exceed ten or fifteen cents per gallon. He anticipates that the Southern States can make their own sugar and syrup from this cane, and even produce these articles for exportation. Mr. Peters intends to plant fifty acres of this cane the ensuing season.

The New York Herald has an article on the

same subject, by which it appears that the Chinese Sugar Cane promises to be quite as valuable in the Northern as in the Southern States. That paper says:

A package of seed was planted in Bucks county, Pa., latitude 40 1-2 degrees north, and has arrived at maturity. The maximum height of the stalk was ten feet, and the product in grain much greater than that of any other cereal under cultivation. The stalk is perfectly green after the seed has reached maturity, and the saccharine principle is then fully developed. The juice which is most abundant, is very saccharine, quite as much so as the variety of cane cultivated at the South. Whether the juice contains the same amount of crystalizable sugar remains to be tested. Should it be found equal to ordinary cane in that respect, a new era in the agriculture of the North will be inaugurated, and an immense breadth of land devoted to its culture as soon as the necessary seed can be obtained, which will require another year at least. The seed, having been distributed late in the spring, which was cold and backward, there is good reason to believe that much planted did not reach maturity. Should the plant fail, so far as the manufacture of sugar is concerned, yet its value as a forage crop cannot be over estimated at the North. Cattle, horses and hogs eat the entire stalk with avidity, and no doubt would fatten rapidly on it. The seed, which is small, has a thin black hull, which can be taken off, leaving a fine white flour as the residue. We have no means at present of estimating the value of this flour, as an article of food, but no doubt its merits will be fully investigated. The culture required for the plant is similar to that adopted for Indian corn when planted in rows, and the seed should be put into the ground about the same time. As it is a quick and strong growing plant, it should be well manured.

#### Qualities of Cattle.

The London Farmers' Magazine for October contains a letter from Wm H. Sotham, of Owego, N. Y., on the qualities of the Hereford and Short horn cattle, in which he writes with his usual severity not only against the latter breed, but against their advocates also. His object, he says, is to stir up a "fair and liberal discussion among English breeders as to which breed will pay the most money for the food they consume, in order to put that breed first that justly deserve it." He enumerates the qualities of cattle as follows:

"There are three distinct qualities in all cattle. The first possesses a moderately thick mellow hide, with elastic handling flesh. This quality of meat is always beautifully marbled; when hanging in the shambles or stalls, is always free from soft grease, and generally sufficiently stiff to cut smoothly in warm weather: does not diminish much in size when cooking. Second quality carries a thin hide, handles flabby, and when hanging in the shambles or stall always appears

greasy; never sets stiff enough to cut freely except when frozen, and is very profitless beef to the consumer. Third quality is a thick, stiff, leathery skin, possessing hard handling flesh, which, when hanging in the shambles is as blue as a whetstone; their rump bones large and round, with but little flesh upon them. These kinds of cattle generally look fleshy if well kept, but never get fat; and what is on them is no better than ordinary bull beef; frequently large in size with coarse shank bones, and weigh much lighter when dead than they appear to do when living.

#### Hereditary Diseases of Horses.

The following extracts from "Youatt" and "Dunn, Jr." seem to prove that particular diseases become fixed in particular families of domestic animals, and when so fixed are just as transmissible from generation to generation, as vigor of constitution, beauty of form, excellence of temper, or any merit or defect whatever, whimsical or otherwise:

"There is scarcely a disease by which either of the parents is affected, that the foal does not often inherit, or, at least show a predisposition to it. Even the consequences of ill usage, or hard work will descend to the progeny. There has been proof upon proof that blindness, roaring, thick-wind, broken wind, spavins, curb, ringbone and founder, have been bequeathed to their offspring, both by the sire and the dam.—Youatt.

"A foal had apparently good eyes, but the first day had not passed before it was evident that it was totally blind. Inquiry was then made about the sire, for the mare had good eyes. His were, on the slightest inspection, evidently bad, and not one of his colts had escaped the direful effects of his imperfect vision.—Baker.

"A mare had been the subject of farcial enlargements, and not being capable of performing much work, a foal was produced from her. The foal, soon after birth, evinced symptoms of farcy and died."—Ibid.

"A mare was lame from navicular disease. A foal was bred from her, that at five years could scarcely go across the country, and was sold for a few pounds."—Ibid.

"The parent transfers to its offspring size, shape and general conformation, similar to its own, and the aphorism, 'like produces like,' is as applicable to faulty and disproportioned, as to beautiful and symmetrical form, to diseased and debilitated as to healthy and vigorous constitution, to gentle and tractable as to firm and indomitable disposition. The size, weight, general appearance, expression of countenance, fleetness and temper of the horse are all hereditary.

[Dunn, Jr.

"But besides the general constitution of

the parents, their especial condition at the time of copulation, appears to be, to a certain extent, transmitted to the offspring; and hence the necessity of selecting for breeding purposes, animals only of a strong and healthy constitution, and of using them only when they are in full possession of their physical energies. For a high state of the physical energies at the time of impregnation, is believed to induce a correspondingly great development of physical power in the offspring; and of this we have a curious example, in the fact that the Arabs, before bringing the parents together, give them a short gallop, believing the spirit and fleetness of progeny is thereby enhanced. On the other hand, we find that even a slight and temporary debility at the time of copulation exercises a marked and deteriorating effect upon the spirit and vigor of the offspring.

Ibid.

#### Mysterious Providences.

There are truths in the following article which should tell in the hearts and consciences of thousands of young men in the West and elsewhere.

"What a mysterious providence," say the farmers wives, as they come together for the last time to look on one of their number and they glance pityingly at the bereaved husband, and the large family of children, varying in size from the tall youth, or blooming maiden, down to the little child. Truly it is a mystery, that she should be taken away in the prime of life, when her children need her watchful care and counsel more than ever before. But let us examine into the life led by most farmers' wives, and see if we can gain a clue of this "mysterious providence" which so often leaves the family circle desolate.

A young farmer marries, and for a year or two his wife can do without help, but by and by his work is too much for him alone and he must hire a hand; and one by one, little children increase the family; and the burden is much heavier than when she took it up; but the farmer is just getting a start, and they must economize if they want to get rich, as every body does, so she gets along somehow without help. She rises early, milks the cows, and gets breakfast, sometimes for several men, dresses the children, washes dishes, skims milk, churns, sweeps the rooms, makes beds, prepares dinner, "cleans up," snatches an hour or two to sew, gets supper, milks again, puts children to bed, and after they and her husband are fast asleep, sits up to sew until midnight

that she may save paying a seamstress. In addition to this daily routine, she does all the washing, ironing, baking scrubbing, white-washing, soap-making, and hog-killing work; it would cost so much to hire help; so, year after year, she toils and drudges, not allowing herself the least opportunity of improving her mind, so that she may be a better guide and counsellor to her children. And very soon her fair face is faded and careworn; her temper soured and fretful and herself prostrated every now and then by severe illness, only to resume her unwearying labor as soon as her returning strength permits. And thus she yearly becomes less able to bear the burden of her increasing household duties. If the husband is a kind, considerate man, who has been taught to assist his mother in boy-hood, he makes her work lighter, by carrying wood and water, nursing the baby while in the house, and by doing numberless little things which may be trifling in themselves, but which are of great importance in the aggregate, but too many men leave the wife to draw water, and if the wood gets cut half the time, she considers herself fortunate, and as for the baby, why he thinks it is a woman's place to be nurse, and so it frets and cries, or mamma must work with it on her arm, while he reads his paper, or talks with his hired man. Well, the farm increases in value and fertility, and his labor in producing for his family becomes lighter, as he is able to hire more work done, but it is an old thing, both to himself and his wife, for her to do all the housework, with what little help the elder children, if they are girls, can give her, for if they are boys, they can't think of making them work in the house, it isn't customary; and so she toils on the same old fashion.

And when the comfortable new house is built, and nicely furnished, and her older children are beginning to be a real help to her, the pale, weak, sickly wife and mother lies down to die. Truly her sun goes down at noonday. She has saved, by ceaseless, wearying toil, hundreds of dollars for the husband, and he has lost the companion of his youth, the one who has walked beside him in life's most thorny path. And friends say it is a "mysterious providence!" Just as if God ordained that the mother should be taken from her children, just when they are most exposed to temptation and danger! Instead of laying it on Providence, let us look at the days spent in toil, when the weak, exhausted frame was suffering from disease, induced perhaps by continued over-exertion; to the hours stolen from needed

slumber, and devoted to labor; to the numberless household duties performed with a fretful infant on her arm, to the immense amount of time spent cooking over a hot fire; and the many sleepless nights, spent in anxious wearisome watching over sick children. Viewed in this light, is it so very mysterious that many women die just when they should be enjoying life with the keenest relish?

S. S. S.

### Protecting Trees from Mice.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I see by your papers several ways for protecting trees from the depredations of mice. We have a very simple method for keeping Mr. Mouse from our trees. Take two horse shoe tile—place their bottoms together around the body of the tree—fasten them with a cord, or what is much better, some small brass wire—let the lower end into the ground an inch or more, so that the mice will not work under them. Your tile once purchased, which will cost some three or four cents per tree, you are prepared with a defence for life, which mice will be slow to nibble.

CHARLES FENNER.

Oneida, New York.

[Country Gent.]

We can procure for those who desire them, plants of the Upland Cranberry and Lawton's Blackberry. The Cranberry has produced from 50 to 300 bushels per acre, so say some authorities. The Blackberry is a new variety, which has become celebrated in the Eastern States. It produces enormous crops of very large fruit, commencing to ripen in the latter part of July, and a portion of them will mature daily for from four to six weeks. Bushels of them can be grown in a very small space.

### Hogs and Pork.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 22d—There has been some demand for Pork, for New York delivery in December, but packers are not disposed to make such contracts, owing to the uncertainty of being able to reach that market. Manufacturers have contracted for Lard from early hogs, at 10½@11c, buyers furnishing packages—chiefly below 11c. With the exception of the New York demand referred to, there is no demand for meat for early delivery. The stock of old Bacon is considerable, and there is barrel Pork enough to carry consumers over to the new season. Packers are therefore not overly anxious to secure early hogs, and there is but little movement in the market. The total contracts for hogs, in this market, reach about 50,000 head—the indications at present are that the market will open at about \$6 50 @ 100 lb net. The high price of Lard and Pork, being expected to justify this figure, notwithstanding the dull market for other parts of the hog.

### ONIONS.

**300 BUSHELS FOR SALE BY WHOLE-**  
sale or retail. FRANCIS & BARRELL.

## MARKETS!

SPRINGFIELD, Nov. 1, 1856.

The market for Hogs has opened at \$5 gross—and higher prices are offered for some superior Hogs. In this part of the State, Hogs have been purchased and sent to the market in all the summer and fall months. We anticipate good prices through the season. We have heard that some pork operators, disliking the prospects, have declined going into the market.

We have no change to note in WHEAT. Navigation will soon close at Chicago, and then Wheat may go South—Flour by Cairo and Wheat to St. Louis.

The crop of CORN is short; but the old stock on hand will be sufficient to keep down prices. There is some shipping.

POTATOES have yielded better than was anticipated. Still the supply will not be great.

APPLES are in demand at 50@75c @ bushel. The crop of winter apples is short, and late fall apples this season rot early.

WHITE BEANS are sufficient for the demand. They cannot be purchased here at a higher price than \$1 50@1 75 @ bushel, for exportation.

Articles belonging to the vegetable market are scarce and high.

WHEAT—90c@ \$1 @ bushel.

RYE—50c @ bushel.

OATS—23c @ bushel.

CORN—23@25c @ bushel.

APPLES—50@75c @ bushel. The latter price for winter apples.

POTATOES—60@75c @ bushel.

TURNIPS—40@45c @ bushel.

BEETS—\$1 @ bushel.

ONIONS—\$1 50@1 75 @ bushel.

BUTTER—20@25c @ lb.

CHEESE—Country, 10c @ lb.

EGGS—12c @ dozen.

LARD—10c @ lb.

CHICKENS—\$1 25@1 50 @ dozen.

TURKIES—50c each.

FLOUR—Best, \$6 @ bbl.

CORN MEAL—\$1 @ 100 lbs.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—\$4@ \$5 @ 100 lbs.

### St. Louis Market—Oct. 22.

HOGS—There are no contracts for hogs for packing.—Butchers are paying 5¼@6¼c, as @ quality.

FLOUR—Is selling from \$4 50@7 50 @ bbl, as @ quality.

WHEAT—The prices here ranged from \$1 00@1 17 @ bu.—Market drooping.

OATS—Are bringing 45c, bags returned.

BARLEY—Winter, \$1 75@1 80; Spring, interior, \$1; best \$1 50.

BACON—Sugar cured hams 12½c; clear sides 7@7¼c.

APPLES—On levee, sell at \$1@1 25 @ bbl.

BEANS—Common white, \$1 75@1 90; Navy Beans, \$2@ 2 05 @ bu.

FLAX SEED—\$2 40@2 50 @ bushel.

POTATOES—75@80c @ bushel.

ONIONS—Demand dull at \$1 40@1 50 @ bushel.

### Chicago Market—Oct. 23.

FLOUR—@ barrel, from \$3 25@6 50.

WHEAT—92c@ \$1 18 @ bushel.

CORN—34c @ bushel.

RYE—80c @ bushel.

OATS—26c @ bushel.

BARLEY—\$1 20 @ bushel.

BEANS—\$2@2 50 @ bushel.

PEAS—\$1 75@ \$2 @ bushel.

BUTTER—16@17c @ lb, for fresh.

SEEDS—Timothy, \$2 50; Clover, \$2 50; Red top, \$2.

HOGS—Are selling at \$4 75@5 12½ choice lots \$5 25. The pork market opens high.

# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

S. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, Printers.

VOLUME 1.

SPRINGFIELD, DECEMBER, 1856.

NUMBER 12.

## PROSPECTUS OF THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

In December, 1855, we presented to the public the prospectus for the first volume of the *Illinois Farmer*. We did this with some hesitation; that hesitation was overcome by the wishes and judgment of our friends. Considering the short time the prospectus was before the public previous to the time fixed for issuing the first number, we had reason to be gratified with the number of subscribers whose names were promptly furnished. We shall not forget the kind assistance rendered us by friends, as well in neighboring, as in distant counties. It was given at a time and in a manner which rendered it of great value.

A year has nearly passed. Those friends near us insist that we shall present to the agricultural public a prospectus for the second volume of the "*Farmer*." We feel certain that an agricultural paper, published at the Capital of the State, is needed—that it can be rendered of great value to our farming interests—and published in the present form, and at the present price—should receive a very large subscription—so large as to be reasonably remunerative to its publishers.

While many improvements are designed in the coming volume,—in illustrations and in the mechanical work—we shall still aim to make it *practical and useful*. Progress is a distinguishing feature in the Agriculture of the present day,—but there are humbugs which are sought to be forced upon the community which should be mercilessly exposed.

The agricultural papers of other States, although ably conducted, do not suit the condition of Agriculture in Illinois. We have a peculiar climate, and soils differing from those in the East. While therefore Eastern periodicals are valuable to us, they do not supply the want of well conducted agricultural publications in our own State.

An exciting election has now passed. Our farmers, as good citizens, have been deeply en-

gaged in it. In this country, all men should make themselves acquainted with the principles and designs of parties, and should act understandingly, with clear convictions that they are in the right. It is only in this way that the institutions which have come to us from our fathers can be transmitted to posterity.

But there is now to be a lull in political affairs. Our agricultural friends will be able to give their attention to matters which especially belong to their profession. This will enure to their advantage. They will be disposed to patronize the agricultural press, and by means of it carry into their families a fund of knowledge which will greatly benefit them.—There is among our farmers a manifest disposition to avail themselves of the experience of others, as given in the agricultural press, for their own advantage. No farmer can read attentively any agricultural publication of the country without obtaining *practical information* that he would not part with for thrice the amount of its subscription.

We send our prospectus to our old friends,—who labored for us in procuring subscribers for our first volume,—and to many others,—and solicit them to make up clubs wherever possible. Send us the names and subscription price—and we promise to do the best we can to give them a paper worthy of their patronage.

S. FRANCIS.

### Terms of the Farmer.

In Clubs of five or over, sent in one package, 75 cents each—to be paid in advance. Single copies \$1 a year in advance.

Nov. 18, 1856.

### Defence of Southern Illinois.

Why is Southern Illinois, with its fine climate, its excellent soil, its business advantages and the fact that it was the earliest portion of the State settled, behind other parts of the State in population and improvement.

That all those truths are readily admitted

every where, is most certain. Why then we repeat, is Southern Illinois behind other parts of the State, in Agricultural and other improvements?

We are glad that a distinguished Southern Illinoisan has taken upon himself the duty of answering this question. Wm. S. Wait, Esq., of Bond county, delivered an address before the Agricultural Society of Clinton County, on the 17th October last—on the occasion of the county Fair,—in which he says :

“We of Southern Illinois have been comparatively slow in agricultural development, and there is a reason for this state of things which is not generally known, and which justice to ourselves demands that we should understand.

“Immediately at the close of the war of 1815, the Territory of Illinois attracted the attention of the emigrants. The Southern portion only was then brought into market, and all north of the parallel of latitude which strikes Vandalia, was a wilderness. The pioneers of this region bought their land at the then government price of two dollars an acre, paying one-fourth on entry; with an allowance of time to meet the balance. Nearly every man purchased on these terms, calculating to pay up for his land by the earnings of his farm, or by the sale of a part of his entry at an advanced price. By an act passed in July, 1820, Congress abolished the credit system, and reduced the price of public land to one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. This act had the cruel effect of reducing the price of all land, whether improved or unimproved, to the same price, virtually robbing the pioneer of all he had paid, and still leaving him to pay one dollar and fifty cents an acre, whilst the new comer could secure land as good for a dollar and a quarter. To this calamity was added the loss of all confidence in the action of Congress, which considerate body was as likely then, as now, to take the measure since adopted by reducing the price of public land to twelve and a half cents an acre. Hundreds were frequently wholly unable to complete the payment on their lands, my

poor self amongst the number. Many were wholly discouraged and sold out their improvements for an old horse, or wagon, or anything they could get, and very many who could get no offer at all for their improvements, pulled up sticks and quit, leaving no sign but their empty cabins and deserted fields. By this ill-advised and unjust act of Congress, the settlement of Southern Illinois which was then the only inhabited portion of the State, was effectually arrested. Strangers who come in upon our trail, found deserted tenements, neglected fields, and discouraged and impoverished people. Without understanding the cause of this apparent desolation, without suspecting that the General Government had applied the scourge to our naked backs, it is enough for them to see that the people did not propose but wereready to sell out for a song and abandon their improvements. The inevitable consequence was, as all who are old enough to remember will testify, an entire change in the tide of Emigration. It was completely driven from Southern Illinois to the more Central and Northern portions of the State; and beside these portions of our own State, Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa were thus innocently profited by our misfortune. For this injustice of Congress the pioneer has never been compensated; the mockery of relief proposed by an act of subsequent session coming altogether too late even to modify the calamity to the few who ever heard of its enactment:

“To this day, we suffer under this act of legislative injustice, and although it might not have been the design of Congress to rob the pioneer of his money and his land, and force him to seek a new home, yet the ignorance which permits such cruel legislation is scarcely less wicked than premeditated wroag. And many thousand dollars taken from the early settlers of Southern Illinois went into the National Treasury for which they received nothing. This act of Congress therefore resulted in a practical pecuniary fraud upon the poor farmer, besides the loss upon improvements he was compelled to abandon forever.

"Now, my friends, it is important that these facts should be understood and reflected upon by ourselves, the farmers of Southern Illinois. It explains to us at one view, why we, who are residents of a district of county which is second to none other upon earth in soil and climate, should find ourselves far behind our more northern brethren in density of population, and agricultural, mechanical and educational improvement. Not only has the great current of emigration been induced to avoid us, but a large portion of the enterprising pioneers who came with us into Southern Illinois whilst yet a Territory, were driven off by this reckless legislation on the part of the General Government. The few who have remained, and the few who have joined us since Illinois became a State, have had not only limited means, but a scattered population, and a lack of commercial facilities to struggle against.

"It is useful and necessary that we should advert to these for our own satisfaction and for that of our children. We have been to a certain extent a persecuted and much wronged people. And now let us gather courage from the fact, that no sooner has the sun of a brighter day appeared, no sooner have the facilities of an improved means of intercourse and the strength of an increasing population afforded the means, than Southern Illinois steps forth, and shows her readiness, her dispositions, and her capability to compete with the best of her neighbors in meritorious and successful efforts for general improvement. Let, us then take renewed courage; and may we not be pardoned for adverting to the fact, that amongst the warmest friends to every useful improvement, may be found a goodly portion of those early pioneers who have endured the perils and survived the hardships of a frontier life.

"Have we not then a right to believe and to say that if we in Southern Illinois are behind some of our neighbors in many of the useful institutions and means of improvement enjoyed by others, that it is owing to no fault of our own; and may we not be justly

proud of the successful efforts that we have recently made and are still making to rank with the foremost and the best in persevering efforts for useful progress?"

All honor to Mr. Wait for this exposition. The old citizens of Southern Illinois have caught the spirit of progress, and she is fast going ahead with those improvements which will develop her great natural resources. In addition to this fact, she is receiving accessions to her population from the East and North, which uniting with her old stock, will soon make that portion of the State "bud and blossom as the rose."

#### Illinois Horticultural Society.

On the occasion of the State Fair at Alton there was a large collection of Fruit Growers and Nursery-men from the various parts of the State; and it was deemed expedient by them to adopt measures for the formation of a State Horticultural society, and it was unanimously agreed that the Alton Horticultural Society should issue a call for the friends of the projected association to meet in convention at such time and place as said society should designate.

In pursuance with the above resolution the Alton Society, at its October meeting, voted the following:

"Resolved, That we cordially approve the organization of a State Society, and invite all persons engaged in horticultural pursuits, or that take an interest in the same, to meet the delegates of this society in the city of Decatur, Wednesday, the 17th of December next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to frame a constitution and by-laws, and transact other business that may be deemed expedient."

An organization, such as has been proposed, aided by the State Legislature, or supported by its members, with one or more central committees to whom specimens could be sent, is a consummation devoutly to be wished; the friends of the measure are anticipating a large and enthusiastic meeting at Decatur—and it is hoped that every county in Illinois will be well represented. The convention will probably sit two days in the

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#### Illinois Horticultural Society.

On the occasion of the State Fair at Alton there was a large collection of Fruit Growers and Nursery-men from the various parts of the State; and it was deemed expedient by them to adopt measures for the formation of a State Horticultural society, and it was unanimously agreed that the Alton Horticultural Society should issue a call for the friends of the projected association to meet in convention at such time and place as said society should designate.

In pursuance with the above resolution the Alton Society, at its October meeting, voted the following:

"Resolved, That we cordially approve the organization of a State Society, and invite all persons engaged in horticultural pursuits, or that take an interest in the same, to meet the delegates of this society in the city of Decatur, Wednesday, the 17th of December next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to frame a constitution and by-laws, and transact other business that may be deemed expedient."

An organization, such as has been proposed, aided by the State Legislature, or supported by its members, with one or more central committees to whom specimens could be sent, is a consummation devoutly to be wished; the friends of the measure are anticipating a large and enthusiastic meeting at Decatur—and it is hoped that every county in Illinois will be well represented. The convention will probably sit two days in the

transaction of its business, and all who desire the development of this great branch of our State's products are cordially invited to be present and to bring with them the best specimens of Horticultural objects that the gathering may be more interesting.

Papers friendly to the cause will confer a favor by publishing the above.

E. S. HULL,

Corresponding Secretary Alton Horticultural Society.

**Boys! We want a little talk with you.**

There are many boys in the country, who have worked on farms the past season, with the idea that when the fall work should be over, they would go into stores, or commence study, to prepare themselves to become lawyers, doctors, merchants, or speculators. Boys! we want to have a word with you on these subjects.—We have lived a little time, and have not been entirely inattentive to the ways of life. We have seen that "all is not gold that glitters;"—that mercantile life has its cares and anxieties; that the professions require mental labor and drudgery more tiresome and exhausting than the labor of the hands;—and that peace of mind, personal independence, full physical development, securing health and mental vigor, more than any other class belongs to the farmer.

Youth looks at the future with joyous anticipations. Before him everything has the color of the rose. He knows little of the great struggle of life. He has not learnt the fact, that in the professions it requires the sharpest wit, the best judgment, the keenest foresight, to enable one of this class to sustain himself in conflict with men who possess all these qualities. Too late perhaps, he will learn, that "all is not gold that glitters;"—and gladly would he return to the peaceful, though laborious pursuits of agricultural life, were it in his power.

The welfare of the community requires that intelligent and sprightly farmer's sons, should remain upon the farm. Their own good and that of the country requires this. We know that the farmers have been kept

in the back ground—that they have not occupied the position in society that justly belonged to them. In some respects they were to blame for this; but in many cases it was the result of the want of facilities for education in the country, and the inability of many to improve by those which existed. Latterly farmers have no excuse, if they should desire one, for neglect in the education of their children.

Boys! we suppose you attended schools summers and winters most of the time, while you were from eight to twelve years old. After the last period you went to school only in the winter. Perhaps you are now between seventeen and twenty one years of age. Like most young men of that age, you are touched with the "eighteen year old fever." This disease sometimes affects youth earlier than that age, and sometimes later. Do not complain of us for alluding to it—for we have experienced the disease in our time. It hardly can be described, though easily observed. The boy labors to affect the manners of the man;—he aims at lofty objects, and his mind is filled with golden dreams. He is uneasy. Farming seems a monotonous and tame business. Ah, young man you want an object to give full employment to your active mind. You are for progress in your profession; but are without the proper educational facilities to make that progress. What is to be done? Sorry are we that we are without an agricultural College in our State, to aid you in the path of progress which your mental powers pant to travel on. But there is one of these establishments open to you, where all the advantages you desire are found. Do your wish to know something of this agricultural college and its plan of instruction? We cannot do you a greater favor than to give you here the official notice of officers of the Institution spoken of. Please examine it, and see if the Ohio Agricultural college does not offer you the advantages of knowledge in your profession which you need and which once possessed will make the path of the farmer, in all after life, interesting—enabling you to appreciate

and enjoy the blessings of the first employment that God vouchsafed to man.

#### Ohio Agricultural College.

This institution has been incorporated and put into successful operation at Cleveland, O., where it is permanently located.

Its design is to place within the reach of farmers, both old and young, the means of acquiring a thorough and practical acquaintance with all those branches of Science which have direct relations to Agriculture.

#### PLAN OF INSTRUCTION.

This consists in courses of Lectures, four daily, which are given at the regular annual session held during the Winter months, commencing on the first Monday of December, and continuing for twelve consecutive weeks; a season of the year when the farmer himself, or his sons, can best spare time to attend.

The Lectures embrace all the several departments of Agricultural Science each principal division being assigned to a different Lecturer, and systematically presented in the same manner as Medical Science is taught in Medical Colleges.

The whole field of science connected with Agriculture is by this method, presented in the shortest period of time, and therefore makes the acquisition possible to multitudes who cannot attend Universities, or even Schools on experimental farms.

#### SUBJECTS.

The branches taught embrace whatever pertains to Animals, Vegetables, Land or Labor.

1. Chemistry, in all its applications to Soils, Manures, Animal and Vegetable life, and the Domestic arts, &c.

2. Comparative Anatomy and Physiology with special reference to the breeding and feeding of stock; History and description of Domestic Animals in their several varieties, Veterinary Medicine and Surgery—Entomology.

3. Geology and Mineralogy; Botany, Descriptive and Physiological, with special reference to the history and habitudes of plants cultivated in the garden and orchard or the field—the various modes of Culture, and Soils adapted to each.

4. Natural Philosophy; Agricultural Mechanics; Farm Implements; Meteorology; Elements of Engineering and Land Surveying; Rural Architecture, Landscape Gardening Draining and Farm Book-keeping.

5. Political Economy, History of Agriculture, and general principles of law, relating to contracts, and especially to the acquisition possessions, and alienation of Real Estate.

#### LECTURERS.

Prof. J. P. Kirtland, Prof. Jas. Dascomb Prof. Samuel St. John, Prof. J. H. Fairchild, Prof. N. S. Townshend, and others.

#### ADDITIONAL FACILITIES.

A Reading Room, supplied with the principal Agricultural Periodicals, will be open to students at all hours.

#### TERMS.

For the entire course, \$40, with the privilege of a second course tuition free. Board and rooms may be obtained at \$2,50 per week, exclusive of fuel and light.

For further particulars address the President or Secretary of the Board, at Cleveland, Ohio.

HARVEY RICE, Pres.

THO. BROWN, Sec'y.

We will add a few words, addressed to another class in connection with these subjects—to parents of youths.

Within a few years farmers have paid great attention to the education of their daughters. They are in the practice of sending them to the best schools; and many of them are receiving education which render them superior in mind to their brothers. We have not a word to say against the education of females. But we do say that the education of males should be equal to theirs. A woman does not fancy to ally herself to a man who is the inferior. She will naturally desire an alliance where she can have at least an equal; and your sons must in this case seek for companions among those who do not rank in knowledge with their sisters. Give your children an equal chance for education and all will be likely to be right.

Now is the season of the year specially to give heed to the subjects embraced in this article. We think they are of importance, Reader, do you?

#### Cold Winters.

Within the few last years much attention has been bestowed on the science of meteorology.—It now appears to be a settled fact among men who have given attention to this subject, that cold and warm seasons come in regular cycles. We have an article on this subject from the *Massachusetts Farmer*, containing statistics which go far to prove this position

"It was not," says that paper, "until A. D. 1705, that observations began to be made on

which this conclusion is founded; and until A. D. 1750 these were loosely conducted, the thermometer not coming into general use before.—Noah Webster, LL. D., so long ago as A. D. 1792, published a series of tables on the weather, in which he gave the comparative temperature of each year for a century preceding. From these tables it appears that there was a general tendency to extreme seasons from the sixth to the tenth year of every decade, and especially every alternate decade. Since that publication, more accurate observations, extending over a large portion of the interval, have confirmed his opinion. The first five years of every decade have generally had a mean temperature higher than the last five years. Thus from A. D. 1791 to A. D. 1796 was a warm period; and from A. D. 1796 to A. D. 1800 a cold one; and so it was continued, in each decade, except that from A. D. 1806 to A. D. 1816, up to the present time. These tables also show that, from A. D. 1786 up to A. D. 1830, the temperature was gradually rising, while from this last period it has been as gradually falling, though in both epochs the fluctuations in the decades have regularly prevailed.

Some writers attribute these changes to the spots on the sun, while others controvert the notion. The existence of these spots is thought to increase the mean heat of the summer, in our latitude, while it adds also to the severity of the winters. On the other hand, the absence of such spots is said to make the seasons extreme, without seriously disturbing the mean of the year. In both cases, the result is supposed to be produced by the influence of the sun's rays on terrestrial magnetism, and its consequent effect upon the volume of the trade winds and the amount of the moisture. This is the opinion of Mr. Butler, an American, one of the latest investigators of the laws of the weather. But it is not concurred in by M. Schwabe, a distinguished European meteorologist, who made accurate annual investigations, on this very subject, from A. D. 1826 to A. D. 1850. It must be said, however, in favor of Mr. Butler, that the magnetic action of this continent is more intense than that of Europe, and that, in consequence effects might be traced here which were not observable in the other atmosphere. But whatever may be cause, the fact seems indisputable, that cold and hot periods of years follow each other according to a determinate law, which there is hope may yet be discovered.—The experience of the present year, as compared with that of the five preceding ones, certainly favors the idea that we are entering on the colder

half of the decade. As fully does the experience of the last twenty years favor the notion that the mean temperature is declining, and that we are now in a cold cycle, which, to judge from the past may continue twenty or thirty years longer."

#### Making of Cider Vinegar.

Almost all the vinegar sold is supposed to be made of cider. We doubt if a twentieth part of it is made of this article. Much of it is manufactured with some villainous compound which never ought to be used by man.

A correspondent of the Horticulturalist describes his method of making vinegar from cider, which he has never known to fail. He says:

"The cider used for making vinegar, is generally made in the early part of the season, before the weather becomes cold. The process is as follows: Grind the apples; put the pomace in open vessels for a day or two, then press out the cider, put it in open tubs or casks, cover the cider one inch thick with pomace; let it remain fermenting until the pomace shows signs of separating into parts; then skim off the pomace, put the clean cider into casks, rejecting the sediment at the bottom; place the casks of cider under cover, and protect it from freezing in the winter; place a brick or board over the bung-hole, and, for a month keep the vessel full; it is important that the casks be well cleaned from mould and mustiness; where either is suspected, it is proper to burn sulphur within them, and, afterward, rinse carefully. At any time after the cider has been drawn from the open tubs, procure good cider vinegar, known to be such, and not that manufactured in part from tartaric or sulphuric acid, let it be in such quantity as you suppose necessary to begin with—suppose one barrel, draw off one half, and put in another cask, and then once in a week add to each a gallon of cider, (or if you choose two gallons;) continue to do so till the barrels are full, afterwards, draw from each, weekly, two gallons, putting it into other casks, and fill the same quantity of cider into each that you have drawn from in this way, vinegar can be made, with certainty, to any extent. It is better not to sell till the succeeding season of cider making; first, because, although the vinegar may be merchantable, yet it may be wanted to increase the stock, and, if not, it will improve at least till the end of a year, and perhaps longer; and, secondly, the casks

(which to the farmer causes the principal outlay in making vinegar,) will last longer if kept full, or part full, than if empty."

Farmers should grow apples if for no other purpose than to make vinegar. It will pay well for this purpose.

#### Chinese Sugar Cane.

The Agricultural papers continue to give the results of experiments with this plant. The Country Gentleman of the 6th instant, contains several articles on the subject. Levi Bartlett, of New Hampshire, grew the plant very successfully last season. He found it to be rich in the saccharine principle, and that it made excellent fodder for stock. He found that the plant contained sugar, alcohol and a liquor which made a fermented drink analogous to cider.

Mr. J. T. C. Hyde of Newton Centre, Mass, says :

"My cane seed was planted about the 20th of May. It came up well and grew well, having reached the height of ten feet. A few days ago, the plant just being out of flower, or in other words past its bloom, I cut several stalks and stripped the leaves; crushed the cane and pressed out the juice; which I boiled down to molasses; and a fine article it is—as good as can be bought for fifty or sixty cents per gallon. The juice is very rich in saccharine matter, yielding from a fourth to a fifth of its bulk in good molasses. I was anxious to make sugar but not knowing the art I did not succeed. I have no doubt but the finest of sugar can be made from it, and make it pay. I did not attempt to make champagne from it, though it is said to make a good article. The great difficulty is to express the juice from the stalks, and nothing I know of will do it effectually but a sugar mill, and those we do not have in these parts. But if this article proves on a further trial to be what I think it is, sugar mills will be erected in almost every town in the good old Bay State, and we no longer be dependant on the South for our supply of sugar and molasses. If this article should succeed perfectly, we cannot sufficiently estimate the glorious results of its successful cultivation. I fully believe from my limited experience that we may successfully compete with Louisiana in producing sugar and molasses. With this sugar cane no part is lost, the leaves are stripped off for fodder; the tops will answer for brooms, like broom

corn, and even the refuse cane is said to make a good article of paper. It is a fine article for green fodder, it is so rich in saccharine matter cows, pigs, and even horses will eat the stalks as well as the leaves with the greatest avidity. The seed when ripened is good for fowls, pigs, &c. I believe it to be one of the most valuable articles that has been introduced for many years, second in importance to few things a farmer can grow. It is very desirable that it should be more extensively grown another year, and careful experiments made with it, so as to determine its comparative value as a field crop. I hope we may hear from others who have raised it, that we may better judge of its value on different soils and under different circumstances."

The American Agriculturist of the present month says :

We now incline to the opinion that the Sorghum Saccharum will not only prove profitable for sugar making, but that it will in a measure, take the place of the sugar cane itself. How far north it may be grown for this purpose is yet to be determined.

Everything considered, we advise a pretty general trial of the Sorghum next season.

A small quantity of seed sown in a drill or planted in hills, will require but little care or expense. There is no necessity for paying much for the seed. It is now pretty well scattered over the country.

\*The literal meaning of Sorghum Saccharum, is broom-corn-sugar-cane—the plant resembling broom-corn in its appearance, and sugar-cane in the sweetness of the sap or juice. The words are pronounced sor-gum sak-ka-rum, both words being accented upon the first syllable.

#### The Lawton Blackberry.

Some years since there was discovered on a farm in New Rochelle, near New York city, a blackberry plant, which yielded extraordinary crops of large and fine fruit. It was afterwards carefully cultivated, and numerous plants taken therefrom, which like the parent plant, made a surprising yield of superior and beautiful fruit.

Within the last four or five years the plant has been extensively propagated; and it has under all circumstances sustained its original reputation. The *Phrenological Journal* thus speaks of it:

"It is an entirely distinct variety of the blackberry. It thrives in almost any soil. It grows

and being always healthy and free from blemish, it is an embellishment to the garden."

Mr. CHARLES DOWNING visited the garden of Mr. LAWTON, when the plants were in fruit, and thus gives his testimony:

"There is no humbug about this plant. The fruit is large and sweet. It is an enormous bearer; indeed the quantity (considering the large size of the fruit,) surprised me, and the berries are perfect. Mr. Lawton informed me that they continue in bearing five or six weeks, and in favorable situations much longer.

"As to its size, it will surprise most persons who see it for the first time. We saw several stalks bearing from five to eight quarts. A quart of them numbered one hundred and one berries. We selected seventy two, which filled a quart measure."

The *American Agriculturist*, (R. L. ALLEN, editor,) thus describes the plant:

"The vines grow quite large, many of them over an inch in diameter, and the fruit hangs in clusters, in size more like very large green gage plums, than like the ordinary blackberry. The flavor is not apparently diminished by its large size, and the few seeds is not its least recommendation. We think this berry a valuable acquisition to our domestic fruits, and worthy of a place in every garden."

R. S. PARDEE, a distinguished horticulturist, in writing "on the blackberry," says:

"There is only one variety we know enough about to strongly recommend for cultivation, and that is the New Rochelle or Lawton blackberry, and we believe is well worthy of extended cultivation by the public. Some growers this season have readily contracted their whole crop of this fruit in New York for 37½ cents per quart."

We add the opinion of the *Horticulturist* on the Lawton blackberry:

"From what we have seen and heard of this fruit it cannot fail to be an object of very profitable cultivation within any reasonable distance of large cities. It ripens after strawberries and raspberries and before peaches, and therefore comes most opportunely as to season, and then its cultivation must be of the easiest possible kind."

Messrs. FRANCIS & BARRELL have a few of these plants for sale.

#### Good Treatment of Hens.

Eggs at this season of the year are scarce and dear. They are worth now 20 cents a dozen and will be higher. If farmers were to take the necessary care of their hens, they would largely increase the number of eggs, which would be a source of profit. This is not so difficult as one may suppose. Some valuable hints are furnished in the following article from the *Country Gentleman*.

"We have long been firmly persuaded of

the truth of the proposition with which we began, viz., that hens will furnish eggs very nearly in the same measure that they are furnished with food, lime, &c., &c.; but this truth never made the deep impression which it did when some facts giving evidence and illustration of it were brought under more immediate observation. The hired man at one place was working and conversing with the hired man on another farm; when one of them happened to mention something in regard to the nice eggs which he had every day. The other said at the house where he lived they had scarcely had an egg all winter.

This great difference in two neighboring flocks having attracted our attention, we made some inquiries as to the modes of management, and in the difference in that respect we found a complete explanation of the difference between half of a whole flock laying every day through the winter, and another flock of the same breeds furnishing hardly a single layer. In almost every particular in the management of these two neighboring flocks there was a very marked contrast. For example, while the one had only a small space in the upper part of a pretty open stable into which both wind and snow could find their way quite freely; the other flock had their roosting place in a warm, well sheltered barn-cellar which was open to the South, and closed on all other sides. And while the one was thus much better defended against the winds and cold of wintry nights than the other, there was as great a contrast in their opportunities for comfort during the day. While the one had nowhere to scratch or exercise during the long months while the earth was covered with snow, save the top of the manure heap, or the inside of the stable while the cattle were out of it during the day, the other flock had abundance of room and chance to scratch and exercise in lots of lime and gravel and leached ashes with which the floor of the open cellar was kept well supplied. Then, again, while the one never had a drop of drink of any kind, the other had water and milk, with pieces of buckwheat cakes, potatoes, and other fragments from the table soaked in it, every day. And, as to food, while the one had only a small portion of corn once a day, the other had a great variety and that regularity twice a day. To provide fowls of the latter flock with lime so essential to the formation of shells, they were supplied with a shovelful every day from a large box of lime, sand and gravel, which had been provided for this purpose, before winter, and also with egg-shells pounded and mixed

with other fragments from the table. The reason why eggs were scarce in the one case and plenty in the other, was obvious enough when these items in treatment were made known.

#### Fall management of Bees.

1. You doubtless looked careful about the hives, and in them during July and August, to see whether the bee-moth had laid its eggs in the cracks or corners near the bottom. If so, you removed them, of course. But if you neglected this inspection then, please make it now, and carefully observe what you see.

2. Look to see whether plundering is going on. In the fall, strong swarms have strong proclivities to robbery. They seize and appropriate all the honey of the weaker swarms that they can. Now you may detect this operation, by seeing whether great numbers of bees are passing from one hive to another. The remedies are various. The first is, to smother the weak swarms, and secure their honey. This is better than to allow robbery, or to leave the weak swarms to eat up the honey and then die of starvation. A better way is, to unite two weak swarms in one. This may be done in the following way:—Place the hive, in which you wish the bees to remain, bottom upwards on the ground, or on a table, where you can work easily. Place the hive from which you wish to expel them, right side up, directly on the inverted one; then, with tobacco smoke, or the smoke of a puff-ball, fumigate the upper hive. This may be done by boring a small hole in the side of the upper hive, and blow the smoke through with a good fumigator. In a few minutes the bees will be made senseless by the smoke, and drop down into the lower hive. A little smoke should be blown into the lower hive also, to render them insensible, and to give both swarms the same odor. Swarms thus united will rarely quarrel. If the united swarm has not honey enough they should be fed.

3. All weak swarms should be fed, so that they may have enough for winter. They should be fed now, so that they can lay up in store all they need for the winter. If the swarm has not from fifteen to twenty pounds of honey, it should be fed till the bees have that quantity. A little too much is better than any too little. Do not set the honey, with which you wish to feed the weak swarms, out where the rest of the swarms will reach it too; for in this way, the stronger swarms will get nearly all of it, and the swarm that needs it most, will of

course get next to none; besides, this course provokes all the strange swarms to plunder. The best mode we have been able to learn is the following:—Get some strong tin dishes made, 10 by 12, two inches deep, with perpendicular sides. Work out a board, 15 by 24 inches, plump inch thick; at two inches from one end, cut out a hole; the longest way, just the size of the dish; then fasten in the dish tight, so that no bees can get through, making the dish firm with cleats nailed to the under-side; then build a little rack, with slats two inches wide, running from front to rear, just as the comb above does; let the slats be about one-fourth of an inch thick, and half an inch apart; make this rack so that it will just fit into the tin dish; place it in the dish; pour in the honey at the bottom, as much as you think expedient, and place the dish under the hive. If the work has been well done, no bees from abroad can get in. The bees in the hive can go in and out at their ordinary place. They can go down and get the honey for food when they please, and without danger of being drowned; and they will be in no danger of building comb down in the dish itself. You can turn up the hive, now and then, and put in new honey for food, till you think the swarm has a sufficient supply for the winter. When the feeding is over, remove the dish, clear it out, and keep it for future use. It will last for several years; but if left under the hive, it may prove a burrow for the bee-moth.

#### English Cattle.

It is said by M. Richards in the Paris Siecle that at the great Paris Fair the English cattle took the lead. The Durhams, Ayreshires, Herefords and Devons, were there on show and all made a fine appearance. But he gives the preference to the Angus breed. There were thirteen males and 26 females of this breed on the grounds and all bore a remarkable similarity of character. He thinks they will supercede the Durhams. They are from the counties of Farfar and Kincardine; are generally without horns, of different colors but mostly black with white spots.—*Valley Farmer.*

#### Advice to young Farmers.

Allow me to say, to young farmers especially let us be studious and inquisitive, as well as laborious; let us be simple and frugal in our habits; and avoid useless expenditures; leave fine dress; and fast horses, and showy dwellings to those who really need such things to recommend them. Let us ever remember that for health and substantial wealth, for rare opportunities, self-improvement, for long life, and real independence, farming is the best business in the world.—*Goldwait.*

### Value of Sheep to the Farmer.

It is of more importance to the farmer than is generally supposed, that a certain proportion of his farm stock should consist of sheep. Speaking on the point, R. S. Fay, of Lynn, recently remarked at an Agricultural meeting in Boston, (as reported in the N. E. Farmer,) "Sheep are gleaners after other stock, and will help keep the cattle pastures in good condition by being turned into them occasionally, to eat the coarser plants which have been left. They will enrich the land. There is no manure so fertilizing as that of sheep; and it does not so readily waste by exposure as that of other animals. Sheep may be made exceedingly useful in helping to prepare land for a crop. A German agriculturist has calculated that the droppings from one thousand sheep during a single night would manure an acre sufficiently. By that rule a farmer may determine how long to keep any given number of sheep on a particular piece of land. Mr. Fay said he was accustomed to fold his sheep upon land which he designed for corn and other crops; and in so doing he shut them upon half an acre at a time, keeping them there by a wire fence, which was easily moved from place to place. In this way his land was well manured without the labor of shoveling and carting." These ideas are worth reading by the farmer. We believe any farm will bear a certain number of sheep, in proportion to other stock, not only without loss to the amount of grazing which it will yield to the horses and cattle, but to the increase of the same. Mr. Fay, by his management, makes the lambs and manure pay for keeping the sheep, and the wool is clear profit.

**REMEDY FOR SWEENEY.**—Mr. J. H. Shepperd of Milo Centre, New York, says that he has found the following remedy for sweeney very effectual, and confidently recommends its trial by others.

"Take equal parts balsam of Sulphur and spirits of turpentine. Mix, apply, and hold a hot iron near enough to heat but not scorch. Apply every other day until a cure is effected—usually from ten days to two weeks. The animal can be worked 'right along' during the treatment."

**PAINTING FARM IMPLEMENTS.**—A great saving may be made by keeping implements constantly under shelter not in use. But this is nearly impossible; and besides, many of them must of necessity be exposed during their employment; to many days of hot sun and occasional showers. It is therefore very important to keep them well painted. As a general average, they will last twice as long by the protection of a coat of paint, renewed as it is worn off—*Monmouth Advertiser.*

### Domestic Receipts.

**CREAM TARTAR CAKE.**—Half cup of butter, two of sugar, three of flour, three eggs, two spoonfuls of cream tartar, one do. soda, dissolved in one teacupful of milk, one tablespoonful of flavoring. Stir together quickly and bake in a quick oven.

**HOW TO MEND CHINA.**—We cut the following invaluable recipe for mending china from an English almanac. It is thus made: Take a very thick solution of gum arabic in water, and stir into it plaster of Paris until the mixture becomes a viscous paste. Apply it with a brush to the fractured edges, and stick them together. In three days the article cannot be broken in the same place. The witness of the cement renders it doubly valuable.

**CHEAP LEMON FLAVOR.**—When lemons are plenty, procure a quantity, cut them into thin slices, and lay them on plates to dry in the oven; when dry, put them into a tight bag, or close vessel, in the store room, where they are both handy and agreeable for almost anything.

**HOW TO MAKE TEA PROPERLY.**—The proper way to make a cup of good tea is a matter of some importance. The plan which I have practiced for these twelve months is this: The pot is at once filled up with boiling water, then the tea is put into the pot, and is allowed to stand for five minutes before it is used; the leaves gradually absorb the water and as gradually sink to the bottom; the result is the tea leaves are not scalded, as they are when boiling water is poured over them, and you will get all the true flavor of the tea. In truth, much less tea is required in this way than under the old and common practice.

**LEMON BUTTER.**—Twelve eggs, 6 lemons, 2 pounds of white sugar, 2 oz. butter. Rub the butter and sugar to a cream, beat the white and yolks separate, grate the rinds of the lemons; mix the yolks with the butter and sugar over a slow fire, then stir in the whites and it is ready for use. Set away until cold. It makes a very nice sauce.

**PRICE OF WOOL.**—There has been a steady rise in the price of wool ever since May, with no prospect of a decline. This should induce farmers to take good care of their sheep during the winter. The wools of Jefferson and Harrison are now selling at home for from 55 to 60 cts. a pound, and the fine wools of Washington county, Pennsylvania, are held at 65 cents Goodale & Co., Cleveland, have furnished us with the following:—"The wool market presents an upward tendency; our sales amount to over 200,000 lbs. within the last three days, at an advance over former prices. We are anticipating still further advances between this and February, owing to the short supply on the market; but not owing to any ability of the manufacturers to pay higher prices, for it is evident that wools bear much higher rates in proportion, than woolen goods."—*Ohio Farmer.*

**ES.** Lieutenant Maury declines the Cross of Knighthood which was tendered him by the King of Denmark.

From the American Agriculturist.

### Hints on Wintering Bees.

In response to your request, I will offer a few suggestions on keeping bees during Winter, without stopping to give all the reasons for the positions assumed.

To ensure success, the first thing to be attended to is, to see that you begin the winter with none but *good* stocks. It will not do to consider a stock good because it has thrown off swarms, stored surplus honey, &c.; but it is important to know its condition now. This must be learned by close inspection. Turn the hive over on a cool morning, so carefully as not to arouse the bees. Should they chance to be disturbed they may be quieted by tobacco smoke blown among them. The best stocks will show bees between nearly all the combs, unless the number of combs exceeds a dozen. Where they are found only between three or four combs, the most favorable circumstances will be required to get them through the Winter. Without superior accommodations such should be taken up, and thus save further trouble and vexation.

The brood combs of old stocks should also be examined, to see that they contain no foul or diseased brood. Such old stocks, when healthy, are just as good as young swarms, and will stand the cold even better.

As soon as the sunny days of Autumn are past, so that there is no danger of the bees being tempted out, the hives intended for winter should be moved to their quarters, unless they already stand in a suitable place.

When but few are kept, it is generally advisable to winter in the open air. Choose a warm place in the sun, yes, in the sun, where it can strike the hive an hour or two each day.

Many people are alarmed at seeing a few bees lying dead upon the snow during Winter, and there is a prevalent idea that they get "snow blind," and fall down to perish. This is an error, for a close examination will show that just as many perish upon the bare ground, only that they are not so readily seen as when on snow. I have frequently taken them out from their winters in the house, when the snow covered the ground, in many places two feet in depth, and yet lost a less number than at many other times when the ground was bare.

A light snow, newly fallen, is somewhat fatal, should the next day or two be still and pleasant to tempt them out. If they settle on such snow, it will not support their

weight,—they sink below reach of the sun, get chilled and perish. A hard crust or melting show is "terra firma" to a bee. In case of a light snow put up a board to shade the hive, and should the air be sufficiently mild for them to leave when thus shaded, it will generally do to remove the board and allow them to fly—the majority will return. The entrance should be secured against mice and yet allow sufficient ventilation, a greater amount of which is required than is usually supposed. Small pieces or strips of wire cloth, partially covering the entrance, are just the things. These should be fastened with carpet tacks in such a manner that the bees may pass, and still the mice not be admitted.

To get rid of the vapor that is continually passing off from the bees, which often moulds the combs and spoils the honey, make half-a-dozen or more inch holes through the top, and cover with an empty box, in such a way as to keep out rain snow, and mice.

When fully ventilated and secured from the mice, they may be covered two feet with snow and no harm will be done. A little snow only around the bottom is not so well.

Where fifty or more stocks are kept, I would recommend a small, dark, warm room, or dry cellar. A much less number will not be likely to keep the temperature sufficiently high. Very little air admitted is sufficient. To get rid of the moisture, the hive should be turned bottom upward upon shelves, with little blocks under to raise them an inch from the shelf—the holes in the top being left open to allow free circulation of air. By having several tiers of shelves, one above another, a great many may be packed in one room; I have frequently put in two hundred on three tiers of shelves, in a room twelve by eighteen feet. The number will keep such a room above the freezing point at most times. But if the room cannot be kept uniformly warm by the number of stocks, or by other means, I prefer leaving bees out of doors, though housing is preferable with a large number.

M. QUINBY.

St. Johnsville, N. Y., Oct., 1856.

### Be Faithful to every Trust.

In those scenes of confusion, fright, horror and agony, which took place on the Atlantic steamer Arctic, which struck another steamer and sunk in four hours, carrying down three hundred persons, there is one act, between the time of her accident and her sinking which looms up with a mournful grandeur never to be forgotten, the firing of the signal gun. This duty belonged to Stewart Holland, a young man of the engineering department, who, when all his comrades deserted the ship, faced the danger and stood at his post.

"About two hours after the Arctic was

struck the firing of the gun attracted my attention, says the third mate, "and I recollect when I saw Stewart, it struck me as remarkably strange that he alone, of all belonging to the engineering body, should be there. He must have had a good chance to go in the chief engineer's boat, and be saved; but he did not, it seems, make the slightest exertions to save himself, while there was duty to be done on shipboard. I recollect that, about an hour before the ship sunk, I was hurriedly searching for spikes with which to make a raft. I had just passed through the saloon; on the sofa were men who had fainted, and there were many of them too: the ladies were in little groups, clasped together, strangely quiet and resigned. And as I came out again, the scene that presented itself was one that I hope never to see again. Here and there were strong, stout men on their knees in the attitude of prayer; and others, who, when spoken to, were immovable, stupefied. In the midst of this scene, Stewart came running up to me, crying, 'Dorian, my powder is out, I want more, give me the key.' 'Never mind the key,' I replied, 'take an axe and break open the door.' He snatched one close beside me, and down into the ship's hold he dived, and I went over the ship's side to my raft. I recollect distinctly his appearance as he once more hailed me from the deck; the right side of his face was black with powder, and when he spoke, his face seemed to me to lighted up with a quiet smile."

During all those terrible hours of anxiety and dread, his signal gun boomed over the wild waters, telling its fearful story of distress, of danger and of death. His comrades fled, strong men quailed, and cries of agony went up to heaven, but Stewart never flinched; and his last act when the ship went down, was to fire his signal gun, in the lingering hope that some passing sail might yet learn their danger and come to their rescue. "His whole conduct can be accounted for by the simple word duty, and nothing else." It was this which gave him his calmness, and inspired him with courage, and made him superior to every consideration of personal safety, causing the name of Stewart Holland to be pronounced all over this great land with admiration and reverence.

Let every boy know and feel the sacred responsibility which is attached to the post of duty, and let him never desert it. If all the men composing the crew of the ill-fated Arctic had stood by the ship and her captain, and manfully done their duty, every

passenger might have been provided with the means of escape, either in the boats or on rafts, and the public would have had the satisfaction of knowing that all had been done that brave and faithful men could do for the safety of the unfortunates. As it was, their posts of duty were deserted, and hundreds consequently found an ocean grave. Let it early in life become the watchword of every boy, 'Faithful to duty.'

#### Millet.

*Mr. Editor:* W. B. shall hear from one old farmer who has raised millet in Illinois years ago.

In the year 1838 I received a little of the seeds in a letter from York State, and sowed it every year until I had about half an acre, that was so heavy that I could not cradle it conveniently, so I mowed and raked it with a horse rake. I should think I had about four tons to the acre, and very excellent for horses as it was hay and grain together.

This is the beauty of it; that the seeds are mostly ripe while the leaves are green. It is a hardy plant and easily raised, but I never before heard of the seed being hard to eradicate. I know I had no such trouble with it. I think some people are very foolish about weeds. For instance; one of my neighbors said that *mustard* was a bad weed. We think it a very good one. But I do not like the *jamestown weed*, nor *cockle burr*, nor the little burr we used to call *tory weed*. I began farming in Illinois in Greene Co., in 1836 on clear prairie, and I told my neighbors I was going to keep my land clear of weeds, and I did do it for several years. I also told them we ought to have iron plows, and this has proved to be a fact though they told me they had been tried and would not do.

There is another, (or rather is to be) simple machine that will be an immense advantage to farmers and will take the place of our present reapers and thrashers.

Loami, Sept. 20, 1856.

W. G.

#### Preserve your young Trees.

*Editor of the Farmer:*

I am afraid of applying coal tar or grease of any kind to the bodies of young apple trees to preserve them from injury by mice. I think such applications will injure the trees. It may preserve them from the mice, but I fear may be fatal to the trees. My plan is to tear all grass and trash away from about the roots of the trees, so that there will be no harbor for mice. Mice in such case will not remain about the trees. An additional preventive would be to raise a mound of earth about the roots—say six inches high—to be taken away in the spring. I have no idea, that any man will have reason to complain of mice destroying his trees if he give them this care. PEARMAIN.

## Mice.

*Mr. Editor:*

I notice in the Nov. No. of the Illinois Farmer the enquiry, "how are the trees to be protected from the ravages of mice." It is not difficult if properly attended to. In Autumn mound up the earth from 12 to 18 inches high around the trees packing it hard leaving the sides as near perpendicular as will stand. Immediately after each snow fall, tread the snow around the trees. This attended to the mice will not trouble the trees.

LEWIS ELLSWORTH.

Du Page county Nurseries

Naperville, Ill. Nov. 24th 1856.

## EGGS! EGGS!

At this season of the year there is a great demand for eggs, and they are always at this time scarce and the price high. In our Farmer we have told ladies how they can preserve eggs the whole year, at little expense. It can be easily done. When eggs are plenty and fresh, they can be preserved in pots and kegs, if covered with lime water, and the vessels placed in a cool cellar. We have seen eggs kept perfectly good a whole year in this manner. They can be put up when at a low price, and can be sold in the winter when they are worth 25 or 30 cents a dozen. The time however, has gone by for putting up eggs. They are now worth in market 25 and 30 cents a dozen.

This state of the egg market constantly occurs once a year. But we have no idea that one person out of a thousand will heed the advice we give them—to lay by eggs next summer in the way we have spoken of, for use the succeeding winter. That portion of the people who profit by present and past experience, is very small. \*

**To FATTEN FOWLS.**—Fowls may be fattened in four or five days by the following process:—Set some rice over the fire with some skimmed milk, as much only as would serve one day.—Let it boil till the rice is swelled out; and a teaspoonful of sugar. Feed the fowls four or five times a day in pans, and give them as much each time as will fill them. Great care must be taken that they have nothing sour given them, as that prevents their fattening. Give them clean water or milk from rice to drink. By this method the flesh will have a clear whiteness.

☞ The State of Illinois has the largest coal area on our continent, and greater by 56,695 miles than the whole coal area of Europe.

THE ILLINOIS  
STATE JOURNAL.

*A Literary and News Journal for the Family and Fireside.*

## PROSPECTUS FOR 1857.

In presenting our Prospectus for the coming year, we take occasion to return thanks for the very liberal patronage bestowed upon the *Daily and Weekly Journal*, since the paper passed into our hands. We have endeavored to keep pace with this increase, by a corresponding effort upon our part to make the *Journal* still more worthy of public favor and support.—In the amount and variety of reading matter furnished, it stands unrivalled by any competitor in Illinois, and having recently at great expense, clothed it in an entirely new and beautiful dress, we flatter ourselves that its typography and general appearance is likewise superior. Of this however, it does not become us to speak at length—every reader can judge for himself.

A heated partisan contest, just ended, has prevented our paying as much attention to pleasing the palate of the general reader as could have been desired. We design to make up for this in the future, and intend to serve up every week such a pleasant variety as shall make the *Journal* a welcome visitor into every family.

Our contents for 1857, we need scarcely say, will be as varied as the Life with which we keep pace. Time and the ever changing World are the great baskets out of which we pick Wisdom and Amusement as we go—the exhaustless variety of event and novelty assuring, to us and to our readers, exhaustless themes and subjects of interest.

LITERATURE, GENERAL NEWS, and interesting MISCELLANEOUS READING will occupy much of our space.

We design making the *Journal* emphatically and especially a **Newspaper for the Family and the Fireside.** Containing Literary Tales, Biographical Notices, Sketches of Character, Letters from Abroad, Anecdotes, and generally whatever will be most entertaining and most instructive to the great mass of Newspaper Readers.

In addition to its Literary and Miscellaneous character the *Weekly Journal* will give, in a clear and condensed form,

**All the News of the Day,**

From all quarters of the world, and in all departments of activity,—embracing

**Agricultural, Commercial and Financial Intelligence,**

Prepared expressly for its columns, and for the use of those in all parts of the country who wish to be kept informed upon all these topics.

**The Doings of Congress,**

With a synopsis of all important documents, valuable speeches, and full reports of the proceedings of the

**Illinois Legislature,**

For which purpose we have engaged the services of a corps of the best short hand reporters in the west. We have likewise made arrangements for the receipt of daily intelligence from every quarter by means of

**The Magnetic Telegraph,**

An enterprise never before undertaken in this city, and which will involve a large outlay of expense upon our part.

**The Markets,**

Shall constantly receive our especial attention; and we intend to give every week, in addition to our home market, the latest reports of the markets of New York, Chicago, St. Louis, and other prominent points, as well as

**The Cattle Markets,**

Of every point interesting to our readers.

The *Weekly Journal* will be sent to subscribers by mail, on the following

**Terms:**

One Copy, one year, for.....	\$2
Three Copies, " " .....	5
Ten " " " .....	15

Payable in advance. Any person sending us ten subscribers and \$15, shall be entitled to extra copy for his trouble.

**\$75 In Premiums!**

We desire to enter on the new year with a largely increased subscription, and to reach a circulation of 10,000 copies per week before its close. This we are sure can be done by a little effort on the part of those who now take the *JOURNAL*, and who appreciate its general character. As a stimulant to our friends, and especially to the young people, we offer the following CASH PREMIUMS for subscribers:

To the person who will send us the largest amount of money for subscriptions between the issue of this number and the first of February next, we will give *twenty-five dollars*.

To the persons sending us the *two* next largest amounts *ten dollars* each.

And to the persons who may send the *six* next largest amounts, *five dollars* each, as follows:

1st prize .....	\$25
2d " .....	10
3d " .....	10
4th " .....	5
5th " .....	5
6th " .....	5
7th " .....	5
8th " .....	5
9th " .....	5

Total \$75

Those who may contend for the above premiums unsuccessfully may obtain the following:

Every person who sends us fifteen subscribers, with the cash, shall be furnished with a copy of Godey's *Lady's Book*, or *Harper's Magazine*, for one year. These Magazines are each sold at three dollars a year.

For terms of the paper see prospectus in another column. Persons who design competing for the premiums we offer will please notify us of the fact when making remittances.

We hope our friends will now put their shoulders to the wheel, and by a combined effort give to the *JOURNAL* such a circulation as it may be entitled in their opinion to receive. We have no traveling agents, and are compelled to rely upon friends to aid us in this matter.

Address:

**BAILHACHE & BAKER,**

*Publishers Journal Springfield, Illinois.*

**The Illinois Farmer.**

This is the last number of the 1st volume. There are some few subscribers who have not found it convenient to pay for it; these it is hoped will promptly remit pay for the 1st and 2nd volume.

We appeal to the friends of Agriculture to send us, at this time, a helping hand.—We believe our paper will be worth to them far more than its cost. They can extend its circulation greatly with little effort. Few farmers, when its character is properly presented to them, will refuse to subscribe for it. We

want a sufficient subscription to enable our printers to do their work well, and afford a stimulant for editorial exertion.

Our prospectus for the next volume will be found on our first page. We respectfully invite the readers' special attention to it. If we can have a subscription for ten thousand copies to begin the next volume with, we shall be most happy. We ought to have this number.

The general subscription terms are the same as heretofore;—for five copies and over 75 cents each, and one copy extra will be sent in every package which contains fifteen or more numbers.

We expect through your kindness, reader to double the present subscription of the *Farmer*;—whether we will or not, depends entirely on the active efforts of those who read and like the *Farmer*.

Send in the subscriptions as soon as possible.

**Send us Names.**

Will our friends, who feel interested in the *Illinois Farmer*, be good enough to furnish us with the names and Post Office address, of such persons—10, 15, or 100—as would be likely to want to read the *Illinois Farmer*, that we may furnish them with specimen numbers?

**Your Fall Work!**

Is this all done? Are your arrangements made for sheltering and feeding your stock? The winter may prove severe and long. Have you everything in your power as food for your cattle, horses, sheep and hogs?

Vegetables which are out must not remain unprotected. Cover your potatoe heaps with straw and with earth, alternately, until they will be entirely safe from frosts.—Do this also for your cabbage, beets apples, &c. A little neglect now will be ruinous.

Have you made arrangements for your wood; for schools;—for winter reading? And withal, in finishing up your fall work, do not forget that your subscription for the *Illinois Farmer* is out, and, we look to you to double its circulation the coming year. Shall we not hear from you?

# EDITORIAL NOTICES.

## Illinois State Agricultural Society.

The Executive Board of the Illinois State Agricultural Society will meet at Springfield, on Tuesday, the 6th of January next, to complete all unfinished business, prior to the election of a new Board.

The regular biennial election for officers of the Society, will take place on Wednesday, the 7th January, being the time prescribed by the constitution.

H. C. JOHNS, President.

DECATUR, Dec. 1, 1856.

## Transactions of Ill. State Agricultural Society-

VOL. II.

The Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society has authorized the preparation of a Second Volume of Transactions, to be submitted to the Legislature at the opening of the session—January, 1857.

In this connection the undersigned solicits the co-operation of the friends of industrial progress, and especially the officers, and judging committees at fairs, of our county, and other associations in Illinois.

Premiums are offered for the best Essays, and the undersigned believes that copies of the first and second volumes will be awarded for every report, or brief practical article accepted, for the pages of the forthcoming work.

Premium treatises are not to exceed ten pages of the volume, and must be sent to the Corresponding Secretary, at West Northfield, before the first of December. Papers on other subjects, and reports of committees may be delayed till the 15th of December, and should be carefully written, on one side of the paper only. Five pages of the last two years reports and proceedings, will be sufficient from a County Society; and it is hoped that each Society will furnish at least two pages, which should not include awards, except in cases of special merit, and then the committees' reports should contain them. Extracts from original addresses, before County Societies, may be furnished with the proceedings; and a brief history of the rise, progress, and condition of the association, should be prepared by the reporting officers.

Good friends and co-laborers, let us not lack material for a volume which will be useful and creditable to the State. The writer, who is entrusted with the preparation, is now able to work, and will try to do his part; and should he have any hand in the publication, will endeavor to do the contributors better justice than in the first hurried, but still valuable book. I will only add, that, we have every reason to believe that the Legislature will order the printing,—with engraved plates of the Grasses, &c., of Illinois, by one of the best draughtsmen and botanists of the West, who has kindly offered to write descriptions and prepare delineations for the volume.

Respectfully,

JOHN A. KENNICOTT,

Corresponding Secretary Ill. State Ag. Society.

## Premiums at the State Fair.

Those who were awarded diplomas at the State Fair are informed that they are now ready, and will be sent to order, by S. FRANCO, Recording Secretary, Springfield, Illinois. The medals will be ready about the end of December—at least such notice was given by the President, Dr. H. C. JOHNS, of Decatur, Illinois.

 We shall be under great obligations to our brethren of the press, if they will copy or notice the prospectus for the 2d Volume of the ILLINOIS FARMER. We will reciprocate when opportunity offers.

## British and Foreign Agriculture.

The London Farmer's Magazine has an interesting article on this subject. It assumes for the fact that Russia, France, Belgium, and the rest of the European continent, are making efforts to develop their whole agricultural resources. Russia, especially, will make great and unusual efforts for this purpose. Railways are to pervade that empire, and her exports in grain are to be directed to England; and, it is suggested that they may in a short time be greater than the demand. Population may increase, but it is supposed that the production of grain will fairly outstrip it in the race, if the nations but set about the task in earnest. It is not believed that England, with her worn out soil, with crops which barely pay the cost of their production, can successfully compete, especially with Russia, in the production of grain.

The London Farmer goes on further to state, that England is losing the advantages which rightfully belongs to her in having originated several valuable races of cattle. Reference is made to the pure Short Horns. It says that the best of these animals are taken to the United States and Europe, especially to France. In two short years France had made greater advances in stock and grain raising, than England had done in twenty. France was purchasing the best English cattle and sheep without regard to price. This exportation was a serious injury to the Agriculture of England. Mongrel breeds existed in that kingdom in every direction. It had been often told that a boy cut open his goose to secure her golden eggs; but English Agriculturists had committed a great folly, by parting with the goose and eggs together. England, by the indomitable spirit of its cultivators and breeders had achieved a pre-eminence in stock that no other nation had arrived at; but other nations were starting in the race with the very animals thus produced, and ere long England might be overtaken and surpassed.

So speaks the great agricultural press of England; and it furnishes facts for our consideration. It is true we have some of the

most valuable stock animals ever raised in England; and, at the recent State fair in Kentucky, a larger number of fine cattle were exhibited than were ever seen at any of the fairs in England. We have now as good stock as there is in the world, and such is the ambition of our farmers, that it will be soon scattered into most parts of the Union.

We apprehend that in a very short time there will be a surplus of wheat grown in Europe. It is within the power of European agriculturists to do this. We have the satisfaction of knowing, however, that in that case we shall be likely still to have a good market in this country. The mouths to feed may increase as fast as the increase of grain; and in case that should not prove to be the fact, we can very readily change the production of wheat to other crops. In the production of wheat for the European market, Russia is likely to be our great rival.

#### The Rhubarb Plant.

This plant has rapidly come into use as a material for making tarts, preserves, and wine. In looking over a work on gardening published in 1820, it says of the "common Rhubarb:

"This may be propagated by seeds or offsets; they are to be sown or planted about two feet apart each way. When the leaves make their first appearance in spring they come forward like round balls, the size of a large hickory nut, and are nearly equal to gooseberries for tarts, &c."

The "common rhubarb" of 1820 would not compare in size or excellence with the same plant at the present day. It was then quite small and the buds were only used. It was cultivated in gardens more as a curiosity than as an article of profit. It was found on trial that the stalks were just as good for use as the buds.—The plant was then highly cultivated, improved, in size, and by constant planting of seeds and hybridizing we have at length plants that produce monstrous foliage—a single stalk being sometimes eight and ten inches in circumference and weighing several pounds. This

has been done by high cultivation in grounds made excessively rich by manure.

There has been much prejudice against the use of this rhubarb as an article of food. It is too near a relation to the rhubarb of medicine to please the fancy of many. But this prejudice is fast passing away. Those who have used the article most liberally, give their testimony in its favor as a desirable and healthful plant.

The history of the "common rhubarb" is something like that of the potatoe. That was first cultivated in gardens for its flowers; and it was many years after this that the tubers were used for food. And so of the Beet. That vegetable was first grown in gardens on account of the beautiful red color of the root. It is but few years since the tomatoe was also grown in gardens as a curiosity, under the name of "Love apple." It was beautiful to look at, but the smell was scarcely bearable. It is now one of the greatest luxuries of our gardens.

There are now many varieties of Rhubarb. Some of them come early, and these are not large. The larger are all later. There are some red varieties, but most are green. Cahoon's Colossal is the largest; but some say it is not the best. All these can be had at the Nurseries at from 25 cts. to one dollar a root.

Beds for Rhubarb should be well prepared. The ground should be moderately dry; it should be spaded a foot and a half deep, and the ground filled with well rotted manure; the plants should be placed two and a half feet apart, and kept clean of weeds. The first season, it would be well not to pluck the stalks; but if there is a fair growth, a few may be taken.

A dozen plants, well taken care of, will be sufficient for most families.

Wool.—This article is advancing in New York; and it is the belief of those who best understand the matter, that the consumption of the country has risen to the amount of production—a fact which should not be overlooked by those farmers who are engaged in wool raising. There is at present but a small stock of foreign wool in the country.

### State Fairs.

It would be useless for us to attempt to give satisfactory notices of all the State Fairs. Those of Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and our own, were never more successful. The St. Louis Fair was a splendid affair--rendered so by its splendid grounds and excellent features to show off the exhibition to the best advantage. No State Society can compete with an exhibition got up in the manner of that at St. Louis,—so far as the arrangement and display of articles is concerned.

### Items.

W. D. WARD has removed his jewelry and watch establishment to the north side of the square.

FRANCIS & BARRELL have a large supply of fresh Field, Garden and Flower Seeds, and a good stock of onion sets on hand for sale—all of the growth of 1856.

BROWN'S REAPER, which was used in this county the last season, is left for sale with Francis & Barrell. They have certificates from some of the best farmers, that after having used other reapers, this has given them entire satisfaction.

ATKINS' REAPER.—T. W. S. Kidd is the agent of Atkins' Self-Raking Reapers. Enquiries can be made of E. R. Pease & Co.

MANNY'S REAPER.—B. F. Fox is agent for this reaper; as also for Haine's Harvester.

FRANCIS & BARRELL have a good supply of Agricultural Implements for sale, and will largely increase their stock in the spring. Those persons who have purchased heretofore of them, are respectfully reminded that the time has come for payment.

J. H. CURRIER is agent for the sale of Palmer and Williams' Self-Raking Reaper.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—There has been a rapid decrease in the production of these articles within the last three years in Louisiana; and it is now a settled conviction in the minds of all that a supply of these articles for the consumption of the people of the United States cannot be produced in Louisiana. Hence the protection afforded by law to domestic sugar and molasses made from cane, by common consent, should be repealed.

MESSRS. EDITORS: We used BROWN'S MOWER AND REAPER (manufactured at Alton.) last season in cutting grain, and were entirely satisfied with its performance.

MARSH A. & MARTIN E. MOWREY.  
Nov. 7, 1856.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?—It is manifest that the water in our western rivers is annually decreasing. The public have been benefitted but little comparatively by steamboat navigation on the Illinois, within the last six months. The same fact can be stated of the Wabash river. The smaller rivers in Ohio, on which much boating business was formerly done, have entirely failed to furnish water for that purpose. The Ohio river, at Pittsburgh, has not been navigable for steamboats for six months. This fact is causing great distress among merchants and manufacturers. Several heavy iron establishments have stopped work, and the cotton manufacturers have only sufficient stock to keep going for two weeks longer. A large number of laborers are already out of employment. Citizens of Pittsburgh are preparing to improve the navigation of the river by slack water navigation as far down as the mouth of the Cumberland, at a cost of ten millions of dollars. It is fortunate that railroads can be made to do the transportation of the country,—although at a great increase of cost over river transportation.

FALL PLANTING OF TREES.—The season has been very unfavorable for this work, in this region. The ground has been too dry, and there was great risk in setting out trees. We have now had rain, but it is too late to plant out orchards. Those who have planted out trees would do well to raise mounds about them, to protect them from mice, as recommended by Mr. Ellsworth, in an article in this paper.

CHINESE SUGAR CANE.—There will be a great demand for this seed the coming season. The conviction is increasing that sugar and molasses can be made from this plant.

LARGE HOGS.—Mr. Wm. B. GRIFFITH, of this county, furnishes us with the following statement of the weight of 29 head of hogs raised by him and sold to Jacob M. GREGG. Fourteen weighed 4,486 lbs., and fifteen weighed 5,000, total 9,486 lbs. Average 327 3-29th lbs. Four were 12 months old, and 25 were 18 months old. Mr. Griffith wishes to hear of a finer lot. *Prairie Beacon, 5th.*

PORK.—One or two of our mercantile firms have commenced their yearly Pork operations. Happening at George Greer & Co.'s yesterday, we found them hard at it, and paying \$4 50 to \$5 09.—*Rushville Times, 5th.*

A celebrated wit was asked why he did not marry a young lady to whom he was much attached. "I know no reason," replied he, "excepting the great regard we have for each other."

From the Grayville (Ill.) Herald.

### The Chinese Sugar Cane in Southern Illinois, Great Success in its Culture.

Being requested by many to publish a statement, through the columns of your paper, of my experience with, and the value of the Chinese Sugar Cane, I therefore send you the following statement, which you will please insert:

On the 25th of May I planted about half an acre of ground, one year old. A portion of the soil was low and wet in the spring; in fact I covered the seed with mud; the other part was high and sandy; the consequence was when the dry season set in the wet part baked very hard, and the high burnt up for want of rain. I plowed it when about ten inches high, and that was all the working it got, with the exception of a slight hoeing previous to plowing; my object was to ascertain the amount of saccharine matter contained in the stalks, and supposed enough would grow to make the experiment. Many of the stalks grew from sixteen to twenty feet high, (in the low ground it only grew twelve feet.) Having made a mill on which to grind it, I commenced on the 24th of September. The cane then had received two or three frosts, which slightly injured the taste of the water.

I am convinced that the amount of stalks I used can be grown on less than a quarter of an acre. The amount of water obtained from the piece was 270 gallons; from which I made forty-five gallons, *which in flavor and beautiful bright red color, is far superior to any molasses obtained from the South.* I did not try to grain any of it, as it will not grain after being frosted; but I am convinced there will be no difficulty in graining it if tried previous to frost. If it is planted by the middle of May it will ripen by the end of August, and remain in good condition until frost, and if cut up and put in sheds, (in apprehension of frost,) it will keep well for a month or more.

I will give a statement of what may be made per acre, judging from the amount of water obtained from each stalk. One of my neighbors, Mr. A. Degan, obtained from seven choice stalks one gallon of water, and in another trial made by Mr. McCleary, sen., and myself, we pressed from ten stalks one gallon and a quart. The number of stalks in a hill should be from four to six. In my calculations I only estimate one quart of water to the hill, allowing sixteen hills per square rod, which will make 2,560 hills to the acre, and this, at one quart per hill, will make 640 gallons of water, which will make 110 gallons of molasses. Valued at 75 cents per gallon, it would amount to \$95 50 per acre, and I do not hesitate in saying that the amount may be doubled.

I would urge upon the farmers of the Western country to try it. You will not only save, but make money by the operation. *I am well convinced that in 1860 the Southern planter will have no sale for his sugar in the State of Illinois. From present indications there will be one hundred acres raised in Wabash county next year, which will save the county \$10,000.* The time to commence working the cane is when the seeds

have changed from a green to a dark red hue, although it will remain good until fairly matured.

J. M. KROH.

McCleary's Bluff, Wabash Co., Ill.

### Preparing food for Animals.

Mr. A. has from twenty to fifty swine to fatten. Mr. B. has eight to ten bullocks to prepare for the slaughter-house. Mr. C. has one hundred wethers, which he has contracted to Mr. D., the agent for the city-purveyors of fresh mutton. These wethers are to be in prime order and he is to be paid an extra price, if they overgo a given weight.

This fall, too, corn is scarce, and will be likely to command a high price. Of course, it is the interest of all these parties, to make their food go as far as possible, that is, to make a given amount of food produce the greatest amount of flesh and fat, on the animals. The question how this may be done; will involve the statement of several points. No one of these may be new to our experienced stock-feeders. But as the large majority of farmers, especially the young ones may not have thought of all the conditions of the highest success; we will state some things which are quite important:

1. The fattening animals should have good, wholesome air, and plenty of it.
2. They should be allowed to rest most of the time. Very gentle exercise is all they need.
3. They should have a clean resting places. Filth is always hostile to the best physical condition, whether of man or beast.
4. They should be kept in a tranquil, easy state of mind. We say "state of mind," designedly; for nothing is more clear to the careful observer than that animals have intelligence and feeling, and that anxiety and fear depress their physical condition, as certainly as they do that of man.
5. They should be placed where their temper will be as even as possible. For this reason, as the season advances, fattening animals should have suitable shelter, especially from cold winds, rains, and snow storms.

They should have plenty of the most nutritious food, adapted to the increase of their flesh and fat as rapidly as may be consistent with flesh and solidity. The grains are generally best adapted to this end, and accordingly they are generally used; but the condition in which they are used, in most cases, greatly lessens their value. In nine cases out of ten, we doubt not, grain is fed entire, that is, unground, and uncooked. This we are satisfied, is a great mistake, and in his opinion we are sustained by scientific writers, and by the most experienced stock-feeders in the county. Grain should be crushed and cooked, to yield the greatest amount of nourishment, with a given expenditure of digestive power. With the aid of a corn-crusher, and with the use of some convenient mode of steaming grain and vegetables, [Scott & Hedges' is altogether the best we have seen.] we have no doubt that a considerable saving may be made in the use of fattening food. But let our friends satisfy themselves. Let some one of them take two animals, as nearly alike in every respect as he can find;

then let him treat them in every respect alike; except that the grain fed to one has been crushed and steamed, while that fed to the other is in the kernel. At the end of two months, let him weigh both. The result will aid him in forming a sound judgment in the matter.

#### Give Hens meat.

Many persons complain that their hens will not lay, and that, notwithstanding their assiduity in furnishing them with all the articles ordinarily recommended to insure fecundity, the eggs they produce will not "half pay the expenses." Now, we presume there is something lacking, or the fowls would certainly not run their owners in debt. It is not generally understood, even by those who profess to be the most deeply versed in the mysteries of "henology," that the hen, being omnivorous, requires to insure fecundity a very liberal allowance of meat. When enjoying her liberty in the fields, pastures, or door-yards, the principal part of her sustenance is derived from insects, worms, etc. She takes but sparingly at such times of grain, and often when that article is supplied, leaves it for the more inviting food which nature always supplies her with in her favorite haunts.

Now, if we confine her where the natural propensity for this description of food cannot be gratified, even though we supply the best of grain, and in abundance, she will cease to lay. The privation effects her health, and will necessarily be an end to profit until the deficiency is supplied.

When fresh meat or fresh fish cannot be supplied, the common scraps of the butcher which are hard and compact and can be kept any length of time, answer all the desired purposes.—N. E. Farmer.

#### Raising Domestic Turkeys.

A writer in one of our agricultural journals says: It is my opinion that farmers can raise a pound of fowl easier and cheaper than a pound of pork. Heretofore I have been unfortunate in raising turkeys, but this year I have adopted a different mode—a plan of my own invention—by which I have been very successful. Others may have adopted the same course, but not to my knowledge.

Young turkeys are apt to die before they attain the age of three weeks. I came to the conclusion that the fatality among them was caused by vermin, heavy feed, and cold damp weather. My method this season has been as follows: Take the eggs of the first laying and set under barn-door hens; the second laying let the turkeys hatch. Two or three days before hatching sprinkle

the nest and the fowls themselves with a little fine powdered sulphur. When the young were hatched I took a little sulphur, and gunpowder, and lard mixed, and greased their heads and necks to keep off the vermin while the young brooded. In eight or ten days repeat the dose and put on another coat.

#### MODE OF FEEDING.

I took equal quantities of wheat, bran, and Indian corn, and wet with sour or loppered milk, with a good lot of fine cut shives once in two or three days in with it; and feed them till a month or six weeks old; then lessen the bran. Feed them early in the morning to keep them from rambling in the wet grass or dew.

Such has been my method of feeding and management, and I have lost only two out of forty hatched. Ducks managed in the same way meet with success.

#### Culture of the Cranberry.

The Banger (Maine) Courier, has the following in regard to the culture of the Cranberry in that region:

"Mr. Charles A. Snow, of Orrington, has presented us with a box of the finest cranberries we ever saw. For the past three years he has been experimenting in the cultivation of this fruit on a patch of bog near his house, and he has succeeded in bringing them to a higher state of perfection than those raised on the famous fields of Massachusetts. The muck is about two feet thick where the berries are raised, and a peice containing four square rods yielded him full ten bushels. He first scrapes off the moss, etc., from the surface, and scarfs out a place with a spade, into which he puts a plant, and he has no further trouble with them. In two or three years the bushes run together so that it impedes the growth of the berry, when he passes over the ground with a spade, and takes up alternate spadefuls and sets them out in some other place, or throws them aside. Mr. S. thinks that in time, by attention to cultivating them, he will raise still better cranberries than those he now harvests. He estimates that several hundred bushels may be raised on an acre. We see no reason why the culture of cranberries may not be made a profitable business in Maine, as there is no danger of overstocking the market, for every year adds to the consumption, and they are not raised at all in the South or in Europe, as we have been informed. We hope others may be induced to try the experiment.

### How to fatten Lambs for Market.

A correspondent of the *Maine Farmer*, says that Mr. Elisha Soper, of Orland, had for years fed grain to his sheep, for the purpose of forwarding his lambs, but received but little benefit therefrom. He at last thought there might be a better way, so he tried the experiment of feeding his lambs with oats, in a trough made by nailing two boards together, covering the ends, and raising it about six inches from the floor. He puts in the oats and leaves until the lambs learn to eat them, which, he says, they will do when about three weeks old. He leaves a passage for his lambs so small that his sheep cannot trouble them, both in his barn and in a yard made for the purpose after going to pasture, and continues to feed until he sells, which is in June. He has lambs ten weeks old that will dress fifteen pounds.

### Exhausting the Soil.

We read in America much of the exhausted soil of Europe. I have seen none of it. So far from being exhausted, I think the soil of Europe is now better than ever. How can soil be exhausted, which has for centuries received plentifully of manures, and manures made upon the best possible system? I think a little reflection, coupled with the proper observance of European agriculture, must lead to the conviction that the soil of Europe is constantly receiving more back in manures, &c., than is taken away in products. Of all farm products, the atmosphere and rains furnish the larger quantities of its component parts, and whenever a proper system of manuring exists, the ground must become constantly enriched.

In Europe, manure is the ever-present idea of the farmer, and by gathering all offals, and making manure in any conceivable way, he does not only by green manuring, such as plowing clover under but by stable factory, street, and dwelling manure, take good care to return to mother earth the rental she requires, and to do it without grudging and with compound interest. Soil is only there exhausted where crops are raised which are entirely removed, and of which nothing is returned to the soil for instance, tobacco. This is very little the case in Europe. The fine wheat crops which smile upon the traveler, as he is rushed past them by railraid speed, would be an impossibility, if the idea of exhaustion were true. The meadows, too, which are mown thrice every year, and each time give a good crop have been mown for ages, contradict this exhaustion theory. No! the European

farmer, and his land, are always on good terms with each other. The man yields good husbandry, and the land yields good crops.—Charles Reemelin, in *Ohio Farmer*.

### Stick to Your Business.

There is nothing which should be more frequently impressed upon the minds of young men than the importance of steadily pursuing one business. The frequent changing from one employment to another is one of the most common errors committed, and to it may be traced more than half the failures of men in business, and much of the discontent and disappointment that render life uncomfortable. It is a very common thing for a man to be dissatisfied with his business, and to desire to change it for some other, and what seems to him will prove a more lucrative employment; but in nine cases out of ten it is a mistake. Look round you, and you will find among your acquaintances abundant verification of our assertion.

Here is a young man who commenced life as a mechanic, but from some cause imagined that he ought to have been a doctor; and after a hasty and shallow preparation has taken up the saddle-bags only to find that work is still work and that his patients are no more profitable than his work-bench, and the occupation not a whit more agreeable.

Here are two young men, clerks; one of them is content, when his first term of service is over, to continue a clerk till he shall have saved enough to commence business on his own account; the other cannot wait, but starts off without capital and with a limited experience, and brings up after a few years in a court of insolvency, while his former comrade, by patient perseverance, comes out at last with a fortune.

That young lawyer who became disheartened because briefs and causes did not crowd upon him while he was yet redolent of calf-bound volumes, and had small use for red tape, who concluded that he had mistaken his calling, and so plunged into politics, finally settled down into the character of a middling pettifogger, scrambling for his daily bread.

There is an honest farmer who has toiled a few years, got his farm paid for, but does not grow rich very rapidly, as much for lack of contentment mingled with his industry as anything though he is not aware of it—he hears the wonderful stories of California, and how fortunes may be had for the trouble of picking them up, mortgages his farm to raise money, goes away to the land of gold, and after many months of hard toil, comes home to commence again at the bottom of the hill for a more weary and less successful climbing up again.

Mark the men in every community who are notorious for ability and equally notorious for never getting ahead, and you will usually find them to be those who never stick to any one business long, but are always forsaking their occupation just when it begins to be profitable.

Young man, stick to your business. It may be you have mistaken your calling—if so, find it out as quick as possible and change it; but

don't let any uneasy desire to get along fast, or a dislike of your calling lead you to abandon it. Have some honest calling, and then stick to it; if you are sticking type, stick away at them; if you are selling oysters, keep on selling them; if you are at the law, hold fast to that profession; pursue the business you have chosen, persistently, industriously, and hopefully, and if there is anything of you it will appear and turn to account in that as well or better than in any other calling; only if you are a loafer, forsake that line of life as quickly as possible, for the longer you stick to it, the worse it will "stick" to you."—*Hunt's Merchant's Magazine.*

### Song of the Season.

BY CHARLES MACKAY.

I heard the language of the trees,  
In the noons of the early summer;  
As the leaves were moved like rippling seas  
By the wind—a constant comer.  
It came and it went at its wanton will;  
And evermore loved to delay,  
With branch and flower, from the cope of the hill  
To the warm depths of the valley.  
The sunlight glow'd; the waters flow'd;  
The birds their music chanted,  
And the words of the trees on my senses fell,  
By a spirit of Beauty haunted;  
Said each to each, in mystic speech;—  
"The skies our branches nourish:  
The world is good—the world is fair—  
Let us enjoy and flourish!"

Again I heard the steadfast trees;  
The wintry winds were blowing;  
There seem'd a roar as of stormy seas,  
And of ships to the depths down-going;  
And every moan thro' the woods was blown,  
As the branches snapp'd asunder.  
And the long boughs swung like the frantic arms  
Of a crowd in afright and wonder.  
Heavily rattled the driving hail!  
And storm and flood combining,  
Laid bare the roots of mighty oaks  
Under the shingle twining.  
Said tree to tree, "These tempests free  
Our sap and strength shall nourish:  
Tho' the world be hard, tho' the world be cold,  
We can endure and flourish!"

### Apples for Human Food.

The importance of apples as food, has not hitherto been sufficiently estimated in this country, nor understood. Besides contributing a large portion of sugar, mucilage, and other nutritive matter, in the form of food, they contain such a fine combination of vegetable acids, extractive substances, and aromatic principles, with the nutritive matter, as to act powerfully in the capacity of refreshments, tonics, and antiseptics; and when freely used at the season of ripeness, by rural laborers and others, they prevent debility, strengthen digestion, correct the putrefactive tendencies of nitrogenous food, avert scurvy, and probably maintain and strengthen the powers of productive labor. The operatives of Cornwall, in England, consider apples nearly as nourishing as bread, and more so than potatoes. In the year 1801, a year of scarcity, apples, instead of being converted into cider, were sold to the poor; and the laborers asserted that they could stand to their work on baked apples without meat, whereas a potatoe diet required either meat or fish. The French and Germans use apples extensively; indeed, it is rare they sit down, in the rural districts without them in some shape or other, even at the best tables. The la-

borers and mechanics depend on them to a very great extent, and frequently dine on sliced apples and bread. Stewed with rice, cabbage, carrots, or by themselves, with a little sugar and milk, they make both a pleasant and nutritious dish. If our friends will only provide themselves with plenty of choice fruit, we will venture that not one man, woman or child in fifty would care for animal flesh to eat. Who doubts for a moment that many scrofulous and other diseases are traceable to a meat diet? It is well known that much of the meat we eat is in a diseased state when slaughtered, and its effect may be well imagined. Yet your fruit is always in a healthy state, and cannot generate disease in the human body.—*Water-Cure Journal.*

**CURE FOR FLESH WOUNDS IN HORSES.**—I have never found anything better for wounds on horses than human urine; keep it in a vessel until it grows stale, then with a swab tied to the end of a stick I wash the cut frequently; it has a tendency to cleanse and at the same time to heal the wound. I sometimes boil it up with Squaw or Blacksnake root, which makes it better. I find it excellent for galled shoulders or back, healing them up in a short time. I have seen the scratches or grease cured in a short time by washing the feet with urine in which a little salt had been thrown; the horse should have a dose of physic at the same time, to purify the blood. I esteem this remedy equal to any of the celebrated liniments of the day.—*Country Gentleman.*

**A LUXURY FOR ANIMALS.**—It is related of Rev. Sidney Smith, that when on his farm each cow and calf, and horse and pig, were in turn visited, and fed and patted, and all seemed to welcome him; he cared for their comforts as he cared for the comforts of every living being around him. He used to say: "I am for all cheap luxuries, even for animals; now all animals have a passion for scratching their back bones; they break down your gates and palings to effect this. Look! there is my universal scratcher, a sharp-edged pole, resting on a high and low post, adapted to every height from a horse to a lamb. Even the Edinburg Reviewer can take his turn, you have no idea how popular it is. I have not had a gate broken since I put it up. I have it in all my fields."

**GALLS ON HORSES, &c.**—One of the best means to prevent galls on horses is to wash the parts most liable to injury with whisky saturated with alum. We find in one of our exchanges the following receipt for an ointment for wounds and sores of all kinds, and for horses, when galled by the saddle or collar, and also for broken chillblains: Take of honey twelve ounces, yellow beeswax four ounces, compound galbanum plaster six ounces, sweet oil half a pint. Put the honey into a jar by the fire, then melt the other ingredients and mix them together, to be spread on very thin linn, and changed twice a day.—*Genesee Farmer.*

## COMMERCIAL.

## Springfield Market.

STATE JOURNAL OFFICE,  
Springfield, Dec. 9. }

There is a good demand for wheat, at quotations. All kinds of marketing scarce and in request.

FLOUR—Extra \$6 50; Extra White \$6; Superfine \$5 50.

WHEAT—Sales of Fair to Prime 80@85c for Red; 90c for White.

CORN—Sales of shelled at 35c.

OATS—Shippers offer 25c.

POTATOES—Sales at 1 1/2 bushel

HIDES—Dry Flint 10@11c.

BRAN—8c 1/2 bushel.

SHORTS—12c.

MARKETING—Chickens, \$1 25@1 50 1/2 doz. Butter, 15 @20c. Eggs 20c 1/2 doz. Onions, \$1 50 1/2 bu. Apples, \$1 25 @1 50c. Cabbages, \$10 1/2 hundred.

GROCERIES—Market unsettled. Sugar, 8@10c. Coffee, Rio, firm at 14@15c; Laraguira, 16c; Java 18@20c. Salt, 1/2 sack, \$2 75; N. Y. 1/2 bbl \$3 25. Molasses, N. O., 50c; Belchere's 70c; Golden Syrup, 90c. Rice, 10c.

## Chicago Market—December 5.

The market is very quiet. Owing to the great detention of freight trains on the railroads, scarcely any produce has been received for two or three days past, and there is but little doing. This cold weather will cause the Hogs and Poultry to be killed and shipped eastward. Hog buyers and Grain buyers are plenty, and the tendency is rather upward for Hogs and Provisions. For Wheat only 78c is offered to store for spring, though none is on sale; some white winter was held at \$1 06 to store. Corn is held at 40c in store, and only 35c is offered. Rates, therefore, are merely nominal, and we continue our quotations of yesterday.

BEANS.—Plentiful; selling at \$1 50@2 50 1/2 bu.

BEEF.—New Mess \$12@12 50 1/2 bbl. By the quarter, dull at \$3@3 50 1/2 100 lbs. The brands of favorite packers are held at \$13@14 for mess; but little prime mess has been packed.

BUTTER.—More plenty, and common firkin dull; say 15@16c 1/2 lb. Good roll and choice Ohio would bring as before, 22@25c.

EGGS.—Scarce and in demand at 20c 1/2 doz.

Hay.—Prairie, loose, \$7@1 50 1/2 ton.

CHEESE.—Western Reserve at 10 1/2@11c and Hamburg (N. Y.) at 12@12 1/2c.

SEEDS.—Timothy \$2 25@2 50 1/2 bu, the latter for a very nice article. No other seed in market.

PRAIRIE CHICKENS.—\$4@5 1/2 doz.

POULTRY.—Chickens are worth 14@18c each. Turkeys 9 @10c 1/2 lb.

FRUIT.—Green Apples \$4@5 1/2 1/2 bbl at retail. Lemons \$9 1/2 box. Cranberries \$8 1/2 bu. Dried Apples at \$2 25@2 50 1/2 bu. Dried Peaches unpared 10@12 1/2c 1/2 lb. Raisins, new M. R.'s, \$5; layers \$5 15@5 50 1/2 box. Dried Plums, in tin cans, 18c 1/2 lb.

CIDER.—\$5 1/2 bbl. at wholesale, or \$6 50 at retail.

HIDES.—Green, 7@7 1/2c; dry flint, 15@16c 1/2 lb; dry salted 53@16c; green salted 7 1/2@8 1/2c.

TALLOW.—Firm at 10@10 1/2c. Millard's circular quotes Kettle Tallow at 11 1/2, and steam rendered at 11c 1/2 lb.

LEATHER.—Harness 35@36c 1/2 lb; sole, best Spanish, 31@33c 1/2 lb; upper \$33@40 1/2 dozen.

SUGARS.—We quote New Orleans common to fair 10 1/2c; fair to fully fair 11c; prime 11 1/2c; coffee grades 12@13 1/2c; crushed, powdered and granulated 15c.

MOLASSES.—New Orleans reboiled 70@75c; Syrups 75@85c.

CANDLES.—Stearine 1c@20c 1/2 lb; Star 25@27c; Adamantine 37 1/2c; Sperm 40c; Pure Sperm 45c; Tallow 14@14 1/2c 1/2 lb.

SALT.—Fine by the cargo \$1 70 1/2 bbl, \$ 90 1/2 single bbl. Coarse, 1/2 package of 320 lbs, \$2 25. Dairy, 1/2 cask of 35 sacks, \$3 37 1/2, or \$4 for 42 sack casks; 14 lb sacks 13 1/2c cash.

CHICAGO, December 1.

FLOUR.—Exceedingly dull of sale.

WHEAT.—Is in demand, particularly for Michigan mills. Corn is worth but 33@34c in store. Pork is dull of sale, probably not over \$14 50 1/2 bbl could be had for mess. Lard has sold from the country in small quantities as low as 9 1/2c 1/2 lb. We give rates of other articles as follows:

OATS.—Steady at 32@33c in store; 35@36c in bags delivered.

BARLEY AND RYE.—Wanted at \$1 10@1 26 for the former, and 65@70c for the latter.

BEEF.—New mess \$12@12 50 1/2 bbl. By the quarter, dull at 23@25 1/2 100 lbs. The brands of favorite packers are held at \$13@14 for mess; but little prime mess has been packed.

PORK AND LARD.—Country packed mess \$14@14 40 1/2 bbl; city packed held at \$15@15 50 1/2 bbl. Pickled Hams \$15 50@16 1/2 bbl; Green Hams 6 1/2@7c 1/2 lb. Long Middlea packed at 8c 1/2 lb. Lard 10 1/2c for extra. Grease 7@7 1/2c 1/2 lb for Nos. 1 and 2.

## St. Louis Market—December 4.

Hogs are very scarce and improving. Good fair will bring \$5 50 readily.

The Cincinnati Commercial, of Tuesday says that Hogs were rather inactive, buyers holding back and not willing to pay much over \$6 1/2 hundred. The weather at that time was too warm for packing. We hear nothing of interest from other points.

Freights without change. Rivers above at a stand, and all in good boating order.

FLOUR.—But small demand for any description; sale of 1,000 bbls Cherry street Superfine on board at \$5 80; 100 Country Extra, on board, \$6; 80 branded do, \$5 90; 100 on its merits and on board, \$6 12 1/2 1/2 bbl; 150 sks Extra \$2 80; 96 do S. F. \$2 50.

WHEAT.—Liberal receipts and pretty active sales at previous prices. Sales to Millers of 400 sks Spring and common Fall at 75@90c; 2000 Red, in lots, \$1@1 05; 500 Red and White, \$1 06; 5000 do \$1 06; 384 prime Red, \$1 08; 128 bbls White, \$1 09; 1565 Zimmerman, \$1 08; 100 Red \$1 10; 106 choice do \$1 11, sacks returned. To shippers—727 Zimmerman \$1 15; 800 Red and White \$1 16@1 18; 265 White \$1 20; 505 do \$1 24; 2500, in lot, \$1 23@1 25, sacks included.

CORN.—Sale of 512 sks White, two lots, 46c; 522 do private terms, new bags included.

OATS.—1200 sks, in lots, 58c, part on board; 235 do at 54c, sks included.

BARLEY.—Sale of 194 sacks poor Spring at \$1 65, sack, returned.

RYE.—200 sacks at 70 cents, sacks included.

HAY.—40 bales prime \$1 27 1/2; 22 do stained 1 \$25 1/2 100 pounds.

BUCKWHEAT.—Sale of 42 and 96 sacks at 75c, sacks included.

FLAXSEED.—Prime sells at \$2 1/2 bushel.

HIDES.—Dry steady at 10c 1/2 lb.

PORK.—Sale of 185 bbls mess at \$15; 180 do badly cut at \$14 75 1/2 bbl.

LARD.—Sale of 160 tcs new at 10 1/4c 1/2 lb.

HOGS.—Sale of 250 head medium at \$5 50; 134 do averaging 205 lbs at \$5 50 1/2 100 lbs.

PIG METAL.—50 tons Hot Blast \$85, 4 months.

GROCERIES.—Nothing doing. No change in quotations.

The Louisville Courier of yesterday says:—The improved state of navigation has brought out the big boats, and caused a great rejoicing among all classes, especially the boatmen, and freights have materially declined. Shipments were made to Pittsburg and Wheeling yesterday at 3c@30c 1/2 100 lbs, and pound freights to New Orleans were at 50 cents.—Whisky was taken at \$1 15 1/2 bbl, and other articles in proportion. Cattle and horses \$10 1/2 head, and mules \$5.

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# THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

SIMEON FRANCIS, EDITOR.

BAILHACHE & BAKER, PUBLISHERS.

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JANUARY, 1857.

No. 1.

## The New Year.

Man should never be satisfied unless he is in a way to benefit himself or others. This doctrine is simply that of *progress*,—a doctrine that should ever have an effective influence on every rational mind. To no class of society can it have a more useful application than to farmers, in the broadest understanding of the term.

Probably more improvements have been made in farming within the last few years than in any other profession. Men have not been satisfied with the old routine of Agricultural operations. Land has been worked better—seed has been provided with more care—crops in their growth have received more attention—causes of failure as well as of success have been ascertained, and the farmer now feels that if he does his duty, in nineteen times out of twenty, he will be well rewarded for his labor.

And so of stock. He finds that his stock can be improved, with great profit to himself, He seeks better stock of cattle, horses, hogs, sheep and mules, and finds a great benefit in the change—besides, he feels a pride in progress, in a conviction that he is not lagging behind when all his agricultural brethren are going ahead with improved stock.

He is also improving his farm by erecting the proper and convenient buildings in good taste—laying off his fields in suitable sizes and forms—planting out his orchards and taking care of them—his gardens, his yards—and he sees to it that there are no unsightly places about his farm to destroy its beauty; and if there should chance to be, he has still plans for improvement which will be carried out in due time.

The New Year! And what of it, brother

Farmer? The old year has passed. It is a good time to ask yourself what mistakes have you made in farming the past year? When you entered upon that year, did you mature plans for cultivating and improving your farm? Did you determine what lands to give to certain crops; how they should be cultivated; whether they should be drained, if they needed it; whether you should follow the old system of shallow plowing, half cultivating, and get half or no crop, or whether, as poor Richard said, you should

“Plow well and deep,

And have corn to sell and to keep.”

Have you made up your mind that your success was caused by particular attention in working your grounds, or your failure, by neglect? Have you cast your eye over your neighbor's grounds and noticed the success or failure of particular modes of cultivation? These are common questions and common thoughts, but they are those which can be made most useful. There is no magic in farming. Good farming is brought about by industry well directed—we may say directed by judgment and knowledge.

Every advantage gained by new modes of cultivation, by changes of seed, by changes of stock, by new implements of Agriculture, should be seized as *new positions* from which you are to originate and practice other plans and improvements. We believe every intelligent farmer is wiser in his profession than he was one year ago. We hope, at least, that none of our readers have **LOST A YEAR!**

We have now entered upon a new year—Editor, Readers, all. We trust it may be a year of prosperity. Much depends on ourselves. “God helps those who help